

Vocabulary Building

By

Dr. Ramezani

Vocabulary Building

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Mini – Lesson 1

MINI-LESSON 3.1

abandon v. desert, leave behind	irritate (2) intensify, worsen	relevant, proper (2) likely, prone
able adj. capable, qualified, fit	aggregate adj. entire, total, combined	arduous adj. difficult, strenuous, exhausting
abolish v. end, eliminate	agile adj. graceful, <u>nimble</u> ✓ lively	arid adj. dry, <u>barren</u> ✓
abrupt adj. sudden, hasty, unexpected	ailment n. sickness, illness, disease	aroma n. fragrance, smell, odor, scent
acclaim v. applaud, praise, honor; n. praise, applause, honor	allot v. divide, distribute	artificial adj. synthetic, imitation, manmade
acid adj. bitter, sharp, biting	amazing adj. astonishing, ✓ astounding, surprising, startling	astonishing adj. surprising, amazing, astounding
adapt v. adjust, modify	amiable adj. agreeable, congenial, pleasant	astute adj. intelligent, clever, perceptive
adept adj. skillful, expert	anticipate v. foresee, expect, predict	attain v. accomplish, achieve
adhere v. stick, cling	anxious adj. (1) worried, nervous, apprehensive (2) eager, avid	augment v. supplement, increase, strengthen, expand
admonish v. warn, caution, advise	appraise v. evaluate, estimate, assess	austere adj. strict, harsh, severe, stern
adorn v. decorate, ornament	apt adj. (1) appropriate, suitable, correct,	authentic adj. genuine, true
advent n. coming, arrival		aversion n. dislike, hostility, fear
adverse adj. hostile, negative, contrary		awkward adj. clumsy
affluent adj. rich, wealthy, prosperous, well-to-do		
aggravate v. (1) annoy,		

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences. The first one is done as an example.

- Penicillin can have an (A) effect on a person who is allergic to it.
(A) adverse (B) anxious (C) awkward
- Burning rubber produces an _____ smoke.
(A) adept (B) arid (C) acrid
- Rationing is a system for _____ scarce resources.
(A) allotting (B) adapting (C) appraising
- Anthrax is generally an _____ of sheep and cattle, but may also be transmitted to humans.
(A) ailment (B) aroma (C) aversion

5. Lawrence Gilman is admired for his _____, scholarly musical criticism.
(A) austere (B) astute (C) abrupt
6. Mountain climbing is an _____ sport.
(A) austere (B) arduous (C) anxious
7. Turtles _____ their eggs after they lay them and never see their young.
(A) abandon (B) appraise (C) adorn
8. Scholarships allow some students from less _____ families to attend college.
(A) artificial (B) affluent (C) amiable
9. Jewelers are sometimes asked to _____ jewelry for insurance purposes.
(A) attain (B) abandon (C) appraise
10. Acrobats must be extremely _____.
(A) awkward (B) affluent (C) agile
11. Southern Arizona has an _____ climate.
(A) arid (B) astute (C) acrid
12. A person suffering from claustrophobia has an _____ to confined spaces.
(A) ailment (B) aversion (C) acclaim
13. Perhaps the most _____ evolutionary development in penguins is a gland that can remove salt from seawater.
(A) arid (B) astonishing (C) amiable
14. Readers in the eighteenth century found Thomas Paine's pamphlet *Common Sense* extremely persuasive, in part because it was written in an interesting style and contained many _____ quotations.
(A) apt (B) anxious (C) awkward
15. In a domed stadium, natural grass cannot be grown, so _____ turf must be used on the playing field.
(A) acrid (B) aggregate (C) artificial

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Mini – Lesson 2

MINI-LESSON 3.2

baffle v. confuse, puzzle,
mystify

balmy adj. mild, warm

ban v. prohibit, forbid

bar v. prevent, obstruct,
block

barren adj. sterile,
unproductive, bleak,
lifeless

barter v. trade, exchange

beckon v. summon, call,
signal

belligerent adj. hostile,
aggressive

beneficial adj. helpful,
useful, advantageous ✓

benevolent adj. benign, kind,
compassionate

bias n. prejudice

blanched adj. whitened,

bleached, pale

bland adj. mild, tasteless,
dull

blatant adj. flagrant,
obvious, overt

blend v. mix, mingle,
combine; n. mixture,
combination

bloom v. blossom, flower,
flourish

blunder <i>v.</i> make a mistake; <i>n.</i> error, mistake	bond <i>v.</i> join, connect; <i>n.</i> tie, link, connection	brisk <i>adj.</i> (1) lively, quick, vigorous (2) cool, chilly, invigorating
plunt <i>adj.</i> (1) unsharpened, dull (2) rude, abrupt, curt	boom <i>v.</i> expand, prosper; <i>n.</i> expansion, prosperity, growth	brittle <i>adj.</i> fragile, breakable, weak
blurry <i>adj.</i> unfocused, unclear, indistinct	brace <i>v.</i> support, reinforce	bulky <i>adj.</i> huge, large, clumsy
bold <i>adj.</i> brave, courageous	brilliant <i>adj.</i> (1) bright, shiny, radiant, dazzling (2) talented, gifted, intelligent	butress <i>v.</i> support, bolster, boost

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- Many flowers _____ in the spring.
(A) blend (B) brace (C) bloom
- The Virgin Islands, located in the Caribbean, have a _____ climate.
(A) blurry (B) brittle (C) balmy
- Before currency came into use, people used the _____ system.
(A) barter (B) blunder (C) bias
- The airline _____. It sent me to Atlanta but my luggage to Montreal.
(A) buttressed (B) baffled (C) blundered
- People with ulcers should eat _____ foods.
(A) bold (B) bland (C) bulky
- Steel is not as _____ as cast iron; it doesn't break as easily.
(A) brisk (B) brittle (C) brilliant
- At one time, the city of Boston _____ Walt Whitman's poetry because it was considered immoral.
(A) banned (B) boomed (C) braced
- Many people think of deserts as _____ regions, but many species of plants and animals have adapted to life there.
(A) bland (B) barren (C) balmy
- An autocratic ruler who serves his people well is sometimes called a _____.
(A) blatant (B) belligerent (C) benevolent
- Robert Goddard was a _____ pioneer in the field of rocketry.
(A) brilliant (B) balmy (C) brisk
- I enjoy taking walks on _____ autumn mornings.
(A) barren (B) brisk (C) blurry

12. The victim was apparently struck by a club or some other _____ object.

(A) bland

(B) brittle

(C) blunt

13. Some geese are _____, attacking anyone who comes near them.

(A) beneficial

(B) biased

(C) belligerent

14. The glass factories of Toledo, Ohio _____ after Michael Owens invented a process that could turn out bottles by the thousands.

