

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

ABHOR to loathe, detest

ABIDING enduring, continuing

ABJECT miserable, pitiful

ABJURE to reject, abandon formally

ABLUTION act of **cleansing**

ABNEGATE 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

ABSOLVE 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

ACCRUE to accumulate, grow by additions

ACERBIC bitter, sharp in taste or temper

ACIDULOUS sour in taste or manner

ACME highest point, summit

ACQUIESCE 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

ADAMANT 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

AMBIDEXTROUS 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

AMENABLE	agreeable , cooperative	ANTECEDENT (adj)	coming before in place or time
AMEND	to improve or correct flaws in	ANTEDATE	dated prior to the actual occurrence
AMENITY	pleasantness; something increasing comfort	ANTEDILUVIAN	prehistoric, ancient beyond measure
AMIALE	friendly, pleasant, likable	ANTEPENULTIMATE	third from last
AMICABLE	friendly, agreeable	ANTERIOR	preceding, previous, before, prior (to)
AMITY	friendship	ANTHOLOGY	collection of literary works
AMORAL	unprincipled, unethical	ANTHROPOMORPHIC	attributing human qualities to nonhumans
AMOROUS	strongly attracted to love; showing love	ANTIPATHY	dislike, hostility; extreme opposition or aversion
AMORPHOUS	having no definite form	ANTIQUATED	outdated, obsolete
AMORTIZE	to diminish by installment payments	ANTIQUITY	ancient times; the quality of being old or ancient
AMPHIBIAN (n)	creature equally at home on land or in water	ANTITHESIS	exact opposite or direct contrast
AMPHITHEATER	arena theater with ruing tiers around a central open space	APACE	done quickly
AMPLE	abundant, plentiful	APATHETIC	indifferent, unconcerned
AMPLIFY	to increase, intensify	APATHY	lack of feeling or emotion
AMULET	ornament worn as a charm against evil spirits	APERTURE	an opening or hole
ANACHRONISM	something chronologically inappropriate	APHASIA	inability to speak or use words
ANACHRONISTIC	outdated	APHELION	point in a planet's orbit that is farthest from the sun
ANALGESIA	a lessening of pain	APHORISM	old saying or short pithy statement
ANALOGOUS	comparable, parallel	APLOMB	poise, confidence
ANARCHY	absence of government or law; chaos	APOCRYPHAL	not genuine; fictional
ANATHEMA	ban, curse; something shunned or disliked	APOSTATE (n)	one who renounces a religious faith
ANCILLARY	accessory, subordinate, helping	APOSTROPHE	speech to the reader or someone not present; a superscript sign (')
ANECDOTE	short, usually funny account of an event	APOTHEGM	a short, instructive saying
ANGULAR	characterized by sharp angles; lean and gaunt	APOTHEOSIS	glorification; glorified ideal
ANIMATION	enthusiasm, excitement	APPEASE	to satisfy, placate, calm , pacify
ANIMOSITY	hatred, hostility	APPEND	to attach
ANNUL	to cancel, nullify, declare void, or make legally invalid	APPLAUSE	praise
ANODYNE	something that calms or soothes pain	APPRAISE	to evaluate the value of something
ANOINT	to apply oil to, esp. as a sacred rite	APPREHENSION	the act of comprehending; fear, foreboding
ANOMALY	irregularity or deviation from the norm	APPRISE	to give notice of; inform
ANONYMITY	condition of having no name or an unknown name		
ANTAGONIST	foe, opponent, adversary		

approbation

APPROBATION	praise; official approval	ASPIRE	to have great hopes; to aim at a goal
APPROPRIATE (v)	to take possession of	ASSAIL	to attack, assault
AQUATIC	belonging or living in water	ASSAY	to analyze or estimate
ARABLE	suitable for cultivation	ASSENT (v)	to express agreement
ARBITRARY	depending solely on individual will; inconsistent	ASSERT	to affirm, attest
ARBITRATOR	mediator, negotiator	ASSIDUOUS	diligent, persistent, hardworking
ARBOREAL	relating to trees; living in trees	ASSIGNATION	appointment for lovers' meeting; assignment
ARBORETUM	place where trees are displayed and studied	ASSIMILATION	act of blending in, becoming similar
ARCANE	secret, obscure, known only to a few	ASSONANCE	resemblance in sound, especially in vowel sounds; partial rhyme
ARCHAIC	antiquated, from an earlier time; outdated	ASSUAGE	to make less severe, ease, relieve
ARCHIPELAGO	large group of islands	ASTRAL	exalted, elevated in position; relating to the stars
ARDENT	passionate, enthusiastic, fervent	ASTRINGENT	harsh, severe, stem
ARDOR	great emotion or passion	ASTUTE	having good judgment
ARDUOUS	extremely difficult, laborious	ASUNDER (adv)	into different parts
ARID	extremely dry or deathly boring	ASYMMETRICAL	not corresponding in size, shape, position, etcetera
ARRAIGN	to call to court to answer a charge	ATONE	to make amends for a wrong
ARROGATE	to demand, claim arrogantly	ATROCIOUS	monstrous, shockingly bad, wicked
ARSENAL	ammunition storehouse	ATROPHY (v)	to waste away, wither from disuse
ARTICULATE (adj)	well-spoken, expressing oneself clearly	ATTAIN	to accomplish, gain
ARTIFACT	historical relic, item made by human craft	ATTENUATE	to make thin or slender; weaken
ARTISAN	craftsperson; expert	ATTEST	to testify, stand as proof of, bear witness
ARTLESS	open and honest	AUDACIOUS	bold, daring, fearless
ASCEND	to rise or climb	AUDIBLE	capable of being heard
ASCENDANCY	state of rising, ascending; power or control	AUDIT (n)	formal examination of financial records
ASCERTAIN	to determine , discover, make certain of	AUDITORY	having to do with hearing
ASCETIC (adj)	self-denying, abstinent, austere	AUGMENT	to expand, extend
ASCRIBE	to attribute to, assign	AUGURY (adj)	prophecy, prediction of events
ASHEN	resembling ashes; deathly pale	AUGUST	dignified, awe-inspiring, venerable
ASININE	lacking intelligence or sound judgment	AUSPICIOUS	having favorable prospects, promising
ASKANCE	scornfully	AUSTERE	stern, strict, unadorned
ASKEW	crooked, tilted	AUTHORITARIAN	extremely strict , bossy
ASOCIAL	unable or unwilling to interact socially	AUTOCRAT	dictator
ASPERITY	harshness, roughness	AUTONOMOUS	separate, independent
ASPERSION	false rumor , damaging report, slander		

