**VOCABULARY**

One of the best and easiest ways to improve your vocabulary is to simply read more.

Use a dictionary to look up words you do not understand, and make a note of them

You need a strong vocabulary as well as a strong understanding of synonyms and antonyms.

A great way to study and learn vocabulary is to:

1 Pick a small number of words to learn each week (5-10).

2 Some words will have more than one meaning. Where this is the case, learn ALL the meanings.

3 Write down their definitions (use a dictionary!).

4 Test yourself to see if you remember.

5 Once complete, move on to another set of words.

6 Keep testing on the previous set as you move down the list.

7 Once you have completed the list, start looking for synonyms of these words.

8 Once you have studied the synonyms and written them down, consider if there are antonyms to these words – and learn these as well.

So, OVER TO YOU to develop a strong vocabulary with a good understanding of the words!

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| overt | Those who endorse her overt racism, and her endorsement of violence against public figures, are a serious concern. |
| annihilate | The heavy bombing almost annihilated the city. |
| tedious | Social listening tools allow you to skip the tedious process of designing a report yourself. They do it for you! |
| chronic | It was found that patients developed heart disease and other chronic conditions at higher rates. |
| sleek | This sleek pot is easy to clean, thanks to being smooth and glossy  |
| notion | I have found that many young people have limited notions of how power works. |
| deceptive | Fake news is described as false or deceptive content shared with the potential to cause individual or collective harm. |
| doctrine | The economic doctrine of high GDP growth is now being questioned. |
| precede | We see it as an appetizer that could precede a glorious banquet. |
| accidental | He died after an accidental overdose of drugs. |
| stance | They claim to be taking the scientific stance of doubt. |

**OVER TO YOU!**

Fill in the blank in each sentence with a word from the box. Each word can be used more than once. However, there is one word that is not used.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| tedious | sleek | deceptive | annihilate |
| overt | doctrine | stance | notion |
| chronic | precede | accidental | servile |

1 In a fictional world of horrors, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ expression of your emotions — even screaming your lungs out — is expected!

2 He said nothing but dropped into a fighting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

3 Criminal intent may be inferred from a/an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ act that makes one suspicious.

4 There was something terrifying in this terrific silence which could only \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ some terrible event.

5 He is completely \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about his feelings! He clearly shows how he feels!

6 Some students find studying for exams frustrating and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

7 If you are looking for something simple, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and modern, this is a great option.

8 The house looked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in size - so small. Once inside, however, it was enormous!

9 Manual labelling makes the process slower and more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

10 The report was widely criticized for being \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because it left out some crucial pieces of information, although this was said to have been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ..

**11** This car has a bold, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ergonomic design.

12 He stood confidently, his legs spread in a wide \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

13 The woman suffered from a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ illness so often had to take time off work.

14 The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Catholicism is strong in many countries.

15 The new wireless implant, with a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ivory processing unit, was extremely popular.

16 The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that this is a law to protect people against \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ practices in business is, in my opinion, wrong.

17 Perhaps now is a good time to reconsider our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of gender and identity more generally.

18 He left home in bitterly cold weather, on a journey that was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and hazardous.

19 The Persian troops tried to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Greeks, with no success.

**20** At a wedding ceremony, the speeches \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the cutting of the cake.

21 I don’t think she will ever tell the truth! That girl is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ liar!

22 They assumed an increasingly hostile \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in their foreign policy.

23 Was that deliberate or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ?

ANSWERS:

1 In a fictional world of horrors, **overt** expression of your emotions — even screaming your lungs out — is expected!

2 He said nothing but dropped into a fighting **stance**.

3 Criminal intent may be inferred from an **overt** act that makes one suspicious.

4 There was something terrifying in this terrific silence which could only **precede** some terrible event.

5 He is completely **overt** about his feelings! He clearly shows how he feels!

6 Some students find studying for exams frustrating and **tedious**.

7 If you are looking for something simple, **sleek** and modern, this is a great option.

8 The house looked **deceptive** in size - so small. Once inside, however, it was enormous!

9 Manual labelling makes the process slower and more **tedious**.

10 The report was widely criticized for being **deceptive**  because it left out some crucial pieces of information, although this was said to have been **accidental**.

11 This car has a bold, **sleek** ergonomic design.

12 He stood confidently, his legs spread in a wide **stance**.

13 The woman suffered from a **chronic** illness so often had to take time off work.

14 The **doctrine** of Catholicism is strong in many countries.

15 The new wireless implant, with a **sleek** ivory processing unit, was extremely popular.

16 The **notion** that this is a law to protect people against **deceptive** practices in business is, in my opinion, wrong.

17 Perhaps now is a good time to reconsider our **notion** of gender and identity more generally.

18 He left home in bitterly cold weather, on a journey that was **tedious** and hazardous.

19 The Persian troops tried to **annihilate** the Greeks, with no success.

20 At a wedding ceremony, the speeches **precede** the cutting of the cake.

21 I don’t think she will ever tell the truth! That girl is a **chronic** liar!

22 They assumed an increasingly hostile **stance** in their foreign policy.

23 Was that deliberate, or **accidental**?