***Spelling/Vocabulary/Sentence Unit #12***

**1. Admonish to strongly warn in a good-will manner**

*Sternly, Mr. Brown admonished the kids he caught out back about the dangers of smoking.*

**2. Assert to state something as being true**

*Again, Victor asserted he was telling the truth; I wasn’t so sure though.*

**3. Candidate someone who is being considered for a political office or official position**

*Handsome and well-spoken, the candidate attracted much attention.*

**4. Condemn to state that something is wrong or unacceptable and punishable**

*Contrary to other teachers, Mr. Martin condemns gum chewing in class.*

**5. Decimate to damage something to the point that is useless**

*Having decimated the shelf of laptops, I left Best Buy quickly.*

**6. Discreet careful not to reveal one’s actions; careful about keeping a thing secret**

*Ashamed and embarrassed, Kim told us to be discreet with our knowledge of her accident.*

**7. Endeavor to make a serious and sincere effort to achieve something**

*Although he endeavored to locate the Fountain of Youth, Ponce de Leon was unsuccessful.*

**8. Grotesque misshapen, especially in a strange or disturbing way**

*Fontelroy’s Freak Show (full of grotesque human specimens) was quite disturbing.*

**9. Imperative important and urgent; cannot be ignored; required**

*With a game tonight and a project due tomorrow, it is imperative that I do my work in study hall.*

**10. Inferior lower in quality or value; failing to meet a standard; lower in rank**

*Because of their inferior quality, the chef decided not to use the steak cutlets in his stew.*

**11. Irrelevant not important; having nothing to do with the topic at hand**

*Yes, it’s raining out, but that’s irrelevant as to whether or not you have to take your test.*

**12. Marriage a legally recognized relationship between a man and a woman**

*After the marriage ceremony, we’re heading to the reception for hors d’oeuvres.*

**13. Necessary important in order to achieve a specific result**

*Is it necessary to wear a parachute when skydiving? That depends.*

**14. Overwhelming extremely large or overpowering**

*My list of things to do is overwhelming: finish math, make dinner, wash clothes, and dust my room.*

**15. Pristine so clean and neat as to look new; not yet ruined by human habitation**

*On the other hand, the pristine forests of Blue Island have yet to be explored.*

**16. Reiterate to say or do something again, once or several times**

*I cannot reiterate enough harmful smoking is; it will take years off your life.*

**17. Simultaneous done, happening, or existing at the same time**

*Simultaneously, Jim juggled the chainsaws and played “Chop Sticks” on the piano with his toes.*

**18. Succumb to be unable to resist or oppose something; to die from illness or injury**

*After fighting lung cancer for four years, Uncle Pete finally succumbed to the disease.*

**19. Transcend to go beyond a limit or range, to pass an obstacle**

*Superman transcends the limits of human capabilities; however, he’s from another planet.*

**20. Vigilant watchful and alert, especially to guard against danger, difficulties, or errors**

*Vigilant and sneakily, the principal roamed the halls to look for kids without a pass.*

**Sentence Pattern: Begin each sentence with an adverb followed by a comma. If you’re stuck and can’t think of any adverbs, visit the following website which lists 1,200 of them:** [**http://www.paulnoll.com/Books/Clear-English/English-adverbs.html**](http://www.paulnoll.com/Books/Clear-English/English-adverbs.html)

1. Incredibly, the new Stealth aircraft *transcends* the speed of sound twice over at 1,500 m.p.h.

2. Clearly, it was *imperative* that we rehearse our skit before tomorrow night’s performance.

3. Quietly, I slipped the $20 bill into my needy friend’s coat pocket so as to be *discreet*.

4. *Irrelevantly*, Patty declared she loved chicken alfredo in the middle of class.