(A) barred

(B) bolstered

(C) boomed

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Mini – Lesson 3

MINI-LESSON 3.3

calamity <i>n.</i> disaster, catastrophe	charming <i>adj.</i> delightful, lovely, attractive	clog <i>v.</i> block, obstruct
candid <i>adj.</i> honest, truthful, realistic	cherish <i>v.</i> appreciate, esteem, treasure	clumsy <i>adj.</i> awkward, inept
capable <i>adj.</i> competent, able, efficient, skillful	choice <i>n.</i> selection, option; <i>adj.</i> exceptional, superior	coax <i>v.</i> persuade, urge
carve <i>v.</i> cut, sculpt, slice	cite <i>v.</i> quote, mention, refer to, list	colossal <i>adj.</i> huge, enormous, gigantic
casual <i>adj.</i> (1) informal, relaxed (2) accidental, chance	clash <i>v.</i> argue, dispute, quarrel; <i>n.</i> argument, conflict, dispute	commence <i>v.</i> begin, initiate, start
caustic <i>adj.</i> biting, harsh, sarcastic	classify <i>v.</i> categorize	commerce <i>n.</i> trade, business
cautious <i>adj.</i> careful, alert, prudent	clever <i>adj.</i> smart, sharp, witty, bright	commodity <i>n.</i> product, good, merchandise
celebrated <i>adj.</i> distinguished, famous, prominent	cling <i>v.</i> stick, adhere, hold	compel <i>v.</i> force, require, coerce
		competent <i>adj.</i> adept, skillful, capable, able

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- The Red Cross and the Red Crescent provide relief in case of _____ such as floods, earthquakes, and hurricanes.
(A) clashes (B) commodities (C) calamities
- Spoken language is generally more _____ than written language.
(A) casual (B) capable (C) cautious
- When writing research papers, writers must _____ the sources they use.
(A) coax (B) cite (C) clog
- Monkeys are _____ as primates.
(A) compelled (B) classified (C) cherished
- _____ remarks can offend people.
(A) Charming (B) Caustic (C) Clever
- Sculptors use hammers and chisels to _____ statues from stone.
(A) cherish (B) compel (C) carve

7. The Space Age _____ in October, 1957 when Sputnik, the first artificial satellite, was launched by the Soviet Union.
(A) commenced (B) coaxed (C) cited
8. Workers must be very _____ when dealing with toxic substances.
(A) caustic (B) clumsy (C) cautious
9. Microorganisms on the surface of separate particles of soil _____ together, making the particles themselves cohere.
(A) cling (B) clash (C) compel
10. With the growth of international _____, the economies of the world have become more interdependent.
(A) commodity (B) commerce (C) choice
11. The Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. features a _____ statue of the sixteenth president created by Daniel Chester French.
(A) colossal (B) caustic (C) casual
12. Corn, cotton, sugar, and many other goods are bought and sold in _____ markets.
(A) choice (B) commerce (C) commodity
13. Artists of the so-called "Ashcan School" of American art portrayed their subjects in a _____ fashion that concealed none of their flaws.
(A) candid (B) choice (C) charming
14. Water hyacinths grow so profusely that they may _____ waterways.
(A) clog (B) cling (C) carve

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Mini – Lesson 4

MINI-LESSON 3.4

complement *v.* supplement, complete; *n.* supplement, addition

compliment *v.* praise, flatter, commend; *n.* praise, flattery

comprehensive *adj.* complete, thorough, exhaustive

compulsory *adj.* necessary, obligatory, mandatory

concede *v.* admit, acknowledge, recognize

concise *adj.* brief, short, abbreviated

concrete *adj.* tangible, specific, real

congregate *v.* assemble, gather

conspicuous *adj.* noticeable, obvious, prominent

contemplate *v.* think about, ponder, speculate

controversial *adj.* disputable, debatable

convenient *adj.* accessible, available, handy

conventional *adj.* standard, ordinary, normal

cope with *v.* deal with, manage, handle

copious *adj.* abundant, ample, plentiful

cordial *adj.* congenial, warm, friendly

courteous *adj.* polite, refined, gracious

covert *adj.* secret, hidden

cozy *adj.* (1) comfortable, warm (2) friendly, intimate, close

crave *v.* desire, long for, hope for

crooked *adj.* (1) curved, twisted, zigzag (2) dishonest, corrupt

crucial *adj.* critical, decisive, key

crude *adj.* (1) rude, impolite,

vulgar (2) unprocessed,
raw, unrefined
cruel *adj.* brutal, vicious,
ruthless

cryptic *adj.* secret, hidden,
mysterious
curb *v.* restrict, limit,
control

curious *adj.* (1) inquisitive
(2) odd, strange, unusual
curt *adj.* abrupt, blunt,
impolite

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

1. The use of seat belts is _____ in many states; failure to wear them may result in fines.
(A) covert (B) cruel (C) compulsory
2. Every summer, black bears from all over southern Alaska _____ along the McNeil River to fish for salmon.
(A) crave (B) curb (C) congregate
3. An abstract is a _____ form of an academic article. Many journals publish abstracts so readers can decide if it is worthwhile to read the full version of the article.
(A) concise (B) comprehensive (C) concrete
4. Before 1754, Britain and the North American colonies had a _____ relationship, but after that, their relationship became strained.
(A) conspicuous (B) cozy (C) curt
5. Automated teller machines provide a _____ means of banking twenty-four hours a day.
(A) cordial (B) crooked (C) convenient
6. Lombard Street in San Francisco, which zigzags up Nob Hill, is known as the world's most _____ street.
(A) controversial (B) crooked (C) cryptic
7. A good writer supports his or her generalizations with _____ examples.
(A) concrete (B) curious (C) crude
8. Many hunters wear orange and other bright colors in order to be as _____ as possible, and therefore avoid being shot by other hunters by mistake.
(A) covert (B) crucial (C) conspicuous
9. Movie directors use music to _____ the action on the screen.
(A) contemplate (B) complement (C) compliment
10. Workers in the service sector should be trained to act as _____ as possible.
(A) crudely (B) courteously (C) curtly
11. Trouble-shooting is the process of identifying and _____ problems.
(A) conceding (B) coping with (C) craving

12. A _____ banjo has five strings.

(A) conventional

(B) copious

(C) cryptic

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Mini – Lesson 5

MINI-LESSON 3.5

damp *adj.* moist, wet, humid
daring *adj.* bold, courageous, brave
dazzling *adj.* shining, sparkling, blinding, bright
declare *v.* announce, proclaim
defective *adj.* flawed, faulty, broken, malfunctioning
defiant *adj.* rebellious, insubordinate
delicate *adj.* exquisite, fragile
delightful *adj.* charming, attractive, enchanting
delusion *n.* illusion, dream, fantasy
demolish *v.* tear down, destroy, wreck
dense *adj.* thick, solid, packed
desist *v.* stop, cease, discontinue
device *n.* instrument, tool, mechanism
devise *v.* invent, plan, figure out

dim *adj.* unclear, faint, indistinct
din *n.* noise, clamor, commotion
dire *adj.* desperate, grievous, serious
discard *v.* abandon, leave behind
dismal *adj.* gloomy, depressing, dreary
disperse *v.* scatter, distribute, spread
dispute *n.* argument, quarrel, debate, clash, feud
distinct *adj.* discrete, separate, different
distinguished *adj.* celebrated, notable, famous, well-known
divulge *v.* reveal, admit, disclose
dogged *adj.* stubborn, determined, persistent
dominate *v.* rule, control, govern

do *v.* are located in, are scattered around;
n. spot, point
downfall *n.* collapse, ruin, destruction
doze *v.* sleep, nap
draw *v.* (1) sketch, make a picture; (2) pull, attract
drawback *n.* disadvantage, weakness, flaw
dreary *adj.* dismal, gloomy, bleak
drench *v.* wet, soak
drowsy *adj.* sleepy, tired
dubious *adj.* doubtful, skeptical, uncertain
durable *adj.* lasting, enduring, resistant
dwelling *n.* live, reside, inhabit
dwelling *n.* house, home, residence
dwindle *v.* decrease, diminish
dynamic *adj.* energetic, forceful, active, vibrant

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- The snow on the mountaintop was _____ in the bright morning sun.
 (A) dazzling (B) dogged (C) dim
- A person who has been accused of a crime cannot be forced to _____ any _____ information that is self-incriminating.
 (A) divulge (B) desist (C) disperse
- Roses have a _____ beauty.
 (A) dense (B) delicate (C) dire
- An odometer is a _____ for measuring distance.
 (A) device (B) delusion (C) dwelling
- The amount of open space has _____ as more and more land is developed.
 (A) dominated (B) dwindled (C) dispersed

