

1

- **abase** lower; degrade; humiliate; make humble; make (one-self) lose self-respect
- ♠ **abash** embarrass
- ♠ **abate** subside or moderate
- **abbreviate** shorten
- **abdicate** renounce; give up (position, right, or responsibility)
- **aberrant** abnormal or deviant
- **aberration** deviation from the normal; mental disorder
- ♠ **abet** assist usually in doing something wrong; encourage
- ♠ **abeyance** suspended action
- **abhor** detest; hate
- **object** (of a condition) wretched; as low as possible; lacking pride; very humble; showing lack of self-respect; Ex. object apology
- **abjure** renounce upon oath
- **ablution** washing
- **abnegation** renunciation; self-sacrifice; self-abnegation
- **abolish** cancel; put an end to
- **abominate** loathe; hate
- **abominable** detestable; extremely unpleasant
- **aboriginal** being the first of its kind in a region; primitive; native; indigenous; N. aborigine
- **abortive** unsuccessful; fruitless
- **abrasive** rubbing away; tending to grind down
- **abridge** condense or shorten
- **abrogate** abolish
- ♠ **abscission** cutting off; separation
- **abscond** depart secretly and hide
- **absolute** complete; totally unlimited; having complete power; certain; not relative; Ex. absolute honesty/ruler; CF. absolutism
- **absolve** pardon (an offense)
- **abstain** refrain; withhold from participation; intentionally not use one's vote;
- **abstemious** sparing in eating and drinking; temperate
- **abstinence** restraint from pleasant things, esp. eating or drinking; CF. abstention: act of abstaining from vote
- **abstract** theoretical; not concrete; nonrepresentational
- ♡ **representational** (of a style of art) showing things as they actually appear in real life
- **abstruse** obscure; profound; difficult to understand
- **abusive** coarsely insulting; physically harmful
- ♠ **abut** border upon; adjoin
- **abysmal** bottomless
- **abyss** enormous chasm; vast bottomless pit
- **academic** related to a school; not practical or directly useful
- **accede** agree
- **accelerate** move faster
- **accessible** easy to approach; obtainable
- **accessory** additional object; useful but not essential thing
- **acclaim** applaud; praise; greet with great approval; announce with great approval; Ex. The new drug has been acclaimed as the most important discoveries for years; N: strong expression of approval and praise
- **acclimate** adjust to climate or environment; adapt
- ♠ **acclivity** sharp upslope of a hill; OP. declivity
- **accolade** award of merit; strong praise and approval
- ♡ **merit** good quality deserving praise; merits: aspect of character or behavior deserving approval or disapproval; Ex. judge each plan on its own merits; V: deserve; earn
- ♡ **demerit** fault; bad quality
- ♡ **earn** gain for the performance of service or labor; gain (something that one deserves); deserve
- **accommodate** oblige or help someone; adjust or bring into harmony; adapt; make enough space for; ADJ. accommodative; CF. accomodating: helpful and obliging
- **accomplice** partner in crime
- **accord** agreement
- **accost** approach and speak first to a person
- ♠ **accoutre** equip; N. accoutrement
- **accretion** growth or increase in size by gradual addition; growth; increase; increase by natural growth; Ex. towers and other accretions of the castle; V. accrete
- **accrue** come to one as a gain; accumulate over time; come about by addition; Ex. benefits that accrue from scientific research; Ex. interest accruing in a bank account; N. accrual
- ♠ **acerbity** bitterness of speech and temper; ADJ. acerbic: bitter; acrid (in taste, manner, or tone)
- ♡ **bitter** having a sharp biting taste; ; causing sharp pain to the body or mind; filled with resentment, disappointment, or other unpleasant feelings; Ex. bitter wind/sorrow/tears
- ♡ **biting** sharply painful to the body or mind; Ex. biting wind/remarks
- ♠ **acetic** vinegary
- ♠ **acidulous** slightly sour (in taste or manner); sharp; caustic
- **acknowledge** recognize; admit
- ♠ **acme** peak; pinnacle; highest point
- **acoustics** science of sound; quality that makes a room easy or hard to hear in
- **acquiesce** assent; agree passively; comply without protest

- **acquittal** deliverance from a charge; V. acquit: free from a charge or accusation; discharge from a duty; conduct (one-self) in a specified manner
- ♠ **acrid** bitter (to the taste or smell); sharp; bitterly pungent

- ♠ **acrimonious** stinging; caustic; bitter in words or manner; N. acrimony: bitter ill-natured animosity in speech or behavior
- **acrophobia** fear of heights
- **actuarial** calculating; pertaining to insurance statistics
- **actuary** someone who advises insurance companies
- ♠ **actuate** motivate; activate; cause to act
- **acuity** sharpness (of mind or senses of sight or hearing)
- **acumen** mental keenness; sharpness of judgment; ability to judge quickly and well; Ex. business acumen
- **acute** (of the senses) sharp; quickly perceptive; keen; penetrating; brief and severe; Ex. acute sense of smell/analysis/pain
- ♠ **adage** wise saying; proverb
- ♡ **adage** proverb; someone or something well known for notoriety; ADJ. proverbial: of a proverb; widely known; ADV. proverbially
- **adamant** hard; inflexible
- **adapt** make or become suitable for a specific use; alter; modify; adjust; N. adaptation: act of adapting; composition recast into a new form; Ex. The play is an adaption of a short novel.
- ♠ **addendum** addition; appendix to book; something that is added (as at the end of a speech or book)
- **addiction** compulsive habitual need
- ♠ **addle** make or become confused; muddle; drive crazy; become rotten (egg)
- **address** direct a speech to; speak to; deal with or discuss; direct one's efforts or attention to; make with a destination; N: formal speech
- **adept** expert at; very skilled
- **adhere** stick fast; be a devoted follower; N. adhesion: adhering; devotion; loyalty
- **adherent** supporter; follower
- **adjacent** adjoining; neighboring; close by
- ♡ **adjoin** be next to
- ♡ **adjourn** suspend until a later time; move from one place to another
- **adjunct** something attached to but holding an inferior position
- **adjuration** solemn urging; V. adjure: entreat earnestly; enjoin solemnly
- ♠ **adjutant** staff officer assisting the commander; assistant
- **admonish** warn or speak to with gentle disapproval; reprove
- ♡ **adore** love deeply and respect highly
- **adorn** decorate
- **adroit** skillful (in using mind or hand)

2

- ❑ **adulation** flattery; admiration that is more than is necessary or deserved
- ❑ **adulterate** make impure or of poorer quality by adding inferior or tainted(contaminated) substances
- ❑ **advent** arrival
- ❑ **adventitious** accidental; casual; happening by chance
- ❑ **adversary** opponent; enemy
- ❑ **adverse** going against; opposing; unfavorable; hostile
- ❑ **adversity** great hardship or affliction; misfortune; calamitous event
- ♠ **advert** refer
- ❑ **advocacy** support; active pleading on behalf of someone or something
- ❑ **advocate** speak in favor of; support (an idea or plan); urge; plead for
- ♠ **aegis** shield; protection; defense
- ♠ **aerie(aery,eyrie,eyry)** nest of a large bird of prey
- ❑ **aesthetic** artistic; dealing with or capable of appreciating the beautiful (of a person or building); CF. aesthete; CF. aesthetics
- ❑ **affable** easily approachable; easy to talk to; warmly friendly
- ❑ **affected** artificial; pretended
- ❑ **affidavit** written statement made under oath (for use as proof in a court of law)
- ❑ **affiliation** joining; associating with
- ❑ **affinity** feeling of kinship; similarity; Ex. strong affinity for her; Ex. many affinities between two languages
- ❑ **affirmation** positive assertion; confirmation; solemn pledge by one who refuses to take an oath; V. affirm; ADJ. affirmative; CF. affirmative action: positive discrimination
- ❑ **affliction** state of distress; trial; cause of distress or suffering; V. afflict: inflict grievous suffering on
- ❑ **affluence** abundance; wealth
- ❑ **affront** insult; offense; intentional act of disrespect; V: insult or hurt the feelings of intentionally
- ♠ **agape** openmouthed
- ♠ **agenda** items of business at a meeting
- ♠ **agglomeration** collection; heap; V. agglomerate: gather into a rounded mass; N. agglomerate: jumbled mass; heap
- ❑ **aggrandize** make greater; increase in power, wealth, rank, or honor; N. aggrandizement
- ❑ **aggregate** sum; total; ADJ. V: gather into a mass or whole; accumulate; add up to; Ex. aggregate 100 dollars
- ❑ **aghastr** filled with great surprise or fear; horrified
- ❑ **agility** nimbleness; ability to move quickly
- ❑ **agitate** stir up; disturb
- ❑ **agnostic** one who is skeptical of the existence or knowability of a god or any ultimate reality
- ♠ **agog** highly excited; intensely curious
- ❑ **agrarian** pertaining to land or its cultivation; Ex. agrarian reform
- ❑ **alacrity** cheerful promptness without reluctance
- ❑ **alchemy** medieval chemistry
- ♠ **alcove** nook; recess
- ❑ **alias** an assumed name esp. by a criminal (usually to mislead people); ADV. alias
- ❑ **alienate** make unfriendly or hostile; estrange; separate; change the ownership of
- ❑ **alimentary** supplying nourishment
- ♠ **alimony** payments made regularly to an ex-spouse after divorce
- ❑ **allay** calm; pacify
- ❑ **allege** state without proof
- ❑ **allegiance** loyalty
- ♠ **allegory** story, play, or picture in which characters are used as symbols; fable
- ❑ **alleviate** relieve (pain)
- ❑ **alliteration** repetition of beginning sound in poetry
- ❑ **allocate** assign; set apart for a particular purpose
- ♥ **earmark** set aside (money or time) for a particular purpose
- ❑ **alloy** mixture as of metals; something added that lowers in value or purity; V: mix; make less pure; lower in value or quality; spoil; CF. unalloyed: not in mixture with other metals; pure; complete; unqualified; Ex. unalloyed happiness
- ❑ **allude** refer indirectly; N. allusion: indirect reference
- ❑ **allure** entice; attract; tempt
- ♥ **siren** apparatus for making sounds; womanlike creature
- ❑ **alluvial** pertaining to soil deposits left by running water
- ♠ **aloof** apart; not open in one's relationship with other people; reserved; ADV.
- ♠ **aloft** upward; high up in the air
- ❑ **altercation** noisy quarrel
- ❑ **altruistic** unselfishly generous; concerned for others; N. altruism: unselfish concern for the welfare of others; unselfishness; OP. egoism
- ♠ **amalgamate** (of societies or groups) combine; unite in one body
- ♠ **amalgam** combination of different things; mixture of metals (containing mercury) used for filling holes in teeth
- ♠ **amass** collect (gradually, in a very large amount)
- ❑ **amazon** female warrior
- ❑ **ambidextrous** capable of using either hand with equal ease

- **ambience** environment; atmosphere; Ex. restaurant with a pleasant ambience; ADJ. ambient: completely surrounding; Ex. ambient temperature
- **ambiguous** unclear or doubtful in meaning; having more than one possible interpretation
- **ambivalence** the state of having contradictory or conflicting emotional attitudes or opinions
- **amble** walking at an easy unhurried pace; V: walk slowly and aimlessly
- ♠ **ambrosia** food of the gods
- ♥ **nectar** drink of the gods; sweet liquid collected by bees
- **ambulatory** able to walk
- **ameliorate** improve
- **amenable** obedient; compliant; readily managed; responsive; willing to be led; answerable or accountable legally; responsible; able to be tested by; Ex. amenable to sensible suggestions; Ex. He is very amenable; Ex. amenable to the usual tests
- **amend** correct; change ; generally for the better

3

- **amenities** convenient features that helps to make life pleasant; social courtesies
- **amiable** agreeable; lovable; warmly friendly
- **amicable** peaceful; politely friendly; not quarrelsome; Ex. amicable settlement
- ♠ **amiss** wrong; faulty; Ex. something amiss; ADV.
- **amity** friendship; peaceful relationship as between nations
- **amnesia** loss of memory
- **amnesty** pardon (allowed by government to political criminals)
- **amoral** nonmoral; having no understanding of right and wrong
- **amorous** moved by sexual love; loving; of sexual love; Ex. amorous advances
- **amorphous** formless; lacking shape or definition
- **amphibian** able to live both on land and in water; N.
- **amphitheater** oval building with tiers of seats; CF. arena
- ♠ **ample** enough; abundant; spacious; large in size; Ex. ample opportunity/garden; N. amplitude: quality of being ample; abundance; largeness of space
- **amplify** increase in size or effect; expand; broaden or clarify by expanding; intensify; make stronger; Ex. amplify one's remarks with a graph
- ♠ **amputate** cut off part of body; prune (a limb)
- ♠ **amok(amuck)** in a state of rage; Ex. run amok
- ♠ **amulet** charm; talisman; an object worn believed to protect against evil, bad luck
- **anachronism** an error involving time in a story; something or someone misplaced in time; ADJ. anachronistic
- ♠ **analgesic** causing insensitivity to pain; N.
- ♥ **analgesia** condition of being unable to feel pain
- **analogous** comparable; similar
- **analogy** similarity; parallelism; comparing two similar things
- **anarchist** person who seeks to overturn the established government; advocate of abolishing authority
- **anarchy** absence of governing body; state of disorder
- ♠ **anathema** solemn curse; someone or something regarded as a curse; V. anathematize
- **ancestry** family descent; ADJ. ancestral
- **anchor** secure or fasten firmly; be fixed in place; N. anchor-age
- **ancillary** serving as an aid or accessory; auxiliary; N.
- **anecdote** short story of an amusing or interesting event
- **anemia** condition in which blood lacks red corpuscles; ADJ. anemic
- **anesthetic** substance that removes sensation with or without loss of consciousness; N. anesthesia
- **anguish** acute pain; extreme suffering
- **angular** sharp-cornered; having an angle; not rounded (body); bony; lean; gaunt; stiff in manner
- **animadversion** critical remark; V. animadvert: comment critically with disapproval
- **animated** lively; spirited
- **animosity** active enmity
- ♠ **animus** hostile feeling or intent; animosity; hostility; disposition
- **annals** records arranged in yearly parts; history
- **anneal** reduce brittleness and improve toughness by heating and cooling (metal or glass)
- **annex** attach; add to a large thing; take possession of; incorporate (territory) into a larger existing political unit (by force); N: building added to a large one
- **annihilate** destroy
- **annotate** comment; make explanatory notes
- **annuity** yearly allowance
- **annul** make void
- ♥ **elope** run away secretly with the intention of getting married
- ♠ **anodyne** drug that relieves pain or trouble; ; opiate; ADJ. Ex. anodyne statement
- **anoint** consecrate; put oil on (in a religious ceremony)
- **anomalous** abnormal; irregular
- **anomaly** irregularity
- **anonymity** state of being nameless; anonymousness; ADJ. anonymous
- **antagonism** hostility; active opposition; V. antagonize: cause to become an enemy; N. antagonist: person who is opposed to another; opponent; adversary; principal character in opposition to the protagonist
- ♥ **protagonist** leader or noticeable supporter of an idea; chief character in a play or story
- **antecede** precede
- **antecedents** preceding events that influence what comes later; ancestors or early background
- **antediluvian** antiquated; extremely ancient
- ♠ **anthem** song of praise or patriotism; Ex. national anthem
- ♠ **anthology** book of literary selections by various authors; CF. omnibus
- **anthropoid** manlike; resembling a human being; N.
- **anthropologist** student of the history and science of humankind
- **anthropomorphic** having human form or characteristics
- **anticlimax** letdown in thought or emotion; something unexciting, ordinary, or disappointing coming after something important or exciting
- **antidote** remedy to counteract a poison or disease; Ex. antidote to the economic troubles

- **antipathy** aversion; dislike or opposition
- ♠ **antiquated** obsolete; old-fashioned; outdated
- ♥ **antique** made in an earlier period and usu. valuable; N: object that was made in an earlier period and that is rare or valuable
- ♥ **antiquity** quality of being very old; ancient times;
- **antiseptic** substance that prevents infection in a wound; ADJ.
- **antithesis** contrast; direct opposite of or to; ADJ. antithetic or antithetical
- ♥ **antler** bony growth on the head of a deer
- ♠ **anvil** iron block used in hammering out metals
- **apathy** lack of caring; indifference; lack of concern or interest in important matters; Ex. He was sunk in apathy after his failure; ADJ. apathetic
- ♠ **ape** imitate or mimic (a person's behavior or manner)
- ♠ **aperture** opening; hole; adjustable opening in a camera that limits the amount of light
- ♠ **apex** tip; summit; climax; highest point
- **aphasia** loss of speech due to injury or illness
- **aphorism** pithy maxim or saying; ADJ. aphoristic
- ♠ **apiary** a place where bees are kept
- ♥ **hive** box for bees; V: cause to go in a hive
- ♥ **apiculture** bee-keeping
- ♥ **apiarist** person who keeps bees
- ♠ **aplomb** poise; composure in difficult situations; assurance; self-confidence
- ♥ **poise** good judgment with composure; balance; V: place in a carefully balanced position
- **apocalyptic** prophetic; pertaining to revelations especially of disaster; N. apocalypse
- ♠ **apocryphal** (of a story) widely believed but untrue
- **apogee** highest point; the point farthest from the earth; OP. perigee
- ♠ **apolitical** having an aversion or lack of concern for political affairs
- ♠ **apologist** one who writes in defense of a cause or institution; N. apologia
- ♠ **apoplexy** stroke; loss of consciousness caused by too much blood in the brain
- ♠ **apostate** one who abandons his religious faith or political beliefs; N. apostasy
- ♠ **apothecary** druggist; pharmacist

4

- ♠ **apothegm(apophthegm)** pithy, compact saying
- ♠ **apotheosis** elevation to godhood; an ideal example of something
- **appall** dismay; shock deeply
- **apparition** ghost; phantom
- **appease** pacify or soothe; Ex. appease a crying baby; N. appeasement
- ♠ **appellation** name; title
- **append** attach
- ♠ **application** diligent attention; diligence; V. apply oneself
- **apposite** appropriate; fitting
- **appraise** estimate value of; N. appraisal
- **appreciate** be thankful for; increase in worth; be thoroughly conscious of; ADJ. appreciable: enough to be felt; Ex. appreciable difference
- **apprehend** arrest (a criminal); dread; perceive; N. apprehension
- ♠ **apprehensive** fearful; discerning
- **apprise** inform
- **approbation** approval
- **appropriate** acquire; take possession of for one's own use without permission; set aside for a particular purpose; allocate; CF. misappropriate
- ♠ **appurtenances** subordinate possessions; something added to a more important thing
- ♠ **apropos** with reference to; regarding; Ex. remarks apropos (of) the present situation; ADJ. ADV.
- **aptitude** fitness; talent
- ♠ **aquiline** curved; hooked; of or like an eagle; Ex. aquiline nose
- ♠ **arable** fit for growing crops; Ex. arable land
- **arbiter** person with power to decide a matter in dispute; judge who is in a position to make influential judgments; Ex. supreme arbiter of fashion in beachware
- **arbitrary** unreasonable or capricious; random; tyrannical; Ex. arbitrary ruler
- **arbitrate** act as judge (at the request of both sides)
- ♠ **arboretum** place where different trees and shrubs are studied and exhibited
- ♡ **arboreal** of or living in trees
- **arcade** a covered passageway usually lined with shops
- **arcane** esoteric; secret; mysterious; known only to the initiated; Ex. arcane ritual; Ex. arcane process closed to the uninitiated listener
- **archaeology** study of artifacts and relics of early mankind
- ♠ **archaic** antiquated; no longer used; belonging to the past; N.

- ♠ **archetype** prototype; primitive pattern
- **arch-** chief; first; Ex. archbishop
- ♠ **archipelago** group of closely located islands
- ♠ **archives** public records; place where public records are kept
- **ardor** heat; passion; zeal; ADJ. ardent
- ♠ **arduous** hard; strenuous; Ex. arduous work
- ♠ **argot** slang; speech spoken by only a small group of people
- **aria** operatic solo; a song sung by one person in an opera or oratorio
- ♠ **arid** (of land) dry; barren; unproductive
- **aristocracy** hereditary nobility; privileged class; government by nobility; N. aristocrat
- **armada** fleet of warships
- **aromatic** fragrant; having a sweet smell; N. aroma: strong pleasant smell
- **arraign** charge in court; indict
- ♠ **array** marshal; draw up in order; arrange in order; clothe splendidly; adorn; N: fine clothes; ordered group; Ex. in battle array
- **arrears** being in debt; money that should have been paid; work that should have been done
- ♠ **arrhythmic** lacking rhythm or regularity; N. arrhythmia
- **arrogance** pride; haughtiness; ADJ. arrogant: unpleasantly self-important (with a strong confidence in one's own importance and a lack of respect for other people)
- ♠ **arroyo** gully; narrow channel formed by rainwater
- ♡ **artery** blood-vessel; CF. vein
- **articulate** effective; distinct; expressing ideas clearly; having clear sounds; having joints; Ex. articulate speech; V: express thoughts and feeling clearly; pronounce clearly; unite by joints
- **arsenal** storage place for military equipment
- **artifacts** object made by human beings, either hand-made or mass-produced
- ♠ **artifice** deception; trickery
- **artisan** a manually skilled worker
- ♠ **artless** without guile; open and honest
- **ascendancy** controlling influence; position of controlling influence; CF. in the ascendant
- **ascertain** find out for certain; make certain
- **ascetic** practicing self-denial; avoiding physical pleasures and comforts; austere; Ex. ascetic life of Buddhist monks; N. asceticism
- **ascribe** refer; attribute; assign
- **aseptic** preventing infection; having a cleansing effect
- ♠ **ashen** ash-colored; deadly pale
- ♠ **asinine** stupid; Ex. asinine remarks

- ♠ **askance** with a sideways or indirect look (with disapproval or distrust); Ex. look askance at
- ♠ **askew** crookedly; slanted; at an angle
- **asperity** sharpness; roughness; severity (of temper or weather); Ex. asperities of a Russian winter
- **aspersion** slanderous remark; Ex. cast aspersions on
- **aspirant** seeker after position or status
- **aspire** seek to attain (position or status); long for; Ex. aspire to become president; Ex. aspire to/after the leadership
- **assail** assault
- ♠ **assay** analyze (to discover what materials are present); evaluate (soil or ore)
- **assent** agree; accept; N. assessment
- ♠ **assert** state strongly or positively; demand recognition of (rights, claims, etc.); make a claim to (by forceful action); Ex. assert one's independence
- **assiduous** diligent
- **assimilate** absorb; take (food) into the body and digest it; understand (knowledge) completely and be able to use properly; cause to become homogeneous (the people of a country or race in the way of behaving or thinking)
- **assuage** make less severe; ease or lessen (pain); satisfy (hunger); soothe (anger)
- **assumption** something taken for granted; the taking over or taking possession of; Ex. her assumption of power; V. assume
- ♥ **regent** a person who governs in place of a ruler who is ill, absent, or still a child; ADJ. Ex. the Prince regent
- **assurance** firm statement that something is certainly true; promise or pledge; certainty; confidence in one's own ability; self-confidence; Ex. In spite of all his assurances, he did not come back; Ex. assurance of his loyalty; Ex. The teacher lacked assurance in front of his class; V. assure; tell firmly with confidence; ensure; make (something) certain to happen; make (someone) feel sure; give confidence to; ADJ. assured: self-assured; confident in one's own ability; showing certainty
- **asteroid** small planet
- ♠ **astigmatism** eye defect which prevents proper focus; OP. stigmatism

5

♠ **astral** relating to the stars

□ **astrigent** binding; causing contraction (stopping bleeding); harsh or severe; stringent; Ex. astrigent criticism

□ **astronomical** enormously large or extensive

□ **astute** wise; shrewd; keen; seeing quickly something that is to one's advantage

♠ **asunder** into parts; apart; V. sunder

□ **asylum** place of refuge or shelter; protection (religious or political)

□ **asymmetric** not identical on both sides of a dividing central line

♠ **atavism** resemblance to remote ancestors rather than to parents; reversion to an earlier type; throwback; ADJ. atavistic

□ **atheistic** denying the existence of God; N. atheism

□ **atone** make amends for; pay for; Ex. atone for

□ **atrocious** brutal deed; ADJ. atrocious

□ **atrophy** wasting away; V: weaken and lose flesh and muscle (through lack of blood or lack of use)

□ **attentive** alert and watchful; listening carefully; paying attention; considerate; thoughtful; politely helpful; Ex. attentive audience; Ex. He was attentive to the old lady; N. attentions: act of courtesy and consideration

□ **attenuate** make thin; weaken

□ **attest** testify; bear witness

□ **attribute** essential quality; V: ascribe; explain

□ **attrition** rubbing away by friction; gradual decrease in numbers or strength; reduction in the work force without firing employees; wearing away of opposition by means of harassment; Ex. a war of attrition

♠ **atypical** not normal; not typical

□ **audacious** daring; bold; N. audacity

□ **audit** examination of accounts of a business; official examination; V.

□ **augment** increase; add to

♠ **augury** omen; prophecy; sign of coming events; V. augur: predict; foretell; be a sign of (something in future)

□ **august** impressive; majestic

♠ **aureole** sun's corona; halo; bright circle of light

♠ **auroral** pertaining to the aurora borealis; CF. aurora australis

□ **auspicious** favoring success; giving signs of future success; Cf. auspices

□ **austere** forbiddingly stern; ascetic; without comfort or enjoyment; severely simple and unornamented; Ex. a monk's austere life; Ex. austere grandeur of the cathedral; N. austerity

□ **authenticate** prove genuine

□ **authoritarian** subordinating the individual to the state; completely dominating another's will; Ex. authoritarian regime/father

□ **authoritative** having the weight of authority; regarded as providing knowledge that can be trusted; reliable; peremptory and dictatorial; Ex. authoritative dictionary/manner; CF. definitive

□ **autocratic** having absolute unchecked power; dictatorial; N. autocrat, autocracy

□ **automaton** mechanism that imitates actions of humans; machine that works by itself

□ **autonomous** self-governing; N. autonomy

□ **autopsy** examination of a dead body; postmortem; V.

□ **auxiliary** offering or providing help; additional or subsidiary; N: helper; assistant

□ **avalanche** great mass of falling snow and ice

□ **avarice** greediness for wealth

□ **avenge** take vengeance for something or on behalf of someone; Ex. They avenged his death by burning the village; Ex. He swore to avenge his brother; Ex. They avenged themselves on their enemy.

□ **aver** state confidently; declare as true

□ **averse** reluctant; disinclined; not liking or opposed; Ex. averse to cats/doing the house work

□ **aversion** firm dislike

□ **avert** prevent; avoid; turn away (eyes or thought); Ex. An accident was averted by his quick thinking; Ex. She averted her eyes from the terrible sight.

□ **aviary** enclosure for birds; large cage

♠ **avid** greedy; extremely eager for; Ex. avid learner; N. avidity

□ **avocation** secondary or minor occupation

□ **avow** declare openly; N. avowal

□ **avuncular** of or like an uncle

□ **awe** solemn wonder; feeling of respect mixed with wonder and fear; V: fill with awe; ADJ. awesome

♡ **awful** terrible; very bad

♠ **awl** pointed tool used for piercing

♠ **awry** distorted; crooked; bent; Ex. Our plans have gone awry.

□ **axiom** self-evident truth requiring no proof

♠ **azure** sky blue

♠ **babble** chatter idly or foolishly; make continuous sounds like water running gently over rounded stone; N.

