

-
1. **allude** (verb) to refer to casually or indirectly
- In his speech, the candidate _____ to his opponent's lack of military experience.
- Syn.: suggest, insinuate, hint at, intimate
-
2. **clairvoyant** (adj.) supernaturally perceptive; (noun) one who possesses extrasensory powers, seer
- Few people are taken in by the _____ pronouncements of fortune-tellers and mediums.
- The police sometimes use _____ to help them solve difficult missing-person cases.
- Syn.: (adj.) insightful, discerning, uncanny; (noun) visionary
Ant.: (adj.) blind, unseeing, myopic, dense, imperceptive
-
3. **conclusive** (adj.) serving to settle an issue; final
- When they weighed all the evidence in the case, the members of the jury found the testimony of the expert witness to be _____.
- Syn.: decisive, indisputable, convincing, definitive
Ant.: unsettled, provisional, indefinite
-
4. **disreputable** (adj.) not respectable, not esteemed
- Supermarket tabloids frequently publish stories about the _____ behavior of celebrities.
- Syn.: disgraceful, discreditable, shady
Ant.: honest, aboveboard, respectable, creditable
-
5. **endemic** (adj.) native or confined to a particular region or people; characteristic of or prevalent in a field
- Scientists have yet to identify many plant and animal species _____ to the rain forests.
- Syn.: indigenous, restricted to
Ant.: alien, foreign, extraneous
-
6. **exemplary** (adj.) worthy of imitation, commendable; serving as a model
- The Medal of Freedom is awarded to U.S. civilians for _____ achievements in various fields.
- Syn.: praiseworthy, meritorious, sterling, illustrative
Ant.: infamous, notorious, scandalous, disreputable
-
7. **fathom** (verb) to understand, get to the bottom of; to determine the depth of; (noun) a measure of depth in water
- It is sometimes difficult to _____ the motives behind another person's action.
- The great passenger liner Titanic still lies buried several thousand _____ beneath the ocean's surface.
- Syn.: (verb) grasp, comprehend, figure out, plumb
-
8. **guile** (noun) treacherous cunning, deceit
- Folklore has it that a serpent's most outstanding trait is _____, just as a fox's is craftiness.
- Syn.: trickery, duplicity, chicanery
Ant.: candor, artlessness, naivete, plain dealing
-
9. **integrity** (noun) honesty, high moral standards; an unimpaired condition, completeness, soundness
- Scholars debated the _____ of the text of a newly discovered poem attributed to Shakespeare.
- Syn.: rectitude, probity
Ant.: dishonesty, corruption, turpitude
-
10. **itinerary** (noun) a route of travel; a record of travel; a guidebook
- Tour companies regularly provide potential customers with detailed _____ of the trips they offer.
- Syn.: schedule, program
-

11. **misconstrue** (verb) to interpret wrongly, mistake the meaning of

Young children sometimes _____ their parents' motives.

Syn.: misjudge, misinterpret

12. **obnoxious** (adj.) highly offensive, arousing strong dislike

The speeches Hitler delivered at the Nuremberg rallies were full of racial slurs and other _____ language.

Syn.: disagreeable, repugnant, hateful, odious
Ant.: agreeable, pleasing, engaging, personable

13. **placate** (verb) to appease, soothe, pacify

Sponsors of the controversial bill modified some of its original provisions in order to _____ the opposition.

Syn.: satisfy, mollify, allay, conciliate
Ant.: vex, irk, provoke, exasperate, annoy

14. **placid** (adj.) calm, peaceful

There was no wind to disturb the _____ surface of the lake.

Syn.: undisturbed, tranquil, quiet, serene
Ant.: stormy, agitated, turbulent, tempestuous

15. **potent** (adj.) powerful; highly effective

Music has been called the most _____ agent for inducing people to forget their differences and live in harmony.

Syn.: mighty, formidable, forceful
Ant.: weak, inept, feckless, powerless, ineffective

16. **pretext** (noun) a false reason, deceptive excuse

I sought some _____ for excusing myself from the weekly staff meeting I did not want to attend.

Syn.: pretense, cover story, rationale, evasion

17. **protrude** (verb) to stick out, thrust forth

Dentists commonly use various kinds of braces to correct the alignment of teeth that _____ of are crooked.

Syn.: project, jut out, bulge

18. **reparation** a payment made for a wrong or an injury

19. **stark** (adj.) harsh, unrelieved, desolate; (adv.) utterly

Many a young idealist has found it difficult to accept the _____ realities of life.

By the end of his brief reign, the Roman emperor Caligula was clearly _____ raving mad.

Syn.: (adj.) sheer, downright, grim, bleak; (adv.) absolutely

Ant.: (adj.) bright, cheerful, embellished, ornate

20. **superficial** (adj.) on or near the surface; concerned with or understanding only what is on the surface, shallow

A _____ analysis of a complex problem is not likely to produce a viable or long-lasting solution.

Syn.: skin-deep, insubstantial, cursory, slapdash
Ant.: deep, profound, thorough, exhaustive