AUXILIARY supplementary, reserve
 AVARICE greed
 AVENGE to retaliate, take revenge for an injury or crime
 AVER to declare to be true, **affirm**
 AVERSE being disinclined toward something
 AVERSION intense dislike
 AVERT to turn (something) away; prevent
 AVIARY large **enclosure** housing birds
 AVOW to state openly or **declare**
 AWRY crooked, askew, amiss
 AXIOM premiss, 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
 BELLICOSE warlike, aggressive
 BELLIGERENT hostile, tending to fight
 BELLOW to roar, shout
 BEMUSE to confuse, stupefy; plunge deep into thought
 BENCHMARK standard of measure
 BENEFACTOR 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
 BEREAVED 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

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
BLATAST 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

C

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
- CHAOS confusion
- CHAOTIC extremely disorderly
- CHARLATAN quack, fake
- CHARM compelling attractiveness
- CHARY watchful, cautious, extremely shy
- CHASTISE to punish, discipline, **xold**
- CHATTEL 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
- CHIMERICAL 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
- CITADEL fortress or stronghold
- 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
- CLAUSTROPHOBIA fear of small, **confined** places

cleave

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

COFFER strongbox, large chest for money

COGENT logically forceful, compelling, convincing

COGNATE 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

COLLECTED acting calm and composed

COLLOQUIAL characteristic of informal speech

COLLOQUY dialogue or conversation, conference

COLLUSION collaboration, complicity, conspiracy

COMELINESS physical grace and beauty

COMMEND to compliment, praise

COMMENSURATE proportional

COMMISSION fee payable to an agent; authorization

COMMODIOUS 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

COMPLACENT self-satisfied, smug, affable

COMPLAISANT 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

COMPUNCTIOUS feeling guilty or having misgivings

COMPUNCTION feeling of uneasiness caused by guilt or regret

CONCATENATE linked together

CONCAVE 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

CONGENIAL	similar in tastes and habits	CONTINENCE	self-control, self-restraint
CONGENITAL	existing since birth	CONTRADICT	to deny or oppose
CONGLOMERATE	collected group of varied things	CONTRAVENTE	to contradict, deny, act contrary to
CONGRESS	formal meeting or assembly	CONTRITE	deeply sorrowful and repentant for a wrong
CONGRUITY	correspondence, harmony, agreement	CONTUMACIOUS	rebellious
CONJECTURE	speculation, prediction	CONTUSION	bruise
CONJOIN	to join together	CONUNDRUM	riddle, puzzle or problem with no solution
CONJUGAL	pertaining to marriage	CONVALESCENCE	gradual recovery after an illness
CONJURE	to evoke a spirit, cast a spell	CONVENE	to meet, come together, assemble
CONNIVE	to conspire, scheme	CONVENTIONAL	typical, customary, commonplace
CONNOISSEUR	a person with refined taste	CONVEX	curved outward
CONSANGUINEOUS	of the same origin; related by blood	CONVIVIAL	sociable; fond of eating, drinking, and people
CONSCIENTIOUS	governed by conscience; careful and thorough	CONVOKE	to call together, summon
CONSECRATE	to declare sacred; dedicate to a goal	CONVOLUTED	twisted, complicated, involved
CONSENSUS	unanimity, agreement of opinion or attitude	COPIOUS	abundant, plentiful
CONSEQUENTIAL	important	COQUETTE	woman who flirts
CONSIDERABLE	significant, worth considering	CORNUCOPIA	abundance
CONSIGN	to commit, entrust	CORPOREAL	having to do with the body; tangible, material
CONSISTENT	containing no contradictions , being harmonious	CORPULENCE	obesity, fatness, bulkiness
CONSOLATION	something providing comfort or solace for a loss or hardship	CORRELATION	association, mutual relation of two or more things
CONSOLIDATE	to combine, incorporate	CORROBORATE	to confirm, verify
CONSONANT (adj)	consistent with, in agreement with	CORRODE	to weaken or destroy
CONSTANT	completely uniform and unchanging	CORRUGATE	to mold in a shape with parallel grooves and ridges
CONSTITUENT	component, part; citizen, voter	COSMETIC (adj)	relating to beauty; affecting the surface of something
CONSTRAINED	forced, compelled; confined, restrained	COSMOGRAPHY	science that deals with the nature of the universe
CONSTRAINT	something that forces or compels; something that restrains or confines	COSMOPOLITAN	sophisticated, free from local prejudices
CONSTRICIT	to inhibit	COSSET	to pamper, treat with great care
CONSTRUE	to explain or interpret	COTERIE	group of people with a common interest or purpose
CONSUMMATE (adj)	accomplished, complete, perfect	COTERIE	small group of persons with a similar purpose
CONSUMMATE (v)	to complete, fulfill	COUNTENANCE (n)	facial expression; look of approval or support
CONTEND	to battle, clash; compete	COUNTENANCE (v)	to favor, support
CONTENTIOUS	quarrelsome, disagreeable , belligerent		

countermand

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
DECADENCE **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
DECRY 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
DEFERENTIAL respectful and polite in a submissive way
DEFICIENT defective, not meeting a normal standard
DEFILE to make un**clean** or dishonor
DEFINITIVE dear-cut, **explicit** or decisive
DEFLATION decrease, depreciation
DEFORM to **disfigure**, distort
DEFT skillful, dexterous
DEFUNCT no longer **existing, dead**, extinct

