

**Synonyms and Antonyms,
Vocabulary and Cloze for 11+**

The 1000-word

**BRAIN
BOOST**

Part 1

500 Verbal Reasoning
CEM-style Practice Exam Paper Questions



**10 Minute
Tests**

**Includes Full
Explanations**

Training Session

1

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	gravity	☐ A mortality	☒ B attracting	☐ C seriousness	☐ D liveliness	☐ E recess
2	derivative	☐ A diversion	☐ B roadsign	☐ C mistake	☐ D calculation	☐ E ancestry
3	resort	☐ A notify	☐ B reply	☐ C spa	☐ D analysis	☐ E last
4	ethereal	☐ A faint	☐ B collapse	☐ C genuine	☐ D dishonest	☐ E solid
5	espouse	☐ A divorce	☐ B investigate	☐ C recommend	☐ D marry	☐ E cohabit
6	extricate	☐ A remove	☐ B yearn	☐ C complicate	☐ D mislead	☐ E formulate
7	impeccable	☐ A perfect	☐ B resistant	☐ C unusual	☐ D birdproof	☐ E suspended

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	deny	☐ A repel	☐ B replicate	☐ C pony	☐ D illuminated	☐ E admit
9	drab	☐ A reward	☐ B musician	☐ C fascinating	☐ D indistinct	☐ E lacklustre

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	stable	☐ A static	☐ B barn	☐ C level	☐ D mews	☐ E desk
11	rectify	☐ A fix	☐ B straighten	☐ C correct	☐ D cubicle	☐ E normalise

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	☐ A entombing	☐ B captivating	☐ C fascinating	☐ D bewitching	☐ E charming
13	☐ A mistake	☐ B abate	☐ C decrease	☐ D subside	☐ E weaken

Go to the next page 

Session 1

14

☐ A meritorious

☐ B honourable

☐ C worthy

☐ D engrossing

☐ E righteous

15

☐ A exuberance

☐ B watchfulness

☐ C vigilance

☐ D attention

☐ E alertness

16

☐ A bear

☐ B persevere

☐ C abide

☐ D bare

☐ E endure

17

☐ A sturdy

☐ B sound

☐ C noisy

☐ D vigorous

☐ E healthy

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18 It was only half way through the day that I noticed the ab□□□□e of Gabrielle from the class; it turned out that she was at home with influenza.

☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ H ☐ I
☐ J ☐ K ☐ L ☐ M ☐ N ☐ O ☐ P ☐ Q ☐ R
☐ S ☐ T ☐ U ☐ V ☐ W ☐ X ☐ Y ☐ Z

☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☒ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ H ☐ I
☐ J ☐ K ☐ L ☐ M ☐ N ☐ O ☐ P ☐ Q ☐ R
☐ S ☐ T ☐ U ☐ V ☐ W ☐ X ☐ Y ☐ Z

☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ H ☐ I
☐ J ☐ K ☐ L ☐ M ☒ N ☐ O ☐ P ☐ Q ☐ R
☐ S ☐ T ☐ U ☐ V ☐ W ☐ X ☐ Y ☐ Z

☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ H ☐ I
☐ J ☐ K ☐ L ☐ M ☐ N ☐ O ☐ P ☐ Q ☐ R
☐ S ☐ T ☐ U ☐ V ☐ W ☐ X ☐ Y ☐ Z

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

19

Ⓐ
hide

Ⓑ
hidden

Ⓒ
revealed

Ⓓ
concealed

Ⓔ
display

Decrease is to maximised as obscure is to [REDACTED].

20

Ⓐ
minus

Ⓑ
extra

Ⓒ
positive

Ⓓ
add

Ⓔ
addition

Misnomer is to apt as subtraction is to [REDACTED].

21

Ⓐ
helpful

Ⓑ
catastrophic

Ⓒ
emergency

Ⓓ
funeral

Ⓔ
funereal

Death is to mournful as distress is to [REDACTED].

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

22

Ⓐ
hallowed

Ⓑ
allowed

Ⓒ
allude

Ⓓ
aloud

Ⓔ
elude

It is not enough to tell me that you are reading the passage. I would like you to read it [REDACTED] please.

23

Ⓐ
ineffectual

Ⓑ
effect

Ⓒ
ineffective

Ⓓ
affect

Ⓔ
effete

However much the threesome strained, their skin-wrenching exertion had no detectable [REDACTED] on the giant stone that blocked their exit.

Go to the next page



Session 1

24

☐ A
fascination

☐ B
libel

☐ C
foreknowledge

☐ D
indecision

☐ E
pencilled

When you wrote this about her, you knew very well that it was not true. In other words, this was [REDACTED].

25

☐ A
inexplicable

☐ B
alternate

☐ C
oscillating

☐ D
alternative

☐ E
uneven

The young Prince, arriving at Buckingham Palace, remarked to the journalists blocking his way, "I wish there was an [REDACTED] entrance to my home."

26

☐ A
hardback

☐ B
digest

☐ C
approval

☐ D
annotate

☐ E
consider

The plan for a new playground is wonderful news but we cannot issue this full set of plans to the public; they would find the 152 pages too exhausting. Could you prepare a 1 page [REDACTED] of the key points?

27

☐ A
never

☐ B
abandon

☐ C
hindsight

☐ D
judgement

☐ E
desist

He keeps trying to get back into the shop after being banned for stealing; we will seek a legal ruling that he must [REDACTED].

28

☐ A
items

☐ B
errand

☐ C
supermarket

☐ D
cleaners

☐ E
journey

Before I could head back home, I had one last [REDACTED] to run. I was sure I could do this before the storm broke.

29

Ⓐ
begⒷ
attackⒸ
inviteⒹ
cajoleⒺ
request

She was unable to [] her brother Nathan into allowing her to have an extra turn on the video game that they shared.

30

Ⓐ
torturousⒷ
eruditeⒸ
tortuousⒹ
convivialⒺ
revived

I tried to show interest in their daughter's piano skills but soon regretted it when it dropped me into the trap of having to listen to one of the most [] recitals I have ever had to endure in my life.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

Word	A short sentence <i>you</i> have created, using the word
hate	I hate this.
long	This is long.
too	too = 1 plus 1 = 2

Training Session

2

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	domain	☐ A concentrate	☐ B household	☐ C embarrassed	☐ D instruct	☐ E territory
2	exert	☐ A request	☐ B implicate	☐ C depart	☐ D additional	☐ E apply
3	enduring	☐ A instantly	☐ B meanwhile	☐ C simultaneously	☐ D finalising	☐ E lasting
4	emphatic	☐ A distant	☐ B definite	☐ C sliding	☐ D temperate	☐ E seductive
5	emulate	☐ A incinerate	☐ B destroy	☐ C delay	☐ D copy	☐ E transport
6	extraneous	☐ A continuous	☐ B superfluous	☐ C methodical	☐ D essential	☐ E foreign
7	inadvertently	☐ A secretly	☐ B horizontally	☐ C unintentionally	☐ D suddenly	☐ E hanging

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	domestic	Ⓐ abandoned	Ⓑ litter	Ⓒ undertaken	Ⓓ international	Ⓔ relocation
9	ebb	Ⓐ grow	Ⓑ wane	Ⓒ riverbank	Ⓓ corn	Ⓔ tide

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	culture	Ⓐ civilisation	Ⓑ custom	Ⓒ business	Ⓓ habit	Ⓔ tradition
11	dilemma	Ⓐ predicament	Ⓑ plight	Ⓒ problem	Ⓓ difficulty	Ⓔ flight

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	Ⓐ abrasive	Ⓑ gripping	Ⓒ harsh	Ⓓ rough	Ⓔ rasping
----	---------------	---------------	------------	------------	--------------

13	Ⓐ wandering	Ⓑ aberrant	Ⓒ unusual	Ⓓ divergent	Ⓔ circular
----	----------------	---------------	--------------	----------------	---------------

Go to the next page 

Session 2

14

⌂A⌋
sheer

⌂B⌋
extracted

⌂C⌋
unconditional

⌂D⌋
undiluted

⌂E⌋
absolute

15

⌂A⌋
uproarious

⌂B⌋
noisy

⌂C⌋
vociferous

⌂D⌋
boisterous

⌂E⌋
dishonest

16

⌂A⌋
explosive

⌂B⌋
airborne

⌂C⌋
unstable

⌂D⌋
volatile

⌂E⌋
eruptive

17

⌂A⌋
din

⌂B⌋
harmony

⌂C⌋
tune

⌂D⌋
song

⌂E⌋
melody

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

18 I am not going to tell you what I was doing last weekend: it is none of your b□□□ness.

⌂A⌋	⌂B⌋	⌂C⌋	⌂D⌋	⌂E⌋	⌂F⌋	⌂G⌋	⌂H⌋	⌂I⌋
⌂J⌋	⌂K⌋	⌂L⌋	⌂M⌋	⌂N⌋	⌂O⌋	⌂P⌋	⌂Q⌋	⌂R⌋
⌂S⌋	⌂T⌋	⌂U⌋	⌂V⌋	⌂W⌋	⌂X⌋	⌂Y⌋	⌂Z⌋	

⌂A⌋	⌂B⌋	⌂C⌋	⌂D⌋	⌂E⌋	⌂F⌋	⌂G⌋	⌂H⌋	⌂I⌋
⌂J⌋	⌂K⌋	⌂L⌋	⌂M⌋	⌂N⌋	⌂O⌋	⌂P⌋	⌂Q⌋	⌂R⌋
⌂S⌋	⌂T⌋	⌂U⌋	⌂V⌋	⌂W⌋	⌂X⌋	⌂Y⌋	⌂Z⌋	

⌂A⌋	⌂B⌋	⌂C⌋	⌂D⌋	⌂E⌋	⌂F⌋	⌂G⌋	⌂H⌋	⌂I⌋
⌂J⌋	⌂K⌋	⌂L⌋	⌂M⌋	⌂N⌋	⌂O⌋	⌂P⌋	⌂Q⌋	⌂R⌋
⌂S⌋	⌂T⌋	⌂U⌋	⌂V⌋	⌂W⌋	⌂X⌋	⌂Y⌋	⌂Z⌋	

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

- 19** Ⓐ acerbic Ⓑ aristocratic Ⓒ apoplectic Ⓓ antagonistic Ⓔ apologetic

Nervous is to terrified as annoyed is to .

- 20** Ⓐ fatigued Ⓑ overactive Ⓒ energised Ⓓ fumes Ⓔ battery

Impoverished is to extravagant as exhausted is to .

- 21** Ⓐ anxiety Ⓑ terrified Ⓒ terrific Ⓓ threat Ⓔ terrorise

Jealous is to possession as fearful is to .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

- 22** Ⓐ never Ⓑ nibble Ⓒ navel Ⓓ novel Ⓔ naval

The final push to maximise ship production propelled the Netherlands to the status of a major power, vastly out of proportion to its population.

- 23** Ⓐ manage Ⓑ advise Ⓒ image Ⓓ remain Ⓔ declare

On the basis of this blurry photo, how on earth can you him to be the winner of the race? It is hard to recognise even the finish line, let alone any of the runners.

Go to the next page



24

Ⓐ inherent

Ⓑ magnified

Ⓒ continual

Ⓓ innate

Ⓔ continuous

It is difficult for me to concentrate on my homework while suffering these [] interruptions from my younger brother. Each intrusion may only last for a few seconds, but together they stop me solving any of these puzzles.

25

Ⓐ disdain

Ⓑ facade

Ⓒ revolve

Ⓓ diminish

Ⓔ recess

Despite every setback in the first few months of running her own flower shop, Gwen's enthusiasm did not []. She continued with the same determination that she had shown during her years of planning, and by the end of the year, she had built a thriving business.

26

Ⓐ current

Ⓑ curious

Ⓒ currency

Ⓓ cursory

Ⓔ crossly

The security guard sorely regretted giving the helmeted cyclist only a [] glance as he entered the bank. Moments later, rifle in hand, the assailant had leapt up onto the bench and was barking orders.

27

Ⓐ rejoice

Ⓑ live

Ⓒ hate

Ⓓ recall

Ⓔ err

To [] is human; to forgive, divine.

28

Ⓐ current

Ⓑ currant

Ⓒ contain

Ⓓ curtain

Ⓔ crouton

It is not entirely true to say that we have eaten nothing: we must not forget the couple of [] buns we each had in the middle of the afternoon.

29

$\subset A \supset$
nocturnal

SECRET
SECRETIVE

⌊C⌋
spurious

breaching

heroic

The [REDACTED] excuses he provided, for being in the secure area out of hours, carried no weight with the guards. Soon he was bunked down in a cell, left alone to contemplate his foolishness.

30

$\subset A \supset$
momentary

$\subset B \supset$
instantaneous.

conspiratorial

⊂D⊃
whisper

$\subseteq E \supseteq$
perceptive

After the slick sales presentation, the audience were universally delighted, except for one young man at the front who asked a [REDACTED] question. The answer led to more and more questions, which eventually totally undermined the sales pitch.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

[illegible]

Training Session

3

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	draft	☐ A foolish	☐ B breeze	☐ C prepare	☐ D escape	☐ E finalise
2	entrance	☐ A alleyway	☐ B explain	☐ C address	☐ D hypnotise	☐ E exit
3	discrepancy	☐ A recitation	☐ B childhood	☐ C inconsistency	☐ D circularity	☐ E incantation
4	ponder	☐ A endear	☐ B reflect	☐ C mirror	☐ D drift	☐ E waterway
5	droll	☐ A amusing	☐ B hasten	☐ C reply	☐ D simplify	☐ E rotate
6	debunk	☐ A redecorate	☐ B undress	☐ C disprove	☐ D awaken	☐ E bedding
7	proverb	☐ A proof	☐ B highest	☐ C adverb	☐ D saying	☐ E augment

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	expense	☐ A happiness	☐ B distraction	☐ C waste	☐ D income	☐ E shrinking
9	dumb	☐ A talkative	☐ B silence	☐ C intelligent	☐ D excoriate	☐ E deforest

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	facility	☐ A building	☐ B ease	☐ C simplicity	☐ D skill	☐ E town
11	melancholy	☐ A gloom	☐ B evening	☐ C sorrow	☐ D dismay	☐ E sadness

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	☐ A relinquish	☐ B abandon	☐ C renounce	☐ D discard	☐ E relegate
13	☐ A humorous	☐ B witty	☐ C fearsome	☐ D sparkling	☐ E droll

Go to the next page 

Session 3

14

Ⓐ dormant

Ⓑ quiescent

Ⓒ accurate

Ⓓ latent

Ⓔ inactive

15

Ⓐ credibility

Ⓑ honesty

Ⓒ integrity

Ⓓ veracity

Ⓔ affluence

16

Ⓐ composure

Ⓑ strength

Ⓒ vigour

Ⓓ force

Ⓔ drive

17

Ⓐ healthy

Ⓑ beneficial

Ⓒ wholesome

Ⓓ unified

Ⓔ nutritious

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

18

Even though your name may indeed be MacDonald, your use of it on your restaurant constitutes an infringement of our trademark. We insist that you e and desist from using this name.

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓘ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓘ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓘ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

- 19** Ⓐ depart Ⓑ liveliness Ⓒ order Ⓓ manure Ⓔ ordeal

Enjoy is to holiday as endure is to .

- 20** Ⓐ nonchalant Ⓑ icy Ⓒ burning Ⓓ icicle Ⓔ bicycle

Sears is to frozen as fascinates is to .

- 21** Ⓐ promise Ⓑ ancient Ⓒ yesterday Ⓓ yesteryear Ⓔ custom

Forthcoming is to intention as bygone is to .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

- 22** Ⓐ organisation Ⓑ continual Ⓒ registration Ⓓ continuous Ⓔ reduction

To qualify for the discount, Henry would have to have five years' membership of the club.

- 23** Ⓐ birth Ⓑ both Ⓒ berth Ⓓ broth Ⓔ brew

The of the internal combustion engine triggered a rapid series of innovations that within a generation left the landscape of transportation changed forever.

Session 3

24

Ⓐ ocean

Ⓑ emulsion

Ⓒ illusion

Ⓓ omission

Ⓔ allusion

It seemed the sea was just at the horizon, but as the desperately dehydrated party struggled over what they thought was the last hill, they realised that this had been a terrible [REDACTED].

25

Ⓐ alternative

Ⓑ intermingle

Ⓒ alternate

Ⓓ interval

Ⓔ intermediate

After arguing for almost an hour over where they should hold their newly established inter-school sports contest, the opposing headmasters finally agreed to [REDACTED] between the two schools.

26

Ⓐ boon

Ⓑ victory

Ⓒ courage

Ⓓ castle

Ⓔ divinity

Thank you for rescuing my daughter from the dragon, good knight. As a reward, the Queen and I will grant you one [REDACTED]: ask for anything you want from our kingdom.

27

Ⓐ bizarre

Ⓑ impertinent

Ⓒ bazaar

Ⓓ importunate

Ⓔ pertinent

As the viewers started to guess how the film would finish, the story suddenly took on a [REDACTED] twist, eliciting gasps of surprise and a few tears.

28

Ⓐ admirable

Ⓑ amenable

Ⓒ amble

Ⓓ amiable

Ⓔ amicable

I had heard of his reputation but in person I found him perfectly [REDACTED] and easy to get on with.

29

Ⓐ
lamentedⒷ
repentedⒸ
dementedⒹ
cementedⒺ
depended

"When there was a proper playground here, the children loved to spend their evenings on the swings and slides, or even just chasing around the grass field. Since the council sold it, they just sit indoors with video games," [] the teacher.

30

Ⓐ
verbaliseⒷ
dictationⒸ
bafflementⒹ
digressionⒺ
battlement

The monologue began with a description of a trip to Lisbon but continued with one amusing [] after another until by the end everybody was in tears of laughter but nobody could remember the thread of the story.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

Word	A short sentence <i>you</i> have created, using the word

Training Session

4

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	deposit	☐ A suggest	☐ B imagine	☐ C residue	☐ D stowaway	☐ E speculate
2	entrance	☐ A confuse	☐ B convergence	☐ C bemuse	☐ D inflow	☐ E doorway
3	extravagant	☐ A mobile	☐ B homeless	☐ C working	☐ D enlarged	☐ E elaborate
4	coy	☐ A lead	☐ B real	☐ C soupy	☐ D flirtatious	☐ E duplicate
5	dutiful	☐ A thoughtful	☐ B conscientious	☐ C regretful	☐ D attractive	☐ E overburdened
6	desecration	☐ A revelation	☐ B incineration	☐ C solidification	☐ D overheating	☐ E sacrilege
7	raconteur	☐ A storyteller	☐ B tally	☐ C calculator	☐ D ascent	☐ E competition

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	decisive	Ⓐ smooth	Ⓑ merging	Ⓒ natural	Ⓓ sympathetic	Ⓔ hesitant
9	exhibit	Ⓐ dissuade	Ⓑ inhibit	Ⓒ inhabit	Ⓓ inside	Ⓔ hide

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	extract	Ⓐ essence	Ⓑ summary	Ⓒ pathway	Ⓓ remove	Ⓔ obtain
11	complicit	Ⓐ scheming	Ⓑ calculating	Ⓒ crafty	Ⓓ complex	Ⓔ conniving

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	Ⓐ implicate	Ⓑ design	Ⓒ concoct	Ⓓ conspire	Ⓔ scheme
13	Ⓐ extensive	Ⓑ persuasive	Ⓒ far-reaching	Ⓓ widespread	Ⓔ pervasive

Go to the next page 

Session 4

14

⌂A⌋
extinguished

⌂B⌋
devoured

⌂C⌋
consumed

⌂D⌋
absorbed

⌂E⌋
assimilated

15

⌂A⌋
appalling

⌂B⌋
shocking

⌂C⌋
disconsolate

⌂D⌋
abhorrent

⌂E⌋
abominable

16

⌂A⌋
undermined

⌂B⌋
dejected

⌂C⌋
wretched

⌂D⌋
forlorn

⌂E⌋
woebegone

17

⌂A⌋
clear

⌂B⌋
vindicate

⌂C⌋
support

⌂D⌋
opaque

⌂E⌋
exonerate

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18 Whatever we asked for, he said he would be able to do it. He was all things to all men: a human ⌂⌂⌂⌂⌂leon.

