

Antonym Practice Questions

Easy to Moderate

1. PROCEED

- A. secede
- B. succeed
- C. impede
- D. lead
- E. recede

2. ELEVATED

- A. grounded
- B. raised
- C. excited
- D. subterranean
- E. moody

3. ELOQUENT

- A. lucid
- B. ministerial
- C. wise
- D. graceful
- E. inarticulate

4. SCRUTINIZE

- A. skim
- B. devour
- C. elaborate
- D. comprehend
- E. question

5. INFIRM

- A. ailing
- B. hospitalized
- C. robust
- D. recovering
- E. firm

6. REDUNDANT

- A. verbose
- B. irrelevant
- C. prosaic
- D. excessive
- E. insufficient

7. RESILIENT

- A. elastic
- B. resinous
- C. resolute
- D. inflexible
- E. malleable

8. INANE

- A. foolish
- B. serious
- C. mature
- D. nameless
- E. contrary

9. CONFIDANT

- A. assurance
- B. acquaintance
- C. enemy
- D. confession
- E. ally

10. OVERWROUGHT

- A. relaxed
- B. restrained
- C. underutilized
- D. flawed
- E. underestimated

11. CHIVALROUS

- A. gallant
- B. discourteous
- C. civilized
- D. armored
- E. vainglorious

12. MODERATE

- A. calm
- B. reason
- C. whisper
- D. intensify
- E. lead

13. AFFECTION

- A. love
- B. aversion
- C. disaffection
- D. purity
- E. effect

14. EUPHORIA

- A. mandate
- B. intoxicant
- C. life
- D. euthanasia
- E. gloom

15. DISPARATE

- A. dissimilar
- B. similar
- C. disconcerted
- D. contrite
- E. desperate

16. INFAMOUS

- A. eager for praise
- B. criminal
- C. with a good reputation
- D. heinous
- E. appearing often

17. MANDATORY

- A. dispassionate
- B. obligatory
- C. voluntary
- D. inveterate
- E. disconsolate

18. DOWDY

- A. slovenly
- B. out of date
- C. stylish
- D. above average
- E. seasonal

19. EMPATHY

- A. compassion
- B. lack of feeling for others
- C. lack of religious certainty
- D. lack of credit
- E. recalcitrance

20. TRAVAIL

- A. fetters
- B. repose
- C. smear
- D. illumination
- E. remainder

21. BOMB

- A. inception
- B. task
- C. divot
- D. storm
- E. hit

Average

22. DISCRIMINATING

- A. racist
- B. gourmet
- C. crass
- D. popular
- E. segregated

23. IRONIC

- A. literary
- B. figurative
- C. analogous
- D. mysterious
- E. literal

24. PROFUSE

- A. extravagant
- B. antinatural
- C. immodest
- D. sparse
- E. refutable

25. IRASCIBLE

- A. iridescent
- B. cooperative
- C. irregular
- D. commensurate
- E. devilish

26. PALPABLE

- A. pliable
- B. facetious
- C. evident
- D. intangible
- E. careful

27. MATRICULATE

- A. articulate
- B. speculate
- C. divorce
- D. impart
- E. graduate

28. NADIR

- A. ebb tide
- B. positron
- C. mean
- D. median
- E. zenith

29. PROFUNDITY

- A. depth
- B. shallowness
- C. profanity
- D. perfidy
- E. complexity

30. INTERCEDE

- A. intercept
- B. disrupt
- C. supersede
- D. intervene
- E. question

31. ENIGMATIC

- A. explicit
- B. cryptic
- C. implicit
- D. syntactic
- E. impolitic

32. EXHUME

- A. expel
- B. exit
- C. infer
- D. refer
- E. inter

33. NOVEL

- A. fictional
- B. poetic
- C. ordinary
- D. narrative
- E. peerless

34. RECONDITE

- A. obvious
- B. plane
- C. fit
- D. cryptic
- E. cabalistic

35. PRETERNATURAL

- A. customary
- B. naturalistic
- C. adventitious
- D. unnatural
- E. pernicious

36. ORNERY

- A. with many faults
- B. odorless
- C. agreeable in disposition
- D. fetid
- E. highly decorated

37. SUCCULENT

- A. harshly astringent
- B. axiomatic
- C. quietly reclusive
- D. parched
- E. highly spiced

38. PRECURSOR

- A. sequel
- B. pointer
- C. tyro
- D. claimant
- E. afterthought

39. NEBULOUS

- A. astronomical
- B. distinct
- C. eccentric
- D. hopeful
- E. moribund

40. ALTRUISTIC

- A. selfish
- B. below sea level
- C. interdisciplinary
- D. nonalcoholic
- E. self-reliant

41. TACITLY

- A. thoughtlessly
- B. carelessly
- C. coherently
- D. openly expressed
- E. mildly amused

