

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### VOCABULARY LESSON 12

**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.

- The **rapacious** pirates stole everything in sight. They didn't even leave anything for the children to eat.
- Based on the **appraisal**, we should be able to get at least \$5,000 for your old car.
- He was very **furtive** when trying to come into the house after his curfew. His mother almost didn't catch him coming in late.
- It could be said that your efforts are merely **mercenary**, or that you are really only working for the money.
- His **pernicious** comments cost me the election. I don't know how I will ever forgive him for being so hateful.
- We are not rich people here! The **proletarian** class is standing up to have our say as well!
- Don't be **recalcitrant**. I've asked you to leave, so please do so without an incident.
- The results of the election showed what the majority of the **populace** desired.
- It rained so hard that the water began to **permeate** our tent. Who wants to go camping if you're just going to get soaked?
- It is his job to **accost** the person to whom he wishes to speak. They will not speak to him first.

Word	Part of Speech	Definition
		Very harmful; highly injurious; evil; causing moral harm
		The masses; the common people; a population
		An expert evaluation; an assessment
		To pass through openings or pores; to penetrate; to spread throughout
		Stealthy; secretive; sneaky
		To approach someone and speak first
		Desiring money only; greedy; a paid soldier who will fight for any country for money
		Stubbornly disobedient; defiant; difficult to deal with
		Of or belonging to the working class; a person belonging to the working class
		Greedy; plundering

Use the vocabulary words to complete the sentences below.

1. In the hustle and bustle of the modern city, it is not uncommon for a stranger to \_\_\_\_\_ you with a request for directions or a sales pitch.
2. Realizing that new experiences are not necessarily bad can lead to a positive \_\_\_\_\_ of life in the city---crowds and all.
3. First-time visitors to the city may try to hide their excitement by casting only \_\_\_\_\_ glances at the many stylishly dressed men and women who pass by on their way to work or the theater.
4. In the city, there are \_\_\_\_\_ people who take advantage of others in need of housing or food by making them pay much more than the goods are worth; but most people, like people everywhere, are apt to be kind and generous.
5. The fast pace of city life \_\_\_\_\_ every activity and place; you can sense the excitement everywhere you go.
6. If urban planners do their jobs well, \_\_\_\_\_ problems, like pollution that refuses to go away, will be resolved.
7. Perhaps the most exciting aspect of a city is the ethnically and racially diverse \_\_\_\_\_ that inhabits it. Such diversity reflects the promise the city holds for people of all cultures and backgrounds.
8. While most people were farmers when the population was centered in the countryside, we have a more varied work force in the cities, from \_\_\_\_\_ workers to artists to wealthy bankers.
9. All these different people living close to one another means that cooperation and fairness are needed in the city; there is no room for \_\_\_\_\_ people who try to take more than their share.
10. While some cities have resisted modernization, even the most \_\_\_\_\_ communities eventually realize that urban planners can help improve living conditions.
11. Two hundred years ago, the world's \_\_\_\_\_ was relatively small, and most people worked on farms.
12. There were few opportunities to earn money, but one of these was to be hired as a \_\_\_\_\_ in the wars of other countries.
13. People mostly worked just to feed themselves; these \_\_\_\_\_ did not have much money.
14. In the nineteenth century, during the Industrial Revolution, machines began to make people's lives easier and opened up opportunities. Greed led some \_\_\_\_\_ business people to build vast fortunes at the expense of others.
15. The rapid growth of cities around the turn of the century took on the energy of a steam train that would not be stopped; even the \_\_\_\_\_ city dwellers were swept up in the changes.
16. The use of reinforced concrete changed the face of contemporary architecture as bigger and taller buildings began to \_\_\_\_\_ the landscape of most cities.
17. One of the most serious urban problems at the turn of the century was the \_\_\_\_\_ illnesses of people living in overpopulated sections of the cities.
18. Epidemics of typhoid and other contagious diseases devastated entire communities. These diseases were a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ enemy; without warning, they entered and spread through neighborhoods.
19. Today, most urban planners include sunlight and trees in their designs. Few would dare \_\_\_\_\_ a city dweller with a proposal that left out either of these elements.
20. Many improvements have been made in urban living. If you make a careful \_\_\_\_\_ of city life, your assessment may reveal that, in some ways, city life is better today than ever before.