

2013

500+ TOEFL Exam Word List

TOEFL[®]



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A

- ABANDON** : To give up completely - *abandoned* the sinking ship.
Synonyms: relinquish, forgo, forsake
- ABASH** : To lose self-confidence; to confuse, put to shame – *abashed* before the assembled dignitaries.
Synonyms: fluster, disconcert, discomfit, discompose
Antonym: (**adj.**) self-possessed
- ABDICATE** : To give up claim *to* - *abdicated* the throne
Synonyms: renounce, abandon, relinquish
- ABET** : To encourage -or support - treacherously *abetted* the enemy.
Synonyms: spur, incite
Antonym: deter
- ABRIDGE** : To shorten - *abridged* his lengthy speech.
Synonyms: curtail, diminish, retrench.
Antonyms: protract, elongate, amplify.
- ABROGATE** : To abolish or render void - a treaty *abrogated* by mutual consent.
Synonyms: annul, nullify, rescind, void
- ABSTEMIOUS** : Moderate in the use of food or drink - *abstemious* in his habits.
Synonym: temperate
- ACADEMIC** : Pertaining to school; theoretical *academic* interests; an *academic* discussion, with no practical implications.
Synonym: scholastic
- ACCEDE** : *To* agree to -*accede* to a request.
Synonym: assent
Antonym: demur
- ACCELERATE** : To quicken, speed up - took an *accelerated* course in order to graduate early.

Synonym: expedite (**adj.** expeditious)

Antonym: retard

- ACCOLADE** : An award or salute - a tremendous *accolade* for a returning hero.
Synonyms: tribute, ovation
- ACCORD** : Agreement or harmony - in full *accord* with his view.
Synonyms: concord, concurrence
Antonyms: dissension, discord
- ACRIMONIOUS** : Sharp or harsh in language or temper - stung by the *acrimonious* remark.
Synonyms: caustic, acerb, pungent, tart, mordant, acrid; (**noun**) asperity
Antonyms: suave, affable
- ACUMEN** : Keeness of mind or insight - showing exceptional business *acumen*.
Synonyms: perspicacity, discernment, perception
Antonym: obtuseness
- ADMONISH** (**noun:** ADMONITION): To warn or find fault gently - *admonishing* the unruly child.
Synonyms: chide, caution, reprimand, reprehend, reproach
- ADVERSARY** : (**adj.:** ADVERSE): An opponent - his *adversary* in a bitter debate.
Synonym: antagonist
Antonyms: cohort, confederate, ally, accomplice
- ADVERSITY** : Misfortune - calm in the face of *adversity*.
Synonyms: affliction, mischance, reverses
- AESTHETIC** : Pertaining to the beautiful - interested in *aesthetic* values rather than in purely practical affairs.
- AFFABLE** : Sociable, courteous, and agreeable in manner a much admired, *affable* gentleman.
Synonyms: civil, complaisant, benign, gracious, genial, urbane, cordial
Antonyms: curt, brusque, rude, boorish, surly
- AFFLUENT** : Prosperous, flourishing; copious - a large bequest from an *affluent* grandfather.
Synonyms: opulent, profuse
Antonyms: destitute, impecunious
- AGGRESSIVE** (**noun:** AGGRESSION. an unprovoked attack): self-assertive; attacking, offensive - annoyed people by his *aggressive* attitude;
Synonyms: bumptious, officious, obtrusive
Antonyms: meek, humble, retiring, diffident

- ALACRITY** : Eagerness; cheerful promptness - responded to the flattering offer with *alacrity*.
Synonyms: celerity, briskness, energy, animation
Antonyms: apathy, nonchalance, sluggishness, lethargy, phlegmatism
- ALIENATE** : To estrange - *alienated* by his gruff manner.
- ALLAY** : To calm; to lessen in severity - at ease now that his fears have been *allayed*.
Synonyms: appease, alleviate, pacify, assuage, abate, mitigate, propitiate, mollify, placate
Antonyms: intensify, aggravate
- ALLUDE** (**noun**: ALLUSION): To refer to indirectly - alluded quite subtly to his friend's misfortune.
Synonyms: insinuate, intimate, imply
Antonyms: refer, cite
- ALLURE** : To tempt by flattery or an attractive offer - *allured* by the prospect of a new job.
Synonyms: lure, decoy, inveigle, entice, seduce, wheedle, beguile, cajole
Antonym: repel
- AMBIGUOUS** : Uncertain, vague, capable of being inter- in more than one way - puzzled by the *ambiguous* statement.
Synonyms: hazy, obscure, equivocal, dubious, nebulous
Antonyms: explicit, unquestionable
- AMENABLE** : Obedient; willing to submit - *amenable* to the suggestion.
Synonyms: tractable, docile, responsive
Antonyms: intractable, refractory, recalcitrant
- AMIABLE** : Good-natured; friendly - attracted friends by his *amiable* disposition.
Synonym: complaisant
- ANACHRONISM** : A thing placed or occurring out of its normal time - A machine gun at the Battle of Yorktown would be an *anachronism*.
- ANALOGY** (**adj.**: ANALOGOUS): A relation between two things shown in the resemblance not of the things themselves but of their characteristics- He indicated points of *analogy* between the two situations.
Synonyms: correspondence, affinity
Antonym: anomaly (a deviation from the general rule)
- ANARCHY** : State of confusion or lawlessness - a country brought to utter *anarchy* by civil war.
Synonyms: chaos, pandemonium

- ANIMUS** : A feeling of hatred-felt no *animus*, even against the enemy.
Synonyms: enmity, rancor, malevolence, animosity
Antonym: amity
- ANNALS** : Historical records - in the *annals* of literature.
- ANONYMOUS** : Of unknown authorship-an *anonymous* publication.
- ANTHOLOGY** : A collection of choice literary works – an *anthology* of modern poetry.
- ANTITHESIS** (**adj.:** ANTITHETICAL): Contrast; the direct opposite - His selfish attitude seemed to me the *antithesis* o patriotism.
- APATHY** (**adj.:** APATHETIC): Lack of feeling, emotion, or interest - attributed his failure to *apathy*, rather than lack of ability.
Synonyms: torpor, lethargy, sluggishness, listlessness, languor, lassitude, dispassion; (**verb**) languish
Antonyms: zeal, animation
- APPREHENSIVE** (**verb:** APPREHEND): Fearful - Being unprepared, John is *apprehensive* of the examination.
- APPRISE** : To inform –*apprised* his lieutenants of the new situation.
- APPROBATION** : Approval; praise -a plan that met with hearty *approbation*.
Synonyms: sanction, commendation
Antonym: disapprobation
- APT** (**noun:** APTITUDE, APTNESS):
(1) Likely; inclined or disposed - *apt* to succeed. **Synonym:** prone
(2) Fit, suitable - an *apt* remark.
Synonyms: appropriate, felicitous
(3) Skillful, expert - *apt* at woodcarving.
Synonyms: deft, dexterous, adept. **Antonym:** inept
- ARBITER** : A person who has authority to decide matters in dispute - a fair decision rendered by the *arbiter*.
Synonyms: mediator, arbitrator
- ARCHETYPE** : An original pattern - copies reproduced from the *archetype*.
Synonym: prototype
Antonyms: Stereotype, facsimile, replica
- ARID** : Dry; barren - the *arid* desert land.
Synonyms: jejune, parched
Antonyms: arable, fertile
- ARISTOCRACY** : Government by the best people; a privileged class -special privileges enjoyed by the *aristocracy*.

Synonym: oligarchy
Antonym: democracy

ARMISTICE : A temporary suspension of hostilities. The *armistice* halted the war.
Synonym: truce

ARTFUL : Sly; crafty - attained his mean objective by *artful* measures.
Synonyms: cunning, wily, adroit, ingenious, guileful
Antonyms: guileless, ingenuous, artless

ARTICULATE (verb): To speak clearly or distinctly - *articulated* slowly so that he could not be misunderstood.
(adj.): Capable of speech; distinct, clear – an *articulate* man, always ready to give his views.

ASCETIC : Rigorously self-denying - pursued the *ascetic* life of a monk.
Synonyms: austere, abstinent
Antonyms: wanton, self-indulgent

ASKANCE : With distrust - looked *askance* at the forged signature.

ASSEVERATE : To declare positively; to confirm - *asseverated* his views with conviction.
Synonyms: assert, avouch, aver, avow, allege
Antonyms: gainsay, controvert, recant, rescind, abjure, disavow

ASSIDUOUS : Industrious - an *assiduous* worker, toiling long hours.
Synonyms: sedulous, attentive, diligent, indefatigable
Antonyms: indolent, slothful

ASYLUM : A place offering shelter and retreat -found *asylum* from persecution.
Synonyms: sanctuary, refuge

ATHEIST : One who denies that God exists.
Synonyms: infidel, agnostic, skeptic

ATTRIBUTE (verb): Assign -*attributed* his success to hard work.
Synonym: ascribe
(noun): An inherent quality -Generosity was his outstanding *attribute*.

