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GRE EXAM
Verbal Workbook

THIRD EDITION

From the creators of the #1 GRE Exam course

- Hundreds of practice questions
- Detailed answer explanations
- Complete review of all tested material
- Proven score-raising strategies
- Kaplan’s “Top 200” most frequently tested GRE words
- Tactics for the Analytical Writing section

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Of all the GRE Verbal question types, sentence completions are probably the most student friendly. Unlike analogies and antonyms, sentence completions provide you with a context to help you figure out tough vocabulary. And unlike reading comprehension questions, they only require you to read one sentence at a time. As the name suggests, sentence completion questions test your ability to complete sentences that are missing one or two key words by selecting the appropriate answer choice.

The directions for this section look like this:

Directions: This sentence has one or more blank spaces. Each blank indicates that a word or phrase has been omitted. Of the five following words or sets of words, choose the one word or set that, when inserted in the sentence, best fits the meaning of the entire sentence.

The difficulty of the sentence completions you will see on the GRE depends on how many questions you get right. If you perform well on the Verbal section, you will find that the later sentence completions you encounter involve tougher vocabulary and more convoluted logic.

**THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS**

To improve your skill in answering GRE sentence completions, you'll need to familiarize yourself with the basic principles for approaching them — and you'll need some practice. The Four Fundamentals below will help you to increase your skills and confidence as you approach test day. And with skills and confidence, you'll be able to earn points on the GRE!

**Every Clue Is Right in Front of You**

Each sentence contains a few crucial clues that help you to determine the meaning of the missing word(s). Clues in the sentence limit the possible answers, and finding these clues will guide you to the correct answer.

What are the important clues in the following question?
1. Although she earned her fame for her striking murals, the artist felt that her sculpture merited greater _______.
   - disdain
   - acclaim
   - deliberation
   - viewing
   - publicity

Here, the word *although* is a classic structural clue. It tells you that you can expect a change of direction in the sentence. The first half tells you that the artist became famous as a muralist, but that she thought her sculpture deserved more BLANK. The word *although* tells you that she must think her sculptures are even better than her murals, and that they merit more praise, or _acclaim_.

**Look for What's Directly Implied and Expect Cliches**

We’re not dealing with poetry here. These sentences aren’t excerpted from the works of Toni Morrison or William Faulkner. The correct answer is the one most directly implied by the meanings of the words in the sentence. Very often, for example, the definition of the missing word is provided in the sentence:

2. Because Gould’s theory has been neither completely rejected nor completely accepted by the scientific community, its status remains _______.
   - repudiated
   - sanctioned
   - quizzical
   - preferable
   - debatable

Here, choice (5), _debatable_, means “neither completely rejected nor completely accepted.”

Sometimes you can choose the correct answer because the missing words are part of _familiar_-sounding phrases or because they simply sound right in the _context_ of the sentence:

3. The increasing acceptance of the notion that the news media is not a(n) _______ commentator upon events, but rather, a mouthpiece for the vested interests of its powerful owners, demonstrates the public’s growing_______ large corporations.
   - disinterested...mistrust of
   - meddlesome...suspicion of
   - official...apprehension of
   - impartial...satisfaction with
   - manipulative...confusion with
In the above example, the correct answer, choice (1), works because the phrases disinterested commentator and growing mistrust of simply sound correct.

Look for "Structural Road Signs"
Some words such as since, however, or because—give clues to the structure of the sentence that will point you to the right answer. The following are road signs found in GRE CAT sentence completions:

Straight-Ahead Road Signs
These make one part of the sentence support or elaborate on another part. They continue the sentence in the same direction. Examples include: and, similarly, in addition, since, also, thus, because, ; (semicolon), and likewise.

Detour Road Signs
These words indicate a change in the direction of the sentence. They make one part of the sentence contradict or qualify another part. Examples include: but, despite, yet, however, unless, rather, although, while, unfortunately, and nonetheless.

Watch Out for Common Wrong-Answer Types
If you get stumped on any GRE CAT sentence completion, you can still earn points by using the process of elimination. Do this by ruling out as many wrong answer choices as you can, and then picking from the remaining choices. Here are some common wrong answer types to look out for:

Half-Right/Half-Wrong
In a sentence that contains two blanks, one of the two words provided in a given answer choice fits while the other one doesn’t. Make sure that both words fit the context of the sentence!

Au Contraire
In a sentence that contains one blank, the word in the given answer choice means exactly the opposite of the word you’re looking for.

Clunkers
The word(s) in a given answer choice simply do not sound right in the context of the sentence.

FILL IN THE BLANK
When working through a sentence completion question:
- Look for clues in the sentence
- Focus on what’s directly implied
- Pay attention to ‘structural road signs’
Drill

In the following examples, test your knowledge of sentence completion road signs by selecting the word that most correctly completes the sentence.

1. The singer's lyrics were quite lovely, but her vocal tone was extremely (harsh, melodious).

2. Fred was so annoyed with his publicist that he repeatedly (praised, lambasted) him in public.

3. Because Mabel had the reputation of being a mediocre cook, most believed her chances of winning the bake-off were (good, slim).

4. Despite the fact that the racehorse's performance in recent competitions had been disappointing, the oddsmakers were predicting a (win, disappointment) at the Derby.

5. Many felt the rules for the scholarship competition had been unfair and, furthermore, the judges were (biased, fair).

6. Although they appear quite cuddly, brown bears actually pose a large (threat, attraction) to tourists.

THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

Now that you have learned the basics, you're ready to learn Kaplan's strategic approach to sentence completions on the GRE CAT. Approaching sentence completions in a systematic manner is the best way to avoid common pitfalls and improve your score.

1. Read the Whole Sentence
   - Look for road signs to help you determine what type of word you're looking for.
   - If the sentence is long or clumsy, rephrase the sentence in your own words.

2. Predict an Answer
   - In two-blank questions, try to predict for both blanks.
   - Use the road signs and logic you found in Step 1 to determine the direction in which the sentence is heading.

   Scan the Answer Choices, Choosing the One That Best Fits Your Prephrase
   - Look for those that match your prediction.
   - Eliminate answer choices that don't come close to your prediction.
   - On two-blank sentences, work with one blank at a time, eliminating answer choices as you go.
GRE Sentence Completion

1. Read Your Selected Answer Choice Back into the Sentence
   
   - If it makes sense, you have a winner.
   - If it doesn't make sense, go back to the answer choices and find one that works better.
   - If you get stuck, eliminate answer choices that you know are wrong and guess among the remaining choices.

2. Try It Out

   Let's apply the Kaplan Four-Step Method for sentence completions to an example.

   4. We will face the idea of old age with _______ as long as we believe that it invariably brings poverty, isolation, and illness.
      
      ○ regret
      ○ apprehension
      ○ enlightenment
      ○ veneration
      ○ reverence

   1. Let's begin by reading the whole sentence strategically. Immediately note the structural clue as long as. This phrase will tell us what to expect when we prepare to fill in the blank. The sentence tells us that old age brings poverty, isolation, and illness. Naturally, therefore, we would face it with something like "fear."

   2. Now it's time to predict our answer. As we decided in Step 1, we should look in the answer choices for a word that means fear.

   3. Here's where we scan the answer choices and look for one that best fits our predicted answer. Apprehension means "fear," so choice (2) is our best answer. But let's eliminate some answers that we know are wrong, just to be sure. Choice 1, regret, is tempting, but you feel regret for something that has already happened, not for something you will face in the future. Veneration and reverence both mean "great respect," so we can eliminate choices 4 and 5, too.

   4. Now we'll plug our answer into the sentence: We will face the idea of old age with apprehension as long as we believe that it invariably brings poverty, isolation, and illness. This sentence certainly makes sense, so we have found our winner!
PRACTICE SET

Now try the following sentence completion questions on your own, using the Kaplan Four-Step Method. Time yourself: Give yourself a maximum of 30–45 seconds to do each example.

1. Despite much informed ______, the relationship between sunspot cycles and the earth’s weather remains ______
   - argument ... decisive
   - confusion ... tenuous
   - conjecture ... ambiguous
   - evidence ... clear
   - analysis ... systematic

2. As a consequence of the Antarctic’s ______ climate, the only forms of plant life to be found in the continent’s interior are a few ______ lichens and mosses that cling to the frozen rocks.
   - frigid ... hardy
   - extreme ... mysterious
   - harsh ... luxuriant
   - freezing ... complex
   - changing ... tiny

3. Conflict between generations may be a problem that has persisted for centuries, but the nature and intensity of the conflict obviously ______ in response to changes in social and economic conditions.
   - increases
   - disappears
   - declines
   - varies
   - wanes

Think about how you solved these sentence completion questions. To maximize your score, it's important to start practicing the techniques we covered in this chapter. On the pages that follow, you'll find sets of GRE sentence completion practice questions that will help you to hone your skills with this question type. Try these practice sets under test-like conditions, moving from one question to the next at a rapid pace. Complete, strategic explanations to all of these questions follow so that you can check your answers and learn the most efficient means for completing each question correctly.
The first step towards testing your best on GRE analogies is to get familiar with the format. Analogies test your vocabulary and your ability to figure out the relationships between pairs of words. You're given a pair of capitalized words (for example, POTATO:VEGETABLE), and you're asked to determine their relationship, then identify the answer choice that has the same relationship.

The directions for this question type look like this:

**Directions:** In this question, a related pair of words is followed by five lettered pairs of words. Choose the one pair that best expresses a relationship similar to that expressed in the original pair.

On the GRE, the more questions you get right, the more difficult the analogies you encounter will become. If you perform well on GRE Verbal, you can expect to see analogies towards the end of the test that feature quite difficult, esoteric vocabulary.

**THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS**

To improve your skill in answering GRE analogy questions, you'll need to familiarize yourself with the basic principles for approaching them—and you'll need some practice. The Four Fundamentals below will help you to increase your skills and confidence as you approach the day of the test. And with skills and confidence, you'll be able to earn points on test day!

**GRE Analogy Questions Consist of Two Words**

The two words, called the stem pair, are followed by five answer choices, each consisting of two words that are also separated by colons. Analogy questions on the GRE CAT look like this:
1. LITER : VOLUME ::
   - bottle : can
   - knob : radio
   - scale : height
   - gram : weight
   - juice : vitamin

There Will Always Be a Direct and Necessary Relationship between the Words in the Stem Pair

You can express the relationship between the two stem words by making a short sentence that we call a bridge. Your goals when you build an analogy bridge should be to keep it as short and as clear as possible.

For the analogy above, as strong bridge would be:

A LITER is by definition a measure of VOLUME.

WHAT'S A STEM PAIR?
Analogy questions consist of two words — the stem pair — that are separated by a colon. Stem pairs look like this:

PREPARATION : SUCCESS ::

Try to Build a "Bridge" before Looking at the Answer Choices

Because the GRE CAT is a standardized test, you’ll find that certain kinds of bridges appear on the test over and over again. At Kaplan, we call these frequently appearing bridges Classic Bridges. Getting familiar with Classic Bridges now will help you quickly recognize these relationships when you encounter them on the GRE CAT.

WHAT’S A BRIDGE?
A bridge is a short sentence that connects the two words in the stem pair. You should always build a bridge before you look at the answer choices.

The Five Classic Bridges

1. Definition ("is always" or "is never")
2. Function or Purpose
3. Lack
4. Characteristic Actions or Items

5. Degree (sometimes to the point of excess)

Each of the five classic bridges are illustrated below.

The Definition Bridge
CYGNET : SWAN
A CYGNET is a young SWAN.

The Function or Purpose Bridge
TRUSS : SUPPORT
A TRUSS is used as a SUPPORT.

The Lack Bridge
LOUT : GRACE
A LOUT lacks GRACE.

The Characteristic Actions or Items Bridge
SKUNK : SCENT
A SKUNK defends itself with its SCENT.

The Degree Bridge (sometimes to the point of excess)
INTEREST : ENTHRA
To INTEREST greatly is to ENTHRA.

Remember the five classic bridges and keep them in mind as you practice for the GRE.

WHAT MAKES A STRONG BRIDGE?
You might think that the words apple and pie have a strong bridge. Don’t be fooled. You can make many things other than pies out of apples, such as apple juice and apple sauce. And there are many different types of pies. Apple and fruit, on the other hand, do have a strong bridge. An apple is a type of fruit. This is always true: It’s a strong, definite relationship.

Watch Out for Common Wrong Answer Types
Because the bridges on GRE analogies are predictable, wrong answer types to these questions are also predictable. If you get stumped on any GRE analogy, you can earn points by ruling out as many wrong answer choices as you can and then picking from the remaining choices. Here are some of the typical wrong answer choices that appear on GRE analogies:

Unrelated Words
A pair of words with no strong relationship is a common wrong answer.

Same Subject Trap
The words in the answer choice are in the same fields (or have the same subject) as the words in the stem pair, but don’t have the same bridge.
"Both Are" Bridges
This involves words that aren't related to each other, but are both related to a third word. For instance, the words bracelet: necklace refer to pieces of jewelry. Yet a bracelet has no necessary connection to a necklace.

Context Traps
Words that often appear together in context, but don't have any relationship. For instance, mitigating : circumstance.

Reverse Analogy
The bridge would be right if the order of the words were reversed.

Au Contraire or Opposite Bridge
The bridge is the exact opposite of the bridge between the words in the stem pair.

Irrelevant Bridge
The bridge is strong, but it doesn't have anything to do with the bridge in the stem pair.

Drill
Identify the Classic Bridges in the following stem pairs.

1. MISER : CHEAP
2. BOOR : TACT
3. RULER : MEASURE
4. ELATED : HAPPY
5. BEAK : BIRD

Now build a bridge for each of the following stem pairs.

1. CHICKEN : POULTRY
2. FEAR : TERROR
3. LOOM : WEAVE
4. RECLUSE : SOLITARY
5. LANGUID : ENERGY
THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

Now that you have learned the basics for tackling analogies questions, you're ready for Kaplan's strategic approach to analogies on the GRE. Approaching analogies in a systematic manner is the best way to avoid common pitfalls and improve your score.

1. **Find a Strong Bridge between the Stem Words**
   - In most cases, the more precisely you can express the connection between the two words, the better. A precise formulation is more likely to help you find the right answer.

2. **Plug the Answer Choices into the Bridge**
   - Look for the answer choice pair that has the same relationship as the stem pair.
   - Immediately eliminate answer choices that don't fit the bridge.
   - Always try all the answer choices; you might find that more than one answer choice works with the bridge that you built.
   - If only one answer choice works with the bridge you built, select that answer choice.

3. **Adjust the Bridge, if Necessary**
   - If more than one answer choice works, you'll have to narrow your bridge (make it more precise).
   - If none of the answer choices work, you probably need to expand it (make it more general).
   - Consider alternate definitions for the stem words. Perhaps your bridge uses the wrong definition of a word.

4. **If Stuck, Build Bridges between Answer Choice Pairs and Work Backwards**
   - Eliminate all answer choices that have no strong bridge.
   - Eliminate all answer choices that have an identical bridge to another answer choice.
   - Beware of answer choices that reverse the bridge.

**Try It Out**

Let's apply the Kaplan Four-Step Method for Analogies to an example.

2. HANGAR : AIRCRAFT ::
   - orchestra : music
   - vault : money
   - hand : fingers
   - farm : trees
   - ecosystem : insect
Begin by building a bridge: A HANGAR is a place built to keep AIRCRAFT.

Now plug each of our answer choices into our bridge "a BLANK is a place to keep BLANK."

Is an orchestra a place built to keep music? No. Eliminate choice (1).
Is a vault a place built to keep money? Yes, so keep choice (2).
Is a hand a place built to keep fingers? No, so eliminate this choice as well.
Is a farm a place built to keep trees? Maybe, maybe not. Eliminate choice (4).
Is an ecosystem a place built to keep insects? No. Eliminate choice (5).

There is no need to adjust the bridge, since only answer choice (2) worked.

If we needed to work backwards, we could have eliminated choices (4) and (5), since there is no strong bridge between the words in these pairs.

PRACTICE SET

Now try the following analogy questions on your own, using the Kaplan Four-Step Method. Give yourself a maximum of 30-45 seconds to do each example.

1. LUCID : OBSCURITY ::
   - ambiguous : doubt
   - provident : planning
   - furtive : legality
   - economical : extravagance
   - secure : violence

2. ATTENTIVE : RAPT ::
   - loyal : unscrupulous
   - critical : derisive
   - inventive : innovative
   - jealous : envious
   - kind : considerate

3. CLEAVER : BUTCHER ::
   - palette : artist
   - stage : dancer
   - dictionary : poet
   - lock : burglar
   - chisel : sculptor
Think about how you solved these analogies questions. To maximize your score, it’s important to start practicing these skills now. On the pages that follow, you’ll find sets of GRE analogies practice questions that will help you to hone your skills with this question type. Try these practice sets under timed conditions, moving from one question to the next at a rapid pace. Complete, strategic explanations to all of these questions follow so that you can check your answers and learn the most efficient means for completing each question correctly.

The answers to this section appear on the next page.
Answer Key

Testlike Questions
1. (4)
2. (2)

Drill
1. Definition
2. Lack
3. Function
4. Degree
5. Characteristic Items/Actions

1. A CHICKEN is by definition a type of POULTRY.
2. To experience extreme FEAR is by definition to experience TERROR.
3. The purpose of a LOOM is by definition to WEAVE.
4. A RECLUSE is by definition SOLITARY.
5. Someone who's LANGUID is by definition lacking in EXERGY.

Practice Set
1. (4)
2. (2)
3. (5)
Antonyms make up about one fourth of the GRE verbal section. They are also the Verbal question type that many students find the most difficult to improve their performance on. Antonym questions are designed to test your vocabulary, so your first step in preparing for this question type is to start building your knowledge by using the GRE Vocabulary Builder section of this book. In this chapter, we’ll give you some vocabulary skill-building pointers and show you how to answer Antonym questions strategically. If you approach antonyms strategically, you’ll find that you’ll get many questions right even if you don’t know the exact definitions of the tested words.

The directions for these questions look like this:

Directions: This question consists of a capitalized word that is followed by five words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly opposite to the meaning of the capitalized word. Because some questions require you to distinguish fine shades of meaning, it is advisable to consider all the choices before deciding on the best choice.

On the GRE, the more questions you get right, the harder the antonym questions you’ll see. If you perform well on GRE Verbal, you’ll find that using Kaplan’s vocabulary strategies becomes increasingly important on later antonyms.

THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS

To improve your skills in answering GRE antonyms, you'll need to familiarize yourself with the basic principles for approaching them—and you'll need some practice. The Four Fundamentals below will help you to increase your skills and confidence as you approach the day of the test. And with the skills and confidence, you'll be able to earn points on test day!
Use Kaplan’s Strategies for Decoding Difficult Vocabulary Words.

On hard antonyms, it might seem at first glance as if you don’t know anything about the stem word. However, you need only a little bit of information to guess at a word’s meaning. The following techniques can give you enough of an idea about what the stem word means to get solve the question.

Think of a Context in which You’ve Heard the Word Before
You might be able to figure out the meaning of a word from a familiar context: For example, “crimes and misdemeanors,” “mitigating circumstances,” or “abject poverty.”

Look at Word Roots, Stems, and Suffixes
If you don’t know what a particular word means, you might be able to guess its meaning based on your knowledge of one or more of the word’s parts. If you don’t know the meaning of benediction, for example, its prefix (bene, which means good) tells you that its opposite is likely to be something bad. Perhaps the answer will begin with mal, as in malefaction.

Use Your Knowledge of a Romance Language
You might be able to guess a word’s meaning because it sounds like a word you might have learned in foreign language class. You might guess at the word credulous, for instance, because you know the Italian word credere; or you might notice that moratorium sounds like the French word morte or that the word mundane sounds like the Spanish word mundo.

Use the Positive or Negative "Charges" of Words to Help You to Guess an Answer.
When all other vocabulary decoding strategies fail, use your ear. If you know a stem word sounds positive, for example, you know that its antonym must be negatively charged—and vice versa! This strategy can work wonders on harder questions. Here’s a sample tough antonym question.

1. SCABROUS:
   - thorny
   - unblemished
   - perplexing
   - blank
   - examined

Notice that SCABROUS sounds harsh—it has a negative (−) charge. Now let’s check out the charges of the answer choices. Both thorny and perplexing are negatively charged, so choices (1) and (3) cannot be antonyms of the stem word. The words blank and examined are neutral, they are neither positive or negative. The only positively charged word here is choice (2), unblemished. This is our answer; SCABROUS means rough or covered with unwholesome patches.
**BE STRATEGIC**

Antonyms are designed to test your vocabulary, but if you attack these questions strategically, you’ll get many questions right even if you don’t know the exact definition.

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**Watch Out for Common Wrong-Answer Types.**

Even if you have no idea what the word in the stem means, don't panic! Eliminating answer choices that you know are wrong will give you a good chance of guessing the right answer. Typical wrong answer types on GRE antonyms are:

**Words That Have No Clear Opposites**

Such words as birthright and priority, and deserve, for example, can't be antonyms for any stem word!

**Any Answer Choices That Have the Same Opposites as Each Other**

If two or more of the answer choices have the same antonym, that choice can't be an antonym for the stem word because then there would be more than one correct answer to the question!

**Au Contraire, or Opposite, Answers**

These answers mean exactly the opposite of the word you're looking for. In other words, they are synonyms, rather than antonyms, for the stem word.

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**Drill**

Each of the word lists below relates to two concepts that are opposite in meaning. Practice categorizing words relating to these opposites as a means for preparing for GRE antonyms. If you are unfamiliar with the meaning of any word, use the strategies for decoding tough vocabulary to decipher its meaning.

Write "harsh" next to those words that are harsh-sounding; write "pleasant" next to those words that are pleasant sounding.

- CACOPHONOUS
- DISCORDANT
- DULCET
- FRACAS
- RAUCOUS
Label each word according to its general meaning. Write either "caring" or "indifferent" in the lines provided.

SONOROUS
STRIDENT
APATHETIC
CONCERN
DESLUTORY
DISINTEREST
 REGARD
IMPASSIVITY
INQUISITIVE
 INTRIGUE
LASSITUDE
THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

Now that you have learned the basics, you're ready to learn Kaplan's strategic approach to antonyms on the GRE CAT. Approaching antonyms in a systematic manner is the best way to avoid common traps on the test and improve your score.

1. Define the Stem Word
   - Even if you don't know the precise definition of the word, a general knowledge of the words is usually sufficient.
   - Use Kaplan vocabulary strategies, such as looking for familiar roots, to try to get a rough definition of the word.

2. Define Its Opposite and Prephrase an Answer
   - Whenever possible, you should have an idea of what you're looking for before checking any answer choices.
   - Consciously prephrasing an answer will reduce the chance that you'll select a choice that's a synonym.

3. Find the Answer Choice That Best Matches Your Prephrase
   - Sometimes one or more answer choices will be close to your prephrase. Check all the answer choices for the best fit.
   - Consider alternate definitions for the stem words. Perhaps you're using the wrong definition of a word.

4. Use Guessing Strategies, If Necessary
   - Eliminate any answer choices that have no clear opposite.
   - Eliminate answer choices that are synonyms of one another.
   - Use word charge and answer choice patterns to avoid other probable wrong answers.

Try It Out

Let's apply the Kaplan Four-Step Method for antonyms to an example.

2. TRAIL:
   - age
   - depress
   - rule
   - wander
   - precede
Begin by defining our stem word, TRAIL. What does TRAIL mean? You will notice in this context that trail is a verb. It has to be, because choices (2), (3) and (4) can only be verbs, and the answer choices and the stem word must be the same part of speech. As a verb TRAIL means "to follow".

Since TRAIL means "to follow", we need a word that means "to lead" or "come before."

Choice (5), precede, means "to come before" so it is the best answer.

If you had to guess, you could have eliminated age and rule, since they have no clear opposite.

**PRACTICE SET**

Now try the following Antonym questions on your own, using the Kaplan Four-Step Method. Time yourself: Give yourself a maximum of 30–45 seconds to do each example.

1. AMIABLE:
   - ○ faithful
   - ○ insulted
   - ○ distasteful
   - ○ indecent
   - ○ unfriendly

2. ACUTE:
   - ○ conspicuous
   - ○ relevant
   - ○ aloof
   - ○ dull
   - ○ distant

3. RECANT:
   - ○ affirm
   - ○ rectify
   - ○ offend
   - ○ ignore
   - ○ withdraw
Think about how you attacked these antonym questions. To maximize your score, it's important to start practicing the techniques we covered in this chapter. On the pages that follow, you'll find sets of GRE Antonyms practice questions that will help you to hone your skills with this question type. Try these practice sets under testlike conditions, moving from one question to the next at a rapid pace. Complete, strategic explanations to all of these questions follow so that you can check your answers and learn the most efficient means for completing each question correctly.

**Answer Key**

**Testlike Questions**

1. (2)

2. (5)

Drill

CACOPHONOUS  

DISCORDANT  

DULCET  

FRACAS  

RAUCOUS  

SONOROUS  

STRIDENT  

harsh

harsh

pleasant

harsh

harsh

pleasant

harsh
### Verbal Practice Tests

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<tr>
<td>LASSITUDE</td>
<td>indifferent</td>
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</table>

#### Practice Set

1. (5)
2. (4)
3. (1)
Reading Comprehension is the only question type that appears on all major standardized tests, and the reason for this isn’t too surprising. No matter what academic area you pursue, you’ll have to make sense of some dense, unfamiliar material. The topics for GRE Reading Comp passages are taken from three areas: social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities. So in a way, Reading Comp is the most realistic of all the question types on the test. And right now is a good time to start. shoring up your critical reading skills, both for the test and for future study in your field.

The directions for this question type look like this:

Directions: This passage in this test is accompanied by questions based on its content. After reading a selection, choose the best response to each question. Your replies are to be based on what is actually stated or implied in the passage.

On the GRE CAT you will see two to four Reading Comp passages, each with two to four questions. You will have to tackle the passage and questions as they are given to you.

THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS

To improve your Reading Comprehension skills, you'll need a lot of practice—and patience. You may not see dramatic improvement after only one drill. But with ongoing practice, the basic principles below will help you to increase your skill and confidence on this section by the day of the test.

**ZOOM IN!**
As you read the first third of the passage, try to zoom in on the main idea of the passage, first by getting a sense of the general topic, and then by pinning down the scope of the passage. Finally, zero in on the author’s purpose in writing the passage.
Read Actively: Don't Just "Read" the Passage

To do well on this section of the test, you'll need to do more than just read the words on the page. You'll need to read actively. Active reading involves keeping your mind working at all times, while trying to anticipate where the author's points are leading. It means thinking about what you're reading as you read it. It means paraphrasing complicated-sounding ideas and jargon. Here are some pointers on reading a GRE passage actively.

- Identify the topic.
- Narrow it down to the precise scope that the author includes.
- Make a hypothesis about why the author is writing and where he or she is going with it.
- As you're reading, ask yourself: "Why did the author include this paragraph?" "What shift did the author have in mind when moving on to this paragraph?" "What bearing does this paragraph have on the author's main idea?" "What's the author's main point here?" "What's the purpose of this paragraph? Of this sentence?"

DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME!
You don't have to memorize or understand every little thing as you read the passage. Remember, you can always refer back to the passage to clarify the meaning of any specific detail.

Read for Structure:
Your Goal Is Not to Memorize Every Detail!

In their efforts to understand what the author says, test takers often ignore the less glamorous but important structural side of the passage—namely, how the author says it. One of the keys to success with reading comprehension is to understand not only the passage's purpose but also the structure of each passage. Why? Because the questions at the end of the passage ask both what the author says and how he or she says it. To ensure that you read for structure, remember to do the following:

- Always look for Keywords, the structural signals that authors use to indicate logical connections between sentences.
- Don't try to memorize details! Skim them until the questions demand them.
- Look for topic sentences to help you to determine the function of each paragraph.
- Be alert for comparisons and contrasts between:
  - Two thinkers or theories
  - Different points in time
  - The author's view and other views
- What's known and what's unknown
- Remember, GRE Reading Comp passages usually do one of the following:
  - Argue a position
  - Discuss a specific subject
  - Explain new findings or research
ATTACK THE PASSAGE!

You can be an active reader by:
- Thinking about what you’re reading
- Paraphrasing the complicated parts
- Asking yourself questions about the passage
- Jotting down notes

Recognize the Most Common Question Types

GRE Reading Comprehension questions are predictable. The test writers put the same types of questions on the test year after year. Practicing identifying and answering the following question types will help you get ready for them on test day.

**Global:** Ask you to identify the central idea or primary purpose of the passage

**Explicit Detail/Text:** Ask you to find what is true "according to the passage" or what the passage states

**Inference:** Ask you to determine what the passage suggests, what it implies, what conclusion it supports, or a statement the author would be most likely to agree with

**Logic:** Ask why the author includes a particular example sentence or phrase, or ask you to determine the function of a paragraph

**Vocabulary-in-Context:** Ask you to define a word or phrase as it is used in the passage

Watch Out for Wrong Answer Types

Because the GRE Reading Comprehension question types are predictable, wrong answer types to these questions are also predictable. If you get stumped on any GRE Reading Comp question, you should rule out as many wrong answer choices as you can and then pick from the remaining choices. Typical wrong answers to look for on GRE Reading Comp are:

**Au Contraire:** Sounds very similar to the correct answer but directly contradicts the passage

**Outside the Scope:** Raises a topic that’s never mentioned in the passage

**Distortion:** Distorts or twists the facts or the main idea; sounds superficially plausible because it incorporates words or phrases from the passage, but actually confuses the author’s intended meaning

**Faulty Use of Detail:** Mentions true points not relevant to the question (often from the wrong paragraph)

**Extreme:** Sounds too positive or too negative; uses exaggerated-sounding language, e.g., only, never, or always

**Half-Right, Half-Wrong:** Present some information that is correct and some that is incorrect
Drill

The correct answers to GRE Reading Comp questions must be irrefutable. For this reason, answer choices that are extreme or too emotional tend to be wrong. Decide whether each of the following sentences sounds Extreme or Moderate.

1.Reporters tend to focus on news stories which they believe will improve ratings. Extreme / Moderate

2. It is impossible that one person could have authored all of the plays we currently consider to have been written by Shakespeare. Extreme / Moderate

3. Scientists who refrain from making bold statements to their peers about the significance of their experiments often employ far less technical language in news releases. Extreme / Moderate

4. The melting of Antarctic ice sheets is one of several potential threats to the stability of the Earth's climate. Extreme / Moderate

5. Though Copernicus is generally associated with the discovery of the sun-centered universe, Aristarchus may have conceived of the idea in 200 B.C. Extreme / Moderate

Now, read the following GRE-like sentence:

Marathon running has become increasingly popular as people have become more and more concerned about their health.

Remember that on GRE Reading Comp, some answer choices will sound like they fit the passage, but will actually distort the author’s point. Decide which of the three statements below agrees with the GRE-like sentence above.

1. Marathon running has become an international event that promotes friendship between cultures.

2. The fact that more people are running in marathons highlights the public's increasing interest in pursuing healthy activities.