⌂A⌋ ⌂B⌋ ⌂C⌋ ⌂D⌋ ⌂E⌋ ⌂F⌋ ⌂G⌋ ⌂H⌋ ⌂I⌋
⌂J⌋ ⌂K⌋ ⌂L⌋ ⌂M⌋ ⌂N⌋ ⌂O⌋ ⌂P⌋ ⌂Q⌋ ⌂R⌋
⌂S⌋ ⌂T⌋ ⌂U⌋ ⌂V⌋ ⌂W⌋ ⌂X⌋ ⌂Y⌋ ⌂Z⌋

⌂A⌋ ⌂B⌋ ⌂C⌋ ⌂D⌋ ⌂E⌋ ⌂F⌋ ⌂G⌋ ⌂H⌋ ⌂I⌋
⌂J⌋ ⌂K⌋ ⌂L⌋ ⌂M⌋ ⌂N⌋ ⌂O⌋ ⌂P⌋ ⌂Q⌋ ⌂R⌋
⌂S⌋ ⌂T⌋ ⌂U⌋ ⌂V⌋ ⌂W⌋ ⌂X⌋ ⌂Y⌋ ⌂Z⌋

⌂A⌋ ⌂B⌋ ⌂C⌋ ⌂D⌋ ⌂E⌋ ⌂F⌋ ⌂G⌋ ⌂H⌋ ⌂I⌋
⌂J⌋ ⌂K⌋ ⌂L⌋ ⌂M⌋ ⌂N⌋ ⌂O⌋ ⌂P⌋ ⌂Q⌋ ⌂R⌋
⌂S⌋ ⌂T⌋ ⌂U⌋ ⌂V⌋ ⌂W⌋ ⌂X⌋ ⌂Y⌋ ⌂Z⌋

⌂A⌋ ⌂B⌋ ⌂C⌋ ⌂D⌋ ⌂E⌋ ⌂F⌋ ⌂G⌋ ⌂H⌋ ⌂I⌋
⌂J⌋ ⌂K⌋ ⌂L⌋ ⌂M⌋ ⌂N⌋ ⌂O⌋ ⌂P⌋ ⌂Q⌋ ⌂R⌋
⌂S⌋ ⌂T⌋ ⌂U⌋ ⌂V⌋ ⌂W⌋ ⌂X⌋ ⌂Y⌋ ⌂Z⌋

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

19

Ⓐ
index

Ⓑ
watch

Ⓒ
index

Ⓓ
pendant

Ⓔ
wrist

Ring is to finger as bracelet is to [REDACTED].

20

Ⓐ
bites

Ⓑ
scales

Ⓒ
coils

Ⓓ
legs

Ⓔ
undulates

Circle is to ends as snake is to [REDACTED].

21

Ⓐ
freezer

Ⓑ
embarrass

Ⓒ
cool

Ⓓ
boil

Ⓔ
accept

Contrition is to deny as refrigeration is to [REDACTED].

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

22

Ⓐ
credulousness

Ⓑ
crescent

Ⓒ
credit

Ⓓ
crescendo

Ⓔ
credibility

After foisting upon the villagers so many scams, Wilmer had very little [REDACTED] left. This turned out to be a problem when his cottage really did catch fire.

23

Ⓐ
lose

Ⓑ
break

Ⓒ
loose

Ⓓ
novice

Ⓔ
brake

In such a large group of newcomers to skiing, it was almost inevitable that someone would [REDACTED] a bone.

Go to the next page 

Session 4

24

Ⓐ misery

Ⓑ echo

Ⓒ depression

Ⓓ anxiety

Ⓔ ego

When I heard he had won this prize too, I groaned that his [REDACTED] would now be intolerable.

25

Ⓐ illusion

Ⓑ division

Ⓒ delusion

Ⓓ elision

Ⓔ allusion

Demanding that all the other children play by his rules, Raymond and his [REDACTED] of grandeur became a talking point throughout his school.

26

Ⓐ censor

Ⓑ censure

Ⓒ sensor

Ⓓ senses

Ⓔ cents

Hiding behind the bushes, he tried to decide which path he could take to the open window without the infrared [REDACTED] triggering the alarm.

27

Ⓐ cosh

Ⓑ cash

Ⓒ crush

Ⓓ cache

Ⓔ crèche

Once the teacher had gone, I retrieved two precious marbles from our secret [REDACTED] and we started the game.

28

Ⓐ ambiguous

Ⓑ erudite

Ⓒ simplistic

Ⓓ annoying

Ⓔ duplicate

"This isosceles triangle could have turned into that one by flipping upside down or by rotating 180 degrees. It is impossible to choose a single correct answer because the question is [REDACTED]."

29

Ⓐ implicated Ⓑ condemned Ⓒ torturous Ⓓ contemptible Ⓔ tortuous

The plot was [] but enjoyable because of the richness of the characterisation and depth of interaction between the hero and heroine.

30

Ⓐ judge Ⓑ victimise Ⓒ implicate Ⓓ sympathise Ⓔ repudiate

Joseph should be given an opportunity to [] your allegations, since he has waited calmly while you related them.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

Word	A short sentence <i>you</i> have created, using the word

Training Session

5

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	capacity	☐ A silence	☐ B reduction	☐ C loudness	☐ D whispering	☐ E volume
2	ethic	☐ A flowery	☐ B code	☐ C minority	☐ D scratch	☐ E idiotic
3	erratic	☐ A mistaken	☐ B frantic	☐ C wandering	☐ D displaced	☐ E incorrect
4	cultivate	☐ A mollify	☐ B intensify	☐ C clarify	☐ D discard	☐ E nurture
5	docile	☐ A tenth	☐ B paperwork	☐ C half-mile	☐ D medical	☐ E amenable
6	repugnant	☐ A vigorous	☐ B distasteful	☐ C identical	☐ D resistant	☐ E animalistic
7	insufferable	☐ A enjoyable	☐ B excess	☐ C painless	☐ D uninteresting	☐ E terrible

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	loquacious	☐ A tasteless	☐ B taciturn	☐ C arid	☐ D unexciting	☐ E solidifying
9	exterior	☐ A lengthener	☐ B fearless	☐ C shortener	☐ D abbreviation	☐ E inside

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	foreign	☐ A external	☐ B alien	☐ C export	☐ D international	☐ E outside
11	incongruous	☐ A discrepant	☐ B absurd	☐ C discordant	☐ D affluent	☐ E contrary

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	☐ A compromise	☐ B droop	☐ C wither	☐ D wrinkle	☐ E languish
13	☐ A expert	☐ B master	☐ C amateur	☐ D virtuoso	☐ E élite

Go to the next page 

Session 5

14

Ⓐ aggressive

Ⓑ vicious

Ⓒ virtual

Ⓓ virulent

Ⓔ venomous

15

Ⓐ dreadful

Ⓑ helpful

Ⓒ woeful

Ⓓ awful

Ⓔ unpromising

16

Ⓐ conical

Ⓑ usable

Ⓒ viable

Ⓓ practical

Ⓔ feasible

17

Ⓐ reflective

Ⓑ meditative

Ⓒ diminished

Ⓓ forlorn

Ⓔ wistful

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

18 This diary will be a □□□□icle of the events during this voyage.

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
Ⓙ Ⓚ Ⓛ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ
Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ ⓘ ⓙ ⓚ

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
Ⓙ Ⓚ Ⓛ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ
Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ ⓘ ⓙ ⓚ

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
Ⓙ Ⓚ Ⓛ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ
Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ ⓘ ⓙ ⓚ

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
Ⓙ Ⓚ Ⓛ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ
Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ ⓘ ⓙ ⓚ

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

19

Ⓐ
nail

Ⓑ
bird

Ⓒ
talon

Ⓓ
foot

Ⓔ
scratch

Hoof is to horse as claw is to [REDACTED].

20

Ⓐ
Britain

Ⓑ
China

Ⓒ
Australia

Ⓓ
Canada

Ⓔ
France

Eagle is to America as moose is to [REDACTED].

21

Ⓐ
freezer

Ⓑ
break

Ⓒ
burn

Ⓓ
splinter

Ⓔ
fracture

Move is to dislocate as warm is to [REDACTED].

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

22

Ⓐ
waive

Ⓑ
fear

Ⓒ
terrifying

Ⓓ
wave

Ⓔ
dizzying

The Tower of Terror started off benignly but soon one [REDACTED] of fear and nausea broke over another, until a flood of tears became inevitable.

23

Ⓐ
except

Ⓑ
aspect

Ⓒ
expect

Ⓓ
escaped

Ⓔ
accept

I am delighted to [REDACTED] this prize for the most engaging caricature.

Go to the next page 

Session 5

24

Ⓐ playful

Ⓑ intervening

Ⓒ mischievous

Ⓓ lofty

Ⓔ incomparable

In contrast to their [REDACTED] aspirations when they set out to the trip to the historic battleground site, the children ended up, unfortunately, playing hide and seek amongst the statues and throwing stones into the nearby creek.

25

Ⓐ angelic

Ⓑ equatorial

Ⓒ eternal

Ⓓ saturnine

Ⓔ celestial

Carefully inspecting the [REDACTED] charts, the astronomer reported that the comet would pass behind Jupiter in 3 days' time.

26

Ⓐ callous

Ⓑ electric

Ⓒ callus

Ⓓ clustered

Ⓔ calculus

Doctor Who was saddened but not surprised: [REDACTED] disregard for human life was emblematic of the behaviour of the Master.

27

Ⓐ difference

Ⓑ diffuse

Ⓒ defence

Ⓓ defend

Ⓔ defuse

With the two heads of department thumping their fists on the table and raising their voices, it required the chief executive to [REDACTED] the tension by asking them to take a look at themselves in the mirror.

28

Ⓐ descriptive

Ⓑ cryptic

Ⓒ decanted

Ⓓ collated

Ⓔ decrepit

When his answer did eventually come, it was characteristically [REDACTED]: I was none the wiser.

29

<A>
thoroughly
all together<C>
vastly<D>
terrifyingly<E>
altogether

Leaping over the fence is one thing, but hang-gliding over the grand canyon is an more dramatic proposition.

30

<A>
concerning
absurdly<C>
gatecrashing<D>
tantamount<E>
abusively

Your request for a refund but the right to remain in the concert anyway is to asking for free entry.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

Word	A short sentence <i>you</i> have created, using the word

Training Session

6

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	doctrine	☐ A toilet	☐ B surgery	☐ C teaching	☐ D urinary	☐ E fruity
2	elusive	☐ A confusing	☐ B invisible	☐ C submerged	☐ D deceptive	☐ E slippery
3	lucid	☐ A enjoyable	☐ B horrific	☐ C propulsive	☐ D clear	☐ E agonising
4	grieve	☐ A shinguard	☐ B concise	☐ C valley	☐ D mourn	☐ E believe
5	embroiled	☐ A steamed	☐ B burned	☐ C trapped	☐ D laboured	☐ E discharged
6	exquisite	☐ A request	☐ B expel	☐ C location	☐ D perfect	☐ E disgorge
7	slovenly	☐ A disorderly	☐ B affectionate	☐ C beautiful	☐ D celestial	☐ E tended

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	diluted	☐ A fluting	☐ B early	☐ C concentrated	☐ D healthy	☐ E unusual
9	duplicity	☐ A overground	☐ B uniqueness	☐ C simplicity	☐ D affluence	☐ E honesty

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	elaborate	☐ A intricate	☐ B convoluted	☐ C develop	☐ D overburden	☐ E complex
11	notoriety	☐ A infamy	☐ B shame	☐ C ill-repute	☐ D fascination	☐ E disrepute

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	☐ A vengeful	☐ B vindictive	☐ C indicative	☐ D resentful	☐ E implacable
13	☐ A frantic	☐ B extremist	☐ C zealot	☐ D crank	☐ E fanatic

Go to the next page 

Session 6

- 14** ⌂A⌋ ⌂B⌋ ⌂C⌋ ⌂D⌋ ⌂E⌋
 ewe bull rooster peacock tiger
- 15** ⌂A⌋ ⌂B⌋ ⌂C⌋ ⌂D⌋ ⌂E⌋
 dishonesty corruption delinquency corrosion depravity
- 16** ⌂A⌋ ⌂B⌋ ⌂C⌋ ⌂D⌋ ⌂E⌋
 bitter vitriolic acidic delicious vicious
- 17** ⌂A⌋ ⌂B⌋ ⌂C⌋ ⌂D⌋ ⌂E⌋
 disparage convey abuse vilify malign

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18** I promise you I paid my share of the restaurant bill. I would never try to d□□□□ve you on something like this.

⌂A⌋	⌂B⌋	⌂C⌋	⌂D⌋	⌂E⌋	⌂F⌋	⌂G⌋	⌂H⌋	⌂I⌋
⌂J⌋	⌂K⌋	⌂L⌋	⌂M⌋	⌂N⌋	⌂O⌋	⌂P⌋	⌂Q⌋	⌂R⌋
⌂S⌋	⌂T⌋	⌂U⌋	⌂V⌋	⌂W⌋	⌂X⌋	⌂Y⌋	⌂Z⌋	

⌂A⌋	⌂B⌋	⌂C⌋	⌂D⌋	⌂E⌋	⌂F⌋	⌂G⌋	⌂H⌋	⌂I⌋
⌂J⌋	⌂K⌋	⌂L⌋	⌂M⌋	⌂N⌋	⌂O⌋	⌂P⌋	⌂Q⌋	⌂R⌋
⌂S⌋	⌂T⌋	⌂U⌋	⌂V⌋	⌂W⌋	⌂X⌋	⌂Y⌋	⌂Z⌋	

⌂A⌋	⌂B⌋	⌂C⌋	⌂D⌋	⌂E⌋	⌂F⌋	⌂G⌋	⌂H⌋	⌂I⌋
⌂J⌋	⌂K⌋	⌂L⌋	⌂M⌋	⌂N⌋	⌂O⌋	⌂P⌋	⌂Q⌋	⌂R⌋
⌂S⌋	⌂T⌋	⌂U⌋	⌂V⌋	⌂W⌋	⌂X⌋	⌂Y⌋	⌂Z⌋	

⌂A⌋	⌂B⌋	⌂C⌋	⌂D⌋	⌂E⌋	⌂F⌋	⌂G⌋	⌂H⌋	⌂I⌋
⌂J⌋	⌂K⌋	⌂L⌋	⌂M⌋	⌂N⌋	⌂O⌋	⌂P⌋	⌂Q⌋	⌂R⌋
⌂S⌋	⌂T⌋	⌂U⌋	⌂V⌋	⌂W⌋	⌂X⌋	⌂Y⌋	⌂Z⌋	

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

19

Ⓐ wheels

Ⓑ pedals

Ⓒ cars

Ⓓ cycles

Ⓔ road

Table is to legs as truck is to .

20

Ⓐ brush

Ⓑ swish

Ⓒ guitar

Ⓓ tune

Ⓔ cleanse

Sweep is to broom as strum is to .

21

Ⓐ ice

Ⓑ fire

Ⓒ dissolve

Ⓓ distracted

Ⓔ hot

Concentrated is to water as cold is to .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

22

Ⓐ curtsy

Ⓑ bow

Ⓒ stroll

Ⓓ bough

Ⓔ branch

Geoffrey walked the full length of the ship from the stern to the , finding nowhere that provided him with both good shade and a fair breeze.

23

Ⓐ implore

Ⓑ decide

Ⓒ miserable

Ⓓ infer

Ⓔ decline

Even though your offer to drive me home is very kind, I have already paid for a taxi so I must sadly .

Go to the next page



Session 6

24

(A) disappoint

(B) lodge

(C) tearful

(D) cottage

(E) unfair

Hector's mother was extremely disappointed in the manner in which he was treated. She wanted to [] a formal complaint with the school.

25

(A) cored

(B) cord

(C) chord

(D) harmonium

(E) harmonise

Having dashed through the city, raced up the staircase, and trampled their way through the auditorium, they managed to edge into their seats just in time for the opening [] of the symphony.

26

(A) commit

(B) extraordinary

(C) unfair

(D) burden

(E) simple

Asking us to do questions 15 to 30 as well for homework adds an intolerable extra [].

27

(A) avers

(B) advice

(C) adverse

(D) averse

(E) universe

The helicopter could not land on the ship because of [] weather conditions, including rolling seas and a gathering hurricane.

28

(A) gravity

(B) graveness

(C) levity

(D) pungency

(E) descent

Six people had been killed in the "base jumping" incident. We complained to the television station that their light-hearted coverage was not appropriate: this was not a matter for [].

29

Ⓐ
cyclicalⒷ
collapsibleⒸ
curableⒹ
collaredⒺ
culpable

Having carefully examined the evidence, the judge decided that the builder was indeed [] for the disintegration of the tower block and enormous loss of life.

30

Ⓐ
combativeⒷ
lethargicⒸ
fascinatedⒹ
endearedⒺ
controversial

Impressive though the lunch had been, it left us [] in the afternoon, with some scarcely able to keep their eyes open.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

Word	A short sentence <i>you</i> have created, using the word

Training Session

7

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	debate	☐ A multiply	☐ B attitude	☐ C argument	☐ D reduce	☐ E interview
2	encounter	☐ A meet	☐ B argue	☐ C tabletop	☐ D measure	☐ E tally
3	endorse	☐ A finalise	☐ B equine	☐ C complete	☐ D approve	☐ E gateway
4	horde	☐ A accumulate	☐ B nobleman	☐ C swarm	☐ D audible	☐ E legible
5	fallacious	☐ A starving	☐ B embarrassing	☐ C squeezing	☐ D descending	☐ E illogical
6	profusion	☐ A copiousness	☐ B dispersal	☐ C synthesis	☐ D melting	☐ E confirmation
7	loyal	☐ A devoted	☐ B unimagined	☐ C oversized	☐ D untrustworthy	☐ E fretful

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	explicit	☐ A included	☐ B implode	☐ C implied	☐ D suck	☐ E legal
9	eulogy	☐ A refusal	☐ B correction	☐ C difference	☐ D damnation	☐ E contrast

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	endure	☐ A withstand	☐ B persist	☐ C survive	☐ D complete	☐ E suffer
11	deprecate	☐ A discourage	☐ B condemn	☐ C disparage	☐ D denounce	☐ E demonstrate

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	☐ A conspire	☐ B scheme	☐ C connive	☐ D plot	☐ E perspire
13	☐ A meagre	☐ B sparse	☐ C scanty	☐ D impish	☐ E limited

Go to the next page 

Session 7

14

⌋A⌋
illusory

⌋B⌋
fallacious

⌋C⌋
imaginary

⌋D⌋
specious

⌋E⌋
mislaid

15

⌋A⌋
zenith

⌋B⌋
apex

⌋C⌋
peak

⌋D⌋
acme

⌋E⌋
peer

16

⌋A⌋
peer

⌋B⌋
peak

⌋C⌋
squint

⌋D⌋
spy

⌋E⌋
peek

17

⌋A⌋
temperature

⌋B⌋
ardour

⌋C⌋
passion

⌋D⌋
zeal

⌋E⌋
fervour

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18 To make the coconut powder we des□□□ate the raw contents of the coconut, removing all the moisture.

⌋A⌋ ⌋B⌋ ⌋C⌋ ⌋D⌋ ⌋E⌋ ⌋F⌋ ⌋G⌋ ⌋H⌋ ⌋I⌋
⌋J⌋ ⌋K⌋ ⌋L⌋ ⌋M⌋ ⌋N⌋ ⌋O⌋ ⌋P⌋ ⌋Q⌋ ⌋R⌋
⌋S⌋ ⌋T⌋ ⌋U⌋ ⌋V⌋ ⌋W⌋ ⌋X⌋ ⌋Y⌋ ⌋Z⌋

⌋A⌋ ⌋B⌋ ⌋C⌋ ⌋D⌋ ⌋E⌋ ⌋F⌋ ⌋G⌋ ⌋H⌋ ⌋I⌋
⌋J⌋ ⌋K⌋ ⌋L⌋ ⌋M⌋ ⌋N⌋ ⌋O⌋ ⌋P⌋ ⌋Q⌋ ⌋R⌋
⌋S⌋ ⌋T⌋ ⌋U⌋ ⌋V⌋ ⌋W⌋ ⌋X⌋ ⌋Y⌋ ⌋Z⌋

⌋A⌋ ⌋B⌋ ⌋C⌋ ⌋D⌋ ⌋E⌋ ⌋F⌋ ⌋G⌋ ⌋H⌋ ⌋I⌋
⌋J⌋ ⌋K⌋ ⌋L⌋ ⌋M⌋ ⌋N⌋ ⌋O⌋ ⌋P⌋ ⌋Q⌋ ⌋R⌋
⌋S⌋ ⌋T⌋ ⌋U⌋ ⌋V⌋ ⌋W⌋ ⌋X⌋ ⌋Y⌋ ⌋Z⌋

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

19

Ⓐ
later

Ⓑ
foot

Ⓒ
pound

Ⓓ
dollar

Ⓔ
gallon

Metre is to inch as litre is to .

