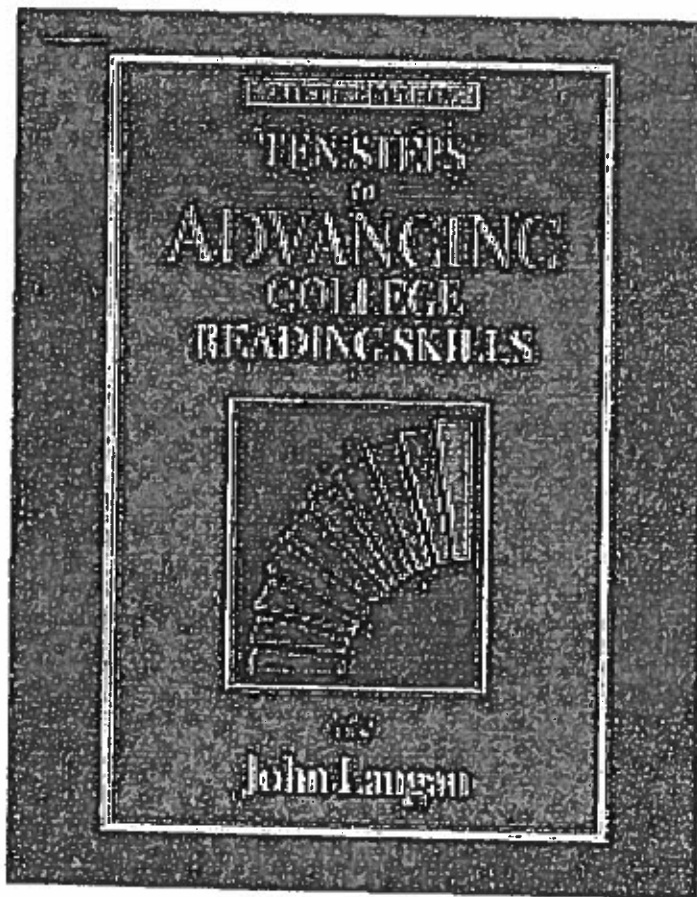


# College Reading

## Chapter 1

### Practice and Mastery Exercises



Name \_\_\_\_\_



## REVIEW TEST 2

A. Look at the cartoon below, and then answer the questions which follow.



1. Using the context clues in the cartoon, write the letter of the best meaning of *berated* (bĭ-rā'tĭd) in the space provided.
 

A. complimented	B. ignored	C. criticized
-----------------	------------	---------------
  2. What kind of context clue helps you understand the meaning of the cartoon?
 

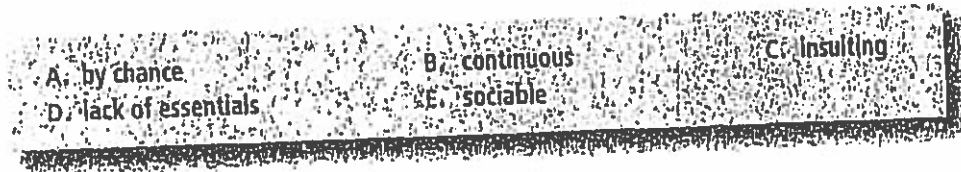
A. Examples clue	B. Synonym clue	C. Antonym clue
------------------	-----------------	-----------------
- B. Using context clues for help, write, in the space provided, the letter of the best meaning for each italicized word.
3. Because of residential segregation, schools in urban areas are often *predominantly* (prĭ-dŏm'ə-nənt-lē) black while those in the suburbs are mostly white.
 

A. in small part	C. hopefully
B. reasonably	D. mainly
  4. After the funeral, the widow's friends were very *solicitous* (sə-lĭs'ĭ-təs) —they came to see her each day and took turns calling every evening to be sure she was all right.
 

A. bold	C. annoyed
B. concerned	D. careless

- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. When several members of the president's staff were charged with various crimes, the public's confidence in the government *eroded* (ĭ-rōd'ĭd). Once public trust wears down, it is difficult to rebuild.
- A. deteriorated                      C. grew  
B. healed                                D. repeated

C. Using context clues for help, write the definition for each italicized word. Then write the letter of the definition in the space provided. Choose from the definitions in the box below. Each definition will be used once.



- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. *Deprivation* in early life—poor food, inadequate health care, insufficient education—may be hard to overcome later on.  
*Deprivation* (dĕp'rĕ-vā'shən) means \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Little Amanda hid shyly behind her mother when she met new people, yet her twin brother, Adam, was very *gregarious*.  
*Gregarious* (grĭ-gār'ĕ-əs) means \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. During the argument, the angry woman called her husband such *derogatory* names as "idiot" and "fool."  
*Derogatory* (dĭ-rōg'ə-tōr'ĕ) means \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. The noise in the nursery school classroom was *incessant*; the crying, laughing, and yelling never stopped for a second.  
*Incessant* (ĭn-sĕs'ənt) means \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. No one knows how humans acquired the concept of cooking food, but their first experience of cooking was probably *fortuitous*; very likely, some meat fell into a fire by accident.  
*Fortuitous* (fōr-tōō'ĭ-təs) means \_\_\_\_\_.



## REVIEW TEST 4

Here is a chance to apply the skill of understanding vocabulary in context to a full-length selection. In the following article, Sara Hansen suggests a simple way to stay healthy. After reading the selection, answer the vocabulary questions that follow.

### Words to Watch

Below are some words in the reading that do not have strong context support. Each word is followed by the number of the paragraph in which it appears and its meaning there. These words are indicated in the article by a small circle (°).

*correlation* (2): relationship

*balk at* (3): resist

*prone to* (3): likely to be affected by

*entities* (5): creatures

*innocuous* (8): harmless

*lurking* (10): lying in wait

*hygiene* (15): cleanliness

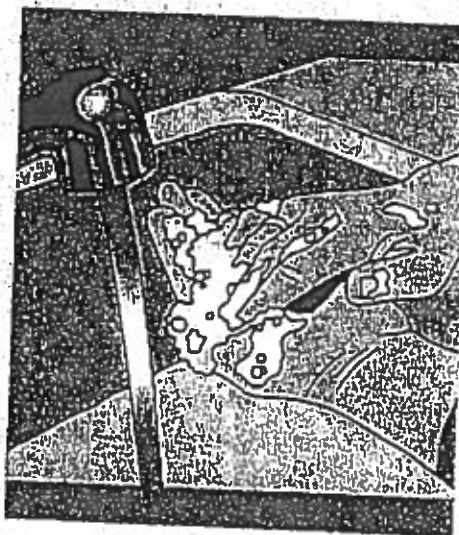
## ALL WASHED UP?

Sara Hansen

1 If you've heard it once, you've heard it a thousand times: "Did you wash your hands?" Warnings about the need for hand-washing are given regularly, usually by parents, but proliferate at certain times of year—for example, you'll hear them more often in cold and flu season. The sad truth, though, is that frequent hand-washing is right up there with flossing your teeth on the list of "Things You Know You Ought to Do—but Probably Don't."

2 Why "probably don't"? Research has uncovered a surprising truth: Even though most people have heard that there's a correlation<sup>o</sup> between hand-washing and staying healthy, they still don't wash their hands thoroughly—or frequently—enough. In fact, the American Society of Microbiology and the Soap and Detergent Association, in a recent study, discovered that 23% of adults observed in public restrooms did not bother to wash their hands at all. Furthermore, those that do wash their hands spend only a few seconds on this activity—insufficient time for the hand-washing to do any good.

3 It's understandable that adults balk<sup>o</sup> a little at the idea that they should lather up on a regular basis. After all, we consider ourselves fastidious adults, not small children prone to<sup>o</sup> the sticky messes of childhood. We are not usually smeared with jelly or melted chocolate; we rarely play in the mud. Many adults



quite reasonably think, "I'll wash my hands when they need washing—when they're dirty."

