

Antonyms - choose the word that is most opposite in meaning?

1	natural	A genuine	B unreal	C artificial	D fraud
2	integrate	A fuse	B coordinate	C separate	D rearrange
3	rude	A courteous	B elegant	C polished	D gentle
4	reveal	A clue	B conceal	C inform	D twist
5	hollow	A void	B solid	C soft	D set
6	tranquil	A threatening	B rural	C murky	D stormy
7	rigid	A convertible	B stubborn	C different	D flexible
8	trivial	A worthless	B significant	C unimportant	D necessary
9	vertical	A flat	B perpendicular	C parallel	D horizontal
10	crowded	A neglected	B cramped	C deserted	D forgotten

Three of the words are antonyms, please can you spot the synonym?

assemble

circulate

accumulate

disperse

scatter

different

unlike

similar

diverse

identical

concur

assent

argue

disagree

consent

Three of the words are antonyms, please can you spot the synonym?

forbid

permit

authorise

prohibit

ban

lethargic

sedate

brisk

swift

sluggish

discourage

coax

cajole

dissuade

deter

Three of the words are antonyms, please can you spot the synonym?

liberate

release

capture

free

seize

guide

pursue

chase

lead

direct

obey

comply

command

order

submit

Three of the words are antonyms, please can you spot the synonym?

expand

enlarge

condense

amplify

shorten

confuse

clarify

mystify

enlighten

inform

precise

exact

false

inaccurate

correct

The Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, is one of the largest museums in the world.

With over 2.7 million exhibits on display, it is commonly said that if you spent just 1 minute in front of each exhibit – a complete tour would take an astonishing 11 years! The enormous collection of art, with pieces ranging from ancient Egypt to 20th-century Europe, include many masterpieces by da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, and Rembrandt.

But there's another side to this historic building - it is also home to a small army of cats!

Although no longer allowed to roam freely through the galleries, the felines earn their living in the basement of the huge former Tsarist palace. The priceless treasures of the museum are under the watchful eye of these cats as they are always on guard against rats and mice that can damage the Hermitage collection. They work in the labyrinths of the basement, sleeping by day and hunting by night. They have been guarding the museum for the last 200 years.

The cats first appeared during the reign of Peter the Great's daughter, Empress Elizabeth. The Empress became so fed up with the hundreds of rodents running through the palace that she introduced a law ordering that the very best rat and mice-catching cats were to be immediately sent to her palace to rid the building of the pests.

The cats survived the Napoleonic wars and even the Russian Revolution.

Today, there are a total of 75 cats who roam the underbelly of the museum and there are three busy volunteers who spend around six hours a day, tending to their needs. The cats all sleep in the basement of the museum with their beds balanced on the building's central heating pipes. There is even a small veterinary hospital for treating injuries or illness.

There aren't enough rodents nowadays to provide for all the cats' food requirements, so there is a small separate kitchen in which the cats' meals are prepared — typically fish, liver or meat and a special mixture of cereals and milk prepared by the kitchen chef — and food and water bowls are to be found all over the museum.

There is a turnover of 10 or 15 animals each year; city residents are encouraged to rehome some of them — in the spring of 2010 there was a 'Hermitage Cats Want to Go Home' campaign for that purpose — but they, and those who die, soon have their places taken by fresh stray or abandoned cats. New arrivals are always vaccinated and checked over by a vet, then each cat is issued with a 'Hermitage passport' with its photograph on the front. Those that leave to be rehomed receive a special Hermitage certificate, which gives them a certain distinction!



1 What species of animal are rats?

- A Felines.
 - B Rodents.
 - C Primates.
 - D Cetaceans.
-

2 How many people look after the cats at the museum?

- A Just one, the museum caretaker.
 - B Two volunteers.
 - C Three volunteers.
 - D None, they are strays.
-

3 What relation was Peter the Great to Empress Elizabeth?

- A He was her son.
 - B He was her nephew.
 - C He was her uncle.
 - D He was her father.
-

4 Who is responsible for looking after the cats' nutritional needs?

- A The chef.
 - B The volunteers.
 - C The reception staff.
 - D The museum caretaker.
-

5 What was the Hermitage Museum 200 years ago?

- A The headquarters of the Russian army.
 - B One of the Russian Tsar's palaces.
 - C A disused Russian government building.
 - D A huge art gallery.
-

disobedient	flung	area	disruptive	give up
foreigner	declining	occur	demanded	several

Rosa Parks

Alabama News

2nd December 1955

Black woman arrested on bus

Yesterday, a black woman was arrested on a Montgomery bus, for **refusing**¹ to relinquish her seat to a white passenger. Two policemen were called to the scene by the bus driver, who accused the woman of being disorderly and **defiant**².