20

Ⓐ
bicycles

Ⓑ
discoverer

Ⓒ
supermarkets

Ⓓ
machines

Ⓔ
clever

Shop is to wares as inventor is to .

21

Ⓐ
network

Ⓑ
landline

Ⓒ
mobile

Ⓓ
top-up

Ⓔ
recharge

Browser is to internet as telephone is to .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing.
Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

22

Ⓐ
course

Ⓑ
curse

Ⓒ
cross

Ⓓ
coarse

Ⓔ
crisis

Obtaining no relief from the conventional treatments provided in Britain, he travelled to a clinic in Switzerland to receive a of experimental injections.

23

Ⓐ
broken

Ⓑ
council

Ⓒ
tripped

Ⓓ
counsel

Ⓔ
cancel

I have reported the misplaced flagstone to the local repeatedly and have little hope that it will be resolved, unfortunately.

Go to the next page 

Session 7

24

(A) assent

(B) ascent

(C) sent

(D) scent

(E) assess

Without the _____ of the head teacher, Julia would never have been able to wear the giant penguin suit instead of her uniform, during the charity day.

25

(A) diffident

(B) defuse

(C) diffuse

(D) defies

(E) difficult

Beyond the next bend was a small clearing in the forest, lit by a _____ glow from fluorescent mosses on the half-submerged stones.

26

(A) address

(B) advise

(C) arrange

(D) advance

(E) advice

However much he begged for a hint regarding which route was more advisable, she remained firm in her resolve: it was entirely his choice and she would not _____ him one way or another.

27

(A) bow

(B) bough

(C) boo

(D) ballyhoo

(E) brew

Only someone who listened carefully would have noticed that from one _____ came occasional giggling sounds, as Caroline and her brother, who had clambered into the leafy heights of the tree, made fun of the appearance of passing strangers.

28

(A) coax

(B) slice

(C) imply

(D) certify

(E) revive

Step by step, he managed to _____ the pony into the horsebox.

29

$\subset A \supset$
irritate

$\models B \models$
recognise

⊂C⊃
confuse

⊂D⊃
repeated

⊃E ⊃
aggravate

Every question and request for clarification worsened the situation, serving to [REDACTED] the new manager who was struggling to impose order on the unruly team.

30

$\subset A \supset$
brother

$\subset B \supset$
name

dememeanour

$\subset D \supset$
anxious

depressed

From his [REDACTED] I suspect he is going to give us very bad news about Grandma.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

[illegible]

Training Session

8

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	lurid	☐ A clear	☐ B fluorescent	☐ C ambitious	☐ D conversational	☐ E ghastly
2	commiseration	☐ A condolence	☐ B deficiency	☐ C complaint	☐ D description	☐ E promise
3	depict	☐ A eradicate	☐ B portray	☐ C admonish	☐ D leave	☐ E deselected
4	craving	☐ A dancing	☐ B desire	☐ C scratching	☐ D burying	☐ E embossing
5	expunge	☐ A mop	☐ B squeeze	☐ C rehydrate	☐ D delete	☐ E offend
6	hallowed	☐ A gouged	☐ B permitted	☐ C greeted	☐ D intermarried	☐ E sacred
7	extrapolate	☐ A project	☐ B remove	☐ C humiliate	☐ D bounce	☐ E exchange

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	ambiguous	Ⓐ clear	Ⓑ left-handed	Ⓒ indecisive	Ⓓ underwater	Ⓔ skilful
9	euphemism	Ⓐ death	Ⓑ approximation	Ⓒ curse	Ⓓ pessimism	Ⓔ earliness

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	caricature	Ⓐ ridicule	Ⓑ lampoon	Ⓒ character	Ⓓ mock	Ⓔ exaggerate
11	mercurial	Ⓐ metallic	Ⓑ variable	Ⓒ inconstant	Ⓓ spirited	Ⓔ changeable

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12 Ⓐ
abide Ⓑ
bear Ⓒ
endure Ⓓ
stand Ⓔ
control

13 Ⓐ
shrivel Ⓑ
die Ⓒ
perish Ⓓ
mutate Ⓔ
succumb

Go to the next page 

Session 8

14

Ⓐ retract

Ⓑ rescind

Ⓒ collect

Ⓓ countermand

Ⓔ repeal

15

Ⓐ amass

Ⓑ gather

Ⓒ gregarious

Ⓓ assemble

Ⓔ aggregate

16

Ⓐ repair

Ⓑ undergo

Ⓒ accept

Ⓓ receive

Ⓔ admit

17

Ⓐ weighty

Ⓑ serious

Ⓒ significant

Ⓓ hostile

Ⓔ momentous

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18 Winning the race did indeed lift his spirits. He was ebu□□□□nt as he entered the prize giving ceremony.

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
Ⓙ Ⓚ Ⓛ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ
Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ ⓘ ⓙ ⓚ

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
Ⓙ Ⓚ Ⓛ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ
Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ ⓘ ⓙ ⓚ

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
Ⓙ Ⓚ Ⓛ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ
Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ ⓘ ⓙ ⓚ

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
Ⓙ Ⓚ Ⓛ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ
Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ ⓘ ⓙ ⓚ

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

- 19**
- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <A>
type |
keys | <C>
squeak | <D>
sort | <E>
tail |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
- Mouse is to point as keyboard is to .

- 20**
- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <A>
game |
foot | <C>
throw | <D>
lose | <E>
actor |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
- Card is to play as ball is to .

- 21**
- | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <A>
corner |
cube | <C>
topple | <D>
face | <E>
sharp |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
- Vertex is to edge as edge is .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing.
Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

- 22**
- | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <A>
let |
invite | <C>
drench | <D>
constrain | <E>
box |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
- The danger of taking on that project is that it would you in to cover only the landscape differences between the countries; you might later find this depressingly limiting.

- 23**
- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <A>
capsule |
whirlpool | <C>
arbitrary | <D>
capitol | <E>
capital |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
- An architectural, literary and scientific wonder, Paris is the majestic of the Republic of France.

Go to the next page 

24

(A) islet

(B) aisle

(C) all

(D) isle

(E) supermarket

On one side stood mountains of breakfast cereal packages of all sizes and colours, and on the other was a wall of high-energy breakfast bars boasting every imaginable ingredient. It was difficult to walk down the [REDACTED] without being tempted.

25

(A) finder

(B) astound

(C) flounder

(D) impress

(E) founder

Rollo had every support we could give him but, as the pessimistic teachers had predicted, he did indeed [REDACTED] even in everyday work, and showed no signs of excelling in any discipline.

26

(A) adapt

(B) adder

(C) adopt

(D) advise

(E) adept

The zipper on her school bag broken, Susan carefully devised a way to [REDACTED] a carrier bag for use as a supplementary cover.

27

(A) bird

(B) bridle

(C) brood

(D) bridal

(E) brewed

At last they arrived at the [REDACTED] suite, which had been specially redecorated as requested, with flowers from ceiling to floor, and studded with the finest chocolate money could buy.

28

(A) parallel

(B) bazaar

(C) policy

(D) bizarre

(E) police

By half past two in the afternoon, a vast throng filled the [REDACTED], raising a commotion that could be heard almost half a mile beyond the furthest of the market stalls.

29

Ⓐ effected

Ⓑ infected

Ⓒ inflicted

Ⓓ infested

Ⓔ afflicted

The new king was intelligent and just, but was [REDACTED] by a nervous twitch of his eyes that his subjects sometimes misunderstood as surprise.

30

Ⓐ balmy

Ⓑ rummy

Ⓒ farm

Ⓓ river

Ⓔ barmy

"I think you are [REDACTED]," objected Isobel at the suggestion that they take turns in pulling the two ton truck up the shallow hill to the playground.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

Word	A short sentence <i>you</i> have created, using the word

Training Session

9

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	sham	☐ A hoot	☐ B duck	☐ C quack	☐ D woof	☐ E roof
2	elude	☐ A finish	☐ B evade	☐ C decide	☐ D evinced	☐ E convince
3	exacting	☐ A demanding	☐ B approximating	☐ C contributing	☐ D withdrawing	☐ E global
4	deride	☐ A ridicule	☐ B disembark	☐ C gallop	☐ D splinter	☐ E slice
5	exhaustive	☐ A gaseous	☐ B smoky	☐ C expelling	☐ D complete	☐ E tiring
6	gullible	☐ A dishonest	☐ B distracting	☐ C unreadable	☐ D credulous	☐ E amphibious
7	sagacious	☐ A spicy	☐ B wise	☐ C authentic	☐ D confronting	☐ E lengthy

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	erroneous	☐ A argumentative	☐ B peaceful	☐ C beautiful	☐ D missing	☐ E correct
9	excel	☐ A fail	☐ B unwind	☐ C undertake	☐ D undermine	☐ E understand

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	elated	☐ A upstairs	☐ B animated	☐ C jubilant	☐ D exultant	☐ E enraptured
11	sophisticated	☐ A elite	☐ B cosmopolitan	☐ C cultivated	☐ D amateur	☐ E experienced

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12 ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E
 generous profuse extravagant colloquial lavish

13 ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E
 rebuff repel parry repulse cleanse

Go to the next page 

Session 9

- 14** Ⓐ deficiency Ⓑ efficiency Ⓒ famine Ⓓ drought Ⓔ scarcity
- 15** Ⓐ abdicate Ⓑ relinquish Ⓒ cede Ⓓ liquefy Ⓔ resign
- 16** Ⓐ voluntary Ⓑ elective Ⓒ discretionary Ⓓ secretive Ⓔ optional
- 17** Ⓐ annul Ⓑ invalid Ⓒ void Ⓓ nullify Ⓔ cancel

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18** My seven friends and I will divide up this cake. We will each eat one e□□□h of it.

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
⓵ ⓶ ⓷ ⓸ ⓹ ⓺ ⓻ ⓼ ⓽
⓿ ⓫ ⓬ ⓭ ⓮ ⓯ ⓰ ⓱ ⓲

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
⓵ ⓶ ⓷ ⓸ ⓹ ⓺ ⓻ ⓼ ⓽
⓿ ⓫ ⓬ ⓭ ⓮ ⓯ ⓰ ⓱ ⓲

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
⓵ ⓶ ⓷ ⓸ ⓹ ⓺ ⓻ ⓼ ⓽
⓿ ⓫ ⓬ ⓭ ⓮ ⓯ ⓰ ⓱ ⓲

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
⓵ ⓶ ⓷ ⓸ ⓹ ⓺ ⓻ ⓼ ⓽
⓿ ⓫ ⓬ ⓭ ⓮ ⓯ ⓰ ⓱ ⓲

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

- 19** Ⓐ chance Ⓑ squeeze Ⓒ drop Ⓓ on Ⓔ handle

Press is to button as turn is to .

- 20** Ⓐ woodwork Ⓑ saw Ⓒ tablet Ⓓ pencil Ⓔ bony

Write is to paper as chisel is to .

- 21** Ⓐ water Ⓑ fluffy Ⓒ white Ⓓ sky Ⓔ above

Omelette is to egg as cloud is to .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

- 22** Ⓐ break Ⓑ role Ⓒ brake Ⓓ brook Ⓔ roll

Somehow, in the commotion, one of the couple had dislodged the and the car was beginning to trundle forwards towards the cliff edge.

- 23** Ⓐ kerchief Ⓑ kern Ⓒ curb Ⓓ cube Ⓔ kerb

If he could just his hysterical approach, we might risk letting him see the boss later this week.

Go to the next page 

Session 9

24

Ⓐ written

Ⓑ clause

Ⓒ inkwell

Ⓓ eyesight

Ⓔ disastrous

I signed the contract with such eagerness that I didn't notice the fateful [REDACTED] on the second page.

25

Ⓐ revert

Ⓑ despair

Ⓒ demise

Ⓓ dictate

Ⓔ introvert

Four more trucks passed him by, without giving any sign of recognition of his request for a lift, and Harold began to [REDACTED] of escaping this empty plain that day.

26

Ⓐ detached

Ⓑ absorbed

Ⓒ resolved

Ⓓ absolved

Ⓔ resorted

An impressively intelligent debater, the presidential candidate was nevertheless let down by this appearance of being [REDACTED] from the lives of ordinary people.

27

Ⓐ study

Ⓑ interlude

Ⓒ allude

Ⓓ elude

Ⓔ intercede

In your explanation please do not [REDACTED] to the agreement you say you had with the previous teacher; he is no longer working here, there is no record of such any such agreement, and I do not believe extra time off will help you pass the exam.

28

Ⓐ asymmetry

Ⓑ contentment

Ⓒ cement

Ⓓ cynicism

Ⓔ symmetry

It is difficult to repeatedly be disappointed by the standards of behaviour and sources of motivation of others, and not let [REDACTED] set in.

29

Ⓐ
creditedⒷ
credibleⒸ
accreditedⒹ
incredibleⒺ
credulous

I am not surprised that he believed her far-fetched story. He is one of the most [] people I have ever met.

30

Ⓐ
intentionⒷ
brusqueⒸ
detailedⒹ
angerⒺ
firmness

Please accept my apologies for my earlier [] manner. I was pressed for time with several people waiting for a reply to rather complication questions.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

Word	A short sentence <i>you</i> have created, using the word

Training Session

10

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	eloquence	☐ A series	☐ B release	☐ C articulacy	☐ D disaster	☐ E sealing
2	deceit	☐ A lie	☐ B recline	☐ C receipt	☐ D invoice	☐ E refuse
3	effervescent	☐ A luminous	☐ B sweating	☐ C fizzy	☐ D curling	☐ E devoted
4	venal	☐ A political	☐ B corrupt	☐ C impossible	☐ D trivial	☐ E meaty
5	enormity	☐ A normality	☐ B bizarreness	☐ C hatred	☐ D hugeness	☐ E disaster
6	indifferent	☐ A distracted	☐ B neutral	☐ C underwhelmed	☐ D matching	☐ E identical
7	machinate	☐ A scheme	☐ B accelerate	☐ C organisation	☐ D automate	☐ E grind

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	dearth	☐ A birth	☐ B chilling	☐ C heavens	☐ D glut	☐ E water
9	exhale	☐ A inspire	☐ B reduced	☐ C solidify	☐ D accept	☐ E straighten

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	dour	☐ A stern	☐ B austere	☐ C gloomy	☐ D acidic	☐ E unfriendly
11	contemptible	☐ A intelligible	☐ B despicable	☐ C base	☐ D low	☐ E reprehensible

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	☐ A vivid	☐ B beautiful	☐ C countryside	☐ D graphic	☐ E picturesque
13	☐ A virtue	☐ B honour	☐ C versatile	☐ D integrity	☐ E goodness

Go to the next page 

Session 10

- 14** Ⓐ pretty Ⓑ acute Ⓒ sudden Ⓓ quick Ⓔ instant
- 15** Ⓐ harry Ⓑ storm Ⓒ torment Ⓓ harass Ⓔ distress
- 16** Ⓐ subtract Ⓑ material Ⓒ chemical Ⓓ matter Ⓔ substance
- 17** Ⓐ touching Ⓑ abutting Ⓒ juxtaposed Ⓓ adjacent Ⓔ adjective

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18** While the loop-the-loop was a high point of the trip to the fun-fair, it was the Flight of Fear that was most ex□□□□ating.

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓙ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓙ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓙ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓙ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

- 19** Ⓐ sphere Ⓑ ball Ⓒ circle Ⓓ rhombus Ⓔ parallelogram

Rectangle is to square as ellipse is to .

- 20** Ⓐ horn Ⓑ blast Ⓒ video Ⓓ music Ⓔ cable

Screen is to picture as loudspeaker is to .

- 21** Ⓐ takeoff Ⓑ berthing Ⓒ pilot Ⓓ destroying Ⓔ underwater

Airport is to landing as marina is to .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

- 22** Ⓐ distraught Ⓑ along Ⓒ distributed Ⓓ a long Ⓔ distracted

Ernesto was relieved to see the finishing line was just coming into sight on the horizon. His friends and family would be arranged the final few hundred metres, and their cheers would soon would surely give him the last few ounces of motivation needed to finish the race.

- 23** Ⓐ popularity Ⓑ comprehension Ⓒ liberty Ⓓ unlocked Ⓔ equality

It is difficult for you outside this prison to understand the value of the you take for granted; inside here, the inmates long for it with all their hearts.

24

Ⓐ reading

Ⓑ indecision

Ⓒ cover

Ⓓ evening

Ⓔ category

I could not decide in which [] to place this book: it is part mystery, part romance and part science fiction.

25

Ⓐ future

Ⓑ founder

Ⓒ flounder

Ⓓ absentee

Ⓔ finder

Rollo's claim to be the [] of the institute was greeted with laughter from the many present who remember him joining it as a novice only a few years previously.

26

Ⓐ brooch

Ⓑ broom

Ⓒ breach

Ⓓ breech

Ⓔ broach

A beautiful [] acted as a centrepiece for the explosion of colour that was her new blouse.

27

Ⓐ unison

Ⓑ coherent

Ⓒ unseen

Ⓓ current

Ⓔ unanimous

Somehow we have to turn this pile of ideas into a single [] whole, so that we can win this advertising contract.

28

Ⓐ haddock

Ⓑ padlock

Ⓒ podcast

Ⓓ headlock

Ⓔ paddock

With one last pull on the net, they managed to haul on board their huge catch of [].

29

Ⓐ
twistⒷ
irritateⒸ
aggravateⒹ
ingratiateⒺ
gratify

I carried my rucksack on my left shoulder to try not to the injury to my right ankle.

30

Ⓐ
braggartⒷ
statueⒸ
modellingⒹ
electedⒺ
girl

I don't want to be a , but I was voted the most handsome boy by the girls of my class.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

Word	A short sentence <i>you</i> have created, using the word

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	entity	☐ A boundary	☐ B completeness	☐ C being	☐ D conclusion	☐ E living
2	enigma	☐ A stain	☐ B brand	☐ C sketch	☐ D game	☐ E puzzle
3	emphasis	☐ A insistence	☐ B focus	☐ C stage	☐ D pedigree	☐ E romance
4	venial	☐ A corrupt	☐ B inexcusable	☐ C ghastly	☐ D impeccable	☐ E minor
5	exclaim	☐ A reimburse	☐ B shout	☐ C permit	☐ D allege	☐ E request
6	indomitable	☐ A international	☐ B bunk-bed	☐ C homeless	☐ D unbeatable	☐ E compressible
7	debilitate	☐ A charge	☐ B idolize	☐ C weaken	☐ D restate	☐ E contemplate

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	discredit	☐ A promote	☐ B prepay	☐ C recapitulate	☐ D invoke	☐ E circulate
9	hamper	☐ A carrier	☐ B undermine	☐ C basket	☐ D assist	☐ E vegetarian

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	eke	☐ A economise	☐ B scream	☐ C scrimp	☐ D survive	☐ E skimp
11	spendthrift	☐ A wasteful	☐ B improvident	☐ C cost-efficient	☐ D profligate	☐ E extravagant

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	☐ A arrangement	☐ B contract	☐ C bargain	☐ D agreement	☐ E haggle
13	☐ A adverse	☐ B hostile	☐ C advertise	☐ D calamitous	☐ E catastrophic

Go to the next page 

Session 11

14

Ⓐ variable

Ⓑ pickle

Ⓒ changeable

Ⓓ fickle

Ⓔ inconstant

15

Ⓐ undercover

Ⓑ underhand

Ⓒ clandestine

Ⓓ clementine

Ⓔ secretive

16

Ⓐ hygienic

Ⓑ sanitary

Ⓒ clean

Ⓓ antiseptic

Ⓔ sensible

17

Ⓐ defy

Ⓑ flout

Ⓒ disregard

Ⓓ flaunt

Ⓔ scorn

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18 The death of the parakeet only days in the past, Louisa was still lost in a harrowing mist of gr□□□.

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
Ⓙ Ⓚ Ⓛ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ
Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ ⓘ ⓙ ⓚ

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
Ⓙ Ⓚ Ⓛ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ
Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ ⓘ ⓙ ⓚ

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ Ⓖ Ⓗ Ⓘ
Ⓙ Ⓚ Ⓛ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ
Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ ⓘ ⓙ ⓚ

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

19

Ⓐ carrot

Ⓑ solidify

Ⓒ bake

Ⓓ whiskey

Ⓔ water

Alcohol is to tea as cake is to [REDACTED].

20

Ⓐ tablet

Ⓑ crying

Ⓒ ill

Ⓓ laughter

Ⓔ prescription

Comedy is to sad as medicine is to [REDACTED].

