

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: _____

v. to obtain by threats or force

_____ 12. word: _____

n. injury done for injury received, especially by one nation to another; the act of returning an injury for an injury received; retaliation

_____ 13. word: _____

v. to draw out; to bring forth; to evoke

_____ 14. word: _____

adj. not fond of speaking; quiet; reserved

_____ 15. word: _____

n. a complete or ridiculous failure

_____ 16. word: _____

adj. occurring every two years; living or lasting for two years

_____ 17. word: _____

v. to make unnaturally thin; to waste away from hunger or disease

_____ 18. word: _____

n. long life; length of life

_____ 19. word: _____

adj. tending to change quickly without apparent reason; erratic; impulsive

_____ 20. word: _____

adj. having two or more meanings; ambiguous; evasive; of uncertain value or outcome; undecided; doubtful; obscure

COLUMN B

- (A) I read part of *Framing Science*, Len thought, and I certainly don't recall reading about any **fiascoes** like this—not even any minor failures.
- (B) I'm still young, but at this rate my **longevity** is questionable. Do all directors burn out early?
- (C) One of the writers called me **capricious**, but I don't think I'm an impulsive or erratic person.
- (D) Working almost around the clock and forgetting to eat may **emaciate** me. My mother says I'm already too thin.
- (E) I'm really glad that my director's prize is just for one year and not a **biennial** job that I have to do every two years.
- (F) The hardest part of directing is getting straight answers from people who talk out of both sides of their mouths. Some of them actually seem to enjoy being **equivocal**.
- (G) For **taciturn** people like Mr. Edwards or myself, having to speak loudly to get people's attention can be very uncomfortable.
- (H) Sometimes I try to **elicit** responses from people, but it's hard to get them to answer me, probably because I'm young and inexperienced.
- (I) Then I start thinking of things I could do to get even with the people who ignored me, but so far any **reprisals** are just in my head.
- (J) As the director, I guess I could **extort** responses from them, but threats and the use of force usually backfire.