

• **Antonyms 2** Level 9

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

**1. CHIDE**

- A. notice
- B. admonish
- C. laud
- D. scold
- E. allow

**2. DENY**

- A. corroborate
- B. commend
- C. renounce
- D. verbalize
- E. muffle

**3. AVERT**

- A. abide
- B. preclude
- C. divert
- D. gaze
- E. skipper

**4. MUTILATE**

- A. deface
- B. adapt
- C. augment
- D. mar
- E. mend

**5. LUMINOUS**

- A. brilliant
- B. mournful
- C. pessimistic
- D. gloomy
- E. radiant

**6. BARREN**

- A. moist
- B. parched
- C. sterile
- D. dewy
- E. fertile

**7. IRRITATE**

- A. mollify
- B. acknowledge
- C. appreciate
- D. peeve
- E. vex

**8. BEWITCH**

- A. invite
- B. revolt
- C. ravage
- D. inflict
- E. allure

**9. INGENIOUS**

- A. crafty
- B. inane
- C. incompetent
- D. inventive
- E. skillful

**10. VERIFY**

- A. justify
- B. equivocate
- C. invalidate
- D. corroborate
- E. approximate

## Answers and Explanations

1) **C**

The word *chide* means to scold or rebuke. A father might chide his daughter if she misbehaves. The opposite of chide is to praise. Because *laud* means to praise, choice **(C)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *notice* means to become aware of or see. This is not the opposite of *chide*.

**(B)** is incorrect because *admonish* means to warn or reprimand someone firmly. This is practically synonymous with *chide*, not the opposite of it.

**(D)** is incorrect because *scold* means to rebuke. This is synonymous with *chide*, not the opposite of it.

**(E)** is incorrect because *allow* means to admit as acceptable or legal. This is not the opposite of *chide*.

2) **A**

The word *deny* means to refuse to admit the truth or existence of something. Someone accused of a crime he or she did not commit might deny any involvement in the crime. The opposite of deny is to affirm as the truth. Because *corroborate* means to make certain or confirm, choice **(A)** is correct.

**(B)** is incorrect because *commend* means to praise formally. This is not the opposite of *deny*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *renounce* means to formally declare one's abandonment of a belief. This is nearly synonymous with *deny*, not the opposite of it.

**(D)** is incorrect because *verbalize* means to express in words. This is not the opposite of *deny*.

**(E)** is incorrect because *muffle* means to make quieter or less distinct. This is not the opposite of *deny*.

3) **D**

The word *avert* means to turn one's eyes away. For example, one should avert his or her eyes from an eclipse, since staring at an eclipse can cause blindness. The opposite of avert is to face head on or not turn away. Because *gaze* means to look steadily and intently, choice **(D)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *abide* means to accept or act in accordance. This is not the opposite of *avert*.

**(B)** is incorrect because *preclude* means to make impossible. This is not the opposite of *avert*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *divert* means to cause to change course or direction. This is practically synonymous with *avert*, not the opposite of it.

**(E)** is incorrect because *skipper* means to act as captain. This is not the opposite of *avert*.

4) **E**

The word *mutilate* means to disfigure violently. Severely cutting someone's face would mutilate him or her. The opposite of mutilate is to repair or improve one's appearance. Because *mend* means to repair something broken or damaged, choice **(E)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *deface* means to spoil the appearance of something. This is practically synonymous with *mutilate*, not the opposite of it.

**(B)** is incorrect because *adapt* means to modify. This is not the opposite of *mutilate*.

**(C)** is incorrect because *augment* means to increase in size. This is not the opposite of *mutilate*.

**(D)** is incorrect because *mar* means to disfigure. This is practically synonymous with *mutilate*, not the opposite of it.

5) **D**

The word *luminous* means full of light. A room with lots of windows would be luminous on a sunny day. The opposite of luminous is dark or unlit. Because *gloomy* means dark or poorly lit, choice **(D)** is correct.