42. INDIGENT

- A. inconsequential
- B. nonnative
- C. extraterrestrial
- D. affluent
- E. compliant

43. FERVOR

- A. an unfortified place
- B. patriotism
- C. drollery
- D. merrymaking
- E. nonchalance

44. TRUMPET

- A. fetch
- B. glut
- C. hone
- D. idle
- E. veil

45. FERVENT

- A. intermittent
- B. parietal
- C. bland
- D. resonant
- E. sublime

46. PURITANIC

- A. controlled by hand
- B. making fast
- C. imposing
- D. freewheeling
- E. obtuse

47. CAPTIOUS

- A. eager
- B. deprived
- C. indulgent
- D. free
- E. anxious

Above Average to Difficult

48. APPROBATION

- A. probation
- B. guilt
- C. disapproval
- D. disavowal
- E. disaffected

49. HERETICAL

- A. skeptical
- B. orthodox
- C. unorthodox
- D. ethereal
- E. insincere

50. LABYRINTHINE

- A. flowery
- B. direct
- C. amazing
- D. dark
- E. towering

51. HIDEBOUND

- A. liberal
- B. dishonorable
- C. honorable
- D. conservative
- E. leathery

52. IMBROGLIO

- A. imbibition
- B. proviso
- C. fracas
- D. clarification
- E. settlement

53. UBIQUITOUS

- A. obsequious
- B. cantankerous
- C. rare
- D. intermittent
- E. omnivorous

54. PALLID

- A. resplendent
- B. lackluster
- C. enervated
- D. impaled
- E. impervious

55. ABSTEMIOUS

- A. self-indulgent
- B. on the dole
- C. self-sacrificing
- D. off the mark
- E. self-satisfied

56. HUGGER-MUGGER

- A. incarcerate
- B. eat heartily
- C. dance wildly
- D. keep watch
- E. publicize

57. INVEIGH

- A. to lose weight
- B. to estimate
- C. to accept meekly
- D. to cherish fondly
- E. to retreat

58. LOUCHE

- A. inflexible
- B. manifest
- C. reputable
- D. wolflike
- E. gloomy

59. KUDOS

- A. reward
- B. regrets
- C. obloquy
- D. freedom
- E. glorification

60. PUNGENT

- A. acrid
- B. piquant
- C. harmonious
- D. untenable
- E. insipid

Answers and Explanations for the Practice Antonyms

Easy to Moderate

1. **E. recede.** *Proceed* means move forward, go ahead as planned. Choice **E** *recede* means to move backward. Choice **A** *secede* means to withdraw or quit. Choice **C** *impede* means to slow down.
2. **D. subterranean.** *Elevated* means above the ground. Choice **A** *grounded* means connected to the earth. Choice **D** *subterranean* means beneath the surface.
3. **E. inarticulate.** *Eloquent* means articulate. Choice **A** *lucid* means clear. Choice **B** *ministerial* pertains to a minister. Choice **E** *inarticulate* means not eloquent.
4. **A. skim.** *Scrutinize* means to examine something thoroughly and carefully. Choice **A** *skim* means to glance at or read quickly. Choice **B** *devour* means to hungrily or greedily consume.
5. **C. robust.** *Infirm* means weak, especially from illness or old age. Choice **C** *robust* means very healthy.
6. **E. insufficient.** *Redundant* means superfluous, extra, unneeded. Choice **A** *verbose* means using too many words. Choice **C** *prosaic* means dull or ordinary. Choice **E** *insufficient* means not enough.
7. **D. inflexible.** *Resilient* means elastic, easily regaining its original shape. Choice **B** *resinous* means composed of resins (particular kinds of particles). Choice **C** *resolute* means determined. Choice **D** *inflexible* means stiff or rigid. Choice **E** *malleable* means moldable or flexible.

