

Vocabulary Power

Lesson 17 Using Synonyms

Open any magazine or newspaper and you're likely to find an example of criticism or satire. People love to praise and point out flaws in human behavior. People react to the things they like and don't like, the things that shock, amuse, or anger them. The words in this list relate to criticism and satire.

Word List

conjecture	deference	insipid	sustenance
contention	derisive	laudable	
cursory	impartial	mirth	

EXERCISE A Synonyms

Each boldfaced vocabulary word is paired with a synonym whose meaning you probably know. Think of other words related to the synonym and write your ideas on the line provided. Then, look up the vocabulary word in a dictionary and write its definition.

1. **cursory** : hasty _____
 Dictionary definition _____
2. **deference** : submission _____
 Dictionary definition _____
3. **insipid** : flavorless _____
 Dictionary definition _____
4. **contention** : assertion _____
 Dictionary definition _____
5. **laudable** : praiseworthy _____
 Dictionary definition _____
6. **sustenance** : food _____
 Dictionary definition _____
7. **conjecture** : guess _____
 Dictionary definition _____
8. **impartial** : fair _____
 Dictionary definition _____
9. **derisive** : scornful _____
 Dictionary definition _____
10. **mirth** : laughter _____
 Dictionary definition _____

Vocabulary Power *continued*

EXERCISE B Clues Matching

Write the vocabulary word that best matches each clue.

1. describing a comedy routine built on stale jokes _____
2. describing the clean-up action in a neighborhood park _____
3. the belief that life exists outside Earth's galaxy _____
4. respect for the judgment of your boss _____
5. describing a remark made with a laugh and a sneer _____
6. requirement for physical survival _____
7. describing a quick glance at the headlines in the newspaper _____
8. claim made by nuclear agencies that their power plants are safe _____
9. reaction of young children to a clown's antics _____
10. describing the comparison of two brands of fruit drink by blindfolded tasters _____

EXERCISE C Antonyms

Write the vocabulary word that is most nearly *opposite* in meaning.

1. blameworthy _____
2. sparkling _____
3. prejudiced _____
4. thorough _____
5. sadness _____
6. respectful _____
7. poison _____
8. cooperation _____
9. condescension _____
10. known fact _____

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