21

Ⓐ ice

Ⓑ water

Ⓒ thaw

Ⓓ jammed

Ⓔ cartridge

Printer is to scanner as freeze is to [REDACTED].

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

22

Ⓐ punish

Ⓑ leave

Ⓒ brief

Ⓓ delay

Ⓔ recognise

Come straight away to the planning room please. I will [REDACTED] you when you get here.

23

Ⓐ about

Ⓑ advance

Ⓒ advice

Ⓓ sieve

Ⓔ advise

He was delighted to receive the crucial [REDACTED] on choice of colour just in the nick of time, as his mouse pointer hovered over the button that would finalise the purchase.

Go to the next page



24

Ⓐ rotund

Ⓑ round

Ⓒ effect

Ⓓ around

Ⓔ affect

Will my rudeness to the teacher my chances of being selected for the swimming team?

25

Ⓐ avid

Ⓑ averse

Ⓒ avoid

Ⓓ avers

Ⓔ adverse

I do not eat prawns, nor can I even consider squid, but I am not to tuna.

26

Ⓐ despot

Ⓑ teapot

Ⓒ glamour

Ⓓ post-box

Ⓔ depot

The general took over and - true to form - became a , arbitrarily arresting and executing his opponents.

27

Ⓐ include

Ⓑ reduce

Ⓒ caprice

Ⓓ deduce

Ⓔ imply

Having excluded the butcher and the baker for the reasons I have explained, we can that it was the candlestick maker who was responsible for this heinous crime.

28

Ⓐ engender

Ⓑ thrive

Ⓒ flourish

Ⓓ aggravate

Ⓔ evidence

Charlotte travelled around the country trying to support for her plan for a charity to care for homeless spiders.

29

(A) inspection (B) numerology (C) spontaneity (D) circuit (E) circumference

While she liked detailed advanced planning of everything, even holidays, her husband was far more interested in _____, which was the only way he could keep interested.

30

(A) assembly (B) dissemble (C) resemble (D) disassemble (E) similarity

Asked the reason for her visit to the country, the young woman felt obliged to _____, concealing her unspeakable true purpose.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

Word	A short sentence <i>you</i> have created, using the word

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	facilitate	☐ A dedicate	☐ B assist	☐ C illegible	☐ D annoy	☐ E house
2	equivocal	☐ A silent	☐ B shrill	☐ C ambiguous	☐ D resounding	☐ E loud
3	dubious	☐ A replicated	☐ B musical	☐ C mechanical	☐ D mistaken	☐ E uncertain
4	erudite	☐ A adhesive	☐ B depleted	☐ C scholarly	☐ D mistaken	☐ E victorious
5	enumerate	☐ A count	☐ B tally	☐ C remove	☐ D catalogue	☐ E list
6	disinclination	☐ A reluctance	☐ B flattening	☐ C steady	☐ D resolution	☐ E sphericity
7	corroborate	☐ A assist	☐ B support	☐ C abduct	☐ D rust	☐ E protect

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8 degenerate	Ⓐ produce	Ⓑ electrify	Ⓒ purchase	Ⓓ product	Ⓔ evolve
9 enmity	Ⓐ reception	Ⓑ friendship	Ⓒ smallness	Ⓓ shrinking	Ⓔ initiation

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10 pliant	Ⓐ biddable	Ⓑ tractable	Ⓒ assenting	Ⓓ vegetable	Ⓔ compliant
11 research	Ⓐ investigate	Ⓑ examine	Ⓒ study	Ⓓ discover	Ⓔ inquire

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	Ⓐ simplistic	Ⓑ intelligible	Ⓒ easy	Ⓓ clear	Ⓔ transparent
13	Ⓐ flout	Ⓑ display	Ⓒ flaunt	Ⓓ exhibit	Ⓔ boast

Go to the next page 

Session 12

14

⌋A⌋
thrifty

⌋B⌋
careful

⌋C⌋
frugal

⌋D⌋
embarrassed

⌋E⌋
prudent

15

⌋A⌋
pompous

⌋B⌋
proud

⌋C⌋
inflated

⌋D⌋
egotistic

⌋E⌋
pom-pom

16

⌋A⌋
indict

⌋B⌋
accuse

⌋C⌋
persecute

⌋D⌋
allege

⌋E⌋
prosecute

17

⌋A⌋
torment

⌋B⌋
anguish

⌋C⌋
torture

⌋D⌋
confuse

⌋E⌋
agony

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18 Profuse apologies from Louise's friends for the noise from their all-night party did little to prevent her neighbour developing a deep g□□□□ance over the incident.

⌋A⌋ ⌋B⌋ ⌋C⌋ ⌋D⌋ ⌋E⌋ ⌋F⌋ ⌋G⌋ ⌋H⌋ ⌋I⌋
⌋J⌋ ⌋K⌋ ⌋L⌋ ⌋M⌋ ⌋N⌋ ⌋O⌋ ⌋P⌋ ⌋Q⌋ ⌋R⌋
⌋S⌋ ⌋T⌋ ⌋U⌋ ⌋V⌋ ⌋W⌋ ⌋X⌋ ⌋Y⌋ ⌋Z⌋

⌋A⌋ ⌋B⌋ ⌋C⌋ ⌋D⌋ ⌋E⌋ ⌋F⌋ ⌋G⌋ ⌋H⌋ ⌋I⌋
⌋J⌋ ⌋K⌋ ⌋L⌋ ⌋M⌋ ⌋N⌋ ⌋O⌋ ⌋P⌋ ⌋Q⌋ ⌋R⌋
⌋S⌋ ⌋T⌋ ⌋U⌋ ⌋V⌋ ⌋W⌋ ⌋X⌋ ⌋Y⌋ ⌋Z⌋

⌋A⌋ ⌋B⌋ ⌋C⌋ ⌋D⌋ ⌋E⌋ ⌋F⌋ ⌋G⌋ ⌋H⌋ ⌋I⌋
⌋J⌋ ⌋K⌋ ⌋L⌋ ⌋M⌋ ⌋N⌋ ⌋O⌋ ⌋P⌋ ⌋Q⌋ ⌋R⌋
⌋S⌋ ⌋T⌋ ⌋U⌋ ⌋V⌋ ⌋W⌋ ⌋X⌋ ⌋Y⌋ ⌋Z⌋

⌋A⌋ ⌋B⌋ ⌋C⌋ ⌋D⌋ ⌋E⌋ ⌋F⌋ ⌋G⌋ ⌋H⌋ ⌋I⌋
⌋J⌋ ⌋K⌋ ⌋L⌋ ⌋M⌋ ⌋N⌋ ⌋O⌋ ⌋P⌋ ⌋Q⌋ ⌋R⌋
⌋S⌋ ⌋T⌋ ⌋U⌋ ⌋V⌋ ⌋W⌋ ⌋X⌋ ⌋Y⌋ ⌋Z⌋

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

- 19** Ⓐ roadside Ⓑ windy Ⓒ downpour Ⓓ airbag Ⓔ forecast
- Seatbelt is to collision as umbrella is to .

- 20** Ⓐ castle Ⓑ breaking Ⓒ futile Ⓓ dishonesty Ⓔ devastation
- Fortress is to destruction as promise is to .

- 21** Ⓐ infamous Ⓑ destroyed Ⓒ advertise Ⓓ damage Ⓔ traumatising
- Secret is to publicise as protected is to .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

- 22** Ⓐ isle Ⓑ later Ⓒ alter Ⓓ altar Ⓔ aisle

At the front of the church, the young priest trembled slightly as he stepped up to the to lead his first service on his own.

- 23** Ⓐ effected Ⓑ effective Ⓒ affected Ⓓ effect Ⓔ effects

In the hope of being given a lengthy period off school, Jorgia a limp as she went in to the doctors office. Unfortunately for her, he had noticed her sprightly participation an impromptu game of football just minutes earlier.

24

Ⓐ
repel

Ⓑ
rebuttal

Ⓒ
brutal

Ⓓ
bridal

Ⓔ
bridle

Jemima would [] at the thought the wedding would be conducted in a downmarket hotel rather than the planned castle.

25

Ⓐ
increase

Ⓑ
waive

Ⓒ
force

Ⓓ
wave

Ⓔ
ways

Taking into account your extreme financial hardship, the school has decided to [] the usual fee for participating in the school trip.

26

Ⓐ
isle

Ⓑ
desert

Ⓒ
ocean

Ⓓ
shipwreck

Ⓔ
deserted

The more we explored the tiny [] on which we were stranded, the more we became despondent.

27

Ⓐ
due

Ⓑ
adieu

Ⓒ
do

Ⓓ
ardour

Ⓔ
ado

Without further [], I am delighted to call onto the stage the man whose performances have set the magic world alight - the Great Suprendo.

28

Ⓐ
criterion

Ⓑ
category

Ⓒ
cyclist

Ⓓ
castle

Ⓔ
cynical

Why do you say I am not eligible for this discount? Which [] do you think I do not meet?

29

- <A> innocence remorse <C> egotism <D> vigilance <E> comprehension

Throughout your 5 year rampage, you showed no mercy for your victims, and now standing in the dock you show not the slightest hint of [REDACTED] for your crimes.

30

- | | | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <u>(A)</u> | <u>(B)</u> | <u>(C)</u> | <u>(D)</u> | <u>(E)</u> |
| delirious | documented | delectable | doctored | declined |

Don't take any notice of what I said when I was in the grip of the fever last week: I was [REDACTED], suffering from hallucinations and could not think straight.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

[illegible]

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	superficial	☐ A serious	☐ B progressive	☐ C massive	☐ D international	☐ E simplistic
2	expedient	☐ A convenient	☐ B ingredient	☐ C curious	☐ D instantaneous	☐ E childish
3	embellish	☐ A exaggerate	☐ B polish	☐ C stigmatise	☐ D annotate	☐ E recognise
4	grudging	☐ A digging	☐ B plodding	☐ C half-hearted	☐ D sloping	☐ E striped
5	economical	☐ A financial	☐ B fastidious	☐ C cheap	☐ D mysterious	☐ E costly
6	flippant	☐ A impertinent	☐ B inversion	☐ C avaricious	☐ D talkative	☐ E revisionist
7	exasperating	☐ A annotating	☐ B annoying	☐ C growing	☐ D breathing	☐ E eliminating

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	dominant	☐ A irresponsible	☐ B irrelevant	☐ C untutored	☐ D submissive	☐ E entrance
9	esoteric	☐ A commonplace	☐ B recent	☐ C smoothed	☐ D modern	☐ E relaxed

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	capricious	☐ A volatile	☐ B superstitious	☐ C changeable	☐ D fickle	☐ E mercurial
11	vacant	☐ A blank	☐ B holiday	☐ C unfilled	☐ D empty	☐ E open

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	☐ A union	☐ B blending	☐ C combination	☐ D lock	☐ E association
13	☐ A triumphant	☐ B brave	☐ C valiant	☐ D heroic	☐ E valorous

Go to the next page 

Session 13

14

Ⓐ
trickling

Ⓑ
composed

Ⓒ
serene

Ⓓ
calm

Ⓔ
undisturbed

15

Ⓐ
weary

Ⓑ
fashionable

Ⓒ
tired

Ⓓ
fatigued

Ⓔ
jaded

16

Ⓐ
disorder

Ⓑ
furore

Ⓒ
turmoil

Ⓓ
chaos

Ⓔ
grassland

17

Ⓐ
bland

Ⓑ
thin

Ⓒ
unwell

Ⓓ
insipid

Ⓔ
weak

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18 Although he styled himself a freedom-fighter, Xavier was regarded by many as a g□□□□illa.

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓘ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓘ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓘ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓘ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

19

Ⓐ potato

Ⓑ metal

Ⓒ ladle

Ⓓ liquid

Ⓔ spoon

Chips is to fork as soup is to .

20

Ⓐ pin

Ⓑ thread

Ⓒ threat

Ⓓ annoy

Ⓔ pine

Leaf is to oak as needle is to .

21

Ⓐ invincible

Ⓑ anxious

Ⓒ forceful

Ⓓ powerful

Ⓔ photocopy

Duplicate is to unique as vulnerable is to .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

22

Ⓐ stringent

Ⓑ systematic

Ⓒ catastrophic

Ⓓ civil

Ⓔ cultivated

However tired you are, please try to be to the staff of the hotel.

23

Ⓐ talkative

Ⓑ insular

Ⓒ magnetic

Ⓓ circular

Ⓔ repellent

Having surrounded the compound for over a week, the police were expecting that many of the inhabitants would give up and come out quietly, but the personality of their leader foiled those hopes.

Go to the next page 

Session 13

24

Ⓐ glib

Ⓑ glide

Ⓒ gibe

Ⓓ glade

Ⓔ jibe

You say the replacement windows should cost us £125 each. This does not [] with the estimate given by your boss.

25

Ⓐ alludes

Ⓑ deludes

Ⓒ insides

Ⓓ extrudes

Ⓔ eludes

I had a question while you were speaking, but just now it [] me.

26

Ⓐ pollster

Ⓑ bluster

Ⓒ bolster

Ⓓ plunder

Ⓔ roadster

After presenting our proposal and meeting a stony silence, I did everything possible to [] our case by describing extra features.

27

Ⓐ financial

Ⓑ permit

Ⓒ perimeter

Ⓓ licence

Ⓔ parameter

Within the boundary of portraying the general victorious upon the mountain, the painter had considerable [] in exactly what to include.

28

Ⓐ crescentic

Ⓑ farcical

Ⓒ fragmentary

Ⓓ slimline

Ⓔ fanatical

The loss of exercise book, text book and all writing materials, one three separate occasions within a month, was becoming []. The teacher asked the headmaster to interview the pupil.

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	exploit	☐ A destroy	☐ B exaggeration	☐ C exploration	☐ D detonate	☐ E utilise
2	decadent	☐ A elegant	☐ B reluctant	☐ C ancient	☐ D degenerate	☐ E prolonged
3	magnate	☐ A attractor	☐ B metalloid	☐ C network	☐ D tycoon	☐ E adhesive
4	crass	☐ A sophisticated	☐ B insensitive	☐ C copious	☐ D verdant	☐ E green
5	exuberance	☐ A roadways	☐ B majestic	☐ C collection	☐ D hypnosis	☐ E effervescence
6	insurmountable	☐ A inaudible	☐ B exaggerated	☐ C low-altitude	☐ D unpredictable	☐ E overwhelming
7	equivocate	☐ A decide	☐ B sing	☐ C prevaricate	☐ D scream	☐ E distinguish

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	exemplary	☐ A awful	☐ B entrance	☐ C minimised	☐ D religious	☐ E decelerating
9	denounce	☐ A catalogue	☐ B represent	☐ C cancel	☐ D glorify	☐ E conceal

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	endeavour	☐ A effort	☐ B activity	☐ C attempt	☐ D finish	☐ E try
11	sycophant	☐ A mentalists	☐ B fawner	☐ C groveller	☐ D flatterer	☐ E toady

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	☐ A stubborn	☐ B inflexible	☐ C oblique	☐ D obstinate	☐ E unbending
13	☐ A language	☐ B dialect	☐ C tongue	☐ D mouth	☐ E speech

Go to the next page 

- 14** Ⓐ timid Ⓑ retiring Ⓒ violent Ⓓ bashful Ⓔ restrained
- 15** Ⓐ anxiety Ⓑ understanding Ⓒ unease Ⓓ apprehension Ⓔ misgiving
- 16** Ⓐ impenetrable Ⓑ subtle Ⓒ imperceptible Ⓓ hidden Ⓔ microscopic
- 17** Ⓐ average Ⓑ unimportant Ⓒ indifferent Ⓓ mediocre Ⓔ identical

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18** Their discovery that they had accidentally left the picnic hamper at home did not daunt the foursome. After all, they did manage to bring two bananas; they could simply h□□□e each one and thus each have an equal share.

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓙ
⓵	⓶	⓷	⓸	⓹	⓺	⓻	⓼	⓽
⓿	⓫	⓬	⓭	⓮	⓯	⓰	⓱	⓲

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓙ
⓵	⓶	⓷	⓸	⓹	⓺	⓻	⓼	⓽
⓿	⓫	⓬	⓭	⓮	⓯	⓰	⓱	⓲

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓙ
⓵	⓶	⓷	⓸	⓹	⓺	⓻	⓼	⓽
⓿	⓫	⓬	⓭	⓮	⓯	⓰	⓱	⓲

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

19

Ⓐ parcel

Ⓑ orange

Ⓒ letter

Ⓓ squeeze

Ⓔ bottle

Carton is to juice as envelope is to [REDACTED].

20

Ⓐ apple

Ⓑ hamburger

Ⓒ computer

Ⓓ rain

Ⓔ pear

Shade is to sunlight as mackintosh is to [REDACTED].

21

Ⓐ baffle

Ⓑ waffle

Ⓒ ingest

Ⓓ enquire

Ⓔ satisfied

Puzzled is to investigate as starved is to [REDACTED].

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

22

Ⓐ inviting

Ⓑ incremental

Ⓒ liberal

Ⓓ collegial

Ⓔ precise

Although we started with a very strict set of criteria for joining this club, over the years we have become far more [REDACTED].

23

Ⓐ curtain

Ⓑ stream

Ⓒ currant

Ⓓ flooding

Ⓔ current

Although it looks tempting to take a dip in this river, beware the [REDACTED], which is far stronger than you might assume.

Go to the next page 

Session 14

24

Ⓐ
frieze

Ⓑ
ascendant

Ⓒ
freeze

Ⓓ
fleece

Ⓔ
above

Upstairs you will see the glorious and intricate Andromeda [REDACTED], depicting the discovery of fire by early humans.

25

Ⓐ
dessert

Ⓑ
serve

Ⓒ
desert

Ⓓ
deserve

Ⓔ
deserted

We partook so greedily in the main meal that when the [REDACTED] selection arrived, scarcely anyone could face a single morsel more.

26

Ⓐ
cryptic

Ⓑ
vegetable

Ⓒ
cynic

Ⓓ
vegetarian

Ⓔ
Cyrillic

After years of observing the behaviour of people selling their latest miracle cure, I have become a [REDACTED].

27

Ⓐ
arrest

Ⓑ
understand

Ⓒ
imprison

Ⓓ
listen

Ⓔ
delineate

I must ask you to [REDACTED] your exact reasons for believing your son is in our police cell.

28

Ⓐ
collapsed

Ⓑ
stagnant

Ⓒ
invisible

Ⓓ
reversed

Ⓔ
exploded

After twenty years of rapid growth, the town was hit by the worldwide recession and its economy became [REDACTED], with few new businesses being opened from season to season, and none of the traffic jams which were commonplace in its rising years.

29

Ⓐ
underhandⒷ
disappearⒸ
audibleⒹ
appearⒺ
chortle

"I heard someone [] when I went through my new proposal for the school song; everyone is going to stay here until they identify themselves," announced the headmaster crossly.

30

Ⓐ
instanceⒷ
typicalⒸ
condoneⒹ
exemplifyⒺ
impair

In your film on road safety, please could you show some cases of accidents that occurred and were just prevented? The case stories should [] both good and bad practice.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

Word	A short sentence <i>you</i> have created, using the word

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	ethnic	☐ A spicy	☐ B colourful	☐ C distant	☐ D tribal	☐ E global
2	denote	☐ A erase	☐ B forget	☐ C annotate	☐ D unstick	☐ E mean
3	esteem	☐ A permission	☐ B overflow	☐ C overheat	☐ D regard	☐ E combine
4	enchancing	☐ A assisting	☐ B repellent	☐ C gasping	☐ D beautiful	☐ E harmonious
5	egotistical	☐ A mathematical	☐ B selfish	☐ C atmospheric	☐ D digital	☐ E unlikely
6	nauseating	☐ A standing	☐ B collapsing	☐ C levelling	☐ D furniture	☐ E revolting
7	dishevelled	☐ A untidy	☐ B homeless	☐ C uneven	☐ D overgrown	☐ E discarded

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	ambivalent	☐ A drownable	☐ B decisive	☐ C dextrous	☐ D destitute	☐ E unconfident
9	decorum	☐ A untidiness	☐ B disarray	☐ C rudeness	☐ D inaccuracy	☐ E existence

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	reflective	☐ A contagious	☐ B thoughtful	☐ C pensive	☐ D contemplative	☐ E introspective
11	rapacious	☐ A salacious	☐ B ravenous	☐ C grasping	☐ D voracious	☐ E greedy

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	☐ A decade	☐ B flimsy	☐ C tenuous	☐ D slender	☐ E insubstantial
13	☐ A disturbing	☐ B bothersome	☐ C troublesome	☐ D pester	☐ E annoying

Go to the next page 

14

Ⓐ
illegal

Ⓑ
formidable

Ⓒ
threatening

Ⓓ
menacing

Ⓔ
fearful

15

Ⓐ
mild

Ⓑ
atlantic

Ⓒ
pacific

Ⓓ
meek

Ⓔ
gentle

16

Ⓐ
ultimate

Ⓑ
unbeatable

Ⓒ
extreme

Ⓓ
ultimatum

Ⓔ
supreme

17

Ⓐ
misplace

Ⓑ
remove

Ⓒ
displace

Ⓓ
transport

Ⓔ
reposition

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18 Seeing Jeremy leaning forward from his driving position behind the low carriage, resplendent in his fine new costume, Michelle could not help but notice how ha□□□□me he was.

