

Words Denoting Strength vs. Weakness

ADAMANTINE, BRACE, BRAWNY, CRIPPLE, DEBILITY, DELICATE, FEEBLE, FLIMSY, FORTIFY, FRAGILE, INVINCIBLE, LANGUISH, PUNY, RICKETY, ROBUST, STOUT, STRAPPING, STURDY, TOTTER, VALIDATE, WORN

Avocabo Wordlist 49

Exercise 49-1: Strong or Weak?

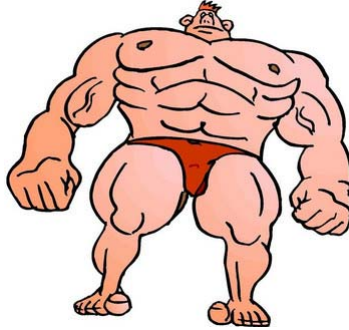
Sort the list words in columns, indicating whether you think the word denotes strength or weakness. (21 marks)

Strength	Weakness
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
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Exercise 49-2: Fill in the Blanks

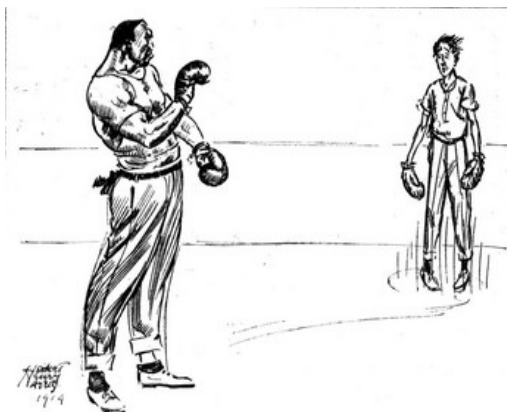
Complete each of the following sentences with the most appropriate list word (20 marks)

1. 'But for the long haul, environmentalists need more than outrage. They need hope – a kind of unflappable, _____ hope.



2. Vanunu, who converted to Christianity in the 1980s, reportedly wanted to stay at the church “indefinitely” but officials there said he had _____ out his welcome.
3. Still, the Sparks will not play Milton-Jones in Saturday’s exhibition game against New York. Milton-Jones is expected to participate in games after she receives a new knee _____.
4. Italian-born Sonia Gandhi, once vehemently opposed to politics, has emerged as favourite to lead the world’s largest democracy, defying her reviled foreign origins to trounce seemingly _____ Hindu nationalists.

5. The company says it just can’t cope with spiralling losses caused by cheap foreign labour. A problem which it’s feared could _____ the region’s manufacturing sector unless companies start to take notice.
6. A State Comptroller’s report released last September said the IDF was not investing enough funds to _____ armored personnel carriers used in the territories, saying such efforts to had been sporadic and unsystematic.
7. When she was 14, her father figured the family would have to leave Vietnam to flourish. So Duong and her dad climbed into a crowded, unsteady, _____ boat and headed into the rough waters of the South China Sea.
8. The coach gathered us around the dugout, reached inside his duffel bag and produced a thin, _____ wisp of concave plastic.



9. In the chapter “Dumbed-Down Taxes,” Jacobs presents a near-polemic on what ails Toronto — placing much of the blame at the feet of a remote and unresponsive federal government and “provincial kleptocracies” who squander tax windfalls even as the poor and homeless and near-homeless _____ on the streets, in substandard housing and in makeshift living arrangements.

10. Microchip Technology Inc. (Nasdaq: MCHP), a leading provider of microcontroller and analog semiconductors, today announced four development boards, available today, that serve as ideal prototyping tools to quickly develop and _____ key designs with Microchip's dsPIC(R) Digital Signal Controller (DSC) architecture.

11. The new Maybach looks strong, _____ and is unmistakable on the road.

12. The local economy proved _____ in March, as contractors built more homes and Realtors sold more than the prior year.

13. The Web portal and search site's Yahoo Mail will get a bump-up in mail storage space from today's relatively _____ 4 MB to 100 MB, executives said during a briefing Thursday to Wall Street analysts.

14. "You prepare yourself mentally and say that it's going to be better, but then you play a couple of long games," said the mentally-_____ Henman.

15. Gallo, the _____ man who had helped Alcocer aboard, began tearing at the plywood on the trailer walls, slicing his fingers.

16. Moss said the team had a better week of practice, but is looking for stronger performances out of his usually _____ line and in the kicking game.

17. Time, inevitably, is always the last-laugh mocker . . . chief Blockhead Ian Dury is dead, the Stones _____ on the edge of pensions and the rest of us are coping ungraciously with time lapse – and lapses in memory, lapses in libido, lapsing faces, stomachs, lives . . . When a rocker's roll becomes that of Mr or Ms Middle Age, it's not only the mirror that's confronting.

18. But he is worried that seismic testing and other oil and gas exploration near the protected area may disturb or damage the _____ habitat.

19. "Troy" is an action picture of stunning scope and stirring spectacle, with a love story between two callow nitwits that is its Achilles heel. The movie attempts to compensate for this with frequent visits to the _____, tawny contours of the rest of Achilles' body.

20. St George Illawarra did hit back in the 73rd minute when interchange forward Justin Poore charged over from close range through some uncharacteristically _____ defence.

Exercise 49-3: Antonyms

Circle the closest antonym for each list word (20 marks)

1. ADAMANTINE

a) implacable b) stubborn c) flexible

2. BRACE

a) prop b) weaken c) fortify

3. BRAWNY

a) puny b) burly c) muscular

4. CRIPPLE

a) immobilize b) maim c) unharmed

5. DEBILITY

a) frailness b) robust c) infirmity

6. DELICATE

a) dainty b) frail c) strong

7. FEEBLE

a) meager b) decrepit c) vigorous

8. FLIMSY

a) thick b) thin c) infirm

9. FORTIFY

a) harden b) weaken c) strengthen

10. FRAGILE

a) solid b) frangible c) breakable

11. INVINCIBLE

a) indomitable b) mortal c) unconquerable

12. LANGUISH

a) fail b) fade c) flourish

13. PUNY

a) brawny b) scrawny c) tiny

14. RICKETY

a) wobbly b) sturdy c) shaky

15. ROBUST

- a) sinewy b) scrawny c) husky

16. STOUT

- a) tough b) hefty c) skinny

17. STRAPPING

- a) vigorous b) stalwart c) powerless

18. STURDY

- a) burly b) unshakeable c) frail

19. TOTTER

- a) teeter b) falter c) balanced

20. VALIDATE

- a) support b) contradict c) prove

4. Invincible- Gibraltar

5. Sturdy-Dungaree

Exercise 49-4: Making Connections

Use a few sentences to describe the relationship between each pair of words (10 marks)

Unit courtesy of Ron Fichter and Omar Shamji, May 2004

1. Cedar – Robust

2. Delicate – Genoise

3. Fragile – Glass Vase