AUGMENT : To increase or enlarge - an army *augmented* by numerous enlistments.
Synonyms: enhance, amplify -
Antonyms: abate, curtail

AUSPICIOUS : Indicating a happy outcome - The prospect for this project appears *auspicious*.
Synonyms: propitious, fortunate
Antonyms: ominous, foreboding

- AUTHENTIC** : Genuine -proved to be an *authentic* document.
Synonyms: veritable, bona fide
Antonyms: apocryphal, counterfeit, spurious, bogus
- AUTOCRATIC** : Despotic - feared by the masses as an *autocratic* ruler.
Synonym: tyrannical
Antonym: benevolent
- AVARICE** : Excessive greed - a fortune accumulated by *avarice* and miserliness.
Synonyms: covetousness, cupidity, avidity
Antonym: magnanimity
- AWRY** : Unsymmetrical; not straight - the picture, hanging *awry* on the wall.
Synonym: askew



B

- BANAL** : Lacking in freshness, originality, or vigor-bored by his *banal* remarks.
Synonyms: commonplace, hackneyed, prosaic, trite, stereotyped, vapid
Antonyms: racy, original, vivid
- BANEFUL** (**noun:** BANE: poison; source of harm): Destructive, poisonous - a *baneful* effect, causing serious injury.
Synonyms: deleterious, pernicious, virulent, noxious, toxic
Antonym: beneficent
- BANTER** : Good-natured teasing or ridicule-The two wits I exchanged *banter*, to the amusement of the audience.
Synonyms: raillery, chaff
- BATON** : A stick or staff - The conductor wielded his baton gracefully.
- BELIE** : To give a false idea of - His gracious manner *belled* his. Evil purpose.
Synonyms: misrepresent
- BELLICOSE** : Inclined to quarrel; warlike - His *bellicose* attitude often got John into fights.
Synonyms: pugnacious, contentious, disputatious
Antonyms: pacific, conciliatory
- BELLIGERENT** : Engaged in war - two *belligerent* nations warring fiercely.

- BENEVOLENT** : Kindly; charitable - like a *benevolent* monarch, bestowing many favors.
Synonyms: benign, benignant, gracious, magnanimous
Antonyms: malevolent, malignant
- BEREAVE** : To deprive or leave desolate by loss - a widow just *bereaved* of her husband.
- BESMIRCH** : To soil or dirty - *besmirched* his opponent's good name with vile epithets.
Synonyms: stilly, defile, smirch, bespatter
- BIASED** : Prejudiced - misled by a *biased* point of view.
Synonyms: bigoted, arbitrary, partial, partisan
Antonyms: disinterested, equitable
- BIBLIOPHILE** : A lover of books - The *bibliophile* fingered the old book fondly.
Antonym: bibliophobe
- BIZARRE** : Queer; unusual in appearance- *bizarre* clothes, outlandish in the extreme.
Synonyms: odd, fantastic, grotesque, eccentric
- BLAND** : Gentle; polite; agreeable - a *bland* diet, without irritating foods.
Synonyms: mild, suave (affable or persuasive in manner), soothing, non-irritating
Antonyms: piquant, tart, racy, caustic, acrid, pungent
- BLANDISHMENT** : A flattering speech or act - attracted people by his *blandishments*.
- BLEMISH (verb)** : To scar or spoil - Bad associates *blemished* his character
(noun): A disfigurement, defect - a character without a *blemish*.
- BLIGHT** : To ruin or decay - the rotting wheat-, *blighted* by incessant rain.
Synonyms: wither, blast
- BLITHE** : Gay and light-hearted in spirit or mood - spread cheer with her *blithe* spirit.
Synonyms: jocund, merry, joyous
Antonyms: dejected, forlorn, abject
- BOG** : A swamp - sank into the spongy *bog*.
Synonyms: morass, fen, quagmire, mire
- BOMBASTIC (noun: BOMBAST):** High-sounding; pretentious in language - a *bombastic* speech, inflated with meaningless high-flown words.
Synonyms: ranting, pompous, fustian
- BOORISH** : Unrefined in speech or manners - exhibited the *boorish* manners of a backwoodsman.

Synonyms: churlish, uncouth, uncultured, crass

Antonym: suave

BUCOLIC : Pertaining to the country - a *bucolic* poem de- the joys of the shepherd.
Synonyms: pastoral, rustic, rural

BUFFOON : A clown - acting like a *buffoon*, full of ludicrous tricks.
Synonyms: harlequin

BULWARK : 1) An embankment used as a fortification - a lofty *bulwark* for defense.
Synonyms: rampart
2) a person, idea, or object serving as a protection - acted as a *bulwark* in the fight against crime.

BUMPTIOUS : Obnoxiously conceited or self-assertive - a *bumptious* monitor, puffed up with his own importance,
Synonyms: aggressive, arrogant, contumelious, overbearing



C

CABAL : A small group of persons engaged in plotting - a *cabal* of prominent persons united to overthrow the government.
Synonyms: junto, faction

CACOPHONOUS : Unharmonious sounding - a *cacophonous* blare of trumpets, noisy and discordant.
Synonyms: dissonant, discordant, blatant, strident, raucous
Antonyms: mellifluous, euphonious, dulcet

CADAVEROUS : Corpse-like; hence, haggard, pale - His face appeared *cadaverous* from long imprisonment.
Synonyms: ghastly, gaunt, pallid (**noun:** pallor), wan, ashen
Antonyms: rubicund, florid

CALLOUS : Unfeeling or insensitive - made *callous* by long suffering.
Synonyms: insensible, obdurate

CALUMNIATE : To accuse falsely or maliciously in order to injure another's reputation; slander - *calumniated* his political opponent by spreading false rumors.
Synonyms: asperse, vilify, defame, scandalize

- CANDID** (**noun**: CANDOR): Frank, outspoken; impartial a *candid* reply that could hardly be more forthright.
Synonyms: artless, ingenuous, unbiased
Antonyms: guileful, evasive
- CANTANKEROUS** : Ill-natured; quarrelsome – showed a *cantankerous* and sullen disposition.
Synonyms: petulant, peevish, contentious, pugnacious, testy, choleric, fretful
Antonyms: amiable, affable, equable
- CAPRICIOUS** : Inclined, through some whim or fancy change the mind, purpose, or actions suddenly - a *capricious* person, undependable in mood or temper.
Synonyms: fickle, fitful, changeable, erratic, inconstant, crotchety, whimsical, mercurial
Antonyms: steadfast, constant, even-tempered
- CAPTIOUS** : Quick to find fault about trifles- a *captious* critic pouncing on slight laws.
Synonyms: hypercritical, carping, caviling, censorious
- CARICATURE** : A picture or other description of a person which exaggerates ludicrously one or more of his distinctive features - not a realistic portrait but a malicious *caricature*.
- CASTIGATE** : To punish or criticize severely - *castigated* for using improper language.
Synonyms: reprove, upbraid, reprehend, censure, reprimand, chasten
Antonyms: commend, eulogize, laud
- CELESTIAL** : Pertaining to the sky; heavenly-a *celestial* pageant of bright stars.
Synonyms: ethereal; (**noun**) firmament
- CHAUVINIST** : An extreme patriot-a *chauvinist* with most pride in his country.
Synonym: jingoist
- CHICANERY** : Trickery, deception, - practised *chicanery* all his shady dealings.
Synonyms: duplicity, craft, stratagem, wile, subterfuge
- CHRONIC** : Continuing a long time; habitual-a. *chronic* complaint, persisting for years.
Synonyms: persistent, unremitting, inveterate, incessant, constant
Antonyms: intermittent, sporadic, infrequent
- CIRCUMSPECT** : Cautious - looked about him *circumspectly*.
Synonyms: prudent, vigilant, discreet, wary
Antonyms: rash, indiscreet, reckless, precipitate, foot hardy, temerarious, headstrong

- CIRCUMVENT** : To gain an advantage by the use of trick to evade by the use of deception; to go around - *circumvented* the law by evasive practices.
Synonyms: thwart, balk, outwit, delude
- CIVIL** : 1) Of or having to do with citizens or the state - We I *civil* duties as well as *civil* liberties.
2) Polite, courteous - answered in a *civil* fashion.
Synonyms: respectful, gracious
- CLAMOROUS** : Loud and noisy - a *clamorous* outburst the crowd outside.
Synonyms: vociferous, obstreperous, blatant, raucous, strident
Antonyms: muted, quiet
- CLANDESTINE** : Secret; stealthy - a *clandestine* meeting known only to a few.
Synonyms: furtive, covert, surreptitious
Antonyms: overt, manifest, above-board
- CLEMENT** : Merciful; gentle - a *clement* judge who tempered justice with leniency.
Synonyms: compassionate, forbearing
Antonyms: relentless, ruthless
- COALITION** (**verb**: COALESCE): Alliance; merging of various units into one unit - three parties forming a *coalition* to rule the country.
Synonyms: amalgamation, consolidation, fusion
- COERCION** : Compelling a person by physical force or other means to do something against his will - rendered his services without the slightest *coercion*.
Synonyms: constraint, restraint, impelling
- COGENT** : Having the force to compel, usually by appealing to reason - persuaded by *cogent* arguments.
Synonym: persuasive
- COLLUSION** : Working together secretly for an evil purpose - acted in *collusion* to overthrow the government.
Synonyms: collaboration, conspiracy, conniving, machination
- COMMODIOUS** : Roomy - a *commodious* apartment.
Synonyms: spacious, capacious, ample
- COMPATIBLE** : Harmonious; able, to get along together parted company because they were not *compatible*.
Synonyms: congruous, consistent
Antonyms: incongruous, discordant, incompatible
- COMPENDIUM** (**adj**.: COMPENDIOUS): A brief summary of the main ideas of a larger work - a *compendium* of chemistry in a slim volume.
Synonyms: synopsis, digest, precis, abstract, epitome