3. The majority of people who take up marathon running do so because they are concerned about their health.
THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

Now that you have the basics for tackling Reading Comprehension questions, you're ready to learn Kaplan's strategic approach to Reading Comprehension on the GRE CAT. As is the case with all other GRE question types, approaching Reading Comprehension in a systematic manner is the best way to avoid common pitfalls and improve your score.

1. **Read the First Third**
   Identify topic and scope, zero in on the purpose of the passage, and predict where the passage will go.

   - **Topic:** The broad concept or idea addressed in the passage
   - **Scope:** The more narrow and specific area of the topic that is being discussed
   - **Purpose:** A hypothesis about why the author is writing and where he or she is going with the passage.

   Here's a hypothetical example. Suppose you encounter a reading passage about the Battle of Gettysburg on the GRE. The broad topic of "The Battle of Gettysburg," for example, would be a lot to cover in a Reading Comprehension passage. So if you encountered such a passage, you would also need to ask yourself, "What is the scope of this author's passage?" or, in this case, "What specific aspect of the battle does the author address?" Whatever that chunk is—the prebattle scouting, how the battle was fought—is the passage's scope. Finally, you should also consider why the author is writing. For example, is the author writing to refute an established point of view (a common format on the GRE), or to contrast two interpretations of why the battle occurred? Being able to answer this question will tell you how the passage is organized.

2. **Read the Remaining Two Thirds**
   Create a brief "road map"—jot down some brief notes—as you read.

3. **Review Your "Road Map"**
   Confirm topic, scope and purpose.

4. **Attack the Questions**
   - Use the stem to plan your attack!
   - Reread any relevant text.
   - Predict an answer.
   - Choose an answer.
PRACTICE SET

Now that you’ve got the fundamentals of GRE reading comp under your belt and you’ve had some practice in identifying reading comp wrong answer types, let’s put your knowledge to use on the following testlike passage and questions.

Tsunamis are huge, fast-moving waves that are capable of causing enormous destruction and loss of life if they broach the shoreline on a populated coast. To communities that have been devastated by such an event, the tsunami often seems to come out of nowhere, and survivors are mystified as to why such a huge wave could appear with so little warning. The terrifying suddenness of a tsunami’s arrival is a consequence of where and how they are created.

When submarine tectonic activity distorts the sea floor, it vertically displaces the overlying sea water. As the displaced water seeks equilibrium under the influence of gravity, waves form, and when the distortion is of sufficient magnitude, a tsunami can result. If the earthquake occurs near the shore, the tsunami may take only minutes to reach a populated coast.

Tsunamis attain their enormous heights through a process of decreasing speed and increasing height. The energy flux of a tsunami is constant, which leads to an inversely proportional relationship between the wave’s speed and its height. Since speed is directly proportional to water depth, as the wave approaches shallower water, its speed decreases, causing its height to increase to compensate for the loss and thus maintain the wave’s energy flux. Through this process, a barely perceptible deep ocean wave formed by an earthquake far from shore can rapidly transform into a tsunami that can exceed 30 meters at its final runup height, which it attains onshore above sea level.

1. The author is primarily concerned with
   - establishing that tsunamis are formed by submarine tectonic activity.
   - explaining why tsunamis can appear so suddenly and with so little warning.
   - arguing that a tsunami’s energy flux results in its great height and destructive capacity.
   - demonstrating that devastating tsunamis must be formed by earthquakes close to shore.
   - challenging long held beliefs about the formation of deep ocean waves.

2. It may be inferred from the passage that a tsunami that entered deeper water would experience an increase in
   - destructive power.
   - speed.
   - energy flux.
   - visibility.
   - height
Think about how you attacked these Reading Comprehension questions. To maximize your score, it's important to start practicing the techniques we've covered in this chapter now. On the pages that follow, you'll find sets of GRE Reading Comp passages and practice questions that will help you to hone your skills with this question type. Try these practice sets under test-like conditions, moving from one question to the next at a rapid pace. Complete, strategic explanations to all of these questions follow so that you can check your answers and learn the most efficient means for completing each question correctly.
Answer Key

Drill
1. Moderate
2. Extremely
3. Moderate
4. Moderate
5. Moderate

Distortion Exercise
1. Distortion
2. Inference
3. Distortion

Practice Set
1. (2)
2. (2)
INCREASING YOUR GRE VOCABULARY

BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

A strong vocabulary is the greatest asset that you can bring to the GRE verbal section. Antonyms, which make up a quarter of the verbal section, are a direct test of your vocabulary skills. The other types of short verbal questions (analogies and sentence completions) also require you to understand the meanings of a large number of words.

So, how do you start improving your vocabulary? Don't say to yourself, "I'm going to get ready for the GRE by opening the dictionary and starting on page 1." In real life, the dictionary is the single most useful verbal tool there is. But the GRE is not real life, and for the purposes of preparing for the GRE, the dictionary is overkill. It includes a lot more words than you need to look at, including all those everyday words you already know and all those esoteric words that will never appear on the GRE.

Building up a good vocabulary takes time, a lifetime for most people. However, you can increase your GRE vocabulary quickly. There are a couple of reasons for this.

1. **The GRE tests the same words over and over again.**
   If you know the words that the GRE loves, you have a big head start in increasing your GRE vocabulary. We have included the words that appear most often on the GRE in chapter 10, "Top GRE Words." Start learning the meanings of these words as soon as you can.

2. **The GRE does not test the exact definitions of words. If you have some idea of what the word means, you can usually get to the answer.**
   You don't need to know the exact definitions of words to get a good verbal score on the GRE. It's better to know something about ten words than everything about one word. This is why learning words in groups is such a powerful technique. We have included common word groups for the GRE in chapter 9, "GRE Word Groups."

Knowing the meanings of common word roots can be helpful in two ways. First of all, knowing the meaning of word roots can help you guess at the meanings of unfamiliar words you
encounter on the GRE. Second, when you're learning new vocabulary, it's more effective to study words in groups rather than one by one. Learning groups of words that are related by a common root will help you to learn more words faster. We have included a list of common GRE word roots in chapter 10.

Once you've looked over the top GRE words and the chapters on word roots and word groups, you can hone your skills using our opposite drills in chapter 11. Finally, we've included a mini-dictionary that gives you the definitions of thousands of GRE words. Use it whenever you encounter an unfamiliar word in your study.

BASICS OF VOCABULARY BUILDING

The way most people build their vocabulary is by reading words in context. Reading is ultimately the best way to increase your vocabulary, although it also takes the most time. Of course, some types of reading material contain more GRE vocabulary words than others. You should get into the habit of reading high-level publications, such as the Wall Street Journal, the Economist, and the New York Times. (Because you'll have to read from the computer screen on Test Day, we recommend that you read these publications online, if possible. And if you read lengthy articles that require scrolling through, so much the better.)

When you come across words you don't know and can't figure out from the context, look them up in the dictionary and make a note of them. It sounds tedious, but it's definitely worth the time and effort come Test Day. The words you encounter during your prep can be found in the GRE Minidictionary in chapter 12. This handy reference tool contains thousands of words that you might find on the GRE.

Note that you will find nothing on pronunciation in the Minidictionary. Pronunciation is not tested on the GRE, so we don't recommend spending study time learning how to pronounce words. Some people, however, find it much easier to remember the meaning of a word if they have the sound of the word in their heads. If you're such a person, then use the dictionary to figure out how to pronounce words you're not familiar with.

PARTS OF SPEECH

The GRE never directly tests your ability to classify words by part of speech, but you'll do better if you can distinguish nouns, adjectives, and verbs.

Nouns

A noun names a person, place, or thing. A noun answers the questions "who," "where," or "what." A noun can function as the subject ("The soliloquy was eloquent") or object of a verb ("He wrote an eloquent soliloquy").

If you know the meaning of the word, you can tell if it's a noun by thinking about the way it would be used in a sentence.
If the word can function as the subject of a sentence, it's a noun.

If it can be replaced by a pronoun like he, she, it, or they, it's a noun.

If you can put an article like the, a, an, or some in front of it, it's a noun.

If it has a plural form (usually the ending -s), it's a noun. If it has a possessive form (usually the ending 's), it's a noun.

If you don't know the meaning of a word, but it has one of the following suffixes, then it's probably a noun.

-ACY        -HOOD        -OGY
-AGE        -ICE         -OR
-ANCE       -ICS         -RY
-ANCY       -ISM         -SHIP
-DOM        -IST         -SION
-ENCE       -ITY         -TION
-ENCY       -MENT        -TUDE
-ERY        -NESS        -URE

**Adjectives**

An adjective describes a noun, answering the questions "what kind," "which one," or "how many." In a sentence, you will generally find adjectives right in front of the nouns they describe ("The book is full of sophomoric humor") or after a form of the verb be or some other linking verb ("The book's humor is sophomoric").

If you know the meaning of a word, you can tell if it's an adjective by thinking about the way the word would be used in a sentence. If the word can be used to describe a noun, it's an adjective. Most adjectives have comparative and superlative forms (rife, rifer, ripest and sanguine, more sanguine, most sanguine). Most adjectives can be turned into adverbs by adding -ly (intemperately).

If you don't know the meaning of a word, but it has one of the following suffixes, then it's probably an adjective.

-ABLE        -OUS         -ISH
-AL          -FUL         -IVE
-ANE         -IBLE        -LESS
-ANT         -IC          -OSE
-AR          -ILE         -INE
Verbs

A verb is a word that represents an action or state of being. Every sentence must have at least one verb. The main verb usually comes right after the subject ("They squander their fortunes"), but sometimes is separated from the subject ("The contestant with the second highest vote total wins the consolation prize") and sometimes even precedes the subject ("Quickly flow the years.")

If you know the meaning of the word, you can tell if it's a verb by thinking about the way the word would be used in a sentence. If, with the addition of an -s, it can follow a pronoun like he or it and make a sentence, it's a verb ("He panders"). If it has a past form ending in -ed (pandered) and a progressive form ending in -ing (pandering), it's a verb.

If you don't know the meaning of a word, but it has one of the following suffixes, then it's probably a verb.

-EN
-IFY
-ESCE
-IZE

Split-Personality Words

Remember that many words in the English language can function as more than one part of speech. Here's a single word used as a noun, adjective, and verb:

As the test tube rested overnight, some precipitate formed. (noun)
It would be better to proceed with caution than to take precipitate action. (adjective)
Passage of the resolution could well precipitate rebellion. (verb)

When you see a word all by itself in an analogy or an antonym, with no sentence to show you the word in use, you may not be able to tell at first what part of speech it is. For example, if you see the word brook out of context, don't assume you're looking at a noun. It can also be a verb, as in: "She would brook no interference with her intentions." Instead, look at the answer choices or the other word in an analogy's stem. They should make it pretty clear what meaning they are testing.
Some words appear on the GRE more than others. The following words all turn up regularly on the test, although some turn up more than others. You should start by learning these words, and the groups of words that have similar meanings to them.

The top 12 words on the GRE are:

- ANOMALY
- EQUIVOCAL
- LUCID
- PRECIPITATE
- ASSUAGE
- ERUDITE
- OPAQUE
- PRODIGAL
- ENIGMA
- FERVID
- PLACATE
- ZEAL

The next 20 most popular words are:

- ABSTAIN
- AUDACIOUS
- DESICCATE
- GULLIBLE
- LAUDABLE
- PEDANT
- VACILLATE
- ADULTEIWTE
- CAPRICIOUS
- ENGENDER
- HOMOGENOUS
- LOQUACIOUS
- PRAGMATIC
- VOLATILE
- APATHY
- CORROBORATE
- EPHEMERAL
- LACONIC
- MITIGATE
- PROPRIETY

The next 20 most popular words after these are:

- ADVOCATE
- CACOPHONY
- ENERVATE
- INGENUOUS
- MISANTHROPE
- PARADOX
- VENERATE
- ANTIPATHY
- DERIDE
- EULOGY
- LETHARGIC
- OBDurate
- PHILANTHROPIC
- WAVER
- BOLSTER
- DISSONANCE
- GARRULOUS
- MALLEABLE
- OSTENTATION
- PREVARICATE
200 TOP GRE WORDS IN CONTEXT

ABATE: to reduce in amount, degree, or severity
   As the hurricane's force ABATED, the winds dropped and the sea became calm.

Words with similar meanings:
   EBB  LAPSE  LET UP
   MODERATE  RELENT  SLACKEN
   SUBSIDE  WANE

ABSCOND: to leave secretly
   The patron ABSCONDED from the restaurant without paying his bill by sneaking out the back door.

Words with similar meanings:
   FLEE  DECAMP  ESCAPE

ABSTAIN: to choose not to do something:
   During Lent, practicing Catholics ABSTAIN from eating meat.

Words with similar meanings:
   FORBEAR  REFRAIN  WITHHOLD

ABYSS: an extremely deep hole
   The submarine dove into the ABYSS to chart the previously unseen depths.

Related words:
   ABYSSAL: pertaining to great depth
   ABYSMAL: extremely bad

Words with similar meanings:
   CHASM  VOID

ADULTERATE: to make impure
   The restaurateur made his ketchup last longer by ADULTERATING it with water.

Related words:
   UNADULTERATED: pure
   ADULTERY an illicit relationship; an affair

Words with similar meanings:
   DOCTOR
ADVOCATE: to speak in favor of
   The vegetarian ADVOCATED a diet containing no meat.
Related words:
ADVOCACY: active support for
Words with similar meanings:
      BACK          CHAMPION         SUPPORT

AESTHETIC: concerning the appreciation of beauty
   Followers of the AESTHETIC Movement regarded the pursuit of beauty as the only true
   purpose of art.
Related words:
AESTHETE: someone unusually sensitive to beauty
AESTHETICISM: concern with beauty
Words with similar meanings:
          ARTISTIC         TASTEFUL

AGGRANDIZE: to increase in power, influence, and reputation
   The supervisor sought to AGGRANDIZE himself by claiming that the achievements of his
   staff were actually his own.
Words with similar meanings:
          AMPLIFY          APOTHEOSIZE          AUGMENT
          DIGNIFY          ELEVATE             ENLARGE
          ENNOBLE          EXALT               GLORIFY
          MAGNIFY          SWELL               UPLIFT
          WAX

ALLEVIATE: to make more bearable:
   Taking aspirin helps to ALLEVIATE a headache.
Words with similar meanings:
          ALLAY          ASSUAGE          COMFORT
          EASE           LESSEN            LIGHTEN
          MITIGATE       PALLIATE          RELIEVE

AMALGAMATE: to combine; to mix together
   Giant Industries AMALGAMATED with Mega Products to form Giant-Mega Products Incorporated.
Related Words:
AMALGAM: a mixture, especially of two metals

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ADMIX</th>
<th>BLEND</th>
<th>COMBINE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>COMPOUND</td>
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<tr>
<td>FUSE</td>
<td>INTERMINGLE</td>
<td>INTERMIX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERGE</td>
<td>MINGLE</td>
<td>MIX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AMBIGUOUS: doubtful or uncertain; able to be interpreted several ways

The directions he gave were so AMBIGUOUS that we disagreed on which way to turn.

Related Words:
AMBIGUITY: the quality of being ambiguous

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLOUDY</th>
<th>DOUBTFUL</th>
<th>DUBIOUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>NEBULOUS</td>
<td>INDETERMINATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBSCURE</td>
<td>UNCLEAR</td>
<td>VAGE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AMELIORATE: to make better; to improve

The doctor was able to AMELIORATE the patient’s suffering using painkillers.

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMEND</th>
<th>BETTER</th>
<th>IMPROVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PACIFY</td>
<td>UPGRADE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ANACHRONISM: something out of place in time

The aged hippie used ANACHRONISTIC phrases like groovy and far out that had not been popular for years.

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARCHAISM</th>
<th>INCONGRUITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

ANALOGOUS: similar or alike in some way; equivalent to

In a famous argument for the existence of God, the universe is ANALOGOUS to a mechanical timepiece, the creation of a divinely intelligent “clockmaker.”

Related word.

ANALOGY: a similarity between things that are otherwise dissimilar

ANALOGUE: something that is similar in some way to something else

Words with similar meanings:
ALIKE       COMPARABLE       CORRESPONDING  
EQUIVALENT  HOMOGENEOUS  PARALLEL      
SIMILAR      

ANOMALY: deviation from what is normal

Albino animals may display too great an ANOMALY in their coloring to attract normally colored mates.

Related words:
- ANOMALOUS: deviating from what is normal

Words with similar meanings:
- ABERRANCE  ABERRATION  ABNORMALITY  
- DEVIANCE   DEVIATION   IRREGULARITY  
- PRETERNATURALNESS

ANTAGONIZE: to annoy or provoke to anger

The child discovered that he could ANTAGONIZE the cat by pulling its tail.

Related Words:
- ANTAGONISTIC: tending to provoke conflict
- ANTAGONIST: someone who fights another

Words with similar meanings
- CLASH       CONFLICT        INCITE       
- IRRITATE    OPPOSE          PESTER       
- PROVOKE     VEX             

ANTIPATHY: extreme dislike

The ANTIPATHY between the French and the English regularly erupted into open warfare.

Words with similar meanings:
- ANIMOSITY  ANIMUS          ANTAGONISM  
- AVERSION   ENMITY          HOSTILITY   
- REPELLENCE

APATHY: lack of interest or emotion

The APATHY of voters is so great that less than half the people who are eligible to vote actually bother to do so.

Words with similar meanings:
- COOLNESS    DISINTEREST     DISREGARD
IMPASSIVITY  INDIFFERENCE  INSENSIBILITY
LASSITUDE    LETHARGY    LISTLESSNESS
PHLEGM       STOLIDITY   UNCONCERN
UNRESPONSIVENESS

**ARBITRATE:** to judge a dispute between two opposing parties

Since the couple could not come to agreement, a judge was forced to ARBITRATE their divorce proceedings.

Related words:
ARBITRATION: a process by which a conflict is resolved
ARBITRATOR: a judge

Words with similar meanings:
- ADJUDGE
- ADJUDICATE
- DECIDE
- DETERMINE
- JUDGE
- MODERATE
- REFEREE
- RULE

**ARCHAIC:** ancient, old-fashioned

Her ARCHAIC Commodore computer could not run the latest software.

Related words:
ARCHAISM: an outdated word or phrase

Words with similar meanings:
- ANCIENT
- ANTEDILUVIAN
- ANTIQUE
- BYGONE
- DATED
- DOWDY
- FUSTY
- OBSOLETE
- OLD-FASHIONED
- OUTDATED
- OUTMODED
- PASSÉ
- PREHISTORIC
- STALE
- SUPERANNUATED
- SUPERSEDED
- VINTAGE

**ARDOR:** intense and passionate feeling

Bishop's ARDOR for landscape was evident when he passionately described the beauty of the scenic Hudson Valley.

Related words:
ARDENT: expressing ardor; passionate

Words with similar meanings:
- DEVOTION
- ENTHUSIASM
- FERVENCY
- FERVIDITY
- FERVIDNESS
- FERVOR
- FIRE
- PASSION
- ZEAL
- ZEALOUSNESS
ARTICULATE: able to speak clearly and expressively
She is such an ARTICULATE defender of labor that unions are among her strongest supporters.

Words with similar meanings:

- ELOQUENT
- EXPRESSIVE
- FLUENT
- SILVER-TONGUED
- SMOOTH-SPOKEN

ASSUAGE: to make something unpleasant less severe
Like many people, Philip Larkin used alcohol to ASSUAGE his sense of meaninglessness and despair.

Words with similar meanings:

- ALLAY
- ALLEVIATE
- APPEASE
- COMFORT
- EASE
- LIGHTEN
- MITIGATE
- MOLLIFY
- PACIFY
- PALLIATE
- PLACATE
- PROPITIATE
- RELIEVE
- SOOTHE

ATTENUATE: to reduce in force or degree; to weaken
The Bill of Rights ATTENUATED the traditional power of government to change laws at will.

Words with similar meanings:

- DEBILITATE
- DEVITALIZE
- DILUTE
- ENERVATE
- ENFEEBLE
- RAREFY
- SAP
- THIN
- UNDERMINE
- UNDO
- UNNERVE
- WATER
- WEAKEN

AUDACIOUS: fearless and daring
"And you, your majesty, may kiss my bum!" replied the AUDACIOUS peasant.

Related words:

AUDACITY: the quality of being audacious

Words with similar meanings:

- ADVENTURESOME
- AGGRESSIVE
- ASSERTIVE
- BOLD
- BRAVE
- COURAGEOUS
- DARING
- DAUNTLESS
- DOUGHTY
- FEARLESS
- GALLANT
- GAME
- HEROIC
- INTREPID
- METTLESOME
- PLUCKY
- STOUT
- STOUTHEARTED
**Vocabulary Builder**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNAFRAID</th>
<th>UNDAUNTED</th>
<th>VALIANT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VALOROUS</td>
<td>VENTURESOME</td>
<td>VENTUROUS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AUSTERE:** severe or stern in appearance; undecorated

The lack of decoration makes Zen temples seem **AUSTERE** to the untrained eye.

Related words:
**AUSTERITY:** severity, especially poverty

Words with similar meanings:
- BLEAK
- DOUR
- GRIM
- HARD
- HARSH
- SEVERE

**BANAL:** predictable, cliched, boring

He used **BANAL** phrases like Have a nice day, or Another day, another dollar.

Related words:
**BANALITY:** the quality of being banal

Words with similar meanings:
- BLAND
- COMMONPLACE
- INNOCUOUS
- MUSTY
- QUOTIDIAN
- STEREOTYPIC
- TIRED
- WORN-OUT
- BROMIDIC
- FATUOUS
- INSIPID
- PLATITUDINOUS
- SHOPWORN
- THREADBARE
- TRITE
- VAPID
- CLICHÉD
- HACKNEYED
- JEJUNE
- PROSAIC
- STALE
- TIMEWORN
- VAPID

**BOLSTER:** to support; to prop up

The presence of giant footprints **BOLSTERED** the argument that Sasquatch was in the area.

Words with similar meanings:
- BRACE
- BUTTRESS
- PROP
- SUPPORT
- SUSTAIN
- UNDERPIN

**BOMBASTIC:** pompous in speech and manner

Mussolini’s speeches were mostly **BOMBASTIC**; his boasting and outrageous claims had no basis in fact.

Related words:
**BOMBAST:** pompous speech or writing
Words with similar meanings:

- BLOATED
- DECLAMATORY
- FUSTIAN
- GRANDIOQUENT
- GRANDIOSE
- HIGH-FLOWN
- MAGNiloQUENT
- OROTUND
- PRETENTIOUS
- RHETORICAL
- SELF-IMPORTANT

CACOPHONY: harsh, jarring noise

The junior high orchestra created an almost unbearable CACOPHONY as they tried to tune their instruments.

Words with similar meanings:

- DISCORD
- CHAOS
- DISHARMONY
- NOISE
- CLAMOR
- DIN

CANDID: impartial and honest in speech

The observations of a child can be charming since they are CANDID and unpretentious.

Words with similar meanings:

- DIRECT
- FORTHRIGHT
- FRANK
- HONEST
- OPEN
- SINCERE
- STRAIGHT
- STRAIGHTFORWARD
- UNDISGUISED

CAPRICIOUS: changing one's mind quickly and often

Queen Elizabeth I was quite CAPRICIOUS; her courtiers could never be sure which of their number would catch her fancy.

Related words:
CAPRICE: whim, sudden fancy

Words with similar meanings:

- ARBITRARY
- CHANCE
- CHANGEABLE
- ERRATIC
- FICKLE
- INCONSTANT
- MERCURIAL
- RANDOM
- WHIMSICAL
- WILLFUL

CASTIGATE: to punish or criticize harshly

Americans are amazed at how harshly the authorities in Singapore CASTIGATE perpetrators of what would be considered minor crimes in the United States.

Words with similar meanings:

- ADMONISH
- CHASTISE
- CHIDE
- REBUKE
- REPRIMAND
- REPROACH
**Vocabulary Builder**

**REPROVE**  **SCOLD**  **TAX**

**UPBRAID**

**CATALYST**: something that brings about a change in something else

The imposition of harsh taxes was the CATALYST that finally brought on the revolution.

Related Words:

**CATALYZE**: to bring about a change in something else

**CAUSTIC**: biting in wit

Dorothy Parker gained her reputation for CAUSTIC wit from her cutting, yet clever, insults.

Words with similar meanings:

- ACERBIC
- BITING
- MORDANT
- TRENCHANT

**CHAOS**: great disorder or confusion

In most religious traditions, God created an ordered universe from CHAOS.

Related Words:

**CHAOTIC**: jumbled, confused

Words with similar meanings:

- CLUTTER
- CONFUSION
- DISARRANGEMENT
- DISORDER
- DISORDERLINESS
- DISORGANIZATION
- JUMBLE
- MESS
- MUDDLE
- SCRAMBLE
- SNARL
- TOPSY-TURVINESS
- TURMOIL

**CHAUVINIST**: someone prejudiced in favor of a group to which he or she belongs

The attitude that men are inherently superior to women and therefore must be obeyed is common among male CHAUVINISTS.

Words with similar meanings:

- PARTISAN

**CHICANERY**: deception by means of craft or guile

Dishonest used car salesmen often use CHICANERY to sell their beat-up old cars.

Words with similar meanings:

- ARTIFICE
- CONNMNG
- CRAFTINESS
### Top GRE Words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DECEPTION</th>
<th>DEVIOUSNESS</th>
<th>MISREPRESENTATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PETTIFOGLERY</td>
<td>SHADINESS</td>
<td>SNEAKINESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOPHISTRY</td>
<td>SUBTERFUGE</td>
<td>UNDERHANDEDNESS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COGENT**: convincing and well reasoned

Swayed by the COGENT argument of the defense, the jury had no choice but to acquit the defendant.

Related words:

**COGITATE**: to think deeply

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONVINCING</th>
<th>PERSUASIVE</th>
<th>SOLID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOUND</td>
<td>TELLING</td>
<td>VALID</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CONDONE**: to overlook, pardon, or disregard

Some theorists believe that failing to prosecute minor crimes is the same as CONDONING an air of lawlessness.

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXCULPATE</th>
<th>EXCUSE</th>
<th>PARDON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REMIT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CONVOLUTED**: intricate and complicated

Although many people bought *A Brief History of Time*, few could follow its CONVOLUTED ideas and theories.

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BYZANTINE</th>
<th>COMPLEX</th>
<th>ELABORATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTRICATE</td>
<td>KNOTTY</td>
<td>LABYRINTHINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERPLEXING</td>
<td>TANGLED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CORROBORATE**: to provide supporting evidence

Fingerprints CORROBORATED the witness's testimony that he saw the defendant in the victim's apartment.

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHENTICATE</th>
<th>BACK</th>
<th>BEAR OUT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BUTTRESS</td>
<td>CONFIRM</td>
<td>SUBSTANTIATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VALIDATE</td>
<td>VERIFY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CREDULOUS: too trusting; gullible
Although some 4-year-olds believe in the Easter Bunny, only the most CREDULOUS 9-year-olds also believe in him.
Related words:
CREDULITY the quality of being credulous
Words with similar meanings:
NAIVE 
SUSCEPTIBLE 
TRUSTING

CRESCENDO: steadily increasing volume or force
The CRESCENDO of tension became unbearable as Evel Knievel prepared to jump his motorcycle over the school buses.

DECORUM: appropriateness of behavior or conduct; propriety
The countess complained that the vulgar peasants lacked the DECORUM appropriate for a visit to the palace.
Related words:
DECOROUS: conforming to acceptable standards
Words with similar meanings:
CORRECTNESS 
MANNERS 
SEEMLINESS

DERIDE: to speak of or treat with contempt; to mock
The awkward child was often DERIDE by his "cooler" peers.
Related words:
DERISION: mockery and
taunts
DERISIVE: in a mocking manner
Words with similar meanings:
- GIBE
- RIDICULE
- JEER
- SCOFF
- MOCK
- TAUNT
- SNEER

DESICCATE: to dry out thoroughly
After a few weeks of lying on the desert's baking sands, the cow's carcass became completely DESICCATED.

Related words:
DESICCANT: something that removes water from another substance
Words with similar meanings:
- DRY
- PARCH
- DEHYDRATE

DESULTORY: jumping from one thing to another; disconnected
Diane had a DESULTORY academic record; she had changed majors 12 times in 3 years.

Words with similar meanings:
- AIMLESS
- HAPHAZARD
- PURPOSELESS
- UNCONSIDERED
- DISCONNECTED
- INDISCRIMINATE
- RANDOM
- UNPLANNED
- ERRATIC
- OBJECTLESS
- STRAY

DIATRIBE: an abusive, condemnatory speech
The trucker bellowed a DIATRIBE at the driver who had cut him off.

Words with similar meanings:
- FULMINATION
- JEREMIAD
- TIRADE
- HARANGUE
- MALEDICTION
- OBLOQUY

DIFFIDENT: lacking self-confidence
Steve's DIFFIDENT manner during the job interview stemmed from his nervous nature and lack of experience in the field.

Words with similar meanings:
- BACKWARD
- DEMURE
- SELF-EFFACING
- BASHFUL
- MODEST
- SHY
- COY
- RETIRING
- TIMID
**Vocabulary Builder**

**DILATE:** to make larger; to expand

When you enter a darkened room, the pupils of your eyes DILATE to let in more light.

Words with similar meanings:

- AMPLIFY
- DEVELOP
- ELABORATE
- ENLARGE
- EXPAND
- EXPATIATE

**DILATORY:** intended to delay

The congressman used DILATORY measures to delay the passage of the bill.

Words with similar meanings:

- DRAGGING
- FLAGGING
- LAGGARD
- LAGGING
- SLOW
- SLOW-FOOTED
- SLOW-GOING
- SLOW-PACED
- TARDY

**DILETTANTE:** someone with an amateurish and superficial interest in a topic

Jerry's friends were such DILETTANTES that they seemed to have new jobs and hobbies every week.

Words with similar meanings:

- AMATEUR
- DABBLER
- SUPERFICIAL
- TYRO

**DIRGE:** a funeral hymn or mournful speech

Melville wrote the poem A DIRGE for James McPherson for the funeral of a Union general who was killed in 1864.

Words with similar meanings:

- ELEGY
- LAMENT

**DISABUSE:** to set right; to free from error

Galileo's observations DISABUSED scholars of the notion that the Sun revolved around the Earth.

Words with similar meanings:

- CORRECT
- UNDECEIVE

**DISCERN:** to perceive; to recognize

It is easy to DISCERN the difference between butter and butter-flavored topping.

Related words:

- DISCERNMENT: taste and cultivation
Words with similar meanings:

CATCH ♦ DESCRY ♦ DETECT
DIFFERENTIATE ♦ DISCRIMINATE ♦ DISTINGUISH
ESPY ♦ GLIMPSE ♦ KNOW
SEPARATE ♦ SPOT ♦ SPY
TELL ♦

**DISPARATE:** fundamentally different; entirely unlike

Although the twins appear to be identical physically, their personalities are DISPARATE.

Words with similar meanings:

DIFFERENT ♦ DISSIMILAR ♦ DIVERGENT
DIVERSE ♦ VARIANT ♦ VARIOUS

**DISSEMBLE:** to present a false appearance; to disguise one's real intentions or character

The villain could DISSEMBLE to the police no longer—he admitted the deed and tore up the floor to reveal the body of the old man.

