

# Verbal Review

## Word Knowledge

The ability tested in the verbal review portion of any of the nursing tests is your command of the language—in other words, your vocabulary. Of course, by this point in your life you might think that you have learned all of the words that you will ever learn or that it will be impossible to improve your vocabulary. On the contrary! If you are diligent and put your mind to it, you can improve your vocabulary in several ways. Here are three that will definitely help:

- Read, read, read. Pick up a newspaper, a magazine, or a novel and make note of words you do not understand. Make a list or put them on note cards. First, try to figure out the meaning of the words by looking at the context in which they are used. Make an educated guess. If you are still not sure, look up the meaning of the words and write the words and their meanings in a notebook or on note cards. Then try to make up your own sentences using the words.
- Learn a new word every day or every other day. You can get into the habit of looking up a new word in the dictionary every day. Write the word and its definition on a piece of paper. Then write a sentence using the word. This will help you visualize it. Don't pick words that are too technical or specialized (such as medical/scientific terms or proper names). Try using this new word in conversation.
- Words are made up, generally, of prefixes, roots, and suffixes. Many prefixes and roots have a Latin or Greek origin. If you can familiarize yourself with some of these, you will find that you can arrive at the meaning of some words by breaking them down. The following section will offer you some common prefixes, roots, and suffixes to help you tackle words you are unfamiliar with in the Word Knowledge section.

## Prefixes

In order to break down words you do not understand or to help you recognize why a word means what it means, you should become familiar with prefixes. Prefixes are parts of words that come at the beginning of a word and that can affect its meaning.

As an example, look at the word *synonym*. This word is made up of the prefix *syn* plus the root *nym*. If you knew that the prefix *syn* means *with/together* or *same* and the root *nym* means *name* or *word*, then you could conclude that the word *synonym* means *same word*. And that's what it means!

Look at another example. The word *circumvent* is made up of the prefix *circum* plus the root *vent*. If you knew that the prefix *circum* means *around* and the root *vent* means *go* or *come*, then you could conclude the word *circumvent* means *go around*.

What follows is a list of common prefixes that you often will find at the beginning of certain words. Following the prefix, you will find the meaning of the prefix and a word using the prefix (with a rough definition in parentheses following the word). Try including a word of your own in the space provided for each prefix. If you cannot come up with your own word, refer to a dictionary for help.

<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Word (Definition)</b>	<b>Your Example</b>
ab-	away from	abnormal (away from normal)	_____
ad-	to, toward	adjoin (join to)	_____
a-, an-	not, without	apathy (without feeling)	_____
anti-	against	antiviolence (against violence)	_____

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## Part II: Subject Area Reviews

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<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Word (Definition)</b>	<b>Your Example</b>
ambi-	both	ambidextrous (both hands)	_____
bene-	good	benign (good or harmless)	_____
circum-	around	circumvent (go around)	_____
com-	with, together	communion (coming together)	_____
con-	with, together	connect (come together)	_____
contra-	against	contradict (speak against)	_____
de-	down, away	descend (move down)	_____
dis-	apart, not	discontent (not content)	_____
e-	out of, from	eject (throw out)	_____
ex-	out of, from	exclude (leave out)	_____
hyper-	over	hyperactive (overactive)	_____
hypo-	under	hypodermic (below the skin)	_____
il-	not	illegal (not legal)	_____
im-	not	impossible (not possible)	_____
im-	into	imbibe (drink in)	_____
in-	not	indiscreet (not discreet)	_____
in-	into	ingest (take into the body by mouth)	_____
inter-	between	interconnected (connected between)	_____
ir-	not	irrational (not rational)	_____
mal-	bad, evil	malign (speak badly of)	_____
ob-	against	obstruct (build against)	_____
omni-	all	omniscient (knows all)	_____
peri-	around	periscope (view around)	_____
post-	after	postgraduate (after graduation)	_____
pre-	before	precede (go before)	_____
pro-	for, forward	proceed (move forward)	_____
re-	again, back	reconvene (get together again)	_____
retro-	back	retrogression (step back)	_____
se-	away from	seduce (lead away)	_____
sub-	under	subhuman (below human)	_____
sur-, super-	over, above	supersonic (above sound)	_____
sym-, syn-	together, with	sympathy (feeling with or for)	_____
trans-	across	Transatlantic (across the Atlantic)	_____

## Roots

Along with prefixes, roots are central to the meanings of words. If you familiarize yourself with some common roots, then you may be able to better recognize certain words or at least get a general feel for several words. By studying the following list of roots, you will be better equipped to breakdown many words and make sense of them!