- COMPENSATION:** Payment for services - just *compensation* for his labor.
Synonyms: stipend, remuneration, recompense, emolument
- COMPLACENT** : Self-satisfied - looked on his own performance with a *complacent* smile.
Synonym: smug
- COMPUNCTION** : Regret for wrongdoing - displayed slight *compunction* for his misdeed.
Synonyms: contrition, penitence, atonement, remorse, qualm
- CONCEDE** : To yield; to admit as true; to grant - *conceded* victory to a superior force.
Synonyms: acquiesce, capitulate
- CONDIGN** : Well-deserved (applied chiefly to punishment) - received *condign* punishment for his crime.
- CONDOLE** (**noun:** CONDOLENCE): To express sympathy with another in sorrow, pain, or misfortune - *condoled* with each other in their grief.
Synonyms: commiserate, show compassion, solace
- CONDONE** : To forgive or overlook (an offense) - *condoned* the deed, in view of the offender's age.
Synonyms: extenuate, palliate, mitigate, gloss
- CONFEDERATE** (**noun:**) A person allied with others for a special purpose (frequently a bad one) - joined his *confederate* in secret enterprise.
Synonyms: collaborator, accomplice
(**adj.:**) United or allied in a conspiracy - two *confederate* groups hurrying to their rendezvous.
- CONGENIAL** : (1) Possessing similar interests and tastes; able to get on well with others - *congenial* people with similar backgrounds.
Synonym: compatible
(2) Agreeable - *congenial* to his taste.
- CONJECTURE** : To guess - Without facts, we can only *conjecture* about his guilt.
Synonyms: surmise, presume
- CONSECRATE** : (1) To set apart as sacred - *consecrate* the battlefield with a monument to the dead heroes. **Synonyms:** hallow, sanctify
Antonym: desecrate
(2) To devote or dedicate to some aim - *consecrated* his life to teaching.
- CONSENSUS** : General agreement - The *consensus* of the committee was that no action should be taken.
Synonym: accord

- CONSTERNATION**: Amazement; lack of courage caused by fearful prospect - The threat struck deep *consternation* into John.
Synonyms: dismay, bewilderment
- CONSTRUE** (**noun**: CONSTRUCTION): To interpret, explain the sense of, or analyze - *construed* the statement to his own advantage.
- CONSUMMATE** (**adj.**): Perfect or highly accomplished - achieved with *consummate* skill.
Antonyms: botched, bungled, inept
(**verb**): To complete, bring to perfection - *consummated* the deal without delay.
- CONTEMPTUOUS**: Expressive of contempt (an emotion involving anger and disgust) - cast a *contemptuous* look at his subordinate.
Synonyms: supercilious, scornful, disdainful, contumelious
- CONVIVIAL**: Festive; gay - a *convivial* party.
Synonyms: jovial, jocund, mirthful
Antonyms: lugubrious, dolorous, mirthless
- COPIOUS**: Plentiful - shed *copious* tears at the bad news.
Synonyms: profuse, bountiful, abundant
Antonyms: meager, scant
- CORPULENT**: Fat - *corpulent* due to excessive eating.
Synonyms: obese, portly
Antonyms: gaunt, lank, emaciated, peaked
- COSMOPOLITAN** (**noun**): One who is at home in all countries - A *cosmopolitan* can feel at ease anywhere in the world.
(**adj.**): Free from local prejudices - a world-wide traveler, *cosmopolitan* in tastes and attitudes.
Synonyms: Catholic
Antonyms: parochial, provincial
- COTERIE**: A group of people joined by common interests a *coterie* of select friend.
Synonym: clique
- COUNTENANCE** (**noun**): A face - His *countenance* expressed his complete disgust.
Synonym: visage
(**verb**): To approve - refused to *countenance* disrespectful conduct.
Synonym: sanction
- CRASS**: Coarse and stupid - displayed *crass* ignorance.
Synonym: gross
- CRAVEN** (**noun**): Coward - the deed of a *craven*, motivated by fear.
Synonym: Poltroon
(**adj.**): Cowardly - a *craven* act which shocked the world.

Synonyms: pusillanimous, dastardly.
Antonyms: stalwart, intrepid, valiant, stout-hearted

CREDENCE : Trust or belief - gave little *credence* to the rumor.
Synonym: conviction
Antonym: skepticism

CREDIBLE : Worthy of belief - a *credible* story, true to life.
Antonym: incredible

CREDITABLE : Deserving or reflecting Credit or honor - applauded for his *creditable* performance.
Synonyms: praiseworthy, meritorious, commendable
Antonyms: discreditable, infamous, opprobrious, ignominious

CREDULOUS : Inclined to believe anything; easily imposed upon - a *credulous* fool whom anyone can dupe.
Synonym: gullible
Antonyms: incredulous, skeptical

CRINGE : To shrink in fear - *cringing* before superior force.
Synonyms: cower, flinch, fawn, truckle, wince

CRUCIAL : Decisive or critical; difficult - the *crucial* event that decided the outcome.

CRYPTIC : Containing hidden meaning - a *cryptic* message, difficult to decipher.
Synonyms: occult, enigmatic
Antonyms: palpable, manifest

CULPABLE : Deserving blame or censure - removed from office for *culpable* negligence.
Synonyms: censurable, reprehensible

CUMBROUS : Burdensome and clumsy - a *cumbrous* knapsack, impeding his march.
Synonyms: cumbersome, unwieldy, bulk

CURB : To control, check, or restrain - forcibly *curbed* the people's protest.
Synonyms: repress, subdue

CURSORY : Hurried; hence, superficial - Time permitted only a *cursory* examination.
Antonyms: painstaking, meticulous

CURT : Rudely abrupt -offended by the *curt* response.
Synonyms: blunt, brusque, bluff
Antonyms: affable, civil

CYNICAL : Sneeringly distrustful of the good motives or conduct of others - belittled the hero with a *cynical* remark.
Synonyms: sarcastic, surly

- DEARTH** : Scarcity - a *dearth* of news, brought about by censorship.
Antonyms: plethora, abundance
- DEFERENCE** : Submitting to the wishes or judgment of another - yielded out of *deference* to the old man.
Synonyms: respect, complaisance, veneration
Antonym: recalcitrance



D

- DEITY** : A god -The sun was a *deity* to ancient peoples.
Synonym: divinity
- DELECTABLE** : Very pleasing - a *delectable* meal, tastefully prepared.
- DELETE** : To erase or cancel, take out or remove - *deleted* an offensive phrase
Synonyms: expunge, censor, efface, eradicate
- DELINEATE** : To sketch or portray - striking features, *delineated* by a master artist.
- DELINQUENT** (**noun**): An offender - found to be a *delinquent* by the court.
(**adj.**): Failing to fulfill an obligation - too many people who are *delinquent* in meeting their civic duties.
Synonym: derelict
- DELUGE** : A great flood; downpour - a spring *deluge* which caused the river to overflow.
- DEMAGOGUE** : A leader who tries to stir the passions of people for his own purposes - the mob roused by an unprincipled *demagogue*.
- DEMEANOR** : Behavior; bearing - carrying himself with a proud *demeanor*.
Synonyms: deportment, mien
- DEMURE** : Affectedly or falsely modest or prim; serious *demure* as a Victorian maiden.
Synonyms: sedate, staid, decorous, prudish, coy
Antonyms: immodest, frivolous
- DENOUNCE** (**noun**: DENUNCIATION): To speak against - *denounced* by the press as a traitor.

Synonyms: stigmatize, censure, reprehend, castigate

Antonyms: laud, eulogize

- DEplete** : To empty or to use up - *depleted* the public treasury by vast building programs.
Synonyms: exhaust, drain
Antonyms: replenish; (**adj.**) replete
- DEplore** : To express sorrow or grief over - a lamentable situation *deplored* by all parties.
Synonyms: lament, decry, grieve
- DEpraved** : Of low morals; corrupt - a *depraved* mind, devising evil.
Synonyms: debased, wicked, vicious, perverted
- DEprecate** : To plead or argue against a certain course of action - *deprecatd* the proposal severely.
Synonyms: remonstrate, protest, decry, expostulate
Antonym: sanction
- DEpreciate** : To belittle or speak slightly of - *depreciated* John's acting ability.
Synonyms: disparage, derogate (**adj.** derogatory)
Antonyms: enhance, magnify, extol, laud, eulogize
- DEvastation** : Widespread ruin - the city left in utter *devastation* by war.
Synonyms: destruction, desolation
- DEvious** : (1) Winding; indirect - took a *devious*, rather than the direct way home.
Synonym: circuitous
(2) Straying from the right course - used *devious* means to attain his wicked ends.
Synonyms: crooked, erring
- DEvoid** : Lacking in; not possessing - a speech *devoid* of even a trace of ill-will.
Synonym: destitute
Antonyms: abounding, prevalent
- DEvout** : Devoted to religious observances - *devout* in his regularity of attendance at worship.
Synonyms: pious, religious
Antonym: impious
- DIctum** : An authoritative statement; a saying-an imperial *dictum* demanding instant compliance.
- DIctactic** : Designed to teach, imparting a lesson - a poem with a *didactic* purpose.
Synonym: pedagogical

- DIFFIDENT** : Lacking in self-confidence- too *diffident* to lead a group.
Synonyms: shy, timid, reserved, reticent, retiring
Antonyms: forward, aggressive
- DILEMMA** : A situation calling for a choice between two equally difficult alternatives; hence, a difficult or perplexing situation - faced with a *dilemma* defying solution.
Synonyms: predicament, quandary, plight
- DILETTANTE** : One who dabbles in the fine arts for amusement only and without concentrated study - a doctor by profession, a *dilettante* in art.
Synonyms: amateur, connoisseur
- DISCONCERT** : To confuse; to embarrass - *disconcerted* by his suspicious stare.
Synonyms: perturb, discomfit, discompose, abash, disquiet, fluster
- DISCONSOLATE:** Depressed; without hope or possibility of consolation - made *disconsolate* by abject poverty.
Synonyms: inconsolable, dejected
Antonyms: blithesome, carefree
- DISCOURSE** : To converse or talk; to discuss - *discoursed* at length on the rise of political parties.
- DISCRETE** : Separate - two *discrete* issues, totally unrelated.
- DISCURSIVE** : Rambling from one subject to another - a *discursive* letter, covering many topics.
Synonyms: desultory, digressive
- DISPARITY** (**adj.:** DISPARATE): Inequality; difference in image, quantity, character, or rank - great *disparity* between promise and performance.
- DISPASSIONATE:** Free from feeling or partiality - coldly *dispassionate* as the chairman of the meeting
Synonyms: palm, impartial
Antonym: partial
- DISPATCH** (**verb**): To do speedily; to send off - *dispatched* with remarkable promptness.
Synonym: expedite
(**noun**): A speedy performance; the sending off of something - done with all possible *dispatch*.
Synonyms: celerity, alacrity
- DISPEL** : To drive away; to scatter - *dispelled* a doubt that had lingered.
Synonyms: dissipate, disperse, diffuse
- DISSENT** (**noun:** DISSENSATION): To disagree; to differ in opinion - He *dissented* violently, rejecting compromise.

