481. c. to beckon means to signal or summon with a wave or a nod; to motion means to gesture

482. b. earnest means grave or serious; frivolous means lacking in seriousness

483. a. one meaning of to execute is to carry out fully; one meaning of to perform is to carry out

484. d. an idiom is an expression that is unique either grammatically or in meaning

485. a. to accelerate means to cause to move faster; to delay means to move or act slowly

486. b. to engross means to occupy completely; one meaning of to absorb is to engage or engross wholly

487. c. impervious means to be incapable of being affected or disturbed; prone means having a tendency or inclination, or being likely

488. c. a brood is the young of an animal or a family of young; progeny is the offspring of animals or plants

489. d. one meaning of to balk is to check or to stop; to hamper means to impede or restrain

490. a. conversant means having knowledge or experience with, therefore inexperienced is the most dissimilar

491. a. staunch means steadfast in loyalty or principle, or faithful

492. c. unctuous means marked by a smug or false earnestness, or insincere, therefore sincere is the most dissimilar

493. b. hubris means exaggerated pride or self-conﬁdence

494. c. to bemuse means to make confused, or to bewilder; to clarify means to make free from confusion

495. d. contrite means penitent for sin or failing; rueful means regretful

496. a. to beset means to trouble or harass; to hector means to intimidate or harass

497. a. penurious means given to extreme stinginess or frugality, which is the opposite of generous

498. c. perﬁdy means an act of disloyalty, or betrayal

499. b. ascription means the act of referring to a supposed cause, source, or author; attribution means the act of explaining by indicating a cause, or the act of ascribing a work to a particular author or artist

500. d. to fustigate means to criticize severely, which is the opposite of to praise

501. c. a bagatelle is a triﬂe (something of little value or importance); a bauble is a trinket or a triﬂe