

4000 Essential English Words 6 Unit 17: The Tenacious Inventor

1.

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

defect

- A) perfect
- B) broken
- C) clean
- D) magical

2.

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

innovation

- A) obsolete
- B) cunning
- C) original
- D) compatible

3.

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

accelerate

- A) speed up
- B) slow down
- C) open
- D) melt

4.

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

meteorological

- A) weather
- B) past
- C) body
- D) mind

5.

Choose the one that is similar in meaning to the given word.

dreary

- A) bright
- B) fluorescent
- C) frigid
- D) dull

6.

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

Just when you thought you'd caught up to Brian, he'd *accelerate* and quickly get away.

- A) C
- B) I

7.

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

The orchestra made a very *tenacious* sound, and many in the audience decided to leave.

- A) C
- B) I

8.

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

Dan had *duplicated* the sculpture exactly. It now looked nothing like the original one.

- A) C
- B) I

9.

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

Lions are dangerous hunters. They can *glide* through the air to capture their prey.

- A) C
- B) I

10.

Write C if the italicized word is used correctly. Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

They had a picnic in the park and *launched* on small sandwiches and grapes.

- A) C
- B) I



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11. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

We made a small toy train that *stimulated* how real trains worked 100 years ago.

- A) C
B) I

12. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

Cellular phones are one of the most popular *innovations* in the world today.

- A) C
B) I

13. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

The knight's sword could not *penetrate* his opponent's armor.

- A) C
B) I

14. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

The thought of his warm bed *spurred* the traveler on through the cold night.

- A) C
B) I

15. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

We didn't mind that our paintings got ruined. It was fun to start them *anew*.

- A) C
B) I

16. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

Satellites are very important for gathering *meteorological* data.

- A) C
B) I

17. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

Fish use their fins for *propulsion* in the water.

- A) C
B) I

18. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

I wish Dad wasn't so *innovative*. He always comes into my room without knocking.

- A) C
B) I

19. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

Some metals are attracted to other metals due to an *electromagnetic* force.

- A) C
B) I

20. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

Certain kinds of light can *simulate* flowers into producing seeds earlier than usual.

- A) C
B) I

21. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

John is so *ingenious*. He hasn't passed a single test so far this year.

- A) C
B) I

22. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

I've always been interested in meteors. That's why I want to study *meteorology*.

- A) C
B) I



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23. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

The lake was frightening. The water was still and *dreary*.

- A) C
- B) I

24. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

Everyone who voted in the *electron* was given the day off of work.

- A) C
- B) I

25. Write C if the italicized word is used correctly.
Write I if the word is used incorrectly.

The new pot looked perfect. It was covered in new, shiny *defects*.

- A) C
- B) I

26. THE TENACIOUS INVENTOR

A young student of **meteorology** was having a difficult time with an experiment. He was attempting to **duplicate** lightning in clouds. He had made a device that could **simulate** lightning. It worked by releasing an **electromagnetic** pulse into the cloud. This pulse, in turn, **stimulated** the **electrons** in the cloud's particles. Then the electrons produced lightning.

But his **meteorological** experiment had a major **defect**. He couldn't get the device into the sky.

He had tied it to balloons, but they had burst. He had shot the device from a cannon, but the force of the cannon had damaged it.

"You should give up," his friends told him. "You'll never get that thing into the air."

But his friends' criticisms only **spurred** him to try again. The student was very **innovative**, and at last, he thought that he had an **innovation** that would work. He attached wings to the device, and on one **dreary** day, when clouds blocked the light of the sun, he started his experiment **anew**.

He placed the device on a rocket and **launched** it into the sky. The **propulsion** of the rocket carried the device high into the air. The rocket **accelerated** into the clouds and then released the device. It **glided** on its wings through the clouds, and when it **penetrated** the center of a large black cloud, it emitted the electromagnetic pulse. And just as he had predicted, lightning shot from the cloud!

He called his professors, and the next day they came to watch. He successfully duplicated the experiment. His teachers were extremely impressed and called the student and his invention **ingenious**.

The student was given many awards and became a famous inventor. He had not given up. He had remained **tenacious** and succeeded.

The student of meteorology had bought a device that simulated lightning in clouds.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE



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The electromagnetic pulse stimulated the electrons in the cloud's particles.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE

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The student's friends' criticisms spurred him to try his experiment anew.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE



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It was a dreary day when the device glided into the clouds.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE

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The propulsion of the rocket accelerated the speed of the lightning.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE



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Answer Key:

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1: B | 16: A |
| 2: C | 17: A |
| 3: A | 18: B |
| 4: A | 19: A |
| 5: D | 20: B |
| 6: A | 21: B |
| 7: B | 22: B |
| 8: B | 23: A |
| 9: B | 24: B |
| 10: B | 25: B |
| 11: B | 26: B |
| 12: A | 27: A |
| 13: A | 28: A |
| 14: A | 29: A |
| 15: A | 30: B |

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