- DISSOLUTE** : Living loosely; unrestrained in conduct or morals - his life wasted by *dissolute* conduct.
Synonyms: debauched, dissipated, profligate
- DISTRAUGHT** : Mentally distressed; distracted - *distraught* by trials and tribulations.
Synonym: harassed
- DIVERSE** : (**verb:** DIVERSIFY; **noun:** DIVISIBILITY): Varied; different - two *diverse* characters; one candid, the other insincere.
Synonym: multifarious
- DIVERTING** : Entertaining - a *diverting* one of the most amusing I've ever seen.
- DIVULGE** : To make public or reveal - refused to *divulge* his source of information.
Synonyms: disclose, impart
- DOGMATIC** : Positive in expressing an opinion; asserting an opinion as though it were an undisputed fact - spoken *dogmatically*, as if the speaker considered himself infallible.
Synonyms: overbearing, opinionated, peremptory, dictatorial
- DOLOROUS** : Sorrowful; mournful - a *dolorous* song full of sorrow for past joys.
Synonyms: doleful, lugubrious, grievous
Antonyms: jocund, blithe, mirthful
- DYNAMIC** : Forceful - possessed *dynamic* energy, tireless and powerful.
Synonym: energetic
Antonyms: static, inert, dormant, torpid, sluggish, quiescent



E

- ECCLESIASTIC** (**adj.**): Pertaining to the clergy or the church - recognized as an authority in *ecclesiastic* matters.
Antonyms: secular, lay
(**noun**): A clergyman - an *ecclesiastic* of liberal views.
- EDICT** : A public command or proclamation issued by an authority - proclaimed by royal *edict*.
Synonym: decree
- EDIFY** : To instruct or uplift, particularly in morals or religion - a story that *edifies* the reader, as well as entertains him

- EFFETE** : No longer productive; hence, lacking in or, worn out - powerful in ancient days, now an *effete* civilization.
- EGOTISTIC** : Conceited - an *egotistic* person, flourishing on praise.
Synonyms: egocentric, vain
Antonym: altruistic
- EGREGIOUS** : Outstandingly bad an *egregious* mistake with serious implications.
- EJACULATE** : To exclaim or utter suddenly - *ejaculated* a cry of horror.
- ELICIT** : To draw out - *elicited* no response from the audience.
Synonyms: evoke, extract, extort
- ELUCIDATE** : To make clear; to explain - *elucidated* his theory so that even a schoolboy could understand it.
Synonym: clarify
- EMISSARY** : A person sent on an errand or mission - delegated his *emissary* to conclude a pact.
- ENGENDER** : To cause, produce, or stir up-an act that *engendered* good will.
- ENNUI** : Boredom; weariness of mind-fell asleep at the meeting from sheer *ennui*.
- ENSUE** : To follow or result-Silence *ensued* when the leader arose to speak.
- ENTREAT:** To beg earnestly - *entreated* the judge to show mercy.
Synonyms: solicit, supplicate, beseech, implore, importune;
(adj.) importunate, mendicant, suppliant
- EPHEMERAL** : Very short-lived - an *ephemeral* joy, lasting but a day.
Synonyms: fleeting, transitory, transient, evanescent
Antonym: eternal
- EPICUREAN (noun):** A person devoted to luxurious living and pleasure - an *epicurean*, seeking to enjoy every meal.
(adj.): Pleasure-loving - His entire existence demonstrated his *epicurean* tastes.
- EPIGRAM** : A brief pointed saying - a speech full of original *epigrams*.
Synonyms: maxim proverb, adage
- EPITAPH** : A tombstone inscription - an *epitaph* engraved on marble.
- EPITHET** : A phrase that describes a quality (good or bad) in a person or thing - "Glaring" error is a commonly used *epithet*.
Synonyms: characterization , appellation

- EQUANIMITY** (*adj.*: EQUABLE): Evenness of temper or mind - suffered his cruel fate with *equanimity*.
Synonyms: serenity, composure, imperturbability, aplomb
- ERR** (*noun*: ERRATUM): To be mistaken or go astray - To *err* is human, to forgive divine.
Synonyms: stray, blunder
- ERRATIC** : Irresponsible, eccentric; lacking a fixed purpose *erratic* behavior, reflecting his queer ideas.
- ERUDITE** : Learned - an *erudite* person, an editor of many books.
Synonyms: scholarly , knowing
- ESOTERIC** : Understood by only a select few - an *esoteric* subject, discussed only by scholars.
Synonyms: abstruse, recondite
- EXCEPTIONABLE**: Objectionable - *exceptionable* behavior, universally criticized.
Synonyms: questionable, reprehensible, censurable
Antonym: laudable
- EXCULPATE** : To free from blame - *exculpated* by a jury.
Synonyms: vindicate, exonerate, absolve, acquit
Antonyms: arraign, indict, inculcate
- EXEMPLARY** (*noun*: EXEMPLAR): Serving as a model; commendable - *exemplary* conduct approved by all.
Synonyms: illustrative, typical; praiseworthy, laudable
- EXODUS** : Departure, emigration - the pathetic *exodus* of refugees from their homeland.
- EXOTIC** : Strange and foreign - an *exotic* costume imported from Asia.
- EXPATiate** : To speak or write at great length - He *expatiated* on the subject for two hours.
Synonym: dilate
- EXPATRIATE** (*verb*): To banish or exile; to withdraw from one's country - *expatriated* for treachery to his country.
(*noun*): An expatriated person - *expatriates* who left the United States to live in Paris.
- EXPEDIENT** (*adj.*): Convenient in helping to attain some purpose - found it *expedient* to maintain silence at that moment.
Synonyms: opportune, seasonable
(*noun*): A means to accomplish something - tried all *expedients* to achieve a quick result.

- EXPLOIT (verb):** To use for one's selfish purpose – refugees *exploited* by unscrupulous employers.
(noun): A brilliant deed - lauded for his *exploits* in science.
Synonym: feat
- EXPOUND (noun: EXPOSITION):** To set forth in detail; to explain - *expounded* his theory in a learned article.
- EXPURGATE :** To purify (usually a piece of writing) of offensive material - *expurgate* all obscenities before the book could be sold.
Synonyms: purge, delete
- EXTEMPORANEOUS:** Done or spoken on the spur of the moment or without preparation - an *extemporaneous* speech.
Synonyms: impromptu, offhand
- EXTINCT :** No longer existing or active - the *extinct* dinosaur, alive only in history.
Synonym: defunct
Antonym: extant
- EXTIRPATE :** To root out, destroy totally - *extirpated* the cause of trouble.
Synonyms: eradicate, exterminate, efface, obliterate
- EXTRANEOUS :** Not essential; foreign; irrelevant - excluded material *extraneous* to the subject.
Synonyms: extrinsic, adventitious
Antonyms: germane, intrinsic, inherent, relevant, pertinent
- EXULTATION :** Great rejoicing - received the good news with *exultation*.
Synonym: jubilation



F

- FAÇADE :** Front or face, especially of a building - a *facade* of marble.
- FACETIOUS :** Given to joking or inappropriate gaiety; said in fun - brightened the evening with his *facetious* remarks.
Synonyms: jocose, droll, flippant, frivolous
Antonyms: solemn, grave, saturnine
- FALLACIOUS (noun: FALLACY):** Unsound; misleading; deceptive - led astray by *fallacious* reasoning and plans.

- FALLIBLE** : Liable to make mistakes or be deceived - Being human, Tom was naturally *fallible*.
Antonyms: infallible, unerring
- FATHOM** : To penetrate and understand - difficult to *fathom* his mysterious actions.
- FATUOUS** : Foolish; silly - a *fatuous* suggestion that struck us as stupid.
Synonyms: inane, vacuous, puerile
Antonyms: judicious, sagacious, sage
- FEALTY** : Faithfulness - The soldiers were pledged to *fealty* to their ruler.
Synonyms: allegiance, constancy, fidelity
Antonyms: disloyalty; infidelity, treachery
- FEASIBLE** : Workable - a *feasible* plan, proved practical by - previous experience.
Antonym: impracticable
- FEIGN** (**noun:** FEINT): To pretend - He *feigned* to be angry, but we saw through his pretense.
Synonyms: dissemble, sham, dissimulate, affect
- FELICITY** (**adj.:** FELICITOUS): (1) A state of happiness - promoted *felicity* in the nation.
Synonym: bliss
(2) A high ability - lie has a *felicity* of language, mastery of the well-chosen phrase.
- FERVID** : Spirited; ardent - a *fervid* debater, full of emotion.
Synonyms: perfervid, impassioned, zealous, fervent, vehement
- FESTOON** (**noun:**): A garland of flowers, leaves, etc. hung between two points - the room bright with *festoons* of Thanksgiving decorations.
(**verb:**) To hang with festoons - a room *festooned* with spring flowers.
- FETISH** : (1) Something that is believed to have magical powers - savages worshipping the *fetish* in a ceremonial dance.
Synonym: charm, talisman, amulet
(2) An object of unreasoning devotion and worship – Photography, begun as a hobby, became a *fetish*.
- FIASCO** : A ludicrous and complete failure - all his glorious plans ending in a *fiasco*.
Synonym: debacle
- FICTITIOUS** : Unreal; made-up - used a *fictitious* name to avoid being recognized.
Synonym: fabricated
- FLACCID** : Lacking firmness - muscles grown *flaccid* after the illness.
Synonyms: flabby, limp