8. **B. serious.** *Inane* means silly or empty. Choice **B** *serious* means important or solemn.
9. **C. enemy.** *Confidant* means a friend, a person you can confide in. Choice **C** *enemy* is the opposite of friend.
10. **A. relaxed.** *Overwrought* means overcome by nervous agitation or being overexcited. Choice **A** *relaxed* means an absence of tension or tightness.
11. **B. discourteous.** *Chivalrous* means positive or high-minded. Choice **A** *gal-lant* means brave or courageous. Choice **B** *discourteous* means not courteous. Choice **E** *vainglorious* means marked by excessive pride and vanity.
12. **D. intensify.** *Moderate* means to make less intense. Choice **D** *intensify* means to make more intense.
13. **B. aversion.** *Affection* means love or liking. Choice **B** *aversion* means strong dislike. Choice **C** *disaffection* means alienation or resentment. Choice **D** *pu-rity* means cleanness, freedom from physical or moral pollution.
14. **E. gloom.** *Euphoria* means a feeling of well-being or elation. Choice **A** *man-date* means an order or command. Choice **B** *intoxicant* means a mind-altering substance. Choice **D** *euthanasia* means mercy killing. Choice **E** *gloom* means sadness or depression.
15. **B. similar.** *Disparate* means different. Choice **A** *dissimilar* means different. Choice **B** *similar* means the same or nearly the same. Choice **C** *disconcerted* means bewildered or confused. Choice **D** *contrite* means repentant.
16. **C. with a good reputation.** *Infamous* means having a bad reputation. The adjective *heinous*, choice **D**, means evil, abominable.
17. **C. voluntary.** *Mandatory* means obligatory, ordered. Choice **A** *dispassionate* means impartial. Choice **D** *inveterate* means deep-seated. Choice **E** *disconso-late* means cheerless, unhappy.
18. **C. stylish.** *Dowdy* means drab or out of date. Choice **A** *slovenly* means untidy.
19. **B. lack of feeling for others.** *Empathy* means feeling for others, sympathy. Choice **E** *recalcitrance* means disobedience, noncompliance.
20. **B. repose.** The noun *travail* means toil, hard labor; its opposite here is *re-pose*, which means to rest.
21. **E. hit.** A *bomb* is American theater terminology for a failure, the opposite of *hit*.

Average

22. **C. crass.** *Discriminating* means being able to make fine distinctions. Choice C *crass* means gross, being unable to make fine distinctions.
23. **E. literal.** *Ironic* means using words to express the opposite of their literal meaning. Choice B *figurative* means metaphoric, a kind of literary comparison. Choice C *analogous* means a resemblance between two things that are otherwise unlike. Choice E *literal* means exact or verbatim.
24. **D. sparse.** *Profuse* means lavish, lush, or abundant. Choice A *extravagant* means going beyond what is reasonable. Choice B *antinatural* means against nature. Choice C *immodest* means lacking in modesty or indecent. Choice D *sparse* means not thickly grown. Choice E *refutable* means able to be proved wrong.
25. **B. cooperative.** *Irascible* means quarrelsome or hot-tempered. Choice A *iridescent* means giving off a rainbow glow. Choice B *cooperative* means agreeable or easygoing. Choice D *commensurate* means proportionate. Choice E *devilish* means evil or sinister.
26. **D. intangible.** *Palpable* means easily perceived, obvious, tangible. Choice A *pliable* means flexible, easily influenced. Choice B *facetious* means intending to be funny. Choice D *intangible* means not tangible.
27. **E. graduate.** *Matriculate* means to sign up, to register for or join, especially for college. Choice A *articulate* means to express ideas clearly. Choice B *speculate* means to form opinions without definite knowledge. Choice E *graduate* means to be awarded a diploma for a course of study or to conclude school successfully.
28. **E. zenith.** *Nadir* is the bottom, the lowest point. Choice A *ebb tide* means a period or state of decline. Choice B *positron* means an electrically charged particle. Choice C *mean* means the average. Choice D *median* means the middle point. Choice E *zenith* means topmost or highest point.
29. **B. shallowness.** *Profundity* means having great depth of understanding or importance. Choice B *shallowness* means not deep, or an incapability of having deep feelings. Choice C *profanity* means coarse or irreverent speech. Choice D *perfidy* means treachery.
30. **B. disrupt.** *Intercede* means to mediate, to help two sides reach an agreement. Choice A *intercept* means to take something away. Choice B *disrupt* means to push apart. Choice C *supersede* means to replace or overrule. Choice D *intervene* means to intercede.
31. **A. explicit.** *Enigmatic* means puzzling, unclear, obscure. *Explicit* means clear and direct. *Cryptic* means puzzling. *Implicit* means indirect. *Syntactic* means having to do with sentence structure. *Impolitic* means unwise.
32. **E. inter.** *Exhume* means to remove from the grave. *Expel* means to force out, eject. *Exit* means to depart. *Infer* means to conclude or deduce. *Refer* means to relate. *Inter* means to bury a dead body.