Following you will find a root, its meaning, a word using the root, and a space in which you can write another word that uses the same root.

<b>Root</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Word</b>	<b>Your Definition</b>
ami, amic	love	amicable	_____
anthrop	human, man	anthropology	_____
arch	chief or leader	patriarch	_____
aud	sound	audible	_____
auto	self	autobiography	_____
bio	life	biography	_____
brev	short	brief	_____
cap	take, seize	capture	_____
ced	yield, go	intercede	_____
chron	time	synchronize	_____
corp	body	corporal	_____
crac, crat	rule, ruler	democracy	_____
cred	believe	credible	_____
culp	guilt	culpable	_____
demo	people	democracy	_____
dic	speak, say	dictate	_____
duc, duct	lead	deduce	_____
equ	equal	equity	_____
grad, gress	step	progression	_____
graph	writing, printing	biography	_____
ject	throw	inject	_____
log	study of	geology	_____
luc	light	elucidate	_____
man	hand	manual	_____
min	small	minority	_____
mit, miss	send	emit	_____
mono	one	monotone	_____
mort	death	mortal	_____

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<b>Root</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Word</b>	<b>Your Definition</b>
mut	change	mutate	_____
nov	new	renovate	_____
nym	word or name	pseudonym	_____
pac	peace	pacify	_____
path	feeling	apathy	_____
pel, puls	push	compel	_____
phil	like, lover of	philosophy	_____
port	carry	portable	_____
pot	power	potent	_____
quer, quis	ask	query	_____
scrib	write	manuscript	_____
sed	sit	sedentary	_____
sent	feel	sensory	_____
sequ	follow	sequel	_____
son	sound	unison	_____
spir	breathe	inspire	_____
tang, tact	touch	tangible	_____
vac	empty	vacant	_____
ven	come, go	intervene	_____
ver	truth	verify	_____
vert	turn	introvert	_____
vit	life	revitalize	_____
voc	call	evocative	_____

## Suffixes

Suffixes come at the end of words and usually change the part of speech (noun, adjective, adverb, and so on) of words, which also subtly changes the meaning. Becoming familiar with suffixes may help you get a sense of the meaning the word is *conveying*, even if you are not sure of what the definition of the word is exactly.

Look at a word with different suffixes to see how the part of speech or the meaning can change. For example, the word *sedate* means to calm or relax. The following sentences contain words that are made up of the root word *sedate* but have different suffixes attached:

- The doctor prescribed a *sedative* [something that sedates] to calm her nerves.
- The speech was delivered *sedately* [in a sedate manner].
- The dog was under *sedation* [in a state of sedation] for the long trip.
- Many office workers live a *sedentary* [relating to nonactive] lifestyle.

As you can see, in each of the sentences, the word *sedate* means generally the same thing, but the part of speech changes. However, you can get a sense of *how* the word changes if you know what the suffixes mean.

What follows is a list of common suffixes that you may encounter at the ends of certain words. Try applying these suffixes at the ends of words you know (or words from the preceding lists) to see how the part of speech or the meaning of the word changes.

<b>Suffix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Your Example</b>
-able, ible	capable of or susceptible to	_____
-ary	of or relating to	_____
-ate	to make	_____
-ian	one relating to or belonging to	_____
-ic	relating to or characterized by	_____
-ile	relating to or capable of	_____
-ion	action or condition of	_____
-ious	having the quality of	_____
-ism	quality, process, or practice of	_____
-ist	one who performs	_____
-ity	state of being	_____
-ive	performing or tending to	_____
-ize, ise	to cause to be or become	_____
-less	without	_____
-ly	resembling or in the manner of	_____
-ment	action or process or the result	_____
-ology	study of	_____
-y, -ry	state of	_____

Now, using the information that you have just learned, try to apply these concepts to the different test sections. Keep in mind that all of the following sections—Synonyms, Antonyms, Analogies, and Spelling—are all vocabulary related. Answer all of the practice questions and then check your answers at the end of this section.

## Synonyms

What is a synonym? Very simply, it's a word that has the same meaning as another word. In most of the nursing entrance exams, a test of synonyms is a test of vocabulary. How well do you understand words and what they mean? Almost any kind of standardized test will present some form of vocabulary test. Try these sample problems. Select the word that most nearly means the same as the capitalized word.