DELECTABLE	appetizing, delicious	DEROGATE	to belittle, disparage
DELEGATE (v)	to give powers to another	DESCRY	to discover or reveal
DELETERIOUS	harmful, destructive, detrimental	DESECRATE	to abuse something sacred
DELINEATION	depiction, representation	DESICCATE	to dry completely, dehydrate
DELTA	tidal deposit at the mouth of a river	DESIST	to stop doing something
DELUGE (n)	flood	DESPONDENT	feeling discouraged and dejected
DELUGE (v)	to submerge, overwhelm	DESPOT	tyrannical ruler
DEMAGOGUE	leader or rabble-rouser who usually uses appeals to emotion or prejudice	DESTITUTE	very poor, poverty-stricken
DEMARCATIION	borderline; act of defining or marking a boundary or distinction	DESULTORY	at random, rambling, unmethodical
DEMEAN	to degrade, humiliate, humble	DETACHED	separate, unconnected
DEMISE	death	DETER	to discourage; prevent from happening
DEMOGRAPHICS	data relating to study of human population	DETERMINE	having defined limits; conclusive
DEMOTE	to reduce to a lower grade or rank	DETESTATION	extreme hatred
DEMOTION	lowering in rank or grade	DETRACTOR	one who takes something away
DEMUR	to express doubts or objections	DETRIMENTAL	causing harm or injury
DEMYSTIFY	to remove mystery from, clarify	DEVIATE	to stray, wander
DENIGRATE	to slur or blacken someone's reputation	DEVIATION	departure, exception, anomaly
DENOUNCE	to accuse, blame	DEVOID	totally lacking
DENUDE	to make bare, uncover, undress	DEVOUT	deeply religious
DENUNCIATION	public condemnation	DEXTEROUS	skilled physically or mentally
DEPICT	to describe, represent	DIABOLICAL	fiendish; wicked
DEplete	to use up, exhaust	DIALECT	regional style of speaking
DEPLORE	to express or feel disapproval of; regret strongly	DIAPHANOUS	allowing light to show through; delicate
DEPOSE	to remove from a high position, as from a throne	DIATRIBE	bitter verbal attack
DEPRAVITY	sinfulness, moral corruption	DICHOTOMY	division into two parts
DEPRECATE	to belittle, disparage	DICTUM	authoritative statement; popular saying
DEPRECIATE	to lose value gradually	DIDACTIC	excessively instructive
DERANGED	to be disturbed or insane	DIFFER	disagree
DERIDE	to mock, ridicule, make fun of	DIFFERENTIATE	to distinguish between two items
DERISIVE	expressing ridicule or scorn	DIFFIDENCE	shyness, lack of confidence
DERIVATIVE	copied or adapted; not original	DIFFRACT	to cause to separate into parts, esp. light
DERIVE	to originate; take from a certain source	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

DILATORY	slow, tending to delay	DISINTEREST	lack of interest or a disadvantage
DILETTANTE	an amateur	DISJOINTED	lacking coherence or order, being separated
DILUVIAL	relating to a flood	DISPARAGE	to belittle, speak disrespectfully about
DIMINUTIVE	small	DISPARATE	dissimilar, different in kind
DIPLOMACY	discretion, tact	DISPARITY	contrast, dissimilarity
DIRGE	funeral hymn	DISPASSIONATE	free from emotion; impartial, unbiased
DISABUSE	to free from a misconception	DISPEL	to drive out or scatter
DISAFFECTED	discontented and disloyal	DISPENSE	to distribute, administer
DISARRAY	clutter, disorder	DISPENSE WITH	to suspend the operation of, do without
DISBAND	to break up	DISPERSE	to break up, scatter
DISBAR	to expel from legal profession	DISPIRIT	to dishearten, make dejected
DISBURSE	to pay out	DISPUTE	to debate, to quarrel
DISCERN	to perceive something obscure	DISQUIETED	feeling anxiety , being disturbed, lacking peace
DISCLAIM	to deny, disavow	DISREGARD	to neglect, pay no attention to
DISCLOSE	to confess, divulge	DISREPUTE	disgrace, dishonor
DISCOMFIT	to cause perplexity and embarrassment	DISSEMBLE	to pretend, disguise one's motives
DISCOMPOSE	to disturb the composure or serenity	DISSEMINATE	to spread far and wide
DISCONCERTING	bewildering, perplexing, slightly disturbing	DISSENSION	difference of opinion
DISCONSOLATE	unable to be consoled; extremely sad	DISSIMULATE	to disguise or put on a false appearance
DISCORDANT	harsh-sounding, badly out of tune	DISSIPATE	to scatter; to pursue pleasure to excess
DISCREDIT	to dishonor or disgrace	DISSOCIATE	to separate; remove from an association
DISCREDITED	disbelieved, discounted; disgraced, dishonored	DISSONANT	harsh and unpleasant sounding
DISCREPANCY	difference between	DISSUADE	to persuade someone to alter original intentions
DISCRETE	distinct, separate	DISTAFF	the female branch of a family
DISCRETIONARY	subject to one's own judgment	DISTEND	to swell , inflate, bloat
DISCURSIVE	wandering from topic to topic	DISTRAUGHT	very worried and distressed
DISDAIN	to regard with scorn and contempt	DISTRUST (n)	disbelief and suspicion
DISDAINFUL	contemptuous, scornful	DITHER (v)	to move or act confusedly or without clear purpose
DISENGAGED	disconnected, disassociated	DIURNAL	daily
DISGORGE	to vomit, discharge violently	DIVERGE	to move in different directions, to deviate from a source
DISHEVELED	untidy, disarranged, unkempt	DIVERSE	differing
DISINCLINED	averse, unwilling, lacking desire	DIVERT	to turn from one course to another
DISINGENUOUS	sly and crafty	DNEST	to get rid of
		DMNE (v)	to foretell or know by inspiration

DMSIVE creating **disunity** or **conflict**
 DOCILE tame, willing to be taught
 DOCTRINAIRE rigidly devoted to theories
 DOGGED (adj) persistent, stubborn
 DOGMATIC 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
 EMBROIL 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

ENCHANT to charm or attract

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

ENSHROUD to cover, enclose with a dark cover

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

EPIGRAM short, witty saying or poem

EPIGRAPH 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 (n) 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