- FLAGRANT** : Outstandingly bad - condemned for his *flagrant* abuse of power.
Synonyms: glaring, scandalous, notorious, conspicuous, gross
- FLAMBOYANT** : Elaborately showy - written in a *flamboyant*, style, full of highly decorative imagery.
Synonyms: florid, ornate, resplendent, embellished, garish, gaudy, gorgeous, rococo
Antonym: somber
- FLAUNT** : Display or wave boastfully - *flaunted* the excellent report before his delighted parents.
- FLEETING** : Passing swiftly -the *fleeting* hours of happiness
Synonyms: transitory, fugitive
- FLUCTUATE** : To waver from one course to another; to vary irregularly - his mood *fluctuating* with every hour.
Synonyms: oscillate, vacillate, undulate, sway
- FORBEAR** (**noun:** FORBEARANCE): To exercise self control; to keep from - *forbearing* to shoot the animal despite temptation.
Synonyms: restrain, abstain
- FORENSIC** : Pertaining to public discussion or law courts - a lawyer gifted in *forensic* debate.
Synonyms: rhetorical, oratorical
- FORTUITOUS** : Accidental - a *fortuitous* meeting with a friend in need.
Synonyms: casual, incidental, adventitious, random
- FRACAS** : A disorderly quarrel - A *fracas* broke up the meeting.
Synonyms: brawl, altercation, fray, wrangle, imbroglio
- FRUSTRATE** : To prevent (the attainment of an object); to defeat or render ineffectual - His scholastic progress was *frustrated* by a serious illness.
Synonyms: balk, thwart, foil, baffle, obstruct, discomfit
Antonym: abet
- FULSOME** : Disgustingly excessive - nauseated by *fulsome* praise.



G

- GARNISH** : To trim or decorate - dishes *garnished* attractively with greens.
Synonyms: adorn, deck
- GENEALOGY** : A record of a person's or a family's ancestors or relatives - an interesting *genealogy*, including saints and sinners.
Synonym: lineage
- GENESIS** : Origin - chemistry, which had its *genesis* in alchemy.
Synonym: inception
- GESTICULATE** : To make gestures, or indicate feelings by motions - *gesticulated wildly* to show his distress.
- GHASTLY** : Horrible, deathlike - a *ghastly* disaster which shocked the world.
Synonyms: gruesome, grisly, pallid, macabre, grim, lurid
- GIBE** (variant spelling: JIBE): To laugh at; to utter with scorn - *gibed* at his enemy mercilessly.
Synonyms: mock, sneer, jeer, scoff, flout, deride (**adj.:** derisive), rail, taunt
- GLIB** : Smooth-spoken, fluent - a *glib* liar, distorting the truth effortlessly.
- GLUTTONOUS** (**noun.** GLUTTON; **verb:** GLUT): Inclined to eat to excess - gulped down his food in *gluttonous* fashion.
Synonyms: voracious, intemperate
- GOSSAMER** (**noun**): A very thin gauzelike fabric or structure - a poem so delicate that it seemed an unreal *gossamer*.
(**adj.**): Thin and light - the *gossamer* wings of a dragon fly.
Synonyms: diaphanous, flimsy, gauzelike
Antonyms: substantial, ponderous
- GREGARIOUS**: Habitually fond of associating in a company or herd - *gregarious* sheep; that *gregarious* animal, man.
Antonyms: lone, aloof
- GRIMACE** : A distortion of the face to express an attitude or feeling - a *grimace* that was more expressive than words.



H

- HAIL** : To greet - The crowd *hailed* the returning hero.
Synonyms: accost, salute
- HARANGUE (verb)**: To deliver a long, noisy speech- *harangued* the multitude.
Synonyms: rant, declaim
(noun): A loud, tiresome speech - an empty *harangue* which bored his audience.
Synonym: tirade
- HARBINGER** : A forerunner; ail announcer - the robin, *harbinger* of spring.
Synonyms: precursor, herald
- HAUGHTY** : Proud; looking down with contempt on others - dismissed the messenger in a *haughty* manner.
- HEEDLESS** : Thoughtless; taking little care - rushed into battle, *heedless* of the danger.
Synonyms: inadvertent, rash, incautious
Antonyms: prudent, circumspect, mindful, wary
- HEINOUS** : Wicked; hateful - committed a *heinous* crime.
Synonyms: atrocious, outrageous, monstrous, odious, nefarious, abominable
- HERESY** : An opinion held in opposition to the traditional view - a view condemned as *heresy*.
Synonym: heterodoxy
Antonym: orthodoxy
- HIATUS** : A gap or vacancy; break -left a *hiatus* on the page where he erased a sentence.
Synonym: breach
- HISTRIONIC** : Pertaining to the theater; designed for show - broke into *histrionic* laughter, hollow and insincere.
Synonyms: dramatic, theatrical
- HOAX (noun)**: A trick or deception; a practical joke - played a *hoax* upon the credulous public.
Synonym: canard
(verb): To play a trick on; to deceive - He *hoaxed* the crowd completely with his disguise.
- HOMONYM** : Two words having the same sound but different meanings - confusing such *homonyms* as mail add male.

- HOVEL** : A dirty or wretched dwelling - born in a *hovel*, died in a mansion.
- HYPERBOLE** : Extravagant exaggeration for effect - An example of *hyperbole*: "There are a million objections to the project."
Synonym: overstatement
Antonym: understatement
- HYPOTHESIS** : An assumption made for the sake of argument - worked from a fantastic *hypothesis*.
Synonym: supposition



I

- IDIOSYNCRASY** : A. personal peculiarity - Wearing white was one of Whistler's *idiosyncrasies*.
Synonyms: eccentricity, foible, mannerism, crotchet, aberration, quirk, singularity
- IGNOMINIOUS** (**noun**: IGNOMINY): Incurring public disgrace - suffered an *ignominious* descent from political power.
Synonyms: infamous, degrading, opprobrious, odious
Antonyms: illustrious, renowned, preeminent
- IMMACULATE** : Spotless; pure - an *immaculate* reputation.
Synonyms: undefiled, unsullied, unblemished, untarnished
Antonyms: defiled, sullied, blemished
- IMMINENT** : Likely to occur soon - stood in *imminent* peril.
Synonym: impending
- IMMUNE** (**verb**: IMMUNIZE): Exempt from; protected from - *immune* from taxation.
Synonym : unsusceptible
- IMPALE** : To pierce through with a pointed instrument - *impaled* a spider to the wall.
- IMPEACH** : (1) To accuse (a public official) of wrongdoing - *impeached* the judge for accepting a bribe.
Synonym: arraign
(2) To cast discredit upon - *impeached* his motives.
Synonyms: call in question, discredit

- IMPECCABLE** : Faultless - performed with *impeccable* skill.
Synonyms: consummate, irreproachable, unerring, infallible
Antonyms: culpable, fallible
- IMPERVIOUS** : Incapable of being penetrated - a mind *impervious* to new ideas.
Synonyms: impermeable, impenetrable
Antonyms: permeable, pervasive
- IMPLACABLE** : Incapable of being soothed, made peaceful, or forgiving - *implacable* resentment.
Synonyms: unrelenting, inexorable, unappeasable
Antonyms: placable, forbearing
- IMPLICIT** : (1) Implied but not clearly expressed - an *implicit* agreement.
(2) Unquestioning - *implicit* confidence.
Synonyms: tacit, implied
Antonym: explicit
- IMPORT (noun)** : Meaning; significance or importance - a matter of great *import*.
Synonyms: purport, moment, consequence
- IMPOSTOR (noun** : IMPOSTURE): One who pretends to be what he is not unmasked as an *impostor*.
Synonyms: quack, mountebank, charlatan, bogus, fraud
- IMPRECATION** : A curse - hurled *imprecations* at those who would not listen to him.
Synonyms: execration, malediction, anathema
Antonyms: benediction, benison
- IMPREGNABLE** : Unconquerable - an *impregnable* fortress.
Synonym: invincible
Antonym: vulnerable
- IMPROPRIETY** : Improper act, manners, or expression - guilty of *impropriety* in public office.
Synonyms: indecency, indecorum
Antonym: amenity
- IMPROVIDENT** : Lacking in thrift; not providing for future needs - an *improvident* spender.
Synonyms: prodigal, shiftless
- IMPUGN** : To attack or criticize as false; to call in question - *impugned* his honesty.
- INCARCERATE** : To imprison - crushed his opponents by *incarcerating* them.
Synonyms: intern, immure
Antonyms: emancipate, enfranchise

- INCISIVE** : Cutting, penetrating - *incisive* criticism.
Synonyms: sarcastic, mordant, trenchant, acute
- INCOGNITO** : With one's identity concealed - traveled *incognito*.
- INCONTROVERTIBLE**: Indisputable - *incontrovertible* evidence.
Synonyms: irrefutable, -indubitable
- INCREMENT** : An increase - a salary *increment*.
Synonym: accrual
- INCUMBENT** (**noun**): An officeholder - the *incumbent* in an election.
(**adj.**): Obligatory - felt it *incumbent* to reply.
Synonyms: - mandatory, imperative
- INDEFATIGABLE**: Untiring - an *indefatigable* worker.
Synonyms: unflagging, unremitting, persevering
- INDIGENOUS** : Native - Rice is *indigenous* to China.
Synonyms: innate, inborn
- INDOOMITABLE** : Stubborn in determination not to be subdued - *indomitable* courage.
Synonyms: insuperable, irrepressible, invincible, unyielding
Antonyms: tractable, amenable, docile, submissive
- INFERENCE** : A conclusion reached by reasoning from data or premises - an *inference* drawn from his remarks.
Synonyms: deduction, implication
- INGENIOUS** : Demonstrating originality, skill, or resourcefulness - an *ingenious* device.
Synonyms: dextrous, inventive, adroit
Antonyms: maladroit, gauche
- INGENUOUS** : Simple and straightforward; concealing nothing - an *ingenuous* plan that anyone could see through.
Synonyms: unsophisticated, naive, candid
Antonym: sophisticated
- INGRATIATE** : To win another's favor or good opinion tried to *ingratiate* himself with the politician.
- INHIBIT** : To check or hinder - *inhibited* his friend from a foolhardy course.
Synonyms: restrain, curb
Antonym: promote
- INNOCUOUS** : Harmless; inoffensive - an *innocuous* remark, but it enraged him.

