

THE FINAL EXAM



The following final exam drills contain every word in the Word Smart core list. If you get a question wrong, try it again. Perhaps you were careless. If not, look up all the answer choices for that question and review the definitions.

Final Exam Drill #1: COMPLETIONS

For each question below, choose the word that best completes the meaning of the sentence.

1. Because Stan had been preoccupied during his dynamitejuggling demonstration, the jury felt that he was not ____ for the destruction of the audience.
 - a. decorous
 - b. decimated
 - c. indiscreet
 - d. culpable
 - e. indiscrete
2. Sally was sad because Mr. Reeves, our English teacher, filled the margins of her term paper with ____ remarks about her spelling, grammar, and writing style.
 - a. fatuous
 - b. heretical
 - c. ineffable
 - d. prepossessing
 - e. derogatory
3. The fans were ____ when the football team lost its fiftieth game in a row.
 - a. irascible
 - b. despondent
 - c. rapacious

- d. stigmatized
 - e. precipitous
4. Bill and Harry were given jobs on the stage crew because their ___
___ voices ruined the sound of the chorus.
- a. unremitting
 - b. paternal
 - c. wanton
 - d. laconic
 - e. dissonant
5. The baby kittens were so _____ that the nursery school children were able to pick them up, carry them around by the scruffs of their necks, and dress them up in doll clothes.
- a. abashed
 - b. peripatetic
 - c. docile
 - d. agrarian
 - e. nefarious

Final Exam Drill #2: BUDDY CHECK

For each question below, match the word on the left with the word most similar in meaning on the right.

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. litigious | a. ingenuous |
| 2. artless | b. querulous |
| 3. taciturn | c. auspicious |
| 4. refute | d. perennial |
| 5. perjure | e. avow |
| 6. allege | f. reticent |
| 7. gauche | g. impugn |
| 8. officious | h. rebut |

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 9. chronic | i. inept |
| 10. propitious | j. solicitous |

Final Exam Drill #3: ODD MAN OUT

Each question below consists of four words. Three of them are related in meaning. Find the word that does not fit.

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. address | infer | construe | extrapolate |
| 2. rigorous | punctilious | integral | painstaking |
| 3. consecrate | revere | venerate | delineate |
| 4. abstain | relegate | forbear | forgo |
| 5. insubordinate | willful | didactic | intransigent |
| 6. labyrinthine | profane | secular | atheistic |
| 7. acrid | amoral | sardonic | virulent |
| 8. analogous | perfunctory | cursory | desultory |
| 9. decadent | degenerate | profligate | magnanimous |
| 10. connoisseur | virtuoso | malleable | aesthete |

Final Exam Drill #4: RELATIONSHIPS

For each question below, decide whether the pair of words are roughly similar (S) in meaning, roughly opposite (O) in meaning, or unrelated (U) to each other.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. sporadic | incessant |
| 2. beget | spawn |
| 3. malaise | subversion |
| 4. coerce | compel |
| 5. peccadillo | enormity |
| 6. charismatic | insipid |
| 7. countenance | condone |
| 8. usurp | appropriate |

- | | |
|---------------|-----------|
| 9. espouse | extricate |
| 10. arbitrate | mediate |

Final Exam Drill #5: COMPLETIONS

For each question below, choose the word that best completes the meaning of the sentence.

1. The applicant's credentials were ____, but I didn't like the color of his necktie so I didn't hire him.
 - a. irreproachable
 - b. aloof
 - c. domestic
 - d. vitriolic
 - e. histrionic
2. Walter's skin took on a(n) ____ cast after his exposure to the pool of radioactive wastes.
 - a. artful
 - b. squalid
 - c. luminous
 - d. nebulous
 - e. garrulous
3. The police spent seven months working on the crime case but were never able to determine the identity of the ____ .
 - a. demagogue
 - b. dilettante
 - c. egotist
 - d. malefactor
 - e. patriarch
4. The portions at the restaurant were so ____ that immediately after dessert we drove to another restaurant and ordered a second fu

meal.