4 Unfortunately, "dirty" is defined by many people as "showing visible signs of dirt." The fact is that in terms of spreading disease, invisible "dirt" is far more dangerous than, say, a streak of mud. In order to understand why, a quick biology lesson is in order.

5 In general, infectious diseases are spread when bacteria and viruses—those microscopic entities<sup>o</sup> that we lump into the category of "germs"—are transmitted from one person to another. There are three basic ways by which germs can travel:

6 **Direct contact.** Just a few examples of direct contact are shaking hands, kissing, and hugging. Any sort of touching qualifies as direct contact.

7 Most people realize that if they have direct contact with a person who has a cold, they had better wash their hands quickly to avoid being contaminated with that person's cold germs. The problem with that reasoning is that it assumes that healthy people cannot infect you. The exact opposite is true; when you shake hands (or otherwise have direct contact) with those healthy people, you are, in effect, having direct contact with all the people they have had recent contact with, and all the people those people have had contact with, and on and on. You have no way of knowing whether your healthy friend is transferring someone else's disease-causing germs to you.

8 **Airborne transmission.** Infection can also be spread through the very air we breathe. Germs can hang in the air or be dispersed as moisture droplets—by a cough, a sneeze, or merely the movement of an object. Something as seemingly innocuous as the sleeve on your doctor's white coat could be laden with dangerous germs, left there by previous patients.

9 **Indirect contact.** Most sneakily of all, germs can survive on an inanimate object, waiting to be picked up by the next person who touches that object. Can you imagine how many such objects you touch over the course of an average day? A few that come to mind instantly are tabletops, pens, phones, ATMs, door-knobs, toilets, light switches, money, supermarket carts, elevator buttons, parking meters, staplers, computer key-

boards, and books. Each of those objects and hundreds more may be full of germs capable of causing anything from the common cold to chicken pox to pneumonia. And don't forget how insidious germs are. Because they are invisible to the naked eye, the surface that they inhabit may well look perfectly clean.

10 So now let's return to our original subject: hand-washing. Washing our hands frequently and doing it thoroughly (more on that later), according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is the single most effective way we have of protecting ourselves against the thousands of germs lurking in our daily environment. Actually, the fact that the germs end up on our hands is not the real problem; it's what we do with our hands that puts us in peril. And what is that? We touch our faces—regularly and frequently, without even being aware we are doing it. We rub our eyes, scratch our noses, chew our nails, wipe lipstick off our teeth, and rest our chins on our fists, giving the germs on our hands a convenient bridge directly into our eyes, noses, and mouths, and then straight into our bloodstreams. People who study disease estimate that more than 80 percent of common illnesses develop as a result of face-touching with germ-laden hands.

11 Now that you know *why* hand-washing is so crucial, let's talk about *how*. Yes, you've been washing your hands since you were a toddler, but no, "how to wash your hands" is not a really stupid topic. Too many of us think that a

swipe under the faucet is sufficient. But those few seconds under a faucet are simply not enough to get rid of those pesky germs. Instead, here is what you have to do:

12 **1. Use hot water.** Why hot water? You may have heard "to kill the germs." However, that's not the reason; water hot enough to kill germs would be too hot for you to touch. But there are two genuine reasons. One is that hot water does a better job than cold of dissolving the natural oils on your skin that trap bacteria. The second reason is simply that hot water feels better than cold, leading you to spend more time washing.

13 **2. Use lots of soap, and take time to work up a good lather.** Again, you have probably heard that soap "kills germs." But again, that's not true (unless it's an "antibacterial" soap, and even then, it won't kill viruses). The actual function of soap is to form a thin layer around germs so they can be easily dislodged from your skin. In order to get the full effect, you need plenty of soap, plenty of lather (scrub for a minimum of 20 seconds—some experts say "Long enough to recite the ABCs twice"), and plenty of hot water to wash all the trapped germs down the drain.

14 (By the way, you've undoubtedly seen the many "hand sanitizers" for sale. These small bottles of alcohol-based liquid, conveniently sized for pocket or purse, can be helpful if you need to disinfect your hands and you don't have access to soap and water. But plain old soap-and-water washing is still the most

effective, and certainly the cheapest, way of insuring that your hands are clean.)