ERODE 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

ESCALATE to increase the intensity or scope of

ESCHEW to abstain **from**, avoid

ESOTERIC understood only by a learned few

ESPOUSE to support or advocate; to marry

ESTIMABLE admirable

ESTRANGE to alienate, keep at a distance

ESURIENT hungry, greedy

ETHEREAL not earthly, spiritual, delicate

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 (n) 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

EXECRABLE 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

EXHUXIE 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

EXPATiate 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

EXPOUND to elaborate; to expand or increase

EXPUNGE to erase, eliminate completely

EXPURGATE to censor

EXTEMPORANEOUS unrehearsed, on the spur of the moment

EXTENUATE to lessen the seriousness, strength, or effect of

EXTINCTION end of a living thing or species

EXTOL 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

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 drawn 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

FICTIVE 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, waver

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
 FRACTIOUS 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; **flippant, silly**
 FROND leaf

FRUGAL thrifty; cheap
 FULMINATE to explode with anger
 FULSOME excessive, overdone, **sickeningly** abundant
 FUNERAL mournful, appropriate to a **funeral**
 FUROR rage, fury
 FURTIVE secret, stealthy
 FUSION process of merging things into one

G

GAINSAY to deny
 GALL (n) bitterness; careless nerve
 GALL (v) to exasperate and irritate
 GALLANT a very fashionable young man
 GAMBOL 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
 GAVEL 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

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
GRANDILOQUENCE 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
GUILE 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 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 interdependence 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
 HYPOTHESIS assumption subject to proof
 HYPOTHETICAL theoretical, speculative

I

ICONOCIAST 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
 ILLIMITABLE 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
 IXIPASSIONED with passion
 IMPASSIVE showing no emotion
 IMPEACH to charge with misdeeds in public office; accuse
 IMPECCABLE flawless, without fault
 IMPECUNIOUS poor, having no money
 IMPEDIMENT barrier, obstacle; speech disorder
 IMPERATIVE essential; mandatory
 IMPERIOUS arrogantly self-assured, domineering, overbearing
 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**
 IXIPORTUNE to ask repeatedly, beg
 IMPOSE to inflict, force upon
 IMPOSING dignified, grand
 IMPOTENT **powerless**, ineffective, lacking strength
 IMPOUND to seize and confine
 IMPOVERISH to make poor or bankrupt
 IMPRECACTION curse
 IMPREGNABLE totally safe from attack, able to resist defeat

impressionable

IMPRESSIONABLE easily **influenced** or affected

IMPROMPTU spontaneous, without rehearsal

IMPROVIDENT without planning or foresight, negligent

IMPRUDENT **unwise**

IMPUDENT arrogant and rude

IMPUGN to call into question, **attack verbally**

IMPULSE sudden tendency, **inclination**

IMPULSIVE spontaneous, unpredictable

INADVERTENTLY **unintentionally**

INANE foolish, silly, lacking significance

INAUGURATE to begin or start officially; to induct into office

INCANDESCENT shining brightly

INCARCERATE to put in jail; to **confine**

INCARCERATION imprisonment

INCARNADINE blood-red in color

INCARNATE having bodily form

INCENDIARY combustible, flammable, burning easily

INCENSE (**v**) to infuriate, enrage

INCEPTION beginning

INCESSANT continuous, never ceasing

INCHOATE just begun; disorganized

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

INCOMMUNICADO lacking a means to communicate

INCONCEIVABLE impossible, unthinkable

INCONGRUOUS incompatible, not harmonious

INCONSEQUENTIAL unimportant, trivial

INCONTROVERTIBLE unquestionable, beyond dispute

INCORRIGIBLE incapable of being corrected

INCREDULOUS 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

INDOLENT 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

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

INFER to **conclude**, deduce

INFERNAL hellish, diabolical

INFILTRATE to pass secretly into enemy territory
 INFINITESIMAL extremely tiny
 INFIRMITY disease, ailment
 INFNNGE to encroach, trespass; to transgress, violate
 INFURIATE to anger, provoke, outrage
 INFURIATING provoking anger or outrage
 INGENIOUS original, clever, inventive
 INGENUOUS **straightforward**, open; naive and unsophisticated
 INGLONOUS lacking fame or honor, shameful
 INGRAINED an innate quality, deep-seated
 INGRATE ungrateful person
 INGRATIATE to bring oneself purposely into another's good graces
 INGRESS entrance
 INHIBIT to hold back, prevent, restrain
 INIMICAL hostile, unfriendly
 INIQUITY sin, evil act
 INITIATE to begin, introduce; to enlist, induct
 INJECT to force into; to introduce into conversation
 INJUNCTION command, order
 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
 INNUENDO indirect and subtle criticism, insinuation
 INNUMERABLE too many to be counted
 INOFFENSIVE harmless, **innocent**
 INOPERABLE not operable; incurable by surgery
 INQUEST investigation; court or legal **proceeding**
 INQUISITIVE curious
 INSATIABLE never satisfied
 INSCRUTABLE impossible to understand **fully**

INSENTIENT 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
 ISTER 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
 INTERNECINE 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
 INTERSTICE a space between things
 INTIMATION clue, suggestion

intractable

INTRACTABLE not easily managed
INTRAMURAL within an institution like a school
INTRANSIGENT uncompromising, refusing to be reconciled
INTREPID fearless
INTRIGUED interested, curious
INTRINSIC inherent, internal
INTROSPECTIVE contemplating one's own thoughts and feelings
INTROVERT someone given to self-analysis
INTRUSION trespass, invasion of another's privacy
INTUITIVE instinctive, untaught
INUNDATE to cover with water; overwhelm
INURE to harden; accustom; become used to
INVALIDATE to negate or nullify
INVARIABLE constant, not changing
INVECTIVE verbal abuse
INVEIGH protest strongly
INVESTITURE ceremony conferring authority
INVETERATE confirmed, long-standing, deeply rooted
INVIDIOUS likely to provoke ill will, offensive
INVINCIBLE invulnerable, unbeatable
INVIOABLE safe from violation or assault
INVOKE to call upon, request help
IOTA very tiny amount
IRASCIBLE easily angered
IRIDESCENT showing many colors
IRRESOLVABLE unable to be resolved; not analyzable
IRREVERENT disrespectful
IRREVOCABLE conclusive, irreversible
ITINERANT wandering from place to place, unsettled
ITINERARY route of a traveler's journey