- a. pertinent
- b. minuscule
- c. exhaustive
- d. futile
- e. misanthropic

5. Alan thought that throwing some scraps to the bear would ____ it, but instead the beast tore apart our campsite in search of more to eat.

- a. accost
- b. mollify
- c. preclude
- d. efface
- e. tout

Final Exam Drill #6: RELATIONSHIPS

For each question below, decide whether the pair of words are roughly similar (S) in meaning, roughly opposite (O) in meaning, or unrelated (U) to each other.

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1. debacle | coup |
| 2. amenity | injunction |
| 3. cognizant | unwitting |
| 4. emigrate | expatriate |
| 5. concurrent | anachronistic |
| 6. blithe | morose |
| 7. disinterested | partial |
| 8. anachronism | archaism |
| 9. collusion | complicity |
| 10. insular | hermetic |

Final Exam Drill #7: ODD MAN OUT

Each question below consists of four words. Three of them are related in meaning. Find the word that does not fit.

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|-----------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. sacrilege | renaissance | blasphemy | desecration |
| 2. ambiguous | equivocal | cryptic | requisite |
| 3. apprehensive | martial | contentious | belligerent |
| 4. arcane | esoteric | sacrosanct | recondite |
| 5. incense | replenish | foment | antagonize |
| 6. exacting | onerous | ponderous | arbitrary |
| 7. circumspect | eclectic | scrupulous | fastidious |
| 8. introverted | aloof | reclusive | elliptical |
| 9. allocate | relinquish | capitulate | succumb |
| 10. effusive | histrionic | avuncular | gesticulating |

Final Exam Drill #8: RELATIONSHIPS

For each question below, decide whether the pair of words are roughly similar (S) in meaning, roughly opposite (O) in meaning, or unrelated (U) to each other.

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| 1. abyss | chasm |
| 2. substantive | ethereal |
| 3. loquacious | taciturn |
| 4. doctrinaire | dogmatic |
| 5. colloquial | pedantic |
| 6. encroach | transgress |
| 7. amorphous | nebulous |
| 8. domestic | endemic |
| 9. cogent | incisive |
| 10. lethargic | capricious |

Final Exam Drill #9: COMPLETIONS

For each question below, choose the word or phrase that best completes the meaning of the sentence.

1. Amanda ____ her daughter for putting the cat in the washing machine.
 - a. expropriated
 - b. disfranchised
 - c. coerced
 - d. broached
 - e. chastised
2. David's salary was ____ his very limited skills; he was paid nothing.
 - a. as vapid as
 - b. tenable despite
 - c. vehement in view of
 - d. commensurate with
 - e. acerbic notwithstanding
3. After several decades of peace, the little country grew ____ about defense and let its army slowly drift away.
 - a. dissolute
 - b. partisan
 - c. catholic
 - d. adamant
 - e. complacent
4. None of us had enough money to undertake the project alone, so we had to depend on the ____ of our parents.
 - a. postulate
 - b. vilification

- c. largess
 - d. hedonism
 - e. veracity
5. The court ruled that Ursula's covert discussions with the Russian ambassador did not ____ treason.
- a. comprise
 - b. abnegate
 - c. libel
 - d. broach
 - e. constitute

Final Exam Drill #10: RELATIONSHIPS

For each question below, decide whether the pair of words are roughly similar (S) in meaning, roughly opposite (O) in meaning, or unrelated (U) to each other.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. bureaucracy | hierarchy |
| 2. extrapolate | infer |
| 3. mercurial | volatile |
| 4. impeccable | culpable |
| 5. corroborate | refute |
| 6. expedient | utilitarian |
| 7. censure | approbation |
| 8. propriety | decorum |
| 9. emulate | peruse |
| 10. mandate | touchstone |

Final Exam Drill #11: RELATIONSHIPS

For each question below, decide whether the pair of words are roughly similar (S) in meaning, roughly opposite (O) in meaning, or unrelated (U) to each other.

