VOCABULARY – 1ST NINE WEEKS

1. antithesis (an TI thuh sis) - a direct opposite, a contrast

Synonym – *none*; Antonym - duplicate; same

Sentence - Good is the antithesis of evil.

Derivatives - antithetic, antithetical, antithetically

2. ascend (uh SEND) - to move upward, to rise from a lower station

Synonyms – *none*; Antonym - to descend; to go down

Sentence - The climbers ascended the mountain.

Derivatives - ascendancy, ascendance, ascendant, ascension, ascending, ascended

3. austere (aw STEER)- strict, stern; unadorned, ascetic

Synonyms – severe; Antonym - indulgent

Sentence - Pioneers usually led an austere existence.

Derivatives - austereness, austerely, austerity

4. autonomous (aw TON uh muhs)- independent, self-contained

Synonyms – *none*; Antonym - dependent

Sentence - One who is autonomous needs no help from others.

Derivatives - autonomic, autonomously, autonomy, autonomist

5. banal (BANE ul, buh NAL)- common, ordinary, lacking freshness, hackneyed

Synonyms - inane, insipid, jejune, vapid; Antonym - fresh, unique, extraordinary

Sentence - Because of his use of overused trite remarks, his speeches are banal.

Derivatives - banality, banally

6. benign (buh NINE) - not causing harm, of gentle disposition, beneficial

Synonyms – *none*; Antonym - malignant, harmful

Sentence - The minister was loved because of his benign attitude toward all types of people.

Derivatives - benignly, benignant, benignancy, benignantly, benignity

7. capricious (kuh PRISH us)- changing suddenly, fickle

Synonyms - inconstant, mercurial, unstable; Antonym - stable

Sentence - Her capricious moods are difficult to anticipate.

Derivatives - caprice, capriciously, capriciousness

8. dawdle (DOD ul) - to waste time, to spend time idly, to move in a lackadaisical manner

Synonyms - dally, loiter, procrastinate; Antonym - to rush

Sentence - Since we have a deadline, do not dawdle over your work.

Derivatives - dawdled, dawdling

9. defamation (def uh MAY shun) - act of harming or ruining another's reputation

Synonyms – *none*; Antonym - adulation

Sentence - The defamation of another's character is a horrible thing.

Derivatives - defamatory, defame, defamed, defamer, defamingly

10. esoteric (es uh TER ik) - understood only by a small group or a select few

Synonyms – *none*; Antonym - obvious

Sentence - The English teachers were having an esoteric discussion about the correct usage of some obscure word.

Derivatives - esoterical, esoterically, esotericism, esotericist, esoterism, esotery

11. exacerbate (ig ZAS ur bate) - to aggravate, to irritate, to vex

Synonyms – *none*; Antonym - to ameliorate; to soothe

Sentence - You will only exacerbate the situation if you try to call her.

Derivatives - exacerbatingly, exacerbation

12. extol (ik STOLE) -to praise, to glorify

Synonyms – none; Antonym - to defame

Sentence - The teacher would always extol students who tried to do their best.

Derivatives - extolled, extolling, extollingly, extollment, extoller

13. fastidious (fa STID ee us) - reflecting a meticulous or demanding attitude, critical to an extreme

Synonyms - finicky; Antonym - not meticulous

Sentence - He considered her fastidious because she was offended by insignificant mistakes or errors.

Derivatives - fastidiously, fastidiousness, fastidium

14. furtive (FUR tiv) - secret in an underhanded way, stealthy

Synonyms - clandestine, covert, stealthy, surreptitious, underhanded; Antonym -bold

Sentence - During the test, he made some furtive glances at other classmates' papers.

Derivatives - furtively, furtiveness

15. gregarious (greh GAR ee us) - sociable and outgoing

Synonyms – none; Antonym - shy; reserved

Sentence - He became much more gregarious after he developed an interest in girls.

Derivatives - gregariously, gregariousness

16. hypocrite (HIP uh krit) - one who is insincere or deceitful

Synonyms - *none*; Antonym - sincere person

Sentence - Saying one thing and then doing the other is the mark of a hypocrite.

Derivatives - hypocrites, hypocritical, hypocritically, hypocrital, hypocrisy

17. innate (eh NATE) - existing from birth, inborn

Synonyms – *none*; Antonym - learned

Sentence - He has innate athletic talents that cannot be taught.

Derivatives - innated, innately, innateness, innatism, innative

18. lethargic (luh THAR jik) - sluggish, languid

Synonyms - stuporous, torpid; Antonym - energetic

Sentence - Having had too much to drink, he was very lethargic the morning after the party.

Derivatives - lethargically, lethargize, lethargy

19. melancholy (MEL un kol ee)- depression of spirits

Synonyms – *none*; Antonym - happiness

Sentence - After Dad lost his job, he fell into a state of melancholy.

Derivatives - melancholia, melancholic, melancholiac, melancholically, melancholily, melancholiness, melancholious

20. opaque (oh PAKE) - not allowing the passage of light, not transparent; hard to understand

Synonyms - dark; Antonym - transparent

Sentence - I am going to place something opaque in the window so that no one will be able to see into this room.

Derivatives - opaquely, opaqueness, opaquer

21. prolific (pro LIF ik) - abundantly fruitful, marked by great productivity

Synonyms - fecund, fertile; Antonym - barren; unfruitful

Sentence - Since he has written a great number of books in a short period, Stephen King is known as a prolific writer.

Derivatives - proliferation, proliferate, proliferative, proliferous, proliferously

22. reprove (reh PROOV) - to scold or to rebuke for a misdeed usually with kindly intent

Synonyms - admonish, castigate, chastise, chide, rebuke, reproach; Antonym - to approve; to applaud

Sentence - A teacher sometimes needs to reprove a student for talking during class.

Derivatives - reprovable, reprovingly, reproving, reproved, reproves, reproof

23. symmetry (SIM eh tree) - balanced proportions

Synonyms - *none*; Antonym - lack of balance

Sentence - The symmetry of the gardens of Versailles creates a beautiful and balanced atmosphere.

Derivatives - symmetrical, symmetric, symmetrically, symmetricalness, symmetrization, symmetrize

24. tranquil (TRANG kwul) - peaceful, calm

Synonyms - placid, serene; Antonym - agitated

Sentence - Weather in Texas can quickly change from tranquil to turbulent.

Derivatives - tranquilization, tranquilize, tranquility, tranquilness, tranquilizer

25. venerate (VEN uh rate) - to honor, to revere

Synonyms - adore, worship ; Antonym – dishonor

Sentence - Although I did not always agree with President Kennedy, I venerate his memory.

Derivatives - veneration, venerational, venerator, venerable, venerability