**1. GRAPHIC**

- A. unclear
- B. detailed
- C. large
- D. childish

**B.** Graphic (graph = written or drawn) means described in vivid detail or clearly drawn out, so detailed would most closely mean graphic.

**2. INDISPENSABLE**

- A. trashy
- B. ridiculous
- C. necessary
- D. uninvited

**C.** Indispensable literally means not dispensable (able to be thrown away). So if something is indispensable, it is necessary; you cannot do away with it.

Now practice with the following questions. Remember that the word may not be an exact meaning, but one that is most nearly like the other word.

## Synonym Practice Questions

**1. CONCOCT**

- A. make up
- B. throw away
- C. go through
- D. walk around

**2. SONIC**

- A. relating to the sun
- B. relating to the moon
- C. relating to sound
- D. relating to the earth

**3. ASSIMILATE**

- A. to take in
- B. to make fun of
- C. to rob of
- D. to ignore

**4. DEGRADATION**

- A. happiness
- B. anger
- C. celebration
- D. poverty

**5. CONTRADICT**

- A. to talk about
- B. to see the future
- C. to fall down
- D. to speak against

**6. SEQUENTIALLY**

- A. sensibly
- B. randomly
- C. in order
- D. out of order

**7. CULPRIT**

- A. a shy person
- B. a shallow waterway
- C. the guilty party
- D. the most qualified person

**8. OMNIPOTENT**

- A. all-knowing
- B. all-seeing
- C. all-hearing
- D. all-powerful

**9. SUBMISSIVE**

- A. meek
- B. not intelligent
- C. kind
- D. strong

**10. DEMEANING**

- A. boring
- B. humiliating
- C. colorful
- D. ignorant

**11. FLUCTUATE**

- A. remain the same
- B. follow a downward course
- C. follow an upward course
- D. change

**12. RENOVATE**

- A. destroy
- B. restore
- C. return
- D. go around

**13. INTERCEDE**

- A. to bring something to an end
- B. to act as a judge
- C. to act as mediator
- D. to laugh at something

## Antonyms

Antonym tests are vocabulary tests, but unlike a synonym, an antonym is a word of opposite meaning. Some of the more common antonym pairs would be *hot/cold*, *sit/stand*, *far/near*, and *up/down*. Look at these examples.

1. Happy is the *opposite* of

- A. joyful
- B. serious
- C. sad
- D. considerate

C. The opposite of *happy* is *sad*.

2. Passive is the *opposite* of

- A. angry
- B. calm
- C. active
- D. conservative

C. *Passive* means not reacting; the opposite is *active*.

## Antonym Practice Questions

For each of the following practice questions, select that answer that most nearly means the opposite of the given word.

1. Recall is the *opposite* of

- A. remember
- B. lose
- C. forget
- D. think

2. Civil is the *opposite* of

- A. illegal
- B. rude
- C. reveal
- D. gracious

3. Decay is the *opposite* of
- A. descend
  - B. grow
  - C. accept
  - D. find
4. Devoid is the *opposite* of
- A. lacking
  - B. emptying
  - C. having
  - D. taking
5. Prelude is the *opposite* of
- A. preclude
  - B. intermission
  - C. interlude
  - D. conclusion
6. Ooze is the *opposite* of
- A. pour
  - B. drink
  - C. river
  - D. zoo
7. Tradition is the *opposite* of
- A. custom
  - B. transition
  - C. novelty
  - D. treason
8. Permit is the *opposite* of
- A. license
  - B. allow
  - C. forbid
  - D. persuade
9. Somber is the *opposite* of
- A. straight
  - B. bright
  - C. cloudy
  - D. miserable
10. Indispensable is the *opposite* of
- A. unnecessary
  - B. ridiculous
  - C. trashy
  - D. cheap

## Verbal Analogies

An analogy is usually a comparison of two proportions or relations. In standard usage—and for many of the nursing exams—you will encounter several types of analogies.

Each question presents two words that have some type of relationship; you are asked to select the choice that best completes the analogy, which is similar to the relationship presented in the original pair of words. There are two formats for the questions. For example, look at the following:

1. FORK is to EAT as PEN is to
- A. INK
  - B. PENCIL
  - C. WRITE
  - D. LETTER
  - E. BOOK

You first must ask yourself what the relationship is between FORK and EAT. A fork is used to eat. Thus, the next pair demonstrates a similar relationship—a PEN is used to WRITE. The correct answer is C.

