Antonyms 2  Level 10

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

1. DISHARMONY
   A. condition
   B. consensus
   C. dispute
   D. discussion
   E. compromise

2. SANE
   A. grotesque
   B. demented
   C. arrogant
   D. rational
   E. cryptic

3. GLOOMY
   A. festive
   B. dreary
   C. generic
   D. haphazard
   E. defiant

4. CONCLUSION
   A. summary
   B. outcome
   C. incidence
   D. incursion
   E. inception

5. CORROBORATE
   A. refute
   B. refrain
   C. research
   D. affirm
   E. substantiate

6. MOCK
   A. imitate
   B. praise
   C. condemn
   D. taunt
   E. penalize

7. POTENT
   A. efficient
   B. inordinate
   C. powerful
   D. ineffectual
   E. informative

8. CALAMITY
   A. fluke
   B. catastrophe
   C. omen
   D. coincidence
   E. disease

9. ANTIQUATED
   A. fanciful
   B. bygone
   C. habitual
   D. showy
   E. contemporary

10. RESPECTFUL
    A. obedient
    B. courteous
    C. offensive
    D. civil
    E. devious
Answers and Explanations

1)  B
The word disharmony means discord or disagreement. If two people do not see eye to eye on something, they are in disharmony with each other. The opposite of disharmony is harmony or agreement. Because consensus is harmony or general agreement, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because a condition is a state, mode, or particular position. This word is not the opposite of disharmony.

(C) is incorrect because a dispute is a difference of opinion. This is synonymous with disharmony, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because a discussion is an informal debate or conversation about an issue. It is something done when there is disharmony, but it is not the opposite of disharmony.

(E) is incorrect because compromise is the settlement of disputes by making concessions. It is something done when there is disharmony, but it is not the opposite of disharmony.

2)  B
The word sane means having a sound mind. One is sane if he or she is free of mental illness. The opposite of sane is insane, or lacking a sound mind. Because demented means insane, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because grotesque means comically hideous. This is not the opposite of sane.

(C) is incorrect because arrogant means proud or haughty. This is not the opposite of sane.

(D) is incorrect because rational means reasonable. This is practically synonymous with sane, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because cryptic means mysterious. This is not the opposite of sane.

3)  A
The word gloomy means dismal or depressing. For example, the atmosphere of a funeral would be gloomy. The opposite of gloomy is lively or uplifting. Because festive means joyous or celebratory, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because dreary means causing sadness or despair. This is synonymous with gloomy, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because generic means characteristic of an entire classification or group. This is not the opposite of gloomy.

(D) is incorrect because haphazard means random or aimless. This is not the opposite of gloomy.

(E) is incorrect because defiant means refusing to yield or showing resistance. This is not the opposite of gloomy.

4)  E
The word conclusion means ending. For example, the conclusion of a story is how the conflict is resolved and how the story ends. The opposite of a conclusion is a beginning. Because an inception is a start or beginning, choice (E) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because a summary is a brief but comprehensive restatement of facts previously stated. This is not the opposite of conclusion.

(B) is incorrect because an outcome is the final result. This is synonymous with conclusion, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because incidence is the rate of occurrence. This is not the opposite of conclusion.

(D) is incorrect because an incursion is a temporary invasion. This is not the opposite of conclusion.

5)  A
The word corroborate means support a point or idea. When one corroborates something, he or she is confirming or proving that thing. The opposite of affirm is disagree or argue against. Because refute means disprove, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because refrain means abstain from or resist. This is not the opposite of corroborate.

(C) is incorrect because research means investigate or study. This is not the opposite of corroborate.

(D) is incorrect because affirm means confirm or support. This is synonymous with corroborate, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because substantiate means establish by evidence or verify by support. This is not the opposite of corroborate, as both words imply that someone is agreeing with a point.
6) B
The word mock means attack with ridicule, often by mimicry. To mock someone is to make fun of someone. The opposite of mock is to express approval. Because praise means commend or express approval, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because imitate means to mimic or impersonate. This is not the opposite of mock.

(C) is incorrect because condemn means express disapproval. This is practically synonymous with mock, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because taunt means treat with ridicule in a sarcastic manner. This is practically synonymous with mock, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because penalize means punish. This is not the opposite of mock.

7) D
The word potent means powerful or greatly effective. For example, a potent medicine would quickly improve one's health. The opposite of potent is weak or not effective. Because ineffectual means not effective, choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because efficient means producing an effect in the best possible or least wasteful manner. This is practically synonymous with potent, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because inordinate means excessive. This is not the opposite of potent, as it would instead be used to describe something unnecessarily strong.

(C) is incorrect because powerful means strong. This is synonymous with potent, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because informative means instructive. This is not the opposite of potent.

8) A
The word calamity is a great misfortune or disaster. A tornado that destroys an entire town would be a calamity. The opposite of calamity would be good luck or a blessing. Because fluke is a stroke of good luck, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because a catastrophe is a sudden and widespread disaster. This is synonymous with calamity, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because an omen is a sign indicating a future event. This is not necessarily the opposite of calamity, because an omen can refer to both good and bad fates.

(D) is incorrect because coincidence is a chance occurrence. This is not the opposite of calamity, since it does not necessarily refer to good luck only. A coincidence could be either good or bad.

(E) is incorrect because disease is illness. This is not the opposite of calamity, though catching a disease could be an example of calamity.

9) E
The word antiquated means old-fashioned. For example, a rotary dial phone is an antiquated piece of technology. The opposite of antiquated is new or modern. Because contemporary means of the same time or of the present time, choice (E) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because fanciful means whimsical or not realistic. This is not the opposite of antiquated.

(B) is incorrect because bygone means past or earlier. This is practically synonymous with antiquated, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because habitual means done by routine, usually involuntarily. This is not the opposite of antiquated.

(D) is incorrect because showy means making an elaborate or imposing display. This is not the opposite of antiquated.

10) C
The word respectful means showing politeness or acting nicely toward others. For example, a respectful person would say "please" or "thank you." The opposite of respectful is disrespectful or showing a lack of politeness. Because offensive means unpleasant, insulting, or disagreeable, choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because obedient means complying with or submissive to authority. This is not the opposite of respectful.

(B) is incorrect because courteous means polite. This is synonymous with respectful, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because civil means polite. This is synonymous with respectful, not the opposite of it.
(E) is incorrect because *devious* means indirect or circuitous. This is not the opposite of *respectful*. 