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓘ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓘ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓘ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	Ⓕ	Ⓖ	Ⓗ	Ⓘ
Ⓙ	Ⓚ	Ⓛ	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓞ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ
Ⓢ	Ⓣ	Ⓤ	Ⓥ	Ⓦ	Ⓧ	Ⓨ	Ⓩ	

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

19

Ⓐ
water

Ⓑ
danger

Ⓒ
electrocute

Ⓓ
leak

Ⓔ
waste

Spark is to electricity as drip is to .

20

Ⓐ
stories

Ⓑ
memorise

Ⓒ
play

Ⓓ
storey

Ⓔ
memories

Book is to page as skyscraper is to .

21

Ⓐ
silent

Ⓑ
shirking

Ⓒ
exploded

Ⓓ
implode

Ⓔ
rectify

Rotating is to stationary as booming is to .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

22

Ⓐ
alter

Ⓑ
discard

Ⓒ
altar

Ⓓ
halter

Ⓔ
replace

Six months of fine dining had not been kind to Akiko's waistline. She decided it was time to her dresses so she could still fit into them.

23

Ⓐ
canine

Ⓑ
another

Ⓒ
assistant

Ⓓ
caution

Ⓔ
helper

"Danger: Scaffolding above. Enter area with ."

Go to the next page



24

Ⓐ
threes

Ⓑ
freeze

Ⓒ
trees

Ⓓ
frees

Ⓔ
frieze

How am I supposed to survive out here in the snow and ice? I will surely [REDACTED].

25

Ⓐ
innocent

Ⓑ
terrified

Ⓒ
aberrant

Ⓓ
quivering

Ⓔ
abhorrent

Step by step, her mother helped Agnes correct her [REDACTED] pronunciation of the difficult dinosaur names.

26

Ⓐ
grisly

Ⓑ
gristly

Ⓒ
darkly

Ⓓ
darkened

Ⓔ
grizzly

When she turned the light on, the scene of the murder was so [REDACTED] that Sarah recoiled, overcome with a sense of nausea.

27

Ⓐ
debating

Ⓑ
ignoring

Ⓒ
publicising

Ⓓ
brooding

Ⓔ
devising

Ever since the public dispute last year, she has been quietly [REDACTED] a hatred of him.

28

Ⓐ
instant

Ⓑ
snoozing

Ⓒ
climatic

Ⓓ
exaggerated

Ⓔ
climactic

The [REDACTED] moment of the game was a long shot where the ball teetered on the edge of the basketball ring and, with the crowd gasping, tipped forward, registering the winning point.

29

Ⓐ idolatry Ⓑ rigorousness Ⓒ independence Ⓓ freedom Ⓔ poignancy

Seeing the flag being finally draped over the coffin of the young soldier, I was moved by the _____ of that image, which stayed in my mind for years.

30

Ⓐ routine Ⓑ saddening Ⓒ enthralling Ⓓ uninspiring Ⓔ rambling

His experiences of getting into, and out of, major difficulties while climbing the world's tallest and most inaccessible peaks was _____: the audience sat in rapt attention, the silence punctuated only by occasional gasps of amazement.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

Word	A short sentence <i>you</i> have created, using the word

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	dogmatic	☐ A inflexible	☐ B docile	☐ C canine	☐ D relevant	☐ E automated
2	habitat	☐ A pastime	☐ B decoration	☐ C shopping	☐ D design	☐ E environment
3	guile	☐ A cunning	☐ B overcoat	☐ C leather	☐ D muslin	☐ E yellowish
4	doyen	☐ A disciplinarian	☐ B deer	☐ C coinage	☐ D night-time	☐ E leader
5	diminution	☐ A delay	☐ B deposition	☐ C darkening	☐ D attenuation	☐ E dishevelment
6	painstaking	☐ A stabbing	☐ B agonising	☐ C multi-coloured	☐ D donating	☐ E meticulous
7	repress	☐ A replicate	☐ B overlay	☐ C interminable	☐ D subdue	☐ E publish

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	dawdled	☐ A sketchy	☐ B accurate	☐ C hesitate	☐ D hasten	☐ E feared
9	deplore	☐ A admire	☐ B explore	☐ C implore	☐ D hesitate	☐ E resign

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	vain	☐ A overblown	☐ B inflated	☐ C proud	☐ D arrogant	☐ E valiant
11	raucous	☐ A rough	☐ B squawking	☐ C noisy	☐ D inharmonious	☐ E drunken

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	☐ A subtly	☐ B indirectly	☐ C obviously	☐ D tacitly	☐ E implicitly
13	☐ A strict	☐ B harsh	☐ C adamant	☐ D stern	☐ E ship

Go to the next page 

Session 16

14

⌊A⌋
sinuous

⌊B⌋
sinful

⌊C⌋
curving

⌊D⌋
snaking

⌊E⌋
twining

15

⌊A⌋
streak

⌊B⌋
vein

⌊C⌋
hint

⌊D⌋
proud

⌊E⌋
glint

16

⌊A⌋
torture

⌊B⌋
persecute

⌊C⌋
pester

⌊D⌋
prosecute

⌊E⌋
harass

17

⌊A⌋
wearing

⌊B⌋
boring

⌊C⌋
drilling

⌊D⌋
monotonous

⌊E⌋
dull

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

18

"You can't make an om□□□□te without breaking eggs," pronounced David meaningfully as he shut off the lights during the protest meeting, triggering instant uproar.

⌊A⌋	⌊B⌋	⌊C⌋	⌊D⌋	⌊E⌋	⌊F⌋	⌊G⌋	⌊H⌋	⌊I⌋
⌊J⌋	⌊K⌋	⌊L⌋	⌊M⌋	⌊N⌋	⌊O⌋	⌊P⌋	⌊Q⌋	⌊R⌋
⌊S⌋	⌊T⌋	⌊U⌋	⌊V⌋	⌊W⌋	⌊X⌋	⌊Y⌋	⌊Z⌋	

⌊A⌋	⌊B⌋	⌊C⌋	⌊D⌋	⌊E⌋	⌊F⌋	⌊G⌋	⌊H⌋	⌊I⌋
⌊J⌋	⌊K⌋	⌊L⌋	⌊M⌋	⌊N⌋	⌊O⌋	⌊P⌋	⌊Q⌋	⌊R⌋
⌊S⌋	⌊T⌋	⌊U⌋	⌊V⌋	⌊W⌋	⌊X⌋	⌊Y⌋	⌊Z⌋	

⌊A⌋	⌊B⌋	⌊C⌋	⌊D⌋	⌊E⌋	⌊F⌋	⌊G⌋	⌊H⌋	⌊I⌋
⌊J⌋	⌊K⌋	⌊L⌋	⌊M⌋	⌊N⌋	⌊O⌋	⌊P⌋	⌊Q⌋	⌊R⌋
⌊S⌋	⌊T⌋	⌊U⌋	⌊V⌋	⌊W⌋	⌊X⌋	⌊Y⌋	⌊Z⌋	

⌊A⌋	⌊B⌋	⌊C⌋	⌊D⌋	⌊E⌋	⌊F⌋	⌊G⌋	⌊H⌋	⌊I⌋
⌊J⌋	⌊K⌋	⌊L⌋	⌊M⌋	⌊N⌋	⌊O⌋	⌊P⌋	⌊Q⌋	⌊R⌋
⌊S⌋	⌊T⌋	⌊U⌋	⌊V⌋	⌊W⌋	⌊X⌋	⌊Y⌋	⌊Z⌋	

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

- 19** Ⓐ elongated Ⓑ spindly Ⓒ dishonest Ⓓ hasty Ⓔ old

Brevity is to concise as longevity is to .

- 20** Ⓐ realise Ⓑ chorus Ⓒ dawn Ⓓ midnight Ⓔ daytime

Night is to dusk as morning is to .

- 21** Ⓐ razzle Ⓑ puddle Ⓒ ignore Ⓓ dimly Ⓔ devastate

Darken is to dazzle as harken is to .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

- 22** Ⓐ adept Ⓑ addict Ⓒ adapt Ⓓ adroit Ⓔ adopt

After some months of grumbling low-level protest, the sixth form finally agreed to the same uniform as the rest of the school.

- 23** Ⓐ distinct Ⓑ distraught Ⓒ distract Ⓓ detained Ⓔ distributed

Ant and Dec are in fact two people, even though they almost always work together.

24

Ⓐ illusion

Ⓑ excitation

Ⓒ allusion

Ⓓ collision

Ⓔ emulsion

We didn't at the time understand his [] to the need to sacrifice some minor freedoms. Only months later, from our prison cells, did his meaning become clear.

25

Ⓐ serial

Ⓑ serious

Ⓒ silted

Ⓓ cereal

Ⓔ spiral

The modern breakfast [] is supplemented with a variety of vitamins, which makes it very unlikely that a person with an average diet will become importantly deficient.

26

Ⓐ bone

Ⓑ brine

Ⓒ born

Ⓓ bore

Ⓔ borne

If you break any items in this museum, the cost must unfortunately be [] by your parents or your school.

27

Ⓐ novel

Ⓑ naval

Ⓒ snivel

Ⓓ never

Ⓔ navel

Even with the numbing effects of a long night of alcohol, he could not understand how he allowed himself to have his [] pierced.

28

Ⓐ despair

Ⓑ demure

Ⓒ despoil

Ⓓ demur

Ⓔ diminutive

In a complete contrast to Louisa who is loud and bold, her sister is soft-spoken and [].

Matching Words

Identify which word is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

1	recount	☐ A analyse	☐ B describe	☐ C cumulate	☐ D error	☐ E photograph
2	episodic	☐ A uncomplicated	☐ B laughing	☐ C gripping	☐ D intermittent	☐ E continuous
3	earnest	☐ A wealthiest	☐ B closest	☐ C loudest	☐ D dedicated	☐ E funniest
4	epoch	☐ A earache	☐ B dog	☐ C lake	☐ D era	☐ E pocket
5	gripe	☐ A complaint	☐ B pudding	☐ C tubing	☐ D grasp	☐ E mature
6	superfluous	☐ A slithery	☐ B redundant	☐ C torrential	☐ D vivacious	☐ E pliable
7	perturbed	☐ A abbreviated	☐ B liquefied	☐ C scrawled	☐ D elongated	☐ E unsettled

Opposite Words

Identify which word is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word on the left. Each question has only one best answer. For each question shade your one chosen answer.

8	disdain	Ⓐ orientation	Ⓑ recognition	Ⓒ glee	Ⓓ cleanliness	Ⓔ health
9	disband	Ⓐ abandon	Ⓑ convene	Ⓒ silence	Ⓓ re-enable	Ⓔ relent

Words That Do Not Match

Identify which of the 5 options A-E matches LEAST WELL in meaning to the word on the left. There is only one best answer. Shade your one chosen answer.

10	retract	Ⓐ withdraw	Ⓑ undo	Ⓒ renounce	Ⓓ announce	Ⓔ cancel
11	revive	Ⓐ uplift	Ⓑ resuscitate	Ⓒ revitalise	Ⓓ rouse	Ⓔ reactivate

Odd One Out

Each group has four words which can have similar meanings, and one word which is different. Find the odd one out. Shade your one chosen answer.

12	Ⓐ piggish	Ⓑ swindler	Ⓒ trickster	Ⓓ fraudster	Ⓔ cheat
13	Ⓐ miser	Ⓑ twist	Ⓒ meander	Ⓓ coil	Ⓔ curve

Go to the next page 

- 14** ⌊A⌋ ravenous ⌊B⌋ sickly ⌊C⌋ morbid ⌊D⌋ unhealthy ⌊E⌋ diseased
- 15** ⌊A⌋ confidence ⌊B⌋ self-esteem ⌊C⌋ spirit ⌊D⌋ morale ⌊E⌋ honest
- 16** ⌊A⌋ cruel ⌊B⌋ mean ⌊C⌋ spittle ⌊D⌋ vengeful ⌊E⌋ spiteful
- 17** ⌊A⌋ volatile ⌊B⌋ unstable ⌊C⌋ explosive ⌊D⌋ volcanic ⌊E⌋ lava

Find The Missing Letters

Complete the sentence by identifying the missing letters. Write one letter into each of the large boxes below. After writing each letter, shade its corresponding element in the A-Z block beside it.

- 18** Under the flickering fl□□□scent light a tiny figure carrying a knapsack could just be made out, picking her way across the rubble towards the small huddle of emergency workers.

⌊A⌋ ⌊B⌋ ⌊C⌋ ⌊D⌋ ⌊E⌋ ⌊F⌋ ⌊G⌋ ⌊H⌋ ⌊I⌋
 ⌊J⌋ ⌊K⌋ ⌊L⌋ ⌊M⌋ ⌊N⌋ ⌊O⌋ ⌊P⌋ ⌊Q⌋ ⌊R⌋
 ⌊S⌋ ⌊T⌋ ⌊U⌋ ⌊V⌋ ⌊W⌋ ⌊X⌋ ⌊Y⌋ ⌊Z⌋

⌊A⌋ ⌊B⌋ ⌊C⌋ ⌊D⌋ ⌊E⌋ ⌊F⌋ ⌊G⌋ ⌊H⌋ ⌊I⌋
 ⌊J⌋ ⌊K⌋ ⌊L⌋ ⌊M⌋ ⌊N⌋ ⌊O⌋ ⌊P⌋ ⌊Q⌋ ⌊R⌋
 ⌊S⌋ ⌊T⌋ ⌊U⌋ ⌊V⌋ ⌊W⌋ ⌊X⌋ ⌊Y⌋ ⌊Z⌋

⌊A⌋ ⌊B⌋ ⌊C⌋ ⌊D⌋ ⌊E⌋ ⌊F⌋ ⌊G⌋ ⌊H⌋ ⌊I⌋
 ⌊J⌋ ⌊K⌋ ⌊L⌋ ⌊M⌋ ⌊N⌋ ⌊O⌋ ⌊P⌋ ⌊Q⌋ ⌊R⌋
 ⌊S⌋ ⌊T⌋ ⌊U⌋ ⌊V⌋ ⌊W⌋ ⌊X⌋ ⌊Y⌋ ⌊Z⌋

⌊A⌋ ⌊B⌋ ⌊C⌋ ⌊D⌋ ⌊E⌋ ⌊F⌋ ⌊G⌋ ⌊H⌋ ⌊I⌋
 ⌊J⌋ ⌊K⌋ ⌊L⌋ ⌊M⌋ ⌊N⌋ ⌊O⌋ ⌊P⌋ ⌊Q⌋ ⌊R⌋
 ⌊S⌋ ⌊T⌋ ⌊U⌋ ⌊V⌋ ⌊W⌋ ⌊X⌋ ⌊Y⌋ ⌊Z⌋

Similar relationships

Each sentence below states that one relationship is similar to another relationship. Choose the word, from options A to E, that completes the sentence best.

- 19** Ⓐ tub Ⓑ murder Ⓒ investigation Ⓓ laughter Ⓔ criminal
- Butt is to joke as victim is to .

- 20** Ⓐ rude Ⓑ bodybuilder Ⓒ laughter Ⓓ pimple Ⓔ cheek
- Bulge is to muscle as dimple is to .

- 21** Ⓐ tugging Ⓑ inspire Ⓒ lugging Ⓓ spire Ⓔ aspiring
- Direction is to pointing as ambition is to .

Find The Missing Word

In each of the following pieces of text, one word is missing. Complete it by choosing the one option A to E which fits best.

- 22** Ⓐ edited Ⓑ affected Ⓒ afflicted Ⓓ effected Ⓔ added

Dropping some of the money bags on the way, the gangsters a rapid getaway in the waiting car.

- 23** Ⓐ day Ⓑ days Ⓒ day's Ⓓ days' Ⓔ day's'

If you need to borrow a lawnmower, please give us three notice.



24

Ⓐ
gel

Ⓑ
jibe

Ⓒ
jelly

Ⓓ
wobble

Ⓔ
gibe

With every further [REDACTED] like that, you do realise that your chances of being appointed prefect next year are decreasing, don't you?

25

Ⓐ
bugler

Ⓑ
brother

Ⓒ
burglar

Ⓓ
birther

Ⓔ
burger

If you leave that window unlocked, it is an open invitation to any passing [REDACTED].

26

Ⓐ
bone

Ⓑ
born

Ⓒ
borne

Ⓓ
brute

Ⓔ
bought

By the time queen Clodagh gained the Northern lands, she had already [REDACTED] her husband three fine, strapping sons.

27

Ⓐ
innocence

Ⓑ
difference

Ⓒ
humidity

Ⓓ
deference

Ⓔ
obligation

Whenever she enters the room in future, please make sure to show the appropriate level of [REDACTED] for her leading role within our organisation.

28

Ⓐ
bridge

Ⓑ
broach

Ⓒ
brooch

Ⓓ
breach

Ⓔ
breach

It took half an hour of small talk and discussion of uncontroversial before I dared [REDACTED] the real reason for my travelling to visit him in Frankfurt.

29

grisly

$\subseteq B \supseteq$
gristly

☞
drizzling

CD
grizzly

CE
sizzling

Even in this magnificent restaurant, occasionally an expensive meat dish will have parts that are rather [REDACTED].

30

renovate

$\subseteq B \supseteq$
coordinate

noticed

⊂D⊃
horrify

invigilate

Having heard of the shenanigans at last year's examination, the head master decided to personally [REDACTED] at this year's examination.

This is the end of the training session.

Read the explanations at the back. In the box below, note any words you came across that were unfamiliar, together with a meaning or an example of usage. Practice using these words with adults.

[illegible]

Explanations for Training Session

1

1 C seriousness

Gravity means either seriousness (associated with the adjective grave) or the force of attraction between massive objects across space. Attracting is not a noun.

2 D calculation

A derivative is something based on something else, or a numerical value calculated from another set of numbers. It can also be used as an adjective to indicate the same concept of being based on something else.

3 C spa

A resort is a place where people go for a holiday and for rest. A spa is a name for a resort involving water, or which is believed to directly improve health.

4 A faint

Ethereal means very delicate and light. Originally, the ether was thought of as an imaginary thin matrix which was said to exist even in a vacuum.

5 C recommend

To espouse has nothing to do with spouse. It means to recommend a course of action, a cause, a belief or a way of life.

6 A remove

To extricate is to free someone or something from a difficult situation in which they are trapped; to remove them from such a problematic state.

7 A perfect

Impeccable means fulfilling the highest standards, and being without any flaw. This word is often used to describe a high standard of manners or behaviour.

8 E admit

To refuse to admit that something is true. Separately it can mean to refuse to give someone something or access to some facility (such as, for example, freedom).

9 C fascinating

Drab means dull, uninteresting, lacklustre or (when describing a colour) a dull pale brown.

10 E desk

A stable (noun) is a place that horses or other similar animals are housed. Stable (verb) means static, resistant to displacement, or reliable.

11 D cubicle

To rectify means to put right (after making a mistake or misaligning something), or more generally to correct.

12 A entombing

All the options are synonyms of captivating except entombing

13 A mistake

All the options except mistake are synonyms for abate, which means weaken or subside, for example in a storm or dispute.

14 D engrossing

All the options are synonyms of worthy except engrossing which means extremely interesting and capable of retaining attention.

15 A exuberance

All the options are synonyms of vigilance except exuberance which means a very high degree of enthusiasm and excitement.

16 D bare

All the other words can mean put up with, including bear. Bare is the odd one out: it means uncovered. Do not mix up bear and bare.

17 C noisy

All the options are synonyms of vigorous except noisy.

18 'SENC': the word is 'absence'

Absence is the state of being away.

19 C revealed

Maximised is a past tense verb, that means the opposite of decrease (a noun or verb). Look for a past tense verb that is opposite in meaning to obscure (which means to hide).

