

4000 Essential English Words 6 Unit 6: Amazing Komodo Dragons

1.

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

What animal can survive ashore?

- A) A dolphin
- B) An alligator
- C) A shark
- D) A goldfish

2.

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

How can someone devoid of any happiness be described?

- A) Lazy
- B) Content
- C) Depressed
- D) Humorous

3.

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

How do turtles elude predators?

- A) They walk fast.
- B) They hide in their shells.
- C) They have sharp teeth.
- D) They dig a hole in the ground.

4.

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

What is something that people can plunge into?

- A) A school
- B) A car
- C) A cup
- D) A pool

5.

Choose the answer that best fits the question.

Which of the following is NOT used to obstruct sunlight?

- A) Sunglasses
- B) Curtains
- C) A telescope
- D) A baseball cap

6.

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

prolong

- A) show
- B) ensure
- C) extend
- D) destine

7.

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

fictitious

- A) invented
- B) realistic
- C) wonderful
- D) unseen

8.

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

contradict

- A) move away
- B) disagree
- C) think about
- D) describe

9.

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

homogeneous

- A) same
- B) weak
- C) unrelated
- D) barred

10.

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

vigorous

- A) untamed
- B) skilled
- C) qualified
- D) energetic



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

I *obstructed* my brother from coming in by locking the door.

- A) C
B) I

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

I ate a light snack to *fend* off my hunger.

- A) C
B) I

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

The river *diverged* into three different channels.

- A) C
B) I

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

Sheila *publicized* her party over the Internet. She didn't want a lot of people to know about it.

- A) C
B) I

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

I viewed this morning's *gazette* to find out about today's weather.

- A) C
B) I

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

Jason always *contradicted* what his friend said. They agreed about everything.

- A) C
B) I

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

Andrew *verified* that his friends were coming to his house, so his mom could make enough food for dinner.

- A) C
B) I

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

Did you remember to take the hot pan off of the *counterpart*?

- A) C
B) I

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

Class was *prolonged* because Shelly had a lot of questions. By the time she was done, school had been over for ten minutes.

- A) C
B) I

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

Greg didn't like *vigorous* exercise, so he played many different sports.

- A) C
B) I



21. AMAZING KOMODO DRAGONS

Once, a British **gazette** had an unusual story. Scientists at a zoo made a discovery about komodo dragons. Komodo dragons are giant lizards that grow up to two and a half meters long. A female lizard at the zoo had babies. However, it had never been around a male lizard in its entire life. After the scientists **publicized** their discovery, many people thought it was **fictitious**.

But it was true. It was discovered that female Komodo dragons can have babies without the help of their male **counterparts**. This **contradicts** what scientists know about how most animals have babies.

In most cases, there are many things that can **obstruct** this type of reproduction. For example, adult males and females carry different genes needed to make an **embryo**. If the genes are **homogeneous**, the babies are weaker and have genetic problems. Over time, the weakened species dies out completely. This makes it necessary for the male to be involved. However, scientists **verified** that when Komodo babies are born, their genes aren't the exact same genes as their mothers. Also, they are **devoid** of any genetic problems.

Scientists **theorize** that Komodo dragons developed the ability because it helps the species **fend** off extinction. If a volcano erupts, lava can kill all of the komodo dragons on an island. However, as long as one female **eludes** death, she can **prolong** the survival of the species. Luckily, Komodo dragons are **vigorous** swimmers. So the surviving female can **plunge** into the ocean and swim to another island. When she comes **ashore**, she can reproduce by herself. Over time, the genes within the population **diverge**. Then, the **sparse** population increases. Once again there is a **surplus** of lizards on one island. Scientists think that this may be how the lizards took over all of the islands in that area.

People thought that the story publicized in the gazette about the Komodo dragons was fictitious.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE

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Female Komodo dragons can have babies without their male counterparts.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE



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Scientists verified that baby Komodo dragons have homogeneous genes if they don't have fathers, which leads to genetic problems.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE

24. AMAZING KOMODO DRAGONS

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Scientists theorize that the special ability of Komodo dragons helps them elude predators.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE



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A female Komodo dragon can increase a sparse population so that there are surplus lizards on one island.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE



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Answer Key:

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

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