Antonyms 1 Level 11

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

1. REFINED
   A. suave
   B. indolent
   C. cultured
   D. boorish
   E. bland

2. GINGERLY
   A. lackadaisically
   B. rashly
   C. stubbornly
   D. warily
   E. oafishly

3. BUOYANT
   A. mirthful
   B. nautical
   C. levelheaded
   D. profound
   E. morose

4. ARTIFICE
   A. innuendo
   B. decadence
   C. injustice
   D. forthrightness
   E. stratagem

5. USUAL
   A. atypical
   B. nocturnal
   C. commonplace
   D. occult
   E. mystical

6. MINUSCULE
   A. gargantuan
   B. nondescript
   C. navigable
   D. microscopic
   E. formidable

7. PROTECT
   A. perpetrate
   B. champion
   C. jeopardize
   D. arrest
   E. harbor

8. INVIGORATE
   A. extrude
   B. gall
   C. fatigue
   D. activate
   E. galvanize

9. URBAN
   A. ethnic
   B. rustic
   C. municipal
   D. cosmopolitan
   E. unassuming

10. VOLATILE
    A. combustible
    B. mercurial
    C. evolving
    D. sedentary
    E. stable
Answers and Explanations

1) D
The word *refined* means well-mannered or free of vulgarity or coarseness. A person who is refined might also be called well-bred and would behave in a polite manner. The opposite of refined is coarse, vulgar, or lacking in manners. Because *boorish* means rude or unmannered, choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *suave* means polite or smoothly agreeable. This is practically synonymous with *refined*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *indolent* means lazy. This is not the opposite of *refined*.

(C) is incorrect because *cultured* means enlightened or well-mannered. This is synonymous with *refined*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *bland* means soothing or mild. This is not the opposite of *refined*.

2) B
The word *gingerly* means very carefully. A cat burglar would move gingerly so as to avoid making a sound or being detected. The opposite of gingerly is carelessly. Because *rashly* means impetuously or done without consideration or thought, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *lackadaisically* means listlessly or lethargically. This is not the opposite of *gingerly*.

(C) is incorrect because *stubbornly* means resolutely or obstinately. This is not the opposite of *gingerly*.

(D) is incorrect because *warily* means very carefully. This is synonymous with *gingerly*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *oafishly* means stupidly. This is not the opposite of *gingerly*.

3) E
The word *buoyant* means cheerful and optimistic. Someone who is buoyant is usually in good spirits. The opposite of buoyant is unhappy or pessimistic. Because *morose* means ill-humored or melancholy, choice (E) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *mirthful* means merry or full of laughter. This is synonymous with *buoyant*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *nautical* means pertaining to ships or navigation. This is not the opposite of *buoyant*.

(C) is incorrect because *levelheaded* means sensible. This is not the opposite of *buoyant*.

(D) is incorrect because *profound* means of deep meaning. This is not the opposite of *buoyant*.

4) D
The word *artifice* means deception or trickery. One of the most famous examples of artifice is the Trojan horse, a supposed gift that actually tricked the Trojans into opening their gates to the invading Greek army. The opposite of artifice is honesty or lack of deception. Because *forthrightness* is straightforwardness or directness, choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because an *innuendo* is a hint or insinuation. This is not the opposite of *artifice*.

(B) is incorrect because *decadence* is decay. This is not the opposite of *artifice*.

(C) is incorrect because an *injustice* is a violation of one's rights. This is not the opposite of *artifice*.

(E) is incorrect because a *stratagem* is a deceptive trick. This is synonymous with *artifice*, not the opposite of it.

5) A
The word *usual* means normal, routine, or customary. A usual occurrence is something that happens every day. The opposite of usual is unusual or not normal. Because *atypical* means irregular or not normal, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *nocturnal* means done at night. This is not the opposite of *usual*.

(C) is incorrect because *commonplace* means ordinary or uninteresting. This is practically synonymous with *usual*, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because *occult* means pertaining to magic or supernatural powers. This is not the opposite of *usual*.

(E) is incorrect because *mystical* means pertaining to magic or spiritual powers. This is not the opposite of *usual*.

6) A
The word *minuscule* means very small. For example, a single speck of dust is minuscule in size. The opposite of minuscule is huge. Because *gargantuan* means huge or enormous, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *nondescript* means ordinary or not distinctive. This is not the opposite of *minuscule*.

(C) is incorrect because *navigable* means wide and deep enough for a ship to pass through. Though this does imply size, it is not the direct opposite of *minuscule*, since the meaning of navigable is limited specifically to size in water.

(D) is incorrect because *microscopic* means very small or tiny. This is synonymous with *minuscule*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *formidable* means difficult or fear-inspiring. This is not the opposite of *minuscule*.

7) C
The word *protect* means to defend or guard. For example, a goalie in hockey protects the goal from opposing players’ shots. The opposite of protect is to endanger. Because *jeopardize* means to endanger or put at risk, choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *perpetrate* means to commit an offense. This is not the opposite of *protect*.

(B) is incorrect because *champion* means to support militantly. This is not the opposite of *protect*.

(D) is incorrect because *arrest* means to stop or slow down. This is not the opposite of *protect*.

(E) is incorrect because *harbor* means to give shelter to. This is practically synonymous with *protect*, not the opposite of it.

8) C
The word *invigorate* means to energize or stimulate. For example, the caffeine in coffee invigorates a coffee drinker. The opposite of invigorate is to weaken in energy or tire out. Because *fatigue* means to exhaust, choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *extrude* means to force or push out. This is not the opposite of *invigorate*.

(B) is incorrect because *gall* means to annoy. This is not the opposite of *invigorate*.

(D) is incorrect because *activate* means to cause to function. This is not the opposite of *invigorate*.

(E) is incorrect because *galvanize* means to stimulate by shock or revitalize. This is practically synonymous with *invigorate*, not the opposite of it.

9) B
The word *urban* means pertaining to a city. For example, a large city such as Chicago would be called an urban area. The opposite of urban is rural. Because *rustic* means pertaining to rural areas or people, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *ethnic* means relating to races. This is not the opposite of *urban*.

(C) is incorrect because *municipal* means pertaining to a city or its government. This is practically synonymous with *urban*, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because *cosmopolitan* means worldly. This is not the opposite of *urban*.

(E) is incorrect because *unassuming* means modest. This is not the opposite of *urban*.

10) E
The word *volatile* means changeable or explosive. A situation is volatile if it is unstable or could change any second. The opposite of volatile is nonvolatile or unchanging. Because *stable* means steady or resistant to sudden change, choice (E) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *combustible* means easily burned. This is not the opposite of *volatile*.

(B) is incorrect because *mercurial* means changing. This is synonymous with *volatile*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *evolving* means developing into being over time. This is not the opposite of *volatile*.

(D) is incorrect because *sedentary* means motionless or requiring sitting. This is not the opposite of *volatile*, since being in motion and being changeable are not synonymous.