Here's another sample question.

**2.** PLUM is to FRUIT as STEAK is to

- A. MEAL
- B. DINNER
- C. VEAL
- D. COW
- E. BEEF

Although many of these choices sound correct, let's analyze them. A plum is fruit. A steak can be a meal, but not necessarily the entire meal. A steak can be dinner, but it can also be lunch. A steak is not veal, so that's incorrect. A steak comes from a cow, but it's only part of a cow. The most obvious answer would be **E**, BEEF. It establishes the same relationship between PLUM and FRUIT as STEAK and BEEF.

The second format of analogy questions that you will encounter is as follows.

**3.** PREMIER is to COUNTRY as

- A. TEACHER is to LEARNING
- B. PRINCIPAL is to SCHOOL
- C. PRESIDENT is to CABINET
- D. SOLDIER is to SAILOR
- E. POLICEMAN is to CRIME

The correct answer is **B**, PRINCIPAL is to SCHOOL. The PREMIER is the leader of the COUNTRY, and the PRINCIPAL is the leader of the SCHOOL. If you look at the other choices, you can see the differences in relationships when compared to the original pair. The teacher's job is to help the students learn, and he or she is surely in charge of students, but that is not the direct relationship. The President chooses the Cabinet, but the Cabinet is only a small part of the country. Soldier to Sailor and Policeman to Crime are different relationships entirely.

Keep in mind that the relationship between the words is the most important aspect when answering an analogy question. It is less important than the actual meanings of the words. Try to establish the relationship immediately as you read the question. How are the two words related? Are they the same? Are they part of a group? Are they antonyms? It is often helpful to paraphrase the relationship.

For example, you might encounter the following:

**4.** FISH is to OCEAN as HORSE is to

- A. OATS
- B. RACETRACK
- C. STABLE
- D. GALLOP
- E. FIELD

You would paraphrase this by saying, "A FISH lives in the OCEAN; therefore, a HORSE lives in the STABLE." The correct answer is **C**. While some horses may live in the field, city horses may live only in a stable. (Questions usually require you to be fairly specific.) By paraphrasing the original pair, you help yourself in identifying the correct answer.

Here's one that requires even more specific attention:

5. BAT is to BASEBALL, as
- A. PASS is to FOOTBALL
  - B. CLUB is to GOLF
  - C. BALL is to TENNIS
  - D. SPIKES is to SLIDE
  - E. CARDS is to POKER

You would say, "A BAT is used in BASEBALL." Then again, A CLUB is used in GOLF, a BALL is used in TENNIS, and CARDS are used in POKER. You can eliminate the PASS since this is not an *object* used in the game. SPIKES is to SLIDE is an entirely different relationship—you wear SPIKES in a game, but they are not necessarily used to SLIDE. How do you narrow down your choices? You do this by becoming more specific. You would now paraphrase this by saying "A BAT is used to hit a ball in the game of BASEBALL." Choice B now becomes the logical selection, because a CLUB is used to hit a ball in the game of GOLF.

Make sure that you start by eliminating those choices that do not express a clear relationship to the original pair. This will make selecting the correct pair somewhat easier by narrowing down the number of choices. Also be careful of choices with similar words that might be included just to trip you up. If the choice sounds too similar to the original pair, it's probably incorrect and is being used by the test-developer as a "distracter."

## Classification of Analogies

Dozens of different types of analogies exist, defined based on their relationships. However, we'll just cover a few of the major types, because these are the most common types of questions you'll find on the test.

## Synonyms

As you should know, synonyms are words that have similar meanings and are usually from the same part of speech.

6. DOWDY is to DRAB as
- A. QUIET is to DEN
  - B. SAFETY is to STELLAR
  - C. OBJECTIVE is to DISPASSIONATE
  - D. PETTY is to ELEPHANTINE
  - E. RECREATION is to TOYS

The correct answer is C. A synonym for **dowdy** is **drab**. One who is **objective** is **dispassionate**.

## Antonyms

Antonyms are words that have opposite meanings.

7. HAPPY is to SAD as RIGID is to
- A. FAULTY
  - B. TIGHT
  - C. CONSERVATIVE
  - D. ALTRUISTIC
  - E. FLEXIBLE

The correct answer is E. **Rigid** means still and unyielding. The opposite is **flexible**.