Words with similar meanings:

ACT ♦ AFFECT ♦ ASSUME
CAMOUFLAGE ♦ CLOAK ♦ COUNTERFEIT
COVER UP ♦ DISGUISE ♦ DISSIMULATE
FAKE ♦ FEIGN ♦ MASK
MASQUERADE ♦ POSE ♦ PRETEND
PUT ON ♦ SHAM ♦ SIMULATE

**DISSONANCE:** a harsh and disagreeable combination, often of sounds

Cognitive DISSONANCE is the inner conflict produced when long-standing beliefs are contradicted by new evidence.

Words with similar meanings:

CLASH ♦ CONTENTION ♦ DISCORD
DISSENSION ♦ DISSENT ♦ DISSIDENCE
FRICITION ♦ STRIFE ♦ VARIANCE
**DOGMA:** a firmly held opinion, often a religious belief

Linus' central DOGMA was that children who believed in the Great Pumpkin would be rewarded.

Words with similar meanings:

- CREED
- DOCTRINE
- TEACHING

**DOGMATIC:** dictatorial in one's opinions

The dictator was DOGMATIC—he, and only he, was right.

Words with similar meanings:

- AUTHORITARIAN
- DOCTRINAIRE
- MAGISTERIAL
- PEREMPTORY
- BOSSY
- DOMINEERING
- MASTERFUL
- DICTATORIAL
- IMPERIOUS
- OVERBEARING

**DUPE:** to deceive; a person who is easily deceived

Bugs Bunny was able to DUPE Elmer Fudd by dressing up as a lady rabbit.

Words with similar meanings:

- BEGUILE
- COZEN
- FOOL
- MISLEAD
- BETRAY
- DECEIVE
- HOODWINK
- TAKE IN
- BLUFF
- DELUDE
- HUMBUG
- TRICK

**ECLECTIC:** selecting from or made up from a variety of sources

Budapest's architecture is an ECLECTIC mix of eastern and western styles.

Words with similar meanings:

- SELECTIVE
- CATHOLIC
- BROAD

**EFFICACY:** effectiveness

The EFFICACY of penicillin was unsurpassed when it was first introduced; the drug completely eliminated almost all bacterial infections for which it was administered.

Related Words:

- EFFICACIOUS: effective; productive

Words with similar meanings:

- DYNAMISM
- FORCE
- PROFICIENCY
- EFFECTIVENESS
- POWER
- STRENGTH
- EFFICIENCY
- PRODUCTIVENESS
- VIGOR
**ELEGY:** a sorrowful poem or speech

Although Thomas Gray’s "ELEGY Written in a Country Churchyard" is about death and loss, it urges its readers to endure this life, and to trust in spirituality.

Related Words:

**ELEGIAC:** like an elegy; mournful

Words with similar meanings:

- DIRGE
- LAMENT

**ELOQUENT:** persuasive and moving, especially in speech

The Gettysburg Address is moving not only because of its lofty sentiments but also because of its ELOQUENT words.

Words with similar meanings:

- ARTICULATE
- EXPRESSIVE
- FLUENT
- MEANINGFUL
- SIGNIFICANT
- SMOOTH-SPOKEN

**EMULATE:** to copy; to try to equal or excel

The graduate student sought to EMULATE his professor in every way, copying not only how she taught, but also how she conducted herself outside of class.

Words with similar meanings:

- APE
- IMITATE
- SIMULATE

**ENERVATE:** to reduce in strength

The guerrillas hoped that a series of surprise attacks would ENERVATE the regular army.

Related Words:

**UNNERVE:** to deprive of strength or courage

Words with similar meanings:

- DEBILITATE
- ENFEEBLE
- SAP
- WEAKEN

**ENGENDER:** to produce, cause, or bring about

His fear and hatred of clowns was ENGENDERED when he witnessed the death of his father at the hands of a clown.

Words with similar meanings:

- BEGET
- GENERATE
- PROCREATE
- PROLIFERATE
- REPRODUCE
- SPAWN
**ENIGMA:** a puzzle; a mystery

Speaking in riddles and dressed in old robes, the artist gained a reputation as something of an ENIGMA.

Words with similar meanings:

| CONUNDRUM | PERPLEXITY |

**ENUMERATE:** to count, list, or itemize

Moses returned from the mountain with tablets on which the commandments were ENUMERATED.

Words with similar meanings:

| CATALOG | INDEX | TABULATE |

**EPHEMERAL:** lasting a short time

The lives of mayflies seem EPHEMERAL to us, since the flies' average life span is a matter of hours.

Words with similar meanings:

| EVANESCENT | FLEETING | MOMENTARY |

**EQUIVOCATE:** to use expressions of double meaning in order to mislead

When faced with criticism of his policies, the politician EQUIVOCATED and left all parties thinking he agreed with them.

Related Words:

| EQUIVOCAL | EQUITINOCEATION |

Words with similar meanings:

| AMBIGUOUS | EASIVE | WAFFLING |

**ERRATIC:** wandering and unpredictable

The plot seemed predictable until it suddenly took a series of ERRATIC turns that surprised the audience.

Related Words:

| ERRANT |

Words with similar meanings:

| CAPRICEOUS | INCONSTANT | IRRESOLUT |

| WHIMSICAL |
ERUDITE: learned, scholarly, bookish
   The annual meeting of philosophy professors was a gathering of the most ERUDITE, well-published individuals in the field.

Related Words:
ERUDITION: extensive knowledge or learning
Words with similar meanings:
   SCHOLASTIC  LEARNED  WISE

ESOTERIC: known or understood by only a few
   Only a handful of experts are knowledgeable about the ESOTERIC world of particle physics.

Words with similar meanings:
   ABSTRACT  ARCANE  OBSCURE

ESTIMABLE: admirable
   Most people consider it ESTIMABLE that Mother Teresa spent her life helping the poor of India.

Related Words:
ESTEEM: high regard
Words with similar meanings:
   ADMIRABLE  COMMENDABLE  CREDITABLE
   HONORABLE  LAUDABLE  MERITORIOUS
   PRAISEWORTHY  RESPECTABLE  VENERABLE
   WORTHY

EULOGY: speech in praise of someone
   His best friend gave the EULOGY, outlining his many achievements and talents.

Words with similar meanings:
   COMMEND  EXTOL  LAUD

EUPHEMISM: use of an inoffensive word or phrase in place of a more distasteful one
   The funeral director preferred to use the EUPHEMISM "sleeping" instead of the word "dead."

Words with similar meanings:
   CIRCUMLOCUTION  WHITENASH
EXACERBATE: to make worse
   It is unwise to take aspirin to try to relieve heartburn; instead of providing relief, the drug will only EXACERBATE the problem.
   Words with similar meanings:
   ANNOY AGGRAVATE INTENSIFY
   IRRITATE PROVOKE

EXCULPATE: to clear from blame; prove innocent
   The adversarial legal system is intended to convict those who are guilty and to EXCULPATE those who are innocent.
   Words with similar meanings:
   ABSOLVE ACQUIT CLEAR
   EXONERATE VINDICATE

EXIGENT: urgent; requiring immediate action
   The patient was losing blood so rapidly that it was EXIGENT to stop the source of the bleeding.
   Words with similar meanings:
   CRITICAL IMPERATIVE NEEDED
   URGENT

EXONERATE: to clear of blame
   The fugitive was EXONERATED when another criminal confessed to committing the crime.
   Words with similar meanings:
   ABSOLVE ACQUIT CLEAR
   EXCULPATE VINDICATE

EXPLICIT: clearly stated or shown; forthright in expression
   The owners of the house left a list of EXPLICIT instructions detailing their house-sitters' duties, including a schedule for watering the house plants.
   Related Words:
   EXPLICABLE: capable of being explained
   EXPLICATE: to give a detailed explanation
   Words with similar meanings:
   CANDID FRANK STRAIGHTFORWARD
   UNEQUIVOCAL
FANATICAL: acting excessively enthusiastic; filled with extreme, unquestioned devotion
The stormtroopers were FANATICAL in their devotion to the Emperor, readily sacrificing their lives for him.

Words with similar meanings:
- EXTREMIST
- FIERY
- FRENZIED
- ZEALOUS

FAWN: to grovel
The understudy FAWNED over the director in hopes of being cast in the part on a permanent basis.

Words with similar meanings:
- BOOTLICK
- GROVEL
- TOADY
- PANDER

FERVID: intensely emotional; feverish
The fans of Maria Callas were particularly FERVID, doing anything to catch a glimpse of the great opera singer.

Related Words:
- FERVENT: enthusiastic
- FERVOR: passion

Words with similar meanings:
- BURNING
- IMPASSIONED
- PASSIONATE
- VEHEMENT
- ZEALOUS

FLORID: excessively decorated or embellished
The palace had been decorated in an excessively FLORID style; every surface had been carved and gilded.

Words with similar meanings:
- BAROQUE
- ELABORATE
- FLAMBOYANT
- ORNATE
- OSTENTATIOUS
- ROCOCO

FOMENT: to arouse or incite
The protesters tried to FOMENT feeling against the war through their speeches and demonstrations.

Words with similar meanings:
- AGITATE
- IMPASSION
- INFLAME
- INSTIGATE
- KINDLE
**FRUGALITY**: a tendency to be thrifty or cheap

Scrooge McDuck's FRUGALITY was so great that he accumulated enough wealth to fill a giant storehouse with money.

Words with similar meanings:

- ECONOMICAL
- PARSIMONY
- PRUDENCE
- SPARING

**GARRULOUS**: tending to talk a lot

The GARRULOUS parakeet distracted its owner with its continuous talking.

Words with similar meanings:

- EFFUSIVE
- LOQUACIOUS

**GREGARIOUS**: outgoing, sociable

She was so GREGARIOUS that when she found herself alone she felt quite sad.

Words with similar meanings:

- AFFABLE
- CONGENIAL
- COMMUNICATIVE
- SOCIALE

**GUILE**: deceit or trickery

Since he was not fast enough to catch the roadrunner on foot, the coyote resorted to GUILE in an effort to trap his enemy.

Related Words:

- GUILELESS: innocent, without trickery

Words with similar meanings:

- ARTIFICE
- CHICANERY
- CONNIVERY
- Duplicity

**GULLIBLE**: easily deceived

The con man pretended to be a bank officer so as to fool GULLIBLE bank customers into giving him their account information.

Related Words:

- GULL: a person who is easily tricked

Words with similar meanings:

- CREDULOUS
- EXPLOITABLE
- NAIVE
HOMOGENOUS: of a similar kind
   The class was fairly HOMOGENOUS, since almost all of the students were senior journalism majors.

Related Words:
HOMOGENIZED: thoroughly mixed together
Words with similar meanings:
   CONSISTENT STANDARDIZED UNIFORM
   UNVARYING

ICONOCLAST: one who opposes established beliefs, customs, and institutions
   His lack of regard for traditional beliefs soon established him as an ICONOCLAST.
Words with similar meanings:
   MAVERICK NONCONFORMIST REBEL
   REVOLUTIONARY

IMPERTURBABLE: not capable of being disturbed
   The counselor had so much experience dealing with distraught children that she seemed IMPERTURBABLE, even when faced with the wildest tantrums.

Related Words:
PERTURB: to disturb greatly
Words with similar meanings:
   COMPOSED DISPASSIONATE IMPASSIVE
   SERENE STOICAL

IMPERVIOUS: impossible to penetrate; incapable of being affected
   A good raincoat will be IMPERVIOUS to moisture.
Words with similar meanings:
   RESISTANT IMPREGNABLE

IMPETUOUS: quick to act without thinking
   It is not good for an investment broker to be IMPETUOUS, since much thought should be given to all the possible options.

Related Words:
IMPETUS: impulse
Words with similar meanings:

- IMPULSIVE
- PRECIPITATE
- RASH
- RECKLESS
- SPONTANEOUS

**Implacable:** unable to be calmed down or made peaceful

His rage at the betrayal was so great that he remained **implacable** for weeks.

Related Words:

- PLACATE: to make peaceful

Words with similar meanings:

- INEXORABLE
- INTRANSIGENT
- IRRECONCILABLE
- RELENTLESS
- REMORSELESS
- UNFORGIVING
- UNRELENTING

**Inchoate:** not fully formed; disorganized

The ideas expressed in Nietzsche’s mature work also appear in an **inchoate** form in his earliest writing.

Words with similar meanings:

- AMORPHOUS
- INCOHERENT
- INCOMPLETE
- UNORGANIZED

**Ingenuous:** showing innocence or childlike simplicity

She was so **ingenuous** that her friends feared that her innocence and trustfulness would be exploited when she visited the big city.

Related Words:

- INGENUE: a naïve girl or young woman
- DISINGENUOUS: giving a false impression of innocence

Words with similar meanings:

- ARTLESS
- GUILELESS
- INNOCENT
- NAIVE
- SIMPLE
- UNAFFECTED

**Inimical:** hostile, unfriendly

Even though a cease-fire had been in place for months, the two sides were still **inimical** to each other.

Words with similar meanings:

- ADVERSE
- ANTAGONISTIC
- DISSIDENT
- RECALCITRANT
INNOCUOUS: harmless
Some snakes are poisonous, but most species are INNOCUOUS and pose no danger to humans.
Words with similar meanings:
   BENIGN  HARMLESS  INOFFENSIVE

INSIPID: lacking interest or flavor
The critic claimed that the painting was INSIPID, containing no interesting qualities at all.
Words with similar meanings:
   BANAL  BLAND  DULL
   STALE  VAPID

INTRANSIGENT: uncompromising; refusing to be reconciled
The professor was INTRANSIGENT on the deadline, insisting that everyone turn the assignment in at the same time.
Words with similar meanings:
   IMPLACABLE  INEXORABLE  IRRECONCILABLE
   OBDURATE  OBSTINATE  REMORSELESS
   RIGID  UNBENDING  UNRELENTING
   UNYIELDING

INUNDATE: to overwhelm; to cover with water
The tidal wave INUNDATEd Atlantis, which was lost beneath the water.
Words with similar meanings:
   DELUGE  DROWN  ENGULF
   FLOOD  SUBMERGE

IRASCIBLE: easily made angry
Attila the Hun’s IRASCIBLE and violent nature made all who dealt with him fear for their lives.
Related Words:
IRATE: angry
Words with similar meanings:
   CANTANKEROUS  IRRITABLE  ORNERY
   TESTY
**Vocabulary Builder**

**LACONIC:** using few words

She was a LACONIC poet who built her reputation on using words as sparingly as possible.

Words with similar meanings:

CONCISE  CURT  PITHY
TERSE   TACITURN

**LAMENT:** to express sorrow; to grieve

The children continued to LAMENT the death of the goldfish weeks after its demise.

Words with similar meanings:

BEWAIL  DEPLORE  GRIEVE
MOURN

**LAUD:** to give praise; to glorify

Parades and fireworks were staged to LAUD the success of the rebels.

Related Words:

LAUDABLE: worth of praise
LAUDATORY: expressing praise

Words with similar meanings:

ACCLAIM  APPLAUD  COMMEND
COMPLIMENT  EXALT  EXTOL
HAIL  PRAISE

**LAVISH:** to give unsparingly (v.); extremely generous or extravagant (adj.)

She LAVISHED the puppy with so many treats that it soon became overweight and spoiled.

Words with similar meanings:

BESTOW  CONFER  EXUBERANT
EXTRAVAGANT  OPULENT  PROFUSE
PRODIGAL,  LUXURIANT  SUPERABUNDANT

**LETHARGIC:** acting in an indifferent or slow, sluggish manner

The clerk was so LETHARGIC that, even when the store was slow, he always had a long line in front of him.

Words with similar meanings:

APATHETIC  LANGUID  LACKADAISICAL
LISTLESS  TORPID
**LOQUACIOUS:** talkative
She was naturally LOQUACIOUS, which was a problem in situations in which listening was more important than talking.

Related Words:
ELOQUENCE: powerful, convincing speaking
LOQUACITY: the quality of being loquacious

Words with similar meanings:
EFFUSIVE GARRULOUS VERBOSE

**LUCID:** clear and easily understood
The explanations were written in a simple and LUCID manner so that students were immediately able to apply what they learned.

Related Words:
LUCIDITY: clarity
LUCENT: glowing with light

Words with similar meanings:
CLEAR COHERENT EXPLICIT INTELLIGIBLE LIMPID

**LUMINOUS:** bright, brilliant, glowing
The park was bathed in LUMINOUS sunshine which warmed the bodies and the souls of the visitors.

Related Words:
ILLUMINATE: to shine light on
LUMINARY: an inspiring person

Words with similar meanings:
INCANDESCENT LUCENT LUSTROUS RADIANT RESPLENDENT

**MALINGER:** to evade responsibility by pretending to be ill
A common way to avoid the draft was by MALINGERING—pretending to be mentally or physically ill so as to avoid being taken by the Army.

Related Words:
LINGER: to be slow in leaving

Words with similar meanings:
SHIRK SLACK
**Vocabulary Builder**

**MALLEABLE:** capable of being shaped

Gold is the most MALLEABLE of precious metals; it can easily be formed into almost any shape.

Words with similar meanings:

- ADAPTABLE
- DUCTILE
- PLIABLE
- PLIANT

**METAPHOR:** a figure of speech comparing two different things; a symbol

The METAPHOR "a sea of troubles" suggests a lot of troubles by comparing their number to the vastness of the sea.

Related Words:

- METAPHORICAL: standing as a symbol for something else

Words with similar meanings:

- ANALOGY
- COMPARISON

**METICULOUS:** extremely careful about details

To find all the clues at the crime scene, the investigators METICULOUSLY examined every inch of the area.

Words with similar meanings:

- CONSCIENTIOUS
- PRECISE
- SCRUPULOUS

**MISANTHROPE:** a person who dislikes others

The character Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* is such a MISANTHROPE that even the sight of children singing makes him angry.

**MITIGATE:** to soften; to lessen

A judge may MITIGATE a sentence if she decides that a person committed a crime out of need.

Words with similar meanings:

- ALLAY
- ALLEVIATE
- ASSUAGE
- EASE
- LIGHTEN
- MODERATE
- MOLLIFY
- PALLIATE
- TEMPER

**MOLLIFY:** to calm or make less severe

Their argument was so intense that it was difficult to believe any compromise would MOLLIFY them.
Words with similar meanings:

APPEASE
ASSUAGE
PACIFY
CONCILIATE

MONOTONY: lack of variation

The MONOTONY of the sound of the dripping faucet almost drove the research assistant crazy.

Related Words:

MONOTONE: a sound that is made at the same tone or pitch

Words with similar meanings:

DRONE
TEDIUM

NAIVE: lacking sophistication or experience

Having never traveled before, the hillbillies were more NAIVE than the people they met in Beverly Hills.

Related Words:

NAIVETÉ: the state of being naive

Words with similar meanings:

ARTLESS
CREDULOUS
GUILELESS
INGENUOUS
SIMPLE
UNAFFECTED

OBSEQUIOUS: overly submissive and eager to please

The OBSEQUIOUS new associate made sure to compliment her supervisor's tie and agree with him on every issue.

Related Words:

OBEISANCE: a physical show of respect or submission, such as a bow

Words with similar meanings:

COMPLIANT
DEFERENTIAL
SERVILE
SUBSERVIENT
OBSTINATE: stubborn, unyielding
The OBSTINATE child could not be made to eat any food that he disliked.

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTRANSIGENT</th>
<th>MULISH</th>
<th>PERSISTENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERTINACIOUS</td>
<td>STUBBORN</td>
<td>TENACIOUS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OBVIATE: to prevent; to make unnecessary
The river was shallow enough to wade across at many points, which OBVIATED the need for a bridge.

Words with similar meanings:

| FORESTALL | PRECLUDE | PROHIBIT |

OCCLUDE: to stop up; to prevent the passage of
A shadow is thrown across the Earth's surface during a solar eclipse, when the light from the sun is OCCLUDED by the moon.

Words with similar meanings:

| BARRICADE | BLOCK | CLOSE |
| OBSTRUCT  |        |

ONEROUS: troublesome and oppressive; burdensome
The assignment was so extensive and difficult to manage that it proved ONEROUS to the team in charge of it.

Words with similar meanings:

| ARDUOUS | BACKBREAKING | BURDENSOME |
| CUMBERSOME | DIFFICULT | EXACTING  |
| FORMIDABLE  | HARD | LABORIOUS |
| OPPRESSIVE  | RIGOROUS | TAXING   |
| TRYING      |        |

OPAQUE: impossible to see through; preventing the passage of light
The heavy buildup of dirt and grime on the windows almost made them OPAQUE.

Related Words:
OPACITY the quality of being obscure and indecipherable

Words with similar meanings:

| OBSCURE  |
OPPROBRIUM: public disgrace
After the scheme to embezzle the elderly was made public, the treasurer resigned in utter OPPROBRIUM.

Words with similar meanings:
- DISCREDIT
- DISREPUTE
- OBLIQUE
- DISGRACE
- DISREPUTE
- IGNOMINY
- SHAME
- DISHONOR
- INFAMY

OSTENTATION: excessive showiness
The OSTENTATION of the Sun King's court is evident in the lavish decoration and luxuriousness of his palace at Versailles.

Related Words:
- OSTENSIBLE: apparent

Words with similar meanings:
- CONSPICUOUSNESS
- FLASHINESS
- PRETENTIOUSNESS
- SHOWINESS

PARADOX: a contradiction or dilemma
It is a PARADOX that those most in need of medical attention are often those least able to obtain it.

Words with similar meanings:
- INCONGRUITY
- AMBIGUITY

PARAGON: model of excellence or perfection
She is the PARAGON of what a judge should be: honest, intelligent, hardworking, and just.

Words with similar meanings:
- APOTHEOSIS
- IDEAL
- QUINTESSENCE
- STANDARD

PEDANT: someone who shows off learning
The graduate instructor's tedious and excessive commentary on the subject soon gained her a reputation as a PEDANT.

Related Words:
- PEDANTIC: making an excessive display of learning
PERFIDIOUS: willing to betray one's trust
   The actress's PERFIDIOUS companion revealed all of her intimate secrets to the gossip columnist.
Related Words:
PERFIDY: deceit, treachery
Words with similar meanings:
   DISLOYAL  FAITHLESS  TREACHEROUS
   TRAITOROUS

PERFUNCTORY: done in a routine way; indifferent
   The machinelike bank teller processed the transaction and gave the waiting customer a PERFUNCTORY smile.
Words with similar meanings:
   APATHETIC  AUTOMATIC  MECHANICAL

PERMEATE: to penetrate
   This miraculous new cleaning fluid is able to PERMEATE stains and dissolve them in minutes!
Related Words:
IMPERMEABLE: unable to be permeated
Words with similar meanings:
   IMBUE  INFUSE  SUFFUSE

PHILANTHROPY: charity; a desire or effort to promote goodness
   New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art owes much of its collection to the PHILANTHROPY of private collectors who willed their estates to the museum.
Related Words:
PHILANTHROPIST: someone who is generous and desires to promote goodness
Words with similar meanings:
   HUMANITARIANISM  ALTRUISM

PLACATE: to soothe or pacify
   The burglar tried to PLACATE the snarling dog by saying, "Nice doggy," and offering it a treat
Related Words:
PLACID: tolerant; calm
IMPLACABLE: unable to be made peaceful
Words with similar meanings:

APPEASE  CONCILATE  MOLLIFY

PLASTIC: able to be molded, altered, or bent

The new material was very PLASTIC and could be formed into products of vastly different shape.

Words with similar meanings:

ADAPTABLE  DUCTILE  MALLEABLE

PLETHORA: excess

Assuming that more was better, the defendant offered the judge a PLETHORA of excuses.

Words with similar meanings:

GLUT  OVERABUNDANCE  SUPERFLUITY

SURFEIT

PRAGMATIC: practical as opposed to idealistic

While daydreaming gamblers think they can get rich by frequenting casinos, PRAGMATIC gamblers realize that the odds are heavily stacked against them.

Related Words:
PRAGMATISM: a practical approach to problem solving

Words with similar meanings:

REALISTIC  RATIONAL

PRECIPITATE: to throw violently or bring about abruptly; lacking deliberation

Upon learning that the couple married after knowing each other only two months, friends and family members expected such a PRECIPITATE marriage to end in divorce.

Related Words:
PRECIPITOUS: very steep
PRECIPICE: a steep cliff
PRECIPITATION: weather phenomena, like rain or snow, that fall from the sky

Words with similar meanings:

ABRUPT  HASTY  HEADLONG
HURRIED  ILL-CONSIDERED  IMPETUOUS
IMPULSIVE  PROMPT  RASH
RECKLESS  SUDDEN
**Vocabulary Builder**

**PREVARICATE:** to lie or deviate from the truth

Rather than admit that he had overslept again, the employee **PREVARICATED** and claimed that heavy traffic had prevented him from arriving at work on time.

Words with similar meanings:

EQUIVOCATE  LIE  PERJURE

**PRISTINE:** fresh and clean; uncorrupted

Since concerted measures had been taken to prevent looting, the archeological site was still **PRISTINE** when researchers arrived.

Words with similar meanings:

INNOCENT  UNDAMAGED

**PRODIGAL:** lavish, wasteful

The **PRODIGAL** Son quickly wasted all of his inheritance on a lavish lifestyle devoted to pleasure.

Related Words:
PRODIGALITY: excessive or reckless spending

Words with similar meanings:

EXTRAVAGANT  LAVISH  PROFLIGATE
SPENDTHRIFT  WASTEFUL

**PROLIFERATE:** to increase in number quickly

Although he only kept two guinea pigs initially, they **PROLIFERATED** to such an extent that he soon had dozens.

Related Words:
PROLIFIC: very productive or highly able to reproduce rapidly

Words with similar meanings:

BREED  MULTIPLY  PROCREATE
PROPAGATE  REPRODUCE  SPAWN

**PROPITIATE:** to conciliate; to appease

The management **PROPITIATED** the irate union by agreeing to raise wages for its members.

Related Words:
PROPITIOUS: advantageous, favorable
Words with similar meanings:

- **APPEASE**
- **CONCILIATE**
- **MOLLIFY**
- **PACIFY**
- **PLACATE**

**PROPRIETY**: correct behavior; obedience to rules and customs

The aristocracy maintained a high level of **PROPRIETY**, adhering to even the most minor social rules.

Related Words:

- **APPROPRIATE**: suitable for a particular occasion or place

Words with similar meanings:

- **DECENCY**
- **DECORUM**
- **MODESTY**
- **SEEMLINESS**

**PRUDENCE**: wisdom, caution, or restraint

The college student exhibited **PRUDENCE** by obtaining practical experience along with her studies, which greatly strengthened her résumé.

Related Words:

- **PRUDE**: someone who is excessively concerned with propriety
- **PRUDISH**: prissy and puritanical

Words with similar meanings:

- **ASTUTENESS**
- **CIRCUMSPECTION**
- **DISCRETION**
- **FRUGALITY**
- **JUDICIOUSNESS**
- **PROVIDENCE**
- **THRIFT**

**PUNGENT**: sharp and irritating to the senses

The smoke from the burning tires was extremely **PUNGENT**.

Words with similar meanings:

- **ACRID**
- **CAUSTIC**
- **PIQUANT**
- **POIGNANT**
- **STINGING**

**QUIESCENT**: motionless

Many animals are **QUIESCENT** over the winter months, minimizing activity in order to conserve energy.

Related Words:

- **QUIESCENCE**: state of rest or inactivity

Words with similar meanings:

- **LATENT**
- **DORMANT**
RAREFY: to make thinner or sparser
Since the atmosphere RAREFIES as altitudes increase, the air at the top of very tall mountains is too thin to breathe.

Related Words:
RAREFACTION: the process of making something less dense
Words with similar meanings:
ATTENUATE  THIN

REPUDIATE: to reject the validity of
The old woman's claim that she was Russian royalty was REPUDIATED when DNA tests showed she was of no relation to them.

Words with similar meanings:
DENY  DISAVOW  DISCLAIM
DISOWN  RENOUNCE

RETICENT: silent, reserved
Physically small and RETICENT in her speech, Joan Didion often went unnoticed by those upon whom she was reporting.

Words with similar meanings:
COOL  INTROVERTED  LACONIC
STANDOFFISH  TACITURN  UNDEMONSTRATIVE

RHETORIC: effective writing or speaking
Lincoln's talent for RHETORIC was evident in his beautifully expressed Gettysburg Address.

Words with similar meanings:
ELOQUENCE  ORATORY

SATIATE: to satisfy fully or overindulge
His desire for power was so great that nothing less than complete control of the country could SATIATE it.

Related Words:
SATE: to fully satisfy or overindulge
INSATIABLE:
incapable of being satisfied
Words with similar meanings:

CLOY       GLUT       GORGE
SURFEIT

**SOPORIFIC:** causing sleep or lethargy

The movie proved to be so SOPORIFIC that soon loud snores were heard throughout the theater.

Related Words:

**SOPOR:** deep sleep

Words with similar meanings:

HYPNOTIC    NARCOTIC    SLUMBEROUS
SOMNOLENT

**SPECIOUS:** deceptively attractive; seemingly plausible but fallacious

The student's SPECIOUS excuse for being late sounded legitimate, but was proved otherwise when his teacher called his home.

Words with similar meanings:

ILLUSORY    OSTENSIBLE    PLAUSIBLE
SPURIOUS    SOPHISTICAL

**STIGMA:** a mark of shame or discredit

In The Scarlet Letter, Hester Prynne was required to wear the letter 'A' on her clothes as a public STIGMA for her adultery.

Related Words:

**STIGMATIZE:** to disgrace; to label with negative terms or reputation

Words with similar meanings:

BLEMISH    BLOT       OPPROBRIUM
STAIN       TAIN      TAIN

**STOLID:** unemotional; lacking sensitivity

The prisoner appeared STOLID and unaffected by the judge's harsh sentence.

Words with similar meanings:

APATHETIC   IMPASSIVE   INDIFFERENT
PHLEGMATIC   STOICAL     UNCONCERNED
**Vocabulary Builder**

**SUBLIME:** lofty or grand

The music was so SUBLIME that it transformed the rude surroundings into a special place.

Related Words:

SUBLIMATE: to elevate or convert into something of higher worth

SUBLIMINAL: existing outside conscious awareness

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>August</th>
<th>Exalted</th>
<th>Glorious</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand</td>
<td>Magnificent</td>
<td>Majestic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noble</td>
<td>Regal</td>
<td>Resplendent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Superb</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TACIT:** done without using words

Although not a word had been said, everyone in the room knew that a TACIT agreement had been made about which course of action to take.

Related Words:

TACITURN: silent, not talkative

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implicit</th>
<th>Implied</th>
<th>Undeclared</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unsaid</td>
<td>Unuttered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TACITURN:** silent, not talkative

The clerk's TACITURN nature earned him the nickname "Silent Bob."

Related Words:

TACIT: done without using words

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Laconic</th>
<th>Reticent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**TIRADE:** long, harsh speech or verbal attack

Observers were shocked at the manager's TIRADE over such a minor mistake.

