Definitions

1. **agenda** (ə′jen′də) (n.) the program for a meeting; a list, outline, or plan of things to be considered or done. The ___________ for today’s assembly includes a plan for recycling in the classroom.
   SYNONYMS: schedule, docket

2. **amiable** (ə′mē ə bəl) (adj.) friendly, good-natured
   Marty, whose sense of humor and good spirits never fail, is an ___________ companion.
   SYNONYMS: pleasant, agreeable
   ANTONYMS: unfriendly, ill-humored, hostile

3. **bewindle** (bə′lid′ ə) (v.) to confuse, make stupid
   A difficult scientific experiment with many steps is likely to ___________ most beginners.
   SYNONYMS: befuddle, boggle, stump
   ANTONYMS: enlighten, set straight

4. **blight** (blīt) (n.) a disease that causes plants to wither and die; a condition of disease or ruin; (v.) to destroy, ruin
   Dutch elm disease was a ___________ that forever changed the look of my neighborhood.
   Though she received several letters of rejection, she determined not to let them ___________ her hopes of going to college.
   SYNONYMS: (n.) eyesore, (v.) spoil, nip
   ANTONYMS: (v.) foster, promote, nourish, encourage

5. **boisterous** (bo′itərəs) (adj.) rough and noisy; in a cheerful way; high-spirited
   The ___________ schoolchildren made it clear to their teacher how much they enjoyed the class trip.
   SYNONYMS: loud, unruly, disorderly
   ANTONYMS: quiet, calm, peaceful, well-behaved

6. **clarity** (klar′itē) (n.) clearness, accuracy
   The vet explained with great ___________ how best to housebreak our new puppy.
   SYNONYMS: lucidity, precision
   ANTONYMS: confusion, murkiness, ambiguity

7. **compliant** (kam′pîl′ ānt) (adj.) willing to do what someone else wants; obedient
   A ___________ child is easy to discipline, even when in an unfamiliar environment.
   SYNONYMS: meek, docile, submissive
   ANTONYMS: disobedient, obstinate, rebellious, perverse

8. **conserve** (kən′sər v) (v.) to preserve; to keep from being damaged, lost, or wasted; to save
   Responsible citizens try to ___________ our precious natural resources.
   SYNONYMS: guard, care for, ANTONYMS: waste, squander, dissipate

9. **debut** (dē′bət) (n.) a first public appearance; a formal entrance into society; (v.) to make a first appearance
   The talented flute player in the marching band finally made her ___________ as a soloist today.
   Many theaters will ___________ the film tonight.
   SYNONYMS: (n.) coming-out; ANTONYMS: (n.) retirement, departure

10. **gory** (gôr′ ē) (adj.) marked by bloodshed, slaughter, or violence
    The Civil War battle of Anietam is, to this day, the most ___________ one-day fight in our history.
    SYNONYMS: bloody, gruesome; ANTONYMS: bloodless

11. **gross** (grōs) (adj.) coarse, vulgar; very noticeable; total; overweight; (n.) an overall total (without deductions); twelve dozen; (v.) to earn
    They responded to the ___________ injustice in an unsatisfactory manner.
    She expects to ___________ $3,000 in tips.
    SYNONYMS: (adj.) sheer, utter, flagrant, fat
    ANTONYMS: (adj.) delicate, fine, partial, slender, thin; (n., v.) net

12. **induce** (i′n dəs′) (v.) to cause, bring about, to persuade
    Can drinking warm milk ___________ sleep?
    SYNONYMS: prevail upon, influence
    ANTONYMS: prevent, deter, hinder

13. **leeway** (lē′ wē) (n.) extra space for moving along a certain route; allowance for mistakes or inaccuracies; margin of error
    Experienced planners allow ___________ of a week or so in case a project runs into snags or delays.
    SYNONYMS: latitude, elbow room
14. limber
(adj.) flexible; (v) to cause to become flexible
Serious dancers develop ___________ bodies.
Runners ___________ up before a race.
synonyms: (adj.) supple, pliable; (v) stretch
antonyms: (adj.) stiff, wooden; (v) stiffen

15. maze
(n.) a network of paths through which it is hard to find one's way; something very mixed-up and confusing
Ancient Rome was a ___________ of narrow streets and winding alleys.
synonyms: labyrinth, puzzle, tangle