J

JADED tired by excess or overuse; slightly cynical
JANGLING clashing, jarring; harshly unpleasant (in sound)
JARGON nonsensical talk; specialized language
JAUNDICE yellowish discoloration of skin
JAUNDICED affected by jaundice; prejudiced or embittered
JETTISON to cast off, throw cargo overboard
JIBE to shift suddenly from one side to the other
JINGOISM belligerent support of one's country
JOCULAR jovial, playful, humorous
JUBILEE special anniversary
JUDICIOUS sensible, showing good judgment
JUGGERNAUT huge force destroying everything in its path
JUNCTURE point where two things are joined
JURISPRUDENCE philosophy of law
JUVENILE young or childish acting
JUXTAPOSITION side-by-side placement

K

KEEN having a sharp edge; intellectually sharp, perceptive
KERNEL innermost, essential part: seed grain, often in a shell
KEYNOTE note or tone on which a musical key is founded; main idea of a speech, program, etcetera
KINDLE to set fire to or ignite; excite or inspire
KINETIC relating to motion; characterized by movement
KISMET fate
KNELL sound of a funeral bell; omen of death or failure
KUDOS fame, glory, honor

L

LABYRINTH maze
LACERATION cut or wound
LACHRYMOSE tearful
LACKADAISICAL idle, lazy; apathetic, indifferent
LACKLUSTER dull

LACONIC	using few words	LICENSE	freedom to act
LAGGARD	dawdler, loafer, lazy person	LICENTIOUS	immoral ; unrestrained by society
LAMBASTE	disapprove angrily	LIEN	right to possess and sell the property of a debtor
LAMENT (v)	to deplore, grieve	LIMPID	clear and simple; serene; transparent
LAMPOON (v)	to attack with satire, mock harshly	LINEAGE	ancestry
LANGUID	lacking energy, indifferent, slow	LINGUISTICS	study of language
LANGUOR	listlessness	LINIXIENT	medicinal liquid used externally to ease pain
LAP (v)	to drink using the tongue; to wash against	LIONIZE	to treat as a celebrity
LAPIDARY	relating to precious stones	LISSOME	easily flexed, limber, agile
LARCENY	theft of property	LISTLESS	lacking energy and enthusiasm
LARDER	place where food is stored	LITERAL	word for word; upholding the exact meaning of a word
LARGESS	generosity; gift	LITERATE	able to read and write; well-read and educated
LARYNX	organ containing vocal cords	LITHE	moving and bending with ease ; graceful
LASCIVIOUS	lewd, lustful	LITIGATION	lawsuit
LASSITUDE	lethargy, sluggishness	LIVID	discolored from a bruise; reddened with anger
LATENT	present but hidden; potential	LOATHE	to abhor, despise, hate
LATITUDE	freedom of action or choice	LOCOMOTION	movement from place to place
LAUDABLE	deserving of praise	LODGED	fixed in one position
LAVISH	to give plentiful amounts of	LOFTY	noble, elevated in position
LAXITY	carelessness	LOGO	corporate symbol
LEERY	suspicious	LOITER	to stand around idly
LEGERDEMAIN	trickery	LOQUACIOUS	talkative
LEGIBLE	readable	LOW (v)	to make a sound like a cow, moo
LEGISLATE	to decree, mandate, make laws	LUCID	clear and easily understood
LEGITIMATE	adhering to the law, rightful	LUDICROUS	laughable, ridiculous
LENIENT	easygoing, permissive	LUGUBRIOUS	sorrowful, mournful
LETHARGY	indifferent inactivity	LULL	to soothe
LEVITATE	to rise in the air or cause to rise	LUMBER (v)	to move slowly and awkwardly
LEVITY	humor, frivolity, gaiety	LUMINARY	bright object; celebrity; source of inspiration
LEXICON	dictionary, list of words	LUMINOUS	bright, brilliant, glowing
LIBERAL (adj)	tolerant, broad-minded; generous, lavish	LUNAR	relating to the moon
LIBERATION	freedom, emancipation	LURID	harshly shocking, sensational; glowing
LIBERTARIAN	one who believes in unrestricted freedom	LURK	to prowl, sneak
LIBERTINE	one without moral restraint		
LIBIDINOUS	lustful		

luscious

LUSCIOUS very good-tasting

LUXURIANCE elegance, lavishness

LYRICAL suitable for poetry and song; expressing feeling

M

MACABRE gruesome, producing horror

MACHINATION 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

MALICE 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

MASQUERADE 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

MEDDLER 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 courageousness; 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
 MOTLEY many-colored; composed of diverse parts
 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

N

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

NEGLIGENT careless, inattentive

NEGLIGIBLE not worth considering

NEMESIS a formidable, often victorious opponent

NEOLOGISM new word or expression

NEONATE newborn child

NEOPHYTE novice, beginner

NETHER 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

NOMADIC 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

O

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

OBLOQUY abusive language; ill repute

OBSCURE (adj) dim, unclear; not well known

OBSCURITY place or thing that's hard to perceive

OBSEQUIOUS overly submissive, brownnosing

OBSEQUY funeral ceremony

OBSESSIVE preoccupying, all-consuming

OBSOLETE no longer in use

OBSTINATE stubborn

OBSTREPEROUS troublesome, boisterous, unruly

OBTRUSIVE pushy, too conspicuous

OBTUSE 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
 OPALESCENT iridescent, displaying colors
 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
 OPTIMUXI 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
 OSSIFY to turn to bone; to become rigid
 OSTENSIBLE apparent
 OSTENTATIOUS showy
 OSTRACISM exclusion, temporary banishment
 OUSTER expulsion, 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 mixing 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

