A WORD ROOT QUIZ

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The twenty words listed below all contain the root loqu or locu, which is derived from the Latin loci, locutus, meaning "to speak". Can you match the words with the definitions at the right? Answers are given in Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.

1. elocutionist  a. informal expression
2. ventriloquist  b. particular form or style of expression
3. circumlocution  c. monologue
4. Oblocutor  d. authoritative, sometimes solemn address
5. breviloquence  e. dull, gloomy speech
6. somniloquy  f. gainsayer
7. colloquialism  g. someone engaged in a conversation, especially one in a minstrel show
8. tristiloquy  h. forceful, persuasive discourse
9. locution  i. terseness of speaking
10. altiloquent  j. high-sounding
11. prolocutor  k. one whose voice seems to come from somewhere else
12. eloquence  l. an oratorical public speaker
13. dentiloquy  m. act of speaking through the teeth
14. grandiloquence  n. prolix
15. allocation  o. prophetic
16. loquacious  p. use of many words where one might have sufficed
17. interlocutor  q. a presiding officer
18. amphoriloquy  r. lofty, pompous language
19. soliloquy  s. utterance of sounds like those produced by blowing into an empty bottle
20. fatiloquent  t. act of talking in one's sleep

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