

Spelling Counts! Words from the 25th Annual Spelling Bee

ACQUIT, ANTIQUATED, BATTALION, BELLWETHER, BUREAUCRACY, CONNOISSEUR, DILETTANTE, FORESEEABLE, INADVERTENT, INDICT, IDIOSYNCRASY, INOCULATE, IRIDESCENT, LIAISON, PHLEGM, PRECEDE, SACRILEGIOUS, SUPERSEDE, VALIDITY, VILIFY

Avocabo Wordlist 71

Exercise 71 - 1: Can you repeat the definition, please?

Fill in the blanks with the best word in the list above that matches the given definition (20 marks)



1. _____ n. a person or thing that assumes the leadership or forefront, as of a profession or industry
2. _____ v. to relieve from a charge of fault or crime; declare not guilty
3. _____ v. to affect or to treat a person, animal, or plant from a disease agent or antigen
4. _____ n. the contact or connection maintained by communications between units of the armed forces or of any other organization in order to ensure concerted action, cooperation
5. _____ v. to set aside or cause to be set-aside as void, useless, or obsolete, usually in favor of something mentioned; make obsolete
6. _____ adj. pertaining to or involving the violation or profanation of anything sacred
7. _____ n. the thick mucus secreted in the respiratory passages and discharged through the mouth, especially that occurring in the lungs and throat passages, as during a cold
8. _____ n. the body of officials and administrators, especially of a government or government department.
9. _____ n. a person who is especially competent to pass critical judgments in matters of taste
10. _____ n. a large number of persons or things; force
11. _____ v. to bring a formal accusation against, as a means of bringing to trial

12. _____ adj. to know in advance; to fore-know
13. _____ n. a characteristic, habit, mannerism, which is peculiar to an individual
14. _____ adj. adhering to the past; old-fashioned; no longer used
15. _____ n/v. to go or come before
16. _____ n. the state or quality of being based on truth
17. _____ n/adj. a person who takes up an art, activity, or subject merely for amusement, especially in a desultory or superficial way; as an amateur
18. _____ v. to speak ill of, slander; to criticize very harshly
19. _____ adj. displaying a play of lustrous colours like those of the rainbow
20. _____ adj. unintentional, mistake

Exercise 71 - 2: Can you use the word in a sentence, please?

Complete each sentence with the most appropriate word (or variant) from those in the word list. Write your choice in the space provided. Each word is used only once. (20 marks)

1. Shimmer has been a big story for fall, whether it be sequins, crystals, metallic leathers or _____ lurex. Prada's transparent palettes are my personal favourite so far. I love the dégradé quality they have and how they were layered to a mermaid-like effect.
2. Should the middle class be able to afford a decent house and the typical trappings of the American dream? They should be able to afford it, but it doesn't mean it should be given to them. So those are two different things. We don't want to _____ the rich top 1 percent and give stuff to the bottom. We want to raise them up, so that on their own maybe one day they'll get to the top 1 percent.
3. Widespread thunderstorms will _____ the cold front. Isolated storms could reach the Cumberland Plateau toward day-break Monday.
4. The Zach Randolph to Orlando Magic NBA trade deadline rumours are much more interesting to talk about than anything tonight's Magic game against the Sacramento Kings offers. So with that in mind, I asked Orlando Magic beat writer Josh Robbins if he sees any _____ to the reported trade talk with the Memphis Grizzlies.
5. Here's some ooze: Local _____ is in, uniformity is out. Locavores emphasize foods grown nearby. Microbreweries create locally crafted drinks. In politics, voters strike back against one-size-fits-all Obamacare.

6. A New Jersey State Police sergeant was _____ today for allegedly moonlighting as an insurance company investigator without authorization and for using state resources to carry out that job.

7. One theme park _____ is so obsessed with coasters his passion has taken him to 120 parks in 33 countries around the world--including North Korea, country known for being constantly on the brink of war.

8. Her father is very particular about the lamb, Vicky said in response to our compliments. Ordering them medium in hopes that our kid would eat them was _____; they deserve to be really pink.

9. "Spit on his face, he's stolen our money!" the 45-year-old cheered as he strolled through a gathering crowd. "Spit on his face, he's killed out children!" It didn't take much encouragement--protesters swarmed around Mubarak's face, laughing, spitting and loudly encouraging each other to drag up "as much _____ as possible."

10. Authorities deployed a(n) _____ of women Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in West Bengal's Siliguri town to stop a protest rally held by activists of the regional Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) activists.

11. Writing of her and her two brothers in 1932, literary critic FR Leavis sniffed "the Sitwell's belong to the history of publicity rather than of poetry". Two years later, Geoffrey Grigson still more savagely dismissed the trio with the comment that they reflected "a society where _____ art-worship is synonymous with culture".

12. The two girls at the service counter of a fast food outlet on Scott Road, Surrey B.C., were curious when I mistakenly used a couple of rupee coins to settle my bill thinking they were quarters. I apologized for the _____ error. Somehow, the coins were still in my wallet after my recent visit to India.

13. To say that the Toronto Police Service needs to step up it's training is almost trite. _____ ideas linger despite decades of re-education and modern cadet training in all police departments.

14. The Frenchman has suffered a thigh strain and is set to be sidelined for the _____ future, at a crucial stage of the season.

15. Retailer John Lewis added to fears over consumer confidence yesterday as the high street _____ revealed sales declined for a second week in a row.

