• Antonyms 1  Level 9

Directions: Choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word in capital letters.

1. VACATE
   A. abandon
   B. charter
   C. sever
   D. occupy
   E. discharge

2. AMASS
   A. disperse
   B. meld
   C. muster
   D. compile
   E. infuse

3. ENAMOR
   A. entice
   B. enlighten
   C. loathe
   D. subdue
   E. fascinate

4. RENOWN
   A. acclaim
   B. obscurity
   C. villainy
   D. infamy
   E. prestige

5. AMPLIFY
   A. magnify
   B. intensify
   C. allay
   D. withdraw
   E. lessen

6. FESTIVE
   A. serene
   B. hearty
   C. gruesome
   D. jaunty
   E. dreary

7. WAN
   A. pale
   B. drab
   C. anemic
   D. glowing
   E. kaleidoscopic

8. FORGO
   A. despise
   B. revere
   C. indulge
   D. abstain
   E. waive

9. POROUS
   A. fragile
   B. waterproof
   C. consolidated
   D. dense
   E. spongy

10. EXPEND
    A. stash
    B. dispatch
    C. splurge
    D. exhaust
    E. smother
Answers and Explanations

1)  D
    The word vacate means to leave a place that was previously occupied. When you check out of a hotel room, you vacate it. The opposite of vacate is to fill or stay in a space. Because occupy means to reside, take over, or fill, choice (D) is correct.

    (A) is incorrect because abandon means to leave empty or uninhabited. This is synonymous with vacate, not the opposite of it.

    (B) is incorrect because charter means to reserve for private use. This is not the opposite of vacate.

    (C) is incorrect because sever means to put an end to or divide by cutting. This is not the opposite of vacate.

    (E) is incorrect because discharge means to dismiss someone from duty. This is not the opposite of vacate.

2)  A
    The word amass means to gather together or accumulate over time. For instance, a stamp collector would amass postage stamps. The opposite of amass is to divide or donate. Because disperse means to distribute or spread, choice (A) is correct.

    (B) is incorrect because meld means to blend or combine. This is not the opposite of amass.

    (C) is incorrect because muster means to collect or assemble. This is synonymous with amass, not the opposite of it.

    (D) is incorrect because compile means to collect in order to produce something. This is practically synonymous with amass, not the opposite of it.

    (E) is incorrect because infuse means to fill, soak, or pervade. This is not the opposite of amass.

3)  C
    The word enamor means to be filled with love for something or someone. Someone might be enamored of a certain city if he or she were infatuated with the city or simply loved being there. The opposite of enamor is to not love. Because loathe means to feel intense dislike for, choice (C) is correct.

    (A) is incorrect because entice means to captivate or attract. This is not the opposite of enamor.

    (B) is incorrect because enlighten means to give greater knowledge. This is not the opposite of enamor.

    (D) is incorrect because subdue means to bring under control. This is not the opposite of enamor.

    (E) is incorrect because fascinate means to captivate or draw intense attention. This is not the opposite of enamor.

4)  B
    The word renown means fame or being known. A movie star would have great renown. The opposite of renown is being unknown. Because obscurity is the state of being unknown or unimportant, choice (B) is correct.

    (A) is incorrect because acclaim is enthusiastic public praise. This is not the opposite of renown.

    (C) is incorrect because villainy is criminal behavior. This is not the opposite of renown, since a criminal could be very well known.

    (D) is incorrect because infamy is the state of being well known for something bad. This is not the opposite of renown, since both words mean being well known.

    (E) is incorrect because prestige is widespread respect and admiration for someone. This is not the opposite of renown.

5)  E
    The word amplify means to increase in size or effect. If one turns up the volume on a stereo, he or she is amplifying it. The opposite of amplify is to decrease in size or effect. Because lessen means to decrease, choice (E) is correct.

    (A) is incorrect because magnify means to make something appear larger than it actually is. This is not the opposite of amplify.

    (B) is incorrect because intensify means to increase in degree or strength. This is practically synonymous with amplify, not the opposite of it.

    (C) is incorrect because withdraw means to take back or remove. This is not the opposite of amplify, since it does not necessarily refer to a decrease in size or effect.
(D) is incorrect because *petrify* means to scare someone so much that he or she is unable to move. This is not the opposite of *amplify*.

6) E

The word *festive* means cheerful or celebratory. A fun party would have a festive atmosphere. The opposite of festive is not cheerful. Because *dreary* means depressing or lifeless, choice (E) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *serene* means calm or peaceful. This is not the opposite of *festive*.

(B) is incorrect because *hearty* means vigorous and cheerful. This is practically synonymous with *festive*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *gruesome* means causing repulsion or horror. This is not the opposite of *festive*, because it is too extreme in meaning.

(D) is incorrect because *jaunty* means having a lively and cheerful manner. This is practically synonymous with *festive*, not the opposite of it.

7) D

The word *wan* means pale and weak. A sickly individual would likely appear wan. The opposite of *wan* is flush and healthy. Because *glowing* means showing the radiance of health, choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *pale* means muted in color. This is synonymous with *wan*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *drab* means dull or cheerless. This is not the opposite of *wan*.

(C) is incorrect because *anemic* means lacking power or colorfulness. This is synonymous with *wan*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *kaleidoscopic* means multicolored or having complex patterns of color. This is not the opposite of *wan*, since being pale is not the opposite of being multicolored.

8) C

The word *forgo* means to omit or decline to take. If one skips breakfast, he or she is forgoing a morning meal. The opposite of *forgo* is to choose to take. Because *indulge* means to allow oneself to enjoy the pleasure of, choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *despise* means to hate or loathe. This is not the opposite of *forgo*.

(B) is incorrect because *revere* means to admire or feel deep respect. This is not the opposite of *forgo*.

(D) is incorrect because *abstain* means to restrain oneself from taking or doing something. This is practically synonymous with *forgo*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *waive* means to refrain from using. This is synonymous with *forgo*, not the opposite of it.

9) B

The word *porous* means having holes through which liquid or air may pass. For example, sponges are porous. The opposite of porous is impervious or lacking in holes for air or water. Because *waterproof* means impervious to water, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *fragile* means breakable or not stable. This is not the opposite of *porous*.

(C) is incorrect because *consolidated* means stronger or more solid. This is not the opposite of *porous*, since being porous and being weak are not synonymous.

(D) is incorrect because *dense* means closely compacted in substance. This is not the opposite of *porous*.

(E) is incorrect because *spongy* means having an open, porous structure. This is synonymous with *porous*, not the opposite of it.

10) A

The word *expend* means to spend or use up. When you exercise, you expend energy. The opposite of expend is to save up or store. Because *stash* means to store safely in a specified place, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *dispatch* means to send off to a destination for a purpose. This is not the opposite of any word, including *expend*.

(C) is incorrect because *splurge* means to spend money freely or extravagantly. This is not the opposite of *expend*. 
(D) is incorrect because *exhaust* means to tire out. This is practically synonymous with *expend*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *smother* means to suppress, extinguish, or kill. This is not the opposite of *expend*. 