

Name _____ Date _____

VOCABULARY LESSON 11

Directions: Complete the following exercises on your own. Use context clues from the following sentences to match the **bold** words with the proper definition. Write neatly, spell words correctly, and complete each section.

- Instead of feeling alert, my whole body was shaking from the caffeine I had drunk, so I decided I need to **abstain** from coffee and sodas for a few days.
- Melissa says she isn't scared of ghosts, but I bet if she saw some sort of **entity** standing before her, whether it was a shadow or a full-fledged figure, she would be frightened!
- The best students are **omnivorous** learners and are eager to take in anything their teachers tell them.
- Christians adhere to the **credence** that they will be judged by their actions on earth for entrance into an eternal kingdom.
- As the horrid smell **dissipated** through the classroom, we all looked around trying to figure out who the culprit was.
- I would never want to study **entomology**; one look at a spider and I run from the room!
- Before a designer chooses multiple colors and prints for a garment of clothing, he must first create a **prototype** so each item is basically the same when reproduced.
- For those who enjoy writing, poetry or journaling can be a **catharsis** at the end of a stressful and work-filled day.
- As we rode through the sun drenched countryside, I was reminded of an **idyll** I had read a few weeks earlier in the newspaper.
- If your feelings about your boyfriend or girlfriend are just **tepid** at best, then you probably would both benefit from finding someone who makes you feel happier.

Word	Part of Speech	Definition
		A short description of peaceful country life; a scene suitable for such a work
		The branch of zoology that deals with insects
		A being; something with independence existence; a discrete unit
		To choose to do without; to refrain from
		A purifying by ridding of emotions, especially through the experience of art
		To spread in every direction; to scatter; to waste
		Slightly warm, lukewarm, lacking warmth of feeling or enthusiasm; halfhearted
		Eating every kind of food, both animal and vegetable; eagerly taking in everything
		Belief; acceptance as valid or true
		An original model on which subsequent forms are based; a standard example

Use the vocabulary words to complete the sentences below.

1. Few people who have read *Walden* can _____ from commenting on it. It's difficult to keep from expressing an opinion because Thoreau's writings inspire such strong reactions in people.

2. One reason to read literature is that it can bring about a _____. You may experience a purifying release when you read *Walden*.
3. Thoreau believed that it was possible to be happy living a single life in the woods. He gave _____ to the idea that simpler is better.
4. Some readers may get the impression that Thoreau wasted his time on unimportant things. For example, they may feel that he _____ precious hours in listening to a mosquito buzz outside his window.
5. Thoreau seemed to believe that every _____ in the world, from a mosquito to a human being, was worth noticing and studying.
6. Thus, Thoreau probably understood the appeal of all the natural sciences—even _____ the study of insects.
7. Just as peaceful country life is the subject of an _____, life in the woods is the subject of Thoreau's *Walden*.
8. Thoreau was _____ in his study of nature; he eagerly took in everything around him.
9. Was Thoreau a _____ for modern naturalists? Certainly many naturalists have modeled themselves after him.
10. You might be deeply inspired by Thoreau's philosophy or you might be deeply offended by it. But, if you're like most readers, you won't have a _____ reaction to Thoreau.
11. Like an _____ animal eating every kind of food, Thoreau was hungry for all kinds of knowledge.
12. Walden Pond, the rural setting for Thoreau's intellectual journey, was peaceful enough to be the subject of an _____.
13. For two years, Thoreau _____ from contact with the hustle and bustle of ordinary life. But he didn't refrain from his favorite activity, writing.
14. Journal writing was often a _____ for Thoreau; he poured out his feelings onto paper.
15. Taken separately, Thoreau's journal entries might have looked like random, unconnected scribbles. Yet Thoreau eventually unified them into a single _____, *Walden*.
16. The important insights that Thoreau gained at Walden Pond lend _____ to his idea that contact with nature refreshes the mind and spirit.
17. Later generations judged Thoreau to be a great man, but his neighbors thought of him as an extremely impractical person. They couldn't understand why he _____ his energies on pursuits that didn't make any money.
18. They were probably amazed that he spent so much time on _____. "Why bother studying insects?" they might have asked.
19. In the 1840s, Thoreau refused to pay his state taxes because Massachusetts didn't oppose slavery. His refusal to obey a law that he didn't believe in has been held up as a _____, or standard example, of civil disobedience.
20. It would have been easier to pay the tax than to spend a night in jail as Thoreau did. But rather than live a _____, halfhearted life, Thoreau chose to stand up for his beliefs, no matter what the consequences might be.