

Complete the exercise below with the words from the word box.

old chestnut	In retrospect	despondent	familial	swansong
diagnosed	catastrophes	reciprocate	obsessed	out of

1. The Holocaust, the systematic mass murder of Jews by the Nazis during World War II, remains one of the deadliest man-made _____ in human history.
2. The disabled swimmer, holding the hard-earned trophy, said, 'I still remember vividly how _____ I used to feel when I struggled to even float, thinking that I'd never be able to swim. Standing here, I feel all the tears and sweat have paid off.'
3. Despite having been _____ with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) at a young age, Steven Hawking did not lose hope in life, but became more dedicated to his passion for exploring the mysteries of the universe.
4. Patriarchy, the idea that men are supposed to be in power and women are therefore subordinate to men, is considered by many to be an outdated _____ value no longer applicable in the modern world.
5. '_____, my childhood, made up of lovely simple things like outdoor games and homemade toys, is in fact happier than I thought it to be,' said my mum.
6. Everyone can tell that unidentified man is _____ with me,' the model spoke of her experience, 'the paparazzi have caught him stalking me for quite a number of times already.'
7. To many, the saying 'You must study hard' is just an _____, since a promising future, or even a good career, does not wholly depend upon one's hard work; it also has a lot to do with one's fortune.
8. Back in ancient times, the kingdom's poor peasants followed the king's orders strictly _____ sheer fear and frustration, however irrational, cruel or inhumane the orders were to them.
9. 'You lifted me up when my life hit rock bottom, and have walked with me in times of joy and sorrow. My life revolves around you; in fact, it begins and ends with you. I know I haven't done much for you, but allow me to _____ with what I have to offer,' he bent down on one knee, took a ring out from his pocket and asked, 'Will you marry me?'
10. Known as one of the greatest modern novelists, Ernest Hemingway wrote the short novel, The Old Man and the Sea, which many consider to be his best work, as his _____.