**(A)** is incorrect because *brilliant* means very bright. This is synonymous with *luminous*, not the opposite of it.

**(B)** is incorrect because *mournful* means causing sadness or grief. This is not the opposite of *luminous*, since a sad atmosphere is not necessarily poorly lit.

**(C)** is incorrect because *pessimistic* means tending to see the worst aspects of things. This is not the opposite of *luminous*.

(E) is incorrect because *radiant* means shining or glowing brightly. This is synonymous with *luminous*, not the opposite of it.

6) E

The word *barren* means unable to produce offspring or vegetation. A wasteland is barren. The opposite of barren is able to produce offspring or vegetation. Because *fertile* means capable of producing abundant vegetation or offspring, choice (E) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *moist* means wet or damp. This is not the opposite of *barren*.

(B) is incorrect because *parched* means thirsty or dry. This is not the opposite of *barren*.

(C) is incorrect because *sterile* means not able to produce offspring or seeds. This is synonymous with *barren*, not the opposite of it.

(D) is incorrect because *dewy* means wet with dew. This is not the opposite of *barren*.

7) A

The word *irritate* means to bother or annoy. Someone who nags might irritate another person. The opposite of irritate is to soothe or calm. Because *mollify* means to appease the anger of someone, choice (A) is correct.

(B) is incorrect because *acknowledge* means to accept or admit the existence of something. This is not the opposite of *irritate*.

(C) is incorrect because *appreciate* means to recognize the full worth of something. This is not the opposite of *irritate*.

(D) is incorrect because *peeve* means to annoy. This is synonymous with *irritate*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *vex* means to cause someone to get annoyed. This is not the opposite of *irritate*.

8) B

The word *bewitch* means to enchant and delight. In *The Odyssey*, the song of the sirens had the power to bewitch the men on Odysseus's ship. The opposite of bewitch is to repulse or repel. Because *revolt* means to cause to feel disgust, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *invite* means to make a polite request to someone. This is not the opposite of *bewitch*.

(C) is incorrect because *ravage* means to cause severe damage. This is not the opposite of *bewitch*.

(D) is incorrect because *inflict* means to impose something unwelcome. This is not the opposite of *bewitch*, since bewitching someone does not necessarily impose something welcome on him or her.

(E) is incorrect because *allure* means to powerfully attract or charm. This is synonymous with *bewitch*, not the opposite of it.

9) B

The word *ingenious* means clever, intelligent, or inventive. An ingenious idea is one that is very original and smart. The opposite of ingenious is not clever or intelligent. Because *inane* means stupid or silly, choice (B) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *crafty* means clever at achieving one's aims through deceitful methods. This is not the opposite of *ingenious*.

(C) is incorrect because *incompetent* means not having the necessary skills to do something successfully. This is not the opposite of *ingenious*, since being intelligent and being skilled are not synonymous.

(D) is incorrect because *inventive* means having the ability to think originally. This is synonymous with *ingenious*, not the opposite of it.

(E) is incorrect because *skillful* means having skill or ability. This is not the opposite of *ingenious*.

10) C

The word *verify* means to make sure that something is true or accurate. When you show someone your ID card, you are verifying that you are who you say you are. The opposite of verify is to prove that something is not true or accurate. Because *invalidate* means to discredit or render something inaccurate or erroneous, choice (C) is correct.

(A) is incorrect because *justify* means to show to be right. This is practically synonymous with *verify*, not the opposite of it.

(B) is incorrect because *equivocate* means to use ambiguous language to conceal the truth of something. This is not the opposite of *verify*, because equivocating does not disprove something or demonstrate that something is not true.

**(D)** is incorrect because *corroborate* means to confirm or give support to something. This is practically synonymous with *verify*, not the opposite of it.

**(E)** is incorrect because *approximate* means to estimate or calculate. This is not the opposite of *verify*.