16. oracle
(n.) someone or something that can predict the future; someone who gives astute answers or advice that seems authoritative
According to Greek legend, people sought prophecy at the great ___________ at Delphi.
synonyms: prophet, seer, sibyl

17. partisan
(n.) a strong supporter of a person, party, or cause; one whose support is unreasoning; a resistance fighter, guerilla;
(adj.) strongly supporting one side only
That candidate is a ___________ of term limits. Most hometown fans can be hostile to those from out of town.
synonyms: (n.) fan, booster; (adj.) partial, biased
antonyms: (n.) critic, foe; (adj.) impartial, neutral

18. reimburse
(v) to pay back; to give payment for
When you go on business trips, the company will ___________ all your traveling expenses.
synonyms: repay, refund, compensate

19. vacate
(v) to go away from; leave empty; to make empty; to void, annul
We have a lot of cleaning up to do before we ___________ the apartment for good.
synonyms: depart, abandon; antonyms: occupy, keep, hold

20. vagabond
(n.) an idle wanderer; a tramp; (adj.) wandering; irresponsible
The ___________ carried his few belongings in a shabby cardboard suitcase.
The ___________ life interests some people, but it doesn't appeal to me.
synonyms: (n.) vagrant; (adj.) unsettled, footloose
antonyms: (n.) homebody, resident; (adj.) settled

Choosing the Right Word
Select the boldface word that better completes each sentence. You might refer to the passage on pages 70-71 to see how most of these words are used in context.

2. Over the years, so many of the columnist's predictions have come true that he is now looked on as something of a(n) ___________.
3. One of the biggest problems facing the United States today is how to stop the ___________.
4. Until we were in ___________ with the neighborhood regulations, we could not build a tree house.
5. An experienced backpacker can give you many useful suggestions for ___________.
6. After all the deductions had been made from my ___________, the sum that remained seemed pitifully small.
7. Students must take many required courses, but they also have a little ___________ to choose courses that they find especially interesting.
8. What I thought was going to be ___________ little chat with my boss soon turned into a real argument.
9. Don't let the ___________ of the water fool you into supposing that it's safe for drinking.
10. To become a good all-around athlete, you not only need a strong and ___________ body, but also a quick, disciplined mind.
11. Because she is usually ___________ compliant, partisan, we were all surprised when she said that she didn't like our plans and wouldn't accept them.
12. Poland was at the top of Adolf Hitler's ___________.
13. If you want to get a clear picture of what went wrong, you must not ___________.
14. As we moved higher up the mountain, I was overcome by dizziness and fatigue ___________.
15. This video game is not appropriate for children or minors due to its violent and ___________ content.
16. Because he is an expert gymnast and works out every day, his body has remained as (limber, gory) as that of a boy.

17. Many a student dreams about spending a (vagabond, partisan) year idly hiking through Europe.

18. In her graphic description of the most gruesome scenes in the horror film, Maria left out none of the (amiable, gory) details.

19. At the end of the long series of discussions and arguments, we felt that we were trapped in a (maze, blight) of conflicting ideas and plans.

20. The landlord ordered all tenants to (vacate, reimburse) the premises by noon.

21. This matter is so important to all the people of the community that we must forget (boisterous, partisan) politics and work together.

22. I will feel fully (reimbursed, conserved) for all that I have done for her if I can see her in good health again.

23. The disc jockey promised to (vacate, debut) the band's long-awaited new song as soon as it was released by the recording company.

24. Mr. Roth, our school librarian, may seem mild and easygoing, but he cracks down hard on (compliant, boisterous) students.

25. One of the items on the council's (agenda, partisan) is the proposal of a curfew.

**Antonyms**

Choose the word from this Unit that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the **boldface** word or expression in the phrase. Write that word on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1. rains that will restore the vegetation ___________________________

2. a long-term occupant of this apartment ___________________________

3. the guitar player's rigid fingers ___________________________

4. try to avoid an uninformed fool ___________________________

5. socializing with our gruff neighbors ___________________________

**Completing the Sentence**

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

1. Before the game starts, the players __________ up by doing a few deep knee bends, sit-ups, and other exercises.

2. How can a mind __________ by alcohol make the type of snap decisions needed to drive safely in heavy traffic?

3. We cannot allow the lives of millions of people to be __________ by poverty.

4. You certainly have a right to cheer for your team, but try not to become too __________ and unruly.

5. Because of her outgoing and __________ personality, she is liked by nearly everyone at school.

6. The crowd is so __________ that the umpire is booed every time he makes a decision against the home team.

7. The high standard of excellence that the woman had set for herself led her no __________ for mistakes.

8. For years, his restless spirit led him to wander the highways and byways of this great land like any other footloose __________

9. Because you are working with older and more experienced people, you should be __________ with their requests and advice.