- INNUENDO** : An indirect reference or suggestion (frequently derogatory) - conveyed his idea by *innuendo*.
Synonyms: (verb) intimate, insinuate
- INORDINATE** : Excessive - spoiled by *inordinate* praise.
Synonyms: immoderate, intemperate, extravagant
- INSATIABLE** : Unable to be satisfied - *insatiable* greed
Synonyms: unappeasable, unquenchable, insatiate
- INSCRUTABLE** : Incapable of interpretation or understanding - the *inscrutable* smile of the Mona Lisa.
Synonyms: unfathomable, cryptic, enigmatic
- INSIDIOUS** : Working secretly or slyly - that *insidious* disease, cancer.
Synonyms: wily, crafty, furtive, treacherous, artful, guileful, perfidious
- INSTIGATE** : To stir up - *instigated* discontent among the soldiers.
Synonyms: foment, incite
- INTEGRITY** : Honesty, moral soundness - a man of proved *integrity*.
Synonyms: probity, uprightness, incorruptibility
- INVEIGH (noun- INVECTIVE):** To speak angrily or bitterly - *inveighed* against economic discrimination.
Synonyms: rail, denounce, fulminate, vituperate
- IRASCIBLE** : Easily angered - Even petty things made Peter *irascible*.
Synonyms: choleric, petulant, testy, peevish, splenetic, touchy
Antonyms: placid, equable
- IRE** : Anger - aroused his *ire*.
Synonyms: resentment; (adj.) irate, incensed
- IRKSOME** : Tedious, monotonous - an *irksome* chore that no one liked.
- ITINERANT** : Traveling about; wandering - an *itinerant* salesman.
Synonym: nomadic



J

- JARGON** : Confused, unintelligible, meaningless talk; special vocabulary used only by members of a group or trade - Variety, a newspaper written in theatrical *jargon*.
Synonyms: gibberish, argot, cant
- JAUNTY** : Having an air of easy carelessness or liveliness - walked with a *jaunty* step.
Synonyms: sprightly, airy, gay, nonchalant, debonair
Antonyms: somber, staid
- JEOPARDY** : Danger - His life was in *jeopardy*.
Synonyms: hazard, peril
- JETTISON** : To throw **overboard** (as cargo); to throw off (as a burden or something in the way)- *jettisoned their* old candidate as a political liability.
- JUDICIOUS** : Wise; using or exhibiting good judgment - a well-chosen plan, termed *judicious* by all.
Synonyms: discreet, politic, discerning



K

- KALEIDOSCOPIC** : Constantly changing or varying in pattern or scenes - *kaleidoscopic* views of New York.
- KEN** : Range of sight or understanding - something beyond our *ken*.
Synonym: insight



L

- LABYRINTH** (adj. : LABYRINTHINE): A structure or intricate passage out of which it is difficult to find one's way (also applied to spiritual and intellectual complexities) - confused by a *labyrinth* of intellectual discussions.
Synonym: maze
- LACHRYMOSE** : Causing or given to shedding tears - a *lachrymose* tragedy.
- LACONIC** : Saying much in few words - a *laconic* reply that spoke volumes.
Synonyms: concise, pithy, terse, succinct, taciturn, reticent
Antonyms: verbose, prolix, redundant, diffuse, tautological, turgid, garrulous, voluble
- LARCENY** : Theft - indicted for grand *larceny*.
- LATENT** : Hidden; present but not fully developed - *latent* talent that time will reveal.
Synonyms: dormant, quiescent, covert, potential
Antonyms: apparent, patent
- LAVISH** : (1) Profuse or generous - *lavish* in praise.
Synonyms: ample, superabundant
(2) Given to extravagance - a *lavish* spender.
Synonyms: prodigal, munificent, magnanimous.
Antonyms: parsimonious, niggardly, frugal, penurious
- LETHAL** : Deadly - a *lethal* weapon.
Synonyms: mortal, fatal
- LONGEVITY** : Prolonged duration of life - a country remarkable for the *longevity* of its inhabitants.
- LOW** : To bellow softly like cattle - the *lowing* herd in the meadow.
Synonym: moo
- LUCID** : Clear; transparent; easily understood - a *lucid* explanation of a difficult text.
Synonyms: pellucid, perspicuous, intelligible, limpid, luminous, translucent
Antonyms: abstruse, obscure
- LUDICROUS** : Ridiculous; producing laughter - a *ludicrous* remark that set them all to roaring.
Synonyms: mirthful, droll, comical, absurd
Antonyms: doleful, lugubrious, dismal

LUMINARY : An eminent person; a celestial body - the platform graced by a number of *luminaries*.



M

MACHIAVELLIAN : Sacrificing moral principles in order to attain power; politically cunning; crafty - a *machiavellian* design, wickedly contrived.
Synonym: unscrupulous

MALICIOUS (**noun:** MALICE): Bearing, or acting with, deliberate ill-will or spite - hurting with *malicious* intent.
Synonyms: rancorous, malignant, malevolent, virulent, vindictive
Antonym: benign

MASQUERADE (**verb**): To assume a deceptive appearance or character - a thief *masquerading* as an honest man.
Synonyms: dissemble, feign
(**noun**): A disguise; a group of people in disguise or fancy costumes - a *masquerade* so perfect no one could guess his identity.

MAUDLIN : Sentimental to the point of tears - turned *maudlin* at the mention of his lost dog.
Synonym : mawkish, lachrymose

MEANDER : To walk about (or talk) aimlessly; to wind about (as a stream) - *meandered* through the town, looking into shop windows.
Synonym: ramble

MEDIOCRE : Average in quality - a *mediocre* performance, unworthy of his talents.

MERCENARY : Acting solely from a consideration of reward or profit - actuated by a *mercenary* motive.
Synonym: venal

MERETRICIOUS: Attracting in a false, cheap, or showy manner- a *meretricious* beauty that is too flashy to be real.
Synonyms: tawdry, specious

METICULOUS : Fussy about minute details - took *meticulous* pains with his composition.
Synonyms: fastidious, punctilious, over scrupulous, finical, methodical
Antonyms: desultory, perfunctory, slovenly

- METTLE** (**adj.**) : **METTLESOME**: high-spirited): Disposition; spirit; courage - His *mettle* was tried in battle.
Idiom: to be on one's *mettle* (meaning, "ready to do one's best")
Synonyms: temperament, ardor
- MICROCOSM** : A little world, or a universe in miniature this village, a *microcosm* of the great outside world.
Antonym: macrocosm (world on a large scale)
- MIMIC** : To make fun of or copy by imitating - *mimicked* the comedian's gestures.
- MISANTHROPIC** (**noun**: MISANTHROPE): Hating or distrusting mankind - condemned for his *misanthropic* views.
Antonyms: philanthropic, altruistic
- MISNOMER** : A name or term that describes wrongly - To call him a brave man is really a *misnomer*.
- MONOLOGUE** : A speech by one person - The actor gave his views in a dramatic *monologue*.
Synonym: soliloquy
Antonyms: colloquy (**adj.** colloquial): conversation between two or more persons; dialogue: conversation between two persons
- MOROSE** : Gloomy; ill-humored - shunned because of his *morose* temper.
Synonyms: sulky, crabbed, sullen, splenetic, saturnine
Antonyms: blithe, genial
- MOTLEY** : Of various colors; of mixed ingredients - a *motley* costume; a *motley* crowd.
Synonyms: checkered (referring to a varied career), piebald, variegated, diverse, heterogeneous
Antonym: homogeneous
- MOTTLED** : Spotted or streaked with varied colors - a *mottled* pony.
Synonyms: blotched, dappled
- MUNDANE** : Of, or pertaining to, the world, as contrasted with the spirit - *mundane* affairs.
Synonyms: earthly, terrestrial, secular, temporal
- MURKY** : Dark; cloudy - a *murky* cavern.
Synonyms: dismal, tenebrous, fuliginous
Antonyms: resplendent, glowing, lustrous, luminous, fulgent, coruscating
- MUTABLE** : Given to frequent change in nature, mood, or form - *mutable* in mood as a spring wind.
Synonyms: vacillating, fickle, inconstant, fitful, mercurial, wavering,

capricious
Antonyms: constant, steady

MYRIAD : Innumerable - the *myriad* stars in the heavens.



N

NAUTICAL : Pertaining to ships or navigation - a *nautical* career.
Synonyms: marine, naval, maritime

NETTLE : To irritate or provoke - *nettled* by his critics.
Synonyms: vex, pique, goad

NOCTURNAL : Pertaining to, or occurring in, the night - awakened by the sounds of a *nocturnal* prowler.
Antonym: diurnal

NOISOME : Foul-smelling; harmful-the swamp gave off a *noisome* odor.
Synonyms: malodorous, fetid, disgusting; noxious, deleterious
Antonym: salubrious

NONCHALANT : Unmoved or indifferent; casual - reacted to the news in a *nonchalant* manner.
Synonym: apathetic
Antonyms: enthusiastic, zealous

NOSTALGIA : Homesickness - felt *nostalgia* for the old homestead.

NOTORIOUS : Widely known (in a bad sense) - a *notorious* gambler.