6. Hermit crabs live in shells that have been _____ by other animals.
(A) declared (B) divulged (C) discarded
7. Richard Byrd and his pilot Floyd Bennett undertook a _____ flight to the North Pole in May of 1926.
(A) daring (B) defiant (C) distinct
8. Steep, round hills called knobs _____ southern Indiana.
(A) demolish (B) dot (C) dwell
9. Artists Nathaniel Currier and James Merritt Ives produced some _____ prints of nineteenth century New England scenes which collectors prize for their charm.
(A) dreary (B) dim (C) delightful
10. Economists define _____ goods as ones intended to last more than four months.
(A) durable (B) dense (C) delicate
11. One cause of the American Revolution was a _____ over taxation.
(A) drawback (B) din (C) dispute
12. Florida has a humid climate. Summers there are particularly hot and _____.
(A) dynamic (B) damp (C) dogged
13. All bookkeeping systems have certain advantages and certain _____.
(A) drawbacks (B) delusions (C) downfalls
14. A person suffering from hypothermia, the extreme loss of body heat, may first feel _____.
(A) dogged (B) distinguished (C) drowsy
15. Handwriting experts try to compare a _____ signature against at least three genuine specimens before judging its authenticity.
(A) dubious (B) dismal (C) dim
16. Bats help _____ seeds in tropical forests.
(A) devise (B) disperse (C) drench
17. A carburetor _____ air into an engine and mixes it with fuel.
(A) desists (B) draws (C) dots

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Mini – Lesson 6

MINI-LESSON 3.6

eerie *adj.* strange,
odd, unusual,
frightening

elderly *adj.* old, aged

electrify *v.* excite, thrill,
exhilarate

elegant *adj.* sophisticated,
polished

eligible *adj.* suitable,
qualified, acceptable

eminent *adj.* celebrated,
distinguished, famous

emit *v.* send out,
discharge

enchanted *adj.* delightful,
charming, captivating

encounter *v.* meet, find,
come across; *n.* meeting,
confrontation

endeavor *n.* attempt, venture

endorse *v.* authorize,
approve, support

enhance *v.* intensify, amplify,
strengthen

ensue <i>v.</i> follow, result	faint <i>adj.</i> dim, pale, faded, indistinct	flaw <i>n.</i> defect, imperfection, fault
entice <i>v.</i> lure, attract, tempt	falter <i>v.</i> hesitate, waver	flee <i>v.</i> escape, go away, elude
era <i>n.</i> period, age, stage	fancy <i>adj.</i> decorative, ornate, elaborate	flimsy <i>adj.</i> fragile, frail, weak, feeble
essential <i>adj.</i> critical, vital, crucial, key	fasten <i>v.</i> attach, secure	forego <i>v.</i> abandon, give up
esteem <i>v.</i> cherish, honor, admire	fatal <i>adj.</i> mortal, lethal, deadly	foremost <i>adj.</i> chief, principal, leading
evoke <i>v.</i> escape, avoid, elude	fatigue <i>v.</i> tire, exhaust; <i>n.</i> exhaustion, weariness	fragment <i>n.</i> particle, piece, bit
exhaustive <i>adj.</i> thorough, complete, comprehensive	faulty <i>adj.</i> flawed, inferior	fragrant <i>adj.</i> aromatic, scented
exhilarating <i>adj.</i> exciting, thrilling, stimulating, electrifying	feasible <i>adj.</i> possible	fraudulent <i>adj.</i> false, deceptive, deceitful
extravagant <i>adj.</i> excessive, lavish	fee <i>n.</i> payment, fare	fundamental <i>adj.</i> basic, integral, elemental
fable <i>n.</i> story, tale	feeble <i>adj.</i> weak, fragile, frail	fuse <i>v.</i> join, combine, unite
fabled <i>adj.</i> legendary, mythical, famous	ferocious <i>adj.</i> fierce, savage, violent	fusion <i>n.</i> blend, merger, union
facet <i>n.</i> aspect, point, feature	fiery <i>adj.</i> (1) blazing, burning (2) passionate, fervent	futile <i>adj.</i> useless, pointless, vain
	fitting <i>adj.</i> suitable, proper, apt, appropriate	
	flagrant <i>adj.</i> blatant, obvious	

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- In 1906 much of San Francisco was destroyed by an earthquake and the fires that _____.
(A) evaded (B) ensued (C) encountered
- The writer H. P. Lovecraft wrote many _____ stories about the supernatural.
(A) essential (B) eerie (C) extravagant
- A new _____ of aviation began in 1947 when Chuck Yeager became the first pilot to fly faster than the speed of sound.
(A) fable (B) endeavor (C) era
- Vance Packard's book *The Hidden Persuaders* deals with the tactics advertisers use to _____ consumers.
(A) endorse (B) entice (C) enhance
- Riding a roller coaster is _____ experience.
(A) an exhilarating (B) a fancy (C) a feeble
- Riveting is a means of _____ metal plates together with hot metal bolts.
(A) enhancing (B) fleeing (C) fastening
- In the United States, citizens are _____ to vote at the age of eighteen.
(A) fitting (B) elderly (C) eligible

8. Barracudas are _____ predators, sometimes called the "tigers" of tropical waters.
(A) faulty (B) futile (C) ferocious
9. Certain gases such as neon _____ light when exposed to an electrical current.
(A) emit (B) evade (C) esteem
10. People make more mistakes when they are _____ than when they are fresh.
(A) exhaustive (B) eminent (C) fatigued
11. A _____ in a jewel makes it less valuable.
(A) fragment (B) facet (C) flaw
12. Honeysuckle is a plant that has _____ white or yellowish blossoms.
(A) elderly (B) fragrant (C) fiery
13. Some insects can detect the ultrasonic pulses that bats use to detect their prey and can therefore _____ the bats.
(A) evade (B) forego (C) electrify
14. The snowy egret builds _____ nest from a few twigs and pieces of grass.
(A) a faint (B) an extravagant (C) a flimsy
15. When lightning strikes sand, the intense heat sometimes _____ the grains of sand into thin glass tubes called fulgurites.
(A) falters (B) fastens (C) fuses
16. A common carrier is a company that provides public transportation for a _____.
(A) fee (B) fable (C) flaw