**3. Dry your hands.** The final step 15 in good handwashing hygiene<sup>o</sup> is to dry your hands and then exit the washing area without re-contaminating yourself. After all, you've just spent at least 20 seconds carefully washing up. What will happen when you use your nice clean hands to turn off the water faucet and grab the door handle to exit the restroom? That's right—you will pick up brand new germs, many of them left there by people who did not wash *their* hands properly. The solution is simple: grab a paper towel before you turn off the faucet. Use the towel to both turn off the faucet and open the door; then dispose of the towel. Many public restrooms have trash cans right outside the door for this very purpose.

How often should you wash your 16 hands? There are some obvious times of day—after you use the restroom, before eating, and before preparing food. But think back to the earlier discussion of where and how we pick up germs, and you'll realize that the more frequently you wash (within reason, of course), the better. In particular, find time to wash up whenever you've been in an area where many people gather, or when you've been handling objects that have been touched by lots of people. Spending a few extra minutes each day washing your hands—and doing it right—will almost certainly save you from the discomfort and inconvenience of preventable illnesses.

## Vocabulary Questions

Use context clues to help you decide on the best definition for each italicized word. Then, on the answer line, write the letter of each choice.

- \_\_\_\_\_ | 1. In the sentence below, the word *proliferate* (prə-līf'ə-rāt') means
- |               |                            |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| A. slow down. | C. become more surprising. |
| B. increase.  | D. are ignored.            |

"Warnings about the need for hand-washing are given regularly, usually by parents, but proliferate at certain times of year—for example, you'll hear them more often in cold and flu season." (Paragraph 1)

- \_\_\_\_\_ | 2. In the excerpt below, the word *insufficient* (in'sə-fīsh'ənt) means
- |                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| A. not enough.       | C. proper.   |
| B. more than enough. | D. the best. |

". . . most people . . . still don't wash their hands thoroughly—or frequently—enough. . . Furthermore, those that do wash their hands spend only a few seconds on this activity—insufficient time for the hand-washing to do any good." (Paragraph 2)

- \_\_\_\_\_ | 3. In the excerpt below, the word *fastidious* (fā-stīd'ē-əs) means
- |                  |                             |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| A. sloppy.       | C. successful.              |
| B. hard-working. | D. fussy about cleanliness. |

"It's understandable that adults balk a little at the idea that they should lather up on a regular basis. After all, we consider ourselves fastidious adults, not small children prone to the sticky messes of childhood. We are not usually smeared with jelly or melted chocolate; we rarely play in the mud." (Paragraph 3)

- \_\_\_\_\_ | 4. In the sentence below, the word *contaminated* (kən-tām'ə-nā'tīd) means
- |               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| A. surprised. | C. softened. |
| B. cured.     | D. infected. |

"Most people realize that if they have direct contact with a person who has a cold, they had better wash their hands quickly to avoid being contaminated with that person's cold germs." (Paragraph 7)

- \_\_\_\_\_ | 5. In the sentence below, the word *dispersed* (dī-spūrst') means
- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| A. weakened.  | C. distributed. |
| B. described. | D. remembered.  |

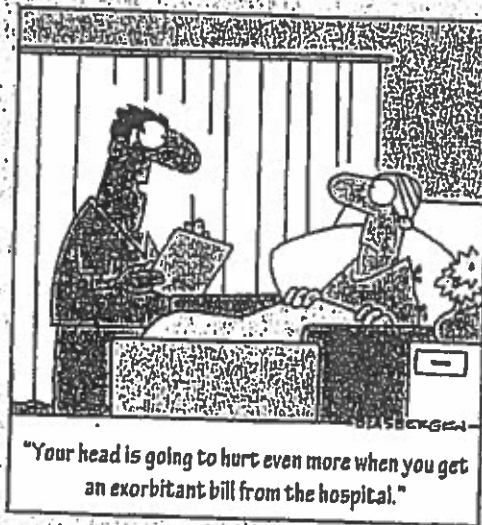
"Infection can also be spread through the very air we breathe. Germs can be suspended in the air or dispersed as moisture droplets—by a cough, a sneeze, or merely the movement of an object." (Paragraph 8)





### VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT: Mastery Test 1

A. Look at the cartoon below, and then answer the question that follows.



21. Using the context clues in the cartoon, write the letter of the meaning of *exorbitant* (ĭg-zōr' bī-rōnt) in the space provided.
- A. too high                      B. reasonable                      C. discounted
- B. For each item below, underline the examples that suggest the meaning of the italicized word. Then, on the answer line, write the letter of the meaning of that word.
22. We all have our *foibles* (foi' bəlz). Lily, for instance, eats with her mouth open; Earl cracks his knuckles; and Jenelle calls everyone "honey."
- A. emotional disturbances                      C. hobbies  
B. minor faults                      D. good points
23. The company president has an *austere* (ō-sūr') office: it is furnished with just an ordinary metal desk, an armless chair, and a file cabinet.
- A. very plain                      C. luxurious  
B. unclean                      D. large and roomy
24. If you have a taste for the *macabre* (mə-kā'brə), visit the Chamber of Horrors, an exhibit at Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum in London that features ax murderers, poisoners, and stranglers.
- A. gruesome                      C. historic  
B. artistic                      D. unknown

(Continues on next page)

- C. Each item below includes a word or words that are a synonym of the italicized word. Write the synonym of the italicized word in the space provided.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. When Kim needed to have a tooth pulled, her boyfriend came along to *bolster* (bōl'stər) her courage. But she was the one who had to support him—he fainted dead away.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. To *forestall* (fōr-stōl') the need for last-minute cramming, keep up with each course throughout the term. Keeping up will also prevent "test anxiety."

- D. Each item below includes a word or words that are an antonym of the italicized word. Underline the antonym of each italicized word. Then, on the answer line, write the letter of the meaning of the italicized word.

25 Automobiles *depreciate* (dĭ-prē'shē-āt') sharply in a short time. In contrast, real estate will typically increase in value.

- A. rust  
B. wear out  
C. lose value  
D. drive

26 Test results sometimes show that a person who has only a *tenuous* (tĕn'yōō-əs) grasp of mathematics nevertheless has very strong verbal abilities.

- A. inborn  
B. weak  
C. acquired  
D. surprising

- E. Use the general sense of each sentence to figure out the meaning of each italicized word. Then, on the answer line, write the letter of the meaning of the italicized word.

27 Because she enjoyed her work, the new job offer left Elena in a *quandary* (kwōn'də-rē). She couldn't decide what to do.

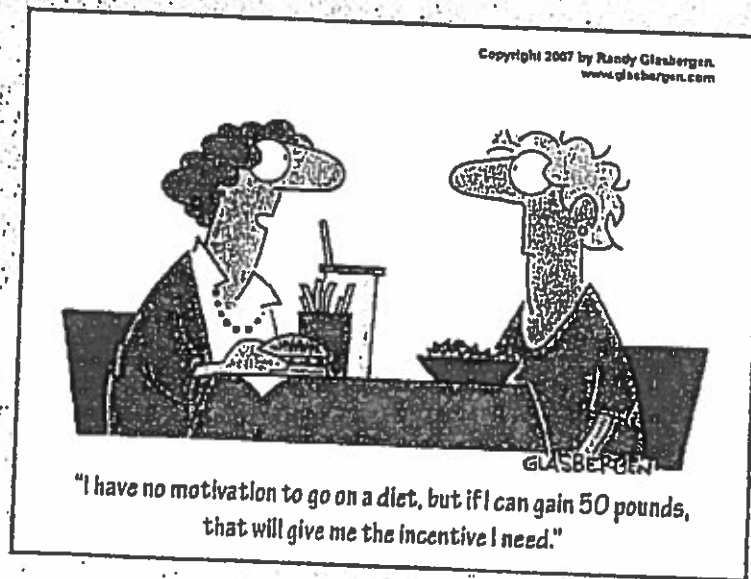
- A. state of uncertainty  
B. state of fear  
C. state of anger  
D. state of confidence

28 There is a growing *disparity* (dĭ-spār'ĭ-tē) between the rich and the poor in the United States. The richest 20 percent of Americans own more than 75 percent of all the nation's wealth.

