

English 10 Spelling and Vocabulary Definitions

Name _____

List #1

1. silhouette, n. – (_____)
We could see the silhouette of his shadow animals on the screen.
2. slovenly, adv. – (_____)
Some college students come slovenly dressed to their classes.
3. exultation, n. – (_____)
The exultation over winning the championship went on for hours.
4. accord, n. – (_____)
Because of the accord of the families, they were able to vacation together.
5. languid, adj. – (_____)
The languid wrestler struggled home after the tournament.
6. depraved, adj. – (_____) After committing so many crimes, the criminal's mind had become completely depraved.
7. leisure, adj. – (_____)
In her leisure time, she loved to take nature photographs.
8. bewilderment, n. – (_____) Imagine her bewilderment when her apartment key worked in her neighbor's lock.
9. indulgence, n. – (_____)
Grandparents love indulging their grandchildren.
10. reproach, v. – (_____)
The student was reproached for his poor grades.

List #2

1. ordinance, n. – (_____)
A city ordinance forbids parking on the street during a snow emergency.
2. skittish, adj. – (_____)
The skittish horse threw her rider.
3. predicament, n. – (_____)
His predicament was being assigned the same time slot at both of his jobs.
4. plummet, v. – (_____)
When the stock market values plummet, the economy is in trouble.

5. aberration, n. – ()
The aberration of the lens caused problems with her vision.
6. retire, v. – ()
Many people enjoy retiring for a nap during Sunday afternoons.
7. sufficient, adj. – ()
They did not bring sufficient coins for the parking meter.
8. stammer, v. – () When her
boyfriend caught her dating another guy, she could only stammer an apology.
9. unearth, v. – ()
The archeologist was able to unearth evidence of an ancient civilization.
10. furrows, n. – ()
Seagulls were swooping down over the farmer's furrows.

List #3

1. impersonal, adj. – ()
Breaking up with a girlfriend by texting is impersonal and tacky.
2. quarry, n. – ()
The hunter's quarry was a large white-tailed deer.
3. compromise, n. – () The arguing
children decided to compromise and take turns with the remote control.
4. hideous, adj. – ()
The hideous Halloween mask scared off trick-or-treaters.
5. synchronize, v. – ()
We decided to synchronize our schedules so we can eat lunch together.
6. wince, v. – ()
She wincing in pain when the doctor punctured her fingernail.
7. calibrate, v. – ()
We were able to calibrate the exact inches with a rain gauge.
8. consternation, n. – ()
The sighting of a cougar in town caused much consternation.
9. vague, adj. – ()
Her reasons for being late to pick us up for the dance were quite vague.
10. maniac, n. – ()
No one likes to ride along with anyone who drives like a maniac.

List #4

1. ignorant, adj. – ()
The new family was ignorant of our school's rules.
2. interloper, n. – ()
An interloper came upon the hunters and scared away their deer.
3. feud, n. – () The Hatfields and McCoys
were two southern families who feuded for several generations.
4. cowered, v. – ()
The child cowered behind the large oak tree when it saw a bear approach.
5. paranoia, n. – ()
Her paranoia of snakes prevented her from hiking with the rest of the group.
6. ebbing, v. – ()
The tide was ebbing so we were able to pick up more sea shells.
7. panorama, n. – ()
The panorama of the Black Hills greeted us each morning from our campsite.
8. boisterous, adj. – ()
The boisterous child needed more attention than we wanted to give.
9. gaunt, adj. – ()
The gaunt horse had obviously not been fed enough in the past months.
10. rank, adj. – ()
The weeds in the garden were rank now that we no longer cared.

List #5

1. placid, adj. – ()
The placid lake surface was like a mirror.
2. baffle, v. – ()
Crossword puzzles often baffle me.
3. transcend, v. – ()
Hopefully, you can transcend above disagreements and forgive others.
4. mystic, adj. – ()
The mystic would spend hours meditating.
5. convalescence, n. – ()
After surgery, she needed 6 weeks for convalescence.

6. adamant, adj. – ()
Her parents were adamant about the rules.
7. indignation, n. – ()
His red face revealed his indignation about the stolen money.
8. callous, adj. – ()
The callous girl didn't even acknowledge our gift.
9. reminisce, v. – ()
Some day you will reminisce about your days at MCC.
10. flatter, v. – ()
Some people attempt to make friends by flattering others.