10. None of us could possibly overlook the __________ error that the waiter had made in adding up our check.
11. If you would be kind enough to buy a loose-leaf notebook for me while you are in the stationery store, I'll ________ you immediately.

12. If the Superintendent of Schools should ________ his position by resigning, the Mayor has the right to name someone else to the job.

13. Trying to untangle a badly snarled fishing line is like trying to find one's way through a(n) ________

14. Ms. Fitchner explained with such ________ how to go about changing a tire that I felt that even someone as clumsy as I could do it.

15. Because our energy resources are limited, the American people must try to do everything possible to ________ fuel.

16. No matter what you may say, you cannot ________ me to do something that I know is wrong.

17. The high point of the social season was the formal dinner given by young ladies at the annual Society Ball.

18. Each of the items on the ________ for our meeting today will probably require a good deal of discussion.

19. I was not prepared for the ________ sight that met my eyes at the scene of that horrid massacre.

20. Why do you always ask me what's going to happen? I'm no ________

Vocabulary

**Literary Text**

The following excerpts are from the novel “The Prince” and “The Pauper” and the short story “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County,” both by Mark Twain. Some of the words you have studied in this Unit appear in **boldface** type. Complete each statement below the excerpt by circling the letter of the correct answer.

1. The houseless prince, the homeless heir to the throne of England, still roved on, drifting deeper into the **maze** of squabbling alleyways where the swirling hives of poverty and misery were massed together. (The Prince and the Pauper)
   - a. intertwined
   - b. dirty
   - c. amazing
   - d. orderly
   - **a**

2. With **boisterous** mirth they dropped upon their knees in a body and did mock homage to their prey. The prince spurned the nearest boy with his foot, and said fiercely—
   - a. rowdy and noisy
   - b. calm and controlled
   - c. silly and pointless
   - d. windy and wild
   - **a**

3. He was in a fine fury when he found himself described as a "sturdy **vagabond**" and sentenced to sit two hours in the stocks for bearing that character. (The Prince and the Pauper)
   - a. student
   - b. drifter
   - c. witness
   - d. official
   - **b**

Writing: Words in Action

1. Look back at “The Fine Art of War: WWI Propaganda Images” (pages 70–71). Study the posters that became popular during World War I. Using the passage and posters, write a short essay that explains why these images were so effective in persuading Americans to support the war effort. Use at least two details from the passage and three Unit words to support your claim.

2. Advertisements are all around us, from billboards and television commercials to newspaper ads and pop-ups on the Internet. The messages and images of a clever advertising campaign can be powerful and persuasive. Would it ever be appropriate today for the government to use slick advertising tactics to get the American public to support a particular cause, such as a war? At some point might such advertising become propaganda—one-sided and even false support of a cause? Write a brief essay in which you support your opinion with specific examples, your studies, and the reading (refer to pages 70–71). Write at least three paragraphs, and use three or more words from this Unit.

4. In **compliance** with the request of a friend of mine, who wrote me from the East, I called on good-natured, garrulous old Simon Wheeler, and inquired after my friend’s friend... (“The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County”)
   - a. curious
   - b. stubborn
   - c. demanding
   - d. accommodating
   - **d**

5. They used to give [the horse] two or three hundred yards start... but always at the [end] of the race she’d get excited and desperate-like, and come cavorting and straddling up, and scattering her tags around. Sometimes, sometimes in the air, and sometimes out to one side amongst the fences... (“The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County”)
   - a. hostile
   - b. mature
   - c. stocky
   - d. nimble
   - **c**

6. The word **limber** means that a person or thing is—
   - a. hostile
   - b. mature
   - c. stocky
   - d. nimble
   - **d**