

Definitions

You were introduced to the words below in the passage on pages 170–171. Study the spelling, pronunciation, part of speech, and definition of each word. Write the word on the line in the sentence. Then read the synonyms and antonyms.

1. absorb (əb sôr'b')

(v.) to soak up or take in; to keep the attention of

A sponge can _____ every last drop of water.

SYNONYMS: consume, devour; engage, captivate, engross
ANTONYMS: discharge, emit, secrete

2. amateur (a' mə tər)

(n.) someone who does something for pleasure and not for money; someone who does not have much experience

The young boy wanted to be a professional singer but sang with his choir as an _____.

SYNONYMS: beginner, nonprofessional, layman
ANTONYMS: expert, professional, master



3. channel (chan' əl)

(n.) the deepest part of a river; a body of water that links two larger ones; a long, narrow groove; a band of radio waves; a course of action

Many ships pass through the _____ between England and France.

(v.) to make a long, narrow groove; to direct or focus

They began to _____ through the rock.

SYNONYMS: (n.) passage, strait, waterway; course, way, direction;
(v.) plow, cut; direct, guide

4. elegant (e' li gənt)

(adj.) showing beauty, high quality, and good taste

The diamond is an _____ jewel.

SYNONYMS: stylish, graceful, exquisite, charming, refined, cultured
ANTONYMS: coarse, crude, inelegant, unfashionable, rough

Remember

A **noun** (n.) is a word that names a person, place, or thing.

A **verb** (v.) is a word or words that express action or a state of being.

An **adjective** (adj.) is a word that describes a noun or pronoun.



5. grace (grās)

(n.) ease and beauty of movement; a charming or pleasing quality; a short prayer at meals

The horse galloped with incredible _____.

(v.) to add beauty or honor to

Will she _____ our party with her presence?

SYNONYMS: (n.) elegance, loveliness, charm; (v.) enhance, enrich, adorn
ANTONYMS: (n.) clumsiness, inelegance; (v.) disgrace



6. inspect (in spekt')

(v.) to look over closely

Please _____ the clothes for any damage.

SYNONYMS: examine, check, investigate, probe, scan

7. lame (lām)

(adj.) stiff, sore, or not able to move properly; weak, not satisfactory

I cannot swim because of my _____ leg.

SYNONYMS: disabled, limping, weak; feeble, flimsy, unconvincing
ANTONYMS: strong, healthy

8. suspend (sə spend')

(v.) to hang in order to allow free movement; to stop for a time, interrupt; to bar from a position or privilege

Please _____ those streamers from the ceiling.

SYNONYMS: dangle; postpone, delay, halt; remove, exclude
ANTONYMS: continue, resume, prolong

9. tiresome (tir' səm)

(adj.) annoyingly dull or exhausting; unexciting

Scrubbing the kitchen floor can be _____.

SYNONYMS: boring, annoying, irritating
ANTONYMS: interesting, exciting, pleasant

10. tranquil (tran' kwəl)

(adj.) free from trouble or disturbance; quiet

The _____ lake is relaxing.

SYNONYMS: calm, serene, peaceful, composed
ANTONYMS: noisy, disturbed, excited

