Unit 1 Vocab Activities

Part I: Completing the Sentence

1. The company commander called his troops together and asked for more volunteers to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the strength of the raiding party.
2. American’s earliest settlers faced the hardships of life on the frontier with faith and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. How can you tell whether the chopped-meat patty you ate for lunch had been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with artificial coloring and other foreign substances?
4. Perhaps I would be bored with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lifestyle of a millionaire, but I’m willing to try it.
5. Why would someone who is usually so neat and tidy appear in public in such a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ state?
6. Many ballplayers can bat from either side of the plate, but they cannot throw well with each hand unless they are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
7. Since I need the speaker’s exact words for my report, I have asked the stenographer to take down the speech \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
8. To this day, historians are still debating whether or not Aaron Burr was guilty of a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ plot to break up the United States.
9. At the risk of being boring, let me \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ my warning against careless driving.
10. Having learned to respect the power in his opponent’s fists, the boxer moved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ around the ring.
11. What a tragedy that in the twilight of her life the unfortunate woman should be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of all her loved ones!
12. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ expressions on the jurors’ faces as they grimly filed back into the courtroom did not bode well for the defendant.
13. As the magician’s assistant seemed to vanish into thin air, the entire audience \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in amazement.
14. The twigs that were to be woven into the basket were soaked in water to make them more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
15. In Shakespeare’s famous tragedy *Othello*, Iago comes to Othello in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of a friend but proves to be a deadly enemy.

Part II: Synonyms & Antonyms

Synonyms:

1. Rehash the same old theories
2. Station the remaining guards at the exits
3. Deprived of the companionship of a beloved pet
4. The stern faces of ancestral portraits
5. Appeared in the costume of a cowboy
6. Need to increase the computer’s memory
7. An underhanded attack on my good name
8. The supple limbs of a dancer
9. A group of tired and untidy travelers
10. Attended a lavish holiday banquet

Antonyms:

1. Displayed timidity under fire
2. A paraphrased version of the announcement
3. A definite date for the party

Part III: Choosing the right word

1. Because the situation is changing so rapidly, any plans we make to deal with the emergency can be no more than (tentative, verbatim).
2. Recruits who complain of the cold should try to show a little more intestinal (fortitude, pliable) in facing the elements.
3. In this scene of wild jubilation, my (stolid, tentative) roommate continued to eat his peanut butter sandwich as though nothing had happened.
4. How annoying to hear the same silly advertising slogans (gaped, reiterated) endlessly on TV!
5. Because of my inexperience, I did not recognize at first his (insidious, ambidextrous) attempts to undermine our employer’s confidence in me.
6. The young prince, who much preferred blue jeans, had to dress in the (stolid, opulent) robes designed for the coronation.
7. The speaker (deployed, augmented) all the facts and figures at her command to buttress her argument.
8. I must have been (bereft, tentative) of my senses when I bought that old car!
9. There we were at the very edge of the cliff, with our front wheels about to plunge into a (gaping, pliable) ravine!
10. I soon found out that my supposed friend had taken it upon himself to repeat (unkempt, verbatim) every word I said about Frieda’s party.
11. By studying the reactions of simpler life forms, researchers have greatly (augmented, reiterated) our knowledge of human behavior.
12. One of the chief reasons for your dateless weekends is undoubtedly your (opulent, unkempt) appearance.
13. Do you expect me to listen to a lot of tired old ideas dressed up in the (fortitude, guise) of brilliant new insights?
14. What they call their “(insidious, pliable) outlook on life” seems to be simply a lack of any firm moral standards.
15. Have you heard the joke about the (ambidextrous, opulent) loafer who was equally adept at not working with either hand?