

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

English 10 Honors Vocabulary Lesson 14

Part I: Directions: Each of the following sentences correctly uses a vocabulary word. Write the definition of each word under the sentence. Underline the words in the sentence that could help you guess what the word means.

1. To me it seemed entirely **providential** that the person whose help I most required should turn up on my doorstep at the very moment that I needed her.

Definition:

2. In spite of all of our efforts to appeal to whatever human sympathies the kidnappers might have, they remained **obdurate**.

Definition:

3. Wouldn't you agree that TV has been **surfeited** lately with sitcoms and soap operas?

Definition:

4. At the very **inception** of his administration, the new President announced a list of objectives he hoped to accomplish.

Definition:

5. Any child who can read at the age of four must be considered remarkably **precocious**.

Definition:

6. One of the many benefits that I derived from my summer job in the new hospital was learning to be patient with people suffering from various types of **infirmities**.

Definition:

7. Although he announces piously how much it hurts him to punish people, I think he takes a **sadistic** pleasure in it.

Definition:

8. When my stubborn younger brother proved so **amenable** to my request, I began to suspect that he had some special reason for wanting to please me.

Definition:

9. The stream followed a **tortuous** course as it twisted through the broken country side.

Definition:

10. The more **credulous** you are, the easier it will be for swindlers and con artists to hoodwink you.

Definition:

11. Usefulness is not the only **criterion** for including words in this book, but it is the primary one.

Definition:

12. My last date turned out to be such an expensive affair that my funds were sadly **depleted** for the rest of the month.

Definition:

13. Although I ask no special consideration for myself, I am not too proud to **supplicate** on behalf of my children.

Definition:

14. “How do you expect your mind to grow when you feed it solely on the **jejune** pap that comes out of the boob tube?” I asked him pointedly.

Definition:

15. Her instructions told me exactly what I wanted to know, without a single **extraneous** detail. Clearly, she was not an English teacher!

Definition:

16. It is almost impossible for us to imagine the **carnage** that that would result from an all-out war fought with nuclear weapons.

Definition:

17. When I asked him why he wasn't going to the prom, he answered in his **sententious** style, “No dough, no dance!”

Definition:

18. You deserve to be severely **berated** for your misbehavior during such a solemn ceremony.

Definition:

19. His **ostensible** purpose in visiting me was to pay respects, but I suspect that he intended to ask for a loan.

Definition:

20. Our reading programs this term is a delightful **potpourri** of stories, essays, poetry and drama from many different periods.

Definition:

Part II:

Now that you have a better understanding of the meaning of your vocabulary words, write each word next to its corresponding definition and write the part of speech.

Vocabulary Word	Part of Speech	Definition
		lacking nutritive value; lacking in substance, interest
		too ready to believe
		weakness or ailment (physical, mental, moral etc.)
		to scold sharply
		to use up as a result of spending or consuming
		coming from the outside, foreign, irrelevant
		beginning, start, earliest stages
		rule, test; a standard for judgment
		willing to follow advice or authority, tractable, submissive
		winding, twisted, crooked, highly involved
		self-righteous, characterized by moralizing; saying much in few words
		stubborn; unyielding
		collection of diverse or miscellaneous items
		showing unusually early development
		happening as though through divine intervention; good fortune
		appearing to be true, but doubtful; unbelievable
		an excess or indulgence (eating or drinking)
		delighting in cruelty; excessively cruel
		to beg earnestly and humbly
		large-scale slaughter or loss of life

Part III:

Synonyms. Write the vocabulary word that has a similar meaning to the group of words listed.

1. stubborn, obstinate, adamant _____
2. to plead, petition, implore _____
3. a hodgepodge, medley _____
4. brutal, vicious, inhuman _____
5. circuitous, serpentine, labyrinth _____
6. apparent, professed, purported _____
7. fortunate, lucky, opportune _____
8. forward, gifted, advanced _____
9. an excess, glut; to cloy, satiate _____
10. aphoristic, epigrammatic, moralistic _____
11. afflicting, ailment, defect _____
12. commencement, inauguration, outset _____
13. to chide, reprove, rebuke _____
14. to exhaust, empty, drain, bankrupt _____
15. slaughter, butchery, bloodbath _____
16. childish, juvenile, vapid, insipid _____
17. a yardstick, gauge, canon _____
18. agreeable, compliant docile _____
19. incidental, extrinsic, irrelevant _____
20. gullible _____