20 B extra

Misnomer is a NOUN meaning a thing whose name is misleading. Apt is an ADJECTIVE meaning suitable. Since subtraction is a noun, look for an adjective.

21 A helpful

In response to a death, other people are mournful. In response to someone in distress, other people are helpful. Funereal means resembling or relating to a funeral.

22 D aloud

Aloud means spoken (rather than thought through mentally), while allowed means permitted. To allude is to refer to something.

23 B effect

Effect (noun) means the change in something that is observed when something happens to it. The noun affect is in only rare use, denoting the visible features of their mood.

24 B libel

Libel is a written statement knowingly making false claims in a manner that harms someone's reputation.

25 D alternative

Alternative (noun or adjective) means a different option. The American use of the word "alternate" as an adjective resembling "alternative" is not considered correct British English.

26 B digest

Digest means break down food into its constituent parts or, figuratively, process information by thinking. The noun can mean the results of digestion such as a summary of a long document.

27 E desist

To desist is to stop doing something or trying to do something. In law it is used as part of "cease and desist", i.e. stop doing it now and don't just wait and try again shortly afterwards.

28 B errand

An errand is a short journey undertaken to obtain or deliver something. The term is often used when the activity is done on behalf of someone else.

29 D cajole

Cajole means persuade someone to do something by lengthy efforts which may include begging or flattery. While many of the options would fit in principle, only cajole fits the form of words.

30 A torturous

Torturous means painful or horrible, like torture. In contrast, tortuous means only twisting and turning, with no implication of pain. The sentence indicates displeasure not twisting.

Explanations for Training Session

2

1 E territory

A domain is an area controlled by or belonging to one authority or government. It can also refer to a field of knowledge in which a person is an expert.

2 E apply

Exert means to make an effort, or to apply a force on something. To implicate is to say that someone was involved in, or was to blame for, something.

3 E lasting

Enduring means continuing to exist for a long time, or to continuing to exist despite extremely adverse conditions.

4 B definite

Emphatic means expressed strongly or unusually clearly. If someone asks for something emphatically, they are insisting upon it.

5 D copy

Emulate means behave in the same way as, or copy. It can also mean follow the same path as someone else, for example in career or in pattern of marriage or divorce.

6 B superfluous

Extraneous and superfluous both mean unnecessary, irrelevant to the subject being dealt with, or excess to requirements.

7 C unintentionally

Inadvertently means without intending to do so; innocently, unintentionally, accidentally or unknowingly.

8 D international

Domestic means in relation to a home or a family. Domestic also means something is about one country: this is in contrast to international, which means involving two or more countries.

9 A grow

To ebb means to recede or decrease, and is used particularly to describe the tide withdrawing from high tide to low tide.

10 C business

Customs are the usual habits of a place. A business might have one example of a culture, but they are not synonymous.

11 E flight

A dilemma is a difficult situation, specifically facing a choice between two or more (usually unpleasant) options. A synonym is plight, but not flight.

12 B gripping

Gripping means holding on to something; all the other words are synonyms of abrasive

13 E circular

Circular is a specific shape; all the other words indicate wandering or extraordinariness and are synonyms of aberrant.

14 B extracted

All the words are synonyms of absolute, except extracted which means removed or purified from something else.

15 E dishonest

All the options are synonyms of vociferous except dishonest which means not telling the truth.

16 B airborne

All the options are synonyms of volatile except airborne which means existing in the air, either as a traveller flying on a flight or a microbe or poison travelling through the air.

17 A din

All the terms can relate to music, i.e. sounds that should be attractive or pleasant, except for din, which indicates an unpleasant or loud sound or continuous period of noise.

18 'USI': the word is 'business'

To help remember the spelling, think of "busy" and "ness", and just remember to change the "y" to an "i".

19 C apoplectic

Apoplectic means in a state of extreme anger or rage. It is much more intense than annoyed. Similarly, being terrified is a much more intense feeling than being nervous.

20 B overactive

Being impoverished (poor) is the result of being extravagant (spending money excessively and unwisely). Being exhausted is the result of excessive activity. Overactive is an adjective.

21 D threat

One can be jealous of a possession, and fearful of a threat. Tip: if many options seem to fit, check whether only one fits the part of speech (noun/verb/adjective) or tense (for verbs).

22 E naval

The A versus the E makes a big difference. Naval means in relation to a navy or ships. The navel is the umbilicus or belly-button.

23 E declare

To declare is to publically state something, or to do it in a methodical and dignified way, or to make a statement to a tax authority.

24 C continual

Continual is different from continuous. Continual means repeated episodes, presumably with gaps; continuous means a long period uninterrupted.

25 D diminish

To diminish is to reduce or be made to appear smaller or less important. The object can be diminishing on its own, or something or someone can be diminishing it.

26 D cursory

Cursory means superficial, excessively brief, or hasty. Discursive means a conversation or speech that is lengthy and has many digressions.

27 E err

To err is to make a mistake (which can also be called an error). The question is a proverb, which means everybody makes mistakes, and we should try to forgive.

28 B currant

A currant is a type of dried fruit, typically derived from grapes. It is used to stud currant buns, for example.

29 C spurious

Spurious means fake or fabricated. In relation to an argument or form of reasoning, the word is used to indicate that it may seem reasonable but when analysed more deeply it is invalid or wrong.

30 E perceptive

Perceptive means having the ability to notice things that are only slightly noticeable, or the ability to understand things with only a little information.

Explanations for Training Session

3

1 C prepare

To draft is to prepare a piece of writing. The term implies it is a first version which may be preliminary. In British English, the term that sounds like "draft" for a cool gust of air is "draught".

2 D hypnotise

Here it is important to recognise that entrance has two meanings, and the meaning being addressed here is the rarer one, namely the verb which means to put into a trance or a trance-like state.

3 C inconsistency

A discrepancy is a surprising lack of consistency between two facts; a conflict, mismatch or incompatibility.

4 B reflect

To ponder is to consider carefully and weigh up in one's mind. Synonyms: mediate, cogitate, ruminate, deliberate.

5 A amusing

Droll means amusing, especially if this is because of a subtle, unusual or curious feature. This is an old-fashioned word.

6 C disprove

To debunk is to prove something to be incorrect, or to be "bunkum", a term for nonsense. Synonyms are deflate, quash, expose, discredit, invalidate.

7 D saying

A proverb is a short saying that has passed down from ancient times, that conveniently expresses a concept. Typically the saying is a wise, concise summary of a complicated matter.

8 D income

An expense is the cost of doing or purchasing something: what has to be paid out in order to run a business.

9 A talkative

Dumb means unable or unwilling to speak: speechless. It does not mean stupid in British English. Excoriate means severely criticise someone.

10 E town

Facility can mean a place or arrangement of equipment that makes it possible to do something. Separately, it can mean a natural skill in doing something, such as a facility with languages.

11 B evening

Melancholy is a prolonged state of feeling sad; depression, gloom, pensiveness, sorrow, mourning, downbeat, dispirited, dejected.

12 E relegate

Relegate means to be decreased in status, for example of a team being moved to a lower ranked grouping within a sport.

13 C fearsome

All the options are synonyms of witty except fearsome which means frightening.

14 C accurate

Dormant means asleep. It has special meanings derived from this. For animals, it can mean hibernation, i.e. deep sleep over winter. For volcanoes, it indicates the long time between eruptions.

15 E affluence

All the options are synonyms of veracity except affluence which means the state of being wealthy.

16 A composure

All the options are synonyms of vigour except composure which means the state of being cool, calm and collected.

17 D unified

All the options are synonyms of wholesome except unified which means made united, standardised or a single whole.

18 'EAS': the word is 'cease'

Cease is a somewhat formal word for stop. Separately, desist means do not start again.

19 E ordeal

Enjoy describes how one typically experiences a holiday. An ordeal is a painful, uncomfortable, embarrassing or difficult process. Endure is the best description of how one might experience an ordeal.

20 A nonchalant

Frozen is an adjective for the state opposite to searing (intense heating, surface burning). Look for an adjective for the state opposite to fascination. Nonchalant means showing no sign of interest.

21 E custom

Forthcoming describes an event in the future, such as an intention (something one plans to do). Bygone is an adjective describing something that happened in the past: custom is the most suitable noun.

22 D continuous

Continual is different from continuous. Continual means repeated episodes, presumably with gaps; continuous means a long period uninterrupted.

23 A birth

Birth means the process of being born, relating to a person, an animal, or a technique or process. A berth is a bunk or small room on a ship or boat.

24 C illusion

An illusion is a false appearance. It need not mean a deception, since it can occasionally arise naturally.

25 C alternate

Alternate (verb) means swap between one thing and another. Alternate (adjective) in the UK means every other one. For example, Mon/Wed/Fri versus Tue/Thu is a pattern of alternate days.

26 A boon

A boon is a gift, especially a prize given for a grand achievement.

27 A bizarre

Bizarre means very strange or unusual. A bazaar is a market, especially in the middle east.

28 D amiable

Amiable indicates that a person is friendly generally, but does not tell of a relationship between two people. In contrast "amicable" means a relationship that is friendly and lacking dispute.

29 A lamented

To lament is to express sorrow, sadness or grief in an intensely emotional way. Synonyms: grieve, groan, moan, wail, cry, sob, howl.

30 D digression

A digression is a sidestep onto a different matter, occurring during a conversation, lecture or piece of writing. It is implied that the main subject will be returned to.

Explanations for Training Session

4

1 C residue

A deposit (noun) is money paid in to an account, or as a partial pre-payment for a purchase. It can also mean anything left behind after everything else has moved on. There is an equivalent verb.

2 E doorway

Entrance (noun, accent on "en") means a place of entry. Entrance (verb, accent on "trance") means to put into a trance. Inflow is flow of fluid into something.

3 E elaborate

Extravagant means unrestrained in spending or resource utilisation, greatly in excess of what is reasonable for the purpose.

4 D flirtatious

Coy means pretending to be shy, but in reality intending to cause attraction. It can also mean evasive, when applied to an answer to a question.

5 B conscientious

Dutiful means careful to fulfil one's duty; conscientious. It also suggests the activity is because of a sense of responsibility rather than exciting or attractive for the person.

6 E sacrilege

Desecration is the act of damaging or using incorrectly something which is holy or sacred to a religion or to the cultural beliefs of certain people.

7 A storyteller

A raconteur is someone who can tell stories in an interesting manner, and whom people enjoy listening to. The word is related to the French word for recount.

8 E hesitant

Decisive (of a person) means being able to reach a decision quickly, or (of a fact or a piece of information) able to resolve a question or dispute.

9 E hide

Exhibit means display openly, either a characteristic (skill or quality) or an item of art (such as in an art gallery or museum).

10 C pathway

Extract (verb) means to pull out, or to determine by a process of logic, or copy (and perhaps summarise). In chemistry, it can mean purify. It can mean to obtain from someone by threat or force.

11 D complex

To be complicit in something is to be part of a group that plans to do that thing. Typically the thing is illegal or immoral. One can be complicit by actively doing something or by knowingly remaining silent.

12 A implicate

Implicate is to suggest blame should be placed on someone; the other words indicate the design or creation of a plan.

13 B persuasive

All the options are synonyms of widespread except persuasive which means able to persuade or convince someone.

14 A extinguished

All the words are synonyms of absorbed, except extinguish which means (of a fire or light) put out or ended.

15 C disconsolate

Disconsolate means extremely sad; the other words are synonyms for something that is very bad.

16 A undermined

All the options are synonyms of wretched except undermined which means reduce the power or status of a person, especially if done secretly and gradually.

17 D opaque

All the options are synonyms of vindicate except opaque which means impossible to see through.

18 'HAME': the word is 'chameleon'

A chameleon is an animal that changes its colour to suit its surroundings.

19 E wrist

A ring is an item of jewellery that is slipped over a finger. Likewise a bracelet is an item of jewellery that is worn around the wrist.

20 D legs

Unlike a line segment, a circle has no ends. Therefore look for something a snake does not have: legs. It is true that not all snakes bite, but some snakes do bite while no snakes have legs.

21 D boil

Contrition (noun) is being sorry for what one has done wrong; to deny (verb) is to say one didn't even do it. Boil is the verb most near opposite meaning to refrigerate.

22 E credibility

Credibility is the ability of people in general to believe the person or thing being described.

23 B break

To break is to snap into two (or more) pieces, or to pause a meeting. A brake is a system in a car that keeps it stationary when parked, or slow it down when driving.

24 E ego

The ego is the conscious self. The word is commonly used to mean one's sense of self-importance. Sometimes the word is used to mean an excessive self-importance.

25 C delusion

A delusion is a false, unshakeable belief, that is not the result of being part of a group (such a football team or religion).

26 C sensor

A sensor is a device for sensing or detecting things.

27 D cache

Cash is money in the form of notes and coins (as opposed to cheques or credit cards). A cache is a secret store of items.

28 A ambiguous

Ambiguous means having two (or more) interpretations or meanings. In the case described, one triangle could turn into the other in two different ways, so it is not possible to find out which way is correct.

29 E tortuous

Tortuous means twisting and turning. It does not mean like torture: that is torturous. We can tell the writer did not find twists and turns painful because he or she said it was enjoyable.

30 E repudiate

To repudiate is to reject an allegation, agreement or policy; to say it is not valid, not appropriate or not true.

Explanations for Training Session

5

1 E volume

Capacity means ability or (in relation to a chamber or vessel) the internal size or volume. It can similarly mean the quantity that someone or something can do, such as a production capacity.

2 B code

An ethic is a set of principles by which someone lives or works. For example, a work ethic is a habit of working hard.

3 C wandering

Erratic means irregular and unpredictable in pattern or movement; wandering or random. If used to describe a person, it indicates that person is unreliable or untrustworthy.

4 E nurture

Cultivate means carefully work to help plants grow, or work on the soil to prepare it for planting, or work on developing a skill, or carefully and intentionally develop a friendship with someone.

5 E amenable

Docile means peaceful, soft, submissive or willing to accept instruction or control. It suggests that the person can be easily manipulated or made to do things.

6 B distasteful

Repugnant means extremely unacceptable, especially if it is on grounds of taste or decency. It has a rarer meaning of "in conflict with".

7 E terrible

Insufferable means so awful or extreme that it cannot be tolerated, such as an insufferable bore. When used to describe a person (without specifying why) it means extremely arrogant.

8 B taciturn

Loquacious means tending to talk a lot. Taciturn means very quiet. Both terms tend to apply to a person's behaviour in the long term.

9 E inside

Inside, as a noun, can mean the interior of an object: "the inside of the house was as clean as the outside."

10 C export

Foreign means relating to a different country, or the language of a different country. It can also mean unfamiliar or alien.

11 D affluent

Incongruous means not in keeping with other nearby items or the general environment. Synonyms are inappropriate, unsuitable, out of keeping, out of place.

12 A compromise

All the options are synonyms of wither except compromise which means (of a negotiation) an agreement achieved by each side giving in a little.

13 C amateur

All the options are synonyms of expert or virtuoso except amateur which implies beginner or not professional.

14 C virtual

All the options are synonyms of virulent except virtual.

15 B helpful

All the options are synonyms of woeful except helpful.

16 A conical

All the options are synonyms of viable except conical which means shaped like a cone.

17 C diminished

All the options are synonyms of wistful except diminished which means reduced.

18 'HRON': the word is 'chronicle'

A chronicle is a log of events, laid out in order of time.

19 B bird

A hoof is the extremity of the leg of a horse. In the same way, a claw is the extremity of the lower limb of a bird. (A talon is a synonym for claw)

20 D Canada

The eagle is a creature symbolic of America. The moose is similarly a creature symbolic of Canada.

21 C burn

To dislocate (e.g. a shoulder) is to move in a particular way that is harmful. Likewise to burn is to give warmth in a particular way and intensity that is harmful.

22 D wave

Wave means to move one's hand or a flag. As a noun, a wave can be a sudden surge of distress or emotion, or a movement of water surfaces. Waive means set aside one's normal right to demand something.

23 E accept

Accept means to receive. Except means to exclude.

24 D lofty

Lofty means very high, or (figuratively) of a high intellectual, moral or cultural standard, or (of a person) withdrawn or aloof, perhaps due to an exaggerated sense of self-worth.

25 E celestial

Celestial means relating to the heavens, or astronomy. Saturnine does not mean relating to Saturn: it means (of a person) that they are gloomy generally.

26 A callous

Callous means cruel but predominantly in the sense of being uncaring rather than enjoying causing harm.

27 E defuse

Defuse is to inactivate the trigger mechanism of a bomb or, by analogy, reduce the level of aggression in an argument. Diffuse (adjective or verb) means spread over a large area.

28 B cryptic

Cryptic means encoded. This word is used to describe crosswords where the clues are deliberately difficult, or more generally where information is encoded to make it more difficult to understand.

29 E altogether

It must start with a vowel, because of the "an". Altogether means completely or having totalled up everything. All together are two separate words indicating coming together, but not a calculation.

30 D tantamount

Tantamount means equivalent to, or as bad as.

1 C teaching

A policy or set of traditional beliefs taught by a religious organisation, government, pressure group or political party.

2 E slippery

Elusive means difficult to locate, capture or achieve. The term can also be used for thoughts that are hard to pin down.

3 D clear

Lucid means easy to understand, clear and plain. Lurid is an adjective used to describe details, crimes, events, or accusations that are disgusting, agonising and horrific.

4 D mourn

To grieve is to mourn for the loss of someone. A greave is a shinguard. A groove is a narrow valley-shaped depression in a structure.

5 C trapped

To embroil is to involve someone deeply into a conflict or argument, or other form of difficult situation that consumes their attention, time or focus.

6 D perfect

Exquisite means delicate or extremely beautiful. In another meaning it indicates a sensation that is unusually powerful, such as pain, joy or love.

7 A disorderly

Slovenly means untidy or dirty, careless or with poor attention to detail. Synonyms: slapdash, slipshod, lackadaisical, slack, lax, negligent, haphazard, unmethodical.

8 C concentrated

Diluted means spread out thinly or having had other material (typically another liquid) added to reduce its concentration.

9 E honesty

Duplicity is the habit of being dishonest.

10 D overburden

Elaborate (adjective) means detailed and complicated. Elaborate (verb) means lay out in detail, for example in relation to plans.

11 D fascination

Notoriety is fame for something extraordinarily bad; similar to infamy. Synonyms are: disrepute, opprobrium, dishonour.

12 C indicative

All the options are synonyms of vindictive except indicative.

13 A frantic

All the options are synonyms of zealot except frantic which means overcome with emotion, especially if this is anxiety or fear.

14 A ewe

Ewe means a female sheep. All the others are words for male members of a species.

15 D corrosion

All the words mean bad behaviour of people: cheating or doing immoral acts as individuals or as a group. Corrosion means rusting.

16 D delicious

All the options are synonyms of vitriolic except delicious which means extremely tasty or beautiful.

17 B convey

All the options mean to say that something is bad or of poor quality, except for convey which means to carry, take or send something somewhere.

18 'ECEI': the word is 'deceive'

Deceive means put a lie into someone's head, either by telling a lie or giving (or allowing them to fall into) a false impression in some other way.

19 A wheels

A table is supported by legs. For a truck, the corresponding items that support it are the wheels.

20 C guitar

One uses a broom to sweep, and a guitar to strum. (One can indeed tune a guitar, but cannot sweep a broom.)

21 B fire

If you add water, you stop something being concentrated (i.e. you dilute it). The thing you can add to stop something being cold is fire.

22 B bow

The bow of the ship is its front section. To bow is to bend forward in a formal greeting. A bow is a curved, typically wooden, stringed weapon for firing arrows. A bough is a branch of a tree.

23 E decline

Decline means reject an offer. In grammar, it is a description of the process of changing a word to represent different grammatical uses within a language.

24 B lodge

Lodge (verb) means formally place or register. Lodge (noun) is a house or hotel, typically in the countryside or forest; or a group within some types of club or society, for example, Freemasons.

25 C chord

A chord is a group of musical notes that are played together to produce a pleasant sound. A cord is a piece of string or a biological part that resembles a piece of string.

26 D burden

Burden means load. It can refer to a thing being physically carried, or a mental load.

27 C adverse

Adverse means having a harmful effect. Averse describes the opinion of a person who is against a concept. Avers is a present tense of the verb aver, which means to insist that something is true.

28 C levity

Levity is lightheartedness, cheeriness or humour, particularly when relating to a matter that in reality should be handled with seriousness and dignity.

29 E culpable

Culpable means deserving of blame or criticism. This word is used when someone or something is harmed, and the speaker wants to state that the fault lies with someone in particular.

