

Vocabulary Exercise 5

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.

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.

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| 28. _____ | amiable | a. Imposed as a duty; obligatory |
| 29. _____ | belated | b. something or someone that comes before another |
| 30. _____ | contrive | c. coming after the expected time; delayed; late |
| 31. _____ | distress | d. using or giving in great amounts |
| 32. _____ | famish | e. full of desire; anxious or concerned |
| 33. _____ | incumbent | f. to confuse or puzzle; to make complicated |
| 34. _____ | lavish | g. unwillingness |
| 35. _____ | negligence | h. existing in the mind only; visionary; theoretical |
| 36. _____ | notional | i. expressing suffering; sorrowful |
| 37. _____ | perplex | j. a troublesome situation; a state of misfortune |
| 38. _____ | plaintive | k. having an agreeable nature; pleasant; friendly |
| 39. _____ | predecessor | l. failure to be careful |
| 40. _____ | relish | m. to suffer for lack of something |
| 41. _____ | reluctance | n. to enjoy; to be pleased with; to delight in |
| 42. _____ | solicitous | o. to devise or plan; to bring about by strategy |