**VOCABULARY #10**

**enigma** (uh NIG muh): mystery; unexplainable phenomenon

**Part of Speech**: noun

**Example**: Figuring him out was an insuperable task; he was an *enigma* to everyone.

**Other Form(s):** enigmatic (adjective)

**writhe** (RAHYTH): to squirm; to twist about (as in pain)

**Part of Speech**: verb

**Example**: The intensive questioning made the captive *writhe* uncomfortably.

**raucous** (RAW kus): harsh-sounding; rowdy

**Part of Speech:** adjective

**Example:** The music was so *raucous* that our neighbors called the police.

**bravado** (bruh VA doe): bragging; false courage

**Part of Speech:** noun

**Example:** He was full of *bravado* until he saw the size of his opponent.

**obliterate** (uh BLIT uh reyt): to blot out; to remove or destroy completely

**Part of Speech**: verb

**Example**: Because of his inimitable ways, she could not *obliterate* his memory.

**chauvinism** (SHOW vuh nizm): blind patriotism; arrogant belief in

superiority of your own race or sex

**Part of Speech:** noun

**Example:** His *chauvinism* blinded him to the rights of other nations.

**Other Form(s):** chauvinistic (adjective)

**pseudonym** (SOOD n im): fictitious name; pen name

**Part of Speech:** noun

**Example:** Rather than face the public as who he really was, he used a *pseudonym*.

**coalesce** (koh uh LES): to blend, fuse; to grow together into one body

**Part of Speech**: verb

**Example**: After a heated discussion, their ideas *coalesced* into one theory.

**invective** (in VEK tiv): violent censure or reproach; bitter accusation

**Part of Speech:** noun

**Example:** Critics of the book have been insidious in their *invective*.

**sylvan** (SILL ven): woody; forested

**Part of Speech:** adjective

**Example:** Certain parts around Lake Tahoe can be described as a *sylvan* paradise.

prefix root meaning examples

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **mis(o)-** |  | **hatred** |  |
|  | **-bibl-** | **book** |  |
|  | **-gyn-** | **woman** |  |

**Vocabulary #10 Exercises**

enigma pseudonym obliterate raucous bravado

writhe chauvinism coalesce invective sylvan

1. Strangely, when he broke his ankle, he did not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in pain.

2. In order to protect his privacy, the author of romance novels employed the use of a

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

3. To his dying day, he proclaimed women an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to him.

4. The verdancy and peaceful ambiance of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ environments are supposed to calm the nerves. It will assuage and even \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stress.

5. He attacked his opponent and used a lot of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in his speech.

6. Saturday nights in college towns are often \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ affairs that bother the locals.

7. When faced with a real problem that had to be solved, his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ disappeared.

8. No one doubts the place of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in starting wars.

9. After a tragedy, the school cliques \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into a united student body.