

4000 Essential English Words 4 Unit 28: Thucydides and the Plague of Athens

1.

Choose the right word for the given definition.

to ask someone to come

- A) worsen
- B) scribble
- C) linger
- D) summon

2.

Choose the right word for the given definition.

basic

- A) verse
- B) riot
- C) avail
- D) fundamental

3.

Choose the right word for the given definition.

to get bigger

- A) expand
- B) define
- C) stark
- D) organism

4.

Choose the right word for the given definition.

to be afraid

- A) dread
- B) shrine
- C) random
- D) horrifying

5.

Choose the right word for the given definition.

not believing

- A) solitude
- B) presently
- C) incredulous
- D) plague

6.

Choose the right definition for the given word.

plague

- A) a violent reaction
- B) different
- C) a disease
- D) without reason

7.

Choose the right definition for the given word.

solitude

- A) being alone
- B) success
- C) afraid
- D) right now

8.

Choose the right definition for the given word.

define

- A) to last a longtime
- B) to get bigger
- C) to explain clearly
- D) to make easier

9.

Choose the right definition for the given word.

organism

- A) a religious building
- B) a living thing
- C) not believing
- D) to send for

10.

Choose the right definition for the given word.

horrifying

- A) to get worse
- B) basic
- C) to write quickly
- D) very unpleasant



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11. Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.

There was a ____ in the city yesterday, but the ____ was not damaged.

- A) shrine / riot
- B) riot / shrine

12. Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.

For the book report, I ____ the book and clearly ____ the author's purpose for writing it.

- A) paraphrased / defined
- B) defined / paraphrased

13. Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.

There are 15 members in the group ____, but I expect that number to ____.

- A) expand / presently
- B) presently / expand

14. Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.

His attempt to catch the train was to no ____ . He spent hours in ____ waiting for the next one.

- A) avail / solitude
- B) solitude / avail

15. Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.

The ____ point of my speech was to show that people need to act. If we don't do something, things will ____.

- A) fundamental / worsen
- B) worsen / fundamental

16. Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.

I tried to ____ the information as fast as I could because I didn't have time to ____.

- A) linger / scribble
- B) scribble / linger

17. Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.

After seeing that ____ plane crash, I ____ flying.

- A) dreaded / horrifying
- B) horrifying / dreaded

18. Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.

She was ____ that there could be such a ____ contrast between boys' and girls' grades.

- A) incredulous / stark
- B) stark / incredulous

19. Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.

We should ____ scientists from around the world to study this new ____.

- A) organism / summon
- B) summon / organism

20. Choose the word that is the better fit for each blank.

At first, we thought ____ people were getting sick. Then we realized that a ____ was spreading.

- A) plague / random
- B) random / plague



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21. THUCYDIDES AND THE PLAGUE OF ATHENS

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People wanted to leave the crowded city, but they **dreaded** what the army outside would do to them. At this time, Thucydides got sick, too. He quickly **scribbled** down notes because he thought he would soon die. His writing shows a **stark** contrast between people's behavior before and during the plague. There were **riots**, and people ignored laws. They didn't think they'd live long enough to be punished. Many sick people were left to die in **solitude** because no one wanted to be near them. The plague **lingered** for two years. But luckily, Thucydides survived. Without his writing, we would know much less about ancient Greece and the Plague of Athens.

Presently, a horrifying plague has broken out in Athens.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE

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At first, people thought the spread of the disease was random.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE



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The people summoned doctors to no avail.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE

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Thucydides was incredulous that the plague was caused by an organism.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE



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By gathering in shrines, people made the plague worse.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE

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Thucydides luckily survived the plague.

- A) TRUE
- B) FALSE



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Why did Athens' population expand?

- A) Because the army moved into the city
- B) Because people were hiding from the army
- C) Because the army told people to enter
- D) Because people dreaded the plague

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Thucydides scribbled quickly because ____.

- A) there were so many riots
- B) he had to define the disease
- C) he thought he'd die soon
- D) there were too many sick people



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What fundamental lesson did the people learn?

- A) The plague was a punishment
- B) The plague was ended in the shrines.
- C) The plague was from the army.
- D) The plague was spread between people.

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What is NOT true of Thucydides?

- A) He was the world's first historian.
- B) He thought gods caused the plague.
- C) He survived the Plague of Athens.
- D) He lived in the city of Athens.



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Answer Key:

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

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