♠ **bacchanalian** drunken

♡ **bacchanal** noisy party with a lot of drinking

♡ **Bacchanalia** the ancient Roman festival in honor of Bacchus

- ♠ **badger** pester; annoy continually with demands; persuade by asking again and again; Ex. The children badgered me into taking them into the cinema; N: a kind of mountain animal
- ♠ **badinage** teasing conversation; banter; joking talk
- **baffle** frustrate; perplex
- ♠ **bait** harass; tease; torment; Ex. badger baiting; N: food or other lure used to catch fish or trap animals
- ♠ **baleful** evil; malignant in intent or effect; deadly; having a malign influence; portending evil; ominous; threatening; Ex. baleful look
- ♠ **balk** stop short, as if faced with an obstacle, and refuse to continue; foil; stop or get in the way of; frustrate
- ♠ **ballast** heavy substance used to add stability or weight; V. supply with ballast
- ♠ **balm** something that relieves pain; oily liquid with a pleasant smell from trees
- ♥ **pang** sudden sharp feeling of pain
- ♠ **balmy** soft and mild (of air); fragrant
- **banal** hackneyed; commonplace; trite; lacking originality; clichéd
- ♠ **bandy** discuss lightly or glibly; discuss in a frivolous manner; exchange (words) heatedly; quarrel; Ex. bandy words with
- **bane** posion; cause of ruin; ADJ. baneful: harmful; poisonous
- **bantering** joking talk; good-naturedly ridiculing; N.V. banter
- **barb** sharp projection from fishhook, arrow, or other object; openly cutting remark

6

- ♠ **bard** poet
- ♠ **barefaced** shameless and noticeable; blatant; bold; unconcealed; having no covering on the face; Ex. barefaced lie
- ♡ **unregenerate** making no attempt to change one's bad practices
- ♠ **baroque** highly ornate
- **barrage** barrier laid down by artillery fire; overwhelming profusion; large number of questions or statements; Ex. a barrage of criticism
- **barrister** counselor-at-law or lawyer in the higher court of law; CF. bar
- ♡ **solicitor** lawyer in the lower court of law
- **barterer** trader; V. barter: trade; exchange good for other goods rather than money
- ♠ **bask** luxuriate; take pleasure in warmth
- ♡ **luxuriate** take pleasure in great comfort
- ♠ **bastion** stronghold; something seen as a source of protection; Ex. the last bastion of male chauvinism
- ♠ **bate** let down; lessen the force of; moderate; restrain; Ex. with bated breath; CF. abate
- ♠ **bauble** trinket; cheap jewel; trifle
- ♠ **bawdy** indecent; obscene; about sex in a rude funny way; CF. bawd
- ♠ **beatific** giving or showing bliss; blissful
- ♡ **bliss** complete happiness; ADJ. blissful
- ♠ **beatitude** blessedness; state of great happiness
- ♡ **mystic** of hidden meaning and spiritual power; Ex. mystic ceremonies; N. CF. mysticism
- ♠ **bedizen** dress with vulgar finery
- ♡ **finery** beautiful clothes for a special occasion
- ♠ **bedraggle** wet thoroughly; ADJ. bedraggled: dragged
- ♠ **beeline** direct quick route
- ♠ **befuddle** confuse thoroughly
- ♡ **fuddle** make stupid or confused as with alcoholic drink; N. in a fuddle: confused
- **beget** father; become the father of; produce; give rise to
- ♠ **begrudge** envy; give or allow unwillingly; grudge; Ex. We shouldn't begrudge him his success.
- ♡ **grudge** deep feeling of dislike; Ex. grudge fight; V.
- ♠ **beguile** deceive; mislead or delude; cheat; pass time pleasantly; charm or attract; Ex. beguiling smile
- ♠ **behemoth** huge creature; something of monstrous size or power
- ♠ **beholden** obligated; indebted; owing thanks; obliged or indebted from gratitude
- ♠ **behoove(behove)** be suited to; be incumbent upon; be right and necessary; Ex. It behooves one to do.
- ♠ **belabor** harp on; dwell on tediously; explain or go over excessively or to a ridiculous degree; assail verbally; beat severely; attack physically
- ♠ **belated** delayed
- ♠ **beleaguer** besiege or attack (with an army); harass; beset
- ♠ **belie** contradict; give a false impression; disguise; Ex. The poor sales belied our high hopes; Ex. Her smile belies her true feeling of displeasure.
- **belittle** disparage; depreciate
- **bellicose** warlike
- **belligerent** quarrelsome
- ♠ **bemoan** lament; moan for; express sorrow or disapproval of
- ♠ **bemused** confused; lost in thought; preoccupied
- **benediction** blessing
- **benefactor** gift giver; patron; person who does good or who gives money for a good purpose
- **beneficent** kindly; doing good
- **beneficial** helpful; useful; advantageous
- **beneficiary** person entitled to benefits or proceeds of an insurance policy or will
- ♠ **benefit** advantage; anything that brings help, advantage, or profit; money provided by the government to the people; fund-raising public entertainment; Ex. unemployment benefit; V: receive benefits; be beneficial to; give benefits
- **benevolent** generous; charitable; having a wish to do good
- **benign** kindly; favorable; not malignant (disease); Ex. benign tumor
- **benison** blessing
- **bent** determined; Ex. bent on advancing in the business; N: natural talent or inclination
- **bequeath** leave to someone by means of a will; hand down in his will; N. bequest
- ♠ **berate** scold strongly
- ♠ **bereavement** state of being deprived of something valuable or beloved; state of being bereaved or bereft
- ♠ **bereaved** deprived of (someone beloved through death)
- ♠ **bereft** deprived of (something valuable); lacking
- ♠ **berserk** mad with violent anger; frenzied; madly excited
- **beseech** beg; plead with
- ♠ **beset** harass or trouble from all directions; hem in
- ♡ **hem** surround tightly so that movement is impossible; Ex. hem in; N.
- **besiege** surround with armed forces; harass (with requests); annoy continually
- ♠ **besmirch** soil; defile; make dirty
- ♠ **bestial** beastlike; brutal; inhuman; very cruel
- **bestow** confer

- ♠ **betoken** signify; indicate; be a sign of
- ♥ **token** outward sign; Ex. a token of our gratitude
- ♠ **betray** be unfaithful; reveal (unconsciously or unwillingly);
Ex. Her trembling hands betray her anxiety.
- ♠ **betroth** become engaged to marry
- ♠ **bevy** large group; Ex. a bevy of starlets
- **bicameral** two-chambered as a legislative body
- **bicker** quarrel
- **biennial** every two years
- ♠ **bifurcated** divided into two branches; forked
- ♠ **bigotry** stubborn intolerance
- ♥ **bigot** one who is intolerant (in matters of religion or politics)
- ♥ **intolerant** not willing to accept ways of thinking different from one's own; CF. tolerant; CF. tolerate
- ♠ **bilious** suffering from indigestion; sick from having too much bile; irritable; easily irritated
- ♠ **bilk** swindle; cheat
- ♠ **billowing** swelling out in waves; surging
- ♥ **billow** large wave of water; a great swell or surge (of smoke);
V: surge, swell, roll in billows
- ♥ **swell** long wave of water that moves continuously without breaking; V.
- ♥ **surge** powerful movement of or like a wave; V.
- ♠ **bivouac** temporary encampment; camp without tents; V.
- **bizarre** fantastic; violently contrasting; noticeably odd; strikingly unconventional
- ♠ **blanch** bleach; whiten; make white or pale
- ♠ **bland** soothing or mild (food); agreeable; causing no trouble or offence
- ♠ **blandishment** flattery
- ♠ **blare** loud or harsh roar or screech; dazzling blaze of light
- ♥ **screech** unpleasant high sharp sound; shriek; V.
- ♥ **dazzle** make blind with a sudden intense light; amaze; fill with wonder
- ♠ **blasé** bored with pleasure or dissipation; uninterested or bored
- ♠ **blasphemy** irreverence; sacrilege; cursing; bad language about God or holy things; V. blaspheme; ADJ. blasphemous; CF. sacrilege
- ♠ **blatant** extremely (offensively) obvious; loudly offensive; Ex. blatant lie; N. blatancy
- ♠ **bleak** cold or cheerless; frigid; unlikely to be favorable; depressing
- ♠ **blighted** suffering from a disease; destroyed
- ♥ **blight** plant disease; V: infect with blight; ruin; destroy
- ♠ **blithe(blithesome)** gay; joyous
- ♠ **bloated** (unpleasantly) swollen or puffed as with water or air
- ♠ **blowhard** talkative boaster; braggart
- ♠ **bludgeon** club; heavy-headed weapon; V.
- ♠ **bluff** pretense (of strength); deception; high cliff; ADJ: rough but good-natured

7

- **blunder** error; stupid mistake
- ♠ **blurt** utter impulsively from nervousness or excitement
- ♠ **bluster** blow in heavy gusts; threaten emptily; bully; speak in a noisy or bullying manner; CF. breeze, gust, gale
- ♡ **bully** one who is habitually cruel to weaker people; V.
- **bode** foreshadow; portend
- **bogus** counterfeit; not authentic; intentionally false; Ex. bogus interview
- ♠ **bohemian** unconventional (in an artistic way)
- **boisterous** violent; rough; noisy
- ♠ **bolster** support; reinforce
- ♠ **bolt** door bar; fastening pin or screw; length of fabric; large roll of cloth; V: dash or dart off; fasten (a door); gobble down
- ♡ **dart** move or throw suddenly and quickly
- ♡ **gobble** eat very quickly
- ♠ **bombardment** attack (as with missiles or bombs); V. bombard
- ♠ **bombastic** pompous; using inflated language
- ♡ **bombast** grandiloquent, pompous speech
- ♠ **boon** blessing; benefit; something very helpful
- ♠ **boorish** rude; insensitive
- ♡ **boor** rude, insensitive person
- ♠ **bouillon** clear beef (or meat) soup
- ♠ **bountiful** generous; graciously generous; showing bounty
- ♡ **gracious** kind in a generous way (to someone less important)
- **bourgeois** middle class; selfishly materialistic; too interested in material possessions
- **bovine** cowlike; placid and dull; slow-thinking; calm
- ♠ **bowdlerize** expurgate; CF. Thomas Bowdler
- ♠ **brackish** somewhat saline
- ♠ **braggadocio** boasting
- ♡ **brag** boast
- ♠ **braggart** boaster; bragger
- ♠ **brandish** wave around (a weapon); flourish
- ♠ **bravado** swagger; assumed air of defiance; false show of bravery
- ♡ **swagger** walk or behave with an over-confident manner
- ♠ **brawn** human muscle; muscular strength; sturdiness
- ♡ **brawny** muscular; having well-developed muscles
- ♡ **sturdy** strong and firm (in the body)
- ♠ **brazen** insolent; without shame; bold; Ex. brazen lie; V: face with bold self-assurance or with unshamed confidence
- ♡ **brawl** noisy quarrel
- ♠ **breach** breaking of contract or duty; fissure or gap; opening; V.
- **breadth** width; extent
- **brevity** conciseness; shortness of duration
- ♠ **brindled** tawny or grayish with streaks or spots (of animals)
- ♡ **tawny** brownish yellow
- ♠ **bristling** rising like bristles; showing irritation
- ♡ **bristle** short stiff hair; V: (hair or fur) stand up stiffly
- ♠ **brittle** hard but easily broken; difficult; unstable; Ex. brittle situation
- ♠ **broach** introduce as a subject; moot; open up
- ♠ **brocade** rich, figured(patterned) fabric
- **brochure** pamphlet
- ♠ **brooch** ornamental clasp; pin
- ♡ **clasp** hold firmly within arms
- ♠ **brook** tolerate; endure; Ex. brook no interference; N: small stream
- ♠ **browbeat** bully; intimidate
- ♠ **browse** graze; feed on growing grass; skim or glance at casually
- ♡ **graze** (of an animal) feed on growing grass; cause (an animal) to feed on grass; scrape (esp. the skin) or touch lightly in passing; brush; Ex. We can't graze the cattle till summer; N: surface wound
- ♡ **skim** read or glance through quickly; touch lightly in passing; brush; remove from the surface of a liquid
- ♠ **brunt** main impact or shock (of an attack or blow); Ex. brunt of the argument
- ♠ **brusque** blunt; abrupt; curt; not wanting to waste time being nice
- ♠ **buccaneer** pirate
- ♠ **bucolic** rustic; pastoral
- ♠ **buffet** strike forcefully; slap; batter; knock out; N: table with food set out for people to serve themselves; meal at which people help themselves to food that's been set
- ♡ **slap** hit quickly with the flat part of the hand; N. CF. smack
- ♠ **buffoonery** clowning
- ♡ **buffoon** stupid person; clown
- ♡ **clown** act stupidly; play the fool; N.
- ♠ **bugaboo** bugbear; object of baseless terror
- ♠ **bullion** gold and silver in the form of bars
- ♠ **bulwark** strong wall built for defense; earthwork or other strong defense; person who defends
- ♠ **bungle** mismanage; blunder; botch; blow; spoil by clumsy behavior
- ♡ **botch** mismanage; blow

- **buoyant** able to float; cheerful and optimistic; N. buoyancy; Ex. buoyancy of wood/water/American market
- **bureaucracy** overregulated administrative system marked by red tape; ADJ. bureaucratic
- ♠ **burgeon** grow rapidly; grow forth; send out buds; Ex. burgeoning computer industry; CF. bludgeon
- ♠ **burlesque** give an imitation that ridicules; imitate mockingly
- ♠ **burnish** make shiny by rubbing; polish
- ♠ **buttress** support; prop up; N. stationary structure to support wall; Ex. flying buttress
- ♡ **prop** support placed under or against something; V.
- ♠ **buxom** full-bosomed; plump; jolly
- ♡ **plump** pleasantly fat; nicely rounded
- ♠ **cabal** small group of persons secretly united to promote their own interests
- **cache** hiding place; V.
- **cacophonous** discordant; inharmonious; N. cacophony: unpleasant mixture of loud sounds
- **cadaver** corpse; dead human body
- **cadaverous** like a corpse; pale
- ♠ **cadence** rhythmic rise and fall (of words or sounds); beat; regular beat of sound; rhythm
- ♠ **cajole** persuade by praise or false promise; coax; wheedle
- ♡ **coax** persuade by flattery
- **calamity** disaster; misery
- **calculated** deliberately planned; likely
- ♠ **caldron(cauldron)** large kettle
- ♠ **caliber** ability; quality; diameter of the inside of a round cylinder; Ex. work of very high caliber
- **calligraphy** beautiful writing; excellent penmanship
- ♠ **callous** hardened; unfeeling; without sympathy for the sufferings of others; unkind
- ♡ **callus** area of thick hard skin
- ♠ **callow** youthful; immature; inexperienced
- ♠ **calorific** heat-producing; N. calorie
- **calumny** malicious misrepresentation; slander
- ♠ **camaraderie** good-fellowship; CF. comrade
- ♠ **cameo** shell or jewel carved in relief; star's special appearance in a minor role in a film
- ♠ **canard** unfounded false rumor; exaggerated false report
- ♠ **candor** frankness; open honesty; ADJ. candid
- ♠ **canine** related to dogs; doglike
- ♠ **canker** any ulcerous sore; ulcer; any evil; CF. cancer
- ♡ **ulcer** sore place appearing on the skin inside or outside the body; Ex. stomach ulcer; ADJ. ulcerous; V. ulcerate
- ♠ **canny** shrewd in money matters; thrifty
- ♠ **cant** insincere speech or expression of piety; jargon of thieves; special words used by a particular group of people
- **cantankerous** ill-humored; irritable
- ♠ **cantata** story set to music to be sung by a chorus (shorter than an oratorio)
- ♠ **canter** slow gallop; V. CF. trot

8

- ♠ **canto** division of a long poem
- ♠ **canvass** determine or seek opinions, votes, etc.; go through (a region) to solicit votes or orders; conduct a survey; N.
- **capacious** spacious
- ♠ **capacity** mental or physical ability; role; position or duty; ability to accommodate; Ex. in my capacity as president
- ♠ **capillary** having a very fine bore; resembling a hair; fine and slender; Ex. capillary attraction; N: very fine hairlike tube; CF. capillarity
- ♠ **capitulate** surrender; give up all resistance
- **caprice** whim; sudden change of mind without any real cause
- **capricious** unpredictable; fickle
- **caption** title; chapter heading; text under illustration
- ♠ **captious** faultfinding; too critical
- ♠ **carafe** glass water bottle; decanter
- ♠ **carapace** shell covering the back (of a turtle, tortoise, crab, etc.)
- ♠ **carat(karat)** unit of weight for precious stones; measure of the purity of gold
- ♠ **carcinogenic** causing cancer; N. carcinogen
- ♠ **cardinal** chief; most important; N: priest; cardinal number: number that shows quantity rather than order
- **cardiologist** doctor specializing in ailments of the heart
- ♠ **careen** lurch; sway from side to side; move with irregular swinging movement; stagger
- ♥ **career** rush wildly; go at full speed
- ♥ **sway** swing from side to side; influence (someone) to change one's opinion; N.
- **caricature** distortion; burlesque
- **carillon** a set of bells (often in a tower) capable of being played
- **carnage** destruction of life; slaughter; killing of large numbers of people or animals
- **carnal** fleshly; sensual; concerning the desires of the body
- **carnivorous** meat-eating; N. carnivore; CF. herbivore
- ♠ **carousal** drunken revel; V. carouse
- ♠ **carping** petty criticism; fault-finding; fretful complaining; quibble
- ♠ **carrion** rotting flesh of a dead body; CF. vulture
- ♠ **cartographer** map-maker
- **cascade** small waterfall
- ♠ **caste** one of the hereditary classes in Hindu society; social stratification; prestige
- **castigation** punishment; severe criticism or disapproval
- **casualty** serious or fatal accident; person killed or wounded in an accident or battle
- ♥ **casual** happening by chance; irregular; occasional; informal; showing or feeling little interest; Ex. casual reader/labor/remark
- ♠ **cataclysm** deluge; upheaval; earthquake; violent and sudden event or change
- ♠ **catalyst** agent which brings about a chemical change while it remains unaffected and unchanged; CF. catalysis
- **catapult** slingshot; hurling machine; V: fire from catapult
- ♥ **hurl** throw forcefully; shout out violently
- ♠ **cataract** great waterfall; eye abnormality (causing a gradual loss of eyesight)
- **catastrophe** calamity ; disaster
- ♠ **catcall** shout of disapproval or displeasure (made at the theater or a sports match); boo; V.
- ♠ **catechism** book for religious instruction in question-and-answer form; religious instruction by question and answer; V. catechize
- **categorical** without exceptions; made without any doubt in mind; unqualified; absolute
- ♥ **qualify** reach a necessary standard; limit the meaning of something stated
- **catharsis** purging or cleansing of any passage of the body; purging and weakening of strong emotions as a result of experiencing a dramatic work of art
- **cathartic** purgative; medicine that causes the bowels to empty; ADJ.
- ♠ **catholic** (of likings and interests) universal; general; broad; including many different parts; wide-ranging liberal; Ex. catholic opinions/tastes
- ♠ **caucus** private meeting of a group of people in a political party to select officers or determine policy; CF. the Caucus club of Boston
- ♠ **caulk(calk)** make watertight (by blocking up cracks as in a ship)
- **causal** implying a cause-and-effect relationship; N. causality
- **caustic** burning; corrosive; able to burn by chemical action; sarcastically biting; (of remarks) intended to hurt; bitter; harmful; OP. harmless
- ♠ **cauterize** burn (a wound or snakebite, etc.) with hot iron or caustic substance to stop bleeding and prevent infection
- ♠ **cavalcade** procession of riders or horse-drawn carriages; parade; CF. cavalry
- ♠ **cavalier** casual and offhand; arrogant; N: knight
- ♠ **cavil** quibble; make frivolous objections; find fault unnecessarily
- ♠ **cede** yield (title or territory) to (esp. after losing a war); surrender formally; N. cession
- **celerity** speed; rapidity
- **celestial** heavenly
- ♥ **hereafter** life after death

- ♥ **afterlife** life after death; later part of one's life
- ♠ **celibate** abstaining from sexual intercourse; unmarried; N. celibacy
- **censor** (in ancient Rome) overseer of morals (also taking the census); person who eliminates inappropriate matter; V.

- ♠ **ensorious** severely critical
- **censure** blame; criticize; express strong disapproval; N: severe criticism; strong disapproval
- **centaur** mythical figure, half man and half horse
- **centigrade** denoting a widely used temperature scale (basically same as Celsius)
- **centrifugal** radiating; departing from the center
- **centrifuge** machine that separates substances by whirling them
- **centripetal** tending toward the center
- **centurion** Roman army officer (commanding a company of about 100 soldiers)
- **cerebral** pertaining to the brain or intellect; intellectual rather than emotional; CF. cerebrum
- **cerebration** thought; working of the brain
- ♠ **ceremonious** marked by formality; extremely formal and polite; CF. ceremony: conventional social courtesy
- ♥ **unceremonious** not done politely without due formalities
- ♠ **certitude** certainty
- **cessation** stoppage
- ♠ **cession** yielding to another; ceding
- ♠ **chafe** warm by rubbing; make sore by rubbing; N.
- ♠ **chaff** worthless products of an endeavor; husk(outer seed cover) separated from grain; Ex. separate the wheat from the chaff
- ♠ **chaffing** bantering; joking
- ♠ **chagrin** annoyance and disappointment; vexation (caused by humiliation or injured pride)
- ♠ **chalice** goblet; consecrated cup
- **chameleon** lizard that changes color in different situations

9

- **champion** support militantly; fight for; N: person who fights for or supports strongly (a principle, movement, person, etc.)
- ♥ **championship** position of champion; defense or support; competition held to determine a champion
- **chaotic** in utter disorder
- **charisma** divine gift; great popular charm or appeal; magnetism
- ♠ **charlatan** quack; pretender to knowledge (esp. in medicine)
- ♠ **chary** cautious; unwilling to take risks; sparing or restrained about giving; OP. bold
- ♠ **chase** ornament a metal surface by indenting; follow rapidly to catch
- **chasm** abyss; very deep crack
- ♠ **chassis** framework and working parts of an automobile; framework to which components are attached
- **chaste** morally pure; virginal; abstaining from illicit sexual acts; modest; simple (of a style of writing); not highly decorated; austere
- ♠ **chasten** discipline; punish in order to correct; CF. castigate
- ♠ **chastise** punish as by beating; criticize severely
- **chauvinist** blindly devoted patriot; zealous adherent of a group, cause, or sex; ADJ. chauvinistic; CF. chauvinism; Nicolas Chauvin
- **check** stop motion; curb or restrain
- ♠ **checkered(chequered)** marked by great changes in fortune; with many changes of fortune; CF. checked: having a pattern of squares
- ♠ **cherubic** angelic; innocent-looking; N. cherub; CF. seraph: winged angel of the highest order
- ♠ **chicanery** trickery; deception
- ♠ **chide** scold; rebuke (someone who has done wrong)
- ♠ **chimerical** fantastically improbable; highly unrealistic; N. chimera: unreal fancy; fire-breathing female creature
- ♠ **chisel** swindle or cheat; N: wedgelike tool for cutting
- ♥ **chip** lose a small piece from the surface or edge; N: small piece broken off something; CF. French fry; Potato chip/crisp
- **chivalrous** courteous; faithful; brave; N. chivalry
- ♠ **choleric** hot-tempered; bad-tempered; irritable; easily angered; CF. cholera
- ♠ **choreography** art of representing dances in written symbols; arrangement of dances
- ♥ **chore** daily domestic task (such as cleaning, cooking, and shopping); unpleasant task
- ♠ **chortle** chuckle with delight; N.
- ♥ **chuckle** laugh quietly
- **chronic** long established as a disease
- **chronicle** report; record (in chronological order)
- ♠ **churlish** boorish; rude; N. churl: boor; yahoo
- ♠ **ciliated** having minute hairs; CF. cilium; CF. cilia: eyelash
- **cipher** nonentity; worthless person or thing; zero; secret code; V.
- **circlet** small ring; band of gold, silver, jewel, etc. (worn on the head, arms, or neck as decoration)
- **circuitous** roundabout
- ♥ **circuit** closed circular line around an area; circumference; regularly repeated journey from place to place
- **circumlocution** indirect or roundabout expression (by using an unecessarily large number of words esp. when trying to avoid answering a difficult question directly)
- **circumscribe** limit; confine; draw a line around
- ♠ **circumspect** prudent; cautious; acting after careful thought
- **circumvent** outwit; defeat by behaving more cleverly; outsmart; baffle; avoid; get around
- ♠ **cistern** reservoir or water tank
- **citadel** fortress
- **cite** quote; commend; Ex. cited for bravery in an official record
- **civil** having to do with citizens; not military or religious; courteous and polite; Ex. married in a civil ceremony; Ex. civil strife/disorder/law; N. civility; CF. civic
- **clairvoyant** having foresight; fortuneteller; N. clairvoyance
- ♥ **hindsight** understanding the nature of an event after it has actually happened
- ♠ **clamber** climb by crawling with difficulties; scramble
- **clamor** loud continuous noise; continuous demand or complaint made by a large number of people; V: make a clamor; express (a demand) continually and loudly; ADJ. clamorous
- **clandestine** secret
- ♥ **chaperon** older person who accompanies and supervises a young unmarried woman
- ♠ **clangor** loud resounding noise; sound of repeated clanging
- ♠ **clapper** striker (tongue) of a bell
- ♥ **clap** strike the palms of the hands together with a sudden explosive sound; come together suddenly with a sharp sound; put or send promptly; Ex. clap the thief in jail; N: clapping; loud or explosive sound; CF. applause
- ♠ **clarion** shrill, trumpetlike sound; kind of trumpet used in former times
- **claustrophobia** fear of being locked in
- ♠ **clavicle** collarbone
- ♥ **scrimmage** disorderly fight between two or more people

- **cleave** split or sever; cling to; remain faithful to; N. cleavage; ADJ. cloven
- ♠ **cleft** N: split
- ♠ **clemency** disposition to be lenient in deciding punishments; mildness as of the weather; ADJ. clement
- **cliché** phrase dulled in meaning by repetition; platitude; ADJ. clichéd
- ♥ **bromide** platitude; chemical compound used to calm excitement
- ♠ **clientele** body of customers
- **climactic** relating to the highest point; N. climax; CF. climatic
- ♠ **clime** climate
- ♠ **clique** small exclusive group of people
- **cloister** monastery or convent
- ♠ **clout** great influence (especially political or social); hard blow with fist
- **cloying** distasteful (because excessive); excessively sweet or sentimental; V. cloy: become unpleasant through too much sweetness or excess
- ♠ **coagulate** congeal; thicken; clot; N. coagulant
- ♥ **clot** half-solid lump formed from a liquid (or blood); V.
- ♥ **pudding** hot sweet dish
- **coalesce** combine; fuse; N. coalescence
- **coalition** partnership; league; union of separate political parties
- ♠ **coda** concluding section of a musical or literary composition

- ♠ **coddle** treat gently; indulge excessively; pamper; mollycoddle; baby; cook in water just below boiling point; Ex. coddled eggs
- ♠ **codicil** supplement to the body of a will; later addition to a will
- **codify** arrange (laws or rules) as a code; classify; N. code: system of words used instead of ordinary writing; collection of laws, rules, established social customs
- **coercion** use of force to get someone to object; compelling; V. coerce
- ♠ **coeval** living at the same time as; existing during the same period of time; contemporary; of the same age
- ♠ **cog** tooth projecting from a wheel
- **cogent** convincing
- **cogitate** think over; ponder
- **cognate** having a common origin; related linguistically; allied by blood; similar or akin in nature; Ex. cognate languages; N.
- **cognitive** having to do with knowing or perceiving related to the mental processes; N. cognition: the mental process of knowing
- **cognizance** knowledge; ADJ. cognizant; having knowledge; aware

- ♠ **cohabit** live together
- **cohere** stick together
- **cohesion** tendency to keep together
- ♠ **cohorts** group of people who share some common quality; armed band; a group of between 300 and 600 soldiers under one commander (in the ancient Rome)
- ♠ **coiffure** hairstyle
- **coin** make coins; invent or fabricate (a word or phrase); N. coinage: word or phrase recently invented
- **coincidence** the chance occurrence, at the same time, of two or more seemingly connected events; V. coincide: happen at the same time; be in agreement; CF. coincident; CF. coincidental
- ♠ **colander** utensil with perforated bottom used for straining

10

- **collaborate** work together; cooperate treasonably with the enemy
- ♠ **collage** work of art put together from fragments
- ♡ **scrap** small bit or fragment; discarded waste material; fight; Ex. a scrap of paper/cloth; V: break into parts for disposal; discard as worthless; fight; quarrel
- ♡ **scraps** leftover food
- ♡ **scrappy** quarrelsome
- **collate** examine and compare in order to verify authenticity; arrange in order (the sheets of a book before they are bound)
- **collateral** security given for loan; ADJ: secondary; descended from the same person but through different sons or daughters
- ♠ **collation** a light meal; collating
- **colloquial** pertaining to conversational or common speech; informal; N. colloquialism: colloquial expression
- **colloquy** informal discussion; conversation
- **collusion** conspiring in a fraudulent scheme to cheat or deceive others; V. collude
- **colossal** huge
- **colossus** gigantic statue; person or thing of great size or importance
- ♠ **comatose** in a coma; extremely sleepy
- ♡ **coma** deep prolonged unconsciousness caused by disease, poison, or a severe blow
- **combustible** easily burned; N. CF. combustion
- **comely** attractive; agreeable; having a pleasing appearance
- ♡ **homely** not good-looking; unattractive
- **comestible** something fit to be eaten
- ♠ **comeuppance** deserts; well-deserved punishment or misfortune; rebuke
- ♡ **deserts** what someone deserves
- ♠ **comity** courtesy; civility; Ex. comity of nations
- **commandeer** take (private property) for military use without needing permission or giving payment; draft for military purposes
- ♡ **draft** first rough form; conscription; draught; V: make a draft of; conscript
- ♡ **draught** current of air (through a room or to a fire); act of pulling roads; act of swallowing liquid or amount of liquid swallowed at a time
- ♠ **commemorative** remembering; honoring the memory of; Ex. commemorative stamp
- ♡ **commemorate** honor the memory of; serve as a memorial to; Ex. commemorate the 100th anniversary/those who died in the war
- **commensurate** equal in extent; of the same size
- **commiserate** feel or express pity or sympathy for
- **commodious** spacious and comfortable
- ♠ **communal** held in common; public; of a group of people; of a commune
- ♡ **commune** small (often rural) community whose members share work and income; V: exchange thoughts or feelings; Ex. commune with nature
- **compact** agreement; contract; ADJ: tightly packed; firm; brief; concise; Ex. compact statement
- **compatible** harmonious; in harmony with; able to exist together
- **compelling** overpowering; irresistible in effect; holding one's attention; that compels one to do something; Ex. a compelling adventure story; V. compel
- ♡ **compulsion** compelling; strong desire that is difficult to control; irresistible impulse
- ♡ **compulsory** obligatory; that must be done
- ♡ **compulsive** resulting from compulsion
- **compendium** brief, comprehensive summary; ADJ. compendious
- **compensatory** making up for; repaying
- **compilation** listing of information in tabular or book form; compiling
- **compile** assemble; gather; accumulate; make (a report or a book) from facts and information found in various places; Ex. compile a dictionary
- **complacency** self-satisfaction; smugness; ADJ. complacent
- ♡ **smug** self-satisfied; complacent
- **complaisant** trying to please; obliging; willing to please others
- **complement** complete; consummate; make perfect; N.
- **complementary** serving to complete something
- **compliance** conformity in fulfilling requirements; readiness to yield; disposition to yield to others; V. comply
- **compliant** readily acting in accordance with a rule, order, or the wishes or others; yielding; conforming to requirements
- **complicity** participation; involvement (in a questionable act or a crime)
- **component** element; ingredient
- ♠ **comport** bear one's self; behave; Ex. comport oneself; N. comportment
- ♡ **deport** send out of the country; behave; N. deportation, deportment
- ♡ **bearing** deportment; connection
- **composure** mental calmness
- **compound** combine; produce by combining; increase; make worse by adding to or increasing; exacerbate; Ex. compound an error; ADJ: consisting of two or more parts; N: combination of two or more parts; area enclosed by a wall containing a group of buildings; Ex. factory compound; CF. complex

