

**Vocabulary Exercise 2**

Use the context of the following sentences to determine the meanings of the given words. Next to each word, put what you think the meaning might be. For this part of the homework, don't look up the word in the dictionary.

11. **arbitrary** \_\_\_\_\_
  - Humans have a much easier time recalling events, places or people that are meaningful to them, rather than **arbitrary** lists.
  - The EPA and our highway administration should avoid imposing **arbitrary**, unattainable fuel efficiency mandates that will only drive up the price of every vehicle in America.
12. **assess** \_\_\_\_\_
  - Researchers then used standard tests to **assess** the patients' memory, cognitive function and dementia status.
  - Officials from all levels of government will **assess** the damage from Hurricane Isaac and figure out how to help.
13. **atone** \_\_\_\_\_
  - Secretary General Kofi Annan on Tuesday urged the world's richest nations to **atone** for the slave trade by sharing their wealth to lift Africa from poverty.
  - I fully plan to **atone** for my actions and to accept whatever punishment is set forth.
14. **bolster** \_\_\_\_\_
  - The city seeks to **bolster** its reputation as a tourist destination.
  - After losing market share to Coke in recent years, PepsiCo is looking to **bolster** its flagship soda brand this year.
15. **breach** \_\_\_\_\_
  - The outraged head of the Port Authority police union Sunday demanded an investigation into how a swamped jet skier was able to **breach** Kennedy Airport's troubled \$100 million security system.
  - If they did not **breach** the rules, why have they agreed to pay the settlement?
16. **cajole** \_\_\_\_\_
  - Employers across the nation pull out the stops to encourage, **cajole**, assist, incentivize and beg employees to get their flu shots.
  - Passengers had to beg and wheedle and **cajole** [the airlines] to get reimbursed for clothing and equipment.
17. **candid** \_\_\_\_\_
  - I'm not trying to be anybody other than who I actually am. People want **candid** and refreshing leadership.
  - Ms. Hood was surprisingly **candid** about her family's financial disaster.
18. **capitulate** \_\_\_\_\_
  - Troops crushed through barricades to disperse a nine-week-old insurrection. A retired nurse was the last to **capitulate**.
  - Republicans are casting Obama as a weak leader, quick to **capitulate** to the demands of other nations.
19. **commend** \_\_\_\_\_
  - We **commend** the manufacturers and our team at the R&D center on all the hard work they've put into this new car.
  - If your kid does start speaking about being bullied, stay consistently supportive, and **commend** your child for sharing with you.
20. **conceal** \_\_\_\_\_
  - The bill also makes it a crime for an official to withhold information to **conceal** wrongdoing or incompetence, or merely to avoid embarrassment.
  - A Justice Department official has insisted the documents at issue "show no intention or attempt to **conceal** information or mislead (Congress)."

Look up each word in the dictionary. Give the dictionary definition that best fits the way the word is used in the sample sentences on the previous page. Give the word's part of speech. If the word is a verb, label it as transitive (TR Verb) or intransitive (I Verb).

	Dictionary Definition	Part of Speech
<b>arbitrary</b>		
<b>assess</b>		
<b>atone</b>		
<b>bolster</b>		
<b>breach</b>		
<b>cajole</b>		
<b>candid</b>		
<b>capitulate</b>		
<b>commend</b>		
<b>conceal</b>		

Write definitive sentences for five of the vocabulary words of your choice.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
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