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Mini – Lesson 7

MINI-LESSON 3.7

gala *adj.* festive, happy,
joyous

gap *n.* break, breach,
opening

garrulous *adj.* talkative

gaudy *adj.* showy, flashy,
conspicuous

genial *adj.* pleasant, cordial,
agreeable

gentle *adj.* mild, kind,
considerate

genuine *adj.* authentic, real,
valid

glitter *v.* sparkle, shine,
glisten

glory *n.* grandeur, majesty,
fame

gorgeous *adj.* attractive,
beautiful

grade *n.* quality, value,
worth

graphic *adj.* clear, explicit,
vivid

grasp *v.* (1) grab, seize, grip
(2) understand

grave *adj.* serious, grievous

gregarious *adj.* sociable,
friendly

grim *adj.* severe, dreary,
bleak, somber

grip *v.* hold, grasp, seize;
n. hold, grasp, possession

grueling *adj.* exhausting,
difficult, arduous

gullible *adj.* innocent, naive,
trusting, credulous

hamper *v.* delay, obstruct,
hinder, block

haphazard *adj.* random,
chance, aimless,
unplanned

hardship *n.* difficulty, trouble

harm *v.* injure, damage

harmony *n.* accord,
agreement, peace

harness *v.* control, utilize

harsh *adj.* severe, rough,
strict

hasty *adj.* quick, rushed,
hurried

hazardous *adj.* dangerous,
risky

heed *v.* obey, listen to, mind,
follow

hinder *v.* block, obstruct,
hamper

hoist *v.* lift, raise, pick up

hue *n.* color, tint, shade

huge *adj.* enormous, giant,
colossal, immense

hurl *v.* pitch, throw, fling

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- During the construction of skyscrapers, cranes are used to _____ building materials to the upper floors.
(A) hurl (B) harness (C) hoist
- The 26 mile long Boston Marathon is a _____ foot race.
(A) gorgeous (B) grueling (C) hasty
- Dams can _____ the power of rivers, but they may also destroy their beauty.
(A) heed (B) harness (C) hurl
- The more facets a diamond has, the more it _____.
(A) glitters (B) harms (C) hinders
- Many people celebrate the New Year with _____ parties.
(A) gala (B) grueling (C) haphazard
- Think it over for a while; don't make a _____ decision.
(A) genuine (B) gullible (C) hasty
- Bad weather _____ the rescue crews trying to locate the life rafts.
(A) hampered (B) grasped (C) harnessed
- Gorillas look ferocious but are actually quite _____ creatures.
(A) gaudy (B) gentle (C) gorgeous
- Con artists are criminals who take advantage of _____ people by tricking them and taking their money.
(A) garrulous (B) grim (C) gullible
- A recent study showed that agriculture is the most _____ occupation.
(A) hazardous (B) genial (C) haphazard
- At Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, the Potomac River has cut a picturesque _____ through the Blue Ridge Mountains.
(A) grip (B) glory (C) gap
- Wool from different sheep, or even wool from different parts of the same sheep, is not all of the same _____.
(A) harmony (B) grade (C) hardship

13. The interior of Alaska has brief summers and long, _____ winters.

(A) grove

(B) harsh

(C) huge

14. Animals that live in herds or packs are considered _____.

(A) hasty

(B) gregarious

(C) gullible

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Mini – Lesson 8

MINI-LESSON 3.8

idea *n.* concept, notion, thought

ideal *n.* model, standard;
adj. perfect, model, standard

idle *adj.* (1) inactive, unused, inert (2) lazy

illusion *n.* (1) fantasy, delusion (2) an erroneous perception or concept

illustration *n.* picture, drawing, description

imaginary *adj.* unreal, fantastic, fictitious

imaginative *adj.* creative, original, clever

immense *adj.* huge,
– enormous, massive, colossal

impair *v.* damage, injure, spoil

impartial *adj.* fair, unbiased, neutral

implement *v.* realize, achieve, put into practice, execute; *n.* tool, utensil, instrument

incessant *adj.* constant, ceaseless, continuous

increment *n.* increase, amount

indifferent *adj.* uncaring, apathetic, unconcerned

indigenous *adj.* native

indispensable *adj.* necessary, essential, vital, critical

indistinct *adj.* unclear, blurry, hazy

induce *v.* persuade, convince, coax

inept *adj.* incompetent, awkward, clumsy

inexorable *adj.* unstoppable

infamous *adj.* notorious, shocking

infinite *adj.* limitless, endless, boundless

infinitesimal *adj.* tiny, minute, minuscule

ingenious *adj.* brilliant, imaginative, clever, inventive

ingenuous *adj.* naive, trusting, gullible

inhabit *v.* live, dwell, reside, populate

inhibit *v.* control, limit, restrain

initial *adj.* original, first, beginning, introductory

innate *adj.* natural, inborn

innocuous *adj.* harmless, inoffensive

intense *adj.* powerful, heightened, concentrated

intricate *adj.* complicated, complex, involved

irate *adj.* angry, furious, upset

jagged *adj.* rough, rugged, uneven, irregular

jeopardy *n.* danger, hazard, risk, threat

jolly *adj.* joyful, happy, cheerful, jovial

jolt *v.* shock, jar, shake up, surprise; *n.* blow, surprise, shock

keen *adj.* (1) sharp (2) shrewd, clever, bright (3) eager, enthusiastic

key *adj.* principle, crucial, important

knack *n.* skill, ability, aptitude, talent

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

1. Many people feel that Hawaii has an almost _____ climate.

(A) idle

(B) impartial

(C) ideal

2. A plow is a farm _____ used to break up soil and prepare the land for planting.

(A) increment

(B) knack

(C) implement

3. A laser uses a synthetic ruby to concentrate light into an extremely _____ high energy beam.

(A) intense

(B) indistinct

(C) incessant

4. Jesse James was an _____ outlaw, well known as a bank robber and gun fighter.

(A) inept (B) ingenuous (C) infamous

5. Antibiotics _____ the growth of bacteria.

(A) inhabit (B) jolt (C) inhibit



6. Line A-B appears to be longer than line C-D, but this is an optical _____.

(A) illusion (B) ideal (C) illustration

7. Stockholders may be too _____ to vote in corporate elections, so they let management vote for them by proxy.

(A) infamous (B) indifferent (C) ingenious

8. The heavily populated states of California, Texas, New York, and Florida are _____ states for any candidate in a presidential election.

(A) initial (B) impartial (C) key

9. A virus is so _____ that it can be seen only with an electron microscope.

(A) infinite (B) intricate (C) infinitesimal

10. The _____ character Falstaff is one of Shakespeare's finest comic creations.

(A) keen (B) jolly (C) irate

11. Anyone can learn basic cooking skills; you don't need a special _____.

(A) knack (B) idea (C) implement

12. Alcohol _____ one's ability to drive.

(A) jolts (B) impairs (C) induces

13. The _____ people of Australia were called aborigines by the European settlers.

(A) indigenous (B) ingenuous (C) innate

14. The rhinoceros has a poor sense of sight but _____ sense of smell.

(A) an immense (B) an inept (C) a keen

15. The equator is _____ line running around the center of the Earth.

(A) an imaginative (B) a jagged (C) an imaginary

16. A glacier's progress is slow but _____.

(A) indispensable (B) inexorable (C) intricate

17. The _____ garter snake, often spotted in yards, parks, and gardens, is sometimes mistaken for a venomous snake.

(A) irate (B) ingenuous (C) innocuous

Vocabulary Building

By Dr. Ramezani



Mini – Lesson 9

MINI-LESSON 3.9

lack <i>v.</i> need, require, not have; <i>n.</i> shortage, absence, scarcity	lucrative <i>adj.</i> profitable, money-making	massive <i>adj.</i> huge, giant, colossal, immense
lag <i>v.</i> fall behind, go slowly	lull <i>v.</i> soothe, calm, quiet; <i>n.</i> pause, break	memorable <i>adj.</i> unforgettable, impressive, striking
lavish <i>adj.</i> luxurious, plentiful, abundant	lure <i>v.</i> attract, tempt, entice	mend <i>v.</i> fix, repair
lax <i>adj.</i> careless, negligent, loose	lurid <i>adj.</i> shocking, sensational, graphic	mild <i>adj.</i> gentle, moderate, calm, temperate
legendary <i>adj.</i> mythical, fabled, famous	lurk <i>v.</i> prowl, sneak, hide	minge <i>v.</i> blend, combine, mix
legitimate <i>adj.</i> proper, authentic, valid	luster <i>n.</i> shine, radiance, brightness	minute <i>adj.</i> tiny, minuscule, infinitesimal
lethargic <i>adj.</i> slow, listless, sluggish, lazy	luxurious <i>adj.</i> lavish, elegant, plush	monitor <i>v.</i> observe, watch
likely <i>adj.</i> probable, plausible, credible	magnificent <i>adj.</i> majestic, impressive, splendid	moral <i>adj.</i> honorable, ethical
linger <i>v.</i> remain, stay	magnitude <i>n.</i> size, extent, amount	morale <i>n.</i> spirit, confidence, attitude
link <i>v.</i> join, connect, fasten, bind; <i>n.</i> connection, tie	mandatory <i>adj.</i> necessary, obligatory, compulsory	murky <i>adj.</i> unclear, cloudy, foggy, dark
long <i>v.</i> desire, wish for	mar <i>v.</i> damage, ruin, deface, spoil	mysterious <i>adj.</i> puzzling, strange
lucid <i>adj.</i> clear, plain, understandable		mythical <i>adj.</i> legendary, imaginary, fictional