## Function

What is the purpose, or function, of the relationship?

8. HAMMER is to NAIL as
- A. CAR is to WHEEL
  - B. GLUE is to TUBE
  - C. KNIFE is to SHARP
  - D. SCISSORS is to PAPER
  - E. PEN is to INK

The correct answer is **D**. The function of a **hammer** is to hit a **nail**, and the function of a **scissors** is to cut **paper**.

## Part to Whole

In this type of analogy, the first word in the pair is part of the second word. It can also be used in an opposite manner.

9. DANCERS is to TROUPE as
- A. SINGERS is to CHORUS
  - B. WRITERS is to BOOKS
  - C. SENATORS is to REPRESENTATIVES
  - D. TEACHERS is to PROFESSORS
  - E. PILOTS is to JETS

**Dancers** are part of a **troupe**, and **singers** are part of a **chorus**. The correct answer is **A**. If you analyze each of the answers, you'll see that although the first and second choices are related, they are not parts-to-whole relationships.

## Definition

This is similar to synonyms. The first word is the definition of the second word.

10. SANCTUARY is to REFUGE as
- A. CAVE is to BEAR
  - B. VAULT is to VALUABLES
  - C. TRIUMPH is to CONTEST
  - D. STRIATION is to STRIPE
  - E. CARNIVORE is OMNIVORE

The correct answer is **D**. A **striation** is to **stripe**. None of the other choices are definitions of each other.

## Type

One word in the pair represents a type of the second word. For example, MAPLE is a type of TREE, SEDAN is a type of CAR, and ROBIN is a type of BIRD.

11. ARGON is to GAS as
- A. BOOK is to LIBRARY
  - B. GESSO is to PAINT
  - C. HEART is to PACEMAKER
  - D. PAUPER is to MONEY
  - E. COMPUTER is to KEYBOARD

The correct answer is **B**. **Gesso** is a type of **paint**. These are sometimes known as “Member and Class” analogies.

Dozens of other types of analogies actually exist—some very sophisticated and some fairly simple. To learn how to solve analogies, you must spend the time on the practice problems, study the material presented previously, and try to identify the types of pairs in each question. Analyze them and take your time with these questions in order to be familiar with the different types of analogies and to be able to recognize them quickly when you take the test.

## Analogy Practice Questions

Try these practice questions.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. TOOL is to DRILL as POEM is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. SONG</li> <li>B. MACHINE</li> <li>C. SONNET</li> <li>D. BIRD</li> <li>E. NOVEL</li> </ul> <p>2. TALK is to SHOUT as DISLIKE is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. SCREAM</li> <li>B. DETEST</li> <li>C. FRIGHTEN</li> <li>D. CONTRIBUTE</li> <li>E. ADMIRE</li> </ul> <p>3. CONDUCTOR is to ORCHESTRA as SHEPHERD is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. FILM</li> <li>B. CANINE</li> <li>C. CONTROL</li> <li>D. FLOCK</li> <li>E. GENERAL</li> </ul> | <p>4. OBSTINATE is to COMPLIANT as OBLIVIOUS is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. CONSCIOUS</li> <li>B. CAREFREE</li> <li>C. FORGETFUL</li> <li>D. INTUITIVE</li> <li>E. NATURAL</li> </ul> <p>5. BOUQUET is to VASE as GARBAGE is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. URN</li> <li>B. ABDOMEN</li> <li>C. CENTERPIECE</li> <li>D. SEWER</li> <li>E. CARTON</li> </ul> <p>6. TENSION is to STRESS as VIRUS is to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. LIVING</li> <li>B. DISEASE</li> <li>C. BACTERIA</li> <li>D. IMMUNITY</li> <li>E. MORBIDITY</li> </ul> |
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- 7.** BAROMETER is to PRESSURE as CALIPERS is to
- A. CUTTING
  - B. HEIGHT
  - C. CONSTANCY
  - D. THICKNESS
  - E. PLIERS
- 8.** MISER is to MONEY as GLUTTON is to
- A. FOOD
  - B. ENVY
  - C. LITERATURE
  - D. PUNISHMENT
  - E. NUTRIENTS
- 9.** PRIDE is to HUMBLE as HUMOR is to
- A. INTELLECTUAL
  - B. ENERGETIC
  - C. SOMBER
  - D. SERVILE
  - E. LUDICROUS
- 10.** CANDID is to TRUTHFUL as CONTENTIOUS is to
- A. HARMONIOUS
  - B. QUARRELSOME
  - C. COHERENT
  - D. MENDACIOUS
  - E. UNPLEASANT
- 11.** COWARD is to COURAGE as
- A. CYNIC is to DOUBT
  - B. REVELER is to CHEER
  - C. MISER is to GENEROSITY
  - D. THINKER is to CONTEMPLATION
  - E. PARTNER is to COOPERATION
- 12.** IMPECUNIOUS is to WEALTH as
- A. ALACRITY is to SPEED
  - B. MYSTIQUE is to MYSTERY
  - C. ACERBITY is to BITTERNESS
  - D. IGNORANT is to UNDERSTANDING
  - E. POMPOUS is to SHOW
- 13.** BIASED is to IMPARTIALITY as
- A. APATHETIC is to EMOTION
  - B. STEADFASTNESS is to SOLIDITY
  - C. INCONGRUITY is to DISORGANIZATION
  - D. FORTUITOUS is to LUCK
  - E. HONEST is to INTEGRITY
- 14.** SHOVEL is to DIG as
- A. WASP is to STING
  - B. BROOM is to FLY
  - C. WOUND is to HEAL
  - D. DETERGENT is to CLEAN
  - E. CLIMB is to MOUNTAIN
- 15.** POKER is to PROD as
- A. PEN is to WRITE
  - B. ATTRACT is to SMELL
  - C. STILTS is to CRAWL
  - D. CAUTION is to SUCCEED
  - E. ACTIVATE is to LEVER