30 B lethargic

Lethargic means moving slowly, feeling tired and unenergetic, and perhaps sleepy.

Explanations for Training Session

7

1 C argument

To debate is to challenge or dispute something. A debate (noun) is a process involving such a dispute.

2 A meet

Encounter means meet, with an accent on the meeting being not planned. It can be with a person, event or challenge.

3 D approve

To endorse can mean to approve something (for example, a project or an expenditure). Alternatively it can mean make a note on the back of a cheque that alters the way it is paid.

4 C swarm

A horde is a large group of creatures that are moving together, or a crowd of people. Synonyms are: herd (animals), or mob or throng (people).

5 E illogical

Fallacious means based on incorrect logic (reasoning) or based on an incorrect fact. In either case, if you say something is fallacious you are saying the conclusion is incorrect.

6 A copiousness

Copiousness means in large quantities, or in far more than sufficient supply. It can refer to items that are counted, or to liquids that have volume.

7 A devoted

Loyal means giving consistent support or assistance to a cause, an organisation or a person.

8 C implied

Explicit means indicated clearly, rather than only in a subtle way.

9 D damnation

An eulogy is a speech in praise of someone, most commonly at a funeral when the person has died.

10 D complete

Endure means to suffer something unpleasant, or to continue to exist for a long time, especially in difficult or unpleasant conditions.

11 E demonstrate

To deprecate is to express disapproval of something, most commonly a behaviour. Synonyms: denounce, deplore, oppose.

12 E perspire

All the words mean to devise a plan to do something, probably illegal or immoral, in a cunning way. Connive and conspire indicate more than one person is involved. Perspire means sweat.

13 D impish

Impish means mischievous or naughty, whereas all the other words mean a supply that is very limited or insufficient.

14 E mislaid

All the options can mean something is imaginary, erroneous or made up, except mislaid which means something has been lost.

15 E peer

They all mean the top of something, except peer which means to look into something carefully, with difficulty or without being noticed.

16 B peak

They all mean look at something (with difficulty or with concentration) except peak which is the top of something.

17 A temperature

They all mean intense enthusiasm, feeling or passion (synonyms: zest, vigour, spirit, avidity) except for temperature.

18 'ICC': the word is 'desiccate'

The spelling is desiccate, with one S and two Cs.

19 E gallon

A metre is a metric (SI unit) measure of distance, while inch is a non-metric measure of distance. A non-metric measure of volume is gallon.

20 D machines

A shop sells wares (items for sale) that people want. Similarly an inventor makes machines that do something useful.

21 A network

We use a browser to make contact across the internet. We use a telephone to make contact across a telephone network.

22 A course

Course means a direction or route followed by a vehicle or boat (or road or river), or part of a meal. As a verb it can mean to flow rapidly or chase in a blood sport).

23 B council

A council is a group of people, whereas to counsel (with an S and an E) is to give advice.

24 A assent

Assent (noun) means approval for something, and the corresponding verb means to give such approval. Ascent is the process of ascending (climbing up) something.

25 C diffuse

Diffuse (adjective or verb) means spread over a large area rather than entirely focused on one point. Defuse is to inactivate the trigger mechanism of a bomb or reduce the aggression in an argument.

26 B advise

Advise is the verb; advice is the noun.

27 B bough

A bough is a branch of a tree. Bow can mean (noun) a weapon used for firing arrows, or the front of a ship or (verb) the act of tilting the head and/or body forward in a formal greeting.

28 A coax

Coax means get someone to do something by patient encouragement and persuasion.

29 A irritate

Irritate means make someone annoyed, or cause inflammation or damage in the body. Aggravate means make worse a situation that is already bad, or accentuate an existing injury. (One cannot aggravate a person.)

30 C demeanour

Demeanour is an aspect of a person's appearance that tells us about the state of mind of that person.

Explanations for Training Session

8

1 E ghastly

Lurid is an adjective used to describe details, crimes, events, or accusations that are disgusting, agonising and horrific. Lucid means easy to understand, clear and plain.

2 A condolence

Commiseration is compassion, condolence or sympathy for what others are suffering. For example, "I offer my commiserations to my competitor whom I just managed to pip to the post."

3 B portray

To depict is to draw or paint or sculpt something that represents something else; figuratively it can be used for a description of something conveyed in any manner, including words or mime.

4 B desire

A craving is an intense desire, especially if the feeling is unusual for the person. For example, during pregnancy, a woman may crave foods she does not normally particularly like.

5 D delete

To expunge is to remove completely and utterly; to thoroughly obliterate and remove all trace of something.

6 E sacred

Hallowed means revered or sacred. It is related to the word "holy". Hollowed means gouged out. For example, a canoe can be made by hollowing out a log.

7 A project

To extrapolate is to project beyond the information one already has, to times or positions beyond those. For example, one might project previous price trends for an item to predict a future price.

8 A clear

Ambiguous means having conflicting interpretations, especially when it is an instruction that cannot therefore be followed. It does not mean indecision. Ambivalent means being unable to decide.

9 C curse

A euphemism is a special polite or indirect way of saying something that softens the impact of hearing about it.

10 C character

Caricature means to draw (or describe) someone in a simplistic way which exaggerates key characteristics, often specifically to mock them.

11 A metallic

Mercurial describes a person who has a habit of suddenly changing their mind, or switching between interests, without apparent reason.

12 E control

They can all have a similar meaning, i.e. withstanding a difficult condition, environment, treatment or punishment, except control.

13 D mutate

All the words can mean die, except mutate which means change. Mutation in biology means a sudden change of features from one generation to the next.

14 C collect

They all mean to undo a policy, order or instruction, except for collect. Repeal is particularly used for laws; retract for publications; countermand for orders.

15 C gregarious

All the words are synonym of aggregate (bring together) except for gregarious which means a person who likes to get together.

16 A repair

All can be synonyms of receive. For example, one can receive surgery or undergo surgery. The exception is repair.

17 D hostile

All the words are synonyms of significant or important, except for hostile which means the state of being an enemy.

18 'LLIE': the word is 'ebullient'

Ebullient means very cheerful and energetic; giving off this energy to others.

19 A type

One uses a computer mouse to point to things, and a computer keyboard to type things.

20 C throw

A card can be played, to derive entertainment. Likewise, a ball can be thrown for entertainment.

21 D face

A vertex is the place where two edges meet. An edge, in turn, is the place where two faces meet.

22 E box

Box, in this sense, means impose limits. Constrain has a similar meaning but the word needs to fit "you in", which box, but not constrain, can do.

23 E capital

The capital is the main or leading city of a country. A capital is an upper case letter, such as "A", in contrast to the lower case "a". Capital (adjective) means major or relating to the head.

24 B aisle

An aisle is a central walking space between two sides of seats (in a theatre or church) or items for sale (in a supermarket). An isle is a small island. To ail is to be ill or become ill.

25 C flounder

Flounder means walk in a disorganised manner through obstacles, e.g. through water, or have difficulty with a task. Founder means (as a noun) the person who started something or (of a ship) to sink.

26 A adapt

Adapt is to modify and (only then) use a thing. Adopt is simply to take into one's possession, or set of habits, a thing or habit from somewhere or someone else.

27 D bridal

Bridal means relating to a bride. A bridle is an arrangement of straps surrounding a horse's head.

28 B bazaar

A bazaar is a marketplace. The term originated in the Middle East. Bizarre means very unusual or abnormal.

29 E afflicted

Afflicted means that someone is suffering from an influence, e.g. a disease, or disability. Inflicted means delivered a damaging blow to someone, either physically or figuratively (through words).

30 E barmy

Barmy is an informal term indicating crazy or mad. Balmy refers to weather that is pleasantly warm.

Explanations for Training Session

9

1 C quack

A quack is a person claiming to have medical skill or knowledge, but who does not. A sham is a fake person or thing.

2 B evade

To elude is to escape from someone or something that is chasing or causing danger. It suggests the escape is clever rather than merely chance. It can also describe a skill that one temporarily loses.

3 A demanding

Exacting means setting or requiring high standards of skill or achievement. For example, one might have an exacting teacher; building a computer is an exacting task.

4 A ridicule

To deride is to make fun of something, or indicate that it is worthless or laughable. Synonyms are ridicule, mock, jibe at, pillory, jeer at, scoff at.

5 D complete

Exhaustive means thorough, complete and comprehensive, missing nothing. It is different from exhaustING which means tiring.

6 D credulous

Gullible means able to be gulled; gulled is an old word for tricked. Credulous means trusting. Amphibious means able to live in both water and land.

7 B wise

Sagacious means wise, like a sage; showing good judgement, fairness, foresight, thoughtfulness or shrewdness.

8 E correct

Erroneous means in error, or incorrect.

9 A fail

To excel is to be outstandingly good at doing or knowing about something.

10 A upstairs

Elated means very happy indeed. Synonyms: overjoyed, gleeful, excited, animated, jubilant, ecstatic, euphoric.

11 D amateur

Amateur means a beginner; all the other words mean experienced or skilful.

12 D colloquial

All can mean very generous with words, deeds or money, except for colloquial which means the type of language used by a common person rather than formally correct language.

13 E cleanse

All the words mean fight back or reject (parry is used in sword fighting or debating) except cleanse which is to make clean.

14 B efficiency

All the words mean a lack of something (in the case of drought, it is rain) except for efficiency, which means the ability or habit of doing something quickly, easily and using few resources.

15 D liquefy

All the words mean give up something (in the case of abdicate, it is giving up the status of being king or queen), except liquefy which means turn from solid to liquid.

16 D secretive

All the words mean optional, not essential, open to free choice. The exception is secretive which means done in secret or (of a person) having a habit of doing things secretly.

17 B invalid

Invalidate would mean the same as the others, which all mean to cancel or undo a previous action or state. However invalid is an adjective or a noun meaning incorrect or sick.

18 'IGHT': the word is 'eighth'

One divided by eight is one eighth. The key to the spelling is to first write eight, and then add an "h".

19 E handle

One operates a button by pressing it. Typically, one operates a handle by turning it.

20 C tablet

One would write on paper, and chisel a tablet (of stone or wood).

21 A water

An omelette is made of egg. A cloud is made of water (in the form of tiny water droplets light enough to float in the air).

22 C brake

A brake is a device to keep a vehicle stationary. A break is a gap, pause or division into two parts.

23 C curb

To curb is to limit something. A kerb is a pavement or the stone edging of a pavement or path.

24 B clause

A clause is a part of a sentence. In legal terms, this term is used to indicate one of a series of items in, for example, a law or contract.

25 B despair

To despair is to completely lose hope. The noun despair describes the state of having completely lost hope.

26 A detached

Detached means not physically connected (attached) to something. In relation to a person, it indicates that they are withdrawn or aloof.

27 C allude

Allude means mention, directly or indirectly. Elude means successfully escape. Étude is derived the French and means study. In English it is applied to a short musical training piece.

28 D cynicism

Cynicism is the belief that everyone is motivated by selfishness rather than the desire to make the world better or to be honourable.

29 E credulous

Credulous means having an intense capacity to believe or trust, even in things that should be easily recognised as untrue. This is description of a person, and not of the thing being believed.

30 B brusque

Brusque means abrupt or brief to a degree that might be rude; to some extent it indicates some degree of disrespect.

1 C articulacy

Eloquence means persuasive speaking or writing, or skilful use of language. Synonyms are oratory (for speaking), rhetoric, and grandiloquence.

2 A lie

A deceit is a lie, an untrue statement presented as though it was true. Deceit is also the practice of telling such lies.

3 C fizzy

Effervescent means a liquid or drink which is fizzy; by extension it is applied to people who are enthusiastic and fun-loving.

4 B corrupt

Venial and venal are easily confused. Venial (with an l) means minor, whereas venal means susceptible to bribery.

5 D hugeness

Enormity means very great size, seriousness or importance. The word is derived from enormous. It particularly relates to things that are bad, evil or criminal.

6 B neutral

Indifferent has two meanings. It can mean uninterested or unconcerned. Alternatively it can mean neither good nor bad, i.e. neutral.

7 A scheme

To machinate is to plot or scheme, most commonly in secret, to achieve some future aim. The word suggests this activity is clever and probably for an evil purpose.

8 D glut

A dearth is a shortage or lack of something. A glut is an excess of something.

9 A inspire

Exhale means breathe out (expire). Inhale (or inspire) means breathe in.

10 D acidic

Dour is a term applied to a person to indicate they have a general tendency to be hard, unfriendly, pessimistic and severe.

11 A intelligible

Contemptible means worthy of contempt, because it is so awful, illegal or otherwise ghastly. Some synonyms are: hateful, detestable, reprehensible, loathsome, odious, revolting.

12 C countryside

All the other words mean attractive to look at. They may be used in relationship to a countryside but they are not synonymous.

13 C versatile

Versatile means able to do many different things well. The other words are to do with good or honourable behaviour.

14 A pretty

Other than pretty, all the words mean something occurring quickly, without a gradual onset.

15 B storm

Other than storm, all the other words mean to annoy.

16 A subtract

Other than subtract, all the other words are ways of describing what something is made of.

17 E adjective

An adjective is a word describing a noun. The other words indicate things are side-by-side and touching.

18 'HILA': the word is 'exhilarating'

Exhilarating means thrilling. If you are exhilarated you are very happy and elated, highly energised.

19 C circle

Distorting a square by stretching it in one direction produces an oblong rectangle. Doing the same to a circle produces an ellipse.

20 D music

A screen is the device that enables you to observe a picture. Likewise, a loudspeaker is a device that enables you to hear music.

21 B berthing

At an airport, craft are landing to bring in passengers. At a marina, ships are berthing (being moored) to bring in passengers.

22 B along

A long and along are different. Along is a preposition indicating movement in a continuous trajectory, or arranged in an approximately horizontally pattern in association with something else.

23 C liberty

Liberty is freedom, either in the sense of not being in prison, or in the sense of being unrestricted in choice in general.

24 E category

Category means class or division of things or people, based on shared characteristics

25 B founder

Founder means (as a noun) the person who sets up an enterprise or (as a verb applied to a ship) to sink. This is unrelated to flounder which means to walk in a disorganised manner through obstacles.

26 A brooch

A brooch is a piece of jewellery worn by attachment to an upper garment such as a blouse. To broach is to open discussion of a subject, or to break down a wall or barrier.

27 B coherent

Coherent means fitting or sticking together. It can refer to an argument being consistent and logical, or to anything that fits together into a unified whole.

28 A haddock

Haddock is a type of sea fish, related to cod.

29 C aggravate

Aggravate means do something to make a problem, crime or adverse situation worse. It is distinct from irritate, which does not indicate that the problem was present before.

30 A braggart

A braggart is someone who boasts or brags about what they have done, their abilities or what they own.

1 C being

Entity means a thing such as a business, country or region of a country, or a creature (to identify it as a single creature, even though its boundaries may be unclear).

2 E puzzle

An enigma is something mysterious and difficult to properly understand; an extremely challenging puzzle.

3 B focus

Emphasis means the stress applied to certain words in speech to indicate their importance, or in general the importance of some things.

4 E minor

Venial and venal are easily confused. Venial (with an l) means minor, whereas venal means susceptible to bribery.

5 B shout

To exclaim is to cry out or shout suddenly, indicating pain, strong (positive or negative) emotion or surprise.

6 D unbeatable

Indomitable means very resistant to being defeated or subdued. It is commonly used in the phrase "indomitable spirit", meaning a courageous character.

7 C weaken

To debilitate is to reduce someone's ability, by making them disabled or weakened. An antonym would be rehabilitate.

8 A promote

To promote is to recommend something or someone, or to increase its value or status. To discredit is to reduce people's respect or trust in a person or thing.

9 D assist

Hamper means to impair, impeded, obstruct or delay. It has an unrelated meaning, as a noun, of a basket, especially of food, for example for a picnic.

10 B scream

Eke means be frugal with limited resources so that they last longer. It also means to survive in circumstances made difficult by lack of resources.

11 C cost-efficient

Spendthrift (noun or adjective) means a person who spends money carelessly or wastefully. Synonyms: profligate, prodigal, irresponsible.

12 E haggle

Bargain, in the sense in which it matches the other words, is a settled agreement (not the process of haggling to reach it).

13 C advertise

Advertise means increase public awareness of something. All the other words refer to a disastrous or argumentative meeting.

14 B pickle

All the words refer to someone who has a habit of changing their mind without necessarily having a reason, except pickle.

15 D clementine

A clementine is a fruit and nothing to do with the others. Clandestine, like the other words, means secretive or like a spy.

16 E sensible

Other than sensible, all the other words indicate cleanliness and freedom from dirt or infection.

17 D flaunt

To flaunt is to show something off to the degree that others think the behaviour rude. To flout is to openly break a law or rule.

18 'IEF': the word is 'grief'

Tip: When you know that there is a sound of "EE" made up of an I and an E, and you don't know the order, the rule is "I before E except after C". A notable exception is seize.

19 A carrot

Alcohol and tea are both liquids that are drunk. Cake and carrot are both solid foods that are eaten.

20 C ill

If comedy is successful, it will make you no longer sad. If medicine is successful, it will make you no longer ill.

21 C thaw

A printer converts electronic information into paper form; a scanner does the reverse. To thaw is the reverse of to freeze.

22 C brief

Brief, in this sense, means give information to. The speaker is asking someone to come and join him or her urgently, and promises to explain the reason when the listener arrives.

23 C advice

Advice is the noun; advise is the verb. TIP: Advice is uncountable, like peace. If you give advice and then later again give advice, these are not two "advices" but instead two pieces of advice.

24 E affect

When used as verbs, affect and effect have the following meanings. Affect means change something, give a false impression, or to create an effect (noun). Effect (verb) means to achieve something.

25 B averse

Averse means having one's mind set against something. Adverse means interfering with or obstructing the achievement of something.

26 A despot

A despot is a ruler who has total power in a country. This word is used especially if such a ruler uses this power in a cruel, vicious or brutal way.

27 D deduce

Deduce means determine by a logical process, most commonly by excluding all the other possibilities.

28 A engender

Engender means to influence people in a way that creates an effect. For example, a controversial lecture can engender extensive discussion amongst the audience.

29 C spontaneity

Spontaneity means without elaborate pre-planning; resulting from impulse thoughts at the last minute. It can also be used to indicate independence from external influence.

30 B dissemble

Dissemble means to tell lies. Do not confuse this with disassemble which means to separate into component parts.

1 B assist

To facilitate is to assist, accelerate or otherwise make a process happen with less difficulty than would otherwise be the case.

2 C ambiguous

Equivocal means allowing the possibility of several meanings (i.e. Ambiguous) or unclear. The term can be used to describe advice that is unhelpful or a test whose result cannot be interpreted clearly.

3 E uncertain

Dubious means suspected of being incorrect. It is the suspicion that is the focus. If it was known to be definitely incorrect, it would not be dubious.

4 C scholarly

Erudite means relating to a high level of sophistication and scholarship.

5 E list

Enumerate means to list a series of things, one by one. Historically, it also was used to mean simply count them.

6 A reluctance

Disinclination is lack of keenness to do something, and a mild reluctance to do it. Other synonyms are unwillingness, indisposition, and hesitancy.

7 B support

To corroborate is to obtain information from another source which confirms what the first source is saying; to confirm from independent information.

8 E evolve

To degenerate is to become worse; to evolve is to change over time with an implication that this is an improvement.

9 B friendship

Enmity is the feeling of intense dislike or hatred, such as between two people who are enemies.

10 D vegetable

Pliant means flexible. When applied to people, it indicates that the person is willing to accept the decisions, actions or preferences of others. It is nothing to do with "plant".

11 D discover

All the words are synonyms of research, except discover which is what may happen at the end of such a process.

12 A simplistic

Simplistic is not a good thing to be: it means oversimplified, missing important details and perhaps misunderstanding the whole matter being addressed.

13 A flout

To flaunt is to show something off to the degree that others think the behaviour rude. To flout is to openly break a law or rule.

14 D embarrassed

All the words mean careful with money, except embarrassed.

15 E pom-pom

A pom-pom is a fluffy decoration that is used for waving during celebrations or displays. The other words refer to a person with an exaggerated sense of their own worth.

16 C persecute

Prosecute/Persecute. Prosecute means to take someone to court, accusing them of having committed a crime. This is different from persecute, which is an illegal act of suppressing a person or group.

17 D confuse

All the words are forms of suffering, except confuse.

18 'RIEV': the word is 'grievance'

A grievance is a feeling that one has cause for complaint especially because of receiving bad treatment. Tip: For the "EE" sound made up of an I and an E, the rule is "I before E except after C".