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- Medieval books called bestiaries contained pictures and descriptions of _____ creatures such as unicorns and dragons.
(A) mandatory (B) lax (C) mythical
- In colonial times, cod fishing off the coast of New England was a _____ occupation.
(A) luxurious (B) lethargic (C) lucrative
- Parents often sing to children to _____ them to sleep.
(A) lurk (B) lure (C) lull
- Julius Caesar is known not only for his military and political skills but also for his _____, informative writing.
(A) lucid (B) lurid (C) lavish
- A cobbler _____ damaged shoes.
(A) mars (B) mends (C) lacks
- One of the _____ exhibits of Impressionist art is found at the Art Institute of Chicago.
(A) mildest (B) most memorable (C) most lucid

7. Quarks are _____ particles that are believed to be the fundamental unit of matter.
(A) massive (B) minute (C) mythical
8. Paperback novels in the 1940s and 1950s often had _____ covers to attract readers' attention.
(A) lurid (B) murky (C) legitimate
9. One problem caused by a rising crime rate is a _____ of space in prisons.
(A) lag (B) lack (C) link
10. The _____ lumberjack Paul Bunyan and his giant blue ox Babe are two of the most famous figures in American folklore.
(A) legendary (B) moral (C) likely
11. The transcontinental railroad, _____ the East Coast with the West Coast, was completed at Promontory Point, Utah in 1869.
(A) linking (B) monitoring (C) mingling

Vocabulary Building

By Dr. Ramezani



Mini – Lesson 10

MINI-LESSON 3.10

negligible *adj.* unimportant, trivial

nimble *adj.* graceful, agile

notable *adj.* remarkable, conspicuous, striking

notify *v.* inform, tell

notion *n.* idea, concept, thought

notorious *adj.* infamous, disreputable

novel *adj.* new, innovative

objective *adj.* fair, impartial, unbiased, neutral;
n. goal, purpose, aim

oblong *adj.* oval

obscure *adj.* unfamiliar, ambiguous, little-known

obsolete *adj.* antiquated, out of date, outmoded

odd *adj.* strange, unusual, peculiar, curious

offspring *n.* young, children, descendants

ominous *adj.* threatening, menacing, dangerous

opulent *adj.* luxurious, plush, affluent

ornamental *adj.* ornate, decorative, elaborate

outgoing *adj.* (1) open, friendly (2) departing, leaving

outlook *n.* (1) opinion, view (2) prospect, forecast

outstanding *adj.* excellent, exceptional, notable, well-known

overall *adj.* general, comprehensive

overcast *adj.* cloudy, gloomy

overcome *v.* subdue, defeat, overwhelm

overlook *v.* ignore, disregard, neglect

oversee *v.* supervise, manage, direct

oversight *n.* error, mistake, omission

overt *adj.* open, obvious, conspicuous

overtake *v.* catch up with, reach

overwhelm *v.* (1) astonish, astound, shock (2) inundate, engulf (3) conquer, defeat, overcome

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- The black clouds of a gathering thunderstorm look quite _____.
(A) ominous (B) negligible (C) overcast
- Pulitzer Prizes are awarded to _____ journalists, novelists, poets, and other writers.
(A) objective (B) outstanding (C) notorious

3. An _____ plant is cultivated chiefly for its beauty.
(A) opulent (B) obscure (C) ornamental
4. Franklin D. Roosevelt was able to _____ his physical handicaps; he didn't permit them to interfere with his living a vigorous life.
(A) oversee (B) overcome (C) overtake
5. The poetry of Ezra Pound is sometimes difficult to understand because it contains so many _____ references.
(A) notable (B) obscure (C) objective
6. The Bessemer process was once the most common method of making steel, but today this process is considered _____.
(A) odd (B) novel (C) obsolete
7. Dolley Payne Madison, the wife of President James Madison, impressed the city of Washington with her stylish clothes and warm, _____ manner.
(A) nimble (B) ominous (C) outgoing
8. The town planning commission said that their financial _____ for the next fiscal year was optimistic; they expect increased tax revenues.
(A) outlook (B) oversight (C) notion
9. The new play was so successful that the demand for tickets was _____.
(A) odd (B) overwhelming (C) negligible
10. A book's table of contents provides readers with an _____ idea of what the book is about.
(A) outgoing (B) overt (C) overall
11. Because ultraviolet light from the Sun can penetrate clouds, it is possible to get a sunburn on an _____ day.
(A) obscure (B) overcast (C) overt
12. Although the accident appeared serious, only a _____ amount of damage was done.
(A) novel (B) notable (C) negligible

Vocabulary Building

By Dr. Ramezani



Mini – Lesson 11

MINI-LESSON 3.11

pace *n.* rate, speed

painstaking *adj.* careful,
conscientious, thorough

pale *adj.* white, colorless, faded

paltry *adj.* unimportant,
minor, trivial

particle *n.* piece, bit,
fragment

path *n.* trail, track, way,
route

peculiar *adj.* (1) strange, odd,
puzzling (2) distinctive,
characteristic, unique,
special

penetrate *v.* enter, go
through, pierce,
puncture

perceive *v.* observe, sense,
notice

peril *n.* danger, hazard, risk,
threat

perpetual *adj.* constant,
endless, eternal

perplexing *adj.* puzzling,
mystifying, confusing

pierce *v.* penetrate, puncture, stab
pivotal *adj.* important, key, crucial
plausible *adj.* likely, credible, believable
plead *v.* appeal, beg
plush *adj.* luxurious, opulent, rich, elegant
ponder *v.* consider, think about, reflect on
portion *n.* share, part, section, segment
postpone *v.* delay, put off, defer
potent *adj.* strong, powerful, effective
pounce *v.* jump, leap, spring
precious *adj.* expensive, costly, rare

precise *adj.* accurate, exact, definite
premier *adj.* (1) first, opening, earliest, initial (2) chief, leading, foremost
pressing *adj.* urgent, crucial, compelling
pretext *n.* excuse, pretense, justification
prevail *v.* succeed, win, triumph
prevalent *adj.* common, widespread, popular
prior *adj.* earlier, preceding, former
probe *v.* investigate, inquire into
procure *v.* obtain, acquire, secure

profound *adj.* important, significant, deep
profuse *adj.* plentiful, abundant, copious
prompt *adj.* punctual, timely
prosper *v.* flourish, thrive, succeed
provoke *v.* (1) irritate, anger, annoy (2) cause, trigger
prudent *adj.* careful, sensible, cautious
pulverize *v.* crush, grind, powder
pungent *adj.* bitter, harsh, biting, sharp
pursue *v.* chase, follow, seek
puzzling *adj.* mystifying, confusing, baffling

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- Turquoise is not valuable enough to be classified as a _____ stone.
 (A) perpetual (B) pale (C) precious
- The invention of the lever was of _____ importance.
 (A) potent (B) profound (C) premier
- Hospitals define *urgent care* as medical care given to somewhat less _____ medical problems than emergency care.
 (A) perplexing (B) pressing (C) prudent
- Tool makers must have the ability to work very _____ in order to meet exact specifications.
 (A) precisely (B) profoundly (C) plausibly
- _____ of dust in the air may trigger allergies in some people.
 (A) Portions (B) Pretexts (C) Particles
- When a tiger spots its prey, it crouches down and then _____.
 (A) pleads (B) ponders (C) pounces
- X-rays cannot _____ lead.
 (A) provoke (B) penetrate (C) pursue
- Sherlock Holmes, a fictional detective, solved many _____ crimes.
 (A) puzzling (B) prevalent (C) prompt