- **comprehensive** broad; including a lot or everything; thorough; inclusive
- ♥ **comprehend** include; understand
- **compress** force into less space; squeeze; contract; put into fewer words; N: thick mass of cloth pressed to part of the body to stop bleeding or swelling, reduce fever, etc.
- **comprise** include; consist of
- ♠ **compromise** adjust or settle by making mutual concessions; endanger the interests or reputation of; put into danger, disrepute, or a dishonorable position; Ex. compromise one's principle; N.
- **compunction** remorse; strong uneasiness caused by guilt
- **compute** reckon; calculate
- ♥ **reckon** count; calculate; regard as; think; suppose
- **concatenate** link as in a chain
- **concave** hollow; curved inwards; OP. convex
- **concede** admit; acknowledge as being true (often reluctantly); yield; grant; Ex. concede a goal
- **conceit** vanity or self-love; too high opinion of one's own value; extravagant metaphor (in poetry)
- ♥ **vain** full of self-admiration; conceited; without result; unsuccessful; N. vanity
- **concentric** having a common center
- **conception** beginning; forming of an idea; fertilization; V. conceive: form an idea in the mind; devise; become pregnant; CF. inception
- ♠ **concerted** mutually agreed on; done together by agreement; Ex. concerted effort; CF. in concert: working together
- **concession** an act of yielding; conceding; something conceded; point, right, etc. given unwillingly; privilege of maintaining a business in a certain place; Ex. oil concessions in the North sea; CF. concessionaire
- **conciliatory** reconciling; soothing; V. conciliate: reconcile; soothe; win the friendly feelings (by removing anger)
- **concise** brief and compact
- ♠ **conclave** private secret meeting
- **conclusive** decisive; ending all debate
- **concoct** prepare by mixing or combining; make up in concert; devise (something false) so as to deceive; Ex. concoct an elaborate excuse for being late; N. concoction
- **concomitant** that which accompanies; Ex. Deafness is a frequent concomitant of old age; ADJ: existing or happening together with something else
- **concord** harmony; accord
- ♥ **concordat** formal agreement
- **concur** agree; coincide; happen at the same time
- **concurrent** happening at the same time; in agreement
- **condescend** (derog.) bestow courtesies with a superior air; descend to the level of one considered inferior
- **condign** adequate; (of punishment) severe and well deserved
- **condiments** seasonings; spices
- **condole** express condolences; N. condolence: sympathy for someone who has experienced great sorrow
- **condone** overlook; forgive; give tacit approval; excuse
- **conducive** helpful; contributive; V. conduce; Ex. conduce to/towards
- **conduit** aqueduct; passageway for fluids
- ♠ **confidant(confidante)** trusted friend (to whom one tells one's secret)
- ♥ **confide** tell in confidence (to a person one trusts); be confident about
- ♥ **confidence** self-assurance; calm unworried feeling based on a strong belief in one's abilities; strong belief in the ability of a person or plan; trust or faith in a person or thing; something confided; secret; Ex. confidence in your ability; Ex. I'm telling you this in confidence; Ex. exchange confidences about their boyfriends; ADJ. confident
- ♥ **confidential** spoken or written in secret; trusted with private matters; Ex. confidential secretary
- **confine** shut in an enclosed space; restrict; keep within limits; N. confinement
- **confiscate** seize; take possession of (private property) by official order (usu. as a punishment); commandeer
- **conflagration** great fire
- **confluence** flowing together; the place where two rivers flow together; crowd; gathering together
- **conformity** harmony; agreement with established rules or customs; similarity; Ex. behave in conformity with; V. conform: be similar; act in agreement; comply; Ex. conform to the rule; CF. conformance
- ♥ **conformist** person who uncritically conforms to the customs of a group; OP. nonconformist: one who does not conform to accepted beliefs of norms
- ♠ **confound** confuse; puzzle
- **congeal** freeze; coagulate
- **congenial** pleasant; friendly; in agreement with one's tastes and nature; Ex. congenial weather
- **congenital** existing at birth

11

- **conglomeration** mass of material sticking together
- ♥ **conglomerate** corporation made up of several different companies in diversified fields; mass of various material gathered together; rock consisting of small stones held together by clay; V.
- **congruence** correspondence of parts; harmonious relationship; CF. congruity
- **congruent** in agreement; harmonious; corresponding; coinciding exactly; CF. congruous
- ♠ **conifer** pine tree (usu. evergreen); cone-bearing tree; ADJ. coniferous; CF. deciduous; CF. evergreen
- **conjecture** surmise; guess; V.
- **conjugal** pertaining to marriage
- **conjure** cause to appear by magic; summon (a devil or a spirit) by magical power; practice magic (esp. by very quick movement of the hands); evoke; conjure up: bring into the mind; Ex. The magician conjured a rabbit out of his hat.
- **connivance** pretense of ignorance of something wrong; assistance; permission to offend; V. connive: feign ignorance (of a wrong); cooperate secretly in an illegal action; conspire
- **connoisseur** person competent to act as a judge of art, etc. (whose judgments are respected); a lover of an art
- **connotation** suggested or implied meaning of an expression; V. connote
- **connubial** pertaining to marriage or the matrimonial state
- ♥ **matrimony** state of being married
- ♥ **patrimony** property inherited from a father
- **consanguinity** kinship; relationship by birth
- ♥ **consanguineous(consanguine)** having a common ancestor
- **conscientious** scrupulous; thorough and careful; Ex. conscientious worker
- **conscript** draftee; person forced into military service; V.
- **consecrate** dedicate; sanctify; declare as sacred; Ex. consecrate one's life to helping the poor
- **consensus** general agreement; opinion reached by a group
- **consequential** self-important; significant; consequent; following as a result; Ex. consequential air; CF. subsequent
- **conservatory(conservatoire)** school of the fine arts (especially music or drama); glass-enclosed area; CF. conservancy
- **consign** send to a person or place for sale; deliver officially; entrust; put into the care of another; set apart (for a special purpose); N. consignment; CF. consignor, consignee
- **consistency** absence of contradictions; uniformity; degree of thickness or firmness; Ex. consistency of thick cream; CF. viscous
- **console** lessen sadness or disappointment; give comfort; allay the sorrow of; N. consolation
- **consolidation** unification; process of becoming firmer or stronger; V. consolidate: merge; strengthen
- **consonance** harmony; agreement
- ♥ **consonant** harmonious; in agreement; N.
- **consort** associate with; keep company; N: husband or wife (or a ruler)
- **conspiracy** treacherous plot; secret plan against the law (by two or more people)
- ♥ **conspire** take part in a conspiracy; (of events) work together; combine; Ex. Events conspired to produce great difficulties.
- ♥ **consternation** great shock; dismay
- **constituent** supporter; voter; member of a constituency; component
- ♥ **constituency** voters represented by an elected official; district so represented; group of supporters (or constituents)
- ♥ **constitution** constituting; system of laws; composition of something; physical makeup or structure of a person; Ex. men with strong constitutions
- **constraint** restraint; compulsion; repression of feelings; reticence; V. constrain: hold back; restrain; compel; oblige; confine forcibly; imprison
- **construe** explain; interpret; Ex. construe her silence as meaning that she agreed; CF. misconstrue
- **consummate** complete; V.
- **contagion** infection (by contact); ADJ. contagious; CF. infectious: that can be passed by infection in the air
- ♥ **drastic** strong; violent and severe; Ex. drastic changes/measures
- **contaminate** pollute
- **contempt** scorn; disdain; ADJ. contemptuous; CF. contemptible
- **contend** struggle; compete; assert earnestly; state strongly
- **contention** assertion; claim; thesis; struggling; competition
- ♥ **thesis** opinion put forward and supported by reasoned arguments
- ♥ **boost** lift by pushing up from below; increase; raise; N: push upward; increase
- **contentious** quarrelsome; controversial; likely to cause arguments
- **contest** dispute; argue about the rightness of; compete for; try to win; Ex. contest the election results; Ex. contest a seat in Parliament; N.
- **context** writings preceding and following the passage quoted; circumstance in which an event occurs
- **contiguous** adjacent to; touching upon

- ♠ **continence** self-restraint; sexual chastity; sexual abstinence; voluntary control over bladder and bowel functions; ADJ. continent
- ♠ **contingent** dependent on something uncertain or in the future; conditional; happening by chance; accidental; N: a group of soldiers, ships to a larger force; CF. contingency: future event that may or may not occur; possibility; Ex. prepare for every contingency
- **contortions** twistings; distortions; V. contort: twist violently out of shape; CF. contortionist
- ♠ **contraband** illegal trade; smuggling; smuggled goods; ADJ.
- ♠ **contravene** contradict; oppose; violate (a rule, law, or custom); N. contravention
- **contrite** penitent; repentant; N. contrition
- ♠ **contrived** unnatural and forced; artificial; not spontaneous; Ex. The ending was rather contrived.
- ♡ **contrive** invent or fabricate in a clever way (by improvisation); manage; Ex. contrive to attract his attention
- ♡ **contrivance** something contrived; machine or apparatus; clever deceitful plan; scheme
- **controvert** oppose with arguments; attempt to refute; contradict; ADJ. controversial; N. controversy
- **contumacious** stubborn and disobedient; resisting authority (esp. disobedient to an order made by a court)
- **contusion** bruise
- ♡ **bruise** injure without breaking the skin; N.
- ♠ **conundrum** riddle; difficult problem
- **convene** come together; assemble; call to meet; Ex. convene the council
- **convention** social or moral custom; established practice; formal meeting; international agreement
- **conventional** ordinary; typical; not nuclear; Ex. conventional weapons
- **converge** approach; tend to meet; come together
- **conversant** familiar with; having knowledge of
- **converse** opposite; ADJ.
- **convert** one who has adopted a different religion or opinion; V: change into another form; (persuade to) adopt a particular religion or belief
- **convex** curving outward
- **conveyance** vehicle; transfer; act of conveying; Ex. public conveyance
- **conviction** judgment that someone is guilty of a crime; strongly held belief
- **convivial** pleasantly merry; festive; joyous; gay; characterized by joviality; jovial
- **convoke** call together; Ex. convoke Parliament; N. convocation
- **convoluted** coiled around; twisted; involved; complicated; intricate; complex; N. convolution: twist; one of the convex folds of the surface of the brain
- ♡ **convulsion** violent uncontrollable shaking movement (caused by illness); V. convulse; ADJ. convulsive
- ♠ **copious** plentiful
- ♠ **coquette** flirt; flirtatious woman; woman who tries to attract the admiration of men without sincere feelings; V.
- ♡ **flirt** behave in a way that attracts (sexual) attention; deal triflingly with; N: one (or woman) given to flirting; ADJ. flirtatious
- **cordial** warmly friendly; gracious; heartfelt; Ex. cordial welcome
- ♠ **cordon** extended line of men or fortifications to prevent access or egress; () ; V.
- ♠ **cornice** projecting molding on building (usually above columns or pillars);
- ♠ **cornucopia** horn (or horn-shaped container) overflowing with fruit and grain; symbol of abundance; horn of plenty
- **corollary** natural consequence (which naturally follows from something else)
- ♠ **corporeal** bodily (rather than spiritual); of a bodily form; material; tangible
- **corpulent** very fat; N. corpulence
- ♡ **corpus** collection (of writings or information); Ex. the corpus of Shakespear's works; Cf. corpse
- ♡ **corpuscle** red or white cell in the blood
- **correlation** mutual relationship
- ♡ **correlate** either of the correlated things; V.
- **corroborate** confirm; support; strengthen
- **corrode** destroy or wear away gradually by chemical action (over a long period)
- **corrosive** eating away by chemicals or disease; (of language) fierce
- ♠ **corrugated** wrinkled; ridged
- ♡ **wrinkle** small ridge on a smooth surface (face or cloth); V.
- ♡ **crinkle** wrinkle
- **cosmic** pertaining to the universe; vast
- ♠ **coterie** group that meets socially; select circle; close group of people with shared interests
- **countenance** approve; support; tolerate; Ex. countenance his rude behavior; N: face; appearance
- ♠ **countermand** cancel; revoke (an order)

12

- **counterpart** thing that completes another; things very much alike; thing that has the same purpose in a different system
- ♠ **coup** highly successful action or sudden attack; coup(s) d'état; CF. coup de grâce: deathblow or shot which kills
- **couple** join; unite; OP. uncouple
- ♠ **courier** messenger
- ♠ **covenant** binding agreement between two groups or people; compact; V: enter into a covenant; promise
- ♥ **bargain** agreement between two groups or people; something for sale at a price advantageous to the buyer; V: negotiate; trade; Ex. bargaining power
- **covert** secret; hidden; implied; OP. overt
- ♠ **covetous** avaricious; desirous of (someone else's possessions); V. covet: desire eagerly (someone else's possessions)
- ♠ **cow** terrorize; intimidate
- ♠ **cower** shrink quivering as from fear; cringe
- ♠ **coy** shy (flirtatiously); showing a (pretended) lack of self-confidence; modest; coquettish; CF. job offer
- ♠ **cozen** cheat; hoodwink; swindle
- ♠ **crabbed** sour; bad-tempered; peevish; difficult to read as handwriting
- ♥ **peevish** bad-tempered; irritable; V. peeve: make angry
- ♠ **crass** very unrefined; grossly insensible; crude and undiscriminating; Ex. crass behavior
- **craven** cowardly
- **credence** belief
- ♠ **credo** creed
- **credulity** belief on slight evidence; gullibility; naiveté; ADJ. credulous
- **creed** system of religious or ethical belief
- **crescendo** increase in the volume or intensity as in a musical passage; climax; CF. crescent
- ♥ **far-fetched** too improbable to be believed; implausible; Ex. far-fetched story
- ♥ **overture** musical introduction to a long musical piece; first offer or proposal (to begin talks in the hope of reaching an agreement); Ex. overtures for peace
- ♠ **crestfallen** dejected; dispirited
- ♥ **crest** top (as of a hill or wave); showy feathers on the head of a bird
- ♠ **crevice** crack; fissure
- **cringe** shrink back as if in fear; cower
- **criteria** standards used in judging; CF. criterion
- ♠ **crone** hag; ugly old woman
- ♠ **crotchety** (of someone old) eccentric; odd; whimsical; bad-tempered; N. crotchety: odd or whimsical notion
- ♠ **crux** essential or main point; Ex. the crux of the problem; ADJ. crucial: of deciding importance
- **crypt** secret recess or vault usually used for burial; underground room (under a church)
- **cryptic** mysterious; hidden; secret
- ♠ **cubicle** small chamber used for sleeping or work
- ♥ **compartment** one of the parts into which an enclosed space is divided
- ♠ **cuisine** style of cooking; Ex. French cuisine
- ♠ **culinary** relating to cooking or kitchen
- ♠ **cull** pick out from others (to kill the weakest members); reject; select; collect (information); N.
- **culmination** highest point; climax; V. culminate in: reach the highest point in; end in; Ex. a series of minor clashes culminating in war
- **culpable** deserving blame; blameworthy
- ♥ **culprit** one guilty of a crime
- ♠ **culvert** artificial channel for water; drain crossing under a road
- **cumbersome** heavy and awkward to carry or wear; burdensome; Ex. cumbersome parcel/uniform
- **cumulative** growing by addition; accumulative
- **cupidity** greed (for wealth); CF. cupid; CF. Cupid
- **curator** superintendent; manager (in charge of a museum or a library)
- ♠ **curmudgeon** churlish, miserly individual; bad-tempered old person
- ♠ **cursive** (of writing) flowing; running; having the successive letters joined
- **cursory** casual; hastily done with little attention to detail
- **curtail** shorten; reduce
- **cynical** skeptical or distrustful of human motives; N. cynicism; CF. cynic: person who believes all people are motivated by selfishness
- ♠ **cynosure** object of general attention; person or thing that is a center of attention; CF. Ursa Minor
- ♠ **dabble** work at in a nonserious fashion; splash around; move noisily in a liquid
- ♠ **dais** raised platform for speakers or other important people
- ♠ **dally** trifle with; toy with; treat without the necessary seriousness; procrastinate; waste time
- ♠ **dank** damp; unpleasantly wet
- ♠ **dapper** neat and trim (in appearance); (of small men) neat in appearance and quick in movements; neat; spry
- ♠ **dappled** spotted
- ♠ **daub** smear (as with paint); cover with something sticky; Ex. daub one's clothes with mud/paint; N: small bit of sticky substance; Ex. a daub of paint

- ♥ **smear** spread or cover with a sticky substance; N: mark made by smearing
- ♥ **smudge** dirty mark with unclear edges made by rubbing; V.
- **daunt** intimidate; frighten; discourage; dishearten
- **dauntless** bold; fearless
- **dawdle** loiter; hang around; waste time doing nothing
- **deadlock** standstill resulting from the opposition of two unrelenting forces; stalemate
- ♥ **standstill** condition of no movement or activity; stop
- ♠ **deadpan** wooden; impassive; with no show of feeling; with an expressionless face
- **dearth** scarcity
- **débâcle** sudden disastrous downfall or defeat; complete disaster
- **debase** degrade; reduce in quality or value; degenerate; lower in esteem; disgrace; N. debasement
- ♥ **kneel** go down on one's knee(s)
- ♠ **debauch** corrupt morally; seduce from virtue; N. debauchery: wild behavior (with sex and alcohol)
- ♥ **seduce** lead away from proper conduct; entice; ADJ. seductive
- **debilitate** weaken (esp. through heat, hunger, illness); enfeeble
- ♥ **bout** match; short period of great activity; Ex. wrestling bout; bout of drinking/flu
- ♠ **debonair** (of men) friendly, charming, and fashionably dressed; aiming to please; CF. of good disposition
- **débris** rubble; wreckage; scattered remains of something broken or destroyed
- ♠ **debunk** expose as false, exaggerated, worthless, etc.; ridicule
- ♠ **debutante** young woman making formal entrance into society
- ♥ **debut** début; first public appearance; formal presentation of a young woman to society
- **decadence** decay; fall to a lower level (of morality, civilization, or art); ADJ. decadent
- **decant** pour off gently (wine or liquid)
- **decapitate** behead
- **decelerate** slow down

13

- ♠ **deciduous** falling off at a specific season or stage of growth as of leaves; Ex. deciduous tree/teeth
- **decimate** kill (usually one out of ten or every tenth man); destroy or kill a large part of
- **decipher** decode; CF. indecipherable
- ♠ **declivity** downward slope
- ♠ **décolleté** (of a dress) having a low-cut neckline; CF. décolletage: low neckline (on a dress)
- ♥ **decree** authoritative order; edict; judgment of a court of law; V: order or judge by decree
- ♠ **decomposition** decay; V. decompose: decay; break and separate into simple parts
- **decorum** propriety; orderliness and good taste in manners; appropriateness of behavior or conduct
- ♥ **decorous** proper (in behavior, conduct, or appearance)
- **decoy** lure or bait; V.
- **decrepitude** state of collapse or weakness caused by illness or old age
- ♥ **decrepit** weak and in bad condition from old age or hard use; Ex. decrepit old chair/man
- ♠ **decry** express strong disapproval of; condemn openly (something dangerous to the public); disparage; Ex. decry the violence of modern films
- **deducible** derived by reasoning; V. deduce: infer; derive by reasoning
- **deface** mar; disfigure
- ♥ **mar** spoil the appearance of
- **defame** harm someone's reputation; malign; speak evil of; slander; N. defamation; ADJ. defamatory
- **default** failure to act; failure to perform a task or be present; V.
- ♠ **defeatist** resigned to defeat or failure; accepting defeat or failure as a natural outcome; N. CF. defeatism
- **defection** desertion
- ♥ **defect** shortcoming; V: desert (in order to join the opposite one)
- **defer** give in respectfully; submit; delay till later; exempt temporarily; N. deferment; CF. show respect, comply with, courteous
- **deference** courteous regard for another's wish; courteous yielding to another's wish or opinion (showing respect); ADJ. deferential; OP. effrontery
- **defiance** refusal to yield; resistance; V. defy; ADJ. defiant
- **defile** pollute; make filthy or dirty; corrupt morally; profane; desecrate; N: narrow passage or gorge through mountains
- **definitive** most reliable; authoritative and complete; that cannot be improved; conclusive; decisive; definite; Ex. definitive decision by the supreme court
- **deflect** turn aside; turn away from a straight course
- ♠ **defoliate** destroy leaves; deprive of leaves (by the use of chemicals); N. defoliant
- ♠ **defray** provide for the payment of; undertake the payment of; pay
- ♠ **defrock** strip a priest or minister of church authority; unfrock
- ♥ **frock** long loose garment (worn by monks)
- **deft** neat; skillful
- **defunct** dead; no longer in use or existence
- **degenerate** become worse in quality; deteriorate; ADJ: having become worse; Ex. a degenerate species; N: depraved or corrupt person
- **degradation** humiliation; debasement; degeneration; V. degrade: debase; disgrace; degenerate; reduce (something) in worth; demote (someone); reduce in rank
- ♥ **dishonor** disgrace; N. ADJ. dishonorable
- ♠ **dehydrate** remove water from; dry out
- **deify** turn into a god; make a god of; idolize; Ex. Kings were deified; CF. deity
- ♠ **deign** condescend; stoop
- ♥ **stoop** bend forward and down; lower or debase oneself; fall to a lower standard of behavior by doing something; condescend; Ex. stoop to lying
- **delete** erase; strike out
- ♠ **deleterious** harmful
- **deliberate** consider; ponder; ADJ: done on purpose; slow
- **delineate** portray; depict; sketch; describe; N. delineation
- **delirium** mental disorder marked by confusion; uncontrolled excitement; ADJ. delirious
- **delta** flat plain of mud or sand between branches of a river
- **delude** deceive
- **deluge** flood; rush; V.
- **delusion** false belief; hallucination; deluding; Ex. delusions of grandeur; Ex. under the delusion that
- **delusive** deceptive; likely to delude; misleading; raising vain hopes; Ex. delusive promises
- ♠ **delve** dig; search deeply; investigate
- **demagogue** person who appeals to people's prejudice; false leader of people; CF. demagoguery
- **demean** disgrace; humiliate; debase in dignity; behave
- **demeanor** behavior; bearing
- **demented** insane
- **demise** death
- ♠ **demographic** related to population balance; N. demography: statistical study of human population
- **demolition** destruction; V. demolish

- ♠ **demoniac(demoniacal)** fiendish; cruel; N. demon: evil supernatural being; devil
- ♥ **fiend** evil spirit; devil
- ♠ **demotic** of or pertaining to the people
- ♠ **demur** object (because of doubts, scruples); raise an objection (showing qualms); hesitate; Ex. demur at the idea of working on Sunday
- ♠ **demure** (of a woman or child) grave; quiet and serious; coy; pretending to be demure
- **denigrate** blacken; defame
- **denizen** (animal, person, or plant) inhabitant or resident of a particular place; regular visitor
- **denotation** meaning; distinguishing by name; V. denote: indicate; refer to directly; mean; CF. connotation
- ♠ **dénouement** final outcome; final development of the plot of a play or other literary work; the end of a story when everything is explained
- **denounce** condemn; criticize; N. denunciation
- **depict** portray
- ♥ **exposé** public revelation of something discreditable
- **deplete** reduce; exhaust
- **deplore** regret; express sorrow and severe disapproval for something bad; Ex. deplore their violent behavior; ADJ. deplorable: very bad; deserving severe disapproval; Ex. deplorable living condition
- **deploy** spread out (troops) in an extended though shallow battle line; distribute (persons or forces) systematically or strategically
- ♥ **battalion** army unit made up of four or more companies
- **depose** dethrone; remove from office; give a deposition; testify
- **deposition** testimony under oath; deposing; dethroning
- **depravity** extreme corruption; wickedness; V. deprave
- **deprecate** express disapproval of; deplore; protest against; belittle; ADJ. deprecatory
- **depreciate** lessen in value; belittle; represent as of little value
- **depredation** plundering; destruction
- **deranged** insane
- ♥ **institute** organization for a special purpose; V. establish
- ♥ **institution** instituting; (building for the) organization; established custom, practice, or relationship in a society; mental hospital; Ex. institution of marriage
- ♥ **institutionalize** make into an institution; put or confine in an institution
- **derelict** negligent; (of someone) neglectful of duty; (of something) deserted by an owner; abandoned; N. abandoned property; homeless or vagrant person
- ♥ **dereliction** neglect of duty; abandonment
- **deride** ridicule; treat with contempt; make fun of; OP. respect
- **derision** ridicule; ADJ. derisive; CF. derisory
- **derivative** unoriginal; obtained from another source; Ex. derivative prose style; N.
- ♥ **derivation** deriving; origin or source of something; Ex. the derivation of the word
- **dermatologist** one who studies the skin and its diseases
- ♥ **acne** skin disease (on the face)

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- **derogatory** expressing a low opinion; disparaging; V. derogate: detract; disparage
- ♠ **descry** catch sight of (something distant)
- **desecrate** profane; violate the sanctity of
- ♡ **violate** break (a law); defile; desecrate; assault sexually; Ex. violate graves
- **desiccate** dry up
- **desolate** (of a place) deserted; unpopulated; (of a person) lonely; forlorn; joyless
- **desolate** make desolate; forsake; abandon and desert
- ♠ **desperado** reckless, desperate outlaw
- ♡ **desperate** having lost all hope; despairing; reckless and violent because of loss of hope or despair; undertaken as a last resort
- **despise** look on with scorn; regard as worthless or distasteful; ADJ. despicable: contemptible
- **despoil** plunder; sack; Ex. despoil the village
- **despondent** without hope and courage; depressed; gloomy; N. despondency: loss of hope with gloom; dejection
- **despot** tyrant; harsh, authoritarian ruler; CF. despotism
- **destitute** extremely poor; lacking means of subsistence; utterly lacking; devoid; Ex. destitute of any experience
- ♡ **impoverish** make poor; deprive of natural strength or something important; Ex. impoverished soil
- **desultory** aimless; haphazard; digressing at random
- ♠ **detached** emotionally removed; free from emotional involvement; calm and objective; physically separate; N. detachment; CF. attachment
- ♡ **detain** keep waiting; prevent from leaving or going; N. detention
- ♠ **determinate** having a fixed order of procedure; precisely defined; invariable; fixed; conclusive; final
- ♠ **determination** resolve; firmness of purpose; measurement or calculation; decision
- **deterrent** something that discourages or deters
- **detonation** explosion
- **detraction** slandering; aspersion; detracting; CF. detractor
- **detrimental** harmful; damaging; N. detriment
- **deviate** turn away from (a principle, norm); move away from an accepted standard; swerve; depart; diverge; N. deviation; Ex. deviation of the path of light by a prism
- ♠ **devious** roundabout; erratic; deviating from the straight course; not straightforward; not completely honest; Ex. devious route
- **devise** think up; invent; plan; bequeath; N: bequest
- **devoid** empty; lacking
- ♠ **devolve** deputize; pass or be passed to others (power, work, or property); Ex. devolve on/upon/to

- ♡ **deputize** work or appoint as a deputy; N. deputy: person who has the power to take charge when the leading person is away
- **devotee** enthusiastic follower; enthusiast; Ex. devotee of Bach
- **devout** pious; deeply religious; sincere; earnest; Ex. my devout hope
- ♡ **religious** of religion; (of a person) pious; having reverence for a deity
- **dexterous** skillful; skill in using hands or mind; N. dexterity
- **diabolical** diabolic; devilish; fiendish
- ♠ **diadem** crown
- **dialectical** relating to the art of debate; mutual or reciprocal; Ex. dialectical situation; N. dialectic: art of arriving at the truth by the exchange of logical arguments
- **diaphanous** sheer; transparent
- ♠ **diatribe** bitter scolding or denunciation; invective; abuse
- **dichotomy** division into two opposite parts; split; branching into two parts (especially contradictory ones)
- ♠ **dictum** authoritative and weighty statement (made by a judge in court); saying; maxim; CF. obiter dictum: incidental, nonbinding remark (something said in passing)
- ♠ **didactic** (of speech or writing) intended to teach a moral lesson; teaching; instructional; N. didacticism
- ♠ **die** metal block used for shaping metal or plastic; device for stamping or impressing; mold; CF. dice
- **diffidence** shyness; lack of self-confidence; timidity; ADJ. diffident
- ♠ **diffuse** wordy; verbose; rambling; spread out (like a gas); V: spread out in all directions; disperse; N. diffusion; CF. suffuse
- **digression** wandering away from the subject; V. digress
- **dilapidated** falling to pieces; in a bad condition; ruined because of neglect; Ex. dilapidated old car/castle; N. dilapidation
- **dilate** expand; dilate on/upon: speak or write at length on (a subject)
- **dilatory** delaying; tending to delay
- **dilemma** situation that requires a choice between equally unfavorable options; problem; choice of two unsatisfactory alternatives
- ♠ **dilettante** aimless follower of an art or a field of knowledge (not taking it seriously); amateur; dabbler; CF. delight
- **diligence** steadiness of effort; persistent hard work
- **dilute** make (a liquid) less concentrated; reduce in strength; Ex. dilute the influence of the president
- **diminution** lessening; reduction in size; V. diminish
- **din** continued loud noise; V: make a din; instill by wearying repetition
- ♡ **weary** tired after long work; V.

