

EXERCISE 2*Context Clues* 

Directions. Scan the definitions in Column A. Then think about how the boldface words are used in the sentences in Column B. To complete the exercise, match each definition in Column A with the correct vocabulary word from Column B. Write the letter of your choice on the line provided; then write the vocabulary word on the line preceding the definition.

COLUMN A

_____ 11. word: _____

n. a high point of land extending into a body of water

_____ 12. word: _____

n. wealth or riches; luxuriousness; abundance

_____ 13. word: _____

adj. hard to understand

_____ 14. word: _____

adj. avoiding waste; thrifty; economical

_____ 15. word: _____

n. the practice of charging a very high or an unlawful rate of interest on a loan

_____ 16. word: _____

n. a complete forsaking of what one has believed in

_____ 17. word: _____

n. the art of painting with watercolors on wet plaster; a picture so painted

_____ 18. word: _____

n. a showy trifle of little value; a useless toy or trinket

_____ 19. word: _____

adj. showing the colors of the rainbow in a changing pattern

_____ 20. word: _____

n. ingots, bars, or plates of gold or silver

COLUMN B

- (A) An artist who signs his work Z, reportedly a former loan officer accused of **usury**, entered one of my favorite paintings in the exhibit.
- (B) Biographical information about Z is vague. "I no longer believe in money, and my **apostasy** shocks many," he is quoted as saying.
- (C) "I consider my paintings **baubles**," the biographical note continues, "but if anyone finds value in these trifles, that's okay with me."
- (D) Z ends his biographical note with this statement: "You'll seldom find me in a studio. Instead, you'll find me, paintbrush in hand, standing on a rocky **promontory**, looking out to sea."
- (E) Z's work in the exhibit is a painting within a painting. It portrays an artist working on a **fresco** on a plaster-covered ceiling. The **fresco** within the painting shows the same image: an artist painting on wet plaster.
- (F) The connection of Z's painting to the exhibit's theme is **abstruse**, but however difficult the connection is to understand, the painting is extremely colorful.
- (G) The **iridescent** windowpanes in Z's painting are beautiful. They throw spots of rainbow colors on the painter and the ceiling.
- (H) I wish I could buy the painting. I would guard it as carefully as the government guards the **bullion** in the U.S. Gold Depository at Fort Knox.
- (I) Some art collectors aren't exactly **frugal** with their money. As a result, they would probably pay a high price for Z's painting.
- (J) The painting seems to belong amid **opulence** because its rich colors and jewellike tones suggest wealth and luxuriousness.