1. ameliorate	exacerbate
2. candor	equivocation
3. caricature	parody
4. scrupulous	mendacious
5. apartheid	mentor
6. bane	panacea
7. facile	arduous
8. philistine	erudite
9. absolute	commensurate
10. kinetic	stagnant

Final Exam Drill #12: ODD MAN OUT

Each question below consists of four words. Three of them are related in meaning. Find the word that does not fit.

1. awry	overt	salient	manifest
2. duplicity	ascendancy	guile	chicanery
3. contrition	remorse	cadence	penitence
4. temperance	sobriety	celibacy	oblivion
5. nominal	amiable	affable	congenial
6. choleric	querulous	petulant	equitable
7. dormant	latent	nostalgic	inert
8. astute	bereft	sagacious	prudent
9. copious	bourgeois	profuse	myriad
10. ascetic	austere	frugal	pejorative

Final Exam Drill #13: RELATIONSHIPS

For each question below, decide whether the pair of words are roughly similar (S) in meaning, roughly opposite (O) in meaning, or unrelated (U) to each other.

1. serendipitous	hapless
2. lugubrious	facetious
3. espouse	appease
4. qualitative	pejorative
5. exigency	periphery
6. harbinger	precursor
7. profound	desecrated
8. despotic	autocratic
9. engender	decimate
10. pristine	unalloyed

Final Exam Drill #14: COMPLETIONS

For each question below, choose the word that best completes the meaning of the sentence.

- Reginald was as clever as he was unscrupulous, and he knew what he could not obtain by legitimate means he could always obtain through _____.
 - chicanery
 - burlesque
 - nihilism
 - strife
 - theology
- The visiting professor was so _____ in his field that many of our faculty members became nervous in his presence.
 - antithetical
 - archetypal
 - eminent
 - plebeian
 - pathological

3. The orator _____ a bizarre economic program whose central tenet was the abolition of all forms of money.
- a. scintillated
 - b. espoused
 - c. vacillated
 - d. emulated
 - e. inundated
4. "Kicking the bucket" is a humorous _____ for "dying."
- a. dictum
 - b. stipulation
 - c. incantation
 - d. conjecture
 - e. euphemism
5. The actor, pretending to be inebriated, made a(n) _____ attempt to open his umbrella in a telephone booth.
- a. viable
 - b. enigmatic
 - c. farcical
 - d. cognitive
 - e. aphoristic

Final Exam Drill #15: BUDDY CHECK

For each question below, match the word on the left with the word most similar in meaning on the right.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. opaque | a. obscure |
| 2. ostensible | b. secular |
| 3. avaricious | c. mellifluous |
| 4. mundane | d. prudent |
| 5. judicious | e. venal |

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 6. mercenary | f. specious |
| 7. ramification | g. rapacious |
| 8. saccharine | h. repercussion |
| 9. archaic | i. dearth |
| 10. paucity | j. anachronism |

Final Exam Drill #16: RELATIONSHIPS

For each question below, decide whether the pair of words are roughly similar (S) in meaning, roughly opposite (O) in meaning, or unrelated (U) to each other.

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| 1. belie | aggregate |
| 2. legacy | bequest |
| 3. aptitude | propensity |
| 4. matriculate | purport |
| 5. fatalist | cynic |
| 6. fecund | desiccated |
| 7. exhort | admonish |
| 8. polarize | prevail |
| 9. condescension | adulation |
| 10. discreet | blatant |

Final Exam Drill #17: ODD MAN OUT

Each question below consists of four words. Three of them are related in meaning. Find the word that does not fit.