Words with similar meanings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diatribe</th>
<th>Fulmination</th>
<th>Harangue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obloquy</td>
<td>Revilement</td>
<td>Vilification</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TORPOR:** extreme mental and physical sluggishness

After surgery, the patient experienced TORPOR until the anesthesia wore off.
Related Words:
TORPID: sluggish, lacking movement
Words with similar meanings:
APATHY LANGUOR

TRANSITORY: temporary, lasting a brief time
The reporter lived a TRANSITORY life, staying in one place only long enough to cover the current story.
Related Words:
TRANSIT: to pass through; to change or make a transition
TRANSIENT: passing quickly in and out of existence; one who stays a short time
Words with similar meanings:
EPHEMERAL EVANESCENT FLEETING
IMPENETRABLE MOMENTARY

VACILLATE: to sway physically; to be indecisive
The customer held up the line as he VACILLATED between ordering chocolate chip or rocky road ice cream.
Words with similar meanings:
DITHER FALTER FLUCTUATE
OSCILLATE WAVE

VENERATE: to respect deeply
In a traditional Confucian society, the young VENERATE their elders, deferring to the elders' wisdom and experience.
Related Words:
VENERABLE: old, worthy of respect
Words with similar meanings:
ADORANDO HONOR IDOLIZE
REVERE

VERACITY: filled with truth and accuracy
She had a reputation for VERACITY, so everyone trusted her description of events.
Related Words:
VERITY: truth
VERACIOUS: truthful, accurate
Words with similar meanings:

CANDOR  EXACTITUDE  FIDELITY
PROBITY 

**VERBOSE:** wordy

The professor's answer was so VERBOSE that his student forgot what the original question had been.

Related Words:

VERBALIZE: to put into words
VERBATIM: to quote using the exact words, word for word
VERBIAGE: lots of words that are usually superfluous

Words with similar meanings:

LONG-WINDED  LOQUACIOUS  PROLIX
SUPERFLUOUS

**VEX:** to annoy

The old man who loved his peace and quiet was VEXED by his neighbor's loud music.

Related Words:

VEXATION: a feeling of irritation

Words with similar meanings:

ANNOY  BOTHER  CHAFE
EXASPERATE  IRK  NETTLE
PEEVE  PROVOKE

**VOLATILE:** easily aroused or changeable; lively or explosive

His VOLATILE personality made it difficult to predict his reaction to anything.

Words with similar meanings:

CAPRICIOUS  ERRATIC  FICKLE
INCONSISTENT  INCONSTANT  MERcurial
TEMPERAMEntAL

**WAVER:** to fluctuate between choices

If you WAVER too long before making a decision about which testing site to register for, you may not get your first choice.

Words with similar meanings:

DITHER  FALTER  FLUCTUATE
OSCILLATE  VACILLATE
WHIMSICAL: acting in a fanciful or capricious manner; unpredictable

The ballet was WHIMSICAL, delighting the children with its imaginative characters and unpredictable sets.

Related Words:
WHIM: a fancy or sudden notion

Words with similar meanings:
- CAPRICIOUS
- ERRATIC
- FRIVOLOUS
- FLIPPANT

ZEAL: passion, excitement

She brought her typical ZEAL to the project, sparking enthusiasm in the other team members.

Related Words:
ZEALOT: a fanatic

Words with similar meanings:
- ARDENCY
- FEVER
- FIRE
- PASSION
Learning words in groups is an efficient way of increasing your GRE vocabulary, since the GRE often tests only that you have a general sense of what a word means. Say you saw the following question on the test:

DENOUNCE:
- blaspheme
- acclaim
- permit
- gather
- assist

If you looked up denounce in a dictionary, you'd see something like this:


1. To declare (a person, an idea, behavior, a philosophy) to be censurable or evil; stigmatize or accuse, especially publicly and indignantly; inveigh against openly
2. archaic to announce in a public, formal and solemn manner; to declare or publish something disastrous
3. to inform against: declare or expose a lawbreaker to the authorities
4a. obsolete to indicate or portend
4b. archaic to announce in a warning or threatening manner
5. to proclaim formally and publicly the ending of a treaty or pact
6. Mexican Law to offer for record legal notice of a claim for a mining concession on land held by the government

Synonym see CRITICIZE
Do you need to know all this to answer the question? No—all you need to know is that *denounce* means something like criticize. And in the time it took you to learn the meaning of *denounce* from the dictionary, you could have memorized a whole list of other words that also mean something like *criticize* (*aspersion, belittle, berate, calumny, castigate, decry, defamation, denounce, deride/derisive, diatribe, rebuke,* etcetera).

And the answer to the above question? Well, that would be drawn from the list of words that mean *praise* (*acclaim, accolade, aggrandize, encomium, eulogize, extol, fawn, laud/laudatory, venerate/veneration,* etcetera.)

This is why learning words in groups is a better general strategy for beefing up your GRE vocabulary than working slowly through the dictionary.

Just remember, the categories in which these words are listed are GENERAL and not to be taken for the exact definitions of the words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>BOLD</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>audacious</td>
<td>courageous</td>
<td>dauntless</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>CHANGING QUICKLY</strong></th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>capricious</td>
<td>mercurial</td>
<td>volatile</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>HESITATE</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>dither</td>
<td>oscillate</td>
<td>teeter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vacillate</td>
<td>waver</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>ACT QUICKLY</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>apace</td>
<td>abrupt</td>
<td><strong>headlong</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>impetuous</td>
<td>precipitate</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>INNOCENT/INEXPERIENCED</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>credulous</td>
<td>gullible</td>
<td>naive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ingenuous</td>
<td>novitiate</td>
<td>tyro</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Difficult to Understand

- **abstruse**
- bemusing
- esoteric
- opaque
- recondite

- ambiguous
- cryptic
- inescrutable
- paradoxical
- turbid

- arcane
- enigmatic
- obscure
- perplexing

### Easy to Understand

- articulate
- cogent
- evident
- limpid
- pellucid

- eloquent
- lucid

### Smart/Learned

- astute
- canny
- perspicacious

- erudite

### Criticize/Criticism

- aspersion
- calumny
- defamation
- diatribe
- gainsay
- inveigh
- objurgate
- remonstrate
- reprove
- vituperate

- belittle
- castigate
- denounce
- disparage
- harangue
- lambaste
- opprobrium
- rebuke
- revile

- berate
- decry
- deride
- derisive
- excoriate
- impugn
- obloquy
- pillory
- reprehend
- tirade

### Carousal

- bacchanalian
- iniquity
- licentious
- salacious

- depraved
- libertine
- reprobat
- sordid

- dissipated
- libidinous
- ribald
- turpitude

### Truth

- candor/candid
- indisputable
- probity
- verity

- faulty
- indubitable
- sincere

- frankness
- legitimate
- veracious
Vocabulary Builder

FALSEHOOD

apocryphal  canard  chicanery
dissemble  duplicity  equivocate
erroneous  ersatz  fallacious
feigned  guile  mendacious
mendacity  perfidy  prevaricate
specious  spurious

BITING (as in wit or temperament)

acerbic  acidulous  acrimonious
asperity  caustic  mordant
mordacious  trenchant

PRAISE

acclaim  accolade  aggrandize
encomium  eulogize  extol
fawn  laud/laudatory  venerate

HARMFUL

baleful  baneful  deleterious
inimical  injurious  insidious
minatory  perfidious  pernicious

TIMID/TIMIDITY

craven  diffident  pusillanimous
recreant  timorous  trepidation

BORING

banal  fatuous  hackneyed
insipid  mundane  pedestrian
platitude  prosaic  quotidian
trite

WEAKEN

adulterate  enervate  exacerbate
inhibit  obviate  stultify
undermine  vitiate
### ASSIST
- abet
- bolster
- espouse
- proponent
- advocate
- corroborate
- mainstay
- stalwart
- ancillary
- countenance
- munificent
- sustenance

### HOSTILE
- antithetic
- irascible
- truculent
- churlish
- malevolent
- vindictive
- curmudgeon
- misanthropic

### STUBBORN
- implacable
- intransigent
- recalcitrant
- untoward
- inexorable
- obdurate
- refractory
- vexing
- intractable
- obstinate
- renitent

### BEGINNING/YOUNG
- burgeoning
- inchoate
- callow
- incipient
- engender
- nascent

### GENEROUS/KIND
- altruistic
- largess
- philanthropic
- beneficent
- magnanimous
- unstinting
- clement
- munificent

### GREEDY
- avaricious
- miserly
- rapacious
- covetous
- penurious
- mercenary
- venal

### TERSE
- compendious
- pithy
- curt
- succinct
- laconic
- taciturn
### Vocabulary Builder

#### OVERBLOWN/WORDY
- bombastic
- grandiloquent
- prolix
- verbose
- circumlocution
- loquacious
- rhetoric
- garrulous
- periphrastic
- turgid

#### DICTATORIAL
- dogmatic
- hegemonic
- peremptory
- authoritarian
- hegemony
- tyrannical
- despotic
- imperious

#### HATRED
- abhorrence
- antipathy
- loathing
- rancor
- antagonism
- detestation
- malice
- anathema
- enmity
- odium

#### BEGINNER/AMATEUR
- dilettante
- novitiate
- fledgling
- proselyte
- neophyte
- tyro

#### LAZY/SLUGGISH
- indolent
- languid
- phlegmatic
- torpid
- inert
- lassitude
- quiescent
- lackadaisical
- lethargic
- slothful

#### PACINISATION
- ameliorate
- defer
- placate
- slake
- appease
- mitigate
- propitiate
- assuage
- mollify
- satiate

#### FORGIVE
- absolve
- exonerate
- redress
- acquit
- expiate
- vindicate
- exculpate
- palliate
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>POOR</strong></th>
<th>destitute</th>
<th>esurient</th>
<th>indigent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>impecunious</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>FAVORING/NOT IMPARTIAL</strong></th>
<th>ardor/ardent</th>
<th>doctrinaire</th>
<th>fervid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>partisan</td>
<td>tendentious</td>
<td>zealot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>DENYING OF SELF</strong></th>
<th>abnegate</th>
<th>abstain</th>
<th>ascetic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spartan</td>
<td>stoic</td>
<td>temperate</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>WALKING ABOUT</strong></th>
<th>ambulatory</th>
<th>itinerant</th>
<th>peripatetic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>INSINCERE</strong></th>
<th>disingenuous</th>
<th>dissemble</th>
<th>fulsome</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ostensible</td>
<td>unctuous</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PREVENT/OBSTRUCT</strong></th>
<th>discomfort</th>
<th>encumber</th>
<th>fetter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>forfend</td>
<td>hinder</td>
<td>impede</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>inhibit</td>
<td>occlude</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ECCENTRIC/DISSIMILAR</strong></th>
<th>aberrant</th>
<th>anomalous</th>
<th>anachronism</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>eclectic</td>
<td>esoteric</td>
<td>discrete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>iconoclast</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>FUNNY</strong></th>
<th>chortle</th>
<th>droll</th>
<th>facetious</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>flippant</td>
<td>gibe</td>
<td>jocular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>levity</td>
<td>ludicrous</td>
<td>raillery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>riposte</td>
<td>simper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Vocabulary Builder

#### SORROW
- disconsolate
- elegiac
- lugubrious
- plaintive
- doleful
- forlorn
- melancholy
- threnody
- dolor
- lament
- morose

#### DISGUSTING/OFFENSIVE
- defile
- noisome
- rebarbative
- fetid
- odious
- putrid

#### WITHDRAWAL/RETREAT
- abeyance
- abortive
- demur
- remission
- retrograde
- abjure
- abrogate
- recant
- renege
- abnegation
- decamp
- recidivism
- rescind

#### DEATH/MOURNING
- bereave
- demise
- knell
- moribund
- wraith
- cadaver
- dolorous
- lament
- obsequies
- defunct
- elegy
- macabre
- sepulchral

#### COPY
- counterpart
- factitious
- quintessence
- emulate
- paradigm
- simulated
- facsimile
- precursor
- vicarious

#### EQUAL
- equitable
- equity
- tantamount

#### UNUSUAL
- aberration
- idiosyncrasy
- anomaly
- iconoclast
WANDERING

- discursive
- itinerant
- sojourn
- expatiating
- peregrination
- forage
- peripatetic

GAPS/OPENINGS

- abatement
- hiatus
- lull
- respite
- aperture
- interregnum
- orifice
- rift
- fissure
- interstice
- rent

HEALTHY

- beneficial
- salubrious
- salutary

ABBREVIATED COMMUNICATION

- abridge
- curtail
- terse
- compendium
- syllabus
- cursory
- synopsis

WISDOM

- adage
- axiom
- epigram
- truism
- aphorism
- bromide
- platitude
- apothegm
- dictum
- sententious

FAMILY

- conjugal
- endogamous
- progenitor
- consanguine
- filial
- scion
- distaff
- fratricide

NOT A STRAIGHT LINE

- askance
- carom
- gyrate
- oblique
- sinuous
- awry
- circuitous
- labyrinth
- serrated
- undulating
- careen
- circumvent
- meander
- sidle
- vortex
### Vocabulary Builder

#### INVESTIGATE

- appraise
- appraise
- peruse
- assay

#### TIME/ORDER/DURATION

- anachronism
- anterior
- eon
- fortnight
- synchronous
- antecedent
- archaic
- ephemeral
- millennium
- temporal
- antedate
- diurnal
- epoch
- penultimate

#### BAD MOOD

- bilious
- petulant
- querulous
- dudgeon
- pettish
- umbrage
- irascible
- pique
- waspish

#### EMBARRASS

- abash
- contrition
- foible
- chagrin
- diffidence
- gaucherie
- compunction
- expiate
- rue

#### HARDHEARTED

- asperity
- fell
- sardonic
- vitriolic
- baleful
- malevolent
- scathing
- vituperation
- dour
- mordant
- truculent

#### NAG

- admonish
- enjoin
- hector
- reproof
- cavil
- exhort
- martinet
- belabor
- harangue
- remonstrate

#### PREDICT

- augur
- harbinger
- prescient
- auspice
- portentous
- prognosticate
- fey
- presage
**LUCK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>adventitious</th>
<th>amulet</th>
<th>auspicious</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fortuitous</td>
<td>kismet</td>
<td>nemesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>optimum</td>
<td>portentous</td>
<td>propitiate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>propitious</td>
<td>providential</td>
<td>talisman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NASTY**

| fetid        | noisome      | noxious    |

**HARSH-SOUNDING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>assonance</th>
<th>cacophony</th>
<th>din</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dissonant</td>
<td>raucous</td>
<td>strident</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**PLEASANT-SOUNDING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>euphonious</th>
<th>harmonious</th>
<th>melodious</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sonorous</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD ROOT LIST

The following list presents some of the commonest word roots—mostly Greek and Latin—that appear in English. Learning to recognize these word roots is a great help in expanding your vocabulary. Many seemingly difficult words yield up their meanings easily when you recognize the word, roots that make them up. *Excriscence,* for example, contains the roots *ex-* meaning out or out of, and *cresc-* meaning to grow; once you know this, the meaning of *excriscence,* an outgrowth (whether normal, such as hair, or abnormal, such as a wart) is easily deduced.

The list concentrates on Latin and Greek roots because these are the most frequently used to form compound words in English, and because they tend not to be self-explanatory to the average reader. Each entry gives the root in the most common form or forms in which it appears in English, with a very brief definition. (The definition does not cover all the shades of meaning of the given root, only the most important or the most broadly applicable.) The rest of the entry is a list of some of the common English words derived from this root; this list is only intended to provide a few examples of such words, and not even to come close to being exhaustive. Some words will naturally be found under more than one entry. The words themselves are not defined. We hope the Word Root List will encourage you to turn to the GRE Minidictionary or, better yet, to a good dictionary.
A, AN
NOT, WITHOUT
amoral, anarchy, anomalous, anonymous, aseptic, asexual, atheism, atrophy, averse

AB
FROM, AWAY, APART
abdicate, abduct, abhor, abject, abnormal, abrupt, absent, abuse

ABLE, IBLE
CAPABLE OF, WORTHY OF
changeable, durable, laudable, indubitable, inevitable, infallible, irredible, tolerable, variable

AC, ACR
SHARP, SOUR
acerbic, acetate, acid, acrid, acrimony, acumen, acute

ACOU
HEARING
acoustic

AD, A
TO
(Often d is dropped and the first letter to which a is prefixed is doubled.)
adapt, adequate, adumbrate, advocate, accede, adduce, affiliate, aggregate, allocate, annunciation, appall, arrest, assiduous, attract

AMBI, AMPHI
BOTH, ON BOTH SIDES, AROUND
ambidextrous, ambient, ambiguous, ambition, ambivalent, amphibian, amphitheater

AMBL, AMBUL
WALK
amble, ambulance, ambulatory, perambulator, preamble

ANIM
MIND, SPIRIT, BREATH
animadversion, animal, animate, animosity, equanimity, magnanimity, pusillanimous, unanimity

ANT, ANTE
BEFORE
antecedent, antechamber, antediluvian, anterior, anticipate, antiquity, ancient

ANTI, ANT
AGAINST, OPPOSITE
anticlimax, antidote, antipathy, antiphony, antipodes, antithesis, antagonism

AQUA, AQUE
WATER
aquamarine, aquarium, aquatic, aquatint, aqueduct, subaqueous
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Root</th>
<th>Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARD, ℅</td>
<td>BURN&lt;br&gt;ardent, arder, arson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUTO, AUT</td>
<td>SELF&lt;br&gt;autobiography, autocracy, autograph, automaton, autonomous, autopsy, autism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEL, BELL</td>
<td>BEAUTIFUL&lt;br&gt;belle, embellish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BELL, BELLI</td>
<td>WAR&lt;br&gt;antebellum, bellicose, belligerent, rebellion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEN, BEN</td>
<td>WELL, GOOD&lt;br&gt;benediction, benefactor, benevolent, benign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BI, BIN</td>
<td>TWO&lt;br&gt;bicaudal, bicycle, bifocals, bifurcate, bilateral, binoculars, binomial, biped, combination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BON, BOUN</td>
<td>GOOD, GENEROUS&lt;br&gt;bogus, bountiful, bounty, debonair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BREW, BRID, BY</td>
<td>SHORT, SMALL&lt;br&gt;abbreviate, abridge, brevet, breviary, breviloquent, brevity, brief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BURS</td>
<td>PURSE, MONEY&lt;br&gt;bursar, bursary, disburse, reimburse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARN</td>
<td>FLESH&lt;br&gt;carnage, carnal, carnival, carnivorous, charnel, incarnate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAUS, CAUT</td>
<td>BURN&lt;br&gt;caustic, cauterize, cautery, encaustic, holocaust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CED, CESS</td>
<td>YIELD, GO&lt;br&gt;abcess, accede, access, accessory, ancestor, antecedent, cession, concede, exceed, excess, intercede, precede, proceed, recede, recess, recession, secede, succeed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CELER</td>
<td>SPEED&lt;br&gt;accelerate, celerity, decelerate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vocabulary Builder</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **CENT** | HUNDRED, HUNDREDTH  
cent, centennial, bicentennial, centigrade, centigram, centiliter, centimeter,  
centipede, century, percent |
| **CHROM** | COLOR  
chromatic, chrome, chromosome, monochromatic |
| **CHRON** | TIME  
anachronism, chronic, chronicle, chronological, chronometer, synchronize |
| **CIRCUM** | AROUND  
circumference, circumlocution, circumnavigate, circumspect, circumstance |
| **CO, COM, CON** | WITH, TOGETHER  
coeducation, coefficient, coincide, communicate, communist, compare,  
concert, concubine, conflict, cooperate, correspond |
| **CONTRA, CONTRO, COUNTER** | AGAINST  
contradict, contrary, controversy, counter, counteract, counterattack,  
counterfeit, countermand, counterpart, counterpoint, encounter |
| **CORD, CARD** | HEART  
accord, cardiac, cardiograph, cardiology, concord, cordial, discord, record |
| **CORP, CORS** | BODY  
corporate, corps, corpse, corpulent, corpus, corpuscle, corset, incorporation |
| **COSM** | ORDER, UNIVERSE, WORLD  
cosmetic, cosmic, cosmology, cosmonaut, cosmopolitan, cosmos, microcosm |
| **CRED** | TRUST, BELIEVE  
accredit, credentials, credible, credit, creditable, credo, credulity, creed,  
incredible, incredulous |
| **CRYPT** | HIDE  
crypt, cryptic, cryptography, apocryphal |
| **CULP** | FAULT, BLAME  
culpable, culprit, inculpate, exculpate |
| **CUMB, CUB** | LIE DOWN  
concubine, cubicle, incubate, inculpate, incumbent, recumbent, succubus,  
succumb |
## Word Root List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Root</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CYN, CAN</strong></td>
<td>DOG</td>
<td>canine, cynic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DE</strong></td>
<td>DOWN, OUT, AWAY FROM, APART</td>
<td>dehydrate, deject, depend, depress, deport, descend, describe, devalue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DELE</strong></td>
<td>ERASE</td>
<td>dele, delete, indelible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEXT</strong></td>
<td>RIGHT HAND, RIGHT SIDE</td>
<td>ambidextrous, dexterity, dexterous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DI</strong></td>
<td>DAY</td>
<td>dial, diary, dismal, diurnal, meridian, quotidian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DIA</strong></td>
<td>THROUGH, ACROSS</td>
<td>diadem, diagnosis, diagonal, diagram, dialect, dialogue, diameter, diaphanous, diaphragm, diarrhea, diatribe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DIC, DICT, DIT</strong></td>
<td>SPEAK</td>
<td>abdicate, addict, benediction, condition, contradict, dedicate, dictate, dictator, diction, dictionary, dictum, ditto, indicate, indict, interdict, malediction, predicament, predicate, predict, valedictorian, verdict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DI, DIS</strong></td>
<td>AWAY, APART</td>
<td>disagreeable, discard, discern, disdain, dismay, dismiss, distant, diverge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DOL</strong></td>
<td>GRIEVE</td>
<td>condole, condolence, doleful, dolor, indolent</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DORM</strong></td>
<td>SLEEP</td>
<td>dormant, dormitory</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DORS</strong></td>
<td>BACK</td>
<td>dorsal, endorse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DUC, DUCT</strong></td>
<td>LEAD</td>
<td>adduce, conduct, conclude, deduce, duct, duke, educate, induction, misconduct, produce, reduce, seduce, traduce, viaduct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DULC</strong></td>
<td>SWEET</td>
<td>dulcet, dulcified, dulcimer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Vocabulary Builder**

**DUR**
- HARD, LASTING
- durable, duration, **dure**, during, endure, obdurate, perdurable

**EI EX. EC, EF**
- om
- eliminate, emanate, eradic, erase, evade, evict, **évance**, exact, excavate, except, **except**, excite, exclusive, excommunicate, excrecence, execute, exhale, exile, exit

**EGO**
- SELF
- ego, egocentric, egoism, egotist

**EQU**
- EQUAL
- adequate, equable, equal, equation, equator, equilibrium, equinox, equivocate

**ERR**
- WANDER
- aberration, err, errant, erratic, erroneous, error

**EU**
- WELL, GOOD
- eugenics, eulogy, euphemism, euphony, euphoria, euthanasia

**FAL**
- LIABLE TO ERR TO DECEIVE
- default, fail, fallacy, false, faux pas, infallible

**FATU**
- FOOLISH
- fatuity, fatuous, infatuate

**FERN**
- BOIL
- effervescent, fervent, fervid, fervor

**FID, FI**
- FAITH
- affiance, affidavit, confidant, fealty, fidelity, fiducial, fiduciary

**FLAGR, FULG, FULM**
- BURN, SHINE
- conflagration, effulgent, flagrant, fulgent, fulminate, refulgent

**LECT, FLEX**
- BEND, TURN
- circumflex, **de**fect, flex, flexible, inflection, reflect

**FUG**
- FLEE
- centrifuge, fugitive, fugue, **réfuge**, refugee, subterfuge

**FUM**
- SMOKE
- fume, fumigate, perfume
Word Root List

GEN
- BIRTH, CLASS, KIN
  gender, gene, general, generation, generosity, genesis, genetics, genital, genius, gentle, gentile, gentility, gentry, congenital, degenerate, eugenics, ingenious, ingenuity, ingenuous, progeny, progenitor, regenerate

GNO, GNI, COGN, CONN
- KNOW
  agnostic, cognition, cognizance, diagnosis, gnomic, ignore, incognito, prognosis, quaint, recognize, reconnaissance--econnoiter

GRAM, GRAPH
- WRITE, DRAW
  anagram, diagram, epigram, epigraph, grammar, grammarian, gramophone, graph, graphic, graphite, phonograph, photograph, program, telegram

GREG
- FLOCK
  aggregate, congregate, egregious, gregarious, segregate

HAP
- BY CHANCE
  haphazard, hapless, happen, happily, happy, mayhap, mishap

HEMI
- HALF
  hemiptera, hemisphere, hemistich

HETERO
- OTHER
  heterodox, heterodyne, heterogeneous, heterosexual

HOL
- WHOLE
  catholic, holocaust, hologram, holograph, holistic

HOMO
- SAME (from Greek)
  homogeneous, homogenize, homologue, homonym, homophone, homoptera, homosexual, homotype

HUM
- EARTH
  exhumed, humble, humility, posthumous

ICON
- IMAGE, IDOL
  icon, iconic, iconoclast, iconography, iconology

IM, IN
- NOT
  immature, immutable, imperfect, improvident, indigestible, inhospitable, innocuous, intolerant
**Vocabulary Builder**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IN, IM, I</th>
<th>IN, ON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Often n is dropped and the first letter to which i is prefixed is doubled.) illuminate, incantation, induct, infer, imbibe, immigrate, impact, irrigate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTER</th>
<th>BETWEEN, AMONG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>intercept, interchange, interfere, interject, interpret, interval</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTRA</th>
<th>INSIDE, WITHIN</th>
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<tr>
<td>intramural, intrastate, intravenous</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>IT, ITER</th>
<th>WAY, JOURNEY</th>
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</thead>
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<td>ambition, circuit, initial, itinerant, itinerary, reiterate, transit</td>
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<tr>
<th>JOC</th>
<th>JOKE</th>
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<td>jocose, jocular, jocularity, jocund, joke</td>
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<tr>
<th>JOUR</th>
<th>DAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>adjourn, journey, journal, adjourn</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>JUD</th>
<th>JUDGE</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>adjudicate, judiciary, judicious, prejudice</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNCT, JUG</th>
<th>JOIN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>adjunct, conjugal conjunction, injunction, junction, junta, subjugate, subjunctive</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUR</th>
<th>LAW</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>abjure, adjure, conjure, injure, juridical, jurisdiction, jurisprudence, jurist, jury, perjury</td>
<td></td>
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<th>JUV</th>
<th>YOUNG</th>
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<td>juvenile, juvenilia, rejuvenate</td>
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<th>LAUD</th>
<th>PRAISE</th>
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<td>applaud, cum laude, laud, laudable, laudatory, plaudits</td>
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<th>LAV, LAU, LU</th>
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<td>ablution, laundry, lava, lavatory, lave</td>
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<th>LAX, LAK, LEAS, LES</th>
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<td>lax, laxative, laxity, lease, leas, lessee, lessor, relax, release</td>
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<th>READ, SPEAK</th>
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<td>dialect, lectern, lecture, legend, legible, lesson, lexicographer, lexicon</td>
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<td>LIG, LI</td>
<td>TIE, BIND</td>
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<td>LOG, LOQU</td>
<td>SPEECH, THOUGHT</td>
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<td>MACRO</td>
<td>GREAT, LONG</td>
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<td>BAD, WRONG, HATE</td>
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<td>MON, MONO</td>
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<td>MOR, MORT</td>
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<td>NASC, NAT, GNA</td>
<td>BIRTH</td>
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<td>NAU, NAV</td>
<td>SHIP, SAILOR</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEO</td>
<td>NEW</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIHIL</td>
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MEGA: megalithic, megalomania, megalopolis, megaphone, megaton

MICRO: microbe, microcosm, micron, microorganism, microphone, microscope

MIS: misadventure, misanthropist, misapply, miscarry, mishance, mischief, misconstrue, miscount, misfit, misinterpret

MOLL: emollient, mild, mollify, mollusk

MON, MONO: monarchy, monastic, monism, monk, monochord, monograph, monogram, monograph, monolithic, monologue, monomania, monosyllable, monotonous

MOR, MORT: amortize, immortel, morbid, moribund, mortality, mortgage, mortification, mortuary

MOT, MOV, MOM, MOB: automobile, demote, immovable, locomotion, mob, mobile, mobility, mobilize, momentous, momentum, motion, motive, motor, move, mutiny, promote, removable

MULT: multiplex, multiply, multitudinous

MUT: commute, immutable, mutability, mutation, mutual, permutation, transmute

NASC, NAT, GNA: cognate, innate, nascent, natal, native, natural, nature, pregnant, Renaissance

NAU, NAV: astronaut, cosmonaut, circumnavigate, nauseous, nautical, naval, nave, navy

NEO: neolithic, neologism, neophyte, neoplasm

NIHIL: annihilate, nihilism
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<td>PAN, PANT</td>
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<td>panacea, pandemic, pandemonium, panegyric, panoply, panorama, pantheon, pantomime</td>
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<td>apathy, antipathy, empathy, pathetic, pathology, pathos, sympathy</td>
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<td>PEC</td>
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<td>impecunious, peculation, pecuniary</td>
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Vocabulary Builder

PED, POD

FOOT
arthropod, expedient, impede, pedal, pedestal, pedestrian, pediment, pedigree, tripod

PED

CHILD, EDUCATION
encyclopedia, pedagogue, pedant, pediatrician

PEL

DRIVE, PUSH
appellate, appellation, compel, dispel, expel, impel, propel

PENE, PEN

ALMOST
antepenult, peninsula, penult, penultimate, penumbra

PERI

AROUND
pericardium, perihelion, perimeter, perineum, periphery, periscope

PHIL

LOVE
bibliophile, necrophilia, philanthropy, philately, philharmonic, philogyny, philology, philosophy

PHOB

FEAR
claustrophobia, hydrophobia, phobia, phobic, xenophobia

PHON

SOUND
antiphony, euphony, megaphone, phonetics, phonograph, polyphony, saxophone, symphony, telephone

PLAC

PLEASE
complacent, implacable, placate, placebo, placid

PLEN, PLET, PLE

FILL, FULL
accomplishment, complement, complete, deplete, implement, plenary, plenipotentiary, plenitude, plenty, replenish, replete, supplement

POLY

MANY
polyandry, polygamy, polyglot, polygon, polyhedron, polynomial, polysyllable, polytechnic, polytheism

PORT

CARRY
comport, deportment, disport, export, import, important, portable, portage, porter, portfolio, portly, purport, rapport, reporter, supportive, transport

POST

BEHIND, AFTER
posterior, posterity, postern, posthumous, postmeridian, postmortem, postpone, postprandial, postscript, postwar, preposterous
## Word Root List

### POT
**DRINK**
potable, potation, potion

### PRE
**BEFORE, IN FRONT**
preamble, precaution, preclude, precocity, precursor, predecessor, predict, preface, prefigure, prelate, premonition, prescribe, president

