Antonyms 2  Level 7

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

1. WARY
   A. rash
   B. conscientious
   C. daring
   D. thrifty
   E. indiscreet

2. IRATE
   A. bitter
   B. riled
   C. courteous
   D. content
   E. annoyed

3. SUBSTANTIAL
   A. impoverished
   B. affluent
   C. insignificant
   D. suffering
   E. abundant

4. QUENCH
   A. stifle
   B. soak
   C. disappoint
   D. allay
   E. parch

5. NURTURE
   A. neglect
   B. underestimate
   C. mother
   D. treasure
   E. detest

6. RECEDE
   A. wane
   B. advance
   C. exaggerate
   D. taper
   E. stockpile

7. CORRUPT
   A. wicked
   B. dishonest
   C. sanitary
   D. principled
   E. reliable

8. FIASCO
   A. miracle
   B. blunder
   C. triumph
   D. catastrophe
   E. flop

9. POISED
   A. collected
   B. comfortable
   C. distracted
   D. unemotional
   E. anxious

10. PEEVISH
    A. morose
    B. patient
    C. flattering
    D. crusty
    E. excitable
Answers and Explanations

1)  A
The word *wary* means cautious. Someone who is wary thinks about the consequences of an action before doing it. The opposite of wary is reckless or incautious. Because *rash* means displaying a lack of careful consideration of the possible consequences of an action, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *conscientious* means meticulous or careful. This is nearly synonymous with wary, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *daring* means brave. This is not the opposite of *wary*, because one can be both brave and cautious.

(D) is incorrect because *thrift* means using money carefully. This is not the opposite of *wary*.

(E) is incorrect because *indiscreet* means having too great a readiness to reveal private information. This is not the opposite of *wary*.

2)  D
The word *irate* means extremely angry. When something aggravates someone who is already mad, that person might become irate. The opposite of irate is calm. Because *content* means in a state of peaceful happiness, choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *bitter* means angry or hurt. This is practically synonymous with *irate*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *riled* means irritated. This is practically synonymous with *irate*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *courteous* means polite. This is not the opposite of *irate*, since irate is not synonymous with impolite.

(E) is incorrect because *annoyed* means irritated. This is practically synonymous with *irate*, not the opposite of it.

3)  C
The word *substantial* means of considerable import, size, or worth. A substantial donation to a hospital would be fairly large. The opposite of substantial is unimportant or small in size. Because *insignificant* means too small or unimportant to be worth consideration, choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *impoverished* means poor or lacking in money. This is not the opposite of *substantial*, because it is too limited in meaning. Substantial does not only refer to money.

(B) is incorrect because *affluent* means wealthy. This is not the opposite of *substantial*.

(D) is incorrect because *suffering* means experiencing pain or discomfort. This is not the opposite of *substantial*.

(E) is incorrect because *abundant* means plentiful. This is not the opposite of *substantial*.

4)  E
The word *quench* means to satisfy thirst by drinking. When you have a drink of water, you are quenching your thirst. The opposite of quench is to make thirsty. Because *parch* means to make dry or thirsty, choice (E) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *stifle* means to quell or end by force. This is not the opposite of *quench*.

(B) is incorrect because *soak* means to thoroughly wet. This is similar in meaning to *quench*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *disappoint* means to fail to fulfill the hopes of someone. This is not the opposite of *quench*, because quench is not synonymous with please.

(D) is incorrect because *allay* means to relieve or alleviate. This is not the opposite of *quench*.

5)  A
The word *nurture* means to care for and aid in development. If one feeds a cat, he or she is nurturing it. The opposite of nurture is to disregard or ignore. Because *neglect* means to ignore, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *underestimate* means to regard someone as less capable than he or she really is. This is not the opposite of *nurture*.

(C) is incorrect because *mother* means to look after kindly and protectively. This is practically synonymous with *nurture*, not the opposite of it.
(D) is incorrect because *treasure* means to value highly. This is not the opposite of *nurture*.

(E) is incorrect because *detest* means to hate. This is not the opposite of *nurture*, because nurture is not synonymous with love.

6)  **B**

The word *recede* means to move back or further away from a previous position. If an army retreats, it recedes from its current position. The opposite of recede is to move forward. Because *advance* means to move forward, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *wane* means to decrease in strength or power. This is not the opposite of *recede*.

(C) is incorrect because *exaggerate* means to represent something as being larger than it really is. This is not the opposite of *recede*.

(D) is incorrect because *taper* means to diminish at one end. This is practically synonymous with *recede*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *stockpile* means to accumulate a large supply of something. This is not the opposite of *recede*, since stockpile is not synonymous with advance.

7)  **D**

The word *corrupt* means evil or morally depraved. A politician who gives bribes in exchange for votes is corrupt. The opposite of corrupt is moral. Because *principled* means acting in accordance with morality, choice (D) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *wicked* means evil. This is synonymous with *corrupt*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *dishonest* means untruthful. This is not the opposite of *corrupt*.

(C) is incorrect because *sanitary* means hygienic and clean. This is not the opposite of *corrupt*, since being moral and being clean are not synonymous.

(E) is incorrect because *reliable* means dependable. This is not the opposite of *corrupt*, since corrupt is not synonymous with dependable.

8)  **C**

The word *fiasco* means something that is a complete failure, especially in a humiliating way. For example, if one threw a party and none of the guests came, it would be a fiasco. The opposite of fiasco is a success. Because a *triumph* is a great success or victory, choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because a *miracle* is a surprising and welcome event that cannot be explained by science. This is not the opposite of *fiasco*, because it is too limited in meaning.

(B) is incorrect because a *blunder* is a stupid or careless mistake. This is not the opposite of *fiasco*.

(D) is incorrect because a *catastrophe* is a disaster or total failure. This is synonymous with *fiasco*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because a *flop* is a total failure. This is synonymous with *fiasco*, not the opposite of it.

9)  **E**

The word *poised* means composed and self-assured. Someone who does not get nervous under pressure would be described as poised. The opposite of poised is rattled, upset, or nervous. Because *anxious* means nervous or worried, choice (E) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *collected* means not perturbed or distracted. This is practically synonymous with *poised*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *comfortable* means free from discomfort, tension, or stress. This is practically synonymous with *poised*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *distracted* means unfocused. This is not the opposite of *poised*, because focused is not synonymous with self-assured.

(D) is incorrect because *unemotional* means not showing strong feelings. This is not the opposite of *poised*.

10)  **B**

The word *peevish* means easily irritated. Someone who is peevish gets angered or annoyed by even incredibly trivial things. The opposite of peevish is pleasant, relaxed, or unlikely to become irritated. Because *patient* means able to accept problems without becoming annoyed or irritated, choice (B) is correct.
(A) is incorrect because *morose* means sullen and ill-tempered. This is practically synonymous with *peevish*, not the opposite of it.

(C) is incorrect because *flattering* means full of praise and compliments. This is not the opposite of *peevish*, because someone who is not full of praise is not necessarily irritable.

(D) is incorrect because *crusty* means irritable. This is synonymous with *peevish*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *excitable* means responding too readily to something new or stimulating. This is not the opposite of *peevish*.