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. uniform | monolithic | existential | homogeneous |
| 2. flaunt | malign | slander | libel |
| 3. felicity | audacity | temerity | impetuosity |
| 4. meager | tenuous | pivotal | paltry |
| 5. indulgent | salutary | prodigal | profligate |
| 6. disparate | incongruous | heterogeneous | ubiquitous |

7. apprehensive	diffident	succinct	circumspect
8. cogent	eminent	potent	robust
9. farcical	affected	contrived	ostentatious
10. ennui	satiety	languor	volition

Final Exam Drill #18: RELATIONSHIPS

For each question below, decide whether the pair of words are roughly similar (S) in meaning, roughly opposite (O) in meaning, or unrelated (U) to each other.

1. zealous	catholic
2. aloof	nefarious
3. mitigate	assuage
4. agnostic	atheist
5. clique	consensus
6. coalition	faction
7. husbandry	itinerary
8. coalesce	dissipate
9. slavish	subservient
10. flaunt	reproach

Final Exam Drill #19: COMPLETIONS

For each question below, choose the word that best completes the meaning of the sentence.

1. The Sandersons viewed the flaming image of the devil, which hovered above their house for thirteen days, as a(n) ____ of evil to come.
 - a. stratum
 - b. portent
 - c. periphery
 - d. infidelity

- e. aberration
2. There was nothing ____ about Herbert's scientific theories; in fact, they were quite shallow.
- a. sentient
 - b. vociferous
 - c. peremptory
 - d. profound
 - e. nepotistic
3. The ____ author turned out a new book every week of his adult life.
- a. prolific
 - b. canine
 - c. dialectical
 - d. implicit
 - e. contiguous
4. The ____ boys stubbornly refused to call off their rock fight, despite the pleadings of their mothers.
- a. recalcitrant
 - b. pacific
 - c. egalitarian
 - d. exemplary
 - e. fervent
5. Hal's disappointed wife ____ him for being a lazy, foulsmelling, obnoxious slob.
- a. instigated
 - b. reproached
 - c. flaunted
 - d. desecrated
 - e. belied

Final Exam Drill #20: RELATIONSHIPS

For each question below, decide whether the pair of words are roughly similar (S) in meaning, roughly opposite (O) in meaning, or unrelated (U) to each other.

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1. profess | espouse |
| 2. extrovert | introspective |
| 3. foible | hiatus |
| 4. caricature | touchstone |
| 5. debilitate | enervate |
| 6. placid | frenetic |
| 7. depravity | debauchery |
| 8. infinitesimal | grandiose |
| 9. grandiloquent | rhetorical |
| 10. malefactor | benefactor |

Final Exam Drill #21: ODD MAN OUT

Each question below consists of four words. Three of them are related in meaning. Find the word that does not fit.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. avaricious | covetous | officious | parsimonious |
| 2. reprove | scrutinize | censure | rebuke |
| 3. reprehensible | transient | ephemeral | transitory |
| 4. belittle | depreciate | disparage | founder |
| 5. palpable | resolute | tenacious | steadfast |
| 6. absolve | condone | qualify | exculpate |
| 7. civil | culinary | aristocratic | genteel |
| 8. stricture | reproach | admonishment | corollary |
| 9. fidelity | proximity | steadfastness | resolution |
| 10. circumlocutory | redundant | tautological | vicarious |

Final Exam Drill #22: RELATIONSHIPS

For each question below, decide whether the pair of words are roughly similar (S) in meaning, roughly opposite (O) in meaning, or unrelated (U) to each other.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. elude | circumvent |
| 2. rustic | urbane |
| 3. circuitous | oblique |
| 4. beset | beleaguered |
| 5. imperial | servile |
| 6. pedestrian | prosaic |
| 7. reprisal | reparation |
| 8. daunt | stymie |
| 9. apotheosis | epitome |
| 10. inaugurate | abort |

Final Exam Drill #23: COMPLETIONS

For each question below, choose the word that best completes the meaning of the sentence.

1. Sally had already eaten all her cookies, so she ____ mine.
 - a. permeated
 - b. mortified
 - c. protracted
 - d. appropriated
 - e. defamed
2. The country's ____ ruler required her citizens to receive official permission before changing channels on their television sets.
 - a. definitive
 - b. dubious