

EXERCISE I—Words in Context

From the list below, supply the words needed to complete the paragraph. Some words will not be used.

pristine	discordant	xenophobia	subjugate
impregnable	invective	pithy	inherent

- A. Queen Alana's _____ was not entirely unfounded. In the queen's twenty-year reign, her lands had been the victim of four separate invasions, two of which nearly _____ the tiny island to foreign rule. The enemies had already expressed views _____ with the Queen's about their common borders. After issuing a fiery _____ questioning the foreign king's intentions, Queen Alana began to prepare for war. Two days later, the _____, old-world forest on the southern shore of her realm became crowded with invading troops, all of whom were preparing for an onslaught on the supposedly _____ castle.

From the list below, supply the words needed to complete the paragraph. Some words will not be used.

irreverent	filibuster	prodigal	torpid
inherent	expedite	pithy	tenuous

- B. Despite four thousand years of erosion, the hieroglyphics on the wall still carried a[n] _____ message: "enter and be doomed." Murdoch, trying to _____ the heist, paid no attention to the symbols as he raised his pickaxe over his head and sent it crashing into the limestone wall. The native guide scolded Murdoch's _____ treatment of the ancient burial chamber, but Murdoch retorted with the quick explanation that etiquette was not a[n] _____ part of archaeological theft. Murdoch took a second swing, this time penetrating the surprisingly _____ wall. He grinned at the thought of what waited for him beyond the wall, unaware that the guide had become pale and stood in _____ amazement next to the catacomb entrance.

From the list below, supply the words needed to complete the paragraph. Some words will not be used.

filibuster	prodigal	pliable
xenophobia	torpid	invective

- C. Senator Melita Darnell knew that she would have to _____ to prevent a vote on the new McDermid Bill. To her, the bill would pave the way for the same _____ government spending that she had vowed to eliminate; unfortunately, the opinions of the quorum were not _____ enough for her to sway prior to the session. She was going to have to do this the hard way.