9. Mallows are plants that grow _____ in prairies, woods, and marshes.
(A) profusely (B) profoundly (C) preciously
10. Certain spices give foods a _____ taste.
(A) painstaking (B) pungent (C) pale
11. Trade with Britain and the West Indies allowed colonial seaports such as Boston to _____.
(A) postpone (B) provoke (C) prosper
12. A _____ investor never takes unnecessary financial risks.
(A) perplexing (B) prudent (C) premier
13. To make cement, limestone is first _____, and the resulting powder is then mixed with clay and water at high temperatures.
(A) probed (B) pulverized (C) pierced
14. Outbreaks of cholera and other diseases were _____ in mining camps during the California gold rush because of the crowded, unsanitary conditions.
(A) peculiar (B) plausible (C) prevalent
15. Only a small _____ of Carlsbad Cavern in New Mexico has been lighted and opened to visitors.
(A) peril (B) portion (C) pace
16. Acting teacher Stella Adler played a _____ role in the development of the Method school of acting.
(A) pivotal (B) precious (C) plush

Vocabulary Building

By Dr. Ramezani



Mini – Lesson 12

MINI-LESSON 3.12

quaint *adj.* charming,
picturesque, curious

quake *v.* shiver, shake,
tremble

quandary *n.* problem,
dilemma, predicament

quarrel *n.* argument, dispute,
disagreement

quest *n.* search, journey,
venture

radiant *adj.* bright, shiny,
glowing

ragged *adj.* torn, tattered,
worn

range *v.* (1) extend, vary,
fluctuate (2) roam,

wander; *n.* scope, extent,
spectrum

rash *adj.* thoughtless,
careless, reckless

raw *adj.* (1) uncooked
(2) unprocessed,
unrefined, crude

raze *v.* demolish, level, knock
down

recede *v.* retreat, go back,
subside, withdraw

reckless *adj.* careless, rash

recollect *v.* recall, remember

recount *v.* narrate, tell

refine *v.* improve, process,
purify

refuge *n.* shelter, haven,
retreat

rehearse *v.* practice, train, go
over

reliable *adj.* dependable,
trustworthy

relish *v.* enjoy, savor, like

remedy *n.* treatment, cure

remnant *n.* remainder,
balance, fragment

remote *adj.* isolated, distant

renowned *adj.* famous,
celebrated, notable

resent *v.* dislike, take offense
at

retract *v.* withdraw, pull back

riddle *n.* puzzle, mystery
rigid *adj.* (1) stiff, unbending
 (2) harsh, severe, strict
rip *v.* tear, cut, slash
ripe *adj.* mature, developed
risky *adj.* dangerous,
 hazardous, treacherous

roam *v.* travel, wander, range
rough *adj.* (1) uneven, jagged,
 rugged (2) difficult
 (3) impolite
route *n.* way, course, path,
 road
rudimentary *adj.* elementary,
 fundamental, primitive

rugged *adj.* (1) jagged, rough,
 uneven (2) strong, sturdy
rumor *adj.* gossip, story
rural *adj.* agricultural
ruthless *adj.* cruel, brutal,
 vicious

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- Motorists can be fined for driving _____.
 (A) recklessly (B) reliably (C) rigidly
- Musicianis have to _____ before performing.
 (A) rehearse (B) resent (C) recollect
- At the end of the Ice Ages, glaciers began to _____.
 (A) quake (B) raze (C) recede
- Big Sur, a wild section of California's coastline, is known for its _____ beauty.
 (A) ragged (B) rash (C) rugged
- Wetlands provide _____ for many species of birds, reptiles, mammals, and amphibians.
 (A) riddles (B) refuge (C) rumors
- Wrecking balls are used to _____ buildings.
 (A) rip (B) quake (C) raze
- The northernmost section of the Rocky Mountains, the Brooks Range, is located in a _____ section of Alaska.
 (A) remote (B) ruthless (C) radiant
- Dogs can hear a greater _____ of sounds than humans.
 (A) remnant (B) quandary (C) range
- Visitors to Vermont delight in the beautiful scenery and picturesque villages and enjoy staying in some of the _____ country inns there.
 (A) rough (B) ragged (C) quaint
- _____ materials have less economic value than processed materials.
 (A) Raw (B) Rash (C) Renowned
- Many medieval stories dealt with _____, such as the story of the search for the Holy Grail.
 (A) quarrels (B) quandaries (C) quests

12. The Tennessee Valley Authority helped bring cheap electricity to farmers in the _____ South.

(A) reliable

(B) rural

(C) rugged

13. Bobsledding is a fast, _____ sport.

(A) risky

(B) quaint

(C) ripe

14. Quite logically, early roads in North America tended to follow the _____ of rivers.

(A) remedies

(B) routes

(C) quandaries

15. Alex Haley's novel *Roots* _____ the history of an American family beginning in the mid-1700s in Africa.

(A) recounts

(B) refines

(C) relishes

Vocabulary Building

By Dr. Ramezani



Mini – Lesson 13

MINI-LESSON 3.13

salvage <i>v.</i> save, rescue, recover, retrieve	severe <i>adj.</i> (1) harsh, strict, austere (2) undecorated, plain	signify <i>v.</i> symbolize, stand for, indicate
scale <i>v.</i> climb; <i>n.</i> (1) range, spectrum (2) proportion	shatter <i>v.</i> break, smash, fragment	simulate <i>v.</i> imitate, reproduce
scarce <i>adj.</i> rare, sparse	sheer <i>adj.</i> (1) steep, sharp, abrupt (2) transparent, thin, filmy	sketch <i>v.</i> draw; <i>n.</i> drawing, picture, diagram
scatter <i>v.</i> disperse, spread	shimmer <i>v.</i> shine, glow, glisten, gleam	slender <i>adj.</i> thin, slim, slight
scent <i>n.</i> aroma, fragrance, odor, smell	shred <i>v.</i> rip up, tear up	sluggish <i>adj.</i> slow, listless, lazy, lethargic
scrap <i>v.</i> abandon, get rid of; <i>n.</i> piece, fragment	shrewd <i>adj.</i> clever, sly	sly <i>adj.</i> cunning, clever, shrewd
seasoned <i>adj.</i> experienced, veteran	shrill <i>adj.</i> piercing, high-pitched	soak <i>v.</i> wet, drench, saturate
secluded <i>adj.</i> hidden, isolated, secret	shun <i>v.</i> avoid, stay away from	solace <i>n.</i> comfort, consolation, relief
sensational <i>adj.</i> thrilling, exciting, shocking	shy <i>adj.</i> timid, reserved	somber <i>adj.</i> serious, grave, solemn
serene <i>adj.</i> quiet, peaceful, calm, tranquil	significant <i>adj.</i> important, vital, major	sort <i>v.</i> classify, categorize; <i>n.</i> type, kind, variety
sever <i>v.</i> cut, slice off		sound <i>adj.</i> safe, solid, secure; <i>n.</i> noise

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- One of the most popular peaks for mountain climbers to _____ is El Capitan in Yosemite National Park.
(A) scale (B) soak (C) shun
- Grey foxes are not particularly rare animals, but they are seldom seen because they are so _____.
(A) sluggish (B) somber (C) shy
- _____ workers are more valuable to employers than beginners.
(A) Shrill (B) Seasoned (C) Sluggish

4. The Shakers were a strict religious group that _____ worldly pleasure.
(A) scrapped (B) shunned (C) sketched
5. The city of Denver's plan to build a subway system was _____ in the 1970s.
(A) scattered (B) sorted (C) scrapped
6. Even after a ship has sunk, its cargo can often be _____.
(A) severed (B) shattered (C) salvaged
7. Some economists believe that the best way to get a _____ economy moving again is to cut taxes.
(A) sensational (B) sluggish (C) shrewd
8. Government bonds and blue-chip stocks are _____ investments.
(A) sound (B) shy (C) scarce
9. If a person's spinal cord is _____, paralysis results.
(A) soaked (B) severed (C) salvaged
10. Silk is a _____ fabric.
(A) sheer (B) shrewd (C) slender
11. A green flag _____ the beginning of an automobile race.
(A) scatters (B) simulates (C) signifies
12. The raw materials of paper—wood pulp, rags, or old paper—must be _____ and cleaned before the paper-making process begins.
(A) severed (B) shredded (C) sketched
13. A home aquarium should _____ a fish's natural habitat as closely as possible.
(A) soak (B) simulate (C) salvage
14. Foxfire is an eerie, _____ blue light, often seen in swamps, that is caused by the natural burning of methane from decaying plants.
(A) serene (B) somber (C) shimmering

