

Definitions

From the words in Group A and Group B following, choose the one that most nearly corresponds to each definition below. Write the word on the line at the right of each definition and in the illustrative phrase below it.

Group A

anomalous (ə 'nām ə les)
arbitrator ('ār be tər)
aspiration (ə 'spər zhen)
bizarre (bi 'zār)
brusque (bresk)
calote (ke 'lō)

castigate ('kas te gāt)
contrive (ken 'triv)
demagogue ('dem ə gəg)
disabuse (dis ə 'byüz)
ennui (än 'wē)

- (adj.) abrupt, blunt, with no formalities
a(n) _____ refusal
- (n.) a leader who exploits popular prejudices and false claims and promises in order to gain power
the self-serving tactics of a(n) _____
- (v.) to coax, persuade through flattery or artifice; to deceive with soothing thoughts or false promises
_____ them into doing what I wanted
- (n.) weariness and discontent from lack of occupation or interest, boredom
a feeling of profound _____
- (adj.) abnormal, irregular, departing from the usual
to be placed in a(n) _____ position
- (v.) to plan with ingenuity, invent; to bring about as the result of a scheme or plan
_____ his rival's downfall
- (v.) to free from deception or error, set right in ideas or thinking
_____ her of that misconception
- (n.) one having power to decide a matter at issue; a judge, umpire
the sole _____ of the dispute
- (adj.) extremely strange, unusual, atypical
a(n) _____ costume
- (v.) to punish severely; criticize severely
_____ the unruly students
- (n.) a damaging or derogatory statement; the act of slandering or defaming

Group B

fatter ('fæt ə r)
hateful ('hæt ə l)
immutable (i 'myū tə bel)
insurgent (in 'sər jent)
megalomania (meg ə lō 'mā nē ə)
sinecure ('si nə kyūr)

surreptitious (sər ep 'tish ə s)
transgress (tranz 'gres)
transmute (tranz 'myūt)
vicarious (vi 'kār ə ə s)
vouchsafe (vauch 'sāf)

- (v.) to give or furnish condescendingly; to grant
reluctant to _____ a reply
- (n.) a delusion marked by a feeling of power, wealth, talent, etc., far in excess of reality
prone to feelings of _____
- (adj.) stealthy, secret, intended to escape observation; made or accomplished by fraud
a(n) _____ glance
- (v.) to change from one nature, substance, or form to another; to transform
hate _____ into love
- (adj.) not subject to change, constant
the _____ laws of the universe
- (v.) to go beyond a limit or boundary; to sin, violate a law
_____ the divine law
- (adj.) very wicked, offensive, hateful
horrified by the _____ crime
- (n.) one who rebels or rises against authority;
(adj.) rising in revolt, refusing to accept authority; surging or rushing in or on
moved to crush the _____ forces
- (n.) a chain or shackle placed on the feet (often used in plural); anything that confines or restrains;
(v.) to chain or shackle; to render helpless or impotent
place _____ on each prisoner
- (n.) a position requiring little or no work; an easy job
little more than a(n) _____
- (adj.) performed, suffered, or otherwise experienced by one person in place of another
in search of _____ excitement

Completing the Sentence

From the words for this unit, choose the one that best completes each of the following sentences. Write the word in the space provided.

1. Anyone who refers to my job as a(n) _____ should spend just one day in my place!
2. The speaker's blatant appeal to the emotions of the crowd smacked more of the _____ than the true leader of the people.
3. Although most of us lead a quiet, humdrum sort of life, we can all get a(n) _____ thrill from the achievements of our astronauts.
4. The _____ way in which they planned the undertaking shows that they were aware of its illegal character.
5. I welcome honest criticism, but I resented deeply their _____ on my sincerity and good faith.
6. In his determination to be blunt and honest, he has _____ the limits of good taste.
7. How can we be at the airport to meet her when her secretary will not _____ any information about her time of arrival?
8. The Emancipation Proclamation issued by Abraham Lincoln once and for all broke the _____ that bound Southern blacks to a life of servitude and humiliation.
9. Is there any other crime in history as _____ as the attempt of the Nazis to annihilate so-called "inferior" racial groups?
10. Resorting to rather farfetched promises, I finally _____ Tina into going to the prom with me.
11. Although the _____ were defeated by the government's forces, a small group escaped into the mountains, where they kept alive the spirit of rebellion.
12. After the reporters had submitted detailed questions to the Governor, they were annoyed by his _____ answer, "No comment."
13. Whenever we disagree over which TV program to watch, my father serves as a(n) _____ by selecting the program *he* wants.
14. His conceit is so great and so immune to the lessons of experience that it must be considered a kind of _____.
15. The alchemists of the Middle Ages, who were both skilled magicians and primitive chemists, hoped to _____ base metals into gold.
16. At the very outset of the term, I urged you to _____ yourself of the idea that you can pass this course without hard, regular work.

17. Wearing _____ masks at Halloween is a tradition that goes back many centuries.
18. The one fact about nature that seems completely _____ is that everything in nature is subject to change.

