

• **Word Definition 1** Level 12

**Directions:** Choose the answer choice that best defines the word in capital letters.

**1) ANCILLARY**

- A. excellent or outstanding
- B. very old or of the past
- C. still growing or just born
- D. mischievous or rascally
- E. additional or subsidiary

**2) PROMULGATE**

- A. to move something forward in time or development
- B. to take a leisurely walk or drive
- C. to cause or bring about
- D. to promote or make widely known
- E. to put forward for consideration

**3) CAPITULATE**

- A. to own
- B. to surrender
- C. to decrease
- D. to overturn
- E. to mimic

**4) TREPIDATION**

- A. fear or hesitation
- B. regret or sorrow
- C. ambivalence or uncertainty
- D. excitement or anticipation
- E. shaking or quivering

**5) SOLICITOUS**

- A. tasting of or containing a great deal of salt
- B. forbidden by law rules, or custom
- C. characterized by interest or concern
- D. describing sexual activity in a graphic manner
- E. showing an attempt to make a sale or deal

**6) TIRADE**

- A. an autocrat or dictator
- B. a diatribe or rant
- C. a battle or fight
- D. a swelling or blister
- E. a lack or dearth

**7) WIZENED**

- A. shriveled
- B. smart
- C. sensible
- D. sophisticated
- E. shrunken

**8) PULCHRITUDINOUS**

- A. throbbing
- B. weeping
- C. cowardly
- D. gorgeous
- E. reckless

**9) DISSEMINATE**

- A. to cause something to disappear
- B. to cut up for scientific study
- C. to analyze through conversation
- D. to catch sight of in the distance
- E. to disperse information widely

**10) CLEAVE**

- A. to seclude in a convent
- B. to free from dirt or stains
- C. to cut or split
- D. to pass out or faint
- E. to exit or flee something that is beneficial to consume

## Answers and Explanations

1) **E**

**ancillary** (*adjective*): additional, subsidiary, or less important though related: *The English professor suggested I also do some ancillary writing on the Bloomsbury group, as it was relevant to my main discussion of Virginia Woolf's work.*

2) **D**

**promulgate** (*verb*): to promote or make widely known: *Thomas Paine's pamphlet Common Sense helped promulgate the cause of the American Revolution, spreading the justifications for the war up and down the colonies.*

3) **B**

**capitulate** (*verb*): to cease to resist an opponent or an unwelcome demand: *Overwhelmed by the superior size and strength of Parliament's army, King Charles I had no choice but to capitulate and give up power to Oliver Cromwell.*

4) **A**

**trepidation** (*noun*): a feeling of fear or agitation about something that may happen: *Alexia could not shake her trepidation that something terrible was going to happen on the flight, but fortunately, her fears were unwarranted.*

5) **C**

**solicitous** (*adjective*): showing interest or concern: *The guidance counselor truly cared about the students she met with and always was solicitous about their aspirations.*

6) **B**

**tirade** (*noun*): a long, angry speech of criticism or accusation: *Angered by the repeated acts of vandalism at the school, Principal Rodriguez launched into a tirade at the school assembly, accusing all of the students of not respecting the school or caring about it.*

7) **A**

**wizened** (*adjective*): shriveled or wrinkled with age: *As she became older, Mrs. Haverford became more wizened, and the last time I saw her, her skin was as wrinkled as a prune.*

8) **D**

**pulchritudinous** (*adjective*): physically beautiful: *Pip found Estella to be the most pulchritudinous girl he had ever seen, and he was overwhelmed by this beauty throughout his life.*

9) **E**

**disseminate** (*verb*): to spread or disperse information or something else widely: *The advent of radio allowed for information to be disseminated more easily; Franklin D. Roosevelt took advantage of the medium to spread information about his administration throughout America.*

10) **C**

**cleave** (*verb*): to split or sever, especially along a natural line or grain: *The best way to cleave a fish is to slice it along the line in its belly.*