Vocabulary Building

By Dr. Ramezani



Mini – Lesson 14

MINI-LESSON 3.14

sow *v.* plant

span *v.* extend, bridge,
connect; *n.* length, extent,
range

spawn *v.* generate, create,
produce; *n.* offspring,
descendants

specific *adj.* definite,
particular, exact

specimen *n.* example, sample

spectacular *adj.* dramatic,
sensational, impressive

spell *n.* interval, period, time

spirited *adj.* lively, energetic,
vigorous

splendid *adj.* excellent,
superb, wonderful

spoil *v.* (1) ruin, mar
(2) decay, deteriorate,
decompose, rot

spot *v.* locate, find, see;
n. (1) location, site
(2) mark, stain, speck

spur *v.* stimulate, impel,

encourage, provoke;
n. inducement, stimulus

stable *adj.* steady, secure,
stationary, fixed

stage *v.* present, put on;
n. grade, step, level,
phase

stain *v.* color, tint, discolor,
dye; *n.* spot, mark,
blemish

stale *adj.* (1) old, dry (2) dull,
trite, uninteresting

stall *v.* halt, delay, put off
stately *adj.* dignified, grand, magnificent, elegant
steep *adj.* sheer, perpendicular
stern *adj.* firm, severe, strict, harsh
strenuous *adj.* difficult, arduous
strife *n.* conflict, dispute, struggle
strive *v.* attempt, try
struggle *v.* fight, argue, dispute; *n.* conflict, strife, battle, effort

stubborn *adj.* rigid, uncompromising, obstinate
sturdy *adj.* strong, rugged, well-built
subsequent *adj.* later, succeeding, following, ensuing
subtle *adj.* indirect, suggestive, implied
suitable *adj.* appropriate, correct, apt
summit *n.* peak, apex, zenith
sundry *adj.* miscellaneous, diverse, various

superb *adj.* excellent, splendid
supplant *v.* replace, substitute for
supple *adj.* pliable, flexible, bendable
sway *v.* (1) wave, rock, swing, bend (2) persuade, influence
sweeping *adj.* complete, exhaustive, general, comprehensive
swift *adj.* fast, quick, rapid
swivel *v.* rotate, spin, turn

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- High pressure cells may bring brief warm _____ even in the middle of winter.
 (A) struggles (B) spells (C) spans
- The _____ cliffs of the Na Pali coast on the Hawaiian island of Kauai rise over 4,000 feet from the sea.
 (A) swift (B) steep (C) subtle
- The process of refining oil involves a number of _____.
 (A) specimens (B) spots (C) stages
- In high winds, skyscrapers will _____ slightly.
 (A) swivel (B) sway (C) stall
- Severe thunderstorms may _____ tornadoes.
 (A) spoil (B) strive (C) spawn
- The snow-covered _____ of Mount Hood is the highest point in the state of Oregon.
 (A) spur (B) summit (C) span
- D. W. Griffith was the first director of _____ films. These were movies made on a colossal scale.
 (A) stately (B) suitable (C) spectacular
- Cheetahs are the _____ of all land mammals, with top speeds of up to 70 miles per hour.
 (A) stalest (B) subtlest (C) swiftest
- Salt can be used to keep meat from _____.
 (A) struggling (B) spoiling (C) stalling

10. Because they must be able to break a path through icebound waters, icebreakers have to be very _____ boats.
(A) stately (B) sturdy (C) supple
11. According to studies, most people who divorce _____ remarry.
(A) specifically (B) subsequently (C) stubbornly
12. A roadbed supplies a _____ base for a highway.
(A) stable (B) sundry (C) sweeping
13. Every year, the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. _____ a number of plays.
(A) stalls (B) stages (C) spans
14. Farmers sometimes _____ crops such as timothy or clover and then plow them under the soil to increase its fertility.
(A) supplant (B) spur (C) sow
15. The geographical center of the North American continent is a _____ near Drake, North Dakota.
(A) spot (B) stage (C) summit
16. Many medical tests require a blood _____.
(A) spell (B) specimen (C) stain
17. Because of their protective coloration, ghost crabs are hard to _____.
(A) spur (B) spawn (C) spot
18. The Virginia reel is a _____ dance mainly performed by children.
(A) stale (B) spirited (C) supple

Vocabulary Building

By Dr. Ramezani



Mini – Lesson 15

MINI-LESSON 3.15

tact *n.* diplomacy, discretion, poise

tale *n.* story

tame *v.* domesticate, master;
adj. docile, domesticated, gentle

tamper (with) *v.* interfere (with)

tangle *v.* knot, twist;
n. knot

tart *adj.* sour, tangy, piquant

taunt *v.* insult, mock, torment

tedious *adj.* boring, dull, tiresome

telling *adj.* effective, convincing, forceful

temperate *adj.* mild, moderate

tempting *adj.* alluring, attractive, enticing

tender *adj.* (1) delicate, soft
(2) gentle, loving (3) sore, painful

thaw *v.* melt, warm up

thorough *adj.* complete, comprehensive

thoroughfare *n.* avenue, street

thrifty *adj.* economical, inexpensive

thrilling *adj.* exciting, stimulating, stirring, electrifying

thrive *v.* prosper, flourish

thwart *v.* prevent, impede, obstruct

tidings *n.* news, message

tilt *v.* incline, slope

timid *adj.* fearful, shy, retiring

tint *n.* color, hue, shade, tone; *v.* color, stain, dye

tiresome *adj.* tedious, dull, boring

toil *v.* labor, work;
n. exertion, labor, work

tolerant *adj.* patient, impartial, open-minded

torment *v.* taunt, abuse, bully

torrent *n.* flood, deluge
tough *adj.* durable, strong
tow *v.* haul, draw, pull, drag
toxic *adj.* poisonous, noxious
trait *n.* characteristic,
feature, quality

treacherous *adj.* dangerous,
hazardous
trickle *n.* drip, leak
triumph *n.* victory, success,
achievement;
v. win, succeed, prevail

trivial *adj.* unimportant,
minor
trying *adj.* demanding,
difficult, troublesome
tug *v.* pull, draw;
n. pull

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

1. Citric acid gives lemons and limes their _____ taste.
(A) temperate (B) toxic (C) tart
2. The use of robots has eliminated certain _____ factory jobs.
(A) tedious (B) thrilling (C) timid
3. One should never buy food or medicine if the packaging has obviously been _____.
(A) fangled (B) thwarted (C) tampered with
4. Alfred Hitchcock directed a number of _____ psychological dramas; among the most exciting were *Psycho* and *North by Northwest*.
(A) timid (B) trivial (C) thrilling
5. Tides are caused by the _____ of the Moon's gravity.
(A) tangle (B) torrent (C) tug
6. Many people find chocolate _____.
(A) tempting (B) tender (C) telling
7. Peachtree Street is the main _____ in Atlanta.
(A) triumph (B) thoroughfare (C) tale
8. In her book *Silent Spring*, Rachel Carson wrote about insecticides and their _____ effects on animal life.
(A) tiresome (B) tender (C) toxic
9. In the desert, dry creek beds may turn into raging _____ after heavy rainstorms.
(A) trickles (B) torrents (C) tolls
10. Colonial coral _____ mainly in warm, tropical waters.
(A) thrives (B) tames (C) tows
11. _____ such as hair color and eye color are inherited genetically from one's parents.
(A) Traits (B) Tangles (C) Tints
12. Washington Irving collected and interpreted many famous old _____, including the legends of Rip Van Winkle and the Headless Horseman.
(A) tales (B) tidings (C) traits

