

Session 5

WORD SET 1

1. **attrition (n.):** gradual decrease
2. **autonomy (n.):** self-rule
3. **nauseous (adj.):** nefarious; disgusting; reprehensible
4. **circumvent (v.):** bypass; circumvent
5. **cohesive (adj.):** unified; coherent
6. **grievous (adj.):** very serious and causing great pain or suffering; painful
7. **inundate (v.):** fill with water; flood; deluge
8. **mandate (n.):** approval; approbation
9. **oblivious (adj.):** inattentive; heedless
10. **ostracize (v.):** avoid; shun; isolate
11. **raucous (adj.):** noisy; vociferous
12. **reticent (adj.):** shy and brief; laconic
13. **robust (adj.):** strong and healthy
14. **sanction (v.):** approve; permit
15. **demise (n.):** extinction; death

Exercise 1

For each of Questions 1-6, select ONE entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices.

1. Superficial differences between the special problems and techniques of the physical sciences and those of the biological sciences are sometimes cited as evidence for the ----- of biology and for the claim that the methods of physics are therefore not adequate to biological inquiry.
(A) autonomy
(B) demise
(C) mandate
(D) attrition
(E) circumvention

2. The demise of the rigorous academic curriculum in high school resulted, in part, from the progressive rhetoric that ----- the study of subjects previously thought inappropriate as part of school learning.

- (A) evaded
- (B) ostracized
- (C) inundated
- (D) sanctioned
- (E) coldshouldered

3. Though extremely ----- about his own plans, the man allowed his associates no such privacy and was constantly soliciting information about what they intended to do next.

- (A) grievous
- (B) oblivious
- (C) raucous
- (D) reticent
- (E) cohesive

4. The kids' basketball league (i) ----- one team because of the reprehensible behavior of its players. They engaged in (ii) ----- horseplay on the court instigated fights, and constantly tried to circumvent the rules. Now the other teams refuse to play them.

Blank i	Blank ii
A. overwhelmed	D. robust
B. ratified	E. raucous
C. ostracized	F. coherent

5. Some activists believe that because the health-care system has become increasingly (i) --- -----to those it serves, individuals must (ii) ----- bureaucratic impediments in order to develop and promote new therapies.

Blank i	Blank ii
A. succinct	D. endorse
B. oblivious	E. isolate
C. vociferous	F. circumvent

6. Although cardenolides in the latex of the milkweeds are highly poisonous, the monarch caterpillar is able to eat the plant and concentrate the poison in the wings and abdomen of the adult, where it does not interfere with metabolism; in fact, the cardenolides give the caterpillar and butterfly a (i) ----- taste, causing them to be avoided by birds, which might otherwise eat them. The learning process experienced by individual birds necessarily causes some (ii) ----- in the population of caterpillars and butterflies, but the (iii) ----- of a few protects the others.

Blank i	Blank ii	Blank iii
A. grievous	D. self-rule	G. mandate
B. nauseous	E. attrition	H. reticence
C. raucous	F. oblivion	I. demise

For each of Questions 7- 8, select the TWO answer choices that when used to complete the sentence blank, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.

7. Although the charges of sexual harassment against Mr. Larrabee have been dropped, he continues to be ----- by a number of people in his workplace.

- (A) shunned
- (B) endorsed
- (C) inundated
- (D) deluged
- (E) ostracized
- (F) sanctioned

8. Edward's appointment was provisional; he needed the ----- of the board of directors before it would be made permanent.

- (A) expiry
- (B) mandate
- (C) attrition
- (D) autonomy
- (E) approbation
- (F) decease