16. Moyer, who was found not guilty of four other charges, asked Senior U.S. District Judge A. Richard Caputo either to _____ him of the lying charge or order a new trial on it.

17. Muslim extremists in Nigeria ruled years ago that a vaccine to _____ people from polio was a plot by the United States and United Nations to poison Islamists, undermining efforts to

abolish the hideous illness.

18. When Irish rugby is reviewed in the context of 2011, events in New Zealand in the autumn should _____ all other concerns.

19. Additionally, Ambassador and DATT have been approached by GOU interlocutors requesting we allow a Ukrainian military _____ to be placed on-board one of the US Navy ships currently monitoring the Faina; this request is being reported through DAO channels as well.

20. When President Obama made a joke in his State of the Union speech about the layers of _____ government involved in protecting endangered salmon, it struck a nerve in the Pacific Northwest where salmon is definitely king.

Exercise 71 - 3: Anagrams. Can you unscramble the addled words below, please?(10 marks)

1. Socialise Rug _____

2. Unicorns Ose _____

3. Released Foe _____

4. Creeped _____

5. Tidy Vail _____

6. Dent Vainter _____

7. I Resent Cid _____

8. I Dealt Tent _____

9. Sail Ion _____

10. Din Tic _____

Exercise 71 - 4: Antonyms Can you provide an antonym, please? From the three choices, circle the word that is opposite in meaning to the bolded word provided. (12 marks)

1. commonly used to **inoculate** against tuberculosis

a) inflict b) infect c) impose

2. quarrel over a supposedly **sacrilegious** painting

a) reverent b) impolite c) reverend

3. **indict** an Aberdeen man for one count of lewdness

a) guilt b) blame c) exonerate

4. iPad 2 HD Release Date Certain to **Precede** iPad 3

a) follow b) lead c) guide

SPELLING BEE WINNERS: Where are they now?



Getting a PhD
in spelling



Constantly
annoyed



Contributing nothing
of value to society

5. detractors **vilify** him as a divisive and unreliable politician

- a) insult b) compliment c) disparagement

Exercise 71:5 Extra Spelling Practice: Are you spelling bee material? Find out by testing your spelling skills with the cute little Spelling Bee (EASY).

6. the risk of **inadvertent** disclosure of classified information

- a) coincidental b) planned c) linked

<http://www.tvokids.com/games/spellingbee>

Here are some spelling bee study tips from the National Spelling Bee folk:

7. green glass, marbled with **iridescent** streaks

- a) dull b) keen c) bright

<http://www.spellingbee.com/study-tips>

CanSpell has lists of practice words, with lists coming from various etymological roots:

8. New York Times restaurant critic Sam Sifton is no **dilettante** when it comes to art

- a) amateur b) part-time c) professional

<http://www2.canada.com/national/features/raiseareader/2010/spellitquiz.html>

9. strangeness and **idiosyncrasy** on display

- a) unusual b) separate c) commonness

Exercise 71:6 Admit It! Some words Trouble You

List five troublesome spelling words and start the process of eliminating their control over you

10. spending will stay subdued for the **foreseeable** future

- a) unanticipated b) foreknow c) anticipate

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

11. A judge has ordered a jury to **acquit** a truck driver of causing the death of a woman by dangerous driving in the Adelaide Hills

- a) convict b) innocent c) blameless

12. frequent delays have highlighted the fragile condition of the **antiquated** equipment on the nation's busiest rail corridor

- a) outdated b) new c) old-fashioned

Avocabo Unit by Jessica Davies, March 2011

Avocabo Unit 71: Answers

71:1 Can you repeat the definition, please?

- 1. bellwether*
- 2. acquit*
- 3. inoculate*
- 4. liaison*
- 5. supersede*
- 6. sacrilegious*
- 7. phlegm*
- 8. bureaucracy*
- 9. connoisseur*
- 10. battalion*
- 11. indict*
- 12. foreseeable*
- 13. idiosyncrasy*
- 14. antiquated*
- 15. precede*
- 16. validity*
- 17. dilettante*
- 18. vilify*
- 19. iridescent*
- 20. inadvertent*

71:2 Can you use the word in a sentence, please?

- 1. iridescent*
- 2. vilify*
- 3. precede*
- 4. validity*
- 5. idiosyncrasy*
- 6. indict*
- 7. connoisseur*
- 8. sacrilegious*
- 9. phelgm*
- 10. battalion*
- 11. dilettante*
- 12. inadvertent*
- 13. antiquated*
- 14. foreseeable*
- 15. bellwether*
- 16. acquit*
- 17. inoculate*
- 18. supersede*
- 19. liaison*
- 20. bureaucracy*

71:3 Can you unscramble the word, please?

- 1. sacrilegious*
- 2. connoisseur*
- 3. foreseeable*
- 4. precede*
- 5. validity*
- 6. inadvertent*
- 7. iridescent*
- 8. dilettante*
- 9. liaison*
- 10. indict*

71: 4 Can you provide an opposite, please?

- 1. b) infect*
- 2. a) reverent*
- 3. c) exonerate*
- 4. a) follow*
- 5. b) compliment*
- 6. b) planned*
- 7. a) dull*
- 8. c) professional*
- 9. c) commonness*
- 10. a) unanticipated*
- 11. a) convict*
- 12. b) new*