

4000 Essential English Words 2 Unit 27: The Duke and the Minister

1.

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the word bank.

I have a (1)_____ sister who very much (2)_____ me. When we were kids, we'd (3)_____ fireflies in jars on summer nights. We would stand still and wait for them to light up. Then we'd quickly scoop them into (4)_____ glass jars and put the lids on. But the jars were never the bugs' (5)_____ home. We always let them go before we went inside.

- A) permanent
- B) capture
- C) twin
- D) resembles
- E) ordinary

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6.

Check the one that suits the blank naturally.

It is important that you read the story carefully _____.

- A) It will help to expose any mistakes
- B) Then it will capture your dog

7.

Check the one that suits the blank naturally.

Mike and Ike look the same. _____.

- A) They don't resemble their mother
- B) They must be twin brothers

8.

Check the one that suits the blank naturally.

If you want to be understood, _____.

- A) you must be bold
- B) you must pronounce your words clearly



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9. Check the one that suits the blank naturally.

Please keep our city clean. _____.

- A) It helps to preserve its beauty
- B) It makes it ordinary

10. Check the one that suits the blank naturally.

Children need to learn that _____.

- A) witches are in their schools
- B) tobacco is bad for their health

11. Check the one that suits the blank naturally.

Don't worry about breaking the glass. _____.

- A) You don't need to give an apology
- B) You think you are innocent

12. Check the one that suits the blank naturally.

The man was caught for stealing the money _____.

- A) and went to jail
- B) but did not know the minister

13. Check the one that suits the blank naturally.

It would be wonderful _____.

- A) if I had bugs in my bed
- B) if the company hired me

14. Check the one that suits the blank naturally.

I don't have a baseball glove. _____.

- A) Can I borrow a duke
- B) Can you loan me yours

15. Check the one that suits the blank naturally.

If you do something bad, _____.

- A) you might feel guilty afterwards
- B) you will be a permanent guest

16. THE DUKE AND THE MINISTER

A mean **duke** grew **tobacco**, and his **cardinal** rule was to always keep the plants healthy. The duke's top **minister** was his **twin** brother. They closely **resembled** each other. One day, the tobacco plants started to die. He **hired** men to watch the fields. Soon, the men brought a woman to him and said, "We **captured** a **witch**!"

The Duke asked, "How do you know?"

"She sang magic words. I can't **pronounce** them. She has cursed us. The death of the plants is a **symptom** of her curse," the men said.

"I am just an **ordinary** woman. I was singing a song in a different language," the woman protested.

The duke didn't listen. "You are **guilty**. You will go to **jail**."

The minister thought that she was **innocent**. He needed to **expose** the truth. He asked the duke to loan him one of his plants. He looked at it closely. He saw hundreds of small bugs eating it! Then the minister went to the jail and did something **bold**.

"Let this woman go," he said.

The guards thought he was the duke. They let her go. The minister said, "I owe you an **apology**."

"Thank you. I thought my stay in jail was **permanent**," the woman answered.

The minister thought the duke would punish him. But he didn't. The duke was too busy trying to **preserve** his plants.

What is this story about?

- A) Why the duke was afraid of witches
- B) How a minister did what was right
- C) Why the duke loaned his brother a plant
- D) How a woman was captured and taken to jail



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Why did the duke hire the men to watch the fields?

- A) They had a bold plan to preserve the tobacco.
- B) The tobacco plants were being destroyed.
- C) He needed them to expose the truth.
- D) He wanted permanent guards to watch the farmers

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Who or what was destroying the tobacco plants?

- A) An ordinary woman
- B) Little bugs
- C) A guilty witch
- D) The symptoms of disease



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According to the passage, all the following are true EXCEPT _____.

- A)** the duke and the minister are twins
- B)** the minister pretended to be the duke
- C)** the duke gave an apology to the innocent woman
- D)** the guard said the woman pronounced magic words



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Answer Key:

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1: C | 11: A |
| 2: D | 12: A |
| 3: B | 13: B |
| 4: E | 14: B |
| 5: A | 15: A |
| 6: A | 16: B |
| 7: B | 17: B |
| 8: B | 18: B |
| 9: A | 19: C |
| 10: B | |

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