Rosa Parks, a 42-year-old seamstress at a local department store, boarded the bus after work last evening and sat in the **section**³ reserved for black passengers, as **required**⁴ by the segregation law in Alabama. When the white section of the bus filled up, the driver, Mr. James Blake, demanded that she **vacate**⁵ her seat. Mrs. Parks, who claims that she was tired after her long day at work, refused to move. The driver called the police, who arrested her and removed her from the bus. Mrs. Parks, who is a very senior member of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP), is no **stranger**⁶ to public attention.



She and her husband Raymond, also an active member of the NAACP, are both active in helping black people to register to vote and have taken part in **numerous**⁷ protests against the segregation laws. Previously, she was **thrown**⁸ off a bus when she refused to use the back door that black passengers are required to use.

Mrs. Parks's court appearance will **take place**⁹ on Monday when she will be charged with **disorderly**¹⁰ conduct and defying segregation law. Members of the black community have called for a bus boycott in protest at her arrest.

Vocabulary - match the words to the correct definition

- A A detailed plan for a project or idea.
- B The air that you take into your lungs.
- C A sudden attack in which bombs are dropped from the air.
- D A metal fastening found on shoes or belts.
- E The distance from one side of something to another.
- F A stupid mistake.
- G A plan for how money will be earned and spent.
- H A student who lives at school for the whole term.

Q1	blitz
Q2	buckle
Q3	boarder
Q4	blueprint
Q5	breadth
Q6	blunder

- A A tunnel or hole in the ground where a rabbit might live.
- B A sudden disaster.
- C Someone left on a deserted island after a shipwreck.
- D Colouring or covering that makes animals or people look like their surroundings.
- E Goods that are carried by ship or aircraft.
- F A small, horse-drawn vehicle.
- G Someone applying for a job or standing in an election.
- H A type of strong cloth used for tents and sails.

Q7	camouflage
Q8	canvas
Q9	castaway
Q10	burrow
Q11	candidate
Q12	cargo

Vocabulary - match the words to the correct definition

- A The usual weather in a place.
- B A chance happening or meeting.
- C Something which is against the law.
- D A narrow inlet where the sea flows inland.
- E Something that you do regularly.
- F A piece of paper or document with vital information.
- G A programme of study for a school or college.
- H A mixture of two or more liquids.

Q13	crime
Q14	curriculum
Q15	climate
Q16	custom
Q17	coincidence.
Q18	creek

- A Someone who is easily scared and avoids frightening situations.
- B Someone who takes risks and does unnecessary dangerous things.
- C A competition where there is only one winner.
- D Something that is worked out from solving clues.
- E A public show or exhibition.
- F The place that someone is travelling to.
- G A problem or a disadvantage.
- H A disagreement.

Q19	daredevil
Q20	display
Q21	coward
Q22	dispute
Q23	deduction
Q24	destination

Antonyms

1	C
2	C
3	A
4	B
5	B
6	D
7	D
8	B
9	D
10	C

Synonyms

1	assemble
2	identical
3	disagree
4	permit
5	swift
6	coax
7	seize
8	pursue
9	order
10	shorten
11	confuse
12	inaccurate

Vocabulary

1	C
2	D
3	H
4	A
5	E
6	F
7	D
8	H
9	C
10	A
11	G
12	E
13	C
14	G
15	A
16	E
17	B
18	D
19	B
20	E
21	A
22	H
23	D
24	F

Rosa Parks

1	declining
2	disobedient
3	area
4	demanded
5	give up
6	foreigner
7	several
8	flung
9	occur
10	disruptive

Comprehension

1	B
2	C
3	D
4	A
5	B