UNIT 2 VOCABULARY collaborate rudimentary despondent scoff instigate squelch resilient venerate [in] retrospect zealot

TEN WORDS IN CONTEXT: In the space provided, write the letter of the meaning closest to that of each **boldfaced** word. Use the context of the sentences to help you figure out each word's meaning.

1. **collaborate [verb]**
   - When Sarah and I were asked to **collaborate** on an article of the school's newspaper, we found it difficult to work together.
   - Several writers and editors have **collaborated** in preparing this vocabulary text, sharing their knowledge and skills.

   _____ **collaborate** means   a. to compete   b. to stop work   c. to team up

2. **despondent [adjective]**
   - Devon became **despondent** too easily. If he gets even one bad grade, he loses all hope of succeeding in school.
   - For months after his wife died, Mr. Craig was **despondent**. He even considered suicide.

   _____ **despondent** means   a. ill   b. depressed   c. angry

3. **instigate [verb]**
   - The rock group's violent performance **instigated** a riot in the audience.
   - An English captain named Robert Jenkins **instigated** a war in 1738 by displaying his pickled ear, which he said had been cut off by a Spanish patrol. The horrified British declared war on Spain--the "War of Jenkins's Ear."

   _____ **instigate** means   a. to prevent   b. to predict   c. to cause

4. **resilient [adjective]**
   - Children can be amazingly **resilient**. Having faced sad and frightening experiences, they often bounce back to their normal cheerful selves.
   - Plant life is **resilient**. For example, within a few weeks after the Mount St. Helens volcano erupted, flowers were growing in the ashes.

   _____ **resilient** means   a. widespread   b. slow to recover   c. quick to recover

5. **[in] retrospect [noun]**
   - Hobbling around on her broken foot before seeing a doctor, Mae then needed surgery. In **retrospect**, she should have gotten help sooner.
   - I originally thought Professor Klein's writing course was too demanding. In **retrospect**, I realize that she taught me more than anyone else.

   _____ **[in] retrospect** means   a. looking back   b. looking for excuses   c. looking ahead

6. **rudimentary [adjective]**
   - A grammar book usually starts with **rudimentary** skills, such as identifying nouns and verbs.
   - I'm so used to adding and subtracting on a calculator that I've forgotten how to do those **rudimentary** mathematic calculations on my own.

   _____ **rudimentary** means   a. basic   b. intermediate   c. advanced

7. **scoff [verb]**
   - Bystanders **scoffed** at the street musician playing a tune on a row of tin cans, but he seemed unaware that people were making fun of him.
   - Tony **scoffed** at reports that a hurricane was coming until he saw the winds knocking down trees and overturning cars.

   _____ **scoff** means   a. to ridicule   b. to watch   c. to take seriously

8. **squelch [verb]**
   - My history instructor shot me a dirty look during his lecture when I couldn't quite manage to **squelch** a burp.
   - Communism in Eastern Europe didn't **squelch** the desire for freedom. As soon as possible, people began to form a democracy.

   _____ **squelch** means   a. to encourage   b. to hold back   c. to release

9. **venerate [verb]**
   - The Tlingit Indians **venerate** the wolf and the raven, and their totem poles illustrate stories in praise of these animals.
   - The guests at our dean's banquet made it clear that they **venerated** her; when she entered the room, everyone rose.

   _____ **venerate** means   a. to pity   b. to honor   c. to remember

10. zealot [noun]

- Annie, a **zealot** about health, runs a hundred miles a week and never lets a grain of sugar touch her lips.
- The Crusades were Christian **zealots** during the Middle Ages who left their homes and families and went off to try to capture Holy Land.

_____ **zealot** means   a. an extremist   b. an observer   c. a doubter

MATCHING WORDS WITH DEFINITIONS: Following are definitions of the ten words. Clearly print each word next to its definition. The sentences above and on the previous page will help you decide on the meaning of each word.

11. _____ to bring about by moving others to action; stir up.
12. _____ fundamental; necessary to learn first.
13. _____ able to recover quickly from harm, illness, or misfortune.
14. _____ to work together on a project; cooperate in an effort.
15. _____ a person totally devoted to purpose or cause.
16. _____ to silence or suppress; crush
17. _____ to respect deeply; revere
18. _____ downhearted; hopeless; overwhelmed with sadness.
19. _____ reviewing the past; considering past events.
20. _____ to make fun of; mock; refuse to take seriously.

SENTENCE CHECK 2: Using the answer lines provided, complete each item below with **two** words from the box. Use each word once.

21-22. Even though their knowledge of carpentry was only _____, the boys _____ (e)d on building a treasure chest.

23-24. "Everyone gets _____(e)d at now and then," Lynn said. "You just have to be ____ enough to bounce back after a facetious remark."

25-26. Many people who _____ (e)d Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., were _____ when he was killed, but then courageously vowed to carry on his work.

27-28. At the time of the American revolution, many people viewed those who _____ (e)d the rebellion as troublemakers. In _____, however, we view them as heroes.

29-30. Being illiterate until the age of 20 didn't _____ George Washington Carver's spirit. He went on to become a great botanist—and a _____ about using peanuts, from which he made such products as ink, shampoo, and linoleum.

FINAL CHECK – Hardly a Loser: Read the following selection carefully. Fill in each blank with the correct vocabulary word. Context Clues will help you figure out which word goes in which blank. Use each word once.

Tom seemed to be a loser born into a long line of losers. His great-grandfather, condemned to death during the Revolutionary War for siding with the British, had fled to Canada. Tom's father, wanted for arrest after he helped (31) _____ a plot to overthrow the Canadian government, had fled back to the United States.

Tom never received even the most (32) _____ formal education. During his mere three months of schooling, he stayed at the bottom of his class. The teacher (33)_____ (e)d at him, telling him that he was hopelessly stupid.

Tom's first job, selling papers and candy on the train, ended when he was caught sleeping on the job. At 22, he was jobless, penniless, and sleeping in a cellar. Obviously, Tom's youth had not provided the optimum foundation for success,

Tom, however, didn't allow his situation to be a detriment or to (34) _____ his hopes. Instead of becoming (35) _____ he was (36) _____ enough to recover from his misfortunes and find another job. He managed, in fact, to save enough money to open a workshop, where he (37) _____ (e)d with an electrical engineer in designing and then selling machines. A (38) _____ when it came to solving mechanical puzzles. Tom worked nearly nonstop, sleeping only about four hours each night.

By the time he was in his 80s. Tom was credited with over a thousand inventions, including the photograph, light bulb, and motion picture camera. He was also very famous—so much so that he was (39) _____ (e)d nationwide as the greatest living American. In (40)_____ Thomas Alva Edison wasn't such a loser after all.