## Spelling

In this section, you are asked to identify words that are spelled incorrectly. For some people, this is the easiest section on any of the nursing tests. If you're a good speller, this should be a snap for you. If you have difficulty with spelling, you'll have to spend a little more time figuring out what's right and what's wrong.

These questions have different formats. One type of question just lists several words, and you are to select the incorrectly spelled word from the list.

1.

- A. weightless
- B. reddened
- C. obstacle
- D. awful

D. The correct spelling is *awful*.

2.

- A. invigorate
- B. negitive
- C. massacre
- D. courtesy

B. The correct spelling is *negative*.

The second type of question asks you to find the incorrectly spelled word or to indicate that no mistakes were found.

3.

- A. I will finish this project by next Wensday.
- B. Saturday would be a good day to go to the park.
- C. Apparently, he does not work on weekends.
- D. No mistakes.

A. The correct spelling is *Wednesday*.

4.

- A. Sarah asked her teacher to recommend her for the tutoring job.
- B. Lee wanted to study medicine.
- C. Have you seen the skedule for next week's meeting?
- D. No mistakes.

C. The correct spelling is *schedule*.

Now try the following questions. In questions 1–5 select the word that is spelled incorrectly.

## Spelling Practice Questions

1.

- A. backround
- B. combustible
- C. accustomed
- D. slurred

2.

- A. sacrafice
- B. executive
- C. mortgage
- D. restaurant

- 3.
- A. idolize
  - B. donor
  - C. fuedal
  - D. inflammatory

- 4.
- A. television
  - B. perdicament
  - C. hindrance
  - D. officious

- 5.
- A. excessive
  - B. appraise
  - C. government
  - D. cemetary

*In questions 6-10, select the word that is spelled incorrectly. If there is no spelling error, select D.*

- 6.
- A. Rhythm in poetry and music is based on repetition.
  - B. Unfortunately, Frank can't be here today.
  - C. He is hoping to join us tomorrow.
  - D. No mistakes.

- 7.
- A. Phil and Felicia had an arguement about whose turn it was to walk the dog.
  - B. Rex sat their whining because he wanted to go out.
  - C. The difference between the two shades of pink is not significant.
  - D. No mistakes.

- 8.
- A. I don't believe that doing well in school guarantees professional success.
  - B. Good grammer is a requirement for clear communication.
  - C. The grade of ninety means outstanding work.
  - D. No mistakes.

- 9.
- A. I mailed your birthday present to you last Thursday.
  - B. Have you recieved the package yet?
  - C. Sometimes delivery services are slow.
  - D. No mistakes.

- 10.
- A. Taylor has been studying for the chemistry test.
  - B. Students usually take chemistry during their sophomore year.
  - C. Athletes are not excused from taking the exam.
  - D. No mistakes.

