

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tier II

12

## Speak Vocabulary

### Ten Words in Context

In the space provided, **write the letter** of the meaning closest to that of each **boldfaced** word. Use the context of the sentences to help you figure out each word's meaning.

abysmal  
capitalist(s)  
demure  
dormant  
eloquent

Eurocentric  
immigration  
imperial  
mortuary  
xenophobic

1. **abysmal** (adj)
  - Usually outstanding, the team's performance last night was **abysmal**: They shot only 32 percent and made 23 turnovers.
  - The weather has been **abysmal**. It has done nothing but rain for the last six weeks.

\_\_\_\_\_ *abysmal* means

a. excellent                      b. deep                      c. extremely bad
2. **capitalist** (n)
  - The greedy **capitalists** want to keep every penny so they can make more.
  - A **capitalist** economy is not an equal economy.

\_\_\_\_\_ *capitalist* means

a. the county seat                      b. a wealthy investor                      c. money
3. **demure** (adj)
  - In public Pat was **demure**, but at home she was loud and obscene<sup>1</sup>.
  - Everyone else at the party was dancing and going crazy, but she remained **demure**.

\_\_\_\_\_ *demure* means

a. obnoxious                      b. sugary                      c. shy, modest
4. **dormant** (adj)
  - The **dormant** volcano hasn't erupted in almost 2000 years.
  - A **dormant** virus can trigger shingles.

\_\_\_\_\_ *dormant* means

a. temporarily inactive                      b. hidden                      c. suspicious
5. **eloquent** (adj)
  - Martin Luther King, Jr. was one of the world's most **eloquent** speakers.
  - Our priest gave an **eloquent** sermon on Sunday that moved us to tears.

\_\_\_\_\_ *eloquent* means

a. persuasive; expressive                      b. old, out of date                      c. difficult to understand
6. **Eurocentric** (adj)
  - Current revivals of classical architecture are associated with **Eurocentric** culture.
  - Much of the literature in my college courses was **Eurocentric**, biased towards dead white male authors.

\_\_\_\_\_ *Eurocentric* means

a. countries sharing the same center                      b. focusing on Europe                      c. self-centered
7. **immigration** (n)
  - The desire for religious freedom caused **immigration** in the early 1900's.
  - Large-scale **immigration** into the US has ended, although small numbers of people

continue to enter the country daily.

\_\_\_\_\_ *immigration* means

- a. moving out of a country      b. moving into a country      c. temporary movement to a place

8. imperial (adj)

- Now that she's been crowned "prom queen," we expect Blake to issue more **imperial** orders than ever.
- A formal Washington dinner party has all the spontaneity of a Japanese **imperial** funeral.

\_\_\_\_\_ *imperial* means

- a. hateful      b. visible      c. regal, majestic

9. mortuary (n)

- In the movie, eight people were murdered and taken to the **mortuary** where their families had to identify their bodies.
- The body would be taken to the hospital **mortuary**.

\_\_\_\_\_ *mortuary* means

- a. funeral home      b. doctor      c. cemetery

10. xenophobic (adj)

- Because she is **xenophobic**, Marilyn works from home.
- The Thiels didn't know that their son was **xenophobic** until they took him to a concert and he collapsed in fear.

\_\_\_\_\_ *xenophobic* means

- a. afraid of concerts      b. afraid of strangers      c. afraid of being afraid

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## Matching Words with Definitions

Following are definitions of the ten words. Clearly write or print each word next to its definition. The sentences on the previous pages will help you decide on the meaning of each word.

11. \_\_\_\_\_ a person who has investments, esp. large business investments
12. \_\_\_\_\_ affectedly shy and modest
13. \_\_\_\_\_ afraid of foreigners or strangers
14. \_\_\_\_\_ centered on Europe and Europeans
15. \_\_\_\_\_ characteristic of or befitting an emperor; majestic; commanding
16. \_\_\_\_\_ characterized by forceful and moving expression
17. \_\_\_\_\_ extremely or hopelessly bad or severe
18. \_\_\_\_\_ funeral home or building where dead bodies are kept
19. \_\_\_\_\_ movement into a country for purposes of permanent residence

20. \_\_\_\_\_ temporarily inactive

### Sentence Check 1

Using the answer line provided, complete each sentence below with the correct word from the box. Use each word once.  
**Check your spelling!**

abysmal	capitalist(s)	demure	dormant	eloquent
Eurocentric	immigration	imperial	mortuary	xenophobic

- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. My sister, whom we refer to as "The Queen," hasn't granted me a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ invitation to enter her room, so I'll have to sneak in to retrieve my shirt.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. Stewart was born a(n) \_\_\_\_: He was loaning his siblings money and collecting interest on the loans when he was six.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. That \_\_\_\_ persona is just an act she puts on for adults. Kerry is loud and proud when she's with her friends.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. The bee hive is \_\_\_\_ now, but it won't be in another month.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 25. Maureen works in a(n) \_\_\_\_ preparing bodies to be viewed for funerals.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. After 9/11, many Americans were \_\_\_\_, even though they had never been racist before.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 27. Lily enrolled in a speaking course, hoping to sound as \_\_\_\_ as John F. Kennedy, Winston Churchill, and Barack Obama.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 28. Having stayed up late the night before my exam, my score was \_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 29. Literature in schools should not be \_\_\_\_, but instead should be multi-cultural so as to present a wide variety of authors and styles.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 30. Preventing illegal \_\_\_\_ across our borders must be difficult when one considers that the US has thousands of miles of border to protect.

