

1. To reach Simonville, the traveller needs to drive with extreme caution along the \_\_\_\_ curves of the mountain road that climbs \_\_\_\_ to the summit.

- A. serpentine - steeply
- B. jagged - steadily
- C. gentle - precipitously
- D. shady - steadily
- E. hair-raising - languidly

2. The cricket match seemed \_\_\_\_ to our guests; they were used to watching sports in which the action is over in a couple of hours at the most.

- A. unintelligible
- B. inconsequential
- C. interminable
- D. implausible
- E. evanescent

3. Our present accountant is most \_\_\_\_ ; unlike the previous \_\_\_\_ incumbent, he has never made a mistake in all the years that he has worked for the firm.

- A. unorthodox - heretical
- B. dependable - assiduous
- C. punctilious - painstaking
- D. asinine - diligent
- E. meticulous - unreliable

4. The refugee's poor grasp of English is hardly an \_\_\_\_ problem; she can attend classes and improve within a matter of months.

- A. implausible
- B. insuperable
- C. inconsequential
- D. evocative
- E. injudicious

5. We appreciated his \_\_\_\_ summary of the situation; he wasted no words yet delineated his position most \_\_\_\_ .

- A. comprehensive : inadequately
- B. succinct : direfully
- C. cogent : persuasively
- D. verbose : concisely
- E. grandiloquent : eloquently

6. His musical tastes are certainly \_\_\_\_ ; he has recordings ranging from classical piano performances to rock concerts, jazz and even Chinese opera.

- A. antediluvian
- B. eclectic
- C. harmonious
- D. sonorous
- E. dazzling

7. I cannot conclude this preface without \_\_\_\_ that an early and untimely death should have prevented Persius from giving a more finished appearance to his works.

- A. rejoicing
- B. lamenting
- C. affirming
- D. commenting
- E. mentioning

8. Before his marriage the Duke had led an austere existence and now regarded the affectionate, somewhat \_\_\_\_ behavior of his young wife as simply \_\_\_\_ .

- A. restrained - despicable
- B. childish - elevating
- C. playful - sublime
- D. frivolous - puerile
- E. unpleasant - delightful

9. Wilson \_\_\_\_ that human beings inherit a tendency to feel an affinity and awe for other living things, in the same way that we are \_\_\_\_ to be inquisitive or to protect our young at all costs.

- A. argues - encouraged
- B. maintains - trained
- C. contends - predisposed
- D. fears - taught
- E. demurs - genetically programmed

10. The pond was a place of reek and corruption, of \_\_\_\_ smells and of oxygen-starved fish breathing through laboring gills.

- A. fragrant
- B. evocative
- C. dolorous
- D. resonant
- E. fetid

11. There have been great \_\_\_\_ since his time, but few others have felt so strongly the \_\_\_\_ of human existence.

- A. pessimists - futility
- B. skeptics - exaltation
- C. heretics - sagacity
- D. optimists - tremulousness
- E. cynics - joy

12. While war has never been absent from the \_\_\_\_ of man, there have been periods in History which appear remarkably \_\_\_\_.

- A. archives - ambivalent
- B. posterity - serene
- C. mind - desultory
- D. annals - pacific
- E. life - belligerent