

Fill in the blank with the appropriate word:

1. The children were _____ by the seemingly nonsensical clues until Kinan pointed out that the messages were in code.
 1. censured
 2. striated
 3. feigned
 4. prevaricated
 5. flummoxed
2. As the _____ in Romeo and Juliet, Romeo is a hero able to capture the audience's sympathy by continually professing his love for Juliet.
 1. protagonist
 2. enigma
 3. facade
 4. activist
 5. catechist
3. The chess master promised to _____ havoc upon his opponent's pawns for taking his bishop.
 1. wreak
 2. warrant
 3. ensue
 4. placate
 5. endow
4. I have always admired Seymour's _____; I've never seen him rattled by anything.
 1. aplomb
 2. confluence
 3. propriety
 4. compunction
 5. nostalgia
5. The soldiers received a military _____ to inspect all their vehicles before traveling.
 1. allotment
 2. dominion
 3. affectation
 4. calculation
 5. mandate
6. As _____ beings we live each day conscious of our shortcomings and victories.
 1. sensational
 2. sentient
 3. sentimental
 4. static
 5. senile
7. The curious crowd gathered to watch the irate customer _____ about the poor service he received in the restaurant.
 1. antique
 2. trivialize
 3. rant
 4. placate
 5. fetter
8. The man's _____ driving resulted in a four-car pile-up on the freeway.
 1. burdensome
 2. charismatic
 3. exceptional
 4. boastful
 5. negligent
9. Ron didn't know the rules of rugby, but he could tell by the crowd's reaction that it was a critical _____ in the game.
 1. acclamation
 2. conviction
 3. juncture
 4. enigma
 5. revelation
10. My ancestor who lost his life in the Revolutionary War was a _____ for American independence.
 1. knave
 2. reactionary
 3. compatriot
 4. nonconformist
 5. martyr
11. The _____ sound of the radiator as it released steam became an increasingly annoying distraction.
 1. sibilant
 2. scintillating
 3. diverting
 4. sinuous
 5. scurrilous
12. It is helpful for salesmen to develop a good _____ with their customers in order to gain their trust.
 1. platitude
 2. rapport
 3. ire
 4. tribute
 5. disinclination
13. In such a small office setting, the office manager found he had _____ responsibilities that required knowledge in a variety of different topics.
 1. heedless
 2. complementary
 3. mutual
 4. manifold
 5. correlative
14. David's _____ entrance on stage disrupted the scene and caused the actors to flub their lines.
 1. untimely
 2. precise
 3. lithe
 4. fortuitous
 5. tensile

- 15.** The settlers found an ideal location with plenty of _____ land for farming and a mountain stream for fresh water and irrigation.
1. candid
 2. provincial
 3. arable
 4. timid
 5. quaint

Answers

- 1.** 5. To *flummox* (v.) is to confuse, perplex, bewilder.
- 2.** 1. A *protagonist* (n.) is the main **character** in a drama.
- 3.** 1. To *wreak* (v.) means to inflict, as a revenge or punishment.
- 4.** 1. *Aplomb* (n.) is self-assurance, composure, poise, especially under strain.
5. 5. *Mandate* (n.) is a command or authoritative instruction.
- 6.** 2. *Sentient* (adj.) means possessing the power of sense or sense-perception; conscious.
- 7.** 3. To *rant* (v.) means to speak loudly or violently.
- 8.** 5. *Negligent* (adj.) means to habitually lack in giving proper care or attention; having a careless manner.
- 9.** 3. *Juncture* (n.) is a point of time, especially one that is at a critical point.
- 10.** 5. A *martyr* (n.) is one who sacrifices something of supreme value, such as a life, for a cause or principle; a victim; one who suffers constantly.
- 11.** 1. *Sibilant* (adj.) means characterized by a hissing sound.
- 12.** 2. A *rapport* (n.) is a relationship that is useful and harmonious.
- 13.** 4. *Manifold* (adj.) means many and varied; of many kinds; multiple.
- 14.** 1. *Untimely* (adj.) means happening before the proper time.
- 15.** 3. *Arable* (adj.) means suitable for cultivation, fit for plowing and farming productively.