19. His endless talk about himself and his interests is truly unexcelled for producing _____ in others.
20. I find it hard to understand how they were able to _____ such an elaborately underhanded scheme in so short a time.
21. Since he had always been quiet and retiring, we were amazed when he stood up at the meeting and _____ the chairperson for failing to give everyone a chance to speak.
22. Can you imagine anything as _____ as a successful drama coach who has never acted on the stage!

Synonyms From the words for this unit, choose the one that is *the same in meaning* as each of the following groups of expressions. Write the word on the line given.

1. to convert, translate, metamorphose _____
2. to concede, deign, bestow, confer, to permit _____
3. delusions of grandeur _____
4. languor, world-weariness, listlessness _____
5. a "no-show" job, cushy job, "plum" _____
6. surrogate, substitute; imagined, secondhand _____
7. a rabble-rouser, firebrand _____
8. an innuendo, slander, calumny, denigration _____
9. to chastise, rebuke, censure, upbraid _____
10. furtive, clandestine; covert, concealed _____
11. grotesque, fantastic, outlandish _____
12. curt, tactless, ungracious, rough _____
13. evil, odious, abominable, outrageous _____
14. to overstep, exceed, trespass; to err _____
15. rebellious, mutinous; a revolutionary _____
16. to think up, devise, concoct, fabricate _____
17. to undeceive, enlighten, set straight _____

18. unchangeable, unalterable, fixed, invariable _____
19. a referee, arbitrator, mediator; an authority _____
20. to wheedle, inveigle, soft-soap, sweet-talk _____
21. exceptional, atypical, unusual, aberrant _____
22. a bond, restraint; to blind, restrain, hamper _____

Antonyms

From the words for this unit, choose the one that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to each of the following groups of expressions. Write the word on the line given.

1. gracious, tactful, courteous, diplomatic _____
2. changeable, inconstant; variable; fickle _____
3. to free, liberate, emancipate _____
4. real, actual, firsthand _____
5. normal, regular, customary, typical, ordinary _____
6. an endorsement, testimonial; praise _____
7. to obey, toe the line _____
8. to maintain unchanged, preserve _____
9. open, frank, aboveboard, overt _____
10. enthusiasm, liveliness, excitement, intensity _____
11. to deceive, delude, pull wool over one's eyes _____
12. to withhold, deny _____
13. loyal, faithful; a loyalist _____
14. humility, modesty, self-abasement _____
15. a high-pressure job, challenge _____
16. to coerce, force, strong-arm _____

Choosing the Right Word

Encircle the **boldface** word that more satisfactorily completes each of the following sentences.

1. Although her new position bore a high-sounding title, it was really little more than a(n) **(insurgent, sinecure)**.
2. The institutions of our society, far from being **(immutable, anomalous)**, are in the process of change at this very moment.

3. He may have kept within the letter of the law, but there is no doubt that he has **(cajoled, transgressed)** the accepted moral code.
4. With the innumerable activities open to a young person like you, I can't understand why you should suffer from **(ennui, megalomania)**.
5. Her description of the Western frontier was so vivid that I seemed to be experiencing **(vicariously, surreptitiously)** the realities of pioneer life.
6. By casting **(sinecures, aspersions)** on the ability and character of others, you reveal the misgivings you have about yourself.
7. I cannot understand how she was able to **(disabuse, contrive)** a meeting between two people who had flatly refused to meet each other.
8. His authority in deciding matters of good taste was so widely recognized that he became known as the "**Arbiter, Aspersions**" of Elegance."
9. Have you ever heard of anything as **(bizarre, brusque)** as an experimental technique to test the intelligence of cows!
10. At first His Lordship ignored our respectful greetings, but at length he **(cajoled, vouchsafed)** a brief nod in our direction.
11. For ancient Romans, fleeing from the battlefield was the most **(heinous, immutable)** act of cowardice a soldier could commit.
12. His opinion of his own importance is so grotesquely exaggerated that we have come to regard him as a(n) **(megalomaniac, arbiter)**.
13. Although she is well into middle age, my Aunt Sally seems unable to **(vouchsafe, disabuse)** herself of the idea that she is still a teenager.
14. He's so tight with his money that it's just about impossible to **(cajole, transmute)** a nickel out of him, no matter how worthy the cause.
15. The task of education, said the speaker, is to **(transgress, transmute)** the primitive selfishness of the child into socially useful modes of behavior.
16. A(n) **(insurgent, heinous)** group at the convention refused to accept the choices of the regular party leaders.
17. A favorite ploy of the **(arbiter, demagogue)** is to appoint a convenient scapegoat upon whom a misguided populace can vent its anger.
18. His conduct after his mother's death was so **(anomalous, brusque)** that I must conclude he was not in full possession of his faculties.
19. If, as they now claim, they were not aware of the illegal character of their undertaking, why did they plan it so **(cajolingly, surreptitiously)**?
20. In *Gulliver's Travels* and other writings, Jonathan Swift **(vouchsafed, castigated)** the human race for its follies and wickedness.
21. The President complained that government bureaucracy was hobbling his programs with **(fettors, aspersions)** of red tape.
22. What hurt my feelings was not so much his refusal to give me a job as the **(brusque, vicarious)** way in which he told me that he had nothing for me.