

Vocabulary Exercise 1

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. Then do the matching section to match up the words with their definitions.

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.

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 10. _____ muse
 11. _____ pestilence
 12. _____ prose
- a. to protect from decay; to prepare for burial
 - b. someone or something that protects; a shield
 - c. lacking in physical beauty; unattractive
 - d. to lead away by deception, trickery, or flattery
 - e. quick and skillful; dexterous
 - f. to become dull, feeble, or spiritless
 - g. a deadly or virulent epidemic disease; something destructive
 - h. mild and pleasant; soothing
 - i. a fit of violent mental excitement; derangement
 - j. to force by limitation or restriction; to compel
 - k. ordinary form of spoken or written language
 - l. to think or meditate on; to be absorbed in thought