NOVICE : A beginner - conducted himself in politics like a *novice*.
Synonyms: tyro, neophyte
Antonym: virtuoso



O

- OBDURATE** : Hard-hearted; stubborn - an *obdurate*, unrepentant criminal.
Synonyms: adamant, unyielding, inflexible
Antonyms: submissive, docile, compliant
- OBLIVIOUS** (**noun**: OBLIVION): Forgetful; absent-minded - walking *oblivious* of his surroundings.
Synonyms: unmindful, heedless, abstracted
- OBSESSION** : A persistent feeling, idea, activity, etc., which dominates a person; the state of being exclusively preoccupied by a fixed idea - Now that he has learned bowling, it has become his *obsession*.
Synonyms: mania, infatuation (a foolish passion), monomania
- OBSOLETE** : No longer in use - an *obsolete* word, not even included by most dictionaries.
Synonyms: archaic, antiquated
- OBTRUSIVE** (**verb**: OBTRUDE): Thrusting oneself or itself into undue prominence - made himself obnoxiously *obtrusive*.
Synonyms: intrusive, aggressive
- OBVIATE** : To prevent, dispose of, or make unnecessary by appropriate actions - an act which *obviated* all objections.
Synonyms: preclude, forestall
- OMNIPOTENT** : All-powerful - an *omnipotent* despot.
- ONUS** : Burden; duty; obligation - bore the *onus* of his difficult office creditably.
- OSTENSIBLE** : Apparent; pretended - his *ostensible*, though not actual, purpose.
Synonyms: professed, plausible (that is, appearing true, reasonable, or fair), specious
- OSTRACIZE** : To banish; to exclude from public favor or privileges - a former premier *ostracized* by popular vote.
Synonym: outlaw



P

- PANACEA** : A remedy for all ills - seeking a *panacea* to cure our social troubles.
Synonym: nostrum
- PANEGYRIC** : A speech or writing of extravagant praise - delivered a *panegyric* at his friend's testimonial dinner.
Synonyms: eulogy, adulation, tribute, laudation (**adj.** laudatory), encomium
Antonyms: censure, disparagement, derogation, castigation, depreciation
- PARADOX** : A self -contradictory statement; something 'that appears to be absurd and yet may be true -"Life is too important a matter to be taken seriously." - a *paradox* by Oscar Wilde.
Synonym: anomaly
- PARAPHRASE** : To restate the meaning of a passage in other words - *paraphrased* the poem in a few lines of prose.
- PARODY (noun):** A humorous imitation of an author's style and mannerisms - wrote a *parody* on Kipling's "Gunga Din."
Synonym: burlesque
- (**verb**): To write a parody - parodied the popular authors of the (lay to his audience's amusement.
Synonym: Mimic
- PECCADILLO** : A petty fault-possesses one *peccadillo* among his many virtues.
Synonyms: frailty, foible, flaw, blemish
- PECUNIARY** : Pertaining to money - involved in *pecuniary* difficulties.
Synonyms; financial, fiscal, monetary
- PEDANT (adj.:** PEDANTIC): One who proudly shows off his learning or who overrates his knowledge - like a *pedant* glorying in his scholarly trifles.
- PENSIVE** : Sadly thoughtful - softly sang his *pensive* song.
Synonyms: reflective, meditative, contemplative, musing
- PEREMPTORY** : Positive in expressing an opinion - gave a *peremptory* judgment.
Synonyms: decisive, resolute, imperious, positive, dogmatic
Antonyms: indecisive, tentative
- PERTINACIOUS:** Clinging doggedly to an opinion or purpose - *pertinacious* in his efforts.
Synonyms: obdurate, tenacious, persistent, persevering, intractable, inflexible

- PERUSE** : To read carefully - *perused* the important letter.
- PERVERSE** : Willfully bent on doing the wrong thing - a *perverse* lad, always disobeying his parents.
Synonyms: headstrong, forward, refractory, wayward, fractious
- PETRIFY** : To paralyze with horror, fear, or surprise - *petrified* by the enemy bombardment.
Synonyms: stupefy, stun, bewilder, amaze
- PLAGIARISM** : Adopting and reproducing, without acknowledgment, the writings or ideas of another and passing them off as one's own - denied the charge of deliberate *plagiarism*.
- PLATITUDE** : A dull and commonplace remark - bored people by his pompous phrases and *platitudes*.
Synonyms: bromide, truism, axiom
- PLEBEIAN** : Pertaining to the common people; hence, common or vulgar - *plebeian* in his tastes and outlook.
Antonyms: patrician, aristocratic
- PLEBISCITE** : A direct vote by the people - The decision to confederate was ratified by *plebiscite*.
- POIGNANT** : (1) Gripping and moving the feelings powerfully - a *poignant* grief.
(2) Piercing, biting, pointed - a *poignant* cry; *poignant* wit.
- PONDEROUS** : Very heavy; clumsy; dull - a *ponderous* speech, extremely boring.
- PRECARIOUS** : Uncertain or risky - earning a *precarious* livelihood, providing no luxuries.
- PRECIPITOUS** : (1) Very steep - a *precipitous* cliff.
(2) Descending rapidly - a *precipitous* decline in popularity.
- PRECOCIOUS** : Remarkable for early mental development a *precocious* genius.
- PREDATORY** : (1) Inclined to plunder or rob; - *predatory* bands roaming the countryside.
(2) Preying on, others - *predatory* animals prowling about.
Synonyms: predacious, looting, pillaging
- PREDILECTION** : Partiality or preference for; a favorable opinion arrived at beforehand - a *predilection* for theatricals.
Synonyms: prepossession, proclivity, predisposition, penchant
Antonyms: aversion, antipathy, repugnance
- PRELUDE** : An introduction, forerunner, or preliminary step - a short *prelude* to the play.

Synonyms: preface, prologue, preamble.

Antonym: epilogue

PREROGATIVE : A privilege or power attaching to a position - It is a woman's *prerogative* to refuse to tell her age.

Synonym: license

PRESTIGE : Esteem or influence accorded for recognized achievements or reputation - As Senator he enjoyed great *prestige*.

Synonym: distinction

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PRESUMPTION : (1) Something taken for granted - acted on a reasonable *presumption*.

(2) Going beyond proper bounds; impudent boldness - His question was downright *presumption*.

Synonyms: effrontery, forwardness, arrogance

PREVARICATE : To disguise or conceal the truth to lie - *prevaricated* in order to avoid detection.

Synonyms: quibble, equivocate; (**adj.**) mendacious

Antonyms: (**noun**) veracity, verity; (**adj.**) forthright

PROCRASTINATE : To postpone or put off to another time - missed his opportunity by *procrastinating* too long.

Synonyms: defer, delay

- PROGNOSTICATE** (**noun**: PROGNOSIS): To forecast - The Weather Bureau *prognosticates* daily.
Synonyms: presage, portend, augur, forebode
- PROLETARIAT** : The wage-earning class - a truckman, humble member of the *proletariat*.
- PROMONTORY** : A cliff - an imposing *promontory* along the coast.
Synonyms: headland, precipice
- PROMULGATE** : To publish or proclaim; to spread abroad The President *promulgated* a decree.
Synonym: disseminate
- PROTUBERANT** : Bulging or swelling out - a *protuberant* jaw.
Antonyms: receding, recessive
- PROVISIONAL** : Temporary; for the time being - a *provisional* plan until a permanent decision is reached.
Synonym: tentative
- PROXIMITY** : Nearness-worked in close *proximity* to his home.
Synonyms :propinquity, vicinity
Antonym: remoteness
- PSEUDONYM** : A false name assumed by a writer - concealed his identity by a *pseudonym*.
Synonyms: alias, pen name, nom de plume
- PUNITIVE** : Inflicting, or concerned with, punishment - took *punitive* measures against deserters.



Q

- QUASH** : To crush; to render void - *quashed* a rebellion; *quashed* an indictment.
Synonyms: suppress, extinguish, quell; annul
- QUERULOUS** : Given to fault-finding and complaining - Her *querulous* nature estranged many people.
Synonyms: fretful, whining, captious, carping, peevish, petulant
Antonym: affable

QUIXOTIC : Extravagantly romantic or idealistic; highly impractical - a *quixotic* scheme that can never materialize.
Synonyms: utopian, visionary, fantastic



R

RACONTEUR : A skilled storyteller - held spellbound by a superb *raconteur*.

RADICAL (noun) : One who advocates extreme basic changes - The reform movement was led by a *radical*.
(**adj.**): Thorough, extreme - *radical* measures adopted to meet the emergency.
Antonym:(**noun** and **adj.**) conservative

RAMIFICATION : A branching; sub-division - studied the subject in all its *ramifications*.

RAZE : To tear down completely- *razed* the old building.
Synonyms: level
Antonym: rear

RECAPITULATE : To restate in a brief, concise form; to sum up - *recapitulated* the main ideas.

RECIPROCAL : Mutual; done in return for something received - held each other in *reciprocal* esteem.

RECUMBENT : Lying down; leaning back or down - resting in a *recumbent* position.

REDOLENT : (1) Fragrant - a room *redolent* of roses.
Synonym: aromatic
(2) Reminiscent of - *redolent* of olden times.

REDOUBTABLE : Commanding fear or respect - cringing before a *redoubtable* enemy.
Synonym: formidable

REFUTE : To prove incorrect or false-*refuted* his opponent's argument.
Synonyms: rebut, confute
Antonyms: substantiate, confirm, corroborate

REITERATE : Repeat (several times) - *reiterated* his story once more.