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 unequalled

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**

PERIHELION point in orbit nearest to the sun

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	PLACATE	to soothe or pacify
PERT	lively and bold	PLACID	calm
PERTINACIOUS	persistent, stubborn	PLAGIARIST	one who steals words or ideas
PERTINENT	applicable, appropriate	PLAINTIFF	injured person in a lawsuit
PERTURBATION	disturbance	PLAINTIVE	expressing sorrow
PERUSAL	close examination	PLAIT	to braid
PERVASIVE	present throughout	PLANGENT	loud sound; wailing sound
PERVERT (v)	to cause to change in immoral way; to misuse	PLASTIC	flexible; pliable
PESTILENCE	epidemic, plague	PLATITUDE	stale, overused expression
PETTISH	fretful	PLAUDIT	applause
PETULANCE	rudeness, peevishness	PLEBEIAN	crude, vulgar; low-class
PHALANX	massed group of soldiers, people, or things	PLENITUDE	abundance, plenty
PHILANDERER	pursuer of casual love affairs	PLETHORA	excess, overabundance
PHILANTHROPY	love of humanity; generosity to worthy causes	PLIANT	pliable, yielding
PHILISTINE	narrow-minded person, someone lacking appreciation for art or culture	PLUCK	to pull strings on musical instrument
PHILOLOGY	study of words	PLUCKY	courageous, spunky
PHLEGLI	coldness or indifference	PLUMMET	to fall, plunge
PHLEGMATIC	calm in temperament; sluggish	PLURALISTIC	including a variety of groups
PHOBIA	anxiety, horror	PLY (v)	to use diligently; to engage; to join together
PHOENIX	mythical, immortal bird that lives for 500 years, burns itself to death, and rises from its ashes	PNEUMATIC	relating to air; worked by compressed air
PHONETICS	study of speech sounds	POACH	to steal game or fish; cook in boiling liquid
PHONIC	relating to sound	PODIUM	platform or lectern for orchestra conductors or speakers
PICAYUNE	petty, of little value	POIGNANT	emotionally moving
PIDDLING	trivial	POLAR	relating to a geographic pole; exhibiting contrast
PIETY	devoutness	POLARIZE	to tend towards opposite extremes
PILFER	to steal	POLEMIC	controversy, argument; verbal attack
PILLAGE	to loot, especially during a war	POLITIC	shrewd and practical; diplomatic
PILLORY	ridicule and abuse	POLYGLOT	speaker of many languages
PINNACLE	peak, highest point of development	POMPOUS	self-important
PIOUS	dedicated, devout, extremely religious	PONDEROUS	weighty, heavy, large
PIQCE	fleeting feeling of hurt pride	PONTIFICATE	to speak in a pretentious manner
PITHY	profound, substantial; concise, succinct, to the point	PORE (v)	to study closely or meditatively
PITTANCE	meager amount or wage	POROUS	full of holes, permeable to liquids

portent

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

PREDILECTION 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 sleight of hand

PRESUMPTUOUS rude, improperly bold

PRETENTIOUS showy, self-important

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

PROCLIVITY tendency, inclination

PROCRASTINATION putting off something that must be done

PROCRASTISATOR 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

PROFLIGATE 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
PROLOGUE 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
PROPTIATE to win over, appease
PROPTIOUS favorable, advantageous
PROPORTION advocate, defender, supporter
PROPRIETY 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
PROVIDENT prudent, frugal
PROVIDENTIAL prudent, lucky
PROVINCIAL rustic, unsophisticated, limited in scope
PROVOCATION cause, incitement to act or respond
PROWESS bravery, skill
PROXIMITY nearness
PROXY power to act as substitute for another

PRUDE one who is excessively proper or modest
PRUDENT careful, cautious
PRURIENT lustful, exhibiting lewd desires
PRY to intrude into; force open
PSECDONYM pen name; fictitious or borrowed name
PSYCHIC (adj) having to do with the mind; perceptive of nonmaterial, spiritual forces
PCDGY chubby, overweight
PCERILE childish, immature, silly
PU'GILISM boxing
PU'GNACIOUS quarrelsome, eager and ready to fight
PULCHRITUDE beauty
PCLLERIZE to pound, crush, or grind into powder; destroy
PU'MMEL to pound, beat
PUNCTILIOUS careful in observing rules of behavior or ceremony
PUNDIT an authority or critic
PCSGENT strong or sharp in smell or taste
PUNITIVE having to do with punishment
PURGATION process of cleansing, purification
PCRGE (v) to cleanse or free from impurities
PURITANICAL adhering to a rigid moral code
PCRPORT 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
QCAFF 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