- ♠ **dinghy** small boat (often ship's boat)
- ♥ **maroon** leave helpless on a deserted island or coast; ADJ. red brown
- ♠ **dingy** (of things and place) dirty and dull; Ex. dingy street/curtain
- ♥ **dull** (of colors or surfaces) not bright; cloudy; overcast; boring; (of edge or sound) not sharp; not rapid; sluggish; slow in thinking and understanding; stupid; V.
- ♠ **dint** means; effort; Ex. by dint of hard work
- ♠ **diorama** life-size, three-dimensional scene from nature or history; three-dimensional scene with modeled figures against a painted background
- ♠ **dire** warning of disaster; disastrous; (of needs and dangers) very great; urgent; Ex. dire prediction/need of food
- ♠ **dirge** funeral song; slow mournful piece of music (sung over a dead person)
- **disabuse** correct a false impression; undeceive; free from a wrong belief
- ♠ **disaffected** disloyal; lacking loyalty; V. disaffect: cause to lose affection or loyalty
- **disapprobation** disapproval; condemnation
- ♠ **disarray** state of disorder; a disorderly or untidy state; Ex. with her clothes in disarray
- ♠ **disavowal** denial; disclaiming; repudiating; disowning; V. disavow; CF. disclaim
- ♠ **disband** dissolve; disperse; (of a group) break up and separate; Ex. The club has disbanded.
- ♠ **disburse** pay out (as from a fund); N. disbursement; CF. purse
- **discernible** distinguishable; perceivable; Ex. discernible improvement
- **discerning** mentally quick and observant; having insight; perceptive; able to make good judgments; V. discern: perceive
- ♠ **disclaim** disown; renounce claim to; deny; CF. disclaimer
- **disclose** reveal; N. disclosure
- ♠ **discombobulated** discomposed; confused
- ♥ **discompose** disturb the composure of; confuse
- **discomfit** frustrate; put to rout; defeat; disconcert; embarrass; perturb
- ♠ **disconcert** confuse; upset; embarrass; perturb
- **disconsolate** hopelessly sad (at the loss of something)
- **discord** conflict; lack of harmony; dissonance (when musical notes are played)
- **discordant** not harmonious; conflicting
- ♠ **discount** disregard; regard (a story or news) as unimportant; deduct from a cost
- **discourse** serious speech, writing, or conversation; formal discussion (either written or spoken); conversation; V.
- **discredit** defame; disgrace; destroy confidence in; disbelieve; N. CF. discreditable: causing discredit; shameful
- **discrepancy** lack of consistency or agreement as between facts; difference; Ex. discrepancy between two descriptions
- **discrete** separate; unconnected
- **discretion** prudence; ability to adjust actions to circumstances; freedom of action or judgment; ADJ. discreet; CF. discretionary
- **discriminating** able to see differences; discerning; prejudiced; N. discrimination
- ♥ **discriminate** distinguish; make distinctions on the basis of preference
- ♥ **brisk** quick and active; marked by liveliness and vigor
- ♠ **discursive** (of a person or writing) digressing; rambling (without any clear plan)
- **disdain** treat with scorn or contempt
- ♠ **disembark** debark; go ashore (from a ship); unload cargo from a ship; CF. embark
- **disenfranchise** disfranchise; deprive of a civil right; OP. enfranchise
- ♠ **disengage** uncouple; separate; disconnect; stop fighting; OP. engage
- **disfigure** mar the appearance of; spoil
- ♠ **disgorge** surrender something (stolen); eject; vomit; OP. gorge
- ♠ **disgruntle** make discontented

- **dishearten** discourage
- ♠ **disheveled** untidy (of hair or clothing); V. dishevel
- **disinclination** unwillingness
- ♠ **disingenuous** not naive; not candid; sophisticated; worldly wise; OP. ingenuous
- ♠ **disinter** dig up; unearth; OP. inter
- **disinterested** unprejudiced; free from bias and self-interest; objective
- **disjointed** disconnected; lacking coherence; V. disjoint: disconnect; disjoin
- **disjunction** act or state of separation; disunity; CF. disjunctive: expressing a choice between two ideas; CF. conjunction; CF. conjunctive
- ♠ **dislodge** remove (forcibly); force out of a position; Ex. dislodge the food caught in his throat; CF. lodge
- ♠ **dismantle** take apart; disassemble
- ♡ **mantle** loose sleeveless outer garment; cloak; something that covers or envelops; the layer of the earth between the crust and the core
- ♡ **crust** hard outer covering (as of earth or snow)
- **dismember** cut into small parts; cut (a body) apart limb from limb
- ♠ **dismiss** eliminate from consideration; no longer consider; put out of court without further hearing; reject; discharge from employment; direct to leave; ADJ. dismissive; N. dismissal
- **disparage** belittle
- **maneuver**(**manoeuvre**) strategic military or naval movement (done for training purposes); carefully planned process; stratagem; V: carry out a military maneuver; use maneuvers in gaining an end
- **disparate** basically different; impossible to compare; unrelated
- **disparity** difference; condition of inequality; OP. parity
- **dispassionate** calm; impartial; not influenced by personal feelings
- **dispatch** speediness; prompt execution; message sent with all due speed; V: send to a specified destination; finish promptly; kill
- **dispel** scatter; drive away; cause to vanish
- ♡ **dispense** distribute; prepare and give out (medicines); N. dispensation: dispensing; religious system; official exemption from an obligation or a rule
- **disperse** scatter; Ex. disperse the cloud/crowd
- ♠ **dispirited** lacking in spirit
- ♠ **disport** amuse; Ex. disport oneself; CF. divert
- **disputatious** argumentative; fond of argument
- **disquietude** uneasiness; anxiety; V. disquiet: make anxious
- ♠ **disquisition** formal systematic inquiry; explanation of the results of a formal inquiry; long formal speech or written report
- **dissection** analysis; cutting apart in order to examine
- ♠ **dissemble** disguise; hide the real nature of; pretend
- **disseminate** distribute; spread; scatter (like seeds)
- **dissent** disagree
- **dissertation** formal essay; treatise
- **dissident** dissenting (with an opinion, a group, or a government); rebellious; N.
- ♠ **dissimulate** pretend; conceal by feigning; dissemble
- **dissipate** squander; waste foolishly; scatter
- ♠ **dissolution** disintegration; reduction to a liquid form; looseness in morals; sensual indulgence; debauchery; ADJ. dissolute: lacking in moral restraint; leading an immoral life
- ♡ **reduce** diminish; bring to a weaker or more difficult condition; demote; lower in rank; separate into components by analysis; Ex. reduced to the ranks; Ex. reduce the house to rubble; N. reduction
- **dissuade** persuade not to do; discourage; N. dissuasion
- ♡ **dissonance** discord
- ♠ **distant** reserved or aloof; cold in manner; Ex. distant greeting; ADV. distantly
- **distend** expand; swell out
- **distill** refine (a liquid by evaporating and subsequent condensation); concentrate; separate the most important parts from; Ex. distill fresh water from sea water; CF. brew
- ♠ **distinction** honor; excellence; difference; contrast; discrimination; Ex. graduated with distinction; Ex. a writer of real distinction
- ♡ **distinct** clearly different; clearly noticed
- ♡ **distinctive** clearly different from others of the same kind
- **distort** twist out of shape; give a false account of; misrepresent; N. distortion
- ♠ **distract** absentminded; distracted
- ♠ **distraught** upset; distracted by anxiety; very anxious and troubled almost to the point of madness; Ex. distraught with grief/worry
- ♡ **distract** take (one's attention) off something; upset emotionally; make anxious; ADJ. distracted
- **diurnal** daily; occurring during the daytime
- **diva** operatic singer; prima donna
- **diverge** vary; go in different directions from the same point; ADJ. divergent: differing; deviating
- **diverse** differing in some characteristics (from each other); various; N. diversity: variety; dissimilitude; lack of resemblance
- **diversion** act of turning aside; pastime; V. divert: turn aside from a course; distract; amuse

- **divest** strip (as of clothes); deprive (as of rights); dispossess; N. divestiture(divestment)
- **divine** perceive intuitively (by or as if by magic); foresee the future; foretell; dowse; ADJ. N. divination
- ♡ **dowse** use a divining rod to search for underground water or minerals
- **divulge** reveal
- **docile** obedient; easily managed; submissive
- ♡ **ferocious** fierce; violent; N. ferocity
- ♠ **docket** program as for trial; book where such entries are made; list of things to be done; agenda; label fixed to a package listing contents or directions; V: describe in a docket
- ♠ **doctrinaire** unable to compromise about points of doctrine; dogmatic; unyielding; marked by inflexible attachment to a doctrine without regard to its practical difficulties
- **doctrine** teachings in general; particular principle (religious, legal, etc.) taught; dogma; tenet; ADJ. doctrinal
- ♡ **indoctrinate** cause to accept a doctrine without questioning it; Ex. indoctrinated with mindless anti-communism
- ♠ **document** provide written evidence (for a claim); record with documents; N.
- ♠ **doddering** shaky; infirm from old age; V. dodder
- ♡ **merit** deserve; ADJ. meritorious: deserving reward or praise
- ♠ **doff** take off; OP. don
- ♠ **dogged** determined; stubborn; stubbornly persevering; tenacious; Ex. Inspector Javert's dogged pursuit of Jean Valjean
- ♡ **persevere** continue steadily in spite of difficulties
- ♠ **doggerel** poor verse
- **dogmatic** opinionated; holding stubbornly to one's opinion; arbitrary; doctrinal
- ♠ **doldrums** blues; listlessness(lack of spirit or energy); slack(inactive) period; period of stagnation; ocean area near the equator where ships cannot move because there is no wind; Ex. in the doldrums
- ♡ **blues** state of depression or melancholy; style of slow, mournful music (evolved from southern Black American songs)
- **dolorous** sorrowful; N. dolor
- ♠ **dolt** slow-thinking stupid person; CF. dull
- ♠ **domicile** home; V. ADJ. domiciled: having one's domicile; Ex. He is domiciled in Britain.
- ♠ **domineer** rule over tyrannically
- ♡ **dominate** control; rule; enjoy a commanding position in; overlook from a height;
- ♡ **dominant** exercising the most influence; high and easily seen; stronger than the other part of a system; not recessive
- ♠ **don** put on; OP. doff
- ♡ **outfit** clothing or equipment for a special purpose; Ex. cowboy outfit
- **dormant** sleeping; temporarily inactive; lethargic; latent
- ♠ **dormer** window projecting upright from roof; CF. sleeping room
- **dorsal** relating to the back of an animal; Ex. dorsal fin
- ♠ **dossier** file of documents on a subject or person; file; CF. bundle of papers labeled on the back
- ♠ **dotage** senility; feeble-mindedness of old age; Ex. In one's dotage
- ♠ **dote** be excessively fond of; show signs of mental decline
- ♠ **dour** sullen; gloomy; stubborn
- ♡ **sullen** silently showing ill humor or resentment; dark; gloomy
- ♡ **brood** sit on in order to hatch; think deeply or worry anxiously; N: the young of certain animals; group of young birds hatched at one time
- ♠ **douse** plunge into water or liquid; dip; immerse; drench; wet thoroughly; extinguish; throw water over; dowse
- ♠ **dowdy** untidy (of a woman or clothes); slovenly; dressed in an unattractive way; shabby; CF. unattractive woman
- ♠ **downcast** disheartened; dejected; sad; directed downward
- ♠ **drab** dull; lacking color; cheerless ; Ex. drab coat/life
- ♠ **draconian** extremely severe; Ex. draconian punishment; CF. Draco: Athenian politician
- ♠ **dregs** sediment in a liquid; lees; worthless residue
- ♠ **drivel** nonsense; foolishness; V: talk nonsense
- ♡ **nonsense** speech or writing with no meaning; foolish behavior or language; Ex. make (a) nonsense of: spoil; cause to fail
- ♡ **dribble** flow or fall in drops; let saliva flow out slowly from the mouth; move a ball; N.
- ♡ **drip** fall or let fall in drops; shed drops; N: action or sound of falling in drops; liquid that falls in drops
- ♡ **trickle** flow in drops or in a thin stream; N.
- ♠ **droll** queer and amusing
- ♡ **queer** strange; eccentric; deviating from the normal
- ♠ **drone** idle person who lives on other people's work; male bee
- ♠ **drone** talk dully; buzz or murmur like a bee; N.
- ♡ **murmur** low, indistinct, continuous sound; V. CF. mumble
- ♠ **dross** waste matter; worthless impurities
- **drudgery** hard unpleasant work; menial work
- ♡ **drudge** do drudgery; N: person who drudges
- ♠ **dubious** questionable; (of something) causing doubt; (of someone) filled with doubt; N. dubiety
- ♠ **ductile** malleable; pliable; (of metals) easily pulled into shape; flexible; (of someone) easily influenced or controlled

- ♠ **dulcet** sweet sounding; pleasing to the ear; melodious
- ♠ **dumbfound(dumfound)** astonish (making dumb); ADJ.
dumbfounded, dumfounded, dumbstruck
- ♠ **dupe** someone easily fooled or deceived; V: deceive
- ♠ **duplicit** double-dealing; hypocrisy; being dishonest and
deceitful; ADJ. duplicitous

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- **duration** length of time something lasts
- ♠ **duress** forcible restraint, especially unlawfully; coercion by threat; illegal coercion; Ex. a promise made under duress
- ♠ **dutiful(duteous)** (of people or their behavior) respectful; obedient (filled with a sense of duty)
- ♠ **dwindle** shrink; reduce gradually
- **dynamic** energetic; vigorously active
- ♡ **dynamo** generator for producing electricity; energetic person
- ♠ **dyspeptic** suffering from indigestion; N. dyspepsia: indigestion; difficulty in digesting food
- ♡ **dys-** abnormal; impaired
- ♡ **dyslexia** word blindness; learning disorder marked by impairment of the ability to read
- ♡ **dysentery** inflammatory disorder of the lower intestinal tract
- ♠ **earthy** unrefined; coarse; of earth; Ex. earthy remarks; OP. ethereal
- ♡ **earthly** of this earth; terrestrial; worldly; not divine; possible; Ex. no earthly reason
- **ebb** (of the tide) recede; lessen; diminish; N. OP. flow: rise of tide
- **ebullient** showing excitement; overflowing with enthusiasm; boiling; N. ebullience; N. ebullition: state of boiling
- **eccentric** irregular; odd; unconventional; whimsical; bizarre; not concentric
- **eccentricity** oddity; idiosyncrasy
- **ecclesiastic** ecclesiastical; pertaining to the church; N: minister; priest; cleric; clergyman
- ♡ **chapel** small church (in a prison, college, or hospital)
- ♡ **chaplain** clergyman attached to a chapel
- ♡ **padre** chaplain (in the armed forces)
- **eclectic** selective; composed of elements drawn from disparate sources; selecting individual elements from a variety of sources; N. eclecticism
- ♡ **selective** careful in choosing; having an effect only on certain things; not general; Ex. eclectic weed killer
- **eclipse** darken; extinguish; outshine; surpass; cause an eclipse
- ♡ **ecliptic** path of the sun and the planets
- **ecologist** person concerned with the interrelationship between living organisms and their environment; person concerned with the detrimental effects of human civilization on the environment; CF. ecology
- ♡ **ecosystem** ecological community together with its environment
- **economy** efficiency or conciseness in using something; thrifty management of resources
- **ecstasy** rapture; very strong feeling of joy and happiness; any overpowering emotion; ADJ. ecstatic: causing or experiencing ecstasy
- ♡ **rapture** great joy and delight; ecstasy; ADJ. rapturous
- ♠ **eddy** swirling current of water, air, etc.; V.
- **edict** decree (especially one issued by a sovereign); official command
- ♡ **sovereign** ruler in a monarchy; ADJ: (of a country) independent and self-governing; having supreme power; supreme; excellent
- ♡ **sovereignty** complete independence and self-government (of a country); supremacy of authority; power to govern
- ♠ **edify** instruct; correct morally
- ♡ **edifice** building (of imposing size)
- **eerie** weird; causing fear because strange
- **efface** rub out; remove the surface of
- **effectual** able to produce a desired effect; valid
- ♡ **effective** effectual; producing a strong response; striking; in operation; in effect; Ex. effective speech/photograph
- ♡ **effectuate** effect; produce; achieve; Ex. effectuate a reconciliation
- **effeminate** having womanly traits
- ♡ **emasculate** weaken; castrate
- ♡ **castrate** remove the sex organs (of a male animal or person)
- ♠ **effervescence** inner excitement or exuberance; showing high spirits; emitting bubbles forming inside; bubbling from fermentation or carbonation; ADJ. effervescent; V. effervesce
- **effete** having lost one's original power; barren; worn out; exhausted
- **efficacy** power to produce desired effect; ADJ. efficacious: effectual
- **effigy** dummy; likeness of a person made of wood, paper, or stone; Ex. burn an effigy of the President
- ♡ **dummy** imitation of a real object used as a substitute; effigy
- ♠ **effluvium** noxious(harmful) smell
- **effrontery** rudeness without any sense of shame; shameless boldness; presumptuousness; nerve; cheek
- ♡ **effulgent** shining brightly; brilliant
- **effusion** pouring forth; unrestrained outpouring of feeling; V. effuse: pour out; ADJ. effusive: pouring forth; gushing
- ♡ **gush** (of liquid) pour out in large quantities from a hole; make an excessive display of feeling (without true feeling); Ex. Blood gushed from the wound.
- **egoism** excessive interest in one's self; belief that one should be interested in one's self rather than in others; selfishness; ADJ. egoistic, egoistical
- ♡ **ego** one's opinion of oneself; self-esteem

- **egotistical** egotistic; excessively self-centered(egocentric); self-important; conceited
- ♥ **egotism** tendency to speak or write of oneself excessively; conceit; self-importance
- **egregious** notorious; conspicuously bad or shocking
- ♠ **egress** exit; opening for going out; act of going out; OP. ingress
- ♠ **ejaculation** exclamation; abrupt ejection (to discharge sperm); V. ejaculate
- ♠ **elaboration** addition of details; intricacy
- ♥ **elaborate** work out carefully; add more detail or information; ADJ.
- **elated** filled with excited joy and pride; overjoyed; in high spirits; joyful and proud; Ex. elated crowd; V. elate; N. elation
- ♠ **elegy** poem or song expressing lamentation (for the dead); ADJ. elegiacal, elegiac
- **elicit** draw out fact or information (by discussion or from someone)
- ♠ **elixir** cure-all; panacea; something invigorating
- **ellipsis** omission of words from a text; mark used to indicate an omission (when the meaning can be understood without them); PL. ellipses
- **elliptical** elliptic; oval; of an ellipse; containing an ellipsis; ambiguous either purposely or because key words have been left out
- **eloquence** expressiveness; persuasive speech; ADJ. eloquent: movingly expressive; expressing ideas well so that the hearers can be influenced
- **elucidate** explain; make clear; clarify; enlighten; CF. lucid
- **elusive** evasive; not frank; baffling; hard to grasp, catch, or understand; V. elude: escape from; escape the understanding or grasp of; Ex. elude the hunter; Ex. His name eludes me.
- ♠ **elysian** relating to paradise; blissful
- ♥ **Elysium** place or condition of bliss
- **emaciated** thin and wasted (from hunger or illness)
- **emanate** issue forth; come out
- **emancipate** set free; liberate
- **embargo** ban on commerce or other activity
- **embark** commence; go on board a boat; begin a journey
- **embed(imbed)** enclose; place in something; fix firmly in a surrounding mass
- **embellish** adorn; ornament; enhance as a story (by adding fictitious details)
- **embezzlement** taking for one's own use in violation of trust; stealing (of money placed in one's care)
- ♥ **emblazon** ornament richly (a shield or flag); N. emblazonment
- ♥ **embody** give a bodily form to; incorporate; include
- ♠ **emboss** produce a design in raised relief; decorate with a raised design
- **embrace** hug; clasp with the arms; adopt or espouse; accept readily; encircle; include; Ex. embrace the cause/socialism; Ex. all-embracing; CF. brace; CF. bracelet
- ♥ **encircle** surround
- **embroider** decorate with needlework; ornament (a story) with fancy or fictitious details; embellish
- **embroil** throw into confusion; involve in strife, dispute, or quarrel; entangle; CF. imbroglio
- **embryonic** undeveloped; rudimentary; N. embryo: organism in the early stage of development
- **emend** correct (usually a text); N. emendation: correction of errors; improvement
- ♠ **emetic** substance causing vomiting; ADJ.
- ♠ **eminent** rising above others; high; lofty; distinguished; Ex. eminent position
- **emissary** agent (sent on a mission to represent another); messenger
- **emollient** soothing or softening remedy (for the skin); ADJ.
- **emolument** salary; payment for an office; compensation
- ♠ **empathy** ability to identify with another's feelings, ideas, etc.; identification with and understanding of another's feelings; V. empathize; CF. sympathy
- ♥ **compassion** sympathy for the suffering of others; ADJ. compassionate
- **empirical** based on experience
- ♠ **emulate** imitate; rival; try to equal or excel (through imitation)
- ♠ **enamored** in love; Ex. enamored of his own beauty; V. enamor: inspire with love
- **encipher** encode; convert a message into code; put into cipher
- **enclave** territory enclosed within an alien land
- **encomiastic** praising; eulogistic; N. encomium: very high praise; eulogy
- **encompass** surround; include; Ex. His activities encompass publishing and computers.
- **encroachment** gradual intrusion; Ex. I resent all these encroachments on my valuable time; V. encroach: take another's possessions or right gradually or stealthily; intrude; Ex. encroach on/upon

□ **encumber** burden; N. encumbrance

♠ **endearment** fond word or act; expression of affection

♥ **endear** make beloved; Ex. endear her to everyone; ADJ. dear: loved; cherished; high-priced

□ **endemic** prevailing among a specific group of people or in a specific area or country; peculiar to a particular region or people; CF. pandemic

□ **endorse** approve; support; write one's signature on the back of; N. endorsement; CF. dorsal

□ **endue** provide with some quality; endow

□ **enduring** lasting; surviving; V. endure: bear (pain or suffering) for a long time; remain alive (in spite of difficulties); last; survive

□ **energize** invigorate; give energy to; make forceful and active

□ **enervate** weaken; take away energy from

□ **enfranchise** admit to the rights of citizenship (especially the right to vote); CF. franchise

♠ **engage** attract; employ; hire; pledge oneself; confront; fight; enter into conflict; interlock; lock together; participate; N. engagement: agreement to marry; arrangement to meet someone or to do something; battle

□ **engaging** charming; attractive

♥ **engaged** employed; busy; betrothed; involved in conflict

□ **engender** cause; produce; give rise to

□ **engross** occupy fully; absorb

□ **enhance** increase; make greater (as in value, reputation, or usefulness); improve

□ **enigma** puzzle; mystery; ADJ. enigmatic: obscure; puzzling

♥ **puzzle** baffle or confuse by a difficult problem; ponder over a problem in an effort to solve; clarify or solve by reasoning; Ex. puzzle out the answer; N.

□ **enjoin** command; order; forbid

□ **enmity** ill will; hatred; hostility

♠ **ennui** boredom; listlessness and dissatisfaction resulting from lack of interest; CF. annoy

□ **enormity** hugeness (in a bad sense); excessive wickedness; Ex. enormity of the crime; ADJ. enormous

♠ **enrapture** please intensely; fill with rapture and delight

♠ **ensconce** settle comfortably; place comfortably (in a secure place)

□ **ensue** follow (as a result)

□ **entail** make necessary; require; necessitate; involve; limit the inheritance of (property) to a specified succession of heirs; Ex. entail A on/upon B

♠ **enterprising** full of initiative; showing enterprise

♥ **enterprise** willingness to take new ventures; initiative; business organization; plan (that is difficult or daring); Ex. their latest enterprise to sail round the world in a small boat

□ **enthrall** capture; enslave; captivate; hold the complete attention of (as if magic); hold spellbound

□ **entice** lure; persuade to do (something wrong); attract; tempt

♥ **mischief** behavior (of children) causing trouble with no serious harm; damage; harm; Ex. mischief to the crops; ADJ. mischievous: causing mischief; playfully troublesome

□ **entity** real being

□ **entomology** study of insects

♠ **entrance** put under a spell(condition caused by magical power); carry away(fill with strong feeling) with emotion; put into a trance; fill with delight

♥ **trance** hypnotic state; ecstatic state; detachment from one's physical surrounding (as in contemplation or day-dreaming); CF. transition

♥ **hypnosis** induced sleeping state; ADJ. hypnotic; V. hypnotize

□ **entreat** plead; ask earnestly

♠ **entree(entr  e)** entrance; a way in; right to enter; main dish of a meal; Ex. entree into the exclusive circle

□ **entrepreneur** businessperson (who assumes the risk of a business venture); contractor; ADJ. entrepreneurial

□ **enumerate** list; mention one by one

♠ **enunciate** announce; proclaim; utter or speak, especially distinctly; pronounce clearly; articulate; Ex. This theory was first enunciated by him.

□ **environ** enclose; surround; N. environs: surrounding area (as of a city)

♠ **eon(aeon)** long period of time; an age; longest division of geologic time containing two or more eras

♠ **epaulet(epaulette)** ornament worn on the shoulder (of a uniform, etc.)

♥ **fringe** decorative edge of hanging threads; edge

□ **ephemeral** short-lived; fleeting

♥ **fleet** fast; rapid; N. ADJ. fleeting: passing quickly; ephemeral

□ **epic** long heroic poem, novel, or similar work of art (celebrating the feats of a hero); ADJ. (of stories or events) resembling an epic; grand

□ **epicure** connoisseur of food and drink; gourmet; ADJ. epicurean; CF. Epicurus

♥ **Epicurean** believing that pleasure is good and suffering is bad and should be avoided; N.