- A. mistrust  
B. understanding  
C. inequality  
D. violence

### VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT: Mastery Test 2

A. Look at the cartoon below, and then answer the question that follows.



29 . Using the context clues in the cartoon, write the letter of the meaning of *incentive* (in-sen'tiv) in the space provided.

A. intelligence      B. encouragement      C. method

B. For each item below, underline the examples that suggest the meaning of the italicized word. Then, on the answer line, write the letter of the meaning of that word.

30 The employees have put up *facetious* (fə-sē'shəs) signs by their desks, such as "A clean desk is the sign of a sick mind," "Don't rush me; I get paid by the hour," and "If you don't believe the dead come back to life, you should see this place at five o'clock."

- A. useful      C. expensive  
B. humorous      D. insulting

31 Immigrants to the United States were once urged to *assimilate* (ə-sim'ə-lāt') —to speak only English, to wear American clothes, to eat American food, to adopt American customs.

- A. succeed      C. leave  
B. work hard      D. blend in

(Continues on next page)

C. Each item below includes a word or words that are a synonym of the italicized word. Write the synonym of the italicized word in the space provided.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. When Reba lost fifty pounds, there was not just a change in her appearance. Her personality also underwent a *metamorphosis* (mēt'ə-môr'fə-sīs)—she became much more outgoing.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Some drivers *circumvented* (sūr'kəm-vēnt'īd) the traffic jam at the bridge. They avoided the tie-up by taking the turnoff a mile back.

D. Each item below includes a word or words that are an antonym of the italicized word. Underline the antonym of each italicized word. Then, on the answer line, write the letter of the meaning of the italicized word.

32 Most offices expect employees to wear clothing that is fairly quiet and conservative, so save your *flamboyant* (flām-boi'ənt) clothes for when you're out with friends.

- |                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| A. flashy        | C. expensive |
| B. old-fashioned | D. new       |

33 Someone from outside the group is needed to give an *objective* (əb-jēk'īv) viewpoint. Anyone from the group would be too biased.

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| A. thoughtless | C. favorable |
| B. open-minded | D. useful    |

34 Many people still believe that rubbing butter on a burn will relieve it. However, that practice can actually *exacerbate* (īg-zās'ər-bāt') the injury.

- |           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| A. soothe | C. protect |
| B. worsen | D. cover   |

E. Use the general sense of each sentence to figure out the meaning of each italicized word. Then, on the answer line, write the letter of the meaning of the italicized word.

35 "You keep wandering off into thoughts that are not *germane* (jər-mān') to your topic," the instructor wrote on my paper. "You must learn to stick to the point."

- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| A. grammatically correct | C. interesting |
| B. damaging              | D. related     |

36 Stephen King has been a very *prolific* (prə-līf'īk) writer, sometimes completing two long novels in a single year.

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| A. secret          | C. unimportant      |
| B. very productive | D. very frightening |

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT: Mastery Test 3

A. Look at the cartoon below, and then answer the question that follows.



37 Using the context clues in the cartoon, write the letter of the meaning of *revitalize* (re-vīt'-īz') in the space provided.  
 A. put up with                      B. put an end to                      C. bring new life to

B. Using context clues for help, write, in the space provided, the letter of the best meaning for each italicized word.

38 President Calvin Coolidge was so *reticent* (rēt'ī-sənt) that he was nicknamed "Silent Cal."  
 A. powerful as a speaker                      C. uncommunicative  
 B. popular                      D. well-known

39 The *paramount* (pār'a-mount') duty of the physician is to do no harm. Everything else—even healing—must take second place.  
 A. successful                      C. mysterious  
 B. first                      D. least

40 Ideas about *decorum* (dī-kôr'am) change greatly over time. In our society, for instance, until relatively recently, polite people did not appear bareheaded on the street, and a man always tipped his hat to a woman.  
 A. beauty                      C. proper behavior  
 B. physical fitness                      D. style

(Continues on next page)

41

The expert witness in the lawsuit chose his words with great care. He didn't want anyone to *misconstrue* (mīs'kən-strōō') his statements.