QUATERXARY 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

QUINTESENCE most **typical** example; concentrated essence

QUIVER (v) to shake slightly, tremble, vibrate

QUIXOTIC overly idealistic, impractical

QUOTIDIAN occurring daily; commonplace

R

RACONTEUR witty, skillful storyteller

RADICAL (adj) fundamental; drastic

RAGING violent, wild

RAIL (v) to scold with bitter or abusive language

RAILLERY 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

RATIOCINATION methodical, logical reasoning

RATION (n) portion, share

RATION (v) to supply; to restrict consumption of

RATIONAL logical, reasonable

RATIONALE line of reasoning

RAUCOUS harsh-sounding; boisterous

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

REBUFF (n) blunt rejection

REBUKE (v) to reprimand, scold

REBUT to refute by evidence or argument

RECALCITRANT resisting **authority** or control

RECAN to retract a statement, opinion, etcetera

RECAPITULATE to review with a **brief** summary

RECEPTIVE open to others' ideas; congenial

RECIDIVISM tendency to repeat **previous** behavior

RECIPROCATATE to show or feel in return

RECLUSIVE 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

RECURRENCE repetition

REDRESS (n) relief from wrong or injury

REDUNDANCY unnecessary repetition

REFECTORY room where meals are served

REFLECTION	image, likeness; opinion, thought, impression	RENT	(adj) torn apart
REFORM (v)	to change, correct	REPAST	meal or mealtime
REFRACT	to deflect sound or light	REPEAL	to revoke or formally withdraw (often a law)
REFRACTORY	obstinately resistant	REPEL	to rebuff, repulse; disgust, offend
REFUGE	escape, shelter	REPENT	to regret a past action
REFURBISH	to renovate	REPENTANT	apologetic, guilty , remorseful
REFUTE	to contradict, discredit	REPLETE	abundantly supplied
REGAL	magnificent, splendid, fit for royalty	REPLICATE	to duplicate, repeat
REGARD	high esteem	REPOSE	relaxation, leisure
REGIMES	government rule ; systematic plan	REPREHEND	to criticize
REGRESS	to move backward; revert to an earlier form or state	REPREHENSIBLE	blameworthy, disreputable
REHABILITATE	to restore to good health or condition; reestablish a person's good reputation	REPRESS	to restrain or hold in
REITERATE	to say again, repeat	REPRESSION	act of restraining or holding in
REJOINDER	response	REPRISE	repetition, esp. of a piece of music
REJUVENATE	to make young again; renew	REPROACH (v)	to find fault with; blame
RELEGATE	to assign to a class, especially to an inferior one	REPROBATE	morally unprincipled person
RELENT	to become gentler in attitude	REPROVE	to criticize or correct
RELINQUISH	to renounce or surrender something	REPUDIATE	to reject as having no authority
RELISH (v)	to enjoy greatly	REPULSE	to repel, fend off ; sicken, disgust
REMEDIAL	capable of being corrected	REQUIEM	hymns or religious service for the dead
REXEDY (v)	to cure, correct	REQUIRE	to return or repay
REMINISCENCE	remembrance of past events	RESCIND	to repeal, cancel
REMISSION	lessening, relaxation	RESIDUE	remainder, leftover, remnant
REMIT	to send (usually money) as payment	RESILIENT	able to recover quickly after illness or bad luck; able to bounce back into shape
REMONSTRATE	to protest or object	RESOLUTE	determined; with a clear purpose
REMOTE	distant, isolated	RESOLVE (n)	determination, firmness of purpose
REMUNERATION	pay or reward for work, trouble, etcetera	RESOLVE (v)	to conclude, determine
RENASCENT	reborn, coming into being again	RESONATE	to echo
RENEGADE	traitor, person abandoning a cause	RESPIRE	to breathe
RENEGE	to go back on one's word	RESPITE	interval of relief
RENITENT	resisting pressure, obstinate	RESPLENDENT	splendid, brilliant
RENOUNCE	to give up or reject a right, title , person , etcetera	RESTITUTION	act of compensating for loss or damage
RENOWN	fame, widespread acclaim	RESTIVE	impatient, uneasy, restless
		RESTORATIVE	having the power to renew or revitalize

restrained

RESTRAINED controlled, repressed, restricted
RESUSCITATE to revive, bring back to life
RETAIN to hold, keep possession of
RETARD (v) to slow, hold back
RETICENT not speaking freely; reserved
RETINUE group of attendants with an important person
RETIRING shy, modest, reserved
RETRIBUTION cutting response
RETRACT to draw in or take back
RETRESCHE 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
REVOKE 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
ROCOCO 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
RUFFLED 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; penalty
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

SCHISM	a division or separation; disharmony	SHARD	piece of broken glass or pottery
SCINTILLA	very small amount	SHEEPISH	timid, meek, or bashful
SCINTILLATE	to sparkle, flash	SHIRK	to avoid a task due to laziness or fear
SCION	descendent, child	SIDLE	to cause to turn sideways; to move along one side
SCOFF	to deride, ridicule	SIGNIFY	denote, indicate; symbolize
SCORE (n)	notation for a musical composition	SIMIAN	apelike; relating to apes
SCORE (v)	to make a notch or scratch	SIMPER	to smirk, smile foolishly
SCRIVENER	professional copyist	SIMPLE	lacking in knowledge or intelligence
SCRUPULOUS	restrained; careful and precise	SIMULATED	fake, made to look real
SCRUTINY	careful observation	SINCERE	genuine, true
SCURRILOUS	vulgar, low, indecent	SINECURE	well-paying job or office that requires little or no work
SECANT	straight line intersecting a curve at two points	SINGE	to burn slightly, scorch
SECEDE	to withdraw formally from an organization	SINUOUS	winding; intricate, complex
SECLUDED	isolated and remote	SKEPTICAL	doubtful, questioning
SECTARIAS	narrow-minded; relating to a group or sect	SKULK	to move in a stealthy, or cautious manner; sneak
SECULAR	not specifically pertaining to religion	SLAKE	to calm down or moderate
SEDENTARY	inactive, stationary; sluggish	SLIGHT	to treat as unimportant; insult
SEDITION	behavior promoting rebellion	SLIPSHOD	careless, hasty
SEISMOLOGY	science of earthquakes	SLOTH	sluggishness, laziness
SEMINAL	relating to the beginning or seeds of something	SLOUGH	to discard or shed
SENESCENT	aging, growing old	SLOVENLY	untidy, messy
SENSUAL	satisfying or gratifying the senses; suggesting sexuality	SLUGGARD	lazy, inactive person
SENTENTIOUS	having a moralizing tone	SMELT (v)	to melt metal in order to refine it
SENTIENT	aware, conscious, able to perceive	SMUTTY	obscene, indecent
SEPULCHRAL	typical of a place of burial	SNIPPET	tiny part, tidbit
SEQUEL	anything that follows	SOBRIETY	seriousness
SEQUESTER	to remove or set apart; put into seclusion	SOBRIQUET	nickname
SERAPHIC	angelic, pure, sublime	SODDEN	thoroughly soaked; saturated
SERENDIPITY	habit of making fortunate discoveries by chance	SOJOURN	visit, stay
SERENITY	calm, peacefulness	SOLACE	comfort in distress; consolation
SERPENTINE	serpentlike; twisting, winding	SOLARIUM	room or glassed-in area exposed to the sun
SERRATED	saw-toothed, notched	SOLECISM	grammatical mistake
SERVILE	submissive, obedient	SOLICITOUS	concerned, attentive; eager
		SOLIDARITY	unity based on common aims or interests

