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## SET 1 -

1. balmy

- The nights in Florida are very balmy-soothing, mild and tranquil.
- The balmy weather was a welcome change from the harsh, chill Wisconsin winter back home.


## 2. beguile

- At the car dealership, I remembered my father's warning to avoid being beguiled by deceitful salesmen.
- She was a foolish, impressionable girl who was easily beguiled by the speaker's charisma and promises.


## 3. buckler

- Jesus Christ Himself is the Christian's buckler, the shield that deflects every enemy blow.
- The archer protected his chest and shoulders with a buckler; and on his legs and body, he wore a coat of iron mail.


## 4. constrain

- The weak economy and diminishing corporate profit constrained businesses to enact hiring freezes.
- The love of Christ constrains us; it compels us to live for Him.

5. deft

- He deftly dodged the verbal assaults, and with great wit turned the stinging words back on his accusers.
- The circus elephants had been trained to pick up coins, turn knobs, and do many other deft, skillful maneuvers with their trunks.

6. embalm

- The undertaker embalmed the body, preparing it for burial.

7. frenzy

- Kara went on a spending frenzy buying a new house, a new car, clothes, and furniture.
- The National Mall became the scene of frenzied activity as excited mobs congregated before the inauguration.

8. homely

- She had a glamorous name, but her face was homely and her mind dull.
- The crushing news made his face contort, giving him a more homely appearance than he normally had.

9. languish

- For Sale signs languish on lawns for months as desperate homeowners seek to offload their property.
- Some American churches languish, but others hold their own or even thrive.

10. muse

- I cannot comprehend God's love for me, yet I like to muse on the theme.
- Let me muse on your problem for a while, and I'll see if I can figure out a solution.

11. pestilence

- So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed: and there died of the people from Dan even to Beersheba seventy thousand men. II Sam 24:15
- In 1165 , the Great Plague of London, a pestilence spread by fleas and rats, killed approximately 75,000 people.

12. prose

- I find Mr. Daryll's poetry delightful but his prose dull.
- Perhaps you'd have to be a lawyer to enjoy the prose of court cases and judicial decisions.

SET 2-

## 13. apprehension

- The unsaved, uncertain of eternal destiny, must be filled with apprehension at the thought of dying.
- Many citizens were elated by the election results, but others were apprehensive about the direction the newly elected president would take the country.

14. begrudge

- The boss begrudgingly allowed his employee to take a vacation during the company's busy season.
- Although he never had the opportunity to go himself, the young man did not begrudge his sister's plans to
tour Europe.


## 15. cow

- The bully used threats to cow his victim into handing over her lunch.
- In 1995 and 1996, China tried to cow United States and Taiwanese leaders by carrying on a vigorous missile-testing campaign.

16. despondent

- Having being laid off, he fought off despondency and made himself continue to look for a new job.
- The car accident that took the lives of her husband and son left the young woman despondent.

17. detest

- Most students don't mind doing assignments if they see value in them, but they detest busy work.
- I detest alcohol; I've seen how it can destroy lives!

18. expectancy

- Having prayed and fasted for his congregation for weeks, the pastor was filled with expectancy as the revival meetings drew near.
- The English teacher had a positive, expectant attitude toward her students; she knew they could do well.

19. furtive

- The burglar went about his business in a furtive manner, taking measures not to be caught.
- The intelligence officer often held furtive meetings with his spy ring deep in enemy territory; they were
just sly and secretive enough not to get caught.

20. grizzled

- The old lady answered, "no" with the shake of her grizzled head, her gray-streaked hair falling in her
eyes.
- The dog's coat was completely black except for a grizzled patch of gray and white near his right ear.

21. implore

- I implore you to do your best in this class; I really want you to pass it.
- The convicted felon implored the judge to have mercy during the sentencing portion of the trial.

22. profanation

- In Nazi Germany, Jews were often accused of the profanation, or defiling, of sacred sites.
- To add to or to take away from the Bible would be a profanation of the Holy Book.

23. salutation

- Sandra read the love letter's salutation again, filled with wonder that it was indeed addressed to her.
- The letter started out with a pleasant salutation, but its body contained a scathing rebuke.

24. sedate

- Without the customary lively interference of the children, our evening was quite sedate.
- The agitated animal was given a sedative to calm it down.

25. solace

- In the days after $9 / 11$, Mrs. Bush encouraged Americans to take solace in their families and communities.
- The Holy Spirit gives solace to a grieving heart like no other can.

26. solitude

- Samuel's solitude was interrupted when his brother burst into the room.
- Everyone enjoys solitude rather than crowds from time to time.

27. supplicate

- Early each day, the prayerful mother spent time supplicating God on behalf of her husband and children.
- Before Jacob died, Joseph supplicated a blessing from him for his son Manasseh.

SET 3-
28. amiable

- Janet's new boss, having a good-natured, amiable personality, was easy to get along with.
- The comedian's routine was an amiable mix of slapstick and humorous discourse.

29. belated

- The belated birthday card arrived two weeks after my birthday.
- The student's belated efforts to do assignments were not enough to bring up his failing grade.

30. contrive

- Although the boy knew the truth, he contrived lies and excuses to cover up his involvement.
- The bus worker contrived ways to boost his number of riders on his bus for the spring campaign.

31. distress

- Being caught in an undertow and dragged out to the sea, the swimmer called in distress to the lifeguard.
- Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? - Romans 8:35

32. famish

- Having not eaten all day, we were famished when we arrived at the cabin; so we scoured the kitchen for anything edible.
- Famished and weary from a long day in the field, Esau foolishly sold his birthright for a bowl of soup.

33. incumbent

- It is incumbent upon a soldier to perform his duty when he is called upon to serve.
- If a person accepts the position of a Sunday school teacher, it is incumbent upon him to prepare for his class and pray for his students.

34. lavish

- The hotel was lavishly furnished with expensive rugs, furniture, artwork, and linens.
- The investor paid for his lavish lifestyle with the millions he made on the stock market.

35. negligence

- The careless mother's negligence almost cost her son his life when he wandered into busy the street.
- Negligent electrical work may have caused of the young Marine's accidental electrocution.

36. notional

- We don't have a firm figure for the cost of the project; the numbers offered up so far are just notional.
- The mayor had a notional rather than actual timeline for the new library's completion.

37. perplex

- Hal's timing perplexes me; I can't figure out why he wants to go to Alaska in December instead of June.
- The question seemed to perplex them, so I gave them a hint.

38. plaintive

- The plaintive poem resonated with her sorrowful spirit.
- The lone violinist played a plaintive melody as guests entered the chapel for the funeral service.

39. predecessor

- My predecessor left me all of his files and notes before he left, so I was able to continue his job without a rocky transition.
- Although Dr. Oxford's second book is shorter than his first; it seems to ramble more than its predecessor.

40. relish

- Knowing my daughter will soon graduate and move out, I relish the time we can spend together.
- Gregory is such a natural actor that he relishes any opportunity to perform before an audience.

41. reluctance

- Although Jenny asked him for advice, Sam was reluctant to give her his opinion.
- Many people have a reluctance to speak in front of an audience.

42. solicitous

- The distraught mother made solicitous inquiries about her missing soldier son.