### PRIM, PRI
**FIRST**
prime, primary, primal, primeval, primordial, pristine

### PRO
**IN FRONT, BEFORE**
problem, proboscis, procedure, proceed, proclaim, proclivity, procrastinate, procure, propound, prostrate, protest

### PROP, PROX
**NEAR**
approximate, propinquity, proximate, proximity

### PROTO, PROT
**FIRST**
protagonist, protocol, prototype, protozoan

### PSEUDO, PSEUD
**FALSE**
pseudepigrapha, pseudoclassic, pseudomorph, pseudonym, pseudopod, pseudoscientific

### PUG, PUN
**HIT, PRICK**
expunge, impeach, incant, pugilist, pugnacious, punch, punctual, punctuate, pungent, repugnant

### PYR
**FIRE**
pyre, pyromania, pyromania, pyrometer, pyrosis, pyrotechnic

### QUAD, QUAR, QUAT
**FOUR**
quadrant, quadrille, quadrinomial, quadruple, quadruplets, quart, quarter, quaternary

### QUIE, QUIT
**QUIET, TEST**
acquiesce, acquit, coy, disquiet, quiescent, quiet, quietude, quietus, quit, requiem, requital, tranquil

### QUINT, QUIN
**FIVE**
quincunx, quinquennial, quintessence, quintile, quintillion, quinruple

### RADI, RACI, RAMI
**ROOT, BRANCH**
deracinate, eradicate, radical, radish, ramification, ramiform, ramify
<table>
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<td>RE BACK, AGAIN</td>
<td>recline, refer, regain, remain, reorganize, repent, request</td>
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<td>RECT STRAIGHT, RIGHT</td>
<td>correct, direct, erect, rectangle, rectify, rectilinear, rectitude, rector</td>
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<td>REG KING, RULE</td>
<td>interregnum, realm, regal, regent, regicide, regime, regiment, region, regular, regulate</td>
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<td>RETRO BACKWARD</td>
<td>retroactive, retroflex, retrograde, retrospective</td>
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<td>RUB, RUD RED</td>
<td>rouge, rubella, rubicund, rubric, ruby, ruddy, russet</td>
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<td>RUD CRUDE</td>
<td>erudite, rude, rudimentary, rudiments</td>
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<td>SACER, SACR, SANCT HOLY</td>
<td>consecration, desecrate, execrate, sacerdotal, sacrament, sacred, sacrifice, sacrilege, sacristy, sacrosanct, saint, sanctify, sanctimonious, sanction, sanctity, sanctuary, sanctum</td>
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<td>SAL SALT</td>
<td>salary, saline</td>
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<td>SAG, SAP, SAV TASTE, THINK</td>
<td>insipid, sagacious, sagacity, sage, sapid, sapient, savant, savor</td>
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<td>SALU, SALV HEALTH, SAVE</td>
<td>safe, salubrious, salutary, salute, salvage, salvation, salve, savior</td>
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<td>SAT ENOUGH</td>
<td>asset, dissatisfied, insatiable, sate, satiate, satisfy, saturate</td>
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Word Root List

SCRIB, SCRIV, WRITE
SCRIPT ascribe, circumscription, conscript, describe, indescribable, inscription, postscript, prescribe, proscribe, scribble, scribe, script, scripture, scrivener, subscribe, transcription

SE DOWN, OUT, AWAY, APART
secede, seclude, secret, secrete, secure, sedition, seduce, segregate, select, separate

SED, SID SIT
assiduous, dissident, insidious, preside, reside, residue, seance, sedate, sedative, sedentary, sediment, sedulous, session, siege, subside, supersede

SEM SEED, SOW
disseminate, semen, seminal, seminar, seminary

SEMI HALF
semicircle, semicolon, semiconscious, semifluid

SEN OLD
senate, senescent, senile, senior, sire

SEQU, SECU, FOLLOW
consecutive, consequent, execute, executive, non sequitur, obsequious, obsequy, persecute, prosecution, pursue, sequel, sequence, subsequent, sue, suitable, suite, suitor

SINU, SIN BEND, FOLD
cosine, insinuate, sine, sinuous, sinus

SOL SUN
parasol, solar, solarium, solstice

SOL ALONE
desolate, isolate, sole, soliloquize, solipsism, solitude, solo

SOMN SLEEP
insomnia, somnambulist, somniferous, somniloquist, somnolent

SOPH WISDOM
philosopher, sophism, sophist, sophisticated, sophistry, sophomore
SPEC, SPIC  LOOK, SEE
aspect, conspicuous, circumspect, conspicuous, despicable, expect, inspect,
introspection, perspective, perspicacious, perspicuous, prospectus,
respectable, retrospect, specimen, spectate, spectator, specier, spectrum,
suspect, suspicious

SPIR  BREATH
aspire, conspire, expire, inspire, perspire, respirator, spirit, spiritual,
spightly, sprite, suspire, transpire

STRICT, STRING, TIGHT

STRAN  strictness, constrain, contrict, district, restriction, strain, strait, strangle,
strict, stringent

SUA  PLEASE
assuage, dissuade, persuade, persuasive, suasion, suave, sweet

SUB  UNDER
subdivide, subdue, subjugate, subjunctive, sublunary, submarine, sub-
merge, subordinate, subpoena, subscribe, subside, substitute, subterfuge,
subterranean, suburb

SUMM  HIGHEST
consummate, sum, summary, summit

SUPER, SUR  ABOVE
insuperable, superabound, superannuated, superb, supercharge, superclass-
ious, superficial, superfluous, superior, superlative, supernatural, supernu-
merary, supervise, surmount, surpass, surrealism, survey

SURG, SOURC, RISE

SURRECT  insurgent, insurrection, resource, resurge, resurrection, source, surge

SYM, SYN  TOGETHER
symbiosis, symmetry, sympathy, symposium, synonym, synthesis

TACIT  SILENT
reticent, tacit, taciturn

TACT, TAG, TOUCH
contact, contagious, contamination, contiguous, cotangent, intact, intan-
gible, integral tact, tactile, tangent, tangential

TAM, TANG
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VAL, VAIL
STRENGTH, USE, WORTH
ambivalent, avail, convalescent, countervailing, equivalent, evaluate, invalid, prevalent, valediction, valiant, valid, valor, value

VER
TRUE
aver, veracious, verdict, verify, verily, verisimilitude, verity, very

VERB
WORD
adverb, proverb, verb, verbal, verbalize, verbatim, verbose, verbiage

VERD
GREEN
verdant, verdigris, verdure

VIL
BASE, MEAN
revile, vile, vilify, vilification

VIRU
POISON
virulence, virulent, viruliferous, virus

VIT, VIV
LIFE
convivial, revival, revive, survive, vital, vitality, vivacious, vivid, viviparous, vivisection

VOC, VOU
CALL, WORD
advocacy, advocate, avow, convocation, convoke, equivocal, evoke, invocation, invoke, provoke, revoke, vocabulary, vocal, vocalist, vocation, vociferous, vouch, vouchsafe

VOL
FLY
volant, volatile, volley

VOLU, VOLV
ROLL, TURN
circumvolve, convolution, devolve, evolve, involution, revolt, revolve, voluble, volume, voluminous, volute
Each of the word lists below relates to two concepts that are opposite in meaning. The words in each list relate to one of the concepts or its opposite. Try to sort out which category each word belongs in. For each word, check the oval under the appropriate concept. If you don't know the meaning of a word, make your best guess, using roots, charge (whether the word sounds "good" or "bad"), prefixes, or context to help you.

No definitions are provided. Look up words that you are unsure of in the GRE Minidictionary.

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Answer key on page 289.
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**DIS** means “not,” so here the two **DIS** words mean “not consolate” and “not spirited,” that is, “sad.” Also, **DOL** means “pain,” so **dolorous** and **doldrums** also mean “sad.”
### Vocabulary Builder

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Notice that **veracious** and **verity** both have to do with truthfulness. (The root VER is from the Latin word for truth.) Perhaps you know that Yale's motto is "Lux et veritas," or "light and truth."
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<td>WRANGLE</td>
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Notice that all the words that began with *DIS* had to do with disagreement.
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When you talk about the pros and cons of a situation, you're talking about the positives and negatives. Notice that the words with PRO mean "attraction" or "like."
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</table>

Notice that there are several words in this list with the same roots. For instance, valiant and valorous both use the root VAL. If intrepid means "fearless," then trepidation must be "fear." And dauntless and undaunted both mean the same thing.
### Vocabulary Builder

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On this list, you can use "charge" to answer many of these words. Words like fluster, frenetic, furor, kinetic, perturb, and tumultuous sound agitating, while becalm, serene, and tranquil all sound calm.
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TRANS means "across," so the five words in this list which begin with this root are all words that have to do with change.
### Vocabulary Builder

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The root **BEN** means "good." Notice that the three words in this list that include this root all mean something having to do with goodness or morality.
<table>
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Notice that all the words that start with SUPER have to do with excess.
Here you might want to think of cliched phrases. For instance, an *ebb tide* is a tide that's going out. A *burgeoning debt* is a debt that's increasing at a healthy rate. And the moon has *waxing* (growing) and *waning* (shrinking) phases.
This is another list in which common phrases can help you figure out the meaning of words. For instance, if someone makes a salient point, it's central to an argument. In physics, certain forces, such as air resistance, are often considered negligible, or ignored.
### Vocabulary Builder

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<td>○ INSULAR</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● LATITUDE</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● LAXITY</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● LICENSE</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● MANUMISSION</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● MAVERICK</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● OCCLUSION</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● STRICTURE</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● STYMIE</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● THRALL</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● TRAMMELED</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● UNBRIDLED</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● UNFETTERED</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● UNTRAMMELED</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>○ YOKE</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notice that *trammeled* and *fettered* are joined on this list by untrammeled and unfettered. Also, notice that all the words with *UN* are free.
This list is full of roots to help you figure things out: NEO means "new." GERI means "old." Senescent comes from the Latin senex, which means "old man." Superannuated has to do with lots of years.
## Vocabulary Builder

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRAISE</th>
<th>CRITICISM</th>
<th>PRAISE</th>
<th>CRITICISM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCLAIM</td>
<td></td>
<td>EULOGIZE</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACCOLADE</td>
<td></td>
<td>EXALT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADULATORY</td>
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<td>EXTOL</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLAUSE</td>
<td></td>
<td>HAIL</td>
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<tr>
<td>APPROBATION</td>
<td></td>
<td>HOMAGE</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOUQUET</td>
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<td>HONOR</td>
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<td>CELEBRATE</td>
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<td>IMPUGN</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENSURE</td>
<td></td>
<td>KUDOS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMEND</td>
<td></td>
<td>LAUD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEFAME</td>
<td></td>
<td>PAEAN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEMEAN</td>
<td></td>
<td>PANEGYRIC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENIGRATE</td>
<td></td>
<td>PEJORATIVE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENOUNCE</td>
<td></td>
<td>PLAUDIT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENUNCIATE</td>
<td></td>
<td>TRIBUTE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEPRECAT</td>
<td></td>
<td>VENERATE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENCOMIUM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this exercise, every word that uses **DE**, which can mean "down," as a prefix is negative. For instance, *denounce* means "to speak down" or "to criticize."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SWIFTNESS OR BRIEFNESS</th>
<th>DELAY OR SLOWNESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALACRITY</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celerity</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURSORY</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DALLY</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DILATORY</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPHEMERAL</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EVANESCENT</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXTEMPORANEOUS</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMPROMPTU</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAGGARD</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERCURIAL</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERFUNCTORY</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERPETUITY</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERPETUITY</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRECIPITOUS</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROCRASTINATION</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROTRACTED</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RETARD</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLUGGISH</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TORPID</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSIENT</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mercurial is a word based on a mythological figure. Mercury was the messenger of the gods who traveled with winged sandals. Thus, mercurial is fast.
This list has several words that you can probably recognize from when they are used in context. For instance, people often refer to an "egregious error" or a "modicum of respect."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RUDENESS</th>
<th>POLiteness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RUDENESS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASOCIAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOORISH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEEKY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHURLISH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIVIL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRASS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEFERENTIAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEMURE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EARTHY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EFFRONTERY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GALLANT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENTEEL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBEISANCE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBLIGING</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBSTREPEROUS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHILISTINE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUNCTILIOUS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCABROUS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLICITOUS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TACTFUL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNGRACIOUS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNPOLISHED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WLGAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The word *Philistine* comes from a reference to the ancient people of Philistia. These people had a reputation for being smug and ignorant, particularly in the area of art and culture.
Many of these words have roots that can lead you to the answer. MAL means "bad," so **maladroit** deals with clumsiness. OMNI means "all," and SCI means "knowing" so **omniscient** means "all-knowing."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOUD, LONG, OR A LOT OF SPEECH</th>
<th>QUIET, SHORT, OR ABSENCE OF SPEECH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOMBAST</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURT</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMB</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELOQUENT</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GARRULOUS</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRANDILOQUENT</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LACONIC</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOQUACIOUS</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUTE</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OROTUND</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLANGENT</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROLIX</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RETICENT</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STENTORIAN</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUCCINCT</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TACIT</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TACITURN</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TERSE</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TURGID</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VERBOSE</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notice that there are three different words with the root *LOQU* in this list. *LOQU* means "word, speech," so these three words all have to do with a lot of speech.
In this case, the sound of the words tell you a lot about the words themselves. If the word sounds dirty, as the words *besmear, bespatter, defile, or slovenly* do, you can bet that's what it means.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOGETHER OR CONTINUOUS</th>
<th>SEPARATE OR DISCONTINUOUS</th>
<th>TOGETHER OR CONTINUOUS</th>
<th>SEPARATE OR DISCONTINUOUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABUT</td>
<td></td>
<td>DISCRETE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGGREGATION</td>
<td></td>
<td>DISJOINTED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASUNDER</td>
<td></td>
<td>DISPERSE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIFURCATE</td>
<td></td>
<td>DISSIPATE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CABAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>DIVERGE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>COLLATE</td>
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<td>ESTRANGE</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLOQUIE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLLUSION</td>
<td></td>
<td>INCONGRUOUS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONCATENATE</td>
<td></td>
<td>INTERREGNUM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONCOMITANT</td>
<td></td>
<td>INTERSTICE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONFLUENCE</td>
<td></td>
<td>RIFT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONJOIN</td>
<td></td>
<td>SCHISM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSENSUS</td>
<td></td>
<td>SEQUESTERED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>CONSONANCE</td>
<td></td>
<td>SYNCHRONOUS</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTERIE</td>
<td></td>
<td>SYNTHESIS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIFFUSE</td>
<td></td>
<td>TANDEM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This list is full of roots. **SYN** means "same"; **CON, COM, and COLL** mean "with"; and **DIS** means "away from" or "apart." Use your knowledge of these roots to make your decisions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUBBORN</th>
<th>AGREEABLE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STUBBORN</td>
<td>STUBBORN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCEDE</td>
<td>ACCOMMODATING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCEDE</td>
<td>ACQUIESCE</td>
</tr>
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<td>ACCEDE</td>
<td>AMENABLE</td>
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<td>ACCEDE</td>
<td>CAPITULATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCEDE</td>
<td>COMPLY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCEDE</td>
<td>CONCEDE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>CONTUMACIOUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOGMATIC</td>
<td>DOGMATIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIDEBOUND</td>
<td>HIDEBOUND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTRANSIGENT</td>
<td>INTRANSIGENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBDURACY</td>
<td>OBDURACY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBLIGING</td>
<td>OBLIGING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBSTINATE</td>
<td>OBSTINATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSSIFIED</td>
<td>OSSIFIED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>PERTINACIOUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECALCITRANT</td>
<td>RECALCITRANT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REFRACTORY</td>
<td>REFRACTORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNBENDING</td>
<td>UNBENDING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNSWAYABLE</td>
<td>UNSWAYABLE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*UN* means "not," so *unswayable* and *unbending* both mean "stubborn."
Chapter 12
GRE MIN-IDICTIONARY

This Minidictionary provides you with the definitions of many common GRE words. Use this list not only when you work with the vocabulary exercises but whenever you encounter an unfamiliar word anywhere—such as in released tests or everyday reading.

A
ABANDON (n) total lack of inhibition
ABASE to humble, disgrace
ABASH to embarrass
ABATEMENT decrease, reduction
ABDICATE to give up a position, right, or power
ABERRANT atypical, not normal
ABERRATION something different from the usual or normal
ABET to aid, act as accomplice
ABEYANCE temporary suppression or suspension
ABIDE to loathe, detest
ABJURE to reject, abandon formally
ABJURATION act of cleansing
ABNAGATE to deny, renounce
ABOLITIONIST one who opposes the practice of slavery
ABOMINATE to hate
ABORTIVE interrupted while incomplete
ABRIDGE to condense, shorten
ABROGATE to abolish or invalidate by authority
ABRUPT sudden, unexpected
ABSCOND to depart secretly
ABSCONDE to forgive, free from blame
ABSTAIN to refrain deliberately from something
ABSTEMIOUS moderate in appetite
ABSTRACT (adj) theoretical; complex, difficult
ABSTRUSE difficult to comprehend
ABUT to touch, to be in contact with
ABYSS an extremely great depth
ACCEDE to express approval; agree to
ACCESSIBLE attainable, available; approachable
ACCESSORY attachment, ornament; accomplice, partner
ACCLAIM praise
ACCOLADE praise, distinction
ACCOMMODATING helpful
ACCORD to reconcile, come to an agreement
ACCOST to approach and speak to someone
ACCRETION growth in size or increase in amount
ACCUMULATE to accumulate, grow by additions
ACERBIC bitter, sharp in taste or temper
ACIDULOUS sour in taste or manner
ACME highest point, summit
ACQUIESCENCE to agree, comply quietly
ACQUITTAL release from blame
ACRID harsh, bitter
ACRIMONY bitterness, animosity
ACUITY sharpness
ACUMEN sharpness of insight
ACUTE sharp, pointed
ADAGE old saying or proverb
ADAHLLANT uncompromising, unyielding
ADAPT to accommodate, adjust
ADHERE to cling or to follow without deviation
ADJACENT next to
ADJUNCT something added, attached, or joined
ADMONISH to caution or reprimand
ADROIT skillful, accomplished, highly competent
ADULATION high praise
ADULTERATE to corrupt or make impure
ADUMBRATE to sketch, outline in a shadowy way
ADVANTAGEOUS favorable, useful
ADVENTITIOUS accidental
ADVERSARIAL antagonistic, competitive
ADVERSE unfavorable, unlucky, harmful
ADVOCATE to speak in favor of
AERIAL having to do with the air
AERIE nook or nest built high in the air
AERODYNAMIC relating to objects moving through the air
AESTHETIC pertaining to beauty or art
AFFABLE friendly, easy to approach
AFFECTED (adj) pretentious, phony
AFFINITY fondness, liking; similarity
AFFLUENT rich, abundant
AFFRONT (n) personal offense, insult
AGENDA plan, schedule
AGGRANDIZE to make larger or greater in power
AGGREGATE (n) collective mass or sum; total
AGGRIEVE to afflict, distress
AGILE well coordinated, nimble
AGITATION commotion, excitement; uneasiness
AGNOSTIC one doubting that people can know God
AGRARIAN relating to farming or rural matters
ALACRITY cheerful willingness, eagerness; speed
ALCHEMY medieval chemical philosophy based on quest to change metal into gold
ALGORITHM mechanical problem-solving procedure
ALIAS assumed name
ALIENATED distanced, estranged
ALIGNED precisely adjusted; committed to one side or party
ALLAY to lessen, ease, or soothe
ALLEGORY symbolic representation
ALLEVIATE to relieve, improve partially
ALLITERATION repetition of the beginning sounds of words
ALLOCATION allowance, portion, share
ALLURE (v) to entice by charm; attract
ALLUSION indirect reference
ALLUSIVENESS quality of making many indirect references
ALOOF detached, indifferent
ALTERCATION noisy dispute
ALTRUISM unselfish concern for others' welfare
AMALGAM mixture, combination, alloy
AMBITIOUS able to use both hands equally well
AMBIGUOUS uncertain; subject to multiple interpretations
AMBIVALENCE attitude of uncertainty, conflicting emotions
AMBULATORY itinerant; related to walking around
AMELIORATE to make better, improve
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMENABLE</td>
<td>agreeable, cooperative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMEND</td>
<td>to improve or correct flaws in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMENITY</td>
<td>pleasantness; something increasing comfort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIABLE</td>
<td>friendly, pleasant, likable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMICABLE</td>
<td>friendly, agreeable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMITY</td>
<td>friendship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMORAL</td>
<td>unprincipled, unethical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMOROUS</td>
<td>strongly attracted to love; showing love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMORPHOUS</td>
<td>having no definite form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMORTIZE</td>
<td>to diminish by installment payments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMPHIBIAN</td>
<td>(n) creature equally at home on land or in water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMPHITHEATER</td>
<td>arena theater with rising tiers around a central open space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMPLE</td>
<td>abundant, plentiful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMPLIFY</td>
<td>to increase, intensify</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMULET</td>
<td>ornament worn as a charm against evil spirits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANALGESIA</td>
<td>a lessening of pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANALOGOUS</td>
<td>comparable, parallel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANARCHY</td>
<td>absence of government or law; chaos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANATHEMA</td>
<td>ban, curse; something shunned or disliked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANCILLARY</td>
<td>accessory, subordinate, helping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANECDOTE</td>
<td>short, usually funny account of an event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANGULAR</td>
<td>characterized by sharp angles; lean and gaunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANIMATION</td>
<td>enthusiasm, excitement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANIMOSITY</td>
<td>hatred, hostility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNUL</td>
<td>to cancel, nullify, declare void, or make legally invalid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANODYNE</td>
<td>something that calms or soothes pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANOINT</td>
<td>to apply oil to, esp. as a sacred rite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANOMALY</td>
<td>irregularity or deviation from the norm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANONYMITY</td>
<td>condition of having no name or an unknown name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTAGONIST</td>
<td>foe, opponent, adversary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTECEDENT</td>
<td>(adj) coming before in place or time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTEDATE</td>
<td>dated prior to the actual occurrence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTEDILUVIAN</td>
<td>prehistoric, ancient beyond measure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTEPENULTIMATE</td>
<td>third from last</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTERIOR</td>
<td>preceding, previous, before, prior (to)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTHOLOGY</td>
<td>collection of literary works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTHROPOMORPHIC</td>
<td>attributing human qualities to nonhumans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTIPATHY</td>
<td>dislike, hostility; extreme opposition or aversion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTIQUATED</td>
<td>outdated, obsolete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTIQUITY</td>
<td>ancient times; the quality of being old or ancient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTITHESIS</td>
<td>exact opposite or direct contrast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APACE</td>
<td>done quickly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APATHETIC</td>
<td>indifferent, unconcerned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APATHY</td>
<td>lack of feeling or emotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APERTURE</td>
<td>an opening or hole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APHASIA</td>
<td>inability to speak or use words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APHELION</td>
<td>point in a planet's orbit that is farthest from the sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APHORISM</td>
<td>old saying or short pithy statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APLOMB</td>
<td>poise, confidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APOCRYPHAL</td>
<td>not genuine; fictional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APOSTATE</td>
<td>(n) one who renounces a religious faith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APOSTROPHE</td>
<td>speech to the reader or someone not present; a superscript sign (')</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APOTHEGM</td>
<td>a short, instructive saying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APOTHEOSIS</td>
<td>glorification; glorified ideal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPEASE</td>
<td>to satisfy, placate, calm, pacify</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPEND</td>
<td>to attach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLAUSE</td>
<td>praise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPRAISE</td>
<td>to evaluate the value of something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPREHENSION</td>
<td>the act of comprehending; fear, foreboding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPRISE</td>
<td>to give notice of; inform</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPROBATION praise; approval
APPROPRIATE (v) to take possession of
AQUATIC belonging or living in water
ARABLE suitable for cultivation
ARBITRARY depending solely on individual will; inconsistent
ARBITRATOR mediator, negotiator
ARBOREAL relating to trees; living in trees
ARBORETUM place where trees are displayed and studied
ARCANE secret, obscure, known only to a few
ARCHAIC antiquated, from an earlier time; outdated
ARCHIPELAGO large group of islands
ARDENT passionate, enthusiastic, fervent
ARDOR great emotion or passion
ARDUOUS extremely difficult, laborious
ARID extremely dry or deathly boring
ARRAIGN to call to court to answer a charge
ARROGATE to demand, claim arrogantly
ARSENAL ammunition storehouse
ARTICULATE (adj) well-spoken, expressing oneself clearly
ARTIFACT historical relic, item made by human craft
ARTISAN craftsperon; expert
ARTLESS open and honest
ASCEND to rise or climb
ASCENDANCY state of rising, ascending; power or control
ASCERTAIN to determine, discover, make certain of
ASCETIC (adj) self-denying, abstinent, austere
ASCRIBE to attribute to, assign
ASHEN resembling ashes; deathly pale
ASININE lacking intelligence or sound judgment
ASKANCE scornfully
ASKEW crooked, tilted
ASOCIAL unable or unwilling to interact socially
ASPERSION harshness, roughness
ASPERSION false rumor, damaging report, slander
ASPIRE to have great hopes; to aim at a goal
ASSAIL to attack, assault
ASSAY to analyze or estimate
ASSENT (v) to express agreement
ASSERT to affirm, attest
ASSIDUOUS diligent, persistent, hardworking
ASSIGNATION appointment for lovers' meeting; assignment
ASSIMILATION act of blending in, becoming similar
ASSONANCE resemblance in sound, especially in vowel sounds; partial rhyme
ASSUAGE to make less severe, ease, relieve
ASTRAL exalted, elevated in position; relating to the stars
ASTERISK (v) to make less severe, ease, relieve
ASTRIGENT harsh, severe, stern
ASTUTE having good judgment
ASUNDER (adv) into different parts
ASYMMETRICAL not corresponding in size, shape, position, etcetera
ATONE to make amends for a wrong
ATROPHIC monstrous, shockingly bad, wicked
ATROPHY (v) to waste away, wither from disuse
ATTAIN to accomplish, gain
ATTENUATE to make thin or slender; weaken
ATTEND to testify, stand as proof of, bear witness
AUDACIOUS bold, daring, fearless
AUDIBLE capable of being heard
AUDIT (n) formal examination of financial records
AUDITORY having to do with hearing
AUDITORY having to do with hearing
AUGMENT to expand, extend
AUGURY (adj) prophecy, prediction of events
AUSTERE stern, strict, unadorned
AUSPICIOUS having favorable prospects, promising
AUTHORITARIAN extremely strict, bossy
AUTOCRAT dictator
AUTONOMOUS separate, independent
AUXILIARY  supplementary, reserve
AVARICE     greed
AVENGE      to retaliate, take revenge for an injury or crime
AVERSE     being disinclined toward something
AVERT       to turn (something) away; prevent
AVOW        to state openly or declare
AWRY        crooked, askew, amiss
AXIOM       premix, postulate, self-evident truth

B
BACCHANALIAN  drunkenly festive
BALEFUL      harmful, with evil intentions
BALK (v)     to refuse, shirk; prevent
BALLAD       folk song, narrative poem
BALM         soothing, healing influence
BAN (v)      to forbid, outlaw
BANAL        trite and overly common
BANE         something causing ruin, death, or destruction
BANTER       playful conversation
BASE         being of low value or position
BASTION      fortification, stronghold
BAY (v)      to bark, especially in a deep, prolonged way
BEATIFIC     appearing to be saintly, angelic
BECALM       to make calm or still; keep motionless by lack of wind
BECLOUD      to confuse; darken with clouds
BEGUILE      to deceive, mislead; charm
BEHEMOTH     huge creature
BELABOR      to insist repeatedly or harp on
BELATED      late
BELEAGUER    to harass, plague
BELFRY       bell tower, room in which a bell is hung

BELIE        to misrepresent; expose as false
BELITTLE     to represent as unimportant, make light of
BELICOSE      warlike, aggressive
BELIGERENT   hostile, tending to fight
BELLOW       to roar, shout
BEMUSE       to confuse, stupefy; plunge deep into thought
BENCHMARK    standard of measure
BENEFACCTOR  someone giving aid or money
BENEFICIAL   advantageous
BENEFICENT   kindly, charitable; doing good deeds; producing good effects
BENIGHTED    unenlightened
BENIGN       kindly, gentle or harmless
BENISON      blessing
BENT          a natural inclination toward something
BEQUEATH     to give or leave through a will; to hand down
BERATE       to scold harshly
BEREADED     suffering the death of a loved one
BESEECH      to beg, plead, implore
BESMEAR      to smear
BESPATTER    to spatter
BESTIAL      beastly, animal-like
BESTOW       to give as a gift
BETOKEN      to indicate, signify, give evidence of
BEVY         group
BIAS          prejudice, slant
BIBLIOGRAPHY  list of books
BIBLIOPHILE   book lover
BICKER        to have a petty argument
BIFURCATE    divide into two parts
BILATERAL    two-sided
BILIOUS       bad-natured
BILK          to cheat, defraud
BILLET        board and lodging for troops
BIPED         two-footed animal
BISECT to cut into two (usually) equal parts
BLANCH to pale; take the color out of
BLANDISH to coax with flattery
BLASPHEMOUS cursing, profane, irreverent
BLAST glaring, obvious, showy
BLIGHT (v) to afflict, destroy
BLITHE joyful, cheerful, or without appropriate thought
BLUDGEON to hit as with a short heavy club
BLUSTER to boast or make threats loudly
BOISTEROUS rowdy, loud, unrestrained
BOLSTER to support; reinforce
BOMBASTIC using high-sounding but meaningless language
BONANZA extremely large amount; something profitable
BONHOMIE good-natured geniality; atmosphere of good cheer
BOOK blessing, something to be thankful for
BOOR crude person, one lacking manners or taste
BOTANIST scientist who studies plants
BOUNTIFUL plentiful
BOUQUET a bunch of cut flowers
BOURGEOIS middle-class
BOVINE relating to cows
BRAZEN bold, shameless, impudent; of or like brass
BREACH act of breaking, violation
BREVITY the quality of being brief in time
BRIGAND bandit, outlaw
BROACH to mention or suggest for the first time
BROMIDE a dull, commonplace person or idea
BRUSQUE rough and abrupt in manner
BUFFET (v) to strike, hit
BUFFOON clown or fool
BULWARK defense wall; anything serving as defense
BURGEON to sprout or flourish
BURLY brawny, husky

BURNISH to polish, make smooth and bright
BURSAR treasurer
BUSTLE commotion, energetic activity
BUTT person or thing that is object of ridicule
BUTTRESS (v) to reinforce or support
BYWAY back road