## Summary

Most of these topics are not difficult. These types of questions require, however, some diligence in studying. For example, don't mix up synonyms and antonyms. Take your time when answering the questions but don't linger too long on any one question because it will just slow you down. To save time, read the directions carefully to make sure that you know what is being asked of you.

At the end of the book are two practice exams. Spend the time to take these tests. You will definitely reap the benefits when it comes time to take an actual test.

## Answers and Explanations

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### Synonyms

1. A. *Concoct* means to create or come up with, like in the sentence “The two boys concocted a plan to skip school.” *Concoct* most closely means to make up.
2. C. *Sonic* means relating to sound (son = sound).
3. A. *Assimilate* means to absorb or take in. If a group of individuals successfully assimilates, then they have converged and incorporated into one group.
4. D. *Degradation* is a state of poverty or squalor. It literally means “a step down” (de = down, grad = step).
5. D. *Contradict* literally means to speak against (contra = against, dict = speak).
6. C. *Sequentially* means that items are arranged in order or in a sequence (sequ = follow).
7. C. The *culprit* is the person who is guilty (culp = guilt).
8. D. *Omnipotent* literally means all-powerful (omni = all, pot = power).
9. A. A *submissive* (sub = under, miss = send) person is one who is meek and passive, not aggressive.
10. B. *DemEANing* (de = down) means something that puts one down or is humiliating.
11. D. *Fluctuate* (fluc = change) means to change, go up and down, not constant.
12. B. *Renovate* means to restore or to make new again (re = again, nov = new).
13. C. *Intercede* means to go between (inter = within, ced = go) or to mediate.

### Antonyms

1. B. *Recall* means remember; *forget* is the opposite.
2. B. One meaning of *civil* is polite; do not be confused by another meaning of *civil*, referring to citizens and their relationships with a state. *Rude* is the correct choice.
3. B. To *decay* is to break down or rot; *grow* is the opposite.
4. C. To be *devoid* is to lack; *having* is the opposite.
5. D. A *prelude* is at the beginning of a work of music or literature; therefore, *conclusion* is the best choice.
6. A. To *ooze* is to seep out slowly; if something flows out quickly, it *pours*.
7. C. A *tradition* is something done now that was also done in the past; *novelty* is the opposite.
8. C. Although *permit* can be a noun, in this item it is used as a verb, and *forbid* is the opposite.
9. B. *Somber* means dark and gloomy; *bright* is the best choice.
10. A. Something *indispensable* is required or necessary.

### Analogies

1. C. An example of a kind of tool is a *drill*, and an example of a kind of *poem* is a *sonnet*.
2. B. An intense form of *talk* is to *shout*, and an intense form of *dislike* is to *detest*.
3. D. The function of a *conductor* is to lead an *orchestra*, and the function of a *shepherd* is to lead a *flock*.
4. A. The opposite of *obstinate* is *compliant*, and the opposite of *oblivious* is *conscious*.
5. D. A location for a *bouquet* is a *vase*, and a location for garbage is a *sewer*.

6. B. An effect of *tension* is to cause *stress*, and an effect of a *virus* is to cause *disease*.
7. D. The function of a *barometer* is to measure *pressure*, and the function of *calipers* is to measure *thickness*.
8. A. The desire of a *miser* is *money*, and the desire of a *glutton* is *food*.
9. C. To lack *pride* is to be *humble*, and to lack *humor* is to be *somber*.
10. B. A synonym of *candid* is *truthful*, and a synonym of *contentious* is *quarrelsome*.
11. C. A coward suffers from a lack of *courage*. A *miser* lacks *generosity*.
12. D. A person who is *impecunious* is poor, and, therefore, lacks *wealth*. A person who is *ignorant* lacks *understanding*.
13. A. A *biased* individual lacks *impartiality*. An *apathetic* person lacks *emotion*.
14. D. *Detergent* is characteristically used to *clean*. A *shovel* is characteristically used to *dig*.
15. A. A *poker* is used for *prodding*, and a *pen* is used for *writing*.

## Spelling

1. A. The correct spelling is *background*.
2. A. The correct spelling is *sacrifice*.
3. C. The correct spelling is *feudal*.
4. B. The correct spelling is *predicament*.
5. D. The correct spelling is *cemetery*.
6. D. No mistakes
7. A. The correct spelling is *argument*.
8. B. The correct spelling is *grammar*.
9. B. The correct spelling is *received*.
10. D. No mistakes

