

EJericho
High
School

Name _____

Date _____

Mrs. McDermott
English I
Literature

Vocabulary

1. **Aberration:** *n.* Deviation; a departure from what is normal or desirable.
2. **Amble:** *v.* A slow and relaxed walk or style of walking.
3. **Articulate:** *adj. / v.* Eloquent; coherent. Speak intelligibly; communicate something.
4. **Assuage:** *v.* Relieve something unpleasant.
5. **Auspicious:** *adj.* Promising well for the future.
6. **Cantankerous:** *adj.* Easily angered and difficult to get along with.
7. **Contemporary:** *adj.* Modern in style; of the same; of the same age.
8. **Disapprobation:** *n.* Condemnation; social or moral disapproval.
9. **Edification:** *n.* Enlightenment; instruction.
10. **Fractious:** *adj.* Irritable and complaining.
11. **Guilelessness:** *n.* Naïve and too easily trusting.
12. **Inequity:** *n.* Unfair situation or action.
13. **Malevolent:** *adj.* Harmful or evil.
14. **Mausoleum:** *n.* Tomb; building containing tombs.
15. **Meditative:** *adj.* Emptying or concentration of the mind.
16. **Mortification:** *n.* Shame; self-imposed hardship; death or decay of living tissue.
17. **Obstreperous:** *adj.* Noisy; unruly.
18. **Perplexity:** *n.* Something difficult to understand.
19. **Pestilence:** *n.* Epidemic of disease.
20. **Predilection:** *n.* A special liking or preference for something.
21. **Rectitude:** *n.* Righteousness; straightness.
22. **Render:** *v.* Give decision; give help; make something; result in something.
23. **Rudiments:** *n.* Something basic to the subject; beginning.
24. **Transaction:** *n.* Instance of doing business.
25. **Unfathomable:** *adj.* Impossible to measure; impossible to understand.
26. **Vexations:** *n.* State of being bothered; or provoked.
27. **Vigil:** *n.* Night watch; consider in quiet awareness.

Activity #1: Using the new vocabulary words, complete the following sentences.

1. I was afraid to take the test, but my fears were _____ **ed** after I was done.
2. My _____ for singing in the shower was not welcome at 5:00AM.
3. The old man _____ **ed** his way across the town to the store each afternoon.
4. The _____ creature evilly destroyed everything in its path.
5. The _____ that exist between the unfortunate in our society and the wealthy should be addressed.
6. The _____ student's behavior irritated even her own friends in class.
7. The condominium board's _____ over the poor outcome was obvious in their angry faces.
8. The young teacher couldn't stand to see the _____ of the shy student when she had to read aloud.
9. All these _____ began to bother me so much that I became sick from the stress.
10. The banker processed about seventy five _____ each day.
11. The skater's _____ beginning made him feel more confident as his program continued.
12. _____ spread across the land and destroyed all of the farmers' crops.
13. For your own _____, I will let you know the secret of the special effect.
14. The jury _____ its decision.
15. The parents sat in quiet _____ hoping their daughter would return safely from the war.
16. The _____ mind is often in a state of peace and understanding.
17. How the pyramids were built was absolutely _____ for so long.
18. The five-leafed clover was a small _____ of nature.
19. The _____ of chaotic science is also somewhat fascinating.
20. The teacher's moral _____ would not allow him to let the plagiarized paper pass.
21. The child's _____ made him look foolish when he believed the foolish lie.
22. The group's _____ behavior caused the principal to give the entire class detention.
23. It is not always easy to grasp the _____ of the game.
24. The _____ housed many famous politicians.
25. The _____ man did well on his job interviews.
26. The _____ architecture shocked many people with more traditional views.
27. My English teacher pretends she is a _____ old woman, but she is actually very friendly after school.

Activity B: SYNONYMS

From the unit words, identify the one that is most nearly the same as each of the following synonyms. Write the word on the line given.

1. favorable, promising, propitious _____

2. deal, business, contract, matter _____

3. degradation, indignity, embarrassment _____

4. unfairness, injustice, inequality _____

5. plague, epidemic, deadly disease _____

6. teaching, learning, schooling, instruction _____

7. cause to be, make, turn into _____

8. hostile, bad-tempered, quarrelsome _____

9. basic, fundamentals, bare bones _____

10. night watch, prayerful consideration _____

11. crypt, tomb, catacomb _____

12. modern, current, fashionable, up to date _____

13. bad tempered, crabby, tetchy, cranky _____

14. lessen, ease, take the edge off, tone down _____

15. fondness, liking, partiality, penchant _____

16. irritable, peevish, restless, testy _____

17. disapproval, condemnation _____

18. stroll, saunter, wander _____

19. displeasure annoyance, bother _____

20. contemplative, thoughtful, pondering _____

21. profound bottomless, immeasurable _____

22. anomaly, irregularity, abnormality _____

23. confusion, bewilderment, confound _____
24. integrity, correctness, morality _____
25. forthrightness, openness, truthfulness _____
26. eloquent, clear coherent _____
27. malicious, spiteful, wicked, nasty, mean _____

Activity C: Using context clues, place the appropriate vocabulary word in each blank space.

I was on my way to the office to finish up some business _____(s) when it started to rain very hard. Soon the rain was accompanied by thunder lightning and hail; this was not an _____ beginning to my day. However, my unhappy fears were _____(ed) when I suddenly saw a shelter in the distance. It seemed abandoned, though somewhat _____ due to its dark and eerie appearance. Yet, for reasons quite _____ I went in anyway not quite sure as to why I would chance such an incalculable risk. Still, shelter was shelter, though even this was an _____ from my normal behavior.

Upon entering the creaky doorway, it became apparent that I was not the only one seeking a dry abode. There was a group of ten or so darkly cloaked individuals whose backs were towards me. They were sitting as if in a _____ around a glowing fire which issued forth no smoke. There was a low humming coming from the group. The _____ of the sounds confounded me. The group's calm and _____ manner made me feel as if I was the only one panicked. Suddenly, one of them turned around and with a look of _____ instantly gave me the feeling that my presence there was not approved of. Oh, to think back upon my naive _____, thinking I could simply walk in upon a scene such as this and not be a nuisance. The looks of _____ on the others' faces as each, in turn, looked back at me in anger that I had bothered them. The answer as to why became apparent when I gazed upon the glowing Elvis lamp on top of the man with the silvery beaded jumpsuit. I realized I had interrupted a group of fans mourning the King in this made up _____ where only an actor playing the part of a dead rock and roller was buried.

"How dare you interrupt our gathering, uh huh," blared out a man with large sunglasses on his face and tall black hairdo which may have been _____ in Elvis' time, but was severely out of fashion now. My own embarrassing _____ at being in this scary, but ultimately silly, place made me laugh. As I apologized to the group of "uh huh"ing Elvis look-alikes, the sixty and older crowd _____(ed) slowly towards me as I walked to the exit, still laughing.

Looking back upon this incident, I could not help but smile at the image of the _____, grumpy, old Elvis fans. Nonetheless, who was I to laugh? Everyone is entitled to their own _____(s), even if it's not what I'm inclined to like...or quite understand.