CABAL a secret group seeking to overturn something
CACOPHONOUS jarring, unpleasantly noisy
CADAVER dead body
CADENCE rhythmic flow of poetry; marching beat
CAJOLE to flatter, coax, persuade
CALAMITOUS disastrous, catastrophic
CALLOUS thick-skinned, insensitive
CALLOW immature, lacking sophistication
CALUMNY false and malicious accusation, misrepresentation, slander
CANARD a lie
CANDID frank or fair
CANDOR honesty of expression
CANNY smart; founded on common sense
CANONIZE to declare a person a saint; raise to highest honors
CANVASS to examine thoroughly; conduct a poll
CAPACIOUS large, roomy; extensive
CAPITULATE to submit completely, surrender
CAPRICIOUS impulsive, whimsical, without much thought
CARDIOLOGIST physician specializing in diseases of the heart
CAREEN to lean to one side
CARICATURE exaggerated portrait, cartoon
CARNAL of the flesh
CARNIVOROUS meat-eating
CAROM to strike and rebound
CARP (v) to find fault, complain constantly
CARTOGRAPHY science or art of making maps
CAST (n) copy, replica
CAST (v) to fling, to throw
CASTIGATE to punish, chastise, criticize severely
CATACLYSMIC disastrous
CATALYST something causing change without being changed
CATEGORICAL absolute, without exception
CATHARSIS purification, cleansing
CATHOLIC universal; broad and comprehensive
CAUCUS smaller group within an organization; a meeting of such a group
CAULK to make watertight
CAUSALITY cause-and-effect relationship
CAUSTIC biting, sarcastic; able to burn
CAVALCADE a procession
CAVALIER (adj) carefree, happy; with lordly disdain
CAVIL to raise trivial objections
CAVORT to frolic, frisk
CEDE to surrender possession of something
CELEBRITY fame, widespread acclaim
CELERITY quick moving or acting
CENSORIOUS severely critical
CENSURE to criticize or find fault with
CENTRIPETAL directed or moving toward the center
CERTITUDE assurance, certainty
CESSATION temporary or complete halt
CESSION act of surrendering something
CHAGRIN shame, embarrassment, humiliation
CHALICE goblet, cup
CHAMP (v) chew noisily
CHAMPION (v) to defend or support
CHAOSES confusion
CHAOTIC extremely disorderly
CHARLATAN quack, fake
CHARM compelling attractiveness
CHARY watchful, cautious, extremely shy
CHASTISE to punish, discipline, xold
CHATTLE piece of personal property
CHAUVINIST someone prejudiced in the belief of their kind's superiority
CHEEKY lacking prudence or discretion
CHERUBIC sweet, innocent, resembling a cherub angel
CHICANERY trickery, fraud, deception
CHIDE to xold, express disapproval
CHIMERIC fanciful, imaginary, visionary; impossible
CHOICE (adj) specially selected, preferred
CHOLERIC easily angered, short-tempered
CHORTLE to chuckle
CHROMATIC relating to color
CHRONICLER one who keeps records of historical events
CHURLISH rude
CIRCUITOUS roundabout
CIRCUMFERENCE boundary or distance around a circle or sphere
CIRCUMLOCUTION roundabout, lengthy way of saying something
CIRCUMNAVIGATE to sail completely around
CIRCUMSCRIBE to encircle; set limits on, confine
CIRCUMSPECT cautious, wary
CIRCUMVENT to go around; avoid
CISTERN tank for rainwater
CIVIL polite; relating to citizens
CMLITY courtesy, politeness
CLAIRVOYANT (adj) having ESP, psychic
CLAMOR (n) noisy outcry
CLAMOR (v) to make a noisy outcry
CLANDESTINE secretive, concealed for a darker purpose
CLARITY dearness; clear understanding
CLAUSTRAPHOBIA fear of small, confined places
Cleave  to split or separate; to stick, cling, adhere
Clemency  merciful leniency
Clement  mild
Cloister (v)  to confine, seclude
Cloying  indulging to excess
Coagulate  to clot or change from a liquid to a solid
Coalesce  to grow together or cause to unite as one
Coddle  to baby, treat indulgently
Coerce  to compel by force or intimidation
Coffin  strongbox, large chest for money
Cogent  logically forceful, compelling, convincing
Cogitate  related, similar, akin
Cognition  mental process by which knowledge is acquired
Cognomen  family name; any name, especially a nickname
Cohabit  to live together
Coherent  intelligible, lucid, understandable
Collate  to arrange in an order
Collateral  accompanying
Collective  acting calm and composed
Colloquial  characteristic of informal speech
Colloquy  dialogue or conversation, conference
Collision  collaboration, complicity, conspiracy
Comeliness  physical grace and beauty
Commend  to compliment, praise
Commensurate  proportional
Commission  fee payable to an agent; authorization
Comparative  roomy, spacious
Commonplace  ordinary, found every day
Communicable  transmittable
Commute  to change a penalty to a less severe one
Compatriot  fellow countryman
Compelling (adj)  having a powerful and irresistible effect
Compendious  summarizing completely and briefly
Compensate  to repay or reimburse
Complicable  self-satisfied, smug, affable
Compaisant  agreeable, friendly
Complement  to complete, perfect
Compliant  submissive and yielding
Complicity  knowing partnership in wrongdoing
Composed  acting calm
Composure  a calm manner or appearance
Compound  (adj)  complex; composed of several parts
Compound  (v)  to combine, add to
Compress  (v)  to reduce, squeeze
Compulsive  obsessive, fanatic
Compunction  feeling guilty or having misgivings
Compunction  feeling of uneasiness caused by guilt or regret
Concatenate  linked together
Concede  curving inward
Concede  to yield, admit
Conceptualize  to envision, imagine
Concern  a matter of importance or worthy of consideration
Concerto  musical composition for orchestra and soloist(s)
Conciliatory  overcoming distrust or hostility
Concomitant  accompanying something
Concord  agreement
Concur  to agree
Condone  to pardon or forgive; overlook, justify, or excuse a fault
Conduit  tube, pipe, or similar passage
Confection  something sweet to eat
Confiscate  to appropriate, seize
Conflagration  big, destructive fire
Confluence  meeting place; meeting of two streams
Confound  to baffle, perplex
Congeal  to become thick or solid, as a liquid freezing
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CONGENIAL</td>
<td>similar in <strong>taste</strong> and habits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONGENITAL</td>
<td>existing since birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONGLOMERATE</td>
<td>collected group of varied things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONGRESS</td>
<td>formal meeting or assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONGRUITY</td>
<td>correspondence, harmony, agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONJECTURE</td>
<td>speculation, <strong>prediction</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONJOIN</td>
<td>to join together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONJUGAL</td>
<td>pertaining to marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONJURE</td>
<td>to <strong>evoke</strong> a spirit, cast a spell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONNIVE</td>
<td>to conspire, scheme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONNOISSEUR</td>
<td>a person with refined taste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSANGUINEOUS</td>
<td>the same origin; related by blood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSCIENTIOUS</td>
<td>governed by conscience; careful and thorough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSECRATE</td>
<td>to declare sacred; dedicate to a goal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSENSUS</td>
<td>unanimity, <strong>agreement</strong> of opinion or attitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSEQUENTIAL</td>
<td>important</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSIDERABLE</td>
<td>significant, worth considering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSIGN</td>
<td>to commit, entrust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSISTENT</td>
<td>containing no <strong>contradictions</strong>, being harmonious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSOLATION</td>
<td>something providing comfort or solace for a loss or hardship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSOLIDATE</td>
<td>to combine, incorporate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSONANT</td>
<td><strong>adj</strong> consistent with, in agreement with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSTANT</td>
<td>completely uniform and unchanging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSTITUENT</td>
<td>component, part; citizen, voter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSTRAINED</td>
<td>forced, compelled; confined, restrained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSTRAINT</td>
<td>something that forces or compels; something that restrains or confines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSTRUCT</td>
<td>to inhibit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSTRUE</td>
<td>to explain or interpret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSUMMATE</td>
<td><strong>adj</strong> accomplished, complete, perfect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSUMMATE</td>
<td>(v) to complete, fulfill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTEND</td>
<td>to battle, clash, compete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTENTIOUS</td>
<td>quarrelsome, <strong>disagreeable</strong>, belligerent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTINENCE</td>
<td>self-control, self-restraint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTRADICT</td>
<td>to deny or oppose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTRAVENE</td>
<td>to contradict, deny, act contrary to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTRITE</td>
<td>deeply <strong>sorrowful</strong> and repentant for a wrong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTUMACIOUS</td>
<td>rebellious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTUSION</td>
<td>bruise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONUNDRUM</td>
<td>riddle, puzzle or problem with no solution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONVALESCENCE</td>
<td>gradual recovery after an <strong>illness</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONVENE</td>
<td>to meet, come together, assemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONVENTIONAL</td>
<td>typical, customary, commonplace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONVEX</td>
<td>curved outward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONVIVIAL</td>
<td>sociable; fond of eating, drinking, and people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONVOKE</td>
<td>to call together, summon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONVOLUTED</td>
<td>twisted, complicated, involved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COPIOUS</td>
<td>abundant, plentiful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COQUETTE</td>
<td>woman who flirts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORNUCOPIA</td>
<td>abundance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORPOREAL</td>
<td>having to do with the body; tangible, material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORPULENCE</td>
<td>obesity, fatness, bulkiness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORRELATION</td>
<td>association, mutual relation of two or more things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORROBORATE</td>
<td>to confirm, verify</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORRODE</td>
<td>to weaken or destroy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORRUGATE</td>
<td>to mold in a shape with parallel grooves and ridges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COSMETIC</td>
<td><strong>adj</strong> relating to beauty; affecting the surface of something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COSMOGRAPHY</td>
<td>science that deals with the nature of the universe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COSMOPOLITAN</td>
<td>sophisticated, free from local prejudices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COSSET</td>
<td>to pamper, treat with great care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTERIE</td>
<td>group of people with a common interest or purpose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COTERIE</td>
<td>small group of persons with a similar purpose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUNTENANCE</td>
<td>(n) facial expression; look of approval or support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUNTENANCE</td>
<td>(v) to favor, support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KAPLAN 319**
COUNTERMAND to annul, cancel, make a contrary order
COUNTERVAIL to counteract, to exert force against
COVEN group of witches
COVERT hidden; secret
COVET to strongly desire something possessed by another
COWER to cringe in fear
CRASS crude, unrefined
CRAVEN cowardly
CREDENCE acceptance of something as true or real
CREDIBLE plausible, believable
CREDULOUS gullible, trusting
CREED statement of belief or principle
CRESCENDO gradual increase in volume of sound
CRINGE to shrink in fear
CRITERION standard for judging, rule for testing
CRYPTIC puzzling
CUISINE characteristic style of cooking
CULMINATION climax, final stage
CULPABLE guilty, responsible for wrong
CULPRIT guilty person
CUMULATIVE resulting from gradual increase
CUPIDITY greed
CURATOR caretaker and overseer of an exhibition, esp. in a museum
CURMUDGEON cranky person
CURSORY hastily done, superficial
CURT abrupt, blunt
CURTAIL to shorten
CUTLERY cutting instruments; tableware
CYGNET young swan
CYNIC person who distrusts the motives of others

D
DALLY to act playfully or waste time
DAUNT to discourage, intimidate
DEARTH lack, scarcity, insufficiency
DEBASE to degrade or lower in quality or stature
DEBAUCH to corrupt, seduce from virtue or duty; indulge
DEBILITATE to weaken, enfeeble
DEBUNK to discredit, disprove
DEBUTANTE young woman making debut in high society
DECADE decline or decay, deterioration
DECAMP to leave suddenly
DECAPITATE to behead
DECATHLON athletic contest with ten events
DECIDUOUS losing leaves in the fall; short-lived, temporary
DECLIVITY downward slope
DECOROUS proper, tasteful, socially correct
DECORUM proper behavior, etiquette
DECAY to belittle, openly condemn
DEFACE to mar the appearance of, vandalize
DEFAMATORY slanderous, injurious to the reputation
DEFAME to disgrace or slander
DEFECT an imperfection or shortcoming
DEFENDANT person required to answer a legal action or suit
DEFER to submit or yield
DEFERENCE respect, honor
DETERENTIAL respectful and polite in a submissive way
DEFICIENT defective, not meeting a normal standard
DEFILE to make unclean or dishonor
DEFINITIVE dear-cut, explicit or decisive
DEFLATION decrease, depreciation
DEFORM to disfigure, distort
DEPT skillful, dexterous
DEFUNCT no longer existing, dead, extinct
DELECTABLE appetizing, delicious
DELEGATE (v) to give powers to another
DELETERIOUS harmful, destructive, detrimental
DELINEATION depiction, representation
DELTA tidal deposit at the mouth of a river
DELUGE (n) flood
DELUGE (v) to submerge, overwhelm
DEMAKOUGE leader or rabble-rouser who usually uses appeals to emotion or prejudice
DEMARICATION borderline; act of defining or marking a boundary or distinction
DEMEAN to degrade, humiliate, humble
DEMEIS death
DEMOGRAPHICS data relating to study of human population
DEMOTE to reduce to a lower grade or rank
DEMOTION lowering in rank or grade
DEMUR to express doubts or objections
DEMystify to remove mystery from, clarify
DENIGRATE to slur or blacken someone's reputation
DENOUNCE to accuse, blame
DENUDER to make bare, uncover, undress
DENUNCIATION public condemnation
DEPICT to describe, represent
DEPLETE to use up, exhaust
DEPLOY to spread out strategically over an area
DEPOSE to remove from a high position, as from a throne
DEPRAVITY sinfulness, moral corruption
DEPRECIATE to belittle, disparage
DEPROVATE to mock, ridicule, make fun of
DERANGE to be disturbed or insane
DERISIVE expressing ridicule or scorn
DERIVATНЕ copied or adapted; not original
DERIVE to originate; take from a certain source
DEROGATE to belittle, disparage
DESCRY to discover or reveal
DESECRATE to abuse something sacred
DESICCATE to dry completely, dehydrate
DESISS to stop doing something
RESPONDENT feeling discouraged and dejected
DESPOT tyrannical ruler
DESTITUTE very poor, poverty-stricken
DESLATORY at random, rambling, unmethodical
DETACHED separate, unconnected
DETER to discourage; prevent from happening
DETERMINATE having defined limits; conclusive
DETESTATION extreme hatred
DETRACTOR one who takes something away
DETRIMENTAL causing harm or injury
DEViate to stray, wander
DEVIATION departure, exception, anomaly
DEV oid totally lacking
DEVOUT deeply religious
DEXTEROUS skilled physically or mentally
DIABOLICAL fiendish; wicked
DIALECT regional style of speaking
DIAPHANOUS allowing light to show through; delicate
DIATRIBE bitter verbal attack
DICHOTOMY division into two parts
DICTUM authoritative statement; popular saying
DIDACTIC excessively instructive
DIVER agree
DIFER to distinguish between two items
DIFFERENCE shyness, lack of confidence
DIFFRAC to cause to separate into parts, esp. light
DIFFUSE widely spread out
DIGRESS to turn aside; to stray from the main point
DILAPIDATED in disrepair, run-down, neglected
DILATE to enlarge, swell, extend
DILATORY slow, tending to delay
DILETTANTE an amateur
DILUVIAL relating to a flood
DIMINUTIVE small
DIPLOMACY discretion, tact
DIRGE funeral hymn
DISABUSE to free from a misconception
DISAFFECTED discontented and disloyal
DISARRAY clutter, disorder
DISBAND to break up
DISBAR to expel from legal profession
DISBURSE to pay out
DISCERN to perceive something obscure
DISCLAIM to deny, disavow
DISCLOSE to confess, divulge
DISCOMFIT to cause perplexity and embarrassment
DISCOMPOSE to disturb the composure or serenity
DISCOURAGING bewildering, perplexing, slightly disturbing
DISCONSOLATE unable to be consoled; extremely sad
DISCORDANT harsh-sounding, badly out of tune
DISCREDIT to dishonor or disgrace
DISCREDITED disbelieved, discounted; disgraced, dishonored
DISCRIMINATE difference between
DISCREPANCY difference between
DISCRETE distinct, separate
DISCREETIONARY subject to one's own judgment
DISCURSIVE wandering from topic to topic
DISDAIN to regard with scorn and contempt
DISDAINFUL contemptuous, scornful
DISENGAGED disconnected, disassociated
DISGORGEOUS vomit, discharge violently
DISHEVELED untidy, disarranged, unkempt
DISINCLINED averse, unwilling, lacking desire
DISINGENUOUS sly and crafty
DISINTEREST lack of interest or a disadvantage
DISJOINTED lacking coherence or order, being separated
DISPARAGE to belittle, speak disrespectfully about
DISPARATE dissimilar, different in kind
DISPARITY contrast, dissimilarity
DISPASSIONATE free from emotion; impartial, unbiased
DISPEL to drive out or scatter
DISPENSE to distribute, administer
DISPENSE WITH to suspend the operation of, do without
DISPERSE to break up, scatter
DISpirit to dishearten, make dejected
DISPUTE to debate, to quarrel
DISRUPTED feeling anxiety, being disturbed, lacking peace
DISREGARD to neglect, pay no attention to
DISREPUTE disgrace, dishonor
DISSEMBLE to pretend, disguise one's motives
DISSEMINATE to spread far and wide
DISSUDE to persuade someone to alter original intentions
DISTAFF the female branch of a family
DISTEND to swell, inflate, bloat.
DISTRAUGHT very worried and distressed
DISTRACT (n) disbelief and suspicion
DITHER (v) to move or act confusedly or without clear purpose
DIURNAL daily
DIVERGE to move in different directions, to deviate from a source
DIVERSE differing
DIVERT to turn from one course to another
DNEST to get rid of
DM NE (v) to foretell or know by inspiration
DMSIVE  creating disunity or conflict  
DOCILE  tame, willing to be taught  
DOCTRINARIE  rigidly devoted to theories  
DOGGED  (adj)  persistent, stubborn  
DOGOMATIC  rigidly fixed in opinion, opinionated  
DOLDRUMS  a period of despondency  
DOLEFUL  sad, mournful  
DOLOR  sadness  
DOLT  idiot, dimwit, foolish person  
DOMINEER  to rule over something in a tyrannical way  
DONOR  benefactor, contributor  
DORMANT  at rest, inactive, in suspended animation  
DOTAGE  senile condition, mental decline  
DOTARD  senile old person  
DOTING  excessively fond, loving to excess  
DOUGHTY  courageous  
DOUR  sullen and gloomy; stern and severe  
DOWRY  money or property given by a bride to her husband  
DRAFT  (v)  to plan, outline; to recruit, conscript  
DRAW  to attract, to pull toward  
DRIVEL  stupid talk; slobber  
DROLL  amusing in a wry, subtle way  
DROSS  waste produced during metal smelting; garbage  
DUDGEON  angry indignation  
DULCET  pleasant sounding, soothing to the ear  
DUMB  unable to speak  
DUPE  (n)  fool, pawn  
DUPE  (v)  to deceive, trick  
DUPlicitY  deception, dishonesty, double-dealing  
DURABILITY  strength, sturdiness  
DURATION  period of time that something lasts  
DURESS  threat of force or intimidation; imprisonment  
DWINdle  to shrink or decrease  
DYSPEPTIC  suffering from indigestion; gloomy and irritable  

E  
EARTHY  crude  
EBB  (v)  to fade away, recede  
EBULLIENT  exhilarated, full of enthusiasm and high spirits  
ECLECTIC  selecting from various sources  
ECSTATIC  joyful  
EDDY  air or wind current  
EDICT  law, command, official public order  
EDIFICE  building  
EDIFY  to instruct morally and spiritually  
EDITORIALIZE  to express an opinion on an issue  
EFFACE  to erase or make illegible  
EFFERVESCENT  bubbly, lively  
EFFICACIOUS  effective, efficient  
EFFIGY  stuffed doll; likeness of a person  
EFFLUVIA  outpouring of gases or vapors  
EFFRONTERY  impudent boldness; audacity  
EFFULGENT  brilliantly shining  
EFFUSIVE  expressing emotion without restraint  
EGOCENTRIC  acting as if things are centered around oneself  
EGREGIOUS  conspicuously bad  
EGRESS  exit  
ELATION  exhilaration, joy  
ELEGY  mournful poem, usually about the dead  
ELEVATED  high in status, exalted  
ELICIT  to draw out, provoke  
ELOQUENCE  fluent and effective speech  
ELUCIDATE  to explain, clarify  
EMACIATED  skinny, scrawny, gaunt, esp. from hunger  
EMANCIPATE  to set free, liberate  
EMBELLISH  to ornament, make attractive with decoration or details; add details to a statement  
EMBEZZLE  to steal money in violation of a trust  
EMBROI  to involve in; cause to fall into disorder
EMEND  to correct a text
EMINENT  celebrated, distinguished; outstanding, towering
EMOLLIENT  having soothing qualities, esp. for skin
EMOTIVE  appealing to or expressing emotion
EMPATHY  identification with another’s feelings
EMULATE  to copy, imitate
ENCIPHER  to translate a message into code
ENCOMIUM  warm praise
ENCORE  additional performance, often demanded by audience
ENCUMBER  to hinder, burden, restrict motion
ENDEMIC  belonging to a particular area, inherent
ENDOGAMOUS  marrying within a specific group due to law or custom
ENDURANCE  ability to withstand hardships
ENERVATE  to weaken, sap strength from
ENGENDER  to produce, cause, bring about
ENIGMATIC  puzzling, inexplicable
ENJOIN  to urge, order, command; forbid or prohibit, as by judicial order
ENMITY  hostility, antagonism, ill-will
ENNUI  boredom, lack of interest and energy
ENORMITY  state of being gigantic or terrible
ENSCONCE  to settle comfortably into a place
ENTAIL  to involve as a necessary result, necessitate
ENTHRALL  to captivate, enchant, enslave
ENTICE  to lure or tempt
ENTITY  something with its own existence or form
ENTOMOLOGIST  scientist who studies insects
ENTREAT  to plead, beg
ENTRENCHED  established solidly
ENUMERATE  to count, list, itemize
ENUNCIATE  to pronounce clearly
EON  indefinitely long period of time

EPHEMERAL  momentary, transient, fleeting
EPICURE  person with refined taste in food and wine
EPICURIAN  short, witty saying or poem
EPICUREAN  quotation at the beginning of a literary work
EPILOGUE  concluding section of a literary work
EPITHET  an abusive word or phrase
EPITOME  representative of an entire group; summary
EPOCHAL  very significant or influential, defining an epoch or time period
EQUANIMITY  calmness, composure
EQUESTRIAN  one who rides on horseback
EQUINE  relating to horses
EQUITABLE  fair
EQUITY  justice, fairness
EQUIVOCAL  ambiguous, open to two interpretations
EQUIVOCATE  to use vague or ambiguous language intentionally
ERADICATE  to erase or wipe out
ERODER  to diminish or destroy over a period of time
ERRANT  straying, mistaken, roving
ERRATIC  wandering and unpredictable
ERRONEOUS  in error; mistaken
ERSATZ  fake
ERUDITE  learned, scholarly
ESCAPADE  to increase the intensity or scope of
ESCHEW  to abstain from, avoid
ESOTERIC  understood only by a learned few
ETHICAL  moral, abiding by an accepted code of conduct
ETHOS  beliefs or character of a group
ETYMOLOGY  origin and history of a word; study of words
EULOGY  high praise, often in a public speech
EUPHEMISM  use of an inoffensive word or phrase in place of a more distasteful one
EUPHONY  pleasant, harmonious sound
EUPHORIA  feeling of well-being or happiness
EURYTHMICS  art of harmonious bodily movement
EUTHANASIA  mercy killing; intentional, easy and painless death
EVADE  to avoid, dodge
EVANESCENT  momentary, transitory, short-lived
EVICT  to put out or force out
EVIDENT  clear, able to be understood
EVINCE  to show clearly, display, signify
EVOKE  to inspire memories; to produce a reaction
EXACERBATE  to aggravate, intensify the bad qualities of
EXALT  to glorify, to elevate
EXASPERATION  irritation
EXCERPT  selection from a book or play
EXCOMMUNICATE  to bar from membership in the church
EXCORIATE  to denounce
EXCRUCIATING  agonizing, intensely painful
EXCULPATE  to clear of blame or fault
EXCRUCIBLE  utterly detestable
EXEMPLARY  serving as an example, commendable
EXHILARATION  state of being energetic or filled with happiness
EXHORT  to urge or incite by strong appeals
EXHUMIE  to remove from a grave; uncover a secret
EXIGENT  urgent; excessively demanding
EXONERATE  to clear of blame
EXORBITANT  extravagant, greater than reasonable
EXORCISE  to expel evil spirits
EXOTIC  foreign; romantic, excitingly strange
EXPANSIVE  sweeping, comprehensive; tending to expand
EXPATRIATE  to wander; to discuss or describe at length
EXPATRIATE  (n)  one who lives outside one's native land
EXPATRIATE  (v)  to drive someone from his/her native land
EXPEDIENT  (adj)  convenient, efficient, practical
EXPIATE  to atone for, make amends for
EXPIRE  to come to an end; die; breathe out
EXPlicable  capable of being explained
EXPLICIT  clearly defined, specific; forthright in expression
EXPLODE  to debunk, disprove; blow up, burst
EXPONENT  one who champions or advocates
EXPONENT  to elaborate; to expand or increase
EXPUNGE  to erase, eliminate completely
EXPURGATE  to censor
EXTEMPORANEOUS  unrehearsed, on the spur of the moment
EXTEMPORANEOUS  to lessen the consciousness, strength, or effect of
EXTINCTION  end of a living thing or species
EXTION  to praise
EXTORT  to obtain something by threats
EXTRANEOUS  irrelevant, unrelated, unnecessary
EXTRAPOLATE  to estimate
EXTREMITY  outermost or farthest point
EXTRICATE  to free from, disentangle, free
EXTRINSIC  not inherent or essential, coming from without
EXTROVERT  an outgoing person
EXUBERANT  lively, happy, and full of good spirits
EXUDE  to give off, ooze
EXULT  to rejoice

F
FABRICATE  to make or devise; construct
FABRICATED  constructed, invented; faked, falsified
FACADE  face, front; mask, superficial appearance
FACETIOUS  witty in an inappropriate way
FACILE  very easy
FACILITATE  to aid, assist
FACILITY  aptitude, ease in doing something
FACSIMILE an exact copy
FALLACIOUS wrong, unsound, illogical
FALLIBLE capable of failing
FALLOW uncultivated, unused
FAMINE extreme scarcity of food
FANATICISM extreme devotion to a cause
FARCICAL absurd, ludicrous
FASTIDIOUS careful with details
FATHOM (v) to measure the depth of, gauge; to understand
FATUOUS stupid; foolishly self-satisfied
FAULT break in a rock formation; mistake or error
FAWN (v) to flatter excessively, seek the favor of
FAZE to bother, upset, or disconcert
FEALTY intense loyalty
FEASIBLE possible, capable of being done
FECKLESS ineffective, careless, irresponsible
FECUND fertile, fruitful, productive
FEDERATION union of organizations; union of several states, each of which retains local power
FEIGN to pretend, give a false impression; to invent falsely
FEISTY excitable, easily roused into quarrels
FELICITOUS suitable, appropriate; well-spoken
FELICITY feeling great happiness
FELL (v) to chop, cut down
FELL cruel
FERVID passionate, intense zealous
FETID foul-smelling, putrid
FETTER to bind, chain, confine
FEUD a prolonged quarrel between families
FEY otherworldly; doomed
FIASCO disaster, utter failure
FICKLE unreliable
FICTIONAL fictional, imaginary
FIDELITY loyalty
FIENDISH excessively bad or cruel
FILCH to steal
FILIAL appropriate for a child
FILIBUSTER use of obstructive tactics in a legislative assembly to prevent adoption of a measure
FINESSE refinement or skill at a task or in a situation
FINICKY fuss; difficult to please
FISSION process of splitting into two parts
FISSURE a crack or break
FITFUL intermittent, irregular
FIXITY being fixed or stable
FLACCID limp, flabby, weak
FLAG to lose energy and strength
FLAGRANT outrageous, shameless
FLAIR a natural inclination toward something
FLAMBOYANT flashy, garish; exciting, dazzling
FLAMMABLE combustible, being easily burned
FLAUNT to show off
FLEDGLING young bird just learning to fly; beginner, novice
FLIPPANT disrespectful, casual
FLORA plants
FLORID gaudy, extremely ornate; ruddy, flushed
FLOUNDER to falter, waver; to muddle, struggle
FLOUT to treat contemptuously, scorn
FLUCTUATE to alternate, wave
FLURRIED to become agitated and confused
FLUSTER to agitate or confuse
FODDER raw material; feed for animals
FOIBLE minor weakness or character flaw
FOIL (v) to defeat, frustrate
FOIST to pass off as genuine
FOLIATE to grow, sprout leaves
FOMENT to arouse or incite
FORAGE to wander in search of food
FORBEARANCE patience, restraint, leniency
FORD (v) to cross a body of water at a shallow place
FOREBODING dark sense of evil to come
FORECLOSE to rule out; to seize debtor’s property for lack of payments
FORENSIC relating to legal proceedings; relating to debates
FORENSICS study of argumentation and debate
FORESTALL to prevent, delay; anticipate
FORETHOUGHT anticipation, foresight
FORFEND to prevent
FORGO to go without, refrain from
FORLORN dreary, deserted; unhappy; hopeless, despairing; pitiful in appearance
FORMULATE to conceive, devise; to draft, plan; to express, state
FORSAKE to abandon, withdraw from
FORSWEAR to repudiate, renounce, disclaim, reject
FORTE (n) strong point, something a person does well
FORTNIGHT two weeks
FORTUITOUS happening by luck, fortunate
FOSTER (v) to nourish, cultivate, promote
FOUNDATION groundwork, support; institution established by donation to aid a certain cause
FOUNDER (v) to fall helplessly; sink
FRACAS noisy dispute
FRANTIC unruly, rebellious
FRAGMENTATION division, separation into parts, disorganization
FRANK honest and straightforward
FRATRICIDE the killing of a brother or sister
FRAUD deception, hoax
FRAUDULENT deceitful, dishonest, unethical
FRAUGHT full of, accompanied by
FRENETIC wildly frantic, frenzied, hectic
FRENZIED feverishly fast, hectic, and confused
FRIVOLOUS petty, trivial; flippancy, silly
FROND leaf
FRUGAL thrifty; cheap
FULMINATE to explode with anger
FULSOME excessive, overdosed, sickeningly abundant
FUNERAL mournful, appropriate to a funeral
FUROR rage, fury
FURTIVE secret, stealthy
FUSION process of merging things into one
G
GAINSAW to deny
GALL (n) bitterness; careless nerve
GALL (v) to exasperate and irritate
GALLANT a very fashionable young man
GAMBOLE to dance or skip around playfully
GAME (adj) courageous
GARGANTUAN giant, tremendous
GARNER to gather and store
GARRULOUS very talkative
GAUCHE crude, socially awkward
GAUCHERIE a tactless or awkward act
GAUNT thin and bony
GAUVEL mallet used for commanding attention
GENRE type; class, category
GENTEEL stylish, elegant in manner or appearance
GERiatric relating to old age or the process of aging
GERMINATE to begin to grow (as in a seed or idea)
GESTATION growth process from conception to birth
GIBE (v) to make heckling, taunting remarks
GIRTH distance around something
GLIB fluent in an insincere manner; offhand, casual
GLOBAL involving the entire world; relating to a whole
GLOWER to glare, stare angrily and intensely
GLUTTONY eating and drinking to excess
GNARL to make knotted, deform
GNOSTIC having to do with knowledge
GOAD  to prod or urge
GOSSAMER  something light, delicate, or tenuous
GOUGE  scoop out; extort
GRADATION  process occurring by regular degrees or stages; variation in color
GRANDилоUENCE  pompous talk, fancy but meaningless language
GRANDIOSE  magnificent and imposing; exaggerated and pretentious
GRANULAR  having a grainy texture
GRASP (v)  to perceive and understand; to hold securely
GRATIS  free, costing nothing
GRATUITOUS  free, voluntary; unnecessary and unjustified
GRATUITY  something given voluntarily, tip
GREGARIOUS  outgoing, sociable
GRIEVOUS  causing grief or sorrow; serious and distressing
GRIMACE  facial expression showing pain or disgust
GRIMY  dirty, filthy
GROSS (adj)  obscene, blatant, flagrant
GROSS (n)  total before deductions
GROVEL  to humble oneself in a demeaning way
GRUBBY  dirty, sloppy
GUIDE  trickery, deception
GULLIBLE  easily deceived
GUSTATORY  relating to sense of taste
GYRATE  to move in a circular motion
H
HABITAT  dwelling place
HACKNEYED  worn out by over-use
HAIL  to greet with praise
HALLOW  to make holy; treat as sacred
HAMLET  small village
HAPLESS  unfortunate, having bad luck
HARANGUE  a pompous speech
HARBINGER  a precursor, sign of something to come
HARDY  robust, vigorous
HARMONY  accord, tranquillity, agreement
HARROWING  extremely distressing, terrifying
HASTEN  to hurry, to speed up
HAUGHTY  arrogant and condescending
HEADLONG  recklessly
HEADSTRONG  reckless; insisting on one's own way
HEATHEN  pagan; uncivilized and irreligious
HECTIC  hasty, hurried, confused
HECTOR  a bully, braggart
HEDONISM  pursuit of pleasure as a goal
HEGEMONY  leadership, domination, usually by a country
HEIGHTEN  to raise
HEINOUS  shocking, wicked, terrible
HEMICYCLE  semicircular form or structure
HEMORRHAGE (n)  heavy bleeding
HEMORRHAGE (v)  to bleed heavily
HERETICAL  opposed to an established religious orthodoxy
HERMETIC  tightly sealed
HETERODOX  unorthodox, not widely accepted
HETEROGENEOUS  composed of unlike parts, different, diverse
HEW  to cut with an ax
HIATUS  a gap or a break
HIDEBOUND  excessively rigid; dry and stiff
HINDER  to hamper
HINDSIGHT  perception of events after they happen
HINTERLAND  wilderness
HOARY  very old; whitish or gray from age
HOLISTIC  emphasizing importance of the whole and inter-dependence of its parts
HOLOCAUST  widespread destruction, usually by fire
HOMAGE  public honor and respect
HOMOGENEOUS  composed of identical parts
HOMONYM  word identical in pronunciation but different in meaning
Hone to sharpen
Honor (v) to praise, glorify, pay tribute to
Humane merciful, kindly
Husband (v) to farm; manage carefully and thriftily
Hutch pen or coop for animals; shack, shanty
Hydrate to add water to
Hygienic clean, sanitary
Hymn religious song, usually of praise or thanks
Hyperbole purposeful exaggeration for effect
Hyperventilate to breathe abnormally fast
Hypochondria unfounded belief that one is often ill
Hypocrite person claiming beliefs or virtues he or she doesn’t really possess
Hypothermia abnormally low body temperature
Hypothecis assumption subject to proof
Hypothetical theoretical, speculative