List #6

1. perplexed, adj. – ()
The unfamiliar words on the sign perplexed us.
2. diminutive, adj. – ()
Jockeys in horse racing are usually diminutive in stature.
3. unanimous, adj. – ()
The vote must be unanimous in order for us to go on the field trip.
4. nauseated, adj. – ()
The spinning carnival ride made us nauseated.
5. cowardice, n. – ()
Hank's cowardice prevented him from climbing up to the top of the cliff with us.
6. obsession, n. – ()
Her obsession was collecting NASCAR memorabilia.
7. literal, adj. – ()
Children do not understand sarcasm, so they form a literal interpretation of what you say.
8. asinine, adj. – ()
Painting her room black turned out to be an asinine idea.
9. beckon, v. – ()
The police officer beckoned for us to turn by him.
10. waning, adj. – ()
The last rays of sunlight were waning in the distance.

List #7

1. modest, adj. – ()
Our family learned to live on a modest income.
2. taciturn, adj. – ()
Although Gretchen was taciturn by nature, at times she could be talkative.
3. sweltering, adj. – ()
The refugees walked hundreds of miles in the sweltering African sun.
4. repertoire, n. – () Lorie Line
has a large repertoire that she brings to her concerts in our part of the state.
5. malevolent, adj. – ()
The malevolent cheetah killed more than it needed for food.
6. phantom, n. – ()
Stacey wondered if she had seen a phantom, or if she had just been dreaming.
7. profane, adj. – ()
High school handbooks forbid profane language.
8. divert, v. – ()
The engineers tried to divert the river away from flooding the city.
9. foray, n. – ()
The Vikings planned forays in numerous countries.
10. irk, v. – ()
Steven's sister would irk him with her whiny voice.

List #8

1. furtive, adj. – ()
The stranger's furtive behavior made us suspicious.
2. tyrannical, adj. – ()
Ivan the Terrible was a tyrannical ruler.
3. formidable, adj. – ()
The Chicago Bears can be a formidable opponent.
4. queasy, adj. – ()
Flying in an airplane makes me queasy.
5. contemptuous, adj. – ()
The defendant foolishly spoke in a contemptuous tone to the judge.

6. linger, v. – ()
If you linger at the airport, you may miss your flight.
7. eccentric, adj. – ()
Her eccentric hair color and brightly-colored clothes attracted attention.
8. appalling, adj. – ()
The appearance of the large poison ivy blisters was appalling.
9. acquit, v. – ()
The jury voted to acquit the accused man.
10. indict, v. – ()
The man was indicted with a charge of petty larceny.

List #9

1. idle, adj. – ()
The store sat idle after the owner went bankrupt.
2. knave, n. – ()
The knave stole money from his classmates.
3. beseech, v. – ()
I beseech you to reconsider your decision.
4. meddle, v. – ()
By freely offering advice, most people meddle in other people's business.
5. countenance, n. – ()
Her gloomy countenance reflected the dismal gray day.
6. vexed, adj. – ()
I was vexed at the constant interruption of announcements during class time.
7. lament, v. or n. – () In some countries, professional mourners will loudly lament a person who has died.
8. feeble, adj. – ()
A feeble ruler will not be able to rule effectively.
9. tempest, n. – ()
The winds of the tempest tore at the shutters of our house.
10. spectacle, n. – ()
The couple's matching hot pink outfits made them a bit of a spectacle.

List #10

1. loath (or loathe), adj. – ()

I was understandably loath to take care of my neighbor's cat.

2. infirmity, n. – ()

Her infirmity was severe enough to require a doctor's visit.

3. insurrection, n. – ()

The insurrection in the African country led to massacres.

4. dank, adj. – ()

The basement was dank after the recent rainfall.

5. vile, adj. – ()

The taste of vile sour milk lingered in my mouth.

6. chide, v. – ()

Toby chided his sister for leaving her dirty socks out in the family room.

7. abridged, adj. – ()

The book was an abridged version.

8. apparition, n. – ()

The apparition frightened those who saw the strange glowing light.

9. demeanor, n. – ()

Her cheerful demeanor won her many friends.

10. tarry, v. – ()

Most students like to tarry a bit by their lockers before heading to class.

List #11

1. commiserate, v. – ()

I could commiserate with Joe because I had also broken my arm.

2. base, adj. – ()

Cheating on his friend was a very base thing to do.

3. persevere, v. – ()

He was able to persevere even though the race was held in the snow.

4. forsaken, adj. – ()

She felt forsaken, eating lunch all alone.

5. remorse, n. – ()
He felt remorse for not attending his nephew's birthday party.
6. interim, n. – ()
In the interim before the game, you should review plays.
7. salutation, n. – ()
The letter's salutation was "Dear Sir."
8. resolved, adj. – ()
He was resolved that their knowledge bowl team would advance in competition.
9. censure, v. – ()
Her parents would often censure her for her poor choice of boyfriends.
10. encompass, v. – ()
The thick stone walls encompassed the old city.