♠ **epigram** witty thought or saying, usually short

□ **epilogue** short speech at conclusion of dramatic work

♠ **episodic** (of a story or play) loosely connected; made up of separate and loosely connected parts; N. episode: incident in the course of an experience

- ♠ **epistemologist** philosopher who studies the nature of knowledge; N. epistemology
- ♠ **epitaph** inscription in memory of a dead person (as on a tombstone)
- ♠ **epithet** word or phrase characteristically used to describe a person or thing; descriptive phrase to characterize a person (often contemptuous)
- **epitome** perfect example or embodiment; brief summary; Ex. epitome of good manners; V. epitomize: make an epitome of; be an epitome of; embody
- **epoch** period of time
- **equable** tranquil; of even calm temper; (of temperature) steady; uniform
- **equanimity** calmness of temperament; composure
- ♠ **equestrian** rider on horseback; ADJ.
- **equilibrium** balance of opposing forces; balance of the mind; equanimity
- ♠ **equine** resembling a horse; Ex. equine face
- **equinox** period of equal days and nights; the beginning of spring and autumn; Ex. vernal/autumnal equinox; ADJ. equinoctial
- ♠ **equipoise** balance; balancing force; equilibrium
- **equitable** fair; impartial; OP. inequitable
- **equity** fairness; justice; OP. inequity
- ♠ **equivocal** (of words or statements) ambiguous; intentionally misleading; (of behavior) questionable; OP. unequivocal

- ♠ **equivocate** use equivocal language to deceive people; lie; mislead; attempt to conceal the truth; N. equivocation
- **erode** eat away; wear away gradually by abrasion; Ex. The sea erodes the rocks.
- **erotic** pertaining to passionate love or sexual love
- ♠ **errant** wandering (esp. in search of adventure); straying from proper moral standards; Ex. knight-errant
- ♠ **erratic** odd; irregular in movement or behavior; unpredictable
- **erroneous** mistaken; wrong; incorrect
- **erudite** (of a person or book) learned; full of learning; scholarly; N. erudition
- ♡ **scholarly** full of learning; erudite; like a scholar; Ex. scholarly journal
- **escapade** prank; flighty conduct; reckless adventure that disobeys rules
- ♡ **prank** mischievous trick
- ♡ **flighty** (esp. of a woman's behavior) capricious; often changing, esp. from one lover to another; impulsive
- ♠ **eschew** avoid habitually; Ex. eschew alcoholic drinks
- ♠ **esoteric** hard to understand; known only to the chosen few, esp. initiates; N. esoterica
- **espionage** spying
- ♠ **espouse** adopt; support (an idea or aim); marry; N. espousal
- **esteem** respect; value; judge; N.
- ♡ **estimable** (of a person) worthy of esteem; admirable; deserving esteem; possible to estimate
- ♡ **inestimable** impossible to estimate; (apprec) invaluable; of immeasurable worth
- **estranged** separated; alienated; V. estrange: alienate (people in a family); N. estrangement
- ♠ **ethereal** like a spirit or fairy; unearthly light; heavenly; unusually refined; Ex. She has an ethereal beauty; CF. ether: upper air
- ♡ **airy** of air; high in the air; lofty; immaterial; unreal
- ♠ **ethnic** relating to races
- ♠ **ethnology** study of humankind; study of the different races of human beings; CF. anthropology
- ♠ **ethos** underlying character of a culture, group, etc.; character or ideas peculiar to a specific person, group, or culture; Ex. the company ethos
- **etymology** study of word parts; study of the origins of words
- **eugenic** pertaining to the improvement of race; N. eugenics: study of hereditary improvement of the human race
- **eulogistic** praising; full of eulogy

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- ♠ **eulogy** expression of praise, often on the occasion of someone's death; V. eulogize
- **euphemism** mild expression in place of an unpleasant one; ADJ. euphemistic
- **euphony** sweet sound; ADJ. euphonious
- ♠ **euphoria** feeling of exaggerated or unfounded(ungrounded; baseless) well-being; feeling of great happiness or well-being (when unreasonable); ADJ. euphoric
- **euthanasia** mercy killing
- **evanescent** fleeting; vanishing; soon disappearing; V. evanesce
- ♠ **evasive** not frank; trying to hide the truth; eluding; evading; V. evade: avoid (a duty or responsibility) or escape from by deceit
- **evince** show clearly
- ♠ **evenhanded** impartial; fair
- **evocative** tending to call up (emotions, memories)
- **evoke** call forth (memory or feeling); Ex. That old film evoked memories of my childhood; N. evocation
- ♠ **ewe** female sheep
- ♥ **ram** male sheep; V. strike or drive against with a heavy impact
- **exacerbate** worsen; aggravate; embitter
- ♥ **embitter** make bitter; fill with painful or bitter feelings; make sad and angry; Ex. He was embittered by many disappointments.
- **exacting** extremely demanding; Ex. exacting standard of safety
- ♥ **exact** demand and obtain by force; Ex. exact a promise from him; N. exaction
- **exalt** raise in rank or dignity; praise highly; inspire; Ex. exalt the imagination; ADJ. exalted; N. exaltation
- ♠ **exasperate** vex; annoy or make angry (by testing the patience)
- ♠ **exceptionable** objectionable; likely to cause dislike; offensive; CF. unexceptionable: entirely acceptable
- ♥ **except** exclude; N. exception: objection; exclusion; ADJ. exceptional: unusual; of unusually high quality
- ♠ **excerpt** selected passage (written or musical) taken from a longer work; V.
- ♠ **exchequer** treasury; Ex. Chancellor of the exchequer
- ♥ **chancellor** legal official of high rank; CF. chancellery(chancellory): position of a chancellor
- ♥ **treasure** keep as precious; cherish
- **excise** cut away; cut out; N: government tax on good produced and used inside a country; N. excision
- **exclaim** cry out suddenly; N. exclamation; ADJ. exclamatory
- ♠ **excoriate** scold with biting harshness; censure strongly; strip the skin off
- **exculpate** clear from blame or guilt
- ♠ **execrable** very bad; detestable
- **execrate** curse; express abhorrence for; detest
- **execute** put into effect; carry out; kill as a lawful punishment; N. execution
- ♥ **executor** person designated to execute the terms of a will;
- ♥ **executioner** person administering capital punishment
- ♥ **executive** person having administrative authority; one branch of government executing laws; ADJ: relating to executing
- ♥ **legislature** legislating branch of government; CF. legislate: make laws
- ♥ **judiciary** judicial branch of government
- ♠ **exegesis** explanation, especially of biblical(of the bible) passages
- **exemplary** serving as a model; outstanding; Ex. exemplary punishment/behavior; N. exemplar: typical example; model
- **exemplify** show by example; furnish an example; serve as an example of; Ex. His pictures exemplify that sort of painting.
- **exempt** not subject to a duty or obligation; free from a duty; V.
- **exertion** effort; expenditure of much physical work; V. exert oneself: make a great effort
- ♥ **exhale** breathe out; OP. inhale
- **exhilarating** invigorating and refreshing; cheering; V. exhilarate: make cheerful and excited; Ex. exhilarated by the ride in the sports car
- ♠ **exhort** urge (by strong argument or advice); Ex. The general exhorted his men to fight bravely; N. exhortation
- ♥ **urge** drive or force forward (by causing impulses); drive to take action; impel; entreat earnestly; Ex. urge horses; N: impulse that prompts action
- ♥ **urgent** compelling immediate action; pressing; persistent; importunate; Ex. urgent in his demands
- **exhume** dig out of the ground; remove from a grave
- ♥ **coroner** public official who investigates any death thought to be of other than natural causes
- **exigency** urgent situation; ADJ. exigent
- **exiguous** small in amount; minute
- ♠ **existential** pertaining to existence; pertaining to the philosophy of existentialism
- **exodus** departure (of a large number of people)
- **exonerate** acquit; exculpate; free from blame or guilt
- **exorbitant** (of costs or demands) excessive; exceeding reasonable bounds

- **exorcise** drive out evil spirits
- **exotic** not native; from another part of the world; strange; intriguingly unusual; Ex. exotic flower/dress
- ♡ **intrigue** make secret plans; plot; arouse the curiosity of; N: secret scheme; plot; secret love affair
- ♠ **expansive** (of a person) outgoing and sociable; broad and extensive; able to increase in size
- ♡ **outgoing** sociable; eager to mix socially with others
- ♠ **expatiate** talk at length; speak or write in detail
- **expatriate** exile; someone who has withdrawn from his native land; V: exile; banish; leave one's country
- **expedient** suitable (for a particular purpose although not necessarily morally correct); practical; politic(prudent); N: something expedient
- **expedite** hasten; make go faster
- ♡ **expeditious** done with speed; quick; N. expedition
- **expenditure** payment or expense; expending; something expended; output; Ex. receipt for the expenditure; Ex. expenditure of all the energy
- **expertise** specialized knowledge (in a particular field); expert skill
- **expiate** make amends for (a sin)
- ♠ **expletive** meaningless word; interjection; profane oath; swear-word
- ♡ **interjection** exclamation; Ex. "Ouch"
- ♡ **swear** vow; promise; use profane oaths; use offensive words
- ♡ **swear-word** word considered offensive; Ex. "bloody"
- ♡ **oath** solemn promise; blasphemous use of sacred words to express strong feelings; swear-word; Ex. "For Christ's sake"
- **explicate** explain in detail; interpret; clarify; CF. explicable
- **explicit** totally clear; definite; outspoken
- **exploit** brave and successful act; deed or action, particularly a brave deed; CF. crossing the Atlantic ocean
- **exploit** make use of, sometimes unjustly; N. exploitation
- **expository** explanatory; serving to explain; N. exposition: explaining; exhibition
- ♠ **expostulation** protest; remonstrance; reasoning with someone to correct or dissuade; V. expostulate
- **exposure** risk, particularly of being exposed to disease or to the elements; unmasking; act of laying something open; Ex. exposure of governmental corruption
- **expound** explain
- ♠ **expropriate** take possession of (often for public use and without payment)
- ♠ **expunge** cancel; remove a word or name (from a book or list); erase
- **expurgate** clean; remove offensive parts of a book
- **extant** (of something written or painted) still in existence
- **extemporaneous** not planned; impromptu; extempore
- ♠ **extenuate** weaken; mitigate; lessen the seriousness of (bad behavior)
- **extirpate** root up; uproot; destroy completely
- ♠ **extol** praise very highly; glorify
- **extort** wring from; get money by threats, etc.; obtain by force or threats; CF. extortionate: exorbitant
- ♡ **wring** twist (to extract liquid); extract by twisting; wrench painfully (necks or hands)
- ♠ **extradition** surrender of prisoner by one state to another; Ex. extradition treaty; V. extradite
- ♠ **extraneous** not essential; irrelevant; superfluous; external; coming from the outside; Ex. extraneous details/noise/to the subject
- ♠ **extrapolation** projection; conjecture; V. extrapolate: infer (unknown information) from known information
- **extricate** free from an entanglement or difficulty; disentangle
- ♡ **inextricable** from which it is impossible to get free; that cannot be untied; Ex. inextricable troubles; Ex. inextricable two histories
- **extrinsic** external; not essential or inherent; extraneous; OP. intrinsic
- **extrovert** person interested mostly in external objects and actions
- ♡ **mingle** mix together in close association
- ♠ **extrude** force or push out; thrust out; shape (plastic or metal) by forcing through a die
- ♠ **exuberance** overflowing abundance; joyful enthusiasm; flamboyance; lavishness; ADJ. exuberant: high-spirited and lively; growing abundantly and strongly
- ♡ **glow** shine brightly without a flame (as of eyes or metals); show redness and heat (in the face) after hard work or because of strong feelings; N: light produced by a heated body; brilliance of a color
- ♠ **exude** flow out slowly; discharge (gradually); give forth; N. exudation
- ♡ **ooze** (of a thick liquid) pass or flow slowly; N: mud or thick liquid as at the bottom of a river
- **exult** rejoice
- **fabricate** build; lie; make up (a story) in order to deceive; Ex. fabricate the whole story; CF. fabric: underlying structure; Ex. fabric of society
- ♠ **facade(façade)** front or face (of building); superficial or false appearance
- **facet** small plane surface (of a gem(precious stone)); a side
- ♠ **facetious** joking (often inappropriately); unserious; humorous

- ♠ **facile** easily accomplished; ready or fluent; superficial; not deep; Ex. facile solution to a complex problem; Ex. facile speaker; N. facility: ability to do something easily and well; ease in doing resulting from skill or aptitude; something that facilitates an action; amenity; Ex. with great facility
- **facilitate** help bring about; make less difficult
- **facsimile** copy
- ♠ **faction** party; clique (within a large group); dissension
- ♥ **dissension** disagreement of opinions causing strife within a group
- ♠ **factious** inclined to form factions; causing dissension
- ♠ **factitious** artificial; produced artificially; sham; false; Ex. factitious tears
- ♠ **factotum** handyman; person who does all kinds of work; CF. do everything
- **faculty** mental or bodily powers; teaching staff

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- **fallacious** false; based on a fallacy; misleading; N. fallacy: false idea or notion; false reasoning; Ex. popular fallacy; Ex. fallacy of the argument
- **fallible** liable to err
- ♡ **falsify** make (something written) false by changing
- ♠ **fallow** (of land) plowed but not sowed (to improve the quality); uncultivated
- ♡ **sow** plant or scatter seed
- ♠ **falter** hesitate; weaken in purpose or action; walk or move unsteadily through weakness; N.
- ♡ **stumble** trip and almost fall; proceed unsteadily; act falteringly; N.
- **fanaticism** excessive zeal; extreme devotion to a belief or cause; N. fanatic; ADJ. fanatic
- **fancied** imagined; unreal
- ♠ **fancier** breeder or dealer of animals; one who has a special interest, as for raising specific plant or animal
- ♠ **fanciful** whimsical; visionary; imaginary; produced by imagination; Ex. fanciful scheme
- ♡ **fancy** imagination (of a whimsical or fantastic nature); capricious liking; V: imagine; be fond of; ADJ. decorative; elaborate
- ♠ **fanfare** call by bugles or trumpets; showy display; spectacular public display
- ♠ **farce** broad comedy; mockery; humorous play full of silly things happening; ADJ. farcical
- ♠ **fastidious** difficult to please; squeamish; fussy; finicky
- ♡ **squeamish** easily shocked or sickened by unpleasant things; fastidious; Ex. A nurse should not be squeamish.
- ♠ **fatalism** belief that events are determined by forces or fates beyond one's control; ADJ. fatalistic; CF. fatal: causing death
- **fathom** comprehend; investigate; determine the depth of; N. unit of measurement for the depth of water
- ♡ **fathomless** too deep to be measured or understood; unfathomable
- ♠ **fatuous** smugly and unconsciously foolish; inane; silly; N. fatuity, fatuousness
- **fauna** animals of a period or region; CF. flora
- ♠ **fawning** courting favor by cringing and flattering; V. fawn: exhibit affection as a dog; seek favor or attention by obsequiousness
- ♡ **court** attempt to gain; seek; woo; risk; behave so as to invite; attempt to gain the favor of by attention; Ex. court disaster
- ♠ **faze** disconcert; dismay; embarrass
- **feasible** practical; able to be carried out; practicable
- ♠ **febrile** feverish
- ♠ **fecundity** fertility; fruitfulness; ADJ. fecund: very productive of crops or young
- ♡ **fertile** producing many young, fruits, or seeds; (of land) producing good crops; V. fertilize
- ♡ **fruitful** producing results; profitable; prolific; producing in abundance
- **feign** pretend
- ♠ **feint** trick; shift; sham blow; feigned attack to draw away defensive action; V.
- ♡ **shift** change position or place; exchange (one thing) for another; change in direction or position; Ex. shift the stolen goods; N. group of workers which takes turns with other groups; working period of such a group
- ♠ **felicitous** (of a word or remark) apt; suitably expressed; well chosen
- ♠ **felicity** happiness; appropriateness (of a remark, choice, etc.); quality of being felicitous
- ♡ **feline** of a member of the cat family; N.
- ♠ **fell** cruel; (of a disease) deadly
- ♠ **fell** cut or knock down (a tree or a person); bring down (with a missile)
- **felon** person convicted of a grave crime; CF. felony: serious crime
- ♠ **feral** (of an animal) not domestic; wild
- ♠ **ferment** agitation; commotion (noisy and excited activity); unrest (of a political kind); V. produce by fermentation; undergo fermentation; cause (a state of trouble)
- ♡ **fermentation** chemical reaction that splits complex organic compounds; unrest; agitation
- ♠ **ferret** drive or hunt out of hiding; hunt with ferrets; drive out (as from a hiding place); expel; uncover or discover by searching; Ex. ferret out the secret; N. small fierce animal which catches rats and rabbits by going into their holes
- ♠ **fervent** ardent; zealous; hot
- ♠ **fervid** ardent; zealous; hot
- ♡ **impassioned** (of speech) filled with passion; fervent
- ♠ **fervor** glowing ardor; intensity of feeling; quality of being fervent or fervid; zeal; intense heat
- ♠ **fester** rankle; produce irritation or resentment; (of a cut or wound) generate pus or rot; Ex. His insult festered in my mind for days.
- **festive** joyous; celebratory; relating to a feast or festival
- ♠ **fete(fête)** honor at a festival; celebrate or honor with a feast; N. (outdoor) festival or feast; CF. feast
- ♠ **fetid(foetid)** malodorous; foul
- ♡ **foul** very bad or disagreeable; very dirty; Ex. foul smell/flavor/temper/language/air/deed/weather/means; N. act against the rules; V. make or become foul; commit a foul
- ♡ **fetish(fetich)** object believed to have spiritual powers; object of excessive attention or reverence; CF. fetishism
- ♠ **fetter** shackle; restrict the freedom of; N. chain or shackle for the foot of a prisoner; CF. foot

- ♠ **fiasco** total failure; CF. bottle
- ♠ **fiat** command; arbitrary order; Ex. presidential fiat; CF. let it be done
- **fickle** changeable (in affections or friendship); faithless
- ♠ **fictitious** imaginary; non-existent; purposely invented to deceive; untrue; Ex. fictitious name/boyfriend; CF. fictional
- **fidelity** loyalty; accuracy
- ♠ **figment** invention; something invented; imaginary thing; Ex. figment of your imagination
- **figurative** not literal but metaphorical; using a figure(impression) of speech
- ♡ **figure** written symbols; number; amount represented in numbers; outline or silhouette of a thing or human body; person (well-known); impression; diagram; pattern; group in a dance; Ex. figure of speech; V. calculate with numbers; adorn with figures; appear; consider; Ex. My name did not figure in the list.
- ♠ **figurine** small ornamental statuette(very small statue)
- ♠ **filch** steal (things of small value)
- ♡ **pilfer** steal things of small value; filch; snitch
- ♠ **filial** pertaining to or befitting a son or daughter; Ex. filial respect
- ♠ **filibuster** block legislation or prevent action in a lawmaking body by making very slow long speeches; N; freebooter
- ♡ **freebooter** pirate or plunderer who makes war in order to grow rich
- ♡ **bust** piece of sculpture showing a person's head, shoulders, and upper chest; V: break up; arrest; Ex. crimebuster
- ♠ **filigree** delicate ornamental lacelike metalwork
- ♡ **lace** cord used to draw and tie together two opposite edges (as of a shoe); delicate fabric made of fine threads; V: draw together by tying a lace
- ♠ **filing** particle removed by a file
- **finale** conclusion; concluding part
- ♠ **finesse** delicate skill; V: handle with finesse
- ♠ **finicky** too particular; fussy; difficult to please; too concerned with unimportant details or quality; Ex. finicky about her food
- ♡ **fussy** fastidious; finicky; easily upset
- ♡ **fuss**: trouble or worry over trifles; make nervous; pay too much attention to; N: needless concern or worry (about a trivial thing); anxious nervous condition; display of attention; Ex. make a fuss over the baby
- **finite** limited
- ♠ **firebrand** piece of burning wood; hothead; troublemaker; person who stirs up trouble
- ♡ **hothead** person who does things too quickly without thinking; ADJ. hotheaded
- **fissure** crevice; crack
- ♠ **fitful** spasmodic; intermittent; irregular
- ♡ **fit** sudden outburst of an illness or feeling; convulsion caused by epilepsy
- ♠ **flaccid** flabby; lacking firmness; weak; Ex. flaccid muscles
- ♡ **limp** walk lamely; ADJ: lacking firmness; weak
- ♠ **flag** droop; grow feeble; decline in vigor or strength; ADJ. flagging; CF. unflagging
- ♡ **droop** bend or hang downward; become weakened; Ex. His shoulders drooped with tiredness; N.
- **flagrant** conspicuously wicked, bad, or offensive; blatant; outrageous
- **outrage** act of extreme violence or viciousness; resentful anger; V: commit an outrage on; produce anger in; ADJ. outrageous: offensive
- ♠ **flail** beat with or as if with a flail; move wildly; thresh grain by hand; strike or slap; toss about; N: threshing tool consisting of a stick swinging from the end of a long handle
- ♡ **thresh** beat (cereal plants) with a machine or flail to separate the grains from the straw
- ♡ **toss** throw lightly; move or lift (the head) with a sudden motion; flip (a coin) to decide something
- ♠ **flair** talent
- ♠ **flamboyant** ornate; highly elaborate; richly colored; ostentatious; showy; CF. flame
- ♠ **flaunt** display ostentatiously; Ex. "Honey, if you've got it, flaunt it !"
- ♠ **flay** strip off skin; plunder; remove the skin from; criticize harshly
- ♠ **fleck** spot; mark with flecks; N: small mark or spot
- ♠ **fledgling(fledgeling)** inexperienced; N: young bird that has acquired wing feathers and is learning to fly; inexperienced person
- ♠ **fleece** wool coat of a sheep; V: shear the fleece from; rob by a trick; swindle; plunder
- ♡ **shear** remove (fleece or hair) by cutting; remove the hair or fleece from; cut with or as if with shears; N: shears; pair of scissors
- ♡ **trickster** person who cheats people
- ♠ **flick** light stroke as with a whip; V: move with a light quick blow; strike with a light quick blow (as from a whip); Ex. flick the switch
- ♡ **flicker** burn unsteadily or fitfully; move waveringly; N: flickering movement or light; brief sensation; Ex. flicker of excitement
- ♡ **flutter** (of a bird with large wings) wave (the wings) lightly, rapidly, and irregularly; vibrate rapidly or erratically; fly by waving quickly; flitter; N.
- ♠ **flinch** hesitate; shrink back (in fear of something unpleasant); Ex. She did not flinch in the face of danger.

- ♠ **flippant** lacking proper seriousness; Ex. flippant remarks about death; N. flippancy
- ♡ **flip** send (something) spinning, often into the air, by striking with a light quick blow; turn over; Ex. flip over
- ♠ **flit** fly; fly or move lightly or quickly; dart lightly; pass swiftly by; Ex. a bee flitting from flower to flower
- ♠ **floe** flat mass of floating ice
- **flora** plants of a region or era
- ♡ **florescence** condition or period of flowering
- ♠ **florid** ruddy; (of a complexion) reddish; flowery; very ornate; CF. rose
- ♡ **flush** redden; blush; flow suddenly and abundantly; wash out by a rapid brief flow of water; N: reddish tinge; blush; brief rush; rush of strong feeling; Ex. flush of pride; ADJ: having surfaces in the same plane; even; blushing
- ♡ **blush** become red in the face (from embarrassment or shame); become red or rosy; N.
- ♡ **tinge** give a slight degree of a color or quality to; N: slight degree of a color or quality; Ex. tinged with grey/jealousy
- ♡ **tint** slight degree of color; V: give a tint to
- ♡ **flowery** full of flowers; full of ornate expressions
- ♠ **flotsam** drifting wreckage
- ♡ **jetsam** things thrown from a ship (to lighten the ship)
- ♠ **flounder** struggle and thrash about; proceed clumsily or falter (as in water, mud, snow, etc.); proceed in confusion
- ♡ **thrash** beat with a whip or flail; defeat utterly; talk about thoroughly in order to find the answer; move wildly or violently; Ex. The fishes thrashed about in the net.
- **flourish** grow well; prosper; make sweeping gestures; wave; brandish; Ex. The trees flourished in the sun. N: showy movement or gesture; embellishment or ornamentation (esp. in handwriting)
- ♠ **flout** reject; mock; show contempt for; scorn; Ex. flout the rules
- ♡ **curb** chain or strap used with a bit to restrain a horse; something that checks; V: check; restrain
- **fluctuate** waver; shift; rise and fall as if in waves; change or vary irregularly
- **fluency** smoothness of speech; ADJ. fluent
- ♠ **fluke** unlikely occurrence; stroke of fortune; accidental stroke of good luck; ADJ. fluky
- ♠ **fluster** confuse; make nervous and confused; N.
- ♠ **fluted** having vertical parallel grooves (as in a pillar); V. flute: make long parallel inward curves in; N. flute: long rounded groove incised on the shaft of a column
- ♡ **groove** long narrow channel made in a surface to guide the movement of something; Ex. groove of the record
- ♡ **stammer** speak with involuntarily pauses or repetitions
- ♠ **flux** flowing; series of changes; fluctuation; Ex. in a state of flux
- ♠ **fodder** coarse food for cattle, horses, etc.; feed for livestock; CF. food
- ♠ **foible** small weakness of character; slight fault; CF. feeble
- ♠ **foil** contrast; one that by contrast enhances the distinctive characteristics of another
- ♠ **foil** defeat; frustrate; prevent from being successful; thwart; CF. fail
- ♠ **foist** insert improperly; impose upon another by coercion; palm off; pass off as genuine or worthy; CF. fist
- ♡ **palm** conceal in the palm of the hand; palm off: pass off; Ex. palm off some bad oranges onto the lady/the painting as a real Renoir
- ♡ **pass off** present falsely; represent falsely to be
- ♠ **foliage** masses of leaves; CF. defoliate
- ♠ **foment** stir up; incite; instigate; promote the growth of (something evil or unpleasant)
- ♠ **foolhardy** rash; reckless; foolishly daring
- ♠ **foppish** vain about dress and appearance; N. fop: man who takes too much interest in his clothes and appearance
- ♠ **foray** raid; sudden raid or military advance; V.
- ♠ **forbearance** patience; forgiveness; V. forbear: refrain from (in a generous and forgiving way); be patient; Ex. forbear to send him to prison
- ♠ **ford** place where a river can be crossed on foot; V.
- ♠ **forebears(forbears)** ancestors
- **foreboding** premonition of evil; feeling of coming evil; V. forebode: be a warning of (something unpleasant)
- ♠ **forensic** suitable to debate or courts of law; of or used in legal proceedings and the tracking of criminals; Ex. forensic science/medicine
- ♡ **forum** public square of an ancient Roman city; public place for open discussion; court of law
- **foreshadow** give an indication beforehand; be a sign of (what is coming); portend; prefigure
- ♡ **prefigure** be a sign of; foreshadow
- ♡ **forerunner** predecessor; one that comes before and indicates the approach of another
- **foresight** ability to foresee future happenings; prudence in providing for the future
- **forestall** prevent by taking action in advance
- ♡ **nuptial** of marriage or the wedding ceremony; N; nuptials; wedding ceremony
- ♡ **forfeit** something surrendered as punishment for a crime or breach of contract; V: lose as a forfeit; N. forfeiture
- ♡ **forge** counterfeit; reproduce fraudulently; form by heating in a forge and hammering into shape; move with a sudden increase of speed or power; Ex. forged ahead in the last two years; N: furnace where metals are heated
- **forgo(forego)** give up; do without
- **forlorn** sad and lonely; wretched; desolate

- ❑ **formality** ceremonious quality; ceremonious adherence to rules; something done just for form's sake; Ex. mere formality
- ❑ **formidable** menacing; arousing fear; threatening; difficult to defeat; Ex. formidable foe/question
- ♡ **menace** threat; V: threaten
- ♠ **forsake** desert; abandon; renounce
- ♠ **forswear** renounce under oath; abandon; make a solemn promise to give up; CF. abjure
- ❑ **forte** strong point or special talent in a person's character
- ♠ **forthright** straightforward; direct; frank
- ♡ **forthcoming** happening in the near future; ready; willing to help; Ex. No answer was forthcoming.
- ❑ **fortitude** bravery; courage; strength of mind
- ♠ **fortuitous** accidental; by chance; N. fortuity
- ♠ **foster** rear; bring up (for a certain period only); encourage; promote the development of (feelings or ideas); Ex. help foster friendly relations; ADJ: giving parental care although not related by blood; Ex. foster parents
- ♠ **founder** fail completely; sink; CF. flounder
- ❑ **founder** person who establishes (an organization or business)
- ♠ **fracas** brawl(noisy quarrel or fight) in which a number of people take part; melee
- ♠ **fractious** unruly; peevish; cranky; bad-tempered; Ex. fractious horse
- ❑ **frail** weak; N. frailty
- ❑ **franchise** right or privilege granted by authority; right to vote; license to sell a product in a particular territory
- ♠ **frantic** wild; distraught as from fear or worry; Ex. frantic with fear
- ❑ **fraudulent** cheating; deceitful; Ex. fraudulent means; N. fraud: deception; swindle
- ♠ **fraught** filled (with something unpleasant); full; Ex. fraught with danger and difficulties; CF. freight
- ♠ **fray** brawl; fight; V: wear away or unravel by rubbing; have loose threads developing; cause to become worn out (a person's temper or nerves); CF. rub
- ♠ **frenetic(phrenetic)** frenzied; frantic
- ♠ **frenzied** madly excited; N. frenzy: violent wild excitement
- ♠ **fresco** painting on wet plaster (usually fresh)
- ♡ **paste** smooth viscous mixture as of flour(powder made by crushing grain) and water (used as an adhesive); V: cause to adhere by applying paste
- ♡ **pastry** paste of flour and water (eaten when baked)
- ♡ **plaster** paste that hardens to a smooth solid and is used for coating walls; V.
- ♠ **fret** be annoyed or vexed; Ex. fret over your poor grades; N: irritation of mind; ADJ. fretful
- ❑ **friction** clash or conflict in opinion; rubbing against
- ♠ **frieze** ornamental horizontal band on a wall
- ❑ **frigid** intensely cold; cold in manner; Ex. frigid zone
- ♠ **fritter** waste (time or money on unimportant things)
- ❑ **frivolous** lacking in seriousness; flippant; self-indulgently carefree; unworthy of serious attention; relatively unimportant; trivial
- ♡ **self-indulgence** excessive indulgence of one's own desire
- ♡ **carefree** free from worries; having no problems
- ♠ **frolicsome** prankish; gay; playful; merry; frisky
- ♡ **frolic** play and jump about happily; frisk; Ex. frolicking young lambs
- ♠ **frond** fern leaf; palm or banana leaf
- ♡ **litter** waste material thrown away (as bits of paper scattered untidily); V: cover untidily with scattered litter
- ♠ **fructify** bear fruit; produce fruit
- ❑ **frugality** thrift; economy; ADJ. frugal: practicing economy; costing little; inexpensive
- ❑ **fruition** bearing of fruit; fulfillment; realization; Ex. come to/be brought to fruition
- ❑ **frustrate** thwart; defeat; prevent from accomplishing a purpose
- ❑ **fugitive** fleeting or transitory; lasting only a short time; roving(wandering); running away or fleeing as from the law; N: one who flees; Ex. fugitives at large
- ♠ **fulcrum** support on which a lever rests or pivots
- ♠ **fulminate** thunder; explode; issue a severe denunciation
- ♠ **fulsome** disgustingly excessive; offensively flattering; Ex. fulsome praise/expressions of admire
- ❑ **fumble** move the fingers and hands awkwardly (in search of something); mishandle or drop a ball that is in play; bungle; botch; spoil by mishandling; N.
- ♠ **functionary** official (who performs a particular function)
- ♡ **functional** made for practical use only (without decoration); functioning; Ex. functional modern furniture; CF. functionalism
- ❑ **fundamental** basic; primary; essential
- ♠ **funereal** sad; solemn; suitable for a funeral
- ♠ **furor** frenzy; great anger and excitement; CF. fury
- ♠ **furtive** stealthy; quiet and secret (trying to escape notice); sneaky; Ex. furtive glance
- ♡ **sneak** move, give, or take in a quiet, stealthy way; N: one who sneaks; ADJ. sneaky
- ♡ **underhand(underhanded)** done slyly and secretly (being dishonest)
- ♡ **sly** clever in deceiving; secretive; not telling one's intentions
- ♠ **fusillade** simultaneous firing or outburst (of missiles, questions, etc.)

