

After studying for hours, Jim's eyes were tired; he decided to take a short break and stretch. After this *respite*, he was ready to study again.

- a. timer b. investigation c. rest

Marilyn has such an *aversion* to snakes that she cannot even look at a picture of one without shuddering.

- a. fascination b. fear. c. strong interest

My uncle is a *stern* sea captain. He seldom smiles and rarely has been known to laugh.

a. easy going b. jolly c. harsh

Candidate Carl Burke

has never held

political office; he is

more qualified than the

incumbent.

a. government employee b. office holder c. politician

HTL solution
should be kept out
of reach of the
children; its fumes
are *noxious*.

• a. smelly b. harmful c. fragrant

*She had opening-night jitters.
Five minutes before the curtain
would go up seemed
interminable; she was certain
she would be standing there
for an eternity.*

a. reasonable

b. frightening

c. fragrant

The council said
that the fire truck
was more
antiquated than a
horse-drawn pump.

Mr. Dill certainly
believes in preparing for
every contingency. He
brought way too many
things to prepare himself
just in case.

Even a brave man would be somewhat fearful of a man who had threatened his life; thus, it was understandable that he showed some *trepidation* on the witness stand.

a. nervousness

b. anger

c. delight

Sonya is *dexterous* at
basketball, although
she is clumsy and
heavy-footed when
dancing.

a. eager

b. talented

c. careless

The tranquilized grizzly bear was *lethargic* enough for the scientists to safely examine his teeth and tattoo his ears.

- a. energetic b. sleepy or sluggish c. tamed

The walls of the *dank* cave were covered with a slimy green substance, and a foul odor rose from the puddles of water in the crevices.

Judge Banks was well known for his *judicious* decisions; in fact he was often compared to other greats who exhibited a similar kind of wisdom.

Jenny's *conscientious* attention to detail, from forming every letter perfectly, to spacing her words out evenly, makes her handwriting a pleasure to read.

Jacob made an *indelible*
mark on the counter that
had to be scrubbed off with
rubbing alcohol.

a. long-lasting

b. sticky

c. unforgivable

My mother became
irate when I spilled
paint on our new
rug.

a. confused

b. amused

c. angry

Although the land is
bleak in many parts of
Alaska, some small
flowers carpet the
ground in early spring.

a. mountainous b. pretty c. barren

Some loud, nasty
people *heckled*
the speaker.

a. complimented b. tricked c. bothered

*The opulence of the room
impressed Kayli enormously.
The tall, stately windows were
draped in velvet and costly
Oriental carpets covered the
beautiful hardwood floors.*

The young child wept as if he held sorrow of the world in his heart; the *dolorous* sound echoed through the halls in mournful waves of grief.

My brother is such an avid reader that he would probably read the phone book if there were nothing else available to read.

a. foolish b. awful c. enthusiastic

The prisoners liberated
from the Nazi death
camp were so *emaciated*
that they looked like
skeletons.

a. undernourished

b. heavy

c. happy

Many *unscrupulous*
people have tried to pass
off worthless pieces of
glass as genuine precious
and semi-precious
stones.

a. skillful

b. illegal

c. dishonest

When buying a stone,
be wise and go to a
reputable store, one that
has been in business for
a long time and has a
well-respected name.

Surprisingly, Jane-
who is usually
diffident – sang a
solo at the concert.

a. confident

b. shy

c. tone-deaf

Celestial bodies,
including the sun, moon,
and stars, have
fascinated people
through the centuries.

a. earthy

b. cosmic

c. divine

No *transient* guests are given rooms on the first floor since these rooms are reserved for the residents.

a. paying

b. regular

c. temporary

The ancient city of
Pompeii was buried by
the *catastrophic*
eruption of the volcano
Mt. Vesuvius.

a. disastrous b. slight c. exciting

Unlike his older brother, who could meet anyone from the president of a club to the President of the United States with the greatest of ease, Bill was quite inept in social situations.

a. appropriate

b. incompetent

c. clever

d. skilled

Mr. Junkins had an
invariable answer for
every request: he would
not sell his property.

a. negative

b. serious

c. consistent

The old farmer was a *taciturn* man, who saved his words as carefully as a stingy person guards his money. He only spoke when questioned and then responded briefly.

Mrs. Millers loves the
tranquility, peace, and
quiet, after her children
have left for school.

- a. chaos b. atmosphere c. serenity

The team center, is 6 feet, five inches tall and weighs 210 pounds. His teammates call him “Shorty,” an obvious *misnomer*.

a. insult b. practical joke c. unsuitable name

Robert was certain that his car could make the trip; his father, however, was dubious since it had been in the shop twice during the past six months for transmission problems.

a. unsure

b. shocked

c. opposed

While driving his father's new car, Mike was in a serious accident. People who saw the accident corroborated his statement that he had been driving carefully.

a. laughed at

b. excused

c. verified

d. challenged

Ms. Mitchell commented that I needed to be more specific in the body of my essay because my ideas were too *vague*.

a. detailed

b. creative

c. general

Bob's reaction to his new stepmother was ambivalent because he wanted to have faith in his father's judgment but he felt some distrust.

a. critical

b. hesitant

c. obvious