

1. The topic of her salary was a \_\_\_\_\_ for her, so we avoided discussing it.
  - a) sore point
  - b) success
  - c) triumph
  - d) accomplishment
  
2. Which of these words means "to relax and let go of tension"?
  - a) unwind
  - b) wind up
  - c) tighten
  - d) fasten
  
3. It's time to \_\_\_\_\_ to what you did and apologize.
  - a) deny
  - b) own up
  - c) avoid
  - d) conceal
  
4. Find synonym: "I made the decision on the spur of the moment."
  - a) deny
  - b) randomly
  - c) impulsively
  - d) last minute
  
5. I expect everyone on the team to \_\_\_\_\_ and do their part.
  - a) take it slow
  - b) cut corners
  - c) give up
  - d) pull their weight
  
6. When someone refers to something as a "touchstone," what are they saying about it?
  - a) That it is outdated and no longer relevant
  - b) That it is a standard or criterion by which something is judged or recognized
  - c) that it is too complex or difficult to understand
  - d) that it is too simple and lacks substance

7. He fell behind on his bills and now owes a lot of money in \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) profit  
b) surplus  
c) arrears  
d) deficit
8. Find synonym: "She paid meticulous attention to detail."  
a) careless  
b) absolute  
c) careful  
d) sincere
9. The criminal was found guilty of \_\_\_\_\_ murder, which means he planned the crime in advance  
a) improptu  
b) spontaneous  
c) improvised  
d) premediated
10. What does the phrase "have an ear for something" mean?  
a) To be unwilling to listen to someone  
b) To be good at hearing and repeating sounds in speech or music  
c) To have a medical condition affecting your hearing  
d) To be able to give a good advice on something
11. He was always a \_\_\_\_\_ kid, and no matter how much he ate, he couldn't seem to gain weight.  
a) plump  
b) corpulent  
c) scrawny  
d) portly
12. The party was \_\_\_\_\_ and loud, with music and dancing late into the night.  
a) boisterous  
b) quiet  
c) placid  
d) subdued

13. What is an antonym for the word "raid"?
- a) advance
  - b) assault
  - c) retreat
  - d) heist
14. He had a \_\_\_\_\_ answer for everything, but I knew he wasn't being completely honest.
- a) glib
  - b) articulate
  - c) verbose
  - d) laconic
15. Which phrase means "to remain loyal and supportive in difficult times"?
- a) In the nick of time
  - b) Be the last straw
  - c) Through thick and thin
  - d) Be the calm before the storm

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#### Ad 1.

**a sore point** - a subject that someone prefers not to talk about because it makes them angry or embarrassed

**success, triumph, accomplishment** - something that has been achieved, a great victory

#### Ad 2.

**unwind** - to relax and let go of stress or tension

**wind up** - to bring to a conclusion or finish

**tighten** - to make something more secure or firm by making it smaller or more compact

**fasten** - to attach or secure something firmly in place

#### Ad 3.

**deny** - to declare that something is not true

**own up** (to something/to doing something) - to admit that you are responsible for something bad or wrong

**avoid** - to evade or sidestep something

**conceal** - to keep something hidden or secret

#### Ad 4.

**on the spur of the moment** - sudden, without planning

#### Ad 5.

**take it slow** - to proceed at a relaxed or unhurried pace

**cut corners** - to take shortcuts or skip steps in order to save time or effort, often resulting in a lower-quality or incomplete outcome

**give up** - to stop trying, to surrender or admit defeat

**pull sb's weight** - to do one's fair share of the work or contribute equally to a task

#### Ad 6.

**A touchstone** is a piece of fine-grained dark stone formerly used for testing the purity of metals such as gold and silver. In a figurative sense, it can refer to a standard or criterion used to evaluate the worth or quality of something.

#### Ad 7.

**profit** - a financial gain or benefit

**surplus** - an amount of something left over when requirements have been met

**arrears** - unpaid or overdue debts or bills

**deficit** - the total amount by which money spent is more than money received

#### Ad 8.

**Meticulous** - careful

#### Ad 9.

**impromptu, spontaneous, improvised** - done without preparation or planning

**premeditated** - planned or considered beforehand

**Ad 10.**

**have an ear for something** - to be good at hearing sounds in speech or music

**Ad 11.**

**plump** - having a full, rounded shape or form, slightly overweight in a way that is considered attractive or healthy

**corpulent** - very overweight or obese in a way that is considered unattractive or unhealthy

**scrawny** - very thin, especially in a way that is unattractive or unhealthy

**portly** - having a large, stout, or dignified body shape; often used to describe an overweight person who carries themselves with a sense of dignity or importance.

**Ad 12.**

**boisterous** - energetic, loud, and full of life

**quiet, placid, subdued** - making very little noise, calm and peaceful

**Ad 13.**

A **raid** refers to a theft or robbery, often involving a sudden and forceful attack. An antonym for the word is retreat, which refers to a movement away from a location or situation, often in response to a perceived threat or danger.

**Ad 14.**

**glib** - speaking in a smooth, easy, and often insincere way

**articulate** - able to express thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively

**verbose** - using more words than necessary, often in a tedious or repetitive way

**laconic** - using very few words, often in a way that seems rude or unfriendly

**Ad 15.**

**In the nick of time** - Just in time or at the last possible moment

**The last straw** - The final, intolerable problem or difficulty that leads to a breakdown or a negative reaction

**Through thick and thin** - To be supportive or remain loyal during difficult times or circumstances.

**The calm before the storm** - A peaceful period before a difficult or turbulent time or event.