- **fusion** union; coalition; V. fuse
- **futile** useless; hopeless; ineffectual
- ♠ **gadfly** animal-biting fly; irritating person
- ♠ **gaffe** social blunder

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- ♠ **gainsay** deny
- ♠ **gait** manner of walking or running; speed
- **galaxy** large isolated system of stars, such as the Milky Way; collection of brilliant personalities
- **gale** windstorm; gust of wind; emotional outburst (laughers, tears); Ex. gale of laughter
- ♠ **gall** bitterness of feeling; nerve; effrontery; (bile); CF. gall bladder
- ♠ **gall** annoy; exasperate; chafe; N: skin sore caused by rubbing (as on the skin of a horse); exasperation
- **galleon** large three-masted sailing ship
- ♡ **galley** low ship with sails (rowed along by slaves)
- ♡ **clipper** sailing vessel built for great speed
- ♡ **pinnace** small boat
- ♡ **clip** cut off with shears; fasten; N: something clipped off (as a short extract from film); clasp or fastener
- ♠ **galvanize** stimulate or shock by an electric current; stimulate by shock; shock into action; stir up; coat with rust-resistant zinc by using electricity
- ♡ **galvanic** of the production of electricity by the action of an acid on a metal; having the effect of an electric shock; Ex. galvanic cell; galvanic effect; CF. Luigi Galvani
- ♠ **gambit** opening in chess in which a piece is sacrificed; action made to produce a future advantage
- ♡ **ploy** stratagem to gain an advantage; tactic; Ex. management ploy
- ♠ **gambol** romp; skip about; leap about playfully; frolic; N.
- ♡ **romp** play or frolic boisterously; gambol; N.
- ♡ **zest** outer skin of an orange used for giving a special taste to food; spice; interest; flavor; spirited enjoyment; Ex. add a certain zest to the affair; Ex. zest for life
- ♠ **gamely** in a spirited manner; with courage; Ex. fight gamely against a superior boxer; ADJ. game
- ♠ **gamut** entire range
- ♠ **gape** open widely; open the mouth wide; stare wonderingly with the mouth open; CF. agape
- ♠ **garbled** mixed up; jumbled; distorted; V. garble: mix up or distort (a message) to such an extent as to make misleading or unintelligible
- ♡ **jumble** mix in a confused way
- ♠ **gargantuan** huge; enormous; gigantic; CF. the hero of Gargantua and Pantagruel
- **gargoyle** waterspout carved in grotesque figures on a building
- ♠ **garish** overbright in color; unpleasantly bright; gaudy
- ♡ **trim** make neat or tidy by clipping; reduce by removing what is unnecessary; ornament; decorate (round the edges); Ex. trim the cost; Ex. jacket trimmed with fur; N. ADJ: tidy; in good order
- ♠ **garner** gather; store up; amass
- ♠ **garnish** decorate; add a garnish to; decorate (food or drink) with small items such as lemon slices; N.
- ♠ **garrulous** loquacious; wordy; talkative; N. garrulity
- ♠ **gastronomy** art and science of preparing and serving good food; CF. gastronome
- **gauche** clumsy (in social behavior); coarse and uncouth
- ♠ **gaudy** flashy; showy
- ♡ **flashy** showy; gaudy; giving a momentary brilliance
- ♡ **gild** cover with a thin layer of gold
- ♠ **gaunt** lean and angular; thin and bony; emaciated; barren
- ♠ **gavel** hammerlike tool; mallet(wooden hammer) used by a presiding officer or an auctioneer; V.
- ♡ **bid** command; utter (a greeting); offer as a price; N: offer of a price; amount offered; earnest effort to gain something; Ex. bid for freedom
- ♠ **gawk** stare foolishly; look in open-mouthed awe
- ♠ **gazette** official periodical publication; newspaper
- **genealogy** record of descent; lineage; ancestry; study of ancestry
- **generality** vague statement; general statement which is not detailed; quality of being general; greater part; most; Ex. generality of people
- **generate** cause; produce; create
- **generic** characteristic of an entire class or species; of a genus
- ♡ **genus** division of animals or plants, below a family and above a species
- **genesis** beginning; origin
- ♠ **geniality** cheerfulness; kindness; sympathy; ADJ. genial: cheerful and good-tempered
- **genre** particular variety of art or literature
- ♠ **genteel** well-bred; elegant; striving to convey an appearance of refinement; Ex. genteel poverty
- ♠ **gentility** those of gentle birth; high social class; refinement; quality of being genteel
- ♡ **breed** produce young; rear; bring up; produce (an undesirable condition); N: kind or sort of animal or plant
- ♡ **crossbreed** hybridize; N: hybrid; CF. interbreed; CF. inbreed
- ♡ **well-bred** of good upbringing; well-mannered and refined
- ♠ **gentry** people of standing(rank or position); people of good family or high social position; class of people just below nobility
- ♡ **gentle** kindly; soft; mild; of good family
- ♠ **genuflect** bend the knee as in worship
- **germane** pertinent; bearing upon(having connection with) the case at hand; appropriate
- ♠ **germinal** pertaining to a germ; creative; Ex. germinal idea

- ♡ **germ** earliest form of an organism; seed or bud; something that may develop into something larger or more important; microbe
- **germinate** cause to sprout; sprout
- ♡ **sprout** begin to grow; give off shoots or buds; N: new growth on a plant; shoot
- ♡ **shoot** new growth from a plant
- **gerontocracy** government ruled by old people
- ♡ **gerontology** study of the sociological phenomena associated with old age
- ♡ **geriatrics** medical treatment and care of old age
- ♠ **gerrymander** change voting district lines in order to favor a political party; N. CF. Elbridge Gerry + (sala)mander
- ♠ **gestate** evolve as in prenatal growth; N. gestation: period of development from conception until birth
- ♡ **natal** connected with birth; CF. prenatal; CF. postnatal
- ♠ **gesticulation** motion; gesture; V. gesticulate: make gestures (while speaking)
- ♠ **ghastly** horrible; terrifying; resembling ghosts; CF. aghast
- ♠ **gibberish** nonsense; nonsensical or unintelligible talk or writing; babbling
- ♠ **gibe** mock; make jeering remarks; N: jeering remarks
- ♠ **giddy** light-hearted; not serious; frivolous; dizzy; causing dizziness; Ex. giddy youth; Ex. giddy climb/height
- ♠ **gingerly** very carefully; ADJ.
- ♠ **girth** distance around something; circumference
- ♠ **gist** essence; main point; substance
- **glacial** like a glacier; of an ice age; extremely cold; Ex. glacial epoch; CF. iceberg
- ♠ **glaring** (of something bad) highly conspicuous; harshly bright; shining intensely and blindingly
- ♡ **glare** shine intensely and blindingly; stare fixedly and angrily; N.
- ♠ **glaze** cover with a thin and shiny surface; apply a glaze to; N: thin, smooth, shiny coating (as for pottery); Ex. unglazed pottery
- ♠ **glean** gather leavings; gather grain left behind by reapers; gather bit by bit (facts or information) often with difficulty
- **glib** fluent (with insincerity or superficiality); facile; slick
- ♡ **slick** make smooth or glossy; N: smooth surface; Ex. oil slick; ADJ: smooth; glossy; deftly executed; adroit; glib
- ♡ **sleek** smooth and shining (as from good health); V.
- ♠ **glimmer** shine erratically; twinkle; N: dim or unsteady light; faint indication; Ex. glimmer of hope
- ♡ **glitter** shine brightly with flashing points of light; Ex. glittering diamond ring; N: sparkling light; attractiveness; glamor; Ex. glitter of the sun on the waves
- ♡ **glamor** compelling charm; ADJ. glamorous
- ♠ **gloat** express evil satisfaction; look at or think about with evil satisfaction; view malevolently; Ex. The thief gloated over the stolen jewels.
- ♠ **gloss over** explain away with the intention of deceiving or hiding faults
- ♡ **gloss** brief explanation note or translation of a difficult expression; V.
- **glossary** brief explanation of words used in the text
- ♠ **glossy** smooth and shining; N. gloss: shiny brightness on a surface; superficially attractive appearance; Ex. gloss of good manners
- ♡ **mat** not shiny; matte; having a dull finish; N: flat piece of material used as a floor covering; V.
- ♡ **finish** surface texture; completeness of execution
- ♡ **finished** properly made and complete; Ex. finished product/performance
- ♠ **glower** scowl; glare; look or stare angrily
- ♡ **scowl** frown angrily; N: angry frown
- ♠ **glut** overstock; fill beyond capacity (with food); fill to excess; N: oversupply
- ♠ **glutinous** sticky; viscous; gluey
- **glutton** someone who eats too much; ADJ. gluttonous: given to gluttony; greedy; CF. gluttony: habit of eating too much
- ♠ **gnarled** twisted
- ♡ **gnarl** protruding knot on a tree; V.
- **gnome** dwarf; underground spirit who guards treasure hoards
- **goad** urge on; drive with a goad; cause (someone) to do something by continued annoyance; Ex. They goaded him into doing it by saying he was a coward; N: sharp-pointed stick for driving cattle; stimulus; CF. annoy continually
- ♠ **gorge** narrow canyon; steep rocky cleft; ravine (made by a stream which runs through it)
- ♠ **gorge** stuff oneself (with food); glut; CF. gorgeous: daz- zlingly beautiful
- ♠ **gory** bloody; N. gore: blood (from a wound)
- ♡ **shudder** shake uncontrollably; tremble; V.
- ♠ **gossamer** sheer; very light; like cobwebs; N: soft and sheer fabric; cobweb
- ♡ **sheer** pure; thin and transparent; very steep

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- ♥ **gouge** tear out; cut out (as if with a gouge); Ex. gouge his eyes out; N: chisel for cutting out hollow areas in wood
- ♠ **gouge** overcharge (with high price); extort from; Ex. gouge the public; CF. usury
- ♠ **gourmand** epicure; person who takes excessive pleasure in food and drink
- ♠ **gourmet** connoisseur of food and drink; epicure
- **graduated** arranged by degrees (of height, difficulty, etc.)
- ♥ **graduate** arrange into categories or grades; divide into marked intervals (for use in measurement); Ex. graduated ruler
- ♠ **granary** storehouse for grain
- **grandeur** impressiveness; stateliness; majesty
- ♥ **stately** formal; ceremonious; grand in style or size; majestic
- **grandiloquent** (of a person or speech) using high sounding or important-sounding language; pompous; bombastic
- **grandiose** affectedly grand; pretentious; high-flown; ridiculously exaggerated; impressive; great in size or scope; grand; Ex. grandiose ideas
- ♥ **high-flown** highly pretentious or inflated
- ♥ **matinée(matinee)** dramatic or musical performance given in the afternoon
- ♠ **granulate** form into grains or granules; N. granule: grain or particle
- **graphic** pertaining to the art of delineating; vividly described
- ♥ **vivid** (of light or color) bright and distinct; evoking lifelike mental images; Ex. vivid red hair/description
- ♥ **graphite** black form of carbon used in lead pencils
- ♠ **grapple** wrestle; come to grips with; take hold of and struggle with; Ex. grapple with the burglar
- ♠ **grate** make a harsh noise; have an unpleasant effect; shred by rubbing against a rough surface; Ex. grated cheese N: framework of metal bars to hold fuel in a fireplace
- **gratify** please; satisfy; Ex. gratify a desire
- ♠ **gratis** free; without charge; ADJ.
- **gratuitous** given freely; unwarranted; uncalled for; done without good reason; Ex. gratuitous comment
- **gratuity** tip
- **gravity** seriousness; ADJ. grave
- **gregarious** sociable; (of an animal) tending to form a group
- **grievance** cause of complaint; complaint
- ♠ **grill** question severely; cook on a grill; broil; N: cooking surface of parallel metal bars
- ♥ **broil** cook by direct heat; N.
- ♥ **grim** causing great fear; unrelenting; determined in spite of fear; Ex. grim smile
- ♠ **grimace** facial distortion to show feeling such as pain, disgust, etc; V.
- ♠ **grisly** ghastly; horrifying; Ex. grisly remains of the bodies
- ♥ **groom** man employed to take care of horses; V: make neat and trim; clean and brush (an animal)
- **grotesque** fantastic; comically hideous; strange and unnatural (causing fear or amusement)
- ♥ **hideous** repulsive to the sight; ugly; repugnant; Ex. hideous face/scream
- ♠ **grotto** small cavern
- ♠ **grouse** complain; fuss; grumble; grouch; N: plump chicken-like game bird
- ♥ **grumble** complain; mutter discontentedly; grouch; N.
- ♥ **mutter** utter (complaining words) indistinctly in low tones
- ♥ **rumble** make or move with a deep rolling sound (as thunder or stomach)
- ♠ **grovel** crawl or creep on ground; remain prostrate; behave in a servile manner
- **grudging** unwilling; reluctant; stingy(giving reluctantly)
- ♠ **gruel** thin liquid porridge
- ♥ **porridge** soft food made by boiling oatmeal
- ♥ **oatmeal** crushed oats used for making porridge
- ♠ **grueling** exhausting; Ex. grueling marathon race
- ♠ **gruesome** grisly; horrible
- ♠ **gruff** rough-mannered; (of a voice) rough; hoarse
- ♥ **grunt** utter a deep guttural sound (as a pig does); N.
- ♠ **guffaw** boisterous laughter; V.
- **guile** deceit; duplicity; wiliness; cunning; Ex. persuade her by guile
- ♥ **cunning** clever in deceiving; sly; N: cleverness in deceiving; deceit
- **guileless** without deceit
- **guise** outward appearance; costume; Ex. in a new guise
- ♠ **gull** trick; deceive; hoodwink; N: person who is easily tricked; dupe
- **gullible** easily deceived
- ♠ **gustatory** affecting or relating to the sense of taste
- ♠ **gusto** eager enjoyment; zest; enthusiasm
- **gusty** windy
- ♥ **gust** strong abrupt rush of wind; V. CF. bluster
- ♠ **guy** cable or chain attached to something that needs to be braced or steadied; CF. guide
- ♥ **topple** become unsteady and fall down
- ♥ **overthrow** topple; N.
- ♥ **overturn** turn over; capsize; topple
- ♥ **capsize** (of a boat) turn over

- **gyroscope** apparatus used to maintain balance, ascertain direction, etc.
- ♠ **habituate** accustom or familiarize; addict
- ♠ **hackles** hairs on back and neck, especially of a dog; Ex. make someone's hackles rise
- ♡ **growl** low, guttural, menacing sound (as of a dog)
- **hackneyed** commonplace; trite
- ♠ **haggard** wasted away; gaunt; Ex. haggard faces of the rescued miners
- ♠ **haggle** argue about prices (in an attempt to bargain)
- ♠ **halcyon** calm; peaceful; Ex. halcyon days
- ♠ **hale** healthy
- ♡ **hail** frozen rain drop; V: salute or greet; precipitate hail
- ♠ **hallowed** blessed; consecrated; Ex. hallowed ground; V. hallow: set apart as holy
- **hallucination** delusion; false idea; false perception of objects with a compelling sense of their reality; objects so perceived; V. hallucinate; ADJ. hallucinatory
- ♠ **halting** hesitant; faltering; not fluent; Ex. halting steps/voice; V. halt: proceed or act with uncertainty; falter; hesitate; waver; stop
- ♡ **waver** move or swing back and forth; be uncertain or unsteady in decision or movement; Ex. wavering between accepting and refusing
- **hamper** obstruct; prevent the free movement of; N:
- ♠ **hap** chance; luck
- **haphazard** random; by chance; happening in an unplanned manner; Ex. haphazard growth of the town
- ♠ **hapless** unfortunate; luckless
- ♠ **harangue** long, passionate, and vehement speech; V.
- **harass** annoy by repeated attacks
- **harbinger** forerunner (which foreshadows what is to come)
- **harbor** give protection (by giving food and shelter); provide a refuge for; hide; keep in mind (thoughts or feelings); Ex. harbor a grudge/criminal; N: place of shelter; refuge
- ♡ **habitat** natural home of a plant or animal; CF. habitation
- ♠ **hardy** (of people or animals) sturdy; robust; (of plants) able to stand inclement(stormy) weather
- ♠ **harping** tiresome dwelling on a subject; V. harp: dwell on(think or speak a lot about) tediously
- ♠ **harrowing** agonizing; distressing; traumatic; V. harrow: break up and level (soil) with a harrow; inflict great distress on; agonize; N: farming machine to break up the earth
- **harry** harass, annoy, torment (by repeated attacks); raid
- **hatch** deck opening; lid covering a deck opening; V: emerge from an egg; produce (young) from an egg
- ♡ **latch** fastening or lock consisting of a movable bar that fits into a notch; V: close with a latch
- ♡ **notch** V-shaped cut in a surface; V.
- **haughtiness** pride; arrogance; ADJ. haughty
- ♡ **haunt** (of a spirit) visit (a place); come to mind continually; visit (a place) regularly; frequent; Ex. haunted house; Ex. haunted by his last words; N: place much frequented
- ♠ **haven** place of safety; refuge; harbor; Ex. tax haven
- ♡ **havoc** widespread damage; disorder; chaos
- **hazardous** dangerous
- ♡ **hazard** venture; put in danger; risk; Ex. hazard a guess; N: possible source of danger
- **hazy** slightly obscure; misty; unclear; N. haze: light mist or smoke; confused state of mind
- ♠ **headlong** hasty; rash; headfirst; ADV.
- ♡ **headfirst** moving with the head leading; headlong
- ♠ **headstrong** willful; stubborn; unyielding; determined to have one's own way; CF. no 'excessive'
- ♠ **heckler** person who verbally harasses others; V. heckle: verbally harass as with gibes (by interrupting a speaker or speech)
- **hedonist** one who believes that pleasure is the sole aim in life; CF. hedonism: practice of living one's life purely for pleasure
- **heedless** not noticing; disregarding
- ♡ **heed** pay attention to; N: close attention
- ♠ **hegemony** dominance especially of one nation over others
- ♠ **heinous** atrocious; wicked; hatefully bad; Ex. heinous crime
- ♡ **gross** total; fragrant; clearly wrong; (of people's behavior) coarse; corpulent; Ex. gross insolence/behavior; V: earn as a total amount; N: 12 dozens
- ♡ **helm** steering wheel of a ship; position of control
- **herbivorous** grain-eating; CF. herbivore
- **heresy** opinion contrary to popular belief; opinion contrary to accepted religion; ADJ. heretical; CF. heretic
- ♠ **hermetic** sealed by fusion so as to be airtight; airtight
- ♠ **hermetic** concerning alchemy or magic; obscure and mysterious; occult
- ♡ **sterile** incapable of producing young; free from microorganism; V. sterilize
- ♠ **hermitage** home of a hermit
- ♠ **herpetologist** one who studies reptiles; CF. herpetology: branch of zoology that deals with reptiles and amphibians
- ♠ **heterodox** (of beliefs) against accepted opinion; unorthodox; unconventional
- **heterogeneous** dissimilar; mixed; not homogeneous; consisting of dissimilar elements or plants
- ♠ **hew** cut to pieces with ax or sword; chop; N.
- ♠ **heyday** time of greatest success or power; prime

- ♡ **prime** period of ideal or peak condition; earliest or beginning stage; Ex. in the prime of life; Ex. prime of the year(spring); ADJ: first in importance or rank; first; V: make ready; prepare
- ♡ **primary** first in rank or importance; principal; earliest in time; Ex. primary stages; N. CF. first
- ♡ **primal** first in rank or importance; being first in time; original; Ex. man's primal innocence
- ♡ **primate** group of mammals including humans
- ♠ **hiatus** gap; pause; gap or interruption in space or time; break

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- ♠ **hibernal** wintry; wintery; of or like winter
- **hibernate** sleep throughout the winter; N. hibernation
- **hierarchy** arrangement by rank or standing; authoritarian body divided into ranks; body of persons having authority
- ♡ **totem** animal, plant, or natural object serving as a symbol of a clan or family; representation of this; Ex. totem pole
- **hieroglyphic** picture writing; ADJ.
- ♠ **hilarity** boisterous mirth(merriment; laughter); ADJ. hilarious: full of laughter
- ♠ **hindmost** furthest behind; farthest to the rear
- ♡ **wage** begin and continue (a war)
- **hindrance** block; obstacle; V. hinder
- ♠ **hinterlands** back country; inner part of a country; OP. foreland
- ♠ **hireling** one who serves for hire (usually used contemptuously); one who works solely for compensation; Ex. hireling politician
- ♠ **hirsute** hairy; having a lot of hair
- ♠ **histrionic** theatrical; excessively dramatic or emotional; affected; of actors or acting; N. histrionics: histrionic behavior
- ♡ **historic** important in history; Ex. historic battle
- ♡ **historical** connected with history; based on events in history (whether regarded as important or not)
- ♠ **hoard** stockpile; accumulate for future use; N: supply stored for future use
- ♠ **hoary** white with age
- ♠ **hoax** trick which makes someone take action; practical joke; Ex. hoax mail; V.
- ♠ **holocaust** destruction by fire; CF. burnt whole; CF. Holocaust
- ♠ **holster** leather pistol case (that hangs on a belt around the waist)
- **homage** honor; tribute; great respect; Ex. pay/do homage to
- ♠ **homeostasis** tendency of a system or organism to maintain relative stability or internal equilibrium; CF. homeo-: constant; Ex. homeotherm
- **homespun** domestic; made at home; spun or woven at home; simple and ordinary; Ex. homespun philosophy
- ♡ **spin** rotate swiftly; make (thread) by twisting (cotton, wool, etc.); N.
- ♠ **homily** sermon; tedious moralizing lecture; serious warning; ADJ. homiletic
- **homogeneous** of the same kind; uniform in composition throughout
- ♠ **hone** sharpen (a tool); N: whetstone for sharpening a tool
- ♠ **hoodwink** deceive; delude
- ♠ **horde** crowd; swarm
- ♡ **swarm** large group of insects moving in a mass; crowd of people or animals; V: move in a crowd or mass
- ♠ **hortatory** encouraging; exhortive; marked by exhortation; CF. exhort
- ♠ **horticultural** pertaining to cultivation of gardens; N. horticulture: science or art of cultivating fruits, vegetables, or ornamental plants; CF. agriculture: science or art of farming or growing crops
- **hostility** unfriendliness; hatred; enmity; ADJ. hostile
- ♠ **hovel** shack; small wretched house
- ♡ **hut** crude dwelling; shack
- ♡ **shack** crude cabin
- ♡ **shed** small roofed structure for storage and shelter; V: pour forth; lose by natural process; repel without allowing penetration; radiate; cast; Ex. shed tears/light/water/skin/leaves
- ♠ **hover** hang about; (of birds or aircraft) stay in the air in one place; (of people) wait nearby; stay around one place; waver; be in an uncertain state
- ♠ **hubbub** confused uproar; loud noise; din
- ♠ **hubris** arrogance; excessive self-conceit
- ♠ **hue** color; aspect; Ex. opinions of every hue
- ♠ **hue and cry** outcry; loud cry or clamor; strong protest; Ex. hue and cry against the new rule
- **humane** marked by kindness or consideration; kind and compassionate; humanitarian
- **humanitarian** one devoted to the promotion of human welfare; CF. humanism
- ♠ **humdrum** dull; monotonous
- **humid** damp; N. humidity
- ♠ **humility** humbleness of spirit
- ♡ **humble** of low rank or position; modest; having a low opinion of oneself and a high opinion of others; unassuming; not proud; V. humiliate: make humble; cause to feel ashamed or to lose the respect of others
- ♠ **hummock** small hill; hillock
- ♠ **humus** substance or rich soil formed by decaying vegetable matter; CF. soil
- ♠ **hurtle** crash; rush; move with great speed; Ex. hurtling runaway train
- ♠ **husband** use sparingly; conserve; save; Ex. husband one's energy; CF. house holder
- ♠ **husbandry** frugality; thrift; economy; agriculture; farming; Ex. animal husbandry; CF. husbandman
- **hybrid** mongrel; mixed breed; V. hybridize
- ♡ **mongrel** plant or animal (esp. a dog) of mixed breed; ADJ.
- ♡ **pedigree** line of ancestors; ancestry; lineage; ADJ. (of an animal) descended from of a chosen family; Ex. pedigree dog; CF. crane's foot

- ♠ **hydrophobia** fear of water; rabies
- ♥ **rabies** disease passed on by the bite of an infected animal (causing madness and death)
- ♥ **hygiene** science and practice of the promotion and preservation of health; ADJ. **hygienic**: showing careful attention to cleanness (to prevent disease); Ex. **hygienic** condition
- ♠ **hyperbole** exaggeration; overstatement; ADJ. **hyperbolic**: of hyperbole; of a hyperbola
- **hypercritical** excessively exacting; too critical (without noticing good qualities)
- ♠ **hypochondriac** person unduly worried about his health; worrier without cause about illness; ADJ. CF. **hypochondria**: neurosis that one is or is becoming ill; CF. **abdomen**
- **hypocritical** pretending to be virtuous; deceiving; N. **hypocrisy**: profession of beliefs one does not possess; CF. **hypocrite**
- **hypothetical** based on assumptions or hypotheses; supposed; N. **hypothesis**
- ♠ **ichthyology** study of fish; CF. **ichthyo-**: fish
- **icon(ikon)** religious image; idol; image or representation
- ♠ **iconoclastic** attacking cherished traditions; N. **iconoclast**: one who attacks traditional ideas; one who destroys sacred images
- **ideology** system of ideas characteristic of a group or culture
- ♠ **idiom** expression whose meaning as a whole differs from the meanings of its individual words; distinctive style (of expression); Ex. **idiom** of the modern popular music; ADJ. **idiomatic**
- **idiosyncrasy** individual trait usually odd in nature; behavioral peculiarity; eccentricity; attitude, behavior, or opinion peculiar to a person; anything highly individual or eccentric; ADJ. **idiosyncratic**
- ♠ **idolatry** worship of idols; excessive admiration or devotion; ADJ. **idolatrous**
- ♠ **idyllic** charmingly carefree; simple and happy; Ex. **idyllic** scene
- ♥ **idyll(idyl)** short poem idealizing rural life; simple happy period of life (in the country); scene from such a time; Ex. **idyll** of two young lovers
- ♠ **igneous** produced by fire; of fire; volcanic; (of rocks) formed from lava; Ex. **igneous** meteorite
- **ignite** kindle; light; catch fire or set fire to
- ♠ **ignoble** unworthy; not noble; dishonorable; Ex. **ignoble** deed
- ♠ **ignominy** deep disgrace; shame or dishonor; ADJ. **ignominious**; Ex. **ignominious** defeat
- **illicit** illegal
- ♠ **illimitable** infinite; limitless
- **illuminate** brighten; clear up or make understandable; enlighten; enable to understand; Ex. **illuminating** remarks
- **illusion** misleading vision or visual image; false idea or belief; CF. **delusion**
- **illusive** deceiving; based on illusion; causing illusion; deceptive
- **illusory** illusive; deceptive; not real
- **imbalance** lack of balance or symmetry; disproportion
- ♥ **disproportion** lack of proportion (between the parts); ADJ. **disproportionate**
- ♠ **imbecility** weakness of mind; state of being an imbecile; N. **imbecile**: stupid person; fool
- **imbibe** drink in
- ♠ **imbroglio** complicated situation (as in a play); painful or complex misunderstanding (as in a play); entanglement; confused mass (as of papers); V. **embroil**
- ♠ **imbue** saturate(soak thoroughly); fill; Ex. **imbue** someone with feelings

- **immaculate** spotless; flawless; absolutely clean
- ♥ **tenant** one that pays rent to use property owned by another
- ♥ **tenancy** possession of land or building by rent; period of a tenant's occupancy
- **imminent** impending; near at hand
- **immobility** state of being immovable
- ♠ **immolate** offer or kill as a sacrifice (by fire)
- **immune** resistant to; free or exempt from; N. immunity
- ♠ **immure** imprison; shut up in confinement; CF. wall
- **immutable** unchangeable
- **impair** injure; hurt; damage
- ♠ **impale** pierce (with a sharp point); Ex. impaled by the spear
- **impalpable** imperceptible(not easily understood); intangible; OP. palpable: tangible; easily perceptible
- **impartial** not biased; fair; N. impartiality
- ♥ **impart** grant a share of; make known; Ex. news to impart
- **impassable** not able to be traveled or crossed
- **impasse** predicament(dangerous condition) from which there is no escape; situation allowing for no further progress
- **impassive** without feeling; expressionless; imperturbable; stoical; Ex. impassive face
- ♠ **impeach** charge (a public official) with crime in office; raise doubts about; indict; Ex. impeach a witness's credibility
- ♠ **impeccable** faultless
- ♥ **credential** evidence concerning one's authority; written proof of a person's position; Ex. The new ambassador presented his credentials to the court.
- **impecunious** without money
- **impede** hide; retard or obstruct the progress of; block
- ♥ **retard** delay (in development); ADJ. retarded: (as of a child) slower in development
- **impediment** hindrance; stumbling-block; speech defect preventing clear articulation; Ex. speech impediment
- **impel** drive or force onward; drive to take action; urge to action
- **impending** nearing; approaching; about to happen
- **impenetrable** not able to be pierced or entered; beyond understanding; impossible to understand; Ex. impenetrable mystery
- **impenitent** not repentant
- **imperative** absolutely necessary; that must be done; critically important; expressing command; Ex. It is imperative that; N: something that must be done
- **imperceptible** unnoticeable; impossible to perceive; undetectable

