

BELL RINGERS- COLLEGE PREP WRITING

College Readiness Standard: Word Choice: Use context to determine the appropriate meaning of any word, phrase, or statement in a sentence.

*Directions: RECOPY THE SENTENCE, ANSWER CHOICES, and Definitions of each word. Select the **most effective word** within the context suggested by the sentence.*

DAY 1

My brother said, “I just freed myself from a very loquacious history professor. All he seemed to want was an audience.”

- a. pretentious
- b. grouchy
- c. talkative
- d. worried

DAY 2

There is no doubt that the idea of living in such a benign climate was appealing. The islanders seemed to keep their vitality and live longer than Europeans.

- a. tropical
- b. not malignant
- c. kind
- d. favorable

DAY 3

It is difficult to imagine a surfeit of talent in one individual, yet Leonard Bernstein simply does not have the time to make complete use of his talent as conductor, performer, writer, and lecturer.

- a. excess
- b. variety
- c. superiority
- d. lack

DAY 4

There is a large demand all over the United States for plants indigenous to the desert. Many people in Arizona have made a good business of growing and selling cacti and other local plants.

- a. native
- b. necessary
- c. foreign
- d. alien

DAY 5

Many years before, Caesar's men had tried and failed to invade Britain. No doubt this contributed to the xenophobia of the Romans. They were cautious about strangers who entered their country.

- a. honesty
- b. fear of foreigners
- c. kindness
- d. stubbornness

DAY 6

Such are the vicissitudes of history. Nothing remains the same. Three hundred years of peace ended in darkness and confusion.

- a. evils
- b. mistakes
- c. changes
- d. rules

DAY 7

The purpose of the psychiatrist is to mitigate the suffering of the patient.

- a. make milder
- b. beautify
- c. increase
- d. banish

DAY 8

We knew he couldn't hold out much longer, because he had been doomed from the beginning. One night he met his ineluctable fate.

- a. forgotten
- b. inevitable
- c. hidden
- d. unhappy

DAY 9

A combination of fog and industrial smoke, called smog, has vitiating the air in and around many big cities.

- a. concentrate
- b. fill up
- c. replace
- d. contaminate

1. Raul is an **indulgent** father. For instance, he lets his daughter stay up as late as she likes and he never insists that she does her homework.

a. lazy and caring b. stupid and kind c. strict and mean d. lenient and accepting

2. The child tried to **placate** the bully, doing everything he told her to do.

a. hate b. satisfy c. teach d. fight

3. Even though Jardy enjoyed the movie and said it was exciting, Danario thought it was **tedious**.

a. awesome b. eventful c. slow d. boring _____

4. The mime troupe, drama club and other local **thespians** will meet Saturday for a workshop.

a. organizations b. singers c. actors d. workers _____

5. At first, the surgery seemed to be successful. However, several hours later, the patient's condition began to **deteriorate**, and it continued to worsen over the next few days.

a. stabilize b. surprise everyone c. change d. decay or decline _____

6. Pewter is a combination of copper, tin and antimony. The **alloy** is quite soft and presents some problems to a metalsmith.

a. bowl b. mixture of metals c. hardware d. chemical _____

7. Tom was **oblivious** to the noise, but the rest of us were unable to concentrate on our work.

a. annoyed b. frightened c. unaware d. bothered _____

8. The building **obstructed** our view as effectively as a blindfold.

a. helped b. warmed c. blocked d. magnified _____

9. He could make the journey by mule cart, train, or another **conveyance**.

a. adventure b. means of transporting c. vehicle d. boat _____

10. The students were **belligerent**. In other words, they did not listen to the teacher and often talked back to her.

a. argumentative b. obedient c. cruel d. lazy _____

11. She sought **redress** for the wrong that had been done to her family.

a. correction b. promptness c. hope d. repetition