soliloquy

SOLILOQUY	literary or dramatic speech by one character, not addressed to others	STAID	self-restrained to the point of dullness
SOLIPSISM	belief that the self is the only reality	STALK (v)	to hunt, pursue
SOLSTICE	shortest or longest day of the year	STALWART	strong, unwavering
SOLUBLE	capable of being solved or dissolved	STAND (n)	group of trees
SOMBER	dark and gloomy; melancholy, dismal	STARK	bare, empty, vacant
SOMNAMBULIST	sleepwalker	STASIS	motionless state; standstill
SOMNOLENT	drowsy, sleepy; inducing sleep	STATELY	grand, unapproachable
SONIC	relating to sound	STEADFAST	immovable
SONOROUS	producing a full, rich sound	STEADY	stable, unflinching
SOPHIST	person good at arguing deviously	STENTORIAN	extremely loud
SOPHISTRY	deceptive reasoning or argumentation	STIFLE	to smother or suffocate; suppress
SOPHOMORIC	immature and overconfident	STIGMA	mark of disgrace or inferiority
SOPORIFIC	sleepy or tending to cause sleep	STILTED	stiff, unnatural
SORDID	filthy; contemptible and corrupt	STINT (n)	period of time spent doing something
SOVEREIGN	having supreme power	STINT (v)	to be sparing or frugal
SPARTAN	austere, severe, grave; simple, bare	STIPEND	allowance; fixed amount of money paid regularly
SPAWN	to generate, produce	STOCKADE	enclosed area forming defensive wall
SPECIOUS	deceptively attractive	STOIC	indifferent to or unaffected by emotions
SPECULATION	contemplation; act of taking business risks for financial gain	STOLID	having or showing little emotion
SPECULATIVE	involving assumption; uncertain ; theoretical	STRATAGEM	trick designed to deceive an enemy
SPLENDID	grand, illustrious	STRATIFY	to arrange into layers
SPONTANEOUS	on the spur of the moment, impulsive	STRIATE	striped, grooved
SPORADIC	infrequent, irregular	STRICTURE	something that restrains; negative criticism
SPORTIVE	frolicsome, playful	STRIDENT	loud, harsh, unpleasantly noisy
SPRIGHTLY	lively, animated, energetic	STRINGENT	imposing severe, rigorous standards
SPUR (v)	to prod	STRIPLING	an adolescent boy
SPURIOUS	lacking authenticity; counterfeit, false	STULTIFY	to impair or reduce to uselessness
SPURN	to reject or refuse contemptuously; scorn	STUNTED	having arrested growth or development
SQUABBLE	quarrel	STUPEFY	to dull the senses of; stun, astonish
SQUALID	filthy; morally repulsive	STYLIZE	to fashion, formalize
SQUANDER	to waste	STYMIE	to block or thwart
STACCATO	marked by abrupt, clear-cut sounds	SUAVE	smoothly gracious or polite; blandly ingratiating
STAGNANT	immobile, stale	SUBDUE	suppressed, stifled
		SUBJECTION	dependence, obedience, submission
		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
 SUBTERFUGE trick or tactic used to avoid something
 SUBTERRANEAN hidden, secret; underground
 SUBTLE to detect or describe; perceptive
 SUBVERT to undermine or corrupt
 SUCCINCT terse, brief, concise
 SUCCULEST juicy; full of vitality or freshness
 SUFFERABLE bearable
 SUFFRAGIST 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
 SUPPLE flexible, pliant
 SUPPLICANT one who asks humbly and earnestly
 SUPPOSITION assumption
 SURFEIT 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
 SYMPOSIUM meeting with short presentations on related topics
 SYNCHRONOUS happening at the same time
 SYNCOPATIOS 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
 TAINTED 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

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

TIMOROUS 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

TRANSCEND to rise above, go beyond

TRANSCENDENT rising above, going beyond

TRANSCRIPTION copy, reproduction; record

TRANSFIGURATION a change; an exalting change

TRANSFORMATION a change in form or appearance

TRANSGRESS 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

TRANSMUTE 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
 TURGID swollen, bloated
 TURPITUDE inherent vileness, foulness, depravity
 TYRANNICAL oppressive; dictatorial
 TYRO beginner, novice

U

UBIQUITOUS being everywhere simultaneously
 UMBRAGE 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 unchanging; 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
 UNSOLICITED unrequested
 UNSTINTING 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

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

VERACIOUS **truthful**, accurate

VERACITY accuracy, truth

VERBATIM word for word

VERBOSE 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

VERVE 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

VOLUBLE speaking much and easily, talkative; glib

VOLUMINOUS large; of great quantity; writing or speaking at great length

VORACIOUS having a great appetite

VORTEX swirling, resembling a whirlpool

WLGAR obscene; common, of low **class**

VULNERABLE **defenseless**, unprotected; innocent, naive

W

WAIVE to refrain from enforcing a rule; to give up a **legal** right

WALLOW to indulge oneself excessively, luxuriate

WAN sickly pale

WANE to dwindle, to decrease

WANTON undisciplined, unrestrained, reckless

WARRANTY guarantee of a product's soundness

WARY careful, cautious

WASPISH rude, behaving badly

WAVER to show indecision

WAX to increase

WAYWARD erratic, unrestrained, reckless

WEATHER (v) to endure, undergo

WEIGHTY important, momentous

WELTER (n) a confused mass; a jumble

WHET to sharpen, stimulate

WHIMSY **playful** or fanciful idea

WILY clever, deceptive

WINDFALL sudden, unexpected good fortune

WINSOME charming, happily engaging

WITHDRAWN unsociable, aloof; shy, timid

WIZENED withered, shriveled, wrinkled

WOE deep suffering or grief

WRAITH a ghost

WRANGLE loud quarrel

WRIT written document, **usually in law**

WRY amusing, ironic

X

XENOPHOBIA fear or hatred of foreigners or strangers

Y

YOKE (v) to join together

Z

ZEALOT someone passionately devoted to a cause

ZENITH highest point, summit

ZEPHYR gentle breeze

ZOOLOGIST scientist who studies animals