- **imperial** like an emperor; related to an empire; CF. imperialism
- ♥ **imperil** put in danger
- ♠ **imperious** domineering; too commanding; haughty; CF. imperial/emperor
- **impermeable** impervious; not permitting passage through its substance; impossible to permeate
- **impertinent** insolent; rude; not pertinent; N. impertinence
- **imperturbable** unshakably calm; placid
- ♥ **collected** composed; calm; self-possessed
- ♠ **impervious** impenetrable; incapable of being damaged or distressed; incapable of being affected (in one's opinions); Ex. impervious to water/criticism
- **impetuous** violent; hasty; rash; impulsive; without careful thought; Ex. impetuous decision
- **impetus** moving force; momentum; force of a moving body; incentive; stimulus; impulse
- **impiety** irreverence; lack of respect for God or piety
- ♠ **impinge** infringe; encroach; influence; touch; collide with; Ex. The effects are impinging on every aspect of our lives.
- **impious** irreverent
- **implacable** incapable of being pacified; impossible to appease; Ex. implacable enemy
- **implausible** unlikely (to be true); unbelievable; Ex. implausible alibi
- **implement** put into effect; enforce; carry out; supply with tools; Ex. implement the plan/suggestion; N: tool or instrument
- **implicate** incriminate; involve incriminatingly; show to be involved (in a crime); Ex. implicate someone in the crime
- **implication** something hinted at or suggested; implying; implicating
- **implicit** understood but not stated; implied; unquestioning and complete; Ex. implicit trust
- **implode** burst inward; CF. vacuum tube
- **implore** beg
- **imply** suggest a meaning not expressed; signify
- ♠ **impolitic** not wise; not expedient; not politic
- **imponderable** weightless; that cannot undergo precise evaluation; CF. pound
- **import** significance; importance; meaning
- ♥ **significant** expressing a meaning; important; Ex. significant smile; N. significance: importance; meaning; V. signify: denote; mean; signal; make known; matter; be significant
- ♠ **importunate** urging; always demanding; troublesomely urgent or persistent
- ♠ **importune** beg persistently; make repeated requests (in an annoying way)
- **imposture** assuming a false identity; masquerade; CF. impostor

- ♥ **masquerade** wear a mask or disguise; pretend; N: costume party or ball at which masks are worn; pretense; disguise
- **impotent** weak; ineffective; lacking in physical strength or power
- ♥ **crave** desire; want intensely
- ♠ **imprecation** curse; swearword
- ♠ **impregnable** invulnerable; impossible to capture or enter by force; Ex. impregnable fort/argument; CF. take
- ♥ **impregnate** make pregnant; fill thoroughly; saturate
- **impromptu** without previous preparation; off the cuff(end of a sleeve); on the spur of the moment
- **impropriety** impropriety; unsuitableness
- **improvident** thriftless; not providing for the future
- **improvise** compose on the spur of the moment
- **imprudent** lacking caution; not prudent; injudicious
- **impudence** impertinence; insolence
- ♠ **impugn** dispute or contradict (often in an insulting way); attack as false or questionable; challenge; gainsay; CF. fight
- ♠ **impuissance** powerlessness; feebleness
- **impunity** freedom from punishment or harm; CF. punish
- ♠ **impute** attribute; ascribe; charge; N. imputation
- **inadvertently** unintentionally; by oversight; carelessly
- ♥ **oversee** watch over and direct; supervise; N. oversight: unintentional failure to notice or do something; supervision
- **inalienable** not to be taken away; nontransferable; Ex. inalienable rights
- ♠ **inane** silly; senseless; Ex. inane remarks; N. inanity
- **inanimate** lifeless; not animate
- ♠ **inarticulate** speechless; producing indistinct speech; not articulate; not expressing oneself clearly
- ♥ **speechless** unable for the moment to speak (because of strong feeling); Ex. speechless with anger
- **inaugurate** begin formally; install in office; induct into office by a formal ceremony; N. inauguration; ADJ. inaugural
- ♠ **incandescent** strikingly bright; shining with intense heat; emitting visible light when heated; Ex. incandescent light bulb; CF. candle
- ♠ **incantation** singing or chanting of magic spells; magical formula; (the saying of) words used in magic; CF. enchant
- ♥ **chant** tune(melody) in which a number of words are sung on the same note; V: sing (a chant); utter (a slogan) in the manner of a chant
- ♥ **charm** quality of pleasing; amulet; action or formula thought to have magical power; spell; V: attract; cast a spell on; bewitch
- ♥ **bewitch** cast a spell over; captivate completely
- ♥ **recite** repeat aloud (something learned); describe; Ex. recite his complaints; N. recitation
- ♥ **recital** act of reciting publicly; detailed account; performance of music or dance (by a solo performer)
- ♠ **incapacitate** disable; N. incapacity: lack of capacity
- **incarcerate** imprison
- **incarnate** endowed with flesh; invested with bodily form; personified; Ex. devil incarnate; V: give bodily form to; embody
- **incarnation** act of assuming a human body and human nature; one who personifies something; personification; Ex. previous incarnation/reincarnation
- ♥ **personify** represent (an inanimate object) as a person; be the embodiment or perfect example of; Ex. She is evil/patience personified; N. personification
- **incendiary** arsonist; ADJ: causing fire; of arson; Ex. incendiary bomb
- **incense** enrage; infuriate(make furious); make extremely angry; outrage; N: aromatic substance burned to produce a pleasant odor
- **incentive** spur; motive; something which encourages one to greater activity
- **inception** start; beginning
- **incessant** uninterrupted; unceasing

- ♠ **inchoate** (of desire, wish, plan) recently begun; not explicit; at the beginning of development; rudimentary; elementary; Ex. inchoate mass
- **incidence** rate of occurrence; particular occurrence; Ex. high incidence of infant mortality
- **incidental** not essential; minor; N: something incidental
- ♥ **incident** event; event that causes a crisis
- ♥ **incinerate** burn to ashes
- **incipient** beginning; in an early stage
- **incisive** (appreciatively) cutting; sharp; Ex. incisive remarks; V. incise: make a cut into
- **incite** arouse to action; goad; motivate; induce to exist; Ex. incite a riot/the crowd to rebellion
- ♠ **inclement** stormy; unkind; unmerciful; CF. clement
- **incline** slope; slant; Ex. steep incline
- **inclined** tending or leaning toward; bent; V. incline: slant; dispose; be disposed; tend
- ♥ **tend** have a tendency; take care of; minister; serve at; apply one's attention; attend
- **inclusive** tending to include all; all-inclusive; Ex. inclusive charge
- **incognito** with identity concealed; using an assumed name; ADJ.
- **incoherent** unintelligible; muddled; unable to express one's thoughts in an orderly manner; illogical; lacking cohesion; not coherent
- **incommodious** not spacious; inconvenient
- **incompatible** inharmonious; N. incompatibility
- **incongruity** lack of harmony; absurdity; ADJ. incongruous: lacking in harmony; inappropriate
- ♥ **attire** clothe; N: clothing; array; apparel
- **inconsequential** insignificant; unimportant
- **inconsistency** state of being self-contradictory; lack of uniformity or steadiness; ADJ. inconsistent: displaying a lack of consistency; erratic; contradictory; incompatible
- **incontinent** lacking self-restraint; not continent; licentious
- **incontrovertible** indisputable; impossible to dispute; not open to question; unquestionable
- **incorporate** introduce something into a larger whole; include; embody; give material form to; ADJ.
- ♠ **incorporeal** without a material body; insubstantial
- **incorrigible** uncorrectable
- **incredulity** tendency to disbelief
- **incredulous** withholding belief; skeptical; showing disbelief
- **increment** increase
- **incriminate** accuse of or implicate in a crime; serve as evidence against; cause to seem or make guilty of a crime; Ex. incriminating evidence
- ♠ **incrustation** hard coating or crust; V. incrust: encrust; cover with a crust
- **incubate** hatch; warm (eggs) with the body to promote hatching; maintain at optimal environment conditions for development; be holding in one's body an infection which is going to develop into a disease; N. incubation; CF. incubation:disease
- ♥ **inasmuch as** since; owing to the fact that
- **incubus** burden; very worrying problem; mental care; nightmare; male devil; CF. succubus
- **inculcate** teach (ideas or principles); instill
- **incumbent** obligatory; imposed as an obligation; currently holding an office; N: person who holds an office
- **incur** bring upon oneself
- **incursion** temporary invasion; CF. excursion: short journey
- ♥ **inroad** hostile invasion; advance that lessens the quantity or difficulty of something; Ex. The long illness made serious inroads on his savings; CF. raid
- **indefatigable** tireless; untiring; showing no sign of getting tired
- **indelible** not able to be erased
- ♠ **indemnify** make secure against damage or loss; compensate for damage or loss; CF. make uninjured
- **indentation** notch; deep recess; V. indent; CF. tooth
- ♠ **indenture** bind as servant or apprentice to master; bind by indenture; N: contract binding one party into the service of another for a specified time (as between an apprentice and his master)
- **indeterminate** uncertain; not clearly fixed; indefinite
- **indicative** suggestive; implying; serving to indicate
- **indices** signs; indications; Ex. indices of a student's potential; CF. index: something that reveals or indicates; sign; Ex. cost-of-living index
- **indict** charge; N. indictment
- **indifferent** unmoved or unconcerned by; having no interest in; mediocre; neither good nor bad
- **indigence** poverty
- **indigenous** native; Ex. plant indigenous to the New World
- **indigent** poor; destitute
- **indignation** anger at an injustice; Ex. righteous indignation; ADJ. indignant
- ♥ **righteous** morally upright; just
- ♥ **rightful** legally correct; Ex. rightful owner
- **indignity** treatment or situation that causes shame or loss of dignity, respect; offensive or insulting treatment; humiliating or degrading treatment; Ex. I suffered the indignity of having to say that in front of them.

- **indiscriminate** choosing at random; confused; not based on careful distinctions
- **indisputable** too certain to be disputed; beyond doubt
- **indissoluble** permanent; impossible to dissolve or disintegrate
- **indite** write; compose
- **indolent** lazy
- **indomitable** unconquerable; unyielding
- ♠ **indubitable** unable to be doubted; which cannot be doubted; unquestionable
- **induce** persuade; lead to do something; bring about; N. inducement
- **inductive** pertaining to induction or proceeding from the specific to the general
- ♡ **induct** place formally in office; install; admit as a member; initiate; N. induction: inducting; process of deriving general principles from particular facts
- **indulgent** humoring; yielding; lenient; showing indulgence

- ♡ **indulge** yield to; gratify; allow oneself a special pleasure; Ex. indulge one's every whim/a child/in a big cigarette; N. indulgence
- ♡ **humor** indulge; comply with the wishes of; N. quality that makes something amusing; state of mind; mood; Ex. in a bad humor; Ex. out of humor
- **industrious** diligent; hard-working; N. industry
- ♠ **inebriated** habitually intoxicated; drunk; N. inebriety
- ♡ **inebriate** make drunk; intoxicate; N. intoxicated person
- ♡ **intoxicate** make drunk; stimulate or excite; Ex. intoxicated by all the money he might win
- ♠ **ineffable** unutterable; not to be uttered; taboo; that cannot be expressed in speech; indescribable; unspeakable; inexpressible; Ex. ineffable name/joy
- **ineffectual** not effective; not having a desired effect; weak
- ♠ **ineluctable** irresistible; not to be escaped; unavoidable
- **inept** unsuited; inappropriate; lacking skill; incompetent; CF. inapt: (of statements or ideas) inappropriate
- **inequity** unfairness; ADJ. inequitable
- ♠ **inerrancy** infallibility
- ♠ **inert** inactive; lacking power to move; unable to move or act; Ex. chemically inert; N. inertia: state of being inert; force which keeps a thing in the position or state
- **inevitable** unavoidable
- ♠ **inexorable** relentless; unyielding; implacable; not capable of being changed by entreaty or efforts; Ex. inexorable price rises
- **infallible** unerring; never making mistakes
- **infamous** notoriously bad; notorious; well known for being bad; Ex. infamous behavior; N. infamy: infamous act; evil fame or reputation
- **infantile** childish; infantlike
- **infer** deduce; conclude; N. inference
- ♠ **infernal** pertaining to hell; devilish; N. inferno: place of fiery heat or destruction
- ♠ **infidel** unbeliever (with respect to a particular religion)
- **infiltrate** pass into or through; penetrate or enter (an organization) sneakily; Ex. infiltrate the troops into enemy territory; CF. infiltrator
- ♡ **penetrate** enter into; pierce; permeate; see through; grasp the inner significance of; understand
- **infinitesimal** very small
- **infirmity** weakness
- **inflated** exaggerated; pompous; enlarged (with air or gas)
- **influx** flowing into
- **infraction** violation (of a rule or regulation); breach

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- **infringe** violate (a law); encroach (the right of another person)
- **ingenious** marked by inventive skill; clever; resourceful; N. ingenuity
- ♡ **resourceful** clever and imaginative (in dealing with difficult situations); N. resource, resourcefulness
- **ingenuous** naive and trusting; young; unsophisticated; candid
- ♡ **ingenue** ingénue; young innocent girl
- **ingrained** deeply established; firmly rooted; Ex. ingrained dirt/prejudice
- **ingrate** ungrateful person (not expressing thanks)
- ♠ **ingratiate** become popular with; bring (oneself) in favor of another; Ex. ingratiate himself with the boss
- **inherent** firmly established by nature or habit; intrinsic
- **inhibit** restrain; prohibit; retard or prevent; N. inhibition
- ♡ **inhibited** (of a person) unable to express what one really feels
- ♡ **uninhibited** having no inhibitions; free in behavior and feelings
- ♠ **inimical** (of someone) unfriendly; hostile; (of something) harmful; detrimental; CF. enemy
- **inimitable** matchless; not able to be imitated
- **iniquitous** wicked; immoral; unrighteous; N. iniquity; Ex. den of iniquity
- **initiate** begin; originate; receive into a group; introduce to a new field or activity; Ex. initiate someone into the mysteries of a secret religion; N: one who has been initiated
- **injurious** harmful; causing injury
- ♠ **inkling** hint; slight indication
- **innate** inborn
- **innocuous** harmless
- **innovation** change; something newly introduced; introduction of something new; V. innovate: begin or introduce (something new); be creative; ADJ. innovative
- ♠ **innuendo** indirect or subtle (derogatory) hint; insinuation; Ex. sexual innuendo
- **inopportune** untimely; inappropriate or ill-timed; poorly chosen
- ♠ **inordinate** beyond reasonable limits; unrestrained; excessive; Ex. inordinate demands
- **inquisitor** questioner (especially harsh); investigator; person making an inquisition
- ♡ **inquisitive** eager for knowledge; unduly curious
- ♠ **insalubrious** unwholesome; not healthful; Ex. insalubrious place
- ♡ **healthful** conducive to good health; Ex. healthful mountain air

- ♡ **healthy** possessing good health; healthful
- ♡ **wholesome** conducive to mental or physical health; healthful
- **insatiable** not easily satisfied; unquenchable; Ex. insatiable appetite
- ♠ **inscrutable** difficult to understand; impenetrable; not readily understood; mysterious
- ♠ **insensate** without feeling; lacking sense; foolish
- ♠ **insensible** unconscious; unresponsive; insensitive; unaware; imperceptible; Ex. insensible of his danger/to pain; Ex. insensible change; CF. not the opposite of sensible
- ♠ **insidious** treacherous; stealthy; sly; working or spreading harmfully in a stealthy manner; Ex. insidious spreading of dry rot
- **insightful** discerning; perceptive
- ♠ **insinuate** hint; imply; suggest indirectly; creep in; introduce or insert (oneself) by artful means; Ex. insinuate himself into the boss's favor; CF. ingratiate
- ♡ **creep** move with body close to the ground; move stealthily or slowly; N.
- ♡ **artful** exhibiting art or skill; deceitful; cunning; CF. artifice
- ♠ **insipid** lacking in flavor; lacking interest; dull; Ex. insipid food/character
- **insolence** impudent disrespect; haughtiness; ADJ. insolent; CF. haughty + rude
- **insolvent** bankrupt; lacking money to pay; N. insolvency
- **insomnia** wakefulness; inability to sleep
- ♠ **insouciant** without concern or care; unconcerned; indifferent
- ♠ **instigate** start; urge; provoke; incite; Ex. instigate a search/quarrel
- **insubordination** disobedience; rebelliousness; ADJ. insubordinate
- **insubstantial** lacking substance; insignificant; frail; immaterial
- ♠ **insularity** narrow-mindedness; isolation; ADJ. insular: of an island; isolated; narrow-minded; CF. peninsula
- **insuperable** insurmountable; unbeatable; Ex. insuperable difficulties
- ♡ **odds** chances; probability; disagreement; Ex. The odds are that it will rain. Ex. at odds with
- **insurgent** rebellious; N.
- **insurmountable** overwhelming; unbeatable; insuperable
- **insurrection** rebellion; uprising
- **intangible** not able to be perceived by touch; vague
- **integral** complete; necessary for completeness; Ex. integral part
- **integrate** make whole; combine; make into one unit
- **integrity** honesty; uprightness; wholeness; state of being whole and undivided; completeness

- ♡ **upright** (sitting or standing) straight up; honest; moral
- **intellect** higher mental powers; person of great intellectual ability
- **intelligentsia** intellectuals; members of the educated elite (often used derogatorily)
- **inter** bury; N. interment
- ♡ **cemetery** place for burying the dead
- **interdict** prohibit; forbid; N.
- **interim** meantime; Ex. in the interim; ADJ. taking place during an interim; Ex. interim paper
- ♠ **interloper** intruder; one who interferes
- **interminable** endless
- **intermittent** periodic; on and off; stopping and starting at intervals
- **internecine** mutually destructive
- ♠ **interpolate** insert between
- ♠ **interregnum** period between two successive reigns or governments
- ♠ **interrogate** question closely; cross-examine; cross-question
- **intervene** come between; interfere; Ex. intervened to prevent a fight; N. intervention
- ♠ **intimate** hint; suggest; imply; ADJ: marked by close relationship; familiar; private; personal; Ex. intimate knowledge/thoughts in the diary; N: close friend or confidant; CF. intimacy
- **intimidate** frighten; N. intimidation
- **intractable** unruly; difficult to manage; Ex. intractable problem/child
- **intransigence** refusal of any compromise; stubbornness; ADJ. intransigent: uncompromising
- **intrepid** fearless
- **intrinsic** essential; inherent; built-in
- ♠ **introspective** looking within oneself; N. introspection: self-examination
- **introvert** one who is introspective or inclined to think more about oneself; ADJ. introverted
- ♠ **intrude** put or force in without being asked; trespass; enter as an uninvited person; Ex. intrude one's own opinion into the report; CF. thrust in
- **intuition** immediate insight; power of knowing without reasoning; ADJ. intuitive; V. intuit: know by intuition
- **inundate** flood; overflow; submerge; cover completely; Ex. inundated with work
- ♡ **overwhelm** (of water) cover completely; defeat completely by much greater force; Ex. overwhelmed by grief
- ♡ **submerge** place under water; dip; go under water; cover completely (as with water); Ex. submerged in work
- ♡ **engulf** surround and swallow up
- ♠ **inured** accustomed; hardened; Ex. inured to the Alaskan cold; V. inure: make used to something undesirable; harden; CF. unfeeling
- **invalidate** weaken; destroy; make invalid; nullify
- ♡ **invalid** one incapacitated(disabled) by a chronic illness; ADJ: incapacitated by illness; not valid; null; V: allow to leave (a military force) because of ill-health
- **invective** abuse
- ♠ **inveigh** denounce; utter censure or invective; Ex. inveigh against the evils of drink
- ♠ **inveigle** deceive; lead astray by deception; wheedle(cajole); Ex. inveigle her into joining the club; CF. interest dishonestly
- **inverse** opposite
- **invert** turn upside down or inside out; reverse the position or condition of

- **inveterate** deep-rooted; habitual; CF. grow old
- ♠ **invidious** designed to create ill will or envy; tending to rouse ill will or envy; Ex. invidious comparison
- **invincible** unconquerable
- ♠ **inviolable** secure from corruption, attack, or violation (or profanation); unassailable; Ex. inviolable oath/rights; N. inviolability
- ♠ **invocation** prayer for help (used in invoking); calling upon as a reference or support; act of invoking
- ♠ **invoke** call and bring into use (a right or law); call on/upon (a higher power or god) for help; ask for; beg for; conjure (a spirit); Ex. invoke the veto power; Ex. invoke one's advisor/God
- **invulnerable** incapable of injury; impossible to damage or injure
- **iota** very small quantity
- ♠ **irascible** irritable; easily angered
- ♠ **irate** angry; CF. ire: anger; wrath
- ♠ **iridescent** exhibiting rainbowlike colors; Ex. iridescent oil slick; N. iridescence
- **irksome** annoying; tedious; V. irk: annoy
- **ironic** expressing irony; occurring in an unexpected and contrary manner
- ♠ **irony** hidden sarcasm or satire; use of words that seem to mean the opposite of what they actually mean; use of words to convey the opposite of their literal meaning
- **irreconcilable** impossible to reconcile; incompatible; not able to be resolved
- **irrefutable** indisputable; incontrovertible; undeniable
- **irrelevant** not applicable; unrelated
- **irremediable** incurable; uncorrectable; impossible to remedy
- **irreparable** not able to be corrected or repaired; impossible to repair
- **irrepressible** unable to be restrained or held back; impossible to hold back
- **irreproachable** beyond reproach; blameless; impeccable; Ex. irreproachable conduct
- **irresolute** uncertain how to act; weak; lacking in resolution; indecisive; N. irresolution
- ♡ **indecisive** marked by indecision; inconclusive; Ex. indecisive battle
- ♡ **indecision** irresolution; inability to make up one's mind
- **irretrievable** impossible to recover or regain; CF. retrieve
- **irreverence** lack of proper respect or reverence; ADJ. irreverent
- **irrevocable** unalterable; irreversible; impossible to revoke
- **isotope** varying from of an element
- ♠ **isthmus** narrow neck of land connecting two larger bodies of land
- ♠ **itinerant** wandering; traveling from place to place (to perform work); Ex. itinerant preacher
- ♠ **itinerary** plan of a trip; record of a trip
- ♠ **jabber** chatter rapidly or unintelligibly
- ♡ **jab** poke abruptly with something sharp; punch with short blows
- ♠ **jaded** tired or uninterested by surfeit; fatigued; surfeited; worn out; wearied; Ex. jaded appetite
- **jargon** language used by special group; technical terminology; gibberish; nonsensical or incoherent talk
- ♠ **jaundiced** yellowed; prejudiced (envious, hostile, or resentful) from long and disappointing experience of human affairs; Ex. with a jaundiced eye
- ♡ **jaundice** medical condition in which the skin, the white part of the eyes, etc. turn yellow; V. affect with jaundice; affect with prejudice, envy, or hostility; bias
- ♠ **jaunt** trip; short journey
- ♠ **jaunty** cheerful and pleased with life; lighthearted; animated; easy and carefree; dapper in appearance; Ex. jaunty person/hat
- **jeopardize** endanger; imperil; put at risk; N. jeopardy: danger
- ♠ **jettison** throw overboard (from a ship or plane)
- ♠ **jibe** agree; be in harmony with; gibe
- **jingoist** extremely aggressive and militant patriot; warlike chauvinist; N. jingoism: extreme nationalism
- ♠ **jocose** given to (having a tendency of) joking
- ♠ **jocular** said or done in jest or playfully; marked by joking
- ♡ **jest** playful remark or act; V. act or speak playfully
- ♠ **jocund** merry
- ♠ **jollity** gaiety; cheerfulness; ADJ. jolly: merry; gay
- ♠ **jostle** shove; bump; push against (someone) rather roughly; Ex. jostled by the crowds
- ♡ **shove** push forward; push roughly; Ex. pushing and shoving to get on the bus; N.
- ♡ **bump** hit or knock against with force; N.
- ♠ **jovial** good-natured; merry; cheerful
- **jubilation** rejoicing; great joy
- **judicious** sound on judgment; wise
- ♠ **juggernaut** irresistible crushing force; overwhelming advancing force that crushes everything in its path
- ♡ **jug** pitcher; container for holding liquids
- ♠ **junction** crisis; point in time; joining point; joint; act of joining
- ♠ **junket** trip especially one taken for pleasure by an official at public expense

- ♠ **junta** group of persons joined in political intrigue; cabal; group of military officers ruling a country after seizing power (by force)
- ♠ **jurisprudence** science of law
- ♡ **jurisdiction** right and power to apply the law; authority
- ♡ **juridical** of the law and its administration; CF. judicial: of courts of law; CF. judiciary
- ♠ **juxtapose** place side by side; CF. next
- ♠ **kaleidoscope** tube in which patterns made by the reflection in mirrors of colored pieces of glass, etc. produce interesting symmetrical effects; series of changing events; Ex. kaleidoscope of European history; CF. beautiful
- ♠ **ken** range of knowledge; Ex. beyond one's ken
- **kernel** central or vital part; core; whole seed (as of corn)
- ♠ **killjoy** grouch; spoilsport; one who intentionally spoils the pleasure of others
- ♡ **grouch** bad-tempered complaint; person who keeps complaining; V: complain; grumble
- ♡ **spoilsport** one who spoils the pleasure of others
- **kindle** start a fire; ignite; inspire; arouse
- ♠ **kindred** related; belonging to the same group; similar in nature or character; Ex. kindred languages; N: relative; kin; kinship
- **kinetic** producing motion; of motion
- ♠ **kismet** fate; destiny; Ex. Kismet is the Arabic word for fate.
- ♠ **kleptomaniac** person who has a compulsive desire to steal
- ♠ **knave** untrustworthy person; rogue; scoundrel; jack; N. knavery
- ♠ **knead** mix; work dough; mix and work into a uniform mass (with the hands); Ex. knead dough
- ♠ **knell** tolling of a bell especially to indicate a funeral, disaster, etc.; sound of the funeral bell; V.
- ♡ **toll** sound (a large bell) slowly at regular intervals; N: sound of a bell; fixed tax or charge
- ♡ **curfew** regulation requiring all people to leave the streets at stated times; signal (as a bell) announcing the hour of a curfew
- ♠ **knit** contract into wrinkles; grow together; join together closely; make (a fabric or garment) by intertwining yarn or thread; Ex. knit the brow; Ex. The bones should knit together in a few weeks.
- ♡ **crochet** make (a piece of needlework) by looping thread with a hooked needle; N. CF. crotchet
- ♠ **knoll** little round hill; hillock
- ♠ **knotty** intricate; difficult; tangled; CF. knot
- ♠ **kudos** honor; glory; acclaim or praise for exceptional achievement
- ♡ **entourage** group of attendants; retinue; CF. surround
- ♠ **labile** likely to change; unstable; Ex. emotionally labile; N. lability
- **laborious** demanding much work or care; tedious
- **labyrinth** maze
- ♠ **laceration** torn ragged wound; V. lacerate: tear (the skin as with broken glass); wound
- ♡ **rip** tear or be torn quickly and violently; Ex. The sail ripped under the force of the wind; N.
- ♡ **rag** scrap of cloth; ADJ. ragged: old and torn; seeming unfinished and imperfect; Ex. ragged debut/performance
- ♠ **lachrymose** producing tears; tearful
- ♠ **lackadaisical** lacking interest or effort; lacking purpose or zest; lazy; halfhearted; languid
- ♡ **halfhearted** exhibiting little interest or enthusiasm
- ♠ **lackluster** lacking luster(shine; gloss); dull
- ♠ **laconic** brief and to the point; using few words; terse
- ♠ **laggard** slow; sluggish; N: one who lags; straggler
- ♡ **lag** move or develop more slowly; straggle; Ex. lag behind the rest; N.
- ♡ **straggle** stray or fall behind (a main group); spread out in a scattered group; Ex. straggling marathon racer; Ex. straggling branch

