

EXERCISE I—Words in Context

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

arbiter vacuous burgeon commensurate vagary secular

- A. As the terrorist threat _____ each year in the United States, citizens must raise their vigilance to _____ levels. Citizens must also hinder terrorist intelligence-gathering capabilities by implementing small irregularities in their day-to-day routines. This intentional _____ will prevent terrorists from determining the best time to attack. We must learn to vary concentrations of people, control the distribution of work schedules, and otherwise keep terrorists as _____ as possible about our daily routines.

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

archetype verdant attrition confluence
epicurean mellifluous coup

- B. Tonia closed her eyes to concentrate better on the _____ sounds of the mambo orchestra playing at Anconia's Night Club. She heard only what emanated through the wall behind the dumpster. She would stand next to the wall, close her eyes, and imagine that she was a member of the _____ clientele feasting at the glass tables in Anconia's impressive ballroom. Just a week before being hired, Tonia met Anconia's doorman after the club had closed for the night, and he was nice enough to allow her inside for a look. The walls around the dance floor and dining area were _____ with dangling, subtropical plants, and the dance floor sparkled even though the club was fifty years old. Impressed, Tonia realized how Anconia's provided a place for the _____ of the wealthy and the famous.

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

oeuvre arbiter attrition archetype
approbation coup secular vagary

- C. Many fans usually classified Toby as fitting the _____ of the traditional 1970s folksinger, but they were only partially correct. Toby's taste in Native American clothing and his simple, naturalist philosophical claims definitely gave him the "Woodstock" image. The music of his _____ was rich with naturalist and even spiritual themes, though it remained surprisingly _____. It certainly caught Toby's fans off-guard when he gave his _____ to allow the state of Alaska to drill for oil on his pristine, 4,500-acre property. Feeling used, Toby's fans abandoned their prevailing 1970s attitudes to stage a[n] _____ and bring Toby to his senses. Willow Records, Toby's recording company, had to employ a legion of _____ to restore relations with angry music distributors who faced a massive _____ of their revenues.