19 C downpour

The purpose of a seatbelt is to give protection in the event of a collision (car crash). The purpose of an umbrella is to give protection in the event of a downpour.

20 B breaking

The purpose of a castle is to defend what is inside. The destruction of a castle is an ultimate form of failure. Likewise the breaking of a promise is an ultimate form of failure.

21 D damage

To publicise is a verb in the infinitive form ("to") for the process of making something not secret. Likewise to damage is a verb in the infinitive form for making something not protected.

22 D altar

An altar is a table or similar surface used in religious ceremonies, especially Christian.

23 C affected

Affected can be a past tense verb meaning changed or influenced, but also has a different meaning of artificial, insincere or faked, when applied to a person's behaviour or apparent disability.

24 E bridle

A bridle is the strapping, often leather, around a horse's head. To bridle means to apply a bridle, or, figuratively, to suddenly protest when asked to do something. Bridal means relating to a bride.

25 B waive

Waive, with an I, means set aside one's right to something. Wave means move a hand or a flag back and forth. Wave (noun) can be a sudden surge of distress or emotion, or a fluctuation on water surface.

26 A isle

An isle is a small island. An aisle, which is pronounced identically, is the central region between two sides of seating or two sides of items on sale.

27 E ado

The term ado is most often used in the phrase "Without further ado," during the process of introducing a performer or speaker. Ado means fuss. Adieu, is a term for farewell arising from French.

28 A criterion

A criterion is a requirement or standard that must be met. An individual may have to meet several criteria. Criteria can be used to categorise, but it is criteria rather than categories that are "met".

29 B remorse

Remorse means feeling guilty or deeply regretful, for harm caused or a crime committed.

30 A delirious

Delirious means in a state of confusion. Delirious people may have hallucinations which are false sensations (such as the appearance of a dead person as a ghost) or say meaningless things.

1 E simplistic

Superficial means not detailed or deep, but rather casual or cursory, addressing only the simplest and outermost aspects.

2 A convenient

Expedient means convenient to achieve an aim, but with the implication that this may not be lawful, correct or ethically correct.

3 A exaggerate

Embellish is to increase attractiveness by adding details or decorations. It has a special meaning, where those decorations are untrue details added to a story, to make it more interesting.

4 C half-hearted

Grudging means reluctant, resentful and unenthusiastic. Synonyms include half-hearted, hesitant, and disinclined.

5 C cheap

Economical means costing relatively little. It does not refer to the economy as a whole, but rather to the cost to an individual or company that is paying for something.

6 A impertinent

Flippant means inappropriately light-hearted; not showing a respectful, serious attitude to a matter that is serious or important.

7 B annoying

Exasperating means very annoying or frustrating. Synonyms are maddening, enraging, infuriating, irksome.

8 D submissive

Dominant means leading or influencing others, exerting control.

9 A commonplace

Esoteric means so difficult or complex that only very few people will be able to understand. It is used to describe very specialised fields or knowledge.

10 B superstitious

Capricious means tending to have sudden changes of choice, mood or behaviour, in an unpredictable and perhaps inexplicable manner.

11 B holiday

A holiday is a trip or time off school or work (or vacation), whereas the others mean empty.

12 D lock

All the words mean bringing together, coalescence or amalgamation, except lock.

13 A triumphant

Triumphant means winning or being very happy after achieving something, whereas the other words describe courageous and good behaviour.

14 A trickling

Trickling indicates flowing very slowly or at a slow rate of fluid volume per second. The other words mean quiet and free of disturbance.

15 B fashionable

All the words mean tired or exhausted except fashionable.

16 E grassland

All the words mean disorganisation or dispute, except grassland.

17 C unwell

All the words mean weak or lacking in flavour (for example, in relation to a soup), except unwell.

18 'UERR': the word is 'guerrilla'

A guerrilla is a member of a small group fighting against a large power, implying the combat episodes are small skirmishes. The word now means any activity occurring irregularly or without warning.

19 E spoon

The implement most useful for eating chips is a fork. The instrument most useful for eating (or drinking) soup is a spoon. A ladle is usually used in preparation rather than at the dining table.

20 E pine

A leaf is one of the numerous green extremities of an oak (tree). Similarly the green extremities of a pine are called needles because of their long thin shape.

21 A invincible

If something is a duplicate, it definitely cannot be unique. If something is vulnerable (capable of being conquered or wounded) it cannot be invulnerable (incapable of being conquered or harmed).

22 D civil

Civil means polite or well-mannered. The word also is used to indicate matters that are not military. It can also indicate legal matters that are not a crime (criminal) but a dispute between two people.

23 C magnetic

Magnetic means attractive. Some metallic objects by magnetism attract other metals, or attract or repel other magnets. More generally it means able to influence others through one's personality or speech.

24 E jibe

To jibe is to agree, applied to facts rather than people. A gibe is a cheeky or mischievous remark, especially interrupting the speech of another.

25 E eludes

Elude means escape from something that is chasing. Commonly it describes a question, comment or answer that was in one's mind before but for now cannot be recalled.

26 C bolster

To bolster is to support. It is also a noun for a pillow or other similar support.

27 D licence

Licence is formal permission to do a business or another activity. Figuratively it means the freedom (of an artist, writer or poet) to depict in a manner that does not exactly reflect reality.

28 B farcical

Farcical means ridiculous or resembling a farce (a form of comedy). It is also applied to everyday activities showing poor organisation or made pointless because an important aspect has failed.

29 E serenity

Serenity means calmness and composure; tranquility and poise.

30 D disillusion

Disillusion is the disappointment when expectations have been built up to an illusory (exaggerated) level and then return to reality. Dissolution is the separation of a group into its members.

1 E utilise

Exploit means use. It can additionally indicate that the use is unfair on the person, organisation or thing being used, e.g. "Do not exploit these children's innocence by overpricing this food."

2 D degenerate

Decadent means declining in level of culture or moral qualities. It can be applied to societies that are failing because current generations are not meeting the high standards of their predecessors.

3 D tycoon

A magnate is a businessperson that is very powerful, influential and wealthy. Synonyms are mogul, industrialist, financier, entrepreneur.

4 B insensitive

Crass means insensitive, (carelessly) rude, or blundering. It also implies the person is unintelligent.

5 E effervescence

Exuberance is being very energetic, joyful and enthusiastic.

6 E overwhelming

Insurmountable is an adjective that can be applied to a challenge that is too great to be overcome.

7 C prevaricate

To equivocate is to make unclear or ambiguous statements, usually to avoid answering a question properly or to give a false impression and yet later be able to deny having done so intentionally.

8 A awful

Exemplary means having the ideal features for a good example. Typically it means the item or behaviour in question is extremely good.

9 D glorify

To denounce to publically and boldly announce that someone has done something wrong or worthless or a fake.

10 D finish

Endeavour (verb) means try very hard to do something or achieve a goal. As a noun it means that process of trying.

11 A mentalist

A sycophant is a person who grovels to someone important in order to advance themselves. Other synonyms are puppet, hanger-on, crawler, and leech.

12 C oblique

Oblique means diagonal, i.e. not straight in one of the main axes such as up, down, left, right or forward or backward.

13 D mouth

All the words mean a way of speaking, except mouth.

14 C violent

All the words mean withdrawn, quiet and modest, except violent.

15 B understanding

The other words all mean the build up of fear that can occur before an event.

16 A impenetrable

All the other words mean very slight. Impenetrable means cannot be penetrated. This can be because it is very complicated (an impenetrable book) or well defended (an impenetrable castle wall).

17 E identical

Identical means exactly the same; the other words indicate that something is not the best (and in the case of some of the words, not the worst).

18 'ALV': the word is 'halve'

Halve means to divide into two pieces. It is implied that the two pieces are equal, so that each is half of the whole.

19 C letter

A carton is a common container for conveying juice once it has been produced (squeezed from the fruit). An envelope is a common container for conveying a letter, once it has been produced (written).

20 D rain

A mackintosh (with a K) is a hardy, full-length, waterproof coat. Commonly the waterproofing is achieved using a layer of rubber.

21 C ingest

If one is puzzled, one can resolve this by investigating. If one is starving, one can resolve this by ingesting (eating). One can eat a waffle, but investigate, which sets the pattern, is a verb.

22 C liberal

Liberal means open, in policy, entrance criteria, coverage, or thought.

23 E current

Current means flow of electricity or water or, more rarely, any other fluid. As an adjective, it means relating to the present (in contrast to the past or future).

24 A frieze

A frieze is a long piece of decorative art on, or as part of, a wall. To freeze is to make or become very cold, so that liquid turns to solid. This term is most commonly used for water turning to ice.

25 A dessert

Dessert is a light dish, often sweet, after a main meal. Desert (noun or adjective) is waterless land. Desert (verb) means abandon. It can be used to describe a skill or ability that vanishes when needed.

26 C cynic

A cynic is a person who argues that most people are motivated by self-interest rather than by the desire for the common good or to spread the truth.

27 E delineate

Delineate is to lay out in detail, or mark very clearly the outline of something (such as an area of land).

28 B stagnant

Stagnant water lacks a current that brings in fresh water continuously, and so becomes unpleasant. Of an economy or an establishment, stagnant means not developing or being refreshed.

29 E chortle

Chortle means laugh, or sing with intense joy.

30 D exemplify

Exemplify means be a good example of something, epitomize or symbolise. More rarely, it can mean that a person is turning something into an example.

1 D tribal

Ethnic means relating to a group (particularly a subgroup of a larger population) with shared culture, tradition or habits.

2 E mean

To denote means to represent, signify or mean. It is in contrast to connote, which means to represent in a more subtle way, or to suggest without being explicit.

3 D regard

To esteem is to hold someone in high regard, with respect or admiration. As a verb, it can mean respect or admire.

4 D beautiful

Enchanting means very attractive, or highly favourable in behaviour.

5 B selfish

Egotistical means concerned only with one's own well-being; selfish.

6 E revolting

Nauseating means tending to make people vomit. It generally indicates something horrible or revolting.

7 A untidy

Dishevelled means out of neat order. It is commonly applied to hair or clothes. A homeless person might be dishevelled but they are not synonymous.

8 B decisive

Ambivalent means undecided between two options. It is distinct from ambiguous, which indicates a failure to describe something clearly.

9 C rudeness

Decorum is polite and appropriate behaviour. It does not mean well decorated, organised or tidy.

10 A contagious

Reflective means thoughtful or contemplative (in relation to people) or able to reflect light (in relation to objects).

11 A salacious

Rapacious means very greedy. All are synonyms except for salacious (derived from "salty") which is used to refer to stories or gossip that many consider interesting because of their sexual content.

12 A decade

A decade is ten years. All the other words mean an object or relationship that is weak, and not made of solid substance.

13 D pester

Pester is not an adjective, while the others can be. When there appears to be no odd one out based on general meaning, look for parts of speech (noun/adjective/verb) or tenses that do not match.

14 A illegal

Illegal means against the law, whereas the other words describe something that creates fear in the mind.

15 B atlantic

The Atlantic is an ocean. The Pacific is also an ocean, but here the word is pacific (without a capital P) which means tending to be peaceful and calm.

16 D ultimatum

An ultimatum is a requirement or demand one person places in front of another, typically with a deadline: do this by that time, or else.

17 A misplace

All the words mean move something to a different place, except misplace which means to lose something. Misplace implies accidental loss, and the object doesn't have to be moved to be misplaced.

18 'NDSO': the word is 'handsome'

Handsome means attractive in appearance, and is generally applied to males. A hansom cab was a low carriage for two passengers, with one horse, and a driver seated behind and above the carriage.

19 A water

A spark is a form in which one might see a small amount of electricity flowing. Likewise a drip is a form in which one might see a small amount of water flowing.

20 D storey

A textbook is made largely of many pages. Likewise a skyscraper is made of many storeys (with an EY), which is another word for floors or levels.

21 A silent

If something is rotating, it cannot be stationary. If something is booming (loud), it cannot be silent.

22 A alter

To alter is to modify. An altar is a table used in religious ceremonies. Although Akiko could have discarded or replaced her clothes, only "alter" fits with the sense of being to wear the same clothes.

23 D caution

Caution is the noun for being careful to avoid danger or error.

24 B freeze

To freeze is to make or become very cold, so that liquid turns to solid, especially water turning to ice. Figuratively it refers to stopping movement. A frieze is a long piece of decorative art on a wall.

25 C aberrant

Aberrant means incorrect or outside normal standards, while abhorrent indicates a strong emotional reaction such as disgust, for example in relation to a crime or harm to a creature or person.

26 A grisly

Grisly means horrible, ghastly or revolting, in relation to a crime or a scene. Gristly means containing much gristle, the stringy tissue in meat. A grizzly is a North American brown bear.

27 D brooding

Brooding means growing and nurturing someone, a young animal or (figuratively) a feeling- especially a negative one.

28 E climactic

Climactic means relating to the climax of something. Typically it relates to a moment or instant, during a sporting event, play or film, or a tense negotiation.

29 E poignancy

Poignancy means causing intense sadness. It is used to refer to a moment in time, a scene, an event or a memory. Idolatry is worship of a statue or other image of a god.

30 C enthralling

Enthralling means so interesting as to hold one's attention totally.

1 A inflexible

Dogmatic means believing facts as being completely and obviously true; a tendency to behave as though others should also accept this.

2 E environment

Habitat means the natural environment of a plant or animal. It is the Latin word for "it dwells", and is related to the English word "habitable", meaning possible to dwell in.

3 A cunning

Guile means intelligence, and specifically the type that is cunning, sly or devious, rather than general intelligence or high scoring in school tests, for example.

4 E leader

The doyen is the most expert, eminent and respected person in a particular specialty.

5 D attenuation

Diminution means reduction in size or quantity.

6 E meticulous

Painstaking is an adjective (not a verb) indicating that something was done with an extraordinary level of attention to detail. It does not mean actually painful.

7 D subdue

Repress means forcefully restrain or subdue a person or population, e.g. an authoritarian government using its power to prevent opposition. In psychology it means blocking out a thought or emotion.

8 D hasten

To dawdle is to move in a very slow, unhurried, and easily distracted way, or to pause.

9 A admire

To deplore is to condemn something as terrible or shocking.

10 E valiant

All the words mean arrogant or excessively proud, except valiant which means brave.

11 E drunken

A drunken party may be raucous but raucous does not mean drunken, it means noisy, rough and discordant.

12 C obviously

Obviously means clearly; all the other words mean unclearly or indirectly.

13 E ship

All the words mean inflexible, harsh or severe, except ship.

14 B sinful

All the words mean a path that is not straight but full of bends, except sinful which means committing sins or deeds considered wrong within a religion.

15 D proud

In the usage that allows it to match the other words, vein means a strand or thread of something (such as coal or gold). The word sounding similar, meaning proud, is vain.

16 D prosecute

Persecute means to harass and harm a person or a group of people, over a long period of time, e.g. governments mistreating large groups of people. Prosecute is to take someone to court for a crime.

17 C drilling

Drilling is a method of making a hole, as is boring, but boring is also synonymous with all the other words that mean uninteresting.

18 'ELET': the word is 'omelette'

This idiom means that to achieve an important end, it might be necessary to do something damaging at the beginning.

19 E old

If something is concise it has achieved brevity. If someone is old he or she has achieved longevity.

20 C dawn

Dusk is the intermediate period between full daylight ending and full nighttime taking hold. Dawn, similarly, is the period between night and the next day.

21 C ignore

If the lighting in a room is darkened, it is does the opposite of dazzle. To harken is to take note of; the opposite is to ignore.

22 E adopt

Adopt is to receive something and treat it as one's own: e.g. a child or a habit. Adapt is to change something. If both fit, think whether the thing being received is being changed before being used?

23 A distinct

Distinct means different as an entity or different in nature from other similar entities. It also means having a clear boundary. Separately it also means readily sensed, such as a distinct smell.

24 C allusion

Allusion means a reference to something that is indirect, subtle or unclear. Illusion means deceptive appearance. Elision is omission of some words or characters, for example "don't" from "do not."

25 D cereal

Cereal is a type of breakfast. Serial means one after another; as a noun it can be applied to anything (such a book, film or story) that emerges in this way.

26 E borne

Borne is the past tense of bear. The parents or school have to bear the costs, so the costs must be borne.

27 E navel

Watch out for the E versus the A. The navel is the umbilicus or belly button. Naval means in relation to ships or a navy.

28 B demure

Demure means shy and not outgoing. Diminutive means small. A small person might be demure but does not have to be. To demur is to disagree.

29 E charlatan

A charlatan is person who pretends to have a skill or knowledge; a con artist.

30 A dissolution

Dissolution is the breaking up of a group into individual members. It is different from disillusion which is the sense of disappointment when it is realised that high expectations will not be met.

1 B describe

Most commonly recount means simply tell the story (an account) of what happened. Sometimes it means literally re-count, i.e. repeat a count, for example after a closely contested election.

2 D intermittent

Episodic means in a series of episodes, interrupted by gaps when it is not taking place. It is the opposite of continuous.

3 D dedicated

Earnest means intense, dedicated and hardworking.

4 D era

Epoch means a (very long) period of time. The word is also sometimes used to indicate a short period of time, but only when a clear statement is made to indicate this.

5 A complaint

Gripe means minor complaint, or to complain repeatedly, especially about a minor problem.

6 B redundant

Superfluous means unnecessary in the sense of being extra to what is already present which is already sufficient.

7 E unsettled

Perturbed means upset or disturbed by an event, person or thing. It has the implication that the disturbance has interfered with one's activities.

8 C glee

Disdain is contempt for something or someone: a sensation that they are beneath one in quality.

9 B convene

To disband is to split up a group into its constituent parts. This is particularly used of a group of people who stop being a group and go their own ways.

10 D announce

Retract and the other words mean to take something back or undo it; to announce does not have that meaning.

11 A uplift

Uplift means cheer up, whereas revive means bring back to life (from sleep or near death).

12 A piggish

All the words indicate someone who cheats, except piggish which means like a pig.

13 A miser

A miser is someone who does not want to spend money, despite having a great deal of money.

14 A ravenous

Other than ravenous, which means extremely hungry, the other words mean having an illness.

15 E honest

Moral versus morale. Moral (adjective) means regarding the distinction between good and bad behaviour. Moral (noun) is the lesson from a story or experience. Morale is confidence or enthusiasm within a group.

16 C spittle

All the words mean unkind and vicious, except spittle which mean saliva.

17 E lava

Lava is the molten rock that flows from an actual volcano. All the other terms are used to describe someone who occasionally becomes extremely angry.

18 'UORE': the word is 'fluorescent'

Fluorescent means giving off its own light, after being stimulated by electricity or by another form or colour of light or other type of energy.

19 B murder

A butt of a joke is the person injured by the joke. A victim is the person injured by the murder. Only if the question had stated joker (a person) might the answer be criminal (a person).

20 E cheek

A bulge is seen on the surface of the body in relation to the activity of a muscle. A dimple is a depression seen on the surface of the body when the cheek is active, such as in smiling.

21 E aspiring

An arrow or other sign is often pointing in a direction. Likewise, if one has an ambition, one is aspiring to it (i.e. aiming or desiring to achieve it).

22 D effected

Effected means achieved or performed. Affected means changed or influenced or (more rarely) faked or generated artificially.

23 D days'

Even adults find this difficult. Give notice of 3 days. If something is of 3 days, it is like something of 3 boys. It is written 3 days', just as it would be written 3 boys'.

24 E gibe

A gibe is a cheeky or mischievous remark, especially interrupting the speech of another. To jibe is to agree, applied to facts rather than people.

25 C burglar

A burglar is a person who enters a building without permission and steals from it. The term is distinct from robber, where there is an attack on a person rather than on a building.

26 C borne

Confusingly, both "born" and "borne" can relate to childbirth. "Born" is what has happened to the baby. "Borne" is what the mother has done during the pregnancy, the process of bearing the child.

27 D deference

Deference is the outward manifestation of respect and submission for another person, typically more senior or high-ranking within an organisation or family.

28 B broach

To broach is to open discussion of a subject, or to break down a wall or barrier. Unrelated, a brooch, pronounced identically, is a piece of jewellery, typically worn on the front of a blouse or coat.

29 B gristly

Gristly means containing much gristle, the less edible stringy or elastic connective tissue in a piece of meat. Grizzly is a North American brown bear. Grisly means horrible, ghastly or revolting.

30 E invigilate

To invigilate is to supervise the sitting of an exam, ensuring that the pupils have appropriate conduct and do not cheat.