

Vocabulary Introduction

Unit 9

Unit 9 1-5

- Accelerate: (v) to speed up ,cause to move faster , to bring about more quickly .
 - > The hikers needed to _____ their pace once it become clear that it would rain .
 - Synonyms: Step up, quicken, hasten
- Bystander: (n.) one who looks on or observes, a person present but not taking part
 - > The _____ who had witnessed the collision gave his statement to the police.
 - Synonyms: observer, spectator, onlooker
- Canvass: (v.) to go through an area in order to procure votes, sales, or opinions; to go over in detail; to discuss
 - > The students volunteered to _____ the neighborhood for out candidate.
 - Synonyms: poll, survey, solicit
- Casual: (adj.) happening by chance or an irregular basis; showing little concern; informal
 - > A _____ remark made by the mayor was taken out of context and used against him by the press.
 - Synonyms: accidental, haphazard, oppressed
- Downtrodden: (adj.) treated unfairly and cruelly, oppressed
 - > Most of the immigrants at Ellis Island represented the _____ masses yearning to be free.
 - Synonyms: mistreated, ground underfoot

Unit 9 6-10

- Entice: (v.) to attract, tempt
 - > To _____ shoppers into the store, salespersons were giving away coupons.
 - Lure, beguile
- Erode: (v.) to wear away gradually, eat away
 - > Storms and mud slides _____ the road so that eventually it became impassible.
 - Synonyms: corrode, abrade
- Flounder: (V.) to thrash about in a clumsy or ineffective way.
 - > After suffering much damage in the storm, the small aircraft was left to _____ about helplessly.
 - Synonyms: Wallow, struggle
- Graphic: (adj.) lifelike, vivid, relating to the pictorial arts.
 - > A witness gave the reporter a _____ account of the destruction caused by the tornado
 - Synonyms: lively, colorful, descriptive
- Gruesome: (adj.) horrible, revolting, ghastly
 - > The _____ crime rocked the ordinarily quiet neighborhood.
 - Synonyms: gory, hideous, grisly

Unit 9 11-15

- Melancholy: (adj.) Sad, gloomy, unhappy, (n.) Sadness, Gloominess
 - > It must have been the gloom of the house and steady rain that made me feel so _____
 - Synonyms: (adj.) depressed, dejected; (n.) dejection, depression
- Ordeal: (n.) A difficult painful experience; a trial
 - > The climbers were exhausted by the _____.
 - Synonyms: test, hardship
- Parch: (v.) to make dry or thirsty; to shrivel with heat
 - > The fields of Oklahoma were _____ by drought in the 1930's.
 - Synonyms: dry up, dehydrate, desiccate
- Persist: (v.) To continue steadily in a course of action; refuse to stop or be changed; to last; to remain.
 - > Despite stern warnings from their doctor, the brothers _____ in their bad habits.
 - Synonyms: persevere, keep it up, endure
- Puny: (adj.) of less than normal strength or size, of no importance.
 - > The wrestler let out a course burst of laughter when his _____ opponent entered the ring.
 - Synonyms: undersized, pint-size, small, weak

Unit 9 16-20

- Quibble: (v.) to evade or belittle a point by twisting words or raising minor objections; (n.) a petty objection.
 - > Let's not _____ over details. The buyer's quibble notwithstanding, the parties soon came to an agreement.
 - Synonyms: (v.) nitpick, split hairs, cavil; (n.) squabble
- Ratify: (v.) to approve, give formal approval to, confirm
 - > The legislatures of three fourths of the states must _____ an amendment to the U.S Constitution.
 - Synonyms: endorse, sanction, uphold
- Regal: (adj.) royal, kinglike; fit for a king
 - > Two families pooled their resources to give the bride and groom a truly ----- wedding.
 - Synonyms: majestic, stately, princely, august
- Stifle: (v.) to smother, prevent from breathing ; to hold back or choke off
 - > Unable to _____ her anger , the sculptor lashed out her harshest critic.
 - Synonyms: Strangle, suppress, snuff
- Vital: (adj.) having life, living; necessary to life, essential; key, crucial
 - > The treaty is of _____ importance to the security of our nation.
 - Synonyms: indispensable, fundamental