

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Unit 14 Vocabulary and Spelling Homework Packet (8th Grade)

Homework and test will be due Friday 2/7/20

menial	ravage
turncoat	tawdry
stance	waver
wallow	parry
predatory	unassuming

Part A (Definitions)

Turncoat: a person who switches to an opposing side or party

Predatory: preying on, plundering, or piratical

Ravage: (v) to destroy, lay waste, ruin; (n) ruinous damage, destruction

Stance: a way of holding the body; an attitude or position on an issue

Menial: (adj) lowly, humble, lacking importance or dignity; (n) a person who does humble and unpleasant tasks

Parry: to ward off, fend off, deflect, evade, avoid; (n) a defensive movement in fencing and other sports

Wallow: to roll about in a lazy, clumsy, or helpless way; to overindulge in; to have in abundance; (n) a wet, muddy, or dusty area used by animals as a sort of bath; a state of moral or physical collapse

Unassuming: not putting on airs, unpretentious; modest, humble

Tawdry: showy and flashy but lacking in good taste

Waver: to move to and fro, become unsteady; to show lack of firmness or decision

Part B (Sentence Completion): Choose the proper word from above and complete each sentence.

1. After a strenuous hike, I was too tired to do anything but _____ blissfully in a hot bath.
2. The committee _____ for several days before choosing the winner of the essay contest.
3. Strikers generally consider those workers who cross the picket lines to be _____.
4. Swarms of locusts _____ the farmer's fields and orchards.
5. A fashion model's _____ is calculated to show off a designer's clothing to best advantage.
6. Many celebrities remain _____ despite their fame and wealth.
7. An excess of gold braid and glittery beads gave the costumes a _____ look.
8. During the Great Depression, people were thankful to have work of any kind, no matter how _____.
9. An effective press secretary can _____ almost any question a reporter asks.
10. Owls and other _____ birds play an important role in maintaining the balance of nature.

Part C (Synonyms): Choose the word or phrase from this unit that is the same or most nearly the same as the **boldface** word or expression in the given phrase. Write the word on the line provided.

11. A closet filled with **flashy** outfits _____

12. Denounced as a **deserter** _____

13. **Hesitates** when making decisions _____

14. Took an unpopular **viewpoint** _____

15. Sought to **dodge** the question _____

16. A **humble** attitude after losing the game _____