I
Iconoclast one who attacks traditional beliefs
Idealism pursuit of noble goals
Idiosyncrasy peculiarity of temperament, eccentricity
Ignoble dishonorable, not noble in character
Ignominious disgraceful and dishonorable
Ignoramus an ignorant person
Ilk type or kind
Illicit illegal, improper
Ilimitable limitless
Illusory unreal, deceptive
Illustrious famous, renowned
Imbue to infuse; dye, wet, moisten
Immaculate spotless; free from error
Immaterial extraneous, inconsequential, nonessential; not consisting of matter
Immense enormous, huge
Immerse to bathe, dip; to engross, preoccupy
Immobile not moveable; still

Immune exempt; protected from harm or disease; unresponsive to
Immunological relating to immune system
Immure to imprison
 Immutable unchangeable, invariable
Impair to damage, injure
Impasse blocked path, dilemma with no solution
Impassioned with passion
Impassive showing no emotion
Impeach to charge with misdeeds in public office; accuse
Impeccable flawless, without fault
Impenetrable of infringement
Impertinent rude
Imperturbable not capable of being disturbed
Impervious impossible to penetrate; incapable of being affected
Impetuous quick to act without thinking
Impious not devout in religion
Implacable inflexible, incapable of being pleased
Implant to set securely or deeply; to instill
Implausible improbable, inconceivable
Implicate to involve in a crime, incriminate
Implicit implied, not directly expressed
Impolitic unwise
Impotence to ask repeatedly, beg
Impose to inflict, force upon
Imposing dignified, grand
Impotent powerless, ineffective, lacking strength
Imprison to seize and confine
Impoverish to make poor or bankrupt
Imprecation curse
Impregnable totally safe from attack, able to resist defeat
IMPRESSIONABLE easily influenced or affected
IMPROVISED spontaneous, without rehearsal
IMPROVIDENT without planning or foresight, negligent
IMPRUDENT unwise
IMPUDEhT arrogant and rude
IMPUIGN to call into question, attack verbally
IMPULSIVE spontaneous, unpredictable
INADVERTENTLY unintentionally
INANE foolish, silly, lacking significance
INAUGURATE to begin or start officially; to induct into office
INCANDSCENT shining brightly
INCARCERATE to put in jail; to confine
INCARNADINE blood-red in color
INCAILNATE having bodily form
INCENDIARY combustible, flammable, burning easily
INCIPIENT beginning to exist or appear; in an initial stage
INCISIVE perceptive, penetrating
INCLINATION tendency towards
INCLUSIVE comprehensive, all-encompassing
INCOGNITO in disguise, concealing one’s identity
INCONCEIVABLE impossible, unthinkable
INCONGRUOUS incompatible, not harmonious
INCONSEQUENTIAL unimportant, trivial
INCONTESTABLE unquestionable, beyond dispute
INCORRIGIBLE incapable of being corrected
INCREduous skeptical, doubtful
INCULCATE to teach, impress in the mind
INCULPATE to blame, charge with a crime
INCUMBENT (adj) holding a specified office, often political; required, obligatory
INCURSION sudden invasion
INDEFATIGABLE never tired
INDEFENSIBLE inexcusable, unforgivable
INDELIBLE permanent, not erasable
INDENTURE bound to another by contract
INDICATIVE showing or pointing out, suggestive of
INDICT to accuse formally, charge with a crime
INDIGENOUS native, occurring naturally in an area
INDIGENT very poor
INDIGNANT angry, incensed, offended
INDISPUTABLE not disputed, unquestioned
INDOLESENT habitually lazy, idle
INDOMITABLE fearless, unconquerable
INDUBITABLE unquestionable
INDUCE to persuade; bring about
INDUCT to place ceremoniously in office
INDULGE to give in to a craving or desire
INDUSTRY business or trade; diligence, energy
INEBRIATED drunk, intoxicated
INEPT clumsy, awkward
INEPT clumsy, awkward
INERT unable to move, tending to inactivity
INESTIMABLE too great to be estimated
INEVITABLE certain, unavoidable
INEXORABLE inflexible, unyielding
INEXTRICABLE incapable of being disentangled
INFALLIBLE incapable of making a mistake
INFAMY reputation for bad deeds
INFANTILE childish, immature
INFATUATED strongly or foolishly attached to, inspired with foolish passion, overly in love
INFERNAL hellish, diabolical
INFILTRATE to pass secretly into enemy territory
INFINITESIMAL extremely tiny
INFRIMITY disease, ailment
INFRAUGE to encroach, trespass; to transgress, violate
INFURIATE to anger, provoke, outrage
INFURIATING provoking anger or outrage
INGENIOUS original, clever, inventive
INGENUOUS straightforward, open; naïve and unsophisticated
INGLORIOUS lacking fame or honor, shameful
INGRATIAL to anger, provoke, outrage
INGLESS ungrateful person
INGRATIATE to bring oneself purposely into another's good graces
INGRESS entrance
INHIBIT to hold back, prevent, restrain
INIMICAL hostile, unfriendly
INJURIOUS causing injury
INKLING hint; vague idea
INNATE natural, inborn
INNATENESS state of being natural or inborn
INNOCUOUS harmless; inoffensive
INNOVATE to invent, modernize, revolutionize
INNOCUOUS harmless; inoffensive
INOPERABLE not operable; incurable by surgery
INQUEST investigation; court or legal proceeding
INQUISITIVE curious
INSATIABLE never satisfied
INSCRUTABLE impossible to understand fully
INTENTION unfeeling, unconscious
INSIDIOUS sly, treacherous, devious
INSINUATE to suggest, say indirectly, imply
INSIPID bland, lacking flavor; lacking excitement
INSOLENT insulting and arrogant
INSOLUBLE not able to be solved or explained
INSOLVENT bankrupt, unable to pay one's debts
INSTIGATE to incite, urge, agitate
INSUBSTANTIAL modest, insignificant
INSUFFICIENCY lacking in something
INSULAR isolated, detached
INSUPERABLE insurmountable, unconquerable
INSURGENT (adj) rebellious, insubordinate
INSURRECTION rebellion
INTEGRAL central, indispensable
INTEGRATED unified
INTEGRITY decency, honest; wholeness
INTEMPERATE not moderate
INFER to bury
INTERDICT to forbid, prohibit
INTERJECT to interpose, insert
INTERLOCUTOR someone taking part in a dialogue
INTERLOPER trespasser; meddler in others' affairs
INTERMINABLE endless
INTERMITTENT starting and stopping
INTERPECINE deadly to both sides
INTERPOLATE to insert; change by adding new words or material
INTERPOSE to insert; to intervene
INTERREGNUM interval between reigns
INTERROGATE to question formally
INTERSECT to divide by passing through or across
INTERSPERSE to distribute among, mix with
INTERSTITICE a space between things
INTIMATION clue, suggestion
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>intractable</td>
<td>not easily managed</td>
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<tr>
<td>intramural</td>
<td>within an institution like a school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intransigent</td>
<td>uncompromising, refusing to be reconciled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intrepid</td>
<td>fearless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intrigued</td>
<td>interested, curious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intrinsic</td>
<td>inherent, internal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>introspective</td>
<td>contemplating one's own thoughts and feelings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>introvert</td>
<td>someone given to self-analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intrusion</td>
<td>trespass, invasion of another's privacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intuitive</td>
<td>instinctive, untaught</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inundate</td>
<td>to cover with water; overwhelm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inure</td>
<td>to harden; accustom; become used to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>invalidate</td>
<td>to negate or nullify</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>invariable</td>
<td>constant, not changing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>invective</td>
<td>verbal abuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inveigh</td>
<td>protest strongly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>investiture</td>
<td>ceremony conferring authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inveterate</td>
<td>confirmed, long-standing, deeply rooted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inviolable</td>
<td>safe from violation or assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>invoke</td>
<td>to call upon, request help</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iota</td>
<td>very tiny amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irascible</td>
<td>easily angered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iridescent</td>
<td>showing many colors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irresolvable</td>
<td>unable to be resolved; not analyzable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irreverent</td>
<td>disrespectful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irrevocable</td>
<td>conclusive, irreversible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>itinerant</td>
<td>wandering from place to place, unsettled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>itinerary</td>
<td>route of a traveler's journey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jaded</td>
<td>tired by excess or overuse; slightly cynical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jangling</td>
<td>clashing, jarring; harshly unpleasant (in sound)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jargon</td>
<td>nonsensical talk; specialized language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jaundice</td>
<td>yellowish discoloration of skin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jaundiced</td>
<td>affected by jaundice; prejudiced or embittered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jettison</td>
<td>to cast off, throw cargo overboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jibe</td>
<td>to shift suddenly from one side to the other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jingoism</td>
<td>belligerent support of one's country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jocular</td>
<td>jovial, playful, humorous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jubilee</td>
<td>special anniversary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>judicious</td>
<td>sensible, showing good judgment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>juggernaut</td>
<td>huge force destroying everything in its path</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>juncture</td>
<td>point where two things are joined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jurisprudence</td>
<td>philosophy of law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>juvenile</td>
<td>young or childish acting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>juxtaposition</td>
<td>side-by-side placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>keen</td>
<td>having a sharp edge; intellectually sharp, perceptive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kernel</td>
<td>innermost, essential part; seed grain, often in a shell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>keynote</td>
<td>note or tone on which a musical key is founded; main idea of a speech, program, etcetera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kindle</td>
<td>to set fire to or ignite; excite or inspire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kisetic</td>
<td>relating to motion; characterized by movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kismet</td>
<td>fate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>knell</td>
<td>sound of a funeral bell;omen of death or failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kudos</td>
<td>fame, glory, honor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>labyrinth</td>
<td>maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>laceration</td>
<td>cut or wound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lachrymose</td>
<td>tearful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lackadaisical</td>
<td>idle, lazy; apathetic, indifferent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lackluster</td>
<td>dull</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LACONIC  using few words
LAGGARD  dawdler, loafer, lazy person
LAMBASTE  disapprove angrily
LAMENT  (v)  to deplore, grieve
LAMPOON  (v)  to attack with satire, mock harshly
LANGUID  lacking energy, indifferent, slow
LANGUOR  listlessness
LAP  (v)  to drink using the tongue; to wash against
LAPIDARY  relating to precious stones
LARCENY  theft of property
LARDER  place where food is stored
LARGESS  generosity; gift
LARYNX  organ containing vocal cords
LASCIVIOUS  lewd, lustful
LASSITUDE  lethargy, sluggishness
LATENT  present but hidden; potential
LATITUDE  freedom of action or choice
LAUDABLE  deserving of praise
LAVISH  to give plentiful amounts of
LAXITY  carelessness
LEERY  suspicious
LEGERDEMAIN  trickery
LEGIBLE  readable
LEGISLATE  to decree, mandate, make laws
LEGITIMATE  adhering to the law, rightful
LENIENT  easygoing, permissive
LETHARGY  indifferent inactivity
LEVITATE  to rise in the air or cause to rise
LEVITY  humor, frivolity, gaiety
LEXICON  dictionary, list of words
LIBERAL  (adj)  tolerant, broad-minded; generous, lavish
LIBERATION  freedom, emancipation
LIBERTARIAN  one who believes in unrestricted freedom
LIBERTINE  one without moral restraint
LIBIDINOUS  lustful
LICENSE  freedom to act
LICENTIOUS  immoral, unrestrained by society
LIEN  right to possess and sell the property of a debtor
LIMPID  clear and simple; serene; transparent
LINEAGE  ancestry
LINGUISTICS  study of language
LINIMENT  medicinal liquid used externally to ease pain
LIONIZE  to treat as a celebrity
LISSOME  easily flexed, limber, agile
LISTLESS  lacking energy and enthusiasm
LITERAL  word for word; upholding the exact meaning of a word
LITERATE  able to read and write; well-read and educated
LITHE  moving and bending with ease: graceful
LITIGATION  lawsuit
LIVID  discolored from a bruise; reddened with anger
LOCATE  to abhor, despise, hate
LOCOMOTION  movement from place to place
LODGED  fixed in one position
LOFTY  noble, elevated in position
LOGO  corporate symbol
LOITER  to stand around idly
LOQUACIOUS  talkative
LOW  (v)  to make a sound like a cow, moo
LUCID  clear and easily understood
LUDICROUS  laughable, ridiculous
LUGUBRIOUS  sorrowful, mournful
LULL  to soothe
LUMBER  (v)  to move slowly and awkwardly
LUMINARY  bright object; celebrity; source of inspiration
LUMINOUS  bright, brilliant, glowing
LUNAR  relating to the moon
LURID  harshly shocking, sensational; glowing
LURK  to prowl, sneak
LUSCIOUS very good - tasting
LUXURIANCE elegance, lavishness
LYRICAL suitable for poetry and song; expressing feeling

M
MACABRE gruesome, producing horror
MACINATION plot or scheme
MACROBIOTICS art of prolonging life by special diet of organic, nonmeat substances
MACROCOSM system regarded as an entity with subsystems
MAELSTROM whirlpool; turmoil; agitated state of mind
MAGNANIMOUS generous, noble in spirit
MAGNATE powerful or influential person
MAGNITUDE extent, greatness of size
MAINSTAY chief support
MALADROIT clumsy, tactless
MALADY illness
MALAPROPISM humorous misuse of a word
MALCONTENT discontented person, one who holds a grudge
MALEDICTION curse
MALEfactor evildoer: culprit
MALEVOLENT ill-willed; causing evil or harm to others
MALFUNCTION(n) breakdown, failure
MALFUNCTION(v) to fail to work
MALIGNE animosity, spite, hatred
MALINGER to evade responsibility by pretending to be ill
MALLEABLE capable of being shaped
MALNUTRITION undernourishment
MALODOROUS foul-smelling
MANDATORY necessary, required
MANIFEST (adj) obvious
MANIFOLD diverse, varied, comprised of many parts
MANNERED artificial or stilted in character
MANUAL (adj) hand-operated; physical
MANUMISSION release from slavery
MAR to damage, deface; spoil
MARGINAL barely sufficient
MARITIME relating to the sea or sailing
MARTIAL warlike, pertaining to the military
MARTINET strict disciplinarian, one who rigidly follows rules
MARTYR person dying for his/her beliefs
MASOCHIST one who enjoys pain or humiliation
MASSQUERADE disguise; action that conceals the truth
MATERIALISM preoccupation with material things
MATRICULATE to enroll as a member of a college or university
MATRILINEAL tracing ancestry through mother's line rather than father's
MAUDLIN overly sentimental
MAVERICK a person who resists adherence to a group
MAWKISH sickeningly sentimental
MEAGER scanty, sparse
MEANDER to wander aimlessly without direction
MEANINGFUL significant
MEANINGFUL person interfering in others' affairs
MEDIEVAL relating to the Middle Ages
MEGALITH huge stone used in prehistoric structures
MEGALOMANIA mental state with delusions of wealth and power
MELANCHOLY sadness, depression
MELODIOUS having a pleasing melody
MELODY pleasing musical sounds; tune
MENAGERIE various animals kept together for exhibition
MENDACIOUS dishonest
MENDACITY a lie, falsehood
MENDICANT beggar
MENTOR experienced teacher and wise adviser
MERCENARY (adj) motivated only by greed
MERCENARY (n) soldier for hire in foreign countries
MERCURIAL quick, shrewd, and unpredictable
MERETRICIOUS gaudy, falsely attractive
MERIDIAN circle passing through the two poles of the earth
MERITORIOUS deserving reward or praise
METAMORPHOSIS change, transformation
METAPHOR figure of speech comparing two different things
METICULOUS extremely careful, fastidious, painstaking
METRONOME time-keeping device used in music
METTLE couragelessness; endurance
MICROBE microorganism
MICROCOSM tiny system used as analogy for larger system
MIGRATORY wandering from place to place with the seasons
MILITATE to operate against, work against
MILLENNIUM one thousand years
MINATORY menacing, threatening
MINIMAL smallest in amount, least possible
MINUSCULE very small
MIRTH frivolity, gaiety, laughter
MISANTHROPE person who hates human beings
MISAPPREHEND to misunderstand, fail to know
MISCONSTRUE to misunderstand, fail to discover
MISCREANT one who behaves criminally
MISERLINESS extreme stinginess
MISGIVING apprehension, doubt, sense of foreboding
MISHAP accident; misfortune
MISNOMER an incorrect name or designation
MISSIVE note or letter
MITIGATE to soften, or make milder
MNEMONIC relating to memory; designed to assist memory
MOBILITY ease of movement
MOCK (v) to deride, ridicule
MODERATE (adj) reasonable, not extreme
MODERATE (v) to make less excessive, restrain; regulate
MODICUM a small amount
MOLLIFY to calm or make less severe
MOLLUSK sea animal with a soft body
MOLT (v) to shed hair, skin, or an outer layer periodically
MOMENTOUS important
MONASTIC extremely plain or seduced, as in a monastery
MONOCHROMATIC having one color
MONOGAMY custom of marriage to one person at a time
MONOLITH large block of stone
MONOLOGUE dramatic speech performed by one actor
MONOTONY lack of variation; wearisome sameness
MONTAGE composite picture
MOOT debatable; previously decided
MORBID gruesome; relating to disease; abnormally gloomy
MORDACIOUS caustic, biting
MORDANT sarcastic
MORES customs or manners
MORIBUND dying, decaying
MOROSE gloomy, sullen, or surly
MORSEL small bit of food
MOTE small particle, speck
MOTTLE to mark with spots
MULTIFACETED having many parts, many-sided
MULTIFARIOUS diverse
MUNDANE worldly; commonplace
MUNIFICENT generous
MUNITIONS ammunition
MUTABILITY changeability
MUTE unable to speak
MYOPIC near-sighted
MYRIAD immense number, multitude
NADIR lowest point
NAIVE lacking sophistication
NAIVETÉ a lack of worldly wisdom
NARRATIVE account, story
NASCENT starting to develop, coming into existence
NATAL relating to birth
NEBULOUS vague, cloudy
NECROMANCY black magic
NEFARIOUS vicious, evil
NEGLECT careless, inattentive
NEGLECTIBLE not worth considering
NEMESIS a formidable, often victorious opponent
NELOGISM new word or expression
NEONATE newborn child
NEOPHYTE novice, beginner
NEITHER located under or below
KETTLE (v) to irritate
NEUTRALITY disinterest, impartiality
NEUTRALIZE to balance, offset
NICETY elegant or delicate feature; minute distinction
NICHE recess in a wall; best position for something
NIGGARDLY stingy
NIGGLING trifle, petty
NIHILISM belief that existence and all traditional values are meaningless
NOBLE illustrious, moral
NOCTURNAL pertaining to night; active at night
NOISOME stinking, putrid
NOAMATIC moving from place to place
NOMENCLATURE terms used in a particular science or discipline
NOMINAL existing in name only; negligible
NON SEQUITUR conclusion not following from apparent evidence
NONCHALANT unconcerned, indifferent
NONDESCRIPT lacking interesting or distinctive qualities; dull
NONENTITY an insignificant person
NOTORIETY fame; unfavorable fame
NOVICE apprentice, beginner
NOVITIATE period of being a beginner or novice
NOXIOUS harmful, unwholesome
NUANCE shade of meaning
NULLIFY to make legally invalid; to counteract the effect of
NUMISMATICS coin collecting
NUPTIAL relating to marriage
NUTRITIVE relating to nutrition or health
OBDURATE stubborn
OBEISANCE a show of respect or submission
OBfuscate to confuse, obscure
OBJURGATE scold
OBLIGING accommodating, agreeable
OBLIQUE indirect, evasive; misleading, devious
OBLITERATE demolish completely, wipe out
OBLIVIOUS unaware, inattentive
OBSEQUOUS overly submissive, brownnosing
OBSEQUEOUS overly submissive, brownnosing
OBSEQUEOUS overly submissive, brownnosing
OBSEQUIOUS funeral ceremony
OBSESSIVE preoccupying, all-consuming
OBSEQUIOUS overly submissive, brownnosing
OBJURGATE scold
OBSTINATE stubborn
OBSTREPEROUS troublesome, boisterous, unruly
OBTRUSNE pushy, too conspicuous
OBTRUSE insensitive, stupid, dull
OBViate to make unnecessary; to anticipate and prevent
OCCLUDE to shut, block
ODIOUS hateful, contemptible
OFFICIOUS too helpful, meddlesome
OFFSHOOT branch
OMINOUS menacing, threatening, indicating misfortune
OMNIPOTENT having unlimited power
OMNISCIENT having infinite knowledge
OMNIVOROUS eating everything; absorbing everything
ONEROUS burdensome
ONTOLOGY theory about the nature of existence
OPAQUE impervious to light; difficult to understand
OPERATIVE functioning, working
OPINE to express an opinion
OPPORTUNE appropriate, fitting
OPPORTUNIST one who takes advantage of circumstances
OPPROBRIOUS disgraceful, contemptuous
OPTIMUM the most favorable degree
OPULENCE wealth
ORACLE person who foresees the future and gives advice
ORATION lecture, formal speech
ORATOR lecturer, speaker
ORB spherical body; eye
ORCHESTRATE to arrange music for performance; to coordinate, organize
ORDAIN to make someone a priest or minister; to order
ORIFICE an opening
ORNITHOLOGIST scientist who studies birds
OROTUND pompous
OSCILLATE to move back and forth
OSTENSIBLE apparent
OSTENTATIOUS showy
OSTRACISM exclusion, temporary banishment
OSTER expulsions, ejection
OVERABUNDANCE excess, surfeit
OVERSTATE to embellish, exaggerate
OVERT in the open, obvious
OVERTURE musical introduction; proposal, offer
OVERWEENING arrogant
OVERWROUGHT agitated, overdone

P
PACIFIC calm, peaceful
PACIFIST one opposed to war
PACIFY to restore calm, bring peace
PAEAN a song of praise or thanksgiving
PALATIAL like a palace, magnificent
PALAVER idle talk
PALEONTOLOGY study of past geological eras through fossil remains
PALETTE board for mining paints; range of colors
PALETTE board for mining paints; range of colors
PALISADE fence made up of stakes
PALL (n) covering that darkens or obscures; coffin
PALL (v) to lose strength or interest
PALLIATE to make less serious, ease
PALLID lacking color or liveliness
PALPABLE obvious, real, tangible
PALPITATION trembling, shaking, irregular beating
PALTRY pitifully small or worthless
PANACEA cure-all
PANACHE flamboyance, verve
PANDEMIC spread over a whole area or country
PANEGYRIC elaborate praise; formal hymn of praise
PANOPLY impressive array
PANORAMA broad view; comprehensive picture
PARADIGM ideal example, model
PARADOX contradiction, incongruity; dilemma, puzzle
PARADOXICAL self-contradictory but true
PARAGON model of excellence or perfection
PARAMOUNT supreme, dominant, primary
PARAPHRASE to reword, usually in simpler terms
PARASITE person or animal that lives at another's expense
PARCH to dry or shrivel
PARE to trim
PARIAH outcast
PARITY equality
PARLEY discussion, usually between enemies
PAROCHIAL of limited scope or outlook, provincial
PARODY humorous imitation
PAROLE conditional release of a prisoner
PARRY to ward off or deflect
PARSIMONY stinginess
PARTISAN (adj) biased in favor of
PARTISAN (n) strong supporter
PASTICHE piece of literature or music imitating other works
PATENT (adj) obvious, unconcealed
PATENT (n) official document giving exclusive right to sell an invention
PATERNITY fatherhood; descent from father's ancestors
PATHOGENIC causing disease
PATHOS pity, compassion
PATRICIAN aristocrat
PATRICIDE murder of one's father
PATRIMONY inheritance or heritage derived from one's father
PATRONIZE to condescend to, disparage; to buy from
PAUCITY scarcity, lack
PAUPER very poor person
PAVILION tent or light building used for shelter or exhibitions
PECCADILLO minor sin or offense
PECULATION theft of money or goods
PEDAGOGUE teacher
PEDANT one who pays undue attention to book learning and rules; one who displays learning ostentatiously
PEDESTRIAN (adj) commonplace
PEDIATRICIAN doctor specializing in children and their ailments
PEDIMENT triangular gable on a roof or facade
PEER (n) contemporary, equal, match
PEERLESS unequaled
PEJORATIVE having bad connotations; disparaging
PELLUCID transparent; translucent; easily understood
PENANCE voluntary suffering to repent for a wrong
PENCHANT inclination
PENDING (prep) during, while awaiting
PENITENT expressing sorrow for sins or offenses, repentant
PENSIVE thoughtful
PENULTIMATE next to last
PENUMBRA partial shadow
PENURY extreme poverty
PERAMBULATE walk about
PERCIPIENT discerning, able to perceive
PERDITION complete and utter loss; damnation
PEREGRINATE to wander from place to place
PEREMPTORY imperative; dictatorial
PERENNIAL present throughout the years; persistent
PERFIDIOUS faithless, disloyal, untrustworthy
PERFUNCTORY done in a routine way; indifferent
PERIPATETIC moving from place to place
PERIPHRASTIC containing too many words
PERJURE to tell a lie under oath
PERMEABLE penetrable
PERNICIOUS very harmful
PERPETUAL endless, lasting
PERPETUITY continuing forever
PERPLEXING puzzling, bewildering
PERSONIFICATION act of attributing human qualities to objects or abstract qualities
PERSPICACIOUS - shrewd, astute, keen-witted
PERT - lively and bold
PERTINACIOUS - persistent, stubborn
PERTINENT - applicable, appropriate
PERTURBATION - disturbance
PERUSAL - close examination
PERVERSE - present throughout
PERT (v) - to cause to change in immoral way; to misuse
PESTILENCE - epidemic, plague
PETTISH - fretful
PETULANCE - rudeness, peevishness
PHALANX - massed group of soldiers, people, or things
PHILANDERER - pursuer of casual love affairs
PHILANTHROPY - love of humanity; generosity to worthy causes
PHILISTINE - narrow-minded person, someone lacking appreciation for art or culture
PHILOLOGY - study of words
PHLEGML - coldness or indifference
PHLEGOMATIC - calm in temperament; sluggish
PHOBIA - anxiety, horror
PHOENIX - mythical, immortal bird that lives for 500 years, burns itself to death, and rises from its ashes
PHONETICS - study of speech sounds
PHONIC - relating to sound
PICATUNE - petty, of little value
PIDDING - trivial
PIETY - devoutness
PILFER - to steal
PILLAGE - to loot, especially during a war
PILLORY - ridicule and abuse
Pinnacle - peak, highest point of development
PIIOUS - dedicated, devout, extremely religious
PIQUE - fleeting feeling of hurt pride
PITHY - profound, substantial; concise, succinct, to the point
PITTANCE - meager amount or wage
PLACATE - to soothe or pacify
PLACID - calm
PLAGIARIST - one who steals words or ideas
PLAINTIFF - injured person in a lawsuit
PLAINTIVE - expressing sorrow
PLAIT - to braid
PLAXENT - loud sound; wailing sound
PLASTIC - flexible, pliable
PLAUDIT - applause
PLEBEIAN - crude, vulgar; low-class
PLENITUDE - abundance, plenty
PLETHORA - excess, overabundance
PLIANT - pliable, yielding
PLUCK - to pull strings on musical instrument
PLUCKY - courageous, spunky
PLUMMET - to fall, plunge
POLAR - relating to a geographic pole; exhibiting contrast
POLARIZE - to tend towards opposite extremes
POLEMIC - controversy, argument; verbal attack
POLITICAL - shrewd and practical; diplomatic
POLYGLOT - speaker of many languages
POMPOUS - self-important
PONDEROUS - weighty, heavy, large
PONTIFICATE - to speak in a pretentious manner
PORE (v) - to study closely or meditatively
POROUS - full of holes, permeable to liquids
PORTENT  omen
PORTLY  stout, dignified
POSIT   to put in position; to suggest an idea
POSTERIOR  bottom, rear
POSTERITY  future generations; all of a person's descendants
POTABLE   drinkable
POTENTATE  monarch or ruler with great power
POVERTY  lacking money or possessions
PRAGMATIC  practical; moved by facts rather than abstract ideals
PRATTLE  meaningless, foolish talk
PRECARIOUS  uncertain
PRECEPT  principle; law
PRECIPICE  edge, steep overhang
PRECIPITATE (adj)  sudden and unexpected
PRECIPITATE (v)  to throw down from a height; to cause to happen
PRECIPITOUS  hasty quickly; with too little caution
PRECIS  short summary of facts
PRECISION  state of being precise; exactness
PRECLUDE  to rule out
PRECOCIOUS  unusually advanced at an early age
PRECURSOR  forerunner, predecessor
PREDATOR  one that preys on others, destroyer, plunderer
PREDESTINE  to decide in advance
PREDICAMENT  difficult situation
PREDICATE (v)  to found or base on
PREDICTIVE  relating to prediction, indicative of the future
PREDECION  preference, liking
PREDISPOSITION  tendency, inclination
PREEMINENT  celebrated, distinguished
PREFACE  introduction to a book; introductory remarks to a speech
PREMEDITATE  to consider, plan beforehand
PREMONITION  forewarning; presentiment
PREPONDERANCE  majority in number; dominance
PREPOSSESSING  attractive, engaging, appealing
PREPOSTEROUS  absurd, illogical
PRESAGE  to foretell, indicate in advance
PRESCIENT  having foresight
PRESCRIBE  to set down a rule; to recommend a treatment
PRESENTIMENT  premonition, sense of foreboding
PRESTIDIGITATION  premonition, sense of foreboding
PRESTIGIOUS  having foresight
PRETEXT  excuse, pretended reason
PREVALENT  widespread
PREVARICATE  to lie, evade the truth
PRIMEVAL  ancient, primitive
PRIMORDIAL  original, existing from the beginning
PRISTINE  untouched, uncorrupted
PRIVATION  lack of usual necessities or comforts
PROBITY  honesty, high-mindedness
PRONOUNCING  tendency, inclination
PROCRASITINATION  putting off something that must be done
PROCRASITISATOR  one who continually and unjustifiably postpones
PROCURE  to obtain
PRODIGAL  wasteful, extravagant, lavish
PRODIGIOUS  vast, enormous, extraordinary
PROFANE  impure; contrary to religion; sacrilegious
PROFICIENT  expert, skilled in a certain subject
PROFILATE  corrupt, degenerate
PROFUNDITY  great depth
PROFUSE  lavish, extravagant
PROGENITOR  originator, forefather, ancestor in a direct line
PROGENY  offspring, children
PROGNOSIS  prediction of disease outcome; any prediction
PROGNOSTICATE  to predict
PROGRESSIVE favoring progress or change; moving forward
PROLIFERATION propagation, reproduction; enlargement, expansion
PROLIFIC productive, fertile
PROLIX tedious; wordy
PROLOGCE introductory section of a literary work or play
PROMONTORY piece of land or rock higher than its surroundings
PROMULGATE to make known publicly
PROPAGATE to breed
PROPESSITY inclination, tendency
PROPINQUITY nearness
PROPITIATE to win over, appease
PROPITIOUS favorable, advantageous
PROPRIETARY advocate, defender, supporter
PROPERTY appropriateness
PROSAIC relating to prose; dull, commonplace
PROSCRIBE to condemn; to forbid, outlaw
PROSE ordinary language used in everyday speech
PROSECUTOR person who initiates a legal action or suit
PROSELYTIZE to convert to a particular belief or religion
PROSTRATE lying face downward, lying flat on the ground
PROTAGONIST main character in a play or story, hero
PROTEAN readily assuming different forms or characters
PROTESTATION declaration
PROTOCOL ceremony and manners observed by diplomats
PROTRACT to prolong, draw out, extend
PROTRUSION something that sticks out
PROVIDENTIAL prudent, lucky
PROVINCIAL rustic, unsophisticated, limited in scope
PROVOCATION cause, incitement to act or respond
PROVOCATION bravery, skill
PROXIMITY nearness
PROXY power to act as substitute for another

