**VOCABULARY #11**

**gratuitous** (gruh TOO i tuhs): without cause, unjustified; voluntary, free

**Part of Speech:** adjective

**Example:** Although you seem altruistic, we don’t need any *gratuitous* advice from your side.

**garner** (GAR nur): to gather; to collect

**Part of Speech**: verb

**Example**: Pollsters *garner* answers to questions; they get paid for such drudgery.

**precipitous** (pre SIP i tus): severe; sudden

**Part of Speech**: adjective

**Example**: Young drivers need to remember that *precipitous* actions can result in dangerous situations on the road*.*

**contumely** (CON too muh lee): scornful/insulting behavior; humiliating insult

**Part of Speech:** noun

**Example:** The speaker’s *contumely* aggrieved everyone present.

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

**swathe** (SWAWTH or SWAYTH): to wrap; to bind

**Part of Speech:** verb

**Example:** Rescuers *swathed* the injured person in heavy blankets.

**anomaly** (uh NOM uh lee): irregularity; abnormality; peculiarity

**Part of Speech:** noun

**Example:** The irresponsible action was an *anomaly* in his case.

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

**inclement** (in KLEM unt): rainy or stormy; showing no mercy

**Part of Speech:** adjective

**Example:** Due to the *inclement* weather, the referees decided to postpone the game.

**misconstrue** (mis kun STREW): to misinterpret; to misunderstand

**Part of Speech:** verb

**Example:** She *misconstrued* what he said and was livid.

**haphazard** (hap HAZ erd): random, determined by chance; aimless; careless

**Part of Speech:** adjective

**Example:** Amazingly, her *haphazard* approach was efficacious and worked very well.

**rarefied** (RARE uh fide): lofty, elite; elevated in character or style

**Part of Speech:** adjective

**Example:** Most celebrities flaunt their possessions, confusing young men and women into believing that a *rarefied* existence should be every person’s goal in life.

prefix root meaning examples

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **tele-** |  | **distance/distant** |  |
|  | **-the(o)-** | **God or gods** |  |
|  | **-derm-** | **skin** |  |

**Vocabulary #11 Exercises**

gratuitous garner precipitous contumely swathe

anomaly inclement misconstrue haphazard rarefied

1. The violent and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ change in his lifestyle estranged most of his friends.

2. His vicious speech dripped with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

3. Using correct grammar and refined vocabulary is considered quite \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in today’s age of texting language and hip-hop jargon.

4. Her \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, thoughtless behavior caused her parents a lot of grief.

5. Being a gregarious, likable candidate, he will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ quite a few votes in his favor.

6. He merely wants to be friends, but the woman might \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his intentions.

7. Mothers \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their children with soft and warm blankets.

8. The young boy’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ actions reflected his dad’s altruistic nature.

9. Since he was known to be steady and reserved, the venting outburst was considered an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

10. The judge was unsympathetic and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when dealing with the famously intransigent criminal.