

**Read the sentences. Answer the vocabulary question, then turn over your paper and tell, in your own words, what the passage said.**

1. In ancient times, the labyrinth was a structure composed of a complex series of passageways and chambers, probably at first designed to **baffle** enemies.

The word “baffle” is closest in meaning to: obstruct          puzzle          discard          astound

2. In the early days of our country, the government did not engage in road building. Entrepreneurs would join together to obtain government permission to build a road and pay for its maintenance by collecting tolls. But because road engineering was **rudimentary**, the roads were often poorly built and maintained.

The word “rudimentary” is closest to: elaborate          haphazard          flawed          basic

3. Modes of suggestion, while usually verbal, may be visual or involve other senses. In fact, a mere suggestion may **evoke** a memory that causes a specific reaction.

“Evoke” is closest in meaning to: produce          engross          emit          favor

4. In 1938 a radio broadcast of “War of the Worlds”, which was a fictitious eyewitness report of a Martian attack, created a panic among listeners who believed the attack was real. Listeners **inundated** law enforcement agencies with inquiries.

“Inundated” is closest in meaning to: agitated          overwhelmed          astonished          delighted

5. Tidal waves are **triggered** by tectonic displacements. Volcanoes, landslides, or earthquakes on the sea floor can cause a sudden displacement of the water above.

“Triggered” is closest in meaning to: fostered          heightened          inundated          generated

6. The construction of the Saint Lawrence Seaway was an undertaking of great **proportions**.

“Proportions” is closest in meaning to: triumphs          renown          dimensions          strength.

7. The public applauded the governor’s actions and **subsequently** his ratings in the polls improved.

“Subsequently is closest in meaning to: afterward          prior          avoidable          located

8. Astrologists contend that the position of the constellations at the moment of your birth **profoundly** influences your future.

“Profoundly” is closest in meaning to: subsequently          significantly          mistakenly          consistently

9. Because children tend to react **impulsively**, it is important to have guardians appointed to make decisions for them.

“Impulsively” is closest in meaning to: profoundly          readily          capriciously          severely

10. The university, **founded** in 1869, was the first in the state to provide graduate level programs.

“Founded” is closest in meaning to: shifted          established          distributed          maintained

**Match these vocabulary words with their synonyms and put the correct word in the sentences.**

obstruct	engaged
astound	fame
haphazard	aimless
engrossed	hinder
heightened	previous
renown	disturbed
agitated	intensified
prior	astonish

1. Though he had no \_\_\_\_\_ criminal record, the judge ruled that due to the severity of the crime, no bail should be granted.
2. The house is beautiful, but unfortunately a large building \_\_\_\_\_ their view of the lake.
3. The insensitivity of the president in dealing with foreign powers has \_\_\_\_\_ tensions around the world.
4. Sam constantly \_\_\_\_\_ us by knowing how to repair almost any machine.
5. The philanthropist has drawn \_\_\_\_\_ for her clean water projects in Africa.
6. While her mother was very organized, Jen's approach to housecleaning was \_\_\_\_\_ at best.
7. I felt nervous and \_\_\_\_\_ as I sat alone with him in the dark room.
8. He was so \_\_\_\_\_ in his book that he didn't notice the sound of the doorknob slowly turning.

**Discussion:**

1. Are you afraid of the dark?
2. What are your greatest fears?
3. Do you think everyone deserves bail, no matter the crime?
4. How important is a college degree?
5. Are you impulsive or do you think things out before deciding?
6. Do you think people today would be fooled by a news broadcast of an alien invasion?
7. I frequently get engrossed when I am ...
8. What evokes memories of your childhood?