13. Wild rabbits are _____ creatures that mainly rely on their keen senses of hearing and smell to evade danger.

(A) tiresome

(B) timid

(C) treacherous

14. The dura mater is a _____ protective membrane that covers the spinal cord and brain.

(A) tender

(B) tough

(C) temperate

Vocabulary Building

By Dr. Ramezani



Mini – Lesson 16

MINI-LESSON 3.16

ultimate *adj.* (1) conclusive, definite, final (2) maximum, highest

unbearable *adj.* intolerable, agonizing

uncouth *adj.* impolite, rude, vulgar

underlying *adj.* fundamental, basic

undertake *v.* try, attempt

ungainly *adj.* awkward, unskillful

uniform *adj.* consistent, regular

unique *adj.* singular, one of a kind, special

unravel *v.* solve, explain

unruly *adj.* unmanageable, disorganized, disorderly

unsound *adj.* defective, faulty, unsafe

uphold *v.* support, sustain

upkeep *n.* maintenance

uproar *n.* disorder, disturbance, commotion

urge *v.* encourage, advise, implore

urgent *adj.* pressing, compelling

utensil *n.* tool, implement, device

utter *v.* say, speak; *adj.* total, absolute, complete

vacant *adj.* empty, unoccupied

vague *adj.* unclear, uncertain, ambiguous

vain *adj.* (1) useless, pointless, unsuccessful (2) conceited, proud

valid *adj.* genuine, authentic, legitimate

vanish *v.* disappear, go away

variable *adj.* changeable, shifting

vast *adj.* huge, enormous, extensive, immense

venomous *adj.* poisonous

verbose *adj.* talkative, wordy

verge *n.* brink, edge, threshold

vessel *n.* (1) container, bottle (2) ship

vex *v.* irritate, anger, annoy

viable *adj.* (1) alive, living (2) feasible, practical, possible

vicinity *n.* area, proximity, zone

vigorous *adj.* dynamic, energetic, spirited

vital *adj.* critical, crucial, key, essential

vivid *adj.* clear, distinct, graphic

vow *v.* promise, pledge, swear; *n.* oath, promise, pledge

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- To be fair, laws must be _____ applied to all persons.
(A) urgently (B) vaguely (C) uniformly
- Rattlesnakes are the most common _____ snakes in the United States.
(A) ungainly (B) venomous (C) variable
- The League of Women Voters _____ all citizens to vote.
(A) urges (B) vexes (C) upholds
- In his novel *The Red Badge of Courage*, Steven Crane _____ describes a Civil War battle.
(A) vividly (B) uniformly (C) vitally

5. An Erlenmeyer flask is a glass _____ used in chemistry labs.
(A) vessel (B) vow (C) verge
6. Aerobics is _____ form of exercise.
(A) a viable (B) an uncouth (C) a vigorous
7. A metropolitan area consists of a central city and any suburban areas in its _____.
(A) vicinity (B) vessel (C) upkeep
8. Medical scientists still do not fully understand the _____ causes of migraine headaches.
(A) unruly (B) underlying (C) viable
9. The kidneys play a _____ role in maintaining health by removing impurities from the bloodstream.
(A) valid (B) viable (C) vital
10. The myth of Narcissus tells the story of a handsome but _____ young man who stares at his reflection in a pool of water for so long that he turns into a flower.
(A) vain (B) unbearable (C) verbose
11. The fork has been used as an eating _____ at least since the twelfth century.
(A) vessel (B) utensil (C) urge
12. The Great Plains cover _____ area.
(A) a vast (B) a viable (C) an ultimate
13. A city's park and recreation budget must include funds for the _____ on buildings and grounds.
(A) uproar (B) verge (C) upkeep
14. Mary Munsfeldt _____ some of the puzzles involving insects and the pollination of plants.
(A) undertook (B) upheld (C) unraveled
15. Linguists say that hundreds of the world's languages may _____ in the next few decades because the number of speakers of these languages is dwindling rapidly.
(A) vanish (B) utter (C) urge
16. A lack of parking spaces is a _____ problem in most cities.
(A) unique (B) vacant (C) vexing

Vocabulary Building

By Dr. Ramezani



Mini – Lesson 17

MINI-LESSON 3.17

wage <i>n.</i> salary, pay, earnings	wicked <i>adj.</i> evil, corrupt, immoral	wonder <i>v.</i> think about, speculate, ponder <i>n.</i> marvel, miracle
wander <i>v.</i> roam, travel, range	widespread <i>adj.</i> extensive, prevalent, sweeping	wound <i>v.</i> injure, hurt; <i>n.</i> injury
wane <i>v.</i> shrink, decrease, decline	wily <i>adj.</i> crafty, cunning, shrewd	yearn <i>v.</i> desire, crave, want
ware <i>n.</i> good, merchandise	wise <i>adj.</i> astute, prudent, intelligent	yield <i>v.</i> (1) give up, surrender (2) produce, supply <i>n.</i> production, output, crop
warn <i>v.</i> alert, caution, advise	withdraw <i>v.</i> retreat, pull out, remove	zealous <i>adj.</i> enthusiastic, eager
warning <i>n.</i> alarm, alert	with <i>v.</i> dry, shrivel, wilt	zenith <i>n.</i> peak, tip, apex, summit
warp <i>v.</i> deform, bend, twist	withhold <i>v.</i> reserve, retain, hold back	zone <i>n.</i> area, vicinity, region
wary <i>adj.</i> careful, cautious, alert	witty <i>adj.</i> comic, clever, amusing	
weary <i>adj.</i> tired, exhausted, fatigued	woe <i>n.</i> trouble, distress, sorrow	
well-to-do <i>adj.</i> rich, wealthy, affluent		
wholesome <i>adj.</i> healthy, nutritious, beneficial		

Directions: Complete the following sentences by filling in the blanks with vocabulary items (A), (B), or (C) according to the context of the sentences.

- If boards become wet, they may _____.
(A) wither (B) yield (C) warp
- Whole grains and fresh fruit and vegetables are _____ foods.
(A) wicked (B) wholesome (C) well-to-do
- You must be _____ when buying a used car; be sure the engine is in good condition.
(A) weary (B) zealous (C) wary
- In the past, many salesmen tried to sell their _____ door-to-door.
(A) wares (B) woes (C) wages
- Humorist Will Rogers wrote many _____ newspaper columns.
(A) wily (B) weary (C) witty
- Congress sets the minimum _____, which is the lowest amount of money workers may be paid per hour.
(A) wage (B) yield (C) zone
- Intelligent policies are needed so that public funds are used _____.
(A) wholesomely (B) zealously (C) wisely
- The green revolution was a system of farming which depended on new varieties of seeds and the increased use of irrigation and fertilizers. It greatly increased farmers' _____.
(A) wonders (B) yields (C) woes

9. Some superstitions are familiar to many cultures. For example, there is a _____ belief that black cats bring bad luck.
(A) widespread (B) wily (C) wicked
10. A green belt is a parklike _____ around a city in which development is not permitted.
(A) zenith (B) wound (C) zone
11. George Ropes painted portraits of sea captains, prosperous merchants, and other _____ citizens of eighteenth century Massachusetts.
(A) zealous (B) well-to-do (C) wicked
12. In his 1961 book *Night Comes to the Cumberland*s, Harry M. Caudil painted a grim picture of the _____ of the Appalachian region.
(A) woes (B) wares (C) yields