

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. public disgrace; public dishonor; disgraceful, shameful behavior

_____ 12. word: _____

v. to surround and trap by cleverness; to avoid or go around

_____ 13. word: _____

v. to pretend to be sick to escape work or duty; to shirk

_____ 14. word: _____

n. a damaging, false remark; slander; a slur; the act of slandering or defaming someone

_____ 15. word: _____

v. to object; to protest; to argue against some action

_____ 16. word: _____

n. a forecast; a prediction about the course of a disease and the chance of recovery

_____ 17. word: _____

v. to command or charge someone, often under oath or penalty, to do something; to ask or to entreat earnestly

_____ 18. word: _____

v. to run away; to leave suddenly and secretly and hide, especially to escape the law

_____ 19. word: _____

adj. evil; malicious; *v.* to speak evil of; to defame or slander

_____ 20. word: _____

adj. very light and airy; delicate; unearthly; celestial

COLUMN B

- (A) "We should really get back to DNA," Mr. Farley **adjured**, earnestly entreating us to pay attention.
- (B) "You certainly have the right to **remonstrate**, but it would be best to save your protestations for later so that we can continue discussing DNA structure."
- (C) "In the 1950s, some scientists hypothesized that DNA might be a helix so **ethereal** and delicate that it could not be seen by a microscope."
- (D) "But no one was able to **circumvent** the exact structure, despite attempts to surround and cleverly trap the solution," Mr. Farley said.
- (E) "Several scientists suffered **ignominy** when they were publicly disgraced for drawing obviously incorrect conclusions."
- (F) "Although other scientists cast **aspersions** on these errors, the theories, though incorrect, did not deserve these slurs."
- (G) "The scientists did not deserve malicious comments about their work," Mr. Farley said. "They should not have been **maligned**. They were, after all, able to rule out some faulty theories and come up with new ones."
- (H) "The **prognosis** for DNA was good," he continued, "because forecasts in a field are always best when there is both competition and cooperation."
- (I) "The scientists helped each other. They didn't just **abscond** or run away with each others' theories."
- (J) "But the race was far too tight for **malingering**," said Mr. Farley. "No one shirked his or her research for even a few minutes."