- 33. C. ordinary.** *Novel* means new or unique. *Fictional* means made up or fabricated. *Poetic* means elegant or musical. *Ordinary* means common or everyday. *Narrative* means related to a story. *Peerless* means unique.
- 34. A. obvious.** *Recondite* means mystical or profound. *Obvious* means apparent. *Plane* means flat. *Fit* means trim. *Ambiguous* means cryptic. *Cabalistic* means abstruse or incomprehensible.
- 35. A. customary.** *Preternatural* means extraordinary. *Customary* means normal or regular. *Naturalistic* means based on natural desires or events. *Adventitious* means fortuitous. *Unnatural* means artificial or abnormal. *Pernicious* means harmful or wicked.
- 36. C. agreeable in disposition.** *Ornery* means disagreeable, mean, crotchety. The adjective *fetid*, choice **D**, means noisome, stinking.
- 37. D. parched.** *Succulent* means full of juice, juicy. Choice **D** *parched* means dried out. Choice **B** *axiomatic* means self-evident.
- 38. A. sequel.** A *precursor* is a thing or person that precedes, but a *sequel*, choice **A**, is something that comes after. A *tyro*, choice **C**, is a novice or beginner. A *claimant*, choice **D**, is one who makes a claim.
- 39. B. distinct.** *Nebulous* means vague or hazy. Choice **B** *distinct* means clear, single, particular, or discrete. The adjective *moribund*, choice **E**, means dying.
- 40. A. selfish.** *Altruistic* means benevolent, generous, or unselfishly concerned for others. Choice **A** is the best opposite.
- 41. D. openly expressed.** *Tacitly* means silently, without being openly expressed.
- 42. D. affluent.** *Indigent* means needy, poor. Choice **D** *affluent* means rich, wealthy, or prosperous. Choice **E** *compliant* means obliging.
- 43. E. nonchalance.** *Fervor* means zeal or warmth of feeling, and choice **E** *nonchalance* is cool indifference. Choice **C** *drollery* is something amusing.
- 44. E. veil.** The verb *trumpet* means to announce loudly, to proclaim. The opposite is *veil*, which means to cover or conceal.
- 45. C. bland.** The adjective *fervent* means ardent, intensely felt, the opposite of *bland*, which means dull or tasteless. Choice **A** *intermittent* means periodic or recurrent. Choice **B** *parietal* means pertaining to a wall. Choice **D** *resonant* means resounding or vibrant. Choice **E** *sublime* means elevated, outstanding, or lofty.
- 46. D. freewheeling.** The adjective *puritanic* means excessively strict in morals. The most nearly opposite choice here is choice **D** *freewheeling*. Choice **E** *obtuse* means dull-witted, dense, or ignorant.
- 47. C. indulgent.** *Captious* means quick to find fault, carping. The opposite is *indulgent*.

Above Average to Difficult

48. **C. disapproval.** *Approbation* means approval. Choice **A** *probation* is a period of time for examination or evaluation. Choice **C** *disapproval* means objection, and is the opposite of *approbation*. Choice **D** *disavowal* means a denial of responsibility. Choice **E** *disaffection* means discontent.
49. **B. orthodox.** *Heretical* means challenging conventional beliefs. Choice **A** *skeptical* means inclined not to believe. Choice **B** *orthodox* means to accept conventional beliefs. Choice **C** *unorthodox* means unconventional. Choice **D** *ethereal* means light and delicate or heavenly. Choice **E** *insincere* means hypocritical, not sincere.
50. **B. direct.** *Labyrinthine* means mazelike. The best opposite is *direct*, which means straightforward.
51. **A. liberal.** *Hidebound* means narrow-minded. Choice **A** *liberal* means open-minded.
52. **E. settlement.** *Imbroglia* means a noisy fight or a dispute. Choice **E** *settlement* is the best opposite. Choice **A** *imbibition* means to absorb ideas into the mind. Choice **B** *proviso* means something insisted on as part of an agreement, with each side giving up some of its demands. Choice **C** *fracas* is also a noisy dispute or brawl.
53. **C. rare.** *Ubiquitous* means omnipresent, everywhere. Choice **A** *obsequious* means excessively or sickeningly respectful. Choice **B** *cantankerous* means bad-tempered. Choice **C** *rare* means seldom found or occurring. Choice **D** *intermittent* means occurring at intervals, not continuous. Choice **E** *omnivorous* means feeding on both plants and animal flesh.
54. **A. resplendent.** *Pallid* means drab or colorless. Choice **A** *resplendent* means bright or brilliant. Choice **B** *lackluster* means drab or colorless. Choice **C** *enervated* means frail or feeble. Choice **D** *impaled* means pierced. Choice **E** *impervious* means impenetrable.
55. **A. self-indulgent.** *Abstemious* means self-denying, temperate.
56. **E. publicize.** As a verb, *hugger-mugger* means to hush up. Choice **E** *publicize* means to announce, promote, or advertise. To *incarcerate*, choice **A**, is to imprison.
57. **C. to accept meekly.** To *inveigh* is to protest strongly, to rail against. The opposite is choice **C** *to accept meekly*.
58. **C. reputable.** *Louche* means shady, disreputable. Choice **B** *manifest* means evident. Choice **C** *reputable* means having a good reputation.
59. **C. obloquy.** *Kudos* is a singular noun meaning glory, fame, or prestige. The opposite of *kudos* is *obloquy*, which means disgrace, discredit, or dishonor.
60. **E. insipid.** *Pungent* means sharply affecting the organs of taste, or a strong sour or bitter taste. Choice **E** *insipid* means tasteless. Choices **A** and **B** are synonyms of *pungent*. Choice **D** *untenable* means implausible or unreasonable.