- A. repeat  
B. recall  
C. accept  
D. misinterpret

42

The fatty food was so *repugnant* (rī-pūg'nənt) to Fran that she could not force herself to finish the meal.

- A. amusing  
B. new  
C. disgusting  
D. surprising

43

When reporters asked if he would be a mayoral candidate again, the mayor would only *equivocate* (ī-kwīv'ə-kāt'), saying, "Ladies and gentlemen, I still feel that public service is a high calling."

- A. predict  
B. be purposely unclear  
C. clearly deny  
D. forget

44

By forming a *coalition* (kō'ə-līsh'ən), the small political parties gained more power in the government than they each had separately.

- A. separation  
B. publication  
C. competition  
D. partnership

45

Some people seek *vicarious* (vī-kār'ē-əs) experiences. For example, the "stage mother" claims success through her child, and the "peeping Tom," who is emotionally disturbed, gets sexual pleasure from spying on others.

- A. varied  
B. ordinary  
C. indirect  
D. inexpensive

46

The *noxious* (nōk'shəs) fumes from the chemical spill made people so ill that some had to go to the hospital.

- A. permanent  
B. silent  
C. mild  
D. unhealthy

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT: Mastery Test 4

Using context clues for help, write, in the space provided, the letter of the best meaning for each italicized word. Note that all of the sentences have been taken from college textbooks.

- 47 . To carry out his economic programs, Roosevelt had to *contend* (kən-tēnd') with a Supreme Court that was deeply opposed to them.  
 A. travel C. struggle  
 B. surrender D. join

- 48 . Being unable to write clearly is a *liability* (lī'ə-bīl'ī-tē) in a business career, in which one must often express opinions and ideas in writing.  
 A. drawback C. necessity  
 B. surprise D. feature

- 49 The idea that off-track betting will work in Alaska because it works in New York is a questionable *analogy* (ə-nāl'ə-jē). New York and Alaska may not be alike when it comes to off-track betting.  
 A. comparison C. contrast  
 B. purpose D. requirement

- 50 To *facilitate* (fə-sīl'ī-tāt') the college admission process, many application forms have been shortened and simplified, and they can be posted on a website, sent by e-mail, or faxed.  
 A. begin C. complicate  
 B. frustrate D. make easier

- 51 There is an *optimum* (öp'ṭə-məm) way to approach each kind of exam question. For a multiple-choice item, for example, first eliminate any clearly wrong answers. For an essay question, jot down an outline first.  
 A. inconvenient C. annoying  
 B. best D. time-consuming

- 52 . Studies indicate that a *predisposition* (prē'dīs-pə-zīsh'ən) to schizophrenia is inherited. People who are schizophrenic are more likely than others to have schizophrenic children.  
 A. tendency C. fear  
 B. understanding D. avoidance

- 53 . By giving military aid to dictatorships in Latin America, the United States has seemed to *sanction* (sāngk'shən) their cruel policies.  
 A. criticize C. remember  
 B. approve of D. create



- 54 8. A *provocative* (prə-vōk'ə-tīv) question can be an effective way to open an essay. Students have begun essays with such interesting questions as "What do you think your name means?" and "How long do you think it would take you to count to one billion?"
- A. funny  
B. arousing interest  
C. unanswerable  
D. very brief
- 55 9. Manic depression is an emotional disorder in which the patient alternates between feeling delightfully *euphoric* (yōō-fōr'īk) and being plunged into deep gloom.
- A. overjoyed  
B. bored  
C. exhausted  
D. curious
- 56 10. Although relatively few people in the United States lack food desperately, about 36,000,000 American people—approximately 14 percent of the population—live in what is officially *designated* (dēz'īg-nāt'īd) as poverty.
- A. predicted  
B. designed  
C. labeled  
D. forgotten