

PRACTICE 3: Antonyms

Each item below includes a word that is an antonym of the italicized word. Underline the antonym of each italicized word. Then, on the answer line, write the letter of the meaning of the italicized word. Note that the last five sentences have been taken from college textbooks.

1. Many politicians do not give *succinct* answers. They prefer long ones that help them avoid the point.

Succinct means a. brief. b. accurate. c. complete.

2. Although investments in the stock market can be *lucrative*, they can also result in great financial loss.

Lucrative means a. required. b. financially rewarding. c. risky.

3. "I've seen students *surreptitiously* check answer sheets during exams," said the professor. "However, until today I never saw one openly lay out a cheat sheet on his desk."

Surreptitiously means a. legally. b. secretly. c. loudly.

4. While Melba's apartment is decorated plainly, her clothing is very *flamboyant*.

Flamboyant means a. inexpensive. b. flashy. c. washable.

5. To keep healthy, older people need to stay active. Remaining *stagnant* results in loss of strength and health.

Stagnant means a. inactive. b. lively. c. unhealthy.

6. In formal communication, be sure to avoid *ambiguous* language. Clear language prevents confusion.

Ambiguous means a. wordy. b. ineffective. c. unclear.

7. Being raised with conflicting values can be a *detriment* to boys' and girls' relationships with each other. In contrast, shared values can be a benefit.

Detriment means a. improvement. b. drawback. c. relationship.

8. While houses and antiques often increase in value, most things, such as cars and TVs, *depreciate*.

Depreciate means a. remain useful. b. lose value. c. break.

9. Reliable scientific theories are based not upon careless work, but rather upon *meticulous* research and experimentation.

Meticulous means a. hasty. b. expensive. c. careful.

10. In the early days of automobile manufacturing, *stringent* laws controlled motorists' speed. In contrast, the laws designed to protect consumers from faulty products were extremely weak.

Stringent means a. informal. b. not effective. c. strict.