Lesson 2  Review Exercise

1. Mauritius was unknown to the outside world until 1507. Its ________________ ended that year when Portuguese sailors landed on the Indian Ocean island.

2. The Portuguese established a permanent settlement on Mauritius. The island had been visited by other explorers ________________ to their arrival, but none had stayed.

3. The island was overrun with large, flightless birds. When properly cooked, they provided a fine ________________ for the sailors.

4. Hunting these helpless creatures was easy. The island’s new inhabitants wasted no time in cooking and ________________ them.

5. They called the bird a dodo. The word today has a ________________ meaning when referring to a person.

6. You would not be pleased if someone called you a dodo. A dodo is someone who is not very ________________.

7. The dodo had no reason to fly and no reason to run fast. It’s not surprising that it evolved into the rather ________________ creature the sailors encountered.

8. For thousands of years, dodos had lived without fear. This made them ________________ when humans began hunting them for food.
9. Since it had never been hunted before, the dodo was an easy prey for
   ____________________.

10. With the humans came the first dogs, which added to the dodo's troubles. The dogs
    roamed the island and ________________ for dodo eggs.

11. The killing of dodos for food began in 1507. The ________________ continued for
    the next 170 years, until the last dodo was dead.

12. After many years, the dodo captured people's interest. No one knew whether it had been
    a real creature or a ________________ of the imagination.

13. No one wishing to draw a dodo knew exactly what it looked like. Artists were free to
    draw its ________________ however they imagined.

14. For a long time, people believed that the dodo existed only in people's imagination. We
    now know that the dodo was real and not a ________________ creature.

15. The discovery of some old bones in 1889 answered the question. They were found to be
    ________________ dodo bones, proving that the dodo had been real.