List #12

1. coy, adj. – ()
Tonya's coy behavior effectively won the attention of the new boy in class.
2. naive, adj. – ()
Luckily, Matt was so naïve he didn't realize the boys were laughing at him.
3. wistful, adj. – ()
In September, we all were wistful for the long, lazy days of summer.
4. parry, v. – ()
The Montagues and the Capulets loved to parry back and forth in the public square.
5. atonement, n. – ()
Her atonement for littering was to clean up road ditches.
6. ardent, adj. – ()
The ardent love of Romeo won over Juliet.
7. renounce, v. – ()
Grabbing a Pepsi, Jerry renounced his promise not to drink pop for a month.
8. heretic, n. – ()
In some countries, religious heretics receive the death penalty.
9. homily, n. – ()
Her mother's homily clearly outlined the reasons for her new curfew.

10. dissuade, v. – ()
We wanted to dissuade her from buying yet another pair of boots.

List #13

1. benign, adj. – ()
The dog's benign spirit made him a perfect pet.
2. pretense, n. – ()
Ed made a pretense of listening to his wife's words while he was actually watching the Vikings play.
3. impassive, adj. – ()
The tired mother was impassive to her daughter's tears.
4. bereft, adj. – ()
The parents seemed bereft after their youngest child left for college.
5. ludicrous, adj. – ()
The mismatched plaids of Jen's outfit looked ludicrous.
6. trepidation, n. – ()
Molly stood with trepidation at the end of the diving board.
7. resignation, n. – ()
With a sigh of resignation, Brock threw down his cards.
8. enmity, n. – ()
The enmity of the two boys led to an argument.
9. decipher, v. – ()
The scholar was able to decipher the strange language.
10. impeccable, adj. – ()
Kirk's piano performance was impeccable.

List #14

1. discreet, adj. – ()
We were discreet as we quietly passed the group of mourners.
2. squalor, n. – ()
The squalor of rotting food and piles of garbage drove us away from the abandoned house.
3. elusive, adj. – ()
The greased pig was very elusive!

4. ponderous, adj. – ()
The set of weights was ponderous to haul up the stairs.
5. consensus, n. – ()
The consensus of the groups was to serve snacks at each meeting.
6. imperative, adj. – ()
It is imperative to see a doctor after a serious car accident.
7. platitude, n. – ()
“No pain – No gain” is a favorite platitude of most coaches.
8. preoccupied, adj. – ()
Her mom was so preoccupied she didn’t notice the potatoes were boiling over.
9. reticence, n. – ()
Mason’s reticence made him difficult to get to know.
10. vigil, n. – ()
The soldier kept vigil over our camp.

List #15

1. dastardly, adj. – ()
The dastardly thief shot at several workers before running out the door.
2. churlish, adj. – ()
The churlish cat was nicknamed Killer.
3. cultivate, v. – ()
She cultivated an interest in art by visiting the museum.
4. averse, adj. – ()
Jillian was averse to eating at fast food restaurants.
5. quell, v. – ()
She quelled her urge to laugh during the church service.
6. vindicate, v. – ()
The new data will vindicate the accused man.
7. cajole, v. – ()
Nina’s friends cajoled her into attending the dance.
8. unfathomable, adj. – ()
The concept of black holes in the universe is unfathomable.

9. animosity, n. - ()

Her animosity toward her cousin ended up in years of silence between them.

10. insolent, adj. - ()

No one sat by the insolent 7th grader at lunch.

List 16

1. tenacity, n. - ()

The tenacity of the marathoner helped him finish.

2. fortitude, n. - ()

The mountain climber survived the blizzard because of his great fortitude.

3. pandemonium, n. - ()

The crowd broke out in pandemonium after the player dunked the ball.

4. stupor, n. - ()

After the third time on the Tilt-a-Whirl, Sam simply sat on the curb in a stupor.

5. tribulations, n. - ()

Celebrity news often overshadows the stories about tribulations of third world countries

6. vulnerable, adj. - ()

The hockey goalie felt vulnerable without his gear.

7. chaotic, adj. - ()

The halls were chaotic when school was suddenly dismissed.

8. flailing, v. - ()

The child's arms were flailing helplessly as he attempted to swim.

9. anonymity, n. - ()

Some city dwellers enjoy the anonymity that is seldom experienced in a small town.

10. abiding, adj. - ()

She felt an abiding sense of peace once all her children had graduated.