PRLDE one who is excessively proper or modest
PRUDENT careful, cautious
PRURIENT lustful, exhibiting lewd desires
PRY to intrude into; force open
PSEUDONYM pen name; fictitious or borrowed name
PSYCHIC (adj) having to do with the mind; perceptive of nonmaterial, spiritual forces
PCGY chubby, overweight
PCERILE childish, immature, silly
PUGILISM boxing
PUGNACIOUS quarrelsome, eager and ready to fight
PULCHRITUDE beauty
PULLERIZE to pound, crush, or grind into powder; destroy
PUMMEL to pound, beat
PUNCTILIOUS careful in observing rules of behavior or ceremony
PUNDIT an authority or critic
PCSENT strong or sharp in smell or taste
PUNITIVE having to do with punishment
PURGATION process of cleansing, purification
PRACTICAL to clean or free from impurities
PURITANICAL adhering to a rigid moral code
PREFERRED to profess, suppose, claim
PUSILLANIMOUS cowardly
PUTRID rotten

Q
QUACK(n) faker; one who falsely claims to have medical skill
QUADRILATERAL four-sided polygon
QUADRUPED animal having four feet
QAFF to drink heartily
QuAGMIRE marsh; difficult situation
QUALIFY to provide with needed skills; modify, limit
QUANDARY dilemma, difficulty
QUARANTINE isolation period, originally 40 days, to prevent spread of disease
QUATERNARY consisting of or relating to four units or members
QUELL to crush or subdue
QUERULOUS inclined to complain, irritable
QUERY (n) question
QUIBBLE to argue about insignificant and irrelevant details
QUICKEN to hasten, arouse, excite
QUIESCENCE inactivity, stillness
QUIESCENT inactive, at rest
QUINTESSENCE most typical example; concentrated essence
QUIVER (v) to shake slightly, tremble, vibrate
QUIXOTIC overly idealistic, impractical
QUOTIDIAN occurring daily; commonplace
QUINTESSENCE most typical example; concentrated essence
RACONTEUR witty, skillful storyteller
RADICAL (adj) fundamental; drastic
RAGING violent, wild
RAIL (v) to scold with bitter or abusive language
RAILERY lighthearted jesting
RALLY (v) to assemble; recover, recuperate
RAMBLE (v) to roam, wander; to babble, digress
RAMIFICATION implication, outgrowth, or consequence
RAMPANT unrestrained
RAMSHACKLE likely to collapse
RANCID spoiled, rotten
RANCOR bitter hatred
RANT to harangue, rave, forcefully scold
RAPACIOUS greedy; predatory
RAPPORT relationship of trust and respect
RAPPROCHEMENT having a cordial relationship
RAPT deeply absorbed
RAREFY to make thinner, purer, or more refined
RASH (adj) careless, hasty, reckless
RATIFY to approve formally, confirm
RATIONAL logical, reasonable
RATIONALE line of reasoning
RATION (n) portion, share
RATION (v) to supply; to restrict consumption of
RATIONAL logical, reasonable
RATIONALIZE line of reasoning
RATIONALE line of reasoning
RAVAGE to destroy, devastate
RAVENOUS extremely hungry
RAVINE deep, narrow gorge
RAW vulgar, coarse
RAZE to tear down, demolish
REACTIONARY (adj) marked by extreme conservatism, esp. in politics
REBARBATIVE irritating; repellent
REBUCK (v) to reprimand, scold
REBUFF (n) blunt rejection
REBUTE to refute by evidence or argument
RECALCITRANT resisting authority or control
RECANT to retract a statement, opinion, etcetera
RECAPITULATE to review with a brief summary
RECEPTIVE open to others' ideas; congenial
RECLUSION shut off from the world
RECONDITE relating to obscure learning; known to only a few
RECOUNT (v) to describe facts or events
RECREANT disloyal; cowardly
RECRUIT (v) to draft, enlist; to seek to enroll
RECTIFY to correct
RECTITUDE moral uprightness
RECURRENT repetition
REDRESS (n) relief from wrong or injury
REDUNDANCY unnecessary repetition
REFECTORY room where meals are served
REFERENCES image, likeness; opinion, thought, impression
REFORM (v) to change, correct
REFRACT to deflect sound or light
REFRACTORY obstinately resistant
REFUGE escape, shelter
REFURBISH to renovate
REFUTE to contradict, discredit
REGAL magnificent, splendid, fit for royalty
REGARD high esteem
REGIMES government rule, systematic plan
REGRESS to move backward, revert to an earlier form or state
REHABILITATE to restore to good health or condition; reestablish a person's good reputation
REJECT to say again, repeat
REJUVENATE to make young again; renew
RELENT to become gentler in attitude
RELINQUISH to renounce or surrender something
RELIBISH (v) to enjoy greatly
REMEDIAL capable of being corrected
REXIEDY (v) to cure, correct
REMINISCENCE remembrance of past events
REMIT to send (usually money) as payment
REMONSTRATE to protest or object
REPOSE relaxation, leisure
REPULSE to repel, fend off, sicken, disgust
REQUITE to return or repay
RECEIVED to receive or take
RECIPE (n) prescription, formula
REDEEM to pay or atonement for sin
REDICT (v) to direct, guide
REDUCE to diminish, lower
REDUNDANT unnecessary; extra
REDUNDANT to increase, multiply
REDUNDANT to sum up, summarize
REDUNDANT to conclude, determine
RESIST to resist, withstand, oppose
RESISTANCE resistance, opposition
RESISTANT resistant, stubborn
RESISTANCE resistance, opposition
RESTITUTION act of compensating for loss or damage
RESOLUTE determined; with a clear purpose
RESCALE (v) to change or adjust
RESCALE to scale, proportion
RESCALE to adjust, modify
RESCALE to adjust, modify
RESCALE to adjust, modify
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restrained

RESTRAINED  controlled, repressed, restricted
RESUSCITATE  to revive, bring back to life
RETAIN  to hold, keep possession of
RETARD (v)  to slow, hold back
RETICEST  not speaking freely; reserved
RETINUE  group of attendants with an important person
RETIRING  shy, modest, reserved
RETORT  cutting response
RETRACT  to draw in or take back
RETRAIN  to regroup, reorganize
RETRIEVE  to bring, fetch; reclaim
RETROACTIVE  applying to an earlier time
RETROGRADE  having a backward motion or direction
RETROSPECTIVE  looking back to the past
REVELRY  boisterous festivity
REVERE  to worship, regard with awe
REVERT  to backslide, regress
REVILE  to criticize with harsh language, verbally abuse
REVITALIZE  to renew; give new energy to
REVOLVE  to annul, cancel, call back
REVULSION  strong feeling of repugnance or dislike
RHAPSODY  emotional literary or musical work
RHETORIC  persuasive use of language
RHYTHM  regular pattern or variation of sounds and stresses
RIBALD  humorous in a vulgar way
RIDDLE (v)  to make many holes in; permeate
RIFE  widespread, prevalent; abundant
RIFT  an open space; to divide
RIGHTEOUS  morally right
RIPOSTE  a retort
RISQUÉ  bordering on being inappropriate or indecent
ROBUST  strong and healthy; hardy
ROCCO  very, highly ornamented
ROIL  to disturb or cause disorder

ROOT (v)  to dig with a snout (like a pig)
ROOTED  to have an origin or base
ROSTRUM  stage for public speaking
ROTUND  round in shape; fat
RUE  to regret
RUFTLED  irritated
RUMINATE  to contemplate, reflect upon
RUSTIC  rural

S
SACCHARINE  excessively sweet or sentimental
SACROSANCT  extremely sacred; beyond criticism
SAGACIOUS  shrewd, wise
SALACIOUS  lustful
SALIENT  prominent or conspicuous
SALLOW  sickly yellow in color
SALUBRIOUS  healthful
SALUTATION  greeting
SANCTION  permission, support; law; power
SANCTUARY  haven, retreat
SANGUINE  ruddy; cheerfully optimistic
SAP (v)  to weaken gradually
SAPIENT  wise
SARDONIC  cynical, scornfully mocking
SATIATE  to satisfy
SAUNTER  to amble; walk in a leisurely manner
SAVANT  learned person
SAVORY  agreeable in taste or smell
SCABBARD  sheath for sword or dagger
SCABROUS  dealing with indecent things; blemished
SCALE (v)  to climb to the top of
SCANTINESS  barely enough, meager
SCARCITY  not enough, insufficient
SCATHING  harshly critical; painfully hot
SCENARIO  plot outline; possible situation
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCHISM</td>
<td>a division or separation; disharmony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCINTILLA</td>
<td>very small amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCINTILLATE</td>
<td>to sparkle, flash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCION</td>
<td>descendent, child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COFF</td>
<td>to deride, ridicule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCORE (n)</td>
<td>notation for a musical composition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCORE (v)</td>
<td>to make a notch or scratch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCRIVENER</td>
<td>professional copyist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCRAPULOUS</td>
<td>restrained; careful and precise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCRUTINY</td>
<td>careful observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCURRILOUS</td>
<td>vulgar, low, indecent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECANT</td>
<td>straight line intersecting a curve at two points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECEDDE</td>
<td>to withdraw formally from an organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECLUDED</td>
<td>isolated and remote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECTARIAS</td>
<td>narrow-minded; relating to a group or sect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECULAR</td>
<td>not specifically pertaining to religion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEDENTARY</td>
<td>inactive, stationary; sluggish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEDITION</td>
<td>behavior promoting rebellion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEISMOLOGY</td>
<td>science of earthquakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELFINAL</td>
<td>relating to the beginning or seeds of something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENESCENT</td>
<td>aging, growing old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENSUAL</td>
<td>satisfying or gratifying the senses; suggesting sexuality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENTENTIOUS</td>
<td>having a moralizing tone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENTIENT</td>
<td>aware, conscious, able to perceive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPULCHRAL</td>
<td>typical of a place of burial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEQUEL</td>
<td>anything that follows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEQUESTER</td>
<td>to remove or set apart; put into seclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERAPHIC</td>
<td>angelic, pure, sublime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERENDIPITY</td>
<td>habit of making fortunate discoveries by chance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERENITY</td>
<td>calm, peacefulness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERPENTINE</td>
<td>serpentlike; twisting, winding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERRATED</td>
<td>saw-toothed, notched</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERVILE</td>
<td>submissive, obedient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHARD</td>
<td>piece of broken glass or pottery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHEEPISH</td>
<td>timid, meek, or bashful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHIRK</td>
<td>to avoid a task due to laziness or fear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIDLE</td>
<td>to cause to turn sideways; to move along one side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIGNIFY</td>
<td>denote, indicate; symbolize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIMIAN</td>
<td>apelike; relating to apes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIMPER</td>
<td>to smirk, smile foolishly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SINSPE</td>
<td>lacking in knowledge or intelligence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIMULATED</td>
<td>fake, made to look real</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SINCERE</td>
<td>genuine, true</td>
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<tr>
<td>SINECURE</td>
<td>well-paying job or office that requires little or no work</td>
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<tr>
<td>SINGE</td>
<td>to burn slightly, scorch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SINUOUS</td>
<td>winding; intricate, complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKEPTICAL</td>
<td>doubtful, questioning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKULK</td>
<td>to move in a stealth?, or cautious manner; sneak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLAKE</td>
<td>to calm down or moderate</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLIGHT</td>
<td>to treat as unimportant; insult</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLIPSHOD</td>
<td>careless, hasty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLOTH</td>
<td>sluggishness, laziness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLUDGE</td>
<td>to discard or shed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLOVENLY</td>
<td>untidy, messy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLUGGARD</td>
<td>lazy, inactive person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMELT (v)</td>
<td>to melt metal in order to refine it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMUTTY</td>
<td>obscene, indecent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNIPPET</td>
<td>tiny part, tidbit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOBRIETY</td>
<td>seriousness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOBRQUIET</td>
<td>nickname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SODDEN</td>
<td>thoroughly soaked; saturated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOJOURN</td>
<td>visit, stay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLACE</td>
<td>comfort in distress; consolation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLARUM</td>
<td>room or glassed-in area exposed to the sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLEICISM</td>
<td>grammatical mistake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLICITOUS</td>
<td>concerned, attentive; eager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLIDARITY</td>
<td>unity based on common aims or interests</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
solloquy

SOLiloquy literary or dramatic speech by one character, not addressed to others
SOLipsim belief that the self is the only reality
SOLstice shortest or longest day of the year
SOLuble capable of being solved or dissolved
SOMber dark and gloomy; melancholy, dismal
SOMnambulist sleepwalker
SOMnolent drowsy, sleepy; inducing sleep
SONIC relating to sound
SONorous producing a full, rich sound
SOPHIST person good at arguing deviously
SOPHISTRY deceptive reasoning or argumentation
SOPHOMORIC immature and overconfident
Soporific sleep or tending to cause sleep
Sordid filthy; contemptible and corrupt
SOVEREIGN having supreme power
SPARtan austere, severe, grave; simple, bare
SPAWN to generate, produce
SPECIOUS deceptively attractive
SPECULATION contemplation; act of taking business risks for financial gain
SPECULATIVE involving assumption; uncertain; theoretical
SPLENDID grand, illustrious
SPONTANEOUS on the spur of the moment, impulsive
SPORADIC infrequent, irregular
SPORTIVE frolicsome, playful
SPRightly lively, animated, energetic
SPUR (v) to prod
SPurious lacking authenticity; counterfeit, false
SPURN to reject or refuse contemptuously; scorn
Squab squab
Squall squall
Squat squat
SUDORIFEROUS sweating
Suffocate (v) to smother or suffocate; suppress
Suicide (v) to destroy the self
Suavity smoothness
SUBDUE suppress; subdue
SUBJUGATE to conquer, subdue; enslave
SUBLIMATE to repress impulses
SUBLIME awe-inspiring; of high spiritual or moral value
SUBLIMINAL subconscious; imperceptible
SUBMISSIVE tending to be meek and submit
SUBPOENA notice ordering someone to appear in court
SUBSEQUENT following in time or order
SUBSTANTIAL important, real
SUBTERRANEAN hidden, secret; underground
SUBTILT to detect or describe; perceptive
SUBVERT to undermine or corrupt
SUCCINCT terse, brief, concise
SUCCULENT juicy; full of vitality or freshness
SUFFERABLE bearable
SUFRAGIST one who advocates extended voting rights
SULLEN brooding, gloomy
SULLY to soil, stain, tarnish; taint
SUMPTUOUS lavish, splendid
SUPERABUNDANCE excessive
SUPERANNUATED too old, obsolete, outdated
SUPERcilious arrogant, haughty; overbearing, condescending
SUPEREROGATORY nonessential
SUPERFICIAL hasty; shallow and phony
SUPERFLUOUS extra, more than necessary
SUPERSEDE to take the place of; replace
SUPERVISE to direct or oversee the work of others
SUPPLANT to replace, substitute
SUPPLIES flexible, pliant
SUPPLICANT one who asks humbly and earnestly
SUPPOSITION assumption
SURFACE excessive amount
SURLY rude and bad-tempered
SURMISE to make an educated guess
SURMOUNT to conquer, overcome
SURPASS to do better than, be superior to
SURPLUS excess
SURREPTITIOUS characterized by secrecy
SURVEY (v) to examine in a comprehensive way
Susceptible vulnerable, unprotected
SUSPEND to defer, interrupt; dangle, hang
SUSTAIN support, uphold; endure, undergo
SUSTENANCE supplying the necessities of life
SWARTHY having a dark complexion
SYBARITE person devoted to pleasure and luxury
SYCOPHANT self-serving flatterer, yes-man
SYLLABUS outline of a course
SYMBIOSIS cooperation, mutual helpfulness
SYMPHONY meeting with short presentations on related topics
SYNCHRONOUS happening at the same time
SYNCHRONIZATION temporary irregularity in musical rhythm
SYNOPSIS plot summary
SYNTHESIS blend, combination
SYNTHETIC artificial, imitation

T
TABLEAU vivid description, striking incident or scene
TACIT silently understood or implied
TACITURN uncommunicative, not inclined to speak much
TACTFUL skillful in dealing with others
TACTILE relating to the sense of touch
TAINT to spoil or infect; to stain honor
TAINED stained, tarnished; corrupted, poisoned
TALISMAN something producing a magical effect
TALON claw of an animal, esp. a bird of prey
TANDEM acting as a group or in partnership
TANG sharp flavor or odor
TANGENTIAL digressing, diverting
TANGIBLE able to be sensed; perceptible, measurable
TANTAMOUNT  equivalent in value or significance; amounting to
TARNISHED  corroded, discolored; discredited, disgraced
TAM' DRY  gaudy, cheap, showy
TAXONOMY  science of classification
TECHNOCRAT  strong believer in technology; technical expert
TEETER  to waver or move unsteadily
TEMERITY  recklessness
TEMPERANCE  restraint, self-control, moderation
TEMPERED  moderated, restrained
TEMPESTUOUS  stormy, raging, furious
TEMPORAL  relating to time; chronological
TENABLE  defensible, reasonable
TENACIOUS  stubborn, holding firm
TENDENTIOUS  biased
TENET  belief, doctrine
TENSILE  capable of withstanding physical stress
TENUOUS  weak, insubstantial
TEPID  lukewarm; showing little enthusiasm
TERMINAL  (adj) concluding, final; fatal
TERMINAL  (n) depot, station
TERRESTRIAL  earthly; down-to-earth, commonplace
TERSE  concise, brief, free of extra words
TESTAMENT  statement of belief; will
TESTIMONIAL  statement testifying to a truth; something given in tribute to a person's achievement
TETHER  (v) to bind, tie
THEOCRACY  government by priests representing a god
THEOLOGY  study of God and religion
THEORETICAL  abstract
THERAPEUTIC  medicinal
THESAURUS  book of synonyms and antonyms
THESIS  theory or hypothesis; dissertation or long written composition
THRALL  a person in servitude, enslaved
THRENODY  a sad poem or song
THWART  to block or prevent from happening; frustrate
TIDINGS  news
TIMID  timid, shy, full of apprehension
TINGE  to color slightly
TIRADE  long violent speech; verbal assault
TITAN  person of colossal stature or achievement
TOADY  flatterer, hanger-on, yes-man
TOLERANCE  capacity to respect different values; capacity to endure or resist something
TOME  book, usually large and academic
TONAL  relating to pitch or sound
TOPOGRAPHY  art of making maps or charts
TORPID  lethargic; unable to move; dormant
TORRID  burning hot; passionate
TORSION  act of twisting and turning
TORTUOUS  having many twists and turns; highly complex
TOTTERING  barely standing
TOXIN  poison
TRACTABLE  obedient, yielding
TRAMMEL  to impede or hamper
TRANQUIL  to calm or steady
TRANSCEEND  to rise above, go beyond
TRANSCEENDENT  rising above, going beyond
TRANSCRIPTION  copy, reproduction; record
TRANSFIGURATION  a change; an exalting change
TRANSFORMATION  a change in form or appearance
TRANSFIGURE  to trespass, violate a law
TRANSIENT  (adj) temporary, short-lived, fleeting
TRANSITORY  short-lived, existing only briefly
TRANSLATION  a change from one state to another; converting one language into another
TRANSLUCENT  partially transparent
TRANSMUTER  to change in appearance or shape
TRANSPIRE  to happen, occur; become known
TRAVESTY  parody, exaggerated imitation, caricature
TREMULOUS trembling, quivering, fearful, timid
TRENCHANT acute, sharp, incisive; forceful, effective
TREPIDATION fear and anxiety
TRIBUTE a gift or statement showing respect or gratitude
TRIFLING of slight worth, trivial, insignificant
TRITE shallow, superficial
TROUNCE to beat severely, defeat
TROUPE group of actors
TRUCULENT savage and cruel; fierce; ready to fight
TRUISM something that is obviously true
TRUNCATE to cut off, shorten by cutting
TRYING difficult to deal with
TRYST agreement between lovers to meet; rendezvous
TUMULT state of confusion; agitation
TUNDRA treeless plain found in Arctic or subarctic regions
TURBID muddled; unclear
TURBULENCE commotion, disorder
TURGIID swollen, bloated
TURPITUDE inherent vileness, foulness, depravity
TYRANNICAL oppressive; dictatorial
TYRO beginner, novice

U
UBIQUEOUS being everywhere simultaneously
UBRAGE offense, resentment
UNADULTERATED absolutely pure
UNANIMITY state of total agreement or unity
UNAPPEALING unattractive, unpleasant
UNAVAILING hopeless, useless
UNBENDING inflexible, unyielding
UNBRIDLED unrestrained
UNCONSCIONABLE unscrupulous; shockingly unfair or unjust
UNCTUOUS greasy, oily; smug and falsely earnest
UNDAUNTED resolute even in adversity
UNDERMINE to sabotage, thwart

UNDOCUMENTED not certified, unsubstantiated
UNDULATING moving in waves
UNEQUIVOCAL absolute, certain
UNFAILING not likely to fail, constant, infallible
UNFETTERED free, unrestrained
UNFROCK to strip of priestly duties
UNGRACIOUS rude, disagreeable
UNHERALDED unannounced, unexpected
UNIDIMENSIONAL having one size or dimension
UNIFORM (adj) consistent and unchanged; identical
UNIMPEACHABLE beyond question
UNINITIATED not familiar with an area of study
UNKEMPT uncombed, messy in appearance
UNOBTRUSIVE modest, unassuming
UNPOLISHED lacking sophistication
UNRUFFLED poised, calm
UNSCRUPULOUS dishonest
UNSOILED clean, pure
UNUANALITIED unannounced
UNSTIMING generous
UNSULLIED clean
UNSWAYABLE unable to change
UNTOWARD not favorable; unruly
UNTRAMMELED unhampered
UNWARRANTED groundless, unjustified
UNWITTING unconscious; unintentional
UNYielding firm, resolute
UPBRAID to scold sharply
UPROARIOUS loud and forceful
UPSURGE sudden rise
URBANE courteous, refined, suave
USURP to seize by force
USURY practice of lending money at exorbitant rates
UTILITARIAN efficient, functional, useful
UTOPIA perfect place
vacillate

V

VACILLATE to waver, show indecision
VACUOUS empty, void, lacking intelligence, purposeless
VAGRANT poor person with no home
VALIANT brave, courageous
VALIDATE to authorize, certify, confirm
VALOROUS brave, valiant
VANQUISH to conquer, defeat
VAPID tasteless, dull
VARIABLE changeable, inconstant
VARIEGATED varied; marked with different colors
VAUNTED boasted about, bragged about
VEHEMENTLY strongly, urgently
VENAL willing to do wrong for money
VENDETTA prolonged feud marked by bitter hostility
VENERABLE respected because of age
VENERATION adoration, honor, respect
VENT (v) to express, say out loud
VERACITY accuracy, truth
VERBATIM word for word
VERBOSITY wordy
VERDANT green with vegetation; inexperienced
VERDURE fresh, rich vegetation
VERIFIED proven true
VERISIMILITUDE quality of appearing true or real
VERITY truthfulness; belief viewed as true and enduring
VERMIN small creatures offensive to humans
VERNACULAR everyday language used by ordinary people; specialized language of a profession
VERNAL related to spring
VERSATILE adaptable, all-purpose
VERSE energy, vitality
VESTIGE trace, remnant
VETO (v) to reject formally

VEX to irritate, annoy; confuse, puzzle
VIABLE workable, able to succeed or grow
VIADUCT series of elevated arches used to cross a valley
VICARIOUS substitute, surrogate; enjoyed through imagined participation in another’s experience
VICISSITUDE change or variation; ups and downs
VIE to compete, contend
VIGILANT attentive, watchful
VIGNETTE decorative design; short literary composition
VILIFY to slander, defame
VIM energy, enthusiasm
VINDICATE to clear of blame; support a claim
VINDICATION clearance from blame or suspicion
VINDICTIVE spiteful, vengeful, unforgiving
VIRGINAL pure, chaste
VIRILE manly, having qualities of an adult male
VIRTUE conforming to what is right
VIRTUOSO someone with masterly skill; expert musician
VIRULENT extremely poisonous; malignant; hateful
VISCOUS thick, syrupy and sticky
VITIATE reduce in value or effectiveness
VITRIOLIC burning, caustic; sharp, bitter
VITUPERATE to abuse verbally
VIVACIOUS lively, spirited
VIVID bright and intense in color; strongly perceived
VOCIFEROUS loud, vocal and noisy
VOID (adj) not legally enforceable; empty
VOID (n) emptiness, vacuum
VOID (v) to cancel, invalidate
VOLATILE explosive
VOLITION free choice, free will; act of choosing
VOLLEY (n) flight of missiles, round of gunshots
VOLUBILE speaking much and easily, talkative; glib
VOLUMINOUS large; of great quantity; writing or speaking at great length
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VORACIOUS</td>
<td>having a great appetite</td>
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<tr>
<td>VORTEX</td>
<td>swirling, resembling a whirlpool</td>
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<td>WOLD</td>
<td>obscene; common, of low class</td>
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<tr>
<td>VULNERABLE</td>
<td>defenseless, unprotected; innocent, naive</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAIVE</td>
<td>to refrain from enforcing a rule; to give up a legal right</td>
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<tr>
<td>WALLOW</td>
<td>to indulge oneself excessively, luxuriate</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAN</td>
<td>sickly pale</td>
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<tr>
<td>WANE</td>
<td>to dwindle, to decrease</td>
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<td>WANTON</td>
<td>undisciplined, unrestrained, reckless</td>
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<tr>
<td>WARRANTY</td>
<td>guarantee of a product’s soundness</td>
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<td>WARY</td>
<td>careful, cautious</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASPISH</td>
<td>rude, behaving badly</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAVER</td>
<td>to show indecision</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAX</td>
<td>to increase</td>
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<td>WAYWARD</td>
<td>erratic, unrestrained, reckless</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEATHER (v)</td>
<td>to endure, undergo</td>
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<td>WEIGHTY</td>
<td>important, momentous</td>
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<td>WELTER (n)</td>
<td>a confused mass; a jumble</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHET</td>
<td>to sharpen, stimulate</td>
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<td>WHIMSY</td>
<td>playful or fanciful idea</td>
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<td>WILY</td>
<td>clever, deceptive</td>
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<td>WINDFALL</td>
<td>sudden, unexpected good fortune</td>
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<td>WINSOME</td>
<td>charming, happily engaging</td>
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<td>WITHDRAWN</td>
<td>unsociable, aloof; shy, timid</td>
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<td>WIZENED</td>
<td>withered, shriveled, wrinkled</td>
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<tr>
<td>WOE</td>
<td>deep suffering or grief</td>
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<tr>
<td>WRAITH</td>
<td>a ghost</td>
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<tr>
<td>WRANGLE</td>
<td>loud quarrel</td>
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<tr>
<td>WRIT</td>
<td>written document, usually in law</td>
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<tr>
<td>WRY</td>
<td>amusing, ironic</td>
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XENOPHOBIA: fear or hatred of foreigners or strangers
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