- REMUNERATIVE** : Profitable - a *remunerative* job.
Synonyms: lucrative, gainful
- RENEGADE** : One who forsakes political or party principles or his religious faith - a *renegade* from his former allegiance.
Synonyms: turncoat, apostate, recreant, traitor
- REPRISAL** : Injury inflicted in turn for one received - took action in *reprisal* against his neighbor.
Synonym: retaliation
- RESENTMENT** : Feeling of displeasure or indignation resulting from mistreatment or abuse - showed *resentment* at what he considered an unwarranted insult.
Synonyms: umbrage, dudgeon, animosity
- RESILIENT** : Elastic; light-hearted; possessing power of recovery - a *resilient* Spirit, refusing to admit defeat.
Synonyms: flexible, pliable, supple, limber
- RESPITE** : (1) Temporary deferment or cessation of work or pain - a brief *respite* from labor.
Synonym: surcease
(2) A temporary delay in the execution of -a sentence - granted the doom man a temporary *respite*.
Synonym: relieve
- RETRIBUTION** : The reward or punishment exacted for an injury, wickedness, or other action - suffered just *retribution* for his folly.
Synonyms: requital, nemesis
- RETRIEVE** : (1) To make good -*retrieved* a mistake.
(2) To recover -*retrieved* the suitcase left at the station.
(3) To restore - *retrieved* his lost fortunes.
- REVERBERATE** : To echo - a shot *reverberating* through the valley.
Synonym: resound
- RUDIMENTARY** : In an early stage of development - possessing only a *rudimentary*, knowledge of physics.
Synonym: incipient
- RUE** (adj.: RUEFUL): To be sorry for-He will *rue* the day he left home.
Synonyms: regret, repent



S

- SACROSANCT** : Very holy - a shrine. regarded as *sacrosanct*.
Synonyms: consecrated, inviolable, hallowed
- SAGACIOUS** (**noun**: SAGACITY): Wise; shrewd - proved to be *sagacious* in his judgment.
Synonyms: perspicacious, astute, sapient, discerning, sage
- SALLOW** : Sick - a *sallow* complexion.
Synonym: pallid
Antonyms: rubicund, ruddy, florid
- SALLY** : (**verb**): To rush forth suddenly - *sallied* out to meet the enemy.
(noun): A Witty remark - amused the audience with his *sallies* against his opponent.
Synonyms: quip, banter
- SANCTIMONIOUS**: Pretending to be religious - showed his hypocrisy in a *sanctimonious* display of piety.
- SANGUINARY** : Bloody - a *sanguinary* battle.
Synonym: gory
- SANGUINE** : Of a hopeful disposition; blood-red in color - a perennial optimist, *sanguine* in temperament.
Synonyms: buoyant, ardent
- SARTORIAL** : Pertaining to a tailor or clothes - a picture of *sartorial* perfection.
- SATELLITE** :(1) An attentive or flattering follower - a prince surrounded by many *satellites*.
Synonyms: lackey, toady, disciple, adherent; **adj.**, fawning, obsequious, partisan
(2) A country influenced or controlled by another - Freedom is conspicuously absent ,in the Soviet *satellites*.
(3) A body (natural or artificial) which revolves around a larger body, generally a planet - The moon is the only natural *satellite* of the earth, but in recent years it has been joined by many artificial *satellites*.
- SCINTILLA** : A trace; a particle - not a *scintilla* of convincing evidence.
Synonyms: iota; vestige
- SCOURGE** (**verb**): To punish severely; to afflict; to whip - a disease that *scourged* the country.
Synonyms: excoriate, flay
(noun). A whip or other means of punishment; a cause of affliction - The Black Plague was a dreadful *scourge* of the Middle Ages.
Synonym: tribulation

- SCRUTINIZE** : To examine carefully - *scrutinized* the contents of the letter.
- SHIBBOLETH** : A party slogan - a *shibboleth* designed to attract votes.
- SIMPER** (**verb**): To smile in a silly or affected way *simpered* as he greeted each guest.
(**noun**): An affected or silly smile - stood nervously, a *simper* on his face.
Synonym: (**verb and noun**) smirk
- SINECURE** : Employment entailing little or no responsibility or labor - His job was a *sinecure*.
- SINISTER** : Threatening or showing evil; dishonest - the *sinister* look of a gangster.
- SLEAZY** : Flimsy and cheap - *sleazy* cloth which is used only in cheap garments.
Synonym: unsubstantial
- SLOVENLY** : Untidy-severely criticized the student's *slovenly* appearance.
Synonyms: slipshod, slatternly, frowzy
- SOPORIFIC** : Tending to induce sleep - a poorly written novel, *soporific* in effect.
- SORDID** : Mean and base; filthy - *Sordid* motives breed selfish actions.
Synonyms: degraded, vile, ignoble
- SOVEREIGN** : Supreme in power and authority; independent of the control of any other government - possessing sovereign powers; a *sovereign* state.
Synonyms: autonomous, imperial, majestic, paramount
- SPORADIC** : Occurring singly, at irregular intervals; scattered - *sporadic* cases of illness.
- SPURN** : To refuse or reject with contempt - an offer that was *spurned* instantly.
Synonyms: repel, snub
- STOIC** : Indifferent, calm in bearing pain or pleasure; practising remarkable self-control over emotions - maintained a *stoic* attitude despite all his trials.
Synonyms: stolid, impassive
- STRINGENT** : Strict; compelling, constraining *stringent* regulations; *stringent* requirements.
Synonyms: exacting, rigid
Antonym: lax
- STUPENDOUS** : Amazing by, virtue of its immense size, force, or any quality in exceptional degree - The circus is a *stupendous* spectacle.
Synonyms: astounding, prodigious, monstrous, marvelous, colossal, awful

- SUCCULENT** : juicy - a *succulent* steak.
Antonyms: desiccated, vapid
- SULTRY** : Close, hot, and moist - *sultry* tropical weather.
- SUPINE** : (1) Lying flat on the back - resting in a *supine* position.
Antonym: erect
 (2) Inert, inactive, averse to taking action - a *supine*, ineffective administrator.
Synonyms: listless, torpid



T

- TANGIBLE** : Real; actual - *tangible* gains which may be seen. and counted.
Synonyms: material, veritable, perceptible, substantial
- TANTAMOUNT** : Equivalent - an act that is *tantamount* to treason.
- TAUNT** (**verb**). To reproach with contempt - *taunted* him with the charge of failure to act promptly.
Synonyms: mock, twit, gibe, sneer, deride
(noun): An insulting, jeering, or bitter remark - hurled *taunts* at his foes.
- TEEMING** : In abundance, fertile, highly productive - the *teeming* tropics, rank with vegetation.
Synonyms: swarming, fruitful, fecund, abounding
- TEMERITY** : Unwise or reckless boldness - leaped into battle with thoughtless *temerity*.
Synonyms: audacity, presumptuousness, effrontery, rashness;
(adj.) temerarious, foolhardy, venturesome
Antonyms: prudence, circumspection, wariness
- TEMPORAL** : Worldly, as opposed to spiritual; existing for a time only - a man preoccupied with *temporal* matters.
Synonyms: mundane, secular, civil
- TEMPORIZE** : To delay or refuse to commit oneself in order to gain time - *temporized* while his friends hurried to his aid.
Synonym: equivocate

- TENET** : A principle of belief held as true - a *tenet* of religion which be maintained loyally.
Synonyms: creed, doctrine, dogma
- TENUOUS** : Slender; not substantial; of slight importance - clung desperately to his *tenuous* hope.
- TRANQUIL** : Calm; peaceful - a *tranquil* summer night.
Synonyms: placid, serene
Antonyms: perturbed, ruffled, turbulent
- TRANSGRESS** : To break a law or command; to violate a moral principle; to overstep a moral bound or limit - *transgressed* the bounds of decency; transgressed the law.
- TREMULOUS** : Trembling - *tremulous* with fright.
Synonym: quivering
- TRIVIAL** : Of little - importance - a *trivial* offense.
Synonym: paltry
Antonyms: gross, momentous
- TRUCULENT** (**noun:** TRUCULENCE): Cruel, fierce; harsh; threatening or intimidating savagely - a dispute marked by a *truculent* attitude on both sides.
- TURGID** : (1) Swollen, inflated - *turgid* rivers overflowing their banks.
Synonyms: bloated, distended
(2) Using big or high-sounding words - a *turgid* prose style.
Synonyms: pompous, bombastic, prolix



U

- UBIQUITOUS** : Existing everywhere - The common cold is a *ubiquitous* complaint.
Synonyms: omnipresent, universal
- UNTENABLE** : Incapable of being defended or held - withdrew the argument as *untenable*.
- UTILITARIAN** (**adj.**): Materially or practically useful - beautiful, but not *utilitarian*.
-



V

- VANQUISH** : To subdue or conquer -an army *vanquished* with heavy losses.
- VAUNT** : To boast - proudly *vaunted* his strength.
Synonyms: brag (**noun:** braggadocio, braggart), proclaim
- VENEER** : A superficial appearance or show designed to impress one with superiority - pierced beneath his thin *veneer* of elegance.
Synonym: gloss
- VENERABLE** : Deserving respect or reverence because of age - a *venerable* leader.
- VERNAL** : Pertaining to spring-an array of *vernal* flowers.
Antonym: hibernal (wintry)
- VERSATILE** : Able to do many things skillfully - *versatile* in all the arts.
- VICARIOUS** : Taking the place of another; felt, received, or done in place of another - took *vicarious* pleasure in his brother's victory.
- VICISSITUDE** : A change from one condition to another, often unexpected - suffered many *vicissitudes* of fortune.
- VIRAGO** : A scolding or ill-tempered woman - My neighbor's wife is a *virago*.
Synonyms: shrew, termagant, vixen
- VITUPERATE** (**noun:** VITUPERATION; **adj.:** VITUPERATIVE): To scold or blame loudly, find fault with in abusive language - an angry man, *vituperating* the world.
Synonyms: berate, revile



W

WAIVE : To give up (privileges, etc.); to do without - *waived* his rights to the property.
Synonyms: relinquish, forgo, forsake

WHIM (**adj.:** WHIMSICAL): A sudden notion or passing fancy -frequently acted on the *whim* of the moment.
Synonyms: caprice, vagary, crotchet

WRITHE : To twist about (usually with pain) - *writhed in* agony on the floor.
Synonyms: contort, squirm



Z

ZEALOUS (**noun:** ZEALOT: fanatic): Full of enthusiasm or eagerness -a *zealous* student, first in his class.
Antonym: perfunctory

ZENITH : The highest point - the *zenith* of his career.
Synonyms: acme, apex, culmination, summit
Antonym: nadir