- ♠ **lagoon** shallow body of water or lake near a sea; lake separated from a sea by sandbars or coral reefs
- ♠ **laity** laypersons; laymen; persons not connected with the clergy
- ♡ **layman** man who is not a cleric; man who is nonprofessional
- **lament** grieve; express sorrow; N. lamentation
- ♠ **lampoon** ridicule; N: written attack ridiculing or satirizing a person, group, or institution
- ♠ **lancet** small surgical tool for making incisions
- ♡ **lance** pierce with a lance; cut into; N: spearlike weapon
- **languid** lacking energy or vitality; weary; sluggish; listless
- **languish** lose animation or strength
- **languor** lack of physical or mental energy; lassitude; depression
- ♠ **lank** long and thin; Ex. Lank, gaunt, Abraham Lincoln
- ♠ **lap** take in food or drink with one's tongue; splash gently; Ex. waves lapping the shore; N: front area from the waist to the knees of a seated person
- ♠ **larceny** theft; Ex. petit larceny
- ♠ **larder** pantry; place where food is kept
- ♠ **largess** generous gift (given to people who do not have enough)
- **lascivious** lustful
- ♡ **lust** intense sexual desire; intense eagerness; V.
- ♠ **lassitude** languor; weariness; listlessness
- **latent** present but not yet noticeable or active; dormant; hidden; N. latency; CF. potential
- **lateral** of or coming from the side
- ♠ **latitude** freedom from narrow limitations
- **laud** praise; N. ADJ. laudable: praiseworthy; ADJ. laudatory: expressing praise
- ♠ **lavish** liberal; wasteful; generous or wasteful in giving or using; abundant; profuse; great; Ex. decorated lavishly; V. give in abundance
- ♠ **lax** careless; negligent; not paying enough attention; Ex. lax service
- ♠ **leaven** add leaven to; cause to rise or grow lighter; enliven; N: agent, such as yeast, that causes dough to rise (by fermentation); element that lightens or enlivens
- ♡ **enliven** make lively or spirited; animate
- **lechery** gross lewdness; lustfulness; ADJ. lecherous; N. lecher: lecherous man
- ♠ **lectern** reading desk or stand for a public speaker
- ♠ **leery** (of someone) suspicious; wary; cautious
- ♠ **leeway** room to move; margin; latitude; Ex. leeway for the deadline

- ♡ **margin** border; room; allowance beyond what is needed; Ex. margin of safety
- ♡ **marginal** of a margin; barely within a limit; Ex. marginal effect/writing ability
- **legacy** gift made by a will; something handed down from an ancestor
- **legend** explanatory list of symbols on a map
- ♠ **legerdemain** sleight(dexterity) of hand; CF. light of hand
- **leniency** mildness; permissiveness; ADJ. lenient: not severe in judgment or punishment
- ♡ **permissive** allowing much freedom; lenient; Ex. permissive society
- **leonine** like a lion
- **lethal** deadly
- **lethargic** drowsy; dull; N. lethargy: state of sluggishness and inactivity
- ♠ **levee** earthen or stone embankment to prevent flooding; CF. raise
- ♠ **levitate** rise and float in the air (especially by magical means); CF. light
- **levity** lack of seriousness or steadiness; frivolity; lightness of manner
- ♠ **levy** impose (a fine); collect (a payment); impose or collect (a tax); Ex. levy a tax on tobacco
- **lewd** lustful
- ♠ **lexicographer** compiler of a dictionary; CF. lexicography: work of compiling a dictionary
- ♠ **lexicon** dictionary
- ♠ **liability** drawback; handicap; debts; obligation; responsibility; condition of being liable; ADJ. liable: likely; responsible (for paying)
- **liaison** contact that keeps parties in communication; communication between groups; one that maintains communication; go-between; secret love affair; V. liaise: keep a connection
- **libel** defamatory written statement; act of writing something that smears a person's character; V. ADJ. libelous
- ♠ **libertine** debauched person; dissolute or licentious person; roué; CF. free
- ♡ **roué** lecherous man
- **libidinous** lustful
- ♠ **libido** psychic and emotional energy or urges behind human activity; sexual desire
- ♠ **libretto** text of an opera or oratorio; CF. book
- **licentious** amoral; lewd and lascivious; unrestrained
- ♡ **license** official or legal permission; latitude of action or speech; excessive freedom that causes harm or damage; V.
- ♠ **lien** legal claim or right on a property
- ♠ **ligneous** like wood

- ♠ **lilliputian** extremely small; CF. Lilliput in Gulliver's Travels
- ♠ **limber** flexible; supple; pliable; V.
- ♠ **limbo** region near heaven or hell where certain souls are kept; prison (slang); Ex. Purgatory and Limbo
- ♡ **abode** dwelling place; home
- ♡ **abide** dwell; abide by: comply with; put up with; tolerate; Ex. abide by the rules; Ex. I can't abide rude people.
- ♠ **limn** draw; outline; describe; CF. line ?
- ♠ **limpid** crystal clear
- **lineage** descent; ancestry
- ♠ **lineaments** features especially of the face; distinctive shape or contour of the face; CF. line
- ♡ **feature** distinctive part of the faces (as the eyes or mouth); features: overall appearance of the face; prominent or distinctive quality; prominent article; film; V: make prominent

- ♡ **linger** loiter or dawdle; be slow in leaving; delay going; continue or persist; be slow to disappear; Ex. The smell lingered for days.
- ♡ **persist** continue in existence; last; continue in a course of action in spite of opposition; Ex. persist in/with something; ADJ. persistent
- **linguistic** pertaining to language
- ♡ **lionize** treat (a person) as a celebrity
- ♡ **liquidate** settle accounts; pay off (a debt); clear up; eliminate; kill or abolish
- ♡ **list** tilt (as of a ship); lean over (to one side)
- **listless** lacking in spirit or energy; languid
- ♠ **litany** supplicatory prayer; prayer in which the priest calls out and the people replies in the same words
- ♠ **lithe** flexible; supple; CF. limber
- ♡ **willowy** flexible; pliant; slender; CF. willow
- ♠ **litigation** lawsuit; N. litigant: one party in a lawsuit; V. litigate
- ♠ **litotes** understatement for emphasis; Ex. "not bad(=pretty good)"
- ♡ **understate** state with less truth than seems warranted by the facts; Ex. He understated the seriousness of the crime; N. understatement; OP. overstate
- ♠ **livid** lead-colored; black and blue (as from a bruise); ashen; enraged; extremely angry
- ♠ **loath** reluctant; unwilling; disinclined; Ex. Romeo and Juliet were both loath for him to go.
- **loathe** detest; ADJ. loathsome: arousing loathing; offensive; Ex. loathsome smell
- ♠ **lode** metal-bearing vein(long deposit of an ore)
- **lofty** very high
- ♡ **loft** room or space under the roof; attic
- **log** record of a voyage or flight; record of day-to-day activities; section of a trunk; V.
- **loiter** hang about/around; stand idly about; linger
- ♠ **loll** lounge about
- ♡ **lounge** stand, sit, or lie in a lazy, relaxed way
- **longevity** long life; long duration
- ♠ **loom** appear or take shape (usually in an enlarged, indistinct, or distorted form); Ex. The shadow of the gallows loomed threateningly. N: apparatus for making thread into cloth
- ♡ **gallows** framework from which a noose is suspended (used for execution by hanging)
- ♡ **noose** loop formed in a rope
- ♠ **lope** gallop slowly
- **loquacious** talkative; N. loquacity

- ♠ **lout** clumsy person; ADJ. loutish; CF. from countrysides ?
- ♠ **low** moo; make the sound of a cow
- ♥ **lubricate** apply a lubricant to; N. lubricant: substance that reduces friction
- **lucid** easily understood; clear; intelligible; N. lucidity
- **lucrative** profitable; producing wealth
- ♠ **lucre** money; profit; Ex. filthy lucre
- ♥ **filth** dirty matter; ADJ. filthy
- ♠ **ludicrous** laughable; ridiculous; trifling
- ♠ **lugubrious** mournful; sorrowful
- ♠ **lull** moment of calm; period of reduced activity; Ex. a lull in the rain; V. cause to become less active; cause to sleep or rest; Ex. lull the opponents into a false sense of security; CF. lullaby
- ♠ **lumber** move heavily or clumsily; Ex. The bear lumbered through the woods; N: timber
- ♠ **lumen** unit of light energy (one candle's worth)
- ♠ **luminary** celebrity (in a specific field); dignitary; object that gives light (as a celestial body)
- ♥ **dignitary** person of high rank or position
- ♠ **luminous** shining (esp. in the dark); issuing light; Ex. luminous paint/road signs
- **lunar** pertaining to the moon
- ♥ **lunatic** insane; Ex. lunatic asylum
- ♠ **lurid** wild; sensational; graphic; gruesome; horrible; Ex. lurid details of the murder
- ♠ **lurk** stealthily lie in waiting; slink; exist unperceived
- ♥ **slink** move furtively; ADJ. slinky: stealthy; furtive; sneaky (as in ambush)
- ♠ **luscious** pleasing to taste or smell; delicious
- ♠ **luster** shine; gloss (of a polished surface)
- ♠ **lustrous** shining; brilliant; Ex. lustrous hair
- ♠ **luxuriant** abundant; growing healthily and in large amounts; excessively ornate; rich and splendid; fertile; Ex. luxuriant forests/prose; CF. luxurious, luxuriate
- ♠ **macabre** gruesome; grisly; ghastly; CF. of death
- ♥ **morgue** mortuary; place where bodies are kept before burial or cremation
- ♥ **cremate** incinerate (a corpse); N. crematory, crematorium
- ♠ **mace** ceremonial staff used as a symbol of authority; club-like medieval weapon
- ♠ **macerate** soften by soaking in liquid; waste away; Ex. macerate powdered wood to make paper
- ♠ **Machiavellian** crafty; double-dealing; of the political doctrine of Machiavelli, which holds that craft and deceit are justified in pursuing political power

- ♠ **machinations** evil schemes or plots; schemes or plots to achieve an evil end; V. machinate
- ♠ **maculated** spotted; stained; CF. immaculate
- ♠ **madrigal** pastoral song; song for several singers without instruments
- ♠ **maelstrom** violent whirlpool; violent or turbulent situation; CF. stream
- ♠ **magisterial** authoritative; imperious; commanding; of a magistrate; Ex. magisterial study of Roman law; Ex. magisterial manner
- ♥ **magistrate** official with power to administer the law
- **magnanimity** generosity; ADJ. magnanimous: generous
- ♠ **magnate** person of prominence or influence; powerful or influential person (in business or industry); Ex. oil magnate
- **magniloquent** boastful; pompous
- **magnitude** greatness (in size or extent); extent
- ♠ **maim** mutilate; injure lastingly; disable; cripple; Ex. maimed for life
- ♥ **mangle** tear or cut to pieces; mutilate or disfigure; Ex. badly mangled bodies
- **maladroit** clumsy; not skillful; awkward; bungling
- **malady** illness
- ♠ **malaise** uneasiness; vague feeling of ill health (without any particular pain or appearance of disease)
- ♠ **malapropism** comic misuse of a word; CF. Mrs. Malaprop
- ♥ **malapropos** inappropriate; ADV.
- **malcontent** person dissatisfied with existing state of affairs; discontented person; ADJ: discontented
- **malediction** curse
- **malefactor** evildoer; criminal
- ♥ **maleficent** doing evil; N. maleficence
- **malevolent** wishing evil; exhibiting ill will; N. malevolence
- ♠ **malfeasance** wrongdoing; misconduct (by a public official)
- **malicious** hateful; spiteful; expressing malice; N. malice: desire to harm others; spite
- **malign** speak evil of; bad-mouth(criticize spitefully); defame; ADJ: harmful; Ex. malign influence
- **malignant** tending to cause death; highly injurious; aggressively malevolent; Ex. malignant tumor
- **malingerer** one who feigns illness to escape duty; V. malingering: feign illness to avoid work
- ♠ **malleable** (of a metal) capable of being shaped by pounding(beating); pliable; (of someone) impressionable(easily influenced); easily controlled; tractable
- **malodorous** foul-smelling

- ♥ **compost** mixture of decaying organic matter used as fertilizer; V: put or make compost
- **mammal** vertebrate animal whose female suckles its young
- ♥ **vertebrate** having a backbone or spinal column; N: group of animals having a segmented spinal column
- ♥ **suckle** give or take milk at the breast or udder
- ♥ **nurse** suckle; take care of (as a nurse); bear in mind; Ex. nursing mother; Ex. nurse a hope/grudge against someone
- **mammoth** gigantic; enormous
- **manacle** restrain; handcuff; N.
- ♠ **mandate** order; charge; authoritative command; power to govern another country; power to given to a government; region under administration; V: give a mandate to; place under a mandate; Ex. mandated territory
- **mandatory** obligatory; compulsory; of a mandate
- ♠ **mangy** shabby; wretched; suffering from mange; of bad appearance
- ♥ **mange** skin disease (esp. of domestic animals) marked by loss of hair
- **maniacal** raging mad; insane; N. maniac: insane person; CF. mania: disorder of the mind; intense enthusiasm
- **manifest** evident; visible; obvious; V: show plainly
- ♠ **manifestation** outward demonstration; manifesting; indication of the presence of something; Ex. manifestation of his pronounced musical bent
- ♥ **pronounced** distinct; very noticeable; Ex. pronounced limp
- **manifesto** public declaration of principles; statement of policy
- ♠ **manifold** many in number or kind; numerous; varied
- ♠ **manipulate** operate with one's hands; control or play upon (people, forces, etc.) artfully; maneuver; Ex. how to manipulate publicity and men; ADJ. manipulative
- ♠ **mannered** affected; not natural; Ex. mannered way of speech
- ♥ **mannerism** distinctive behavioral trait; affected style in art (according to a set of styles)
- ♠ **manumit** emancipate; free from slavery or bondage
- **marital** pertaining to marriage
- ♠ **maritime** bordering on(adjacent to) the sea; nautical; of the ships or the sea; Ex. Maritime Provinces
- **marked** noticeable; targeted for vengeance or attack; Ex. marked improvement/man
- ♠ **marred** damaged; disfigured; V. mar: spoil; disfigure
- ♠ **marshal** put in order; guide ceremoniously to the correct place; Ex. marshal the children into the museum; N: military officer; official
- ♥ **enlist** (cause to) join the armed forces; obtain (help, sympathy, or support)
- ♠ **marsupial** one of a family of mammals that nurse their offspring in a pouch(pocket of skin or leather); CF. kangaroo, opossum, wombat
- **martial** warlike; of war; Ex. martial art/law
- ♥ **cadet** student at a military school
- ♠ **martinet** strict disciplinarian; person who demands total obedience to rules and orders; CF. Jean Martinet
- **martyr** one who voluntarily suffers death for his or her religion or cause; great sufferer; Ex. martyr to his rheumatism
- **masochist** person who enjoys his own pain; CF. masochism
- ♠ **masticate** chew
- **materialism** preoccupation with physical comforts and things; excessive regard for worldly concerns (rather than spiritual matters)
- **maternal** motherly; N. maternity: motherhood
- **matriarch** woman who rules a family or larger social group
- ♠ **matriculate** enroll (in college or graduate school); CF. matrix
- ♠ **matrix** point of origin; array of numbers or algebraic symbols; mold or die; Ex. the matrix of Western civilization
- ♠ **maudlin** effusively sentimental
- ♥ **sentimental** swayed by sentiment; appealing to the sentiments
- ♠ **maul** handle roughly; batter; injure by beating; Ex. mauled by his overexcited fans; N: heavy long-handled hammer

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- ♠ **mausoleum** monumental tomb; large stately tomb; CF. Mausolos
- ♠ **mauve** pale purple
- ♠ **maverick** rebel; nonconformist (in a group)
- ♠ **mawkish** mushy(sentimental) and gushy; icky-sticky sentimental; excessively and objectionably sentimental
- **maxim** proverb; truth pithily stated
- ♠ **mayhem** injury to body; crime of willfully maiming or crippling a person; violent disorder; Ex. mayhem in the zoo; CF. maim
- **meager** scanty; inadequate
- ♠ **mealymouthed** indirect in speech (when something unpleasant must be said); hypocritical; evasive
- ♠ **meander** wind or turn in its course; follow a winding or turning course; move aimlessly and idly
- ♠ **meddlesome** interfering; V. meddle: interfere
- **mediate** settle a dispute through the services of an outsider; act as an intermediary; produce by mediating; Ex. mediate a cease-fire
- ♡ **intermediary** intermediate; acting as a mediator; N: mediator; go-between
- **mediocre** ordinary; commonplace; neither good nor bad
- **meditation** reflection; thought; V. meditate
- **medium** element that is a creature's natural environment; nutrient setting in which microorganisms are cultivated; appropriate occupation or means of expression; channel of communication; compromise; middle position between extremes; intervening substance through which something else is transmitted
- ♠ **medley** mixture
- ♠ **meek** submissive; patient and long-suffering
- ♡ **suitor** man who is courting a woman
- ♠ **megalomania** mania for doing grandiose things; mental disorder characterized by delusions of wealth, power, or importance
- **melancholy** gloomy; morose; blue; N. ADJ. melancholic; CF. melancholia
- ♡ **blue** gloomy; depressed
- **melee** fight
- ♠ **mellifluous** (of words or a voice) sweetly or smoothly flowing; melodious; having a pleasant tune
- ♠ **memento** token; reminder of the past; keepsake; Ex. memento of your visit
- **memorialize** commemorate
- ♡ **memorial** something, such as a monument or holiday, intended to honor the memory of a person or event; ADJ: commemorative
- ♠ **menagerie** collection of wild animals on exhibition; zoo
- ♠ **mendacious** lying; habitually dishonest; N. mendacity

- ♠ **mendicant** beggar; ADJ: living as a beggar
- ♡ **alms** money or goods given to the poor
- ♠ **menial** suitable for servants; lowly; mean; N: someone who does menial work (esp. servant in a house)
- ♠ **mentor** counselor; teacher
- ♠ **mercantile** concerning trade or merchants
- **mercenary** motivated solely by money or gain; N.
- ♠ **mercurial** capricious; quick and changing; fickle; containing the element mercury; Ex. mercurial temper; CF. mood
- ♡ **quicksilver** mercury
- ♠ **meretricious** flashy; tawdry; attractive on the surface but of no real value; Ex. meretricious argument/jewel; CF. prostitute
- ♡ **vulgar** of the common people; deficient in refinement; not refined; coarse; Ex. vulgar display of wealth; N. vulgarity; crudely indecent word; CF. vulgarian: vulgar person; boor; lout
- ♠ **merger** combination (of two business corporations); act of merging
- ♠ **mesmerize** hypnotize; N. mesmerism; CF. Franz Mesmer
- ♠ **metallurgical** pertaining to the art of removing metals from ores; N. metallurgy: science that deals with extracting metals from ores
- **metamorphosis** change of form; Ex. metamorphosis of caterpillar to butterfly; V. metamorphose: change by metamorphosis
- **metaphor** implied comparison; CF. simile
- ♡ **soar** rise or fly high in the air; Ex. The rocket soared into the sky.
- **metaphysical** pertaining to speculative philosophy; of metaphysics; N. metaphysics: branch of philosophy that examines the nature of reality
- ♠ **mete** measure; distribute; administer; Ex. mete out justice/punishment
- **meteoric** like a meteor; swift; momentarily brilliant; Ex. meteoric rise to fame; N. meteor
- **methodical** systematic; N. method: systematic method of procedure
- **meticulous** excessively careful (with great attention to detail); painstaking; scrupulous
- **metropolis** large city
- ♠ **mettle** courage (to continue bravely in spite of difficulties); spirit; ADJ. mettlesome
- ♠ **miasma** swamp gas; heavy vaporous atmosphere often emanating from decaying matter; pervasive corrupting influence; noxious atmosphere or influence
- ♡ **swamp** wetland; marsh; V: flood; overwhelm; drench in with liquid
- **microcosm** small representative world; world in miniature; Ex. microcosm of English society

- ♥ **miniature** small model; small painting; ADJ: small
- **migrant** changing its habitat; wandering; Ex. migrant birds/workers; N: one that migrates
- **migratory** wandering; V. migrate: move from one region and settle in another; move periodically from one region to another
- ♠ **milieu** social environment; means of expression; Ex. feel out of one's milieu; Ex. His proper milieu is watercolor.
- **militant** combative; bellicose; N.
- ♠ **militate** work against; Ex. militate against the chances of promotion; CF. serve as a soldier
- ♥ **militia** army composed of ordinary citizens rather than professional soldiers
- **millennium** thousand-year period (as in the New Testament); hoped-for period of happiness and prosperity
- **mimicry** imitation
- ♥ **mime** pantomime(act without dialogue); mimicry; mimer; V: mimic; pantomime
- ♠ **minatory** menacing; threatening
- ♠ **mincing** affectedly dainty(delicate); V. mince: cut (esp. meat) into very small pieces; walk with exaggerated primness; walk in an unnatural way, taking little short steps; Ex. The actor minced across the stage; CF. mincemeat; CF. mincer
- ♥ **dainty** delicate; delicately beautiful; fastidious; not easy to please; Ex. dainty movement/dress
- ♥ **exquisite** delicate; very finely made; extremely beautiful; Ex. exquisite piece of jewelry
- ♥ **choice** delicate; of very fine quality
- ♠ **minion** servile dependent; obsequious follower
- ♠ **minuscule(miniscule)** extremely small
- **minute** extremely small; CF. minutes: official record of the proceedings at a meeting
- ♠ **minutiae** petty or trivial details; CF. minutia
- **mirage** unreal reflection; optical illusion
- ♠ **mire** entangle; stick in swampy ground; stick or sink in mire; N: bog; deep mud; Ex. sucked deeper into the mire
- ♠ **mirth** merriment; laughter
- ♠ **misadventure** mischance; ill luck; Ex. death by misadventure
- **misanthrope** one who hates mankind; misanthropist
- ♥ **vile** despicable; unpleasant; disgusting; Ex. vile slander
- **misapprehension** error; misunderstanding; V. misapprehend
- **miscellany** mixture of writings on various subjects; collection of various items
- ♥ **miscellaneous** made up of a variety of parts
- ♠ **mischance** ill luck
- **misconstrue** interpret incorrectly; misinterpret; misjudge
- ♠ **miscreant** wretch; wrongdoer; villain; Ex. kindness to the miscreant; CF. believe
- ♥ **wretch** miserable person; bad or despicable person; ADJ. wretched: miserable; bad; contemptible; vile
- **misdeemeanor** minor crime; misdeed; wrongdoing
- ♥ **misconduct** immoral behavior; bad management; V.
- **miserly** stingy; mean
- ♠ **misgivings** doubts
- ♠ **mishap** unfortunate accident
- ♠ **misnomer** wrong or improper name; incorrect designation

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- **misogamy** hatred of marriage
- **misogynist** hater of woman; CF. misogyny
- **missile** object to be thrown or projected
- ♠ **missive** letter; written statement; CF. sent
- ♠ **mite** very small object or insect-like creature; small coin
- **mitigate** appease; moderate; make or become less in force or intensity
- ♠ **mnemonic** pertaining to memory; assisting the memory; N: device, such as as formula or rhyme, used as a mnemonic aid
- **mobile** movable; not fixed; N. mobility
- ♠ **mock** ridicule; deride; imitate often in derision
- **mode** prevailing style; current fashion; manner; way of doing something; Ex. in the latest mode; Ex. simple mode of life
- ♠ **modicum** limited quantity; small amount; Ex. He does not have a modicum of sense; CF. moderate
- ♠ **modish** fashionable; conforming to the current fashion
- ♠ **modulate** tone down in intensity; change the intensity or tone of; regulate; change from one musical key to another; Ex. modulate from E to G
- ♠ **mogul** powerful person; Ex. oil moguls; CF. Mogol, Moghul; CF. Mongolian
- **molecule** the smallest particle (one or more atoms) of a substance that has all the properties of that substance
- ♠ **mollify** soothe an angry person
- ♠ **mollycoddle** pamper; coddle; baby; indulge excessively
- ♠ **molt(moult)** periodically shed or cast off hairs or feathers (for replacement by a new growth)
- ♠ **molten** melted; Ex. molten lava
- **momentous** very important; N. moment; CF. momentary
- **momentum** quantity of motion of a moving body; impetus; moving force
- **monarchy** government under a single ruler
- **monastic** related to monks or monasteries; removed from worldly concerns
- **monetary** pertaining to money
- **monochromatic** having only one color
- ♡ **monochrome** painting in only one color; ADJ.
- ♡ **monogram** design composed of one or more initials of a name; V.
- ♡ **monograph** scholarly article
- ♠ **monolithic** solidly uniform; unchangeable; unyielding; N. monolith: large block of stone
- **monotheism** belief in one God
- **monotony** sameness leading to boredom; monotonousness; ADJ. monotonous; CF. monotone
- ♠ **monumental** massive; impressively large; built as a monument
- ♠ **moodiness** fits of depression or gloom; ADJ. moody: given to changeable moods; subject to periods of depression; gloomy CF. mood: state of mind or emotion
- ♠ **moratorium** legal delay of payment or action; Ex. declare moratorium on the building of new houses
- ♠ **morbid** given to unwholesome or unhealthy thought; moody; characteristic of disease; Ex. morbid curiosity; N. morbidity; CF. disease
- ♠ **mordant** biting; sarcastic; stinging; (apprec.) incisive; cutting; Ex. mordant pen/wit
- ♠ **mores** conventions; moral standards; moral customs
- ♠ **moribund** dying; at the point of death; CF. death
- ♠ **morose** ill-humored; sullen; sullenly melancholy
- ♠ **mortician** undertaker; CF. death
- ♡ **undertaker** funeral director; one whose business is to arrange burials
- ♠ **mortify** humiliate by embarrassing excessively; shame; punish the flesh; discipline (one's body) by self-denial; Ex. mortified by her blunder; Ex. mortify the flesh; CF. cause to die
- **mosaic** picture made of small colorful inlaid tiles; ADJ.
- ♠ **mote** small speck (esp. of dust)
- ♡ **speck** small piece or mark; Ex. speck of dust in the eye
- ♠ **motif** theme; recurrent thematic element in a musical or literary work; single or repeated pattern; figure
- ♠ **motility** ability to move spontaneously; ADJ. motile: moving spontaneously
- ♠ **motley** multi-colored (as of a garment worn by a jester); mixed; heterogeneous; CF. jester: one who jests (as a paid fool at medieval courts)
- ♡ **motto** brief statement used to express a principle
- ♠ **mottled** blotched in coloring; spotted; Ex. mottled face; V. mottle: mark with blotches of different colors
- ♡ **blotch** spot; blot; CF. blot+botch
- ♡ **blemish** mar; spoil the beauty or perfection of; N: flaw or defect (that spoils perfection); Ex. blemishes in the crystal; CF. unblemished
- ♠ **mountebank** charlatan; boastful pretender
- ♡ **peddle** travel about selling (wares); CF. foot
- ♠ **muddle** confuse; mix up confusedly; N: state of confusion
- ♠ **muggy** (of weather) warm and damp
- ♠ **mulct** defraud a person of something; swindle; Ex. mulct the boy of his legacy
- ♠ **multifarious** varied; greatly diversified; Ex. multifarious activities
- **multiform** having many forms
- **multilingual** having many languages; fluent in several languages

- **multiplicity** state of being numerous or multiple; large number; Ex. multiplicity of details; ADJ. multiple: of more than one element
- ♠ **mundane** worldly as opposed to spiritual; everyday; of the ordinary; Ex. mundane existence; CF. world
- ♠ **munificent** very generous in giving; Ex. munificent benefactor; N. munificence
- ♠ **mural** wall painting
- ♠ **murky** dark and gloomy; thick with fog; vague; Ex. murky night/fog; N. murk: partial or complete darkness; gloom
- ♠ **muse** ponder at length; N: source of inspiration (esp. of a poet)
- ♠ **musky** having the odor of musk; N. musk: odorous substance secreted by an Asian deer
- ♠ **muster** gather; assemble (troops); Ex. muster up one's strength for the ordeal; N.
- ♠ **musty** stale (in odor or taste); spoiled by age; CF. moist
- **mutability** ability to change in form; fickleness; ADJ. mutable: able to change; fickle; CF. mutate; CF. mutant
- **muted** silent; muffled; toned down; Ex. muted traffic noise

- ♡ **mute** silent; without speech; not pronounced; unable to speak; N: one who is incapable of speech; V: soften the sound, color, shade of
- ♠ **mutilate** maim; injure lastingly; deprive of a limb or an essential part
- ♠ **mutinous** unruly; rebellious; Ex. mutinous teenagers; N. mutiny: open rebellion; CF. mutineer
- ♠ **myopic** nearsighted; lacking foresight; N. myopia
- ♠ **myriad** very large number; ADJ. CF. ten thousand
- ♠ **nadir** lowest point; point on the celestial sphere diametrically opposite the zenith
- **naiveté(naivety)** quality of being unsophisticated; simplicity; artlessness; gullibility; ADJ. naive(naïve): ingenuous; lacking worldliness; simple; credulous
- **narcissist** conceited person; N. narcissism; CF. narcissus
- **narrative** related to telling a story; N: narrated account; story; V. narrate: tell (a story); CF. narration
- ♠ **nascent** incipient; coming into being or existence; Ex. nascent ability in music

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□ **natation** swimming

♠ **natty** neatly or smartly dressed; dapper; smart; Ex. natty dresser

♡ **smart** intelligent; quick and energetic; fashionable; Ex. smart pace/restaurant; V: cause or feel a sharp pain; N: smarting pain

□ **nauseate** cause to become sick; fill with disgust; fill nausea

♡ **nausea** feeling of sickness and desire to vomit; disgust; CF. seasickness

♡ **nauseous** causing nausea; feeling nausea

□ **nautical** pertaining to ships or navigation

♠ **navigable** (of a body of water) wide and deep enough to allow ships to pass through; (of a ship or aircraft) able to be steered

♠ **nebulous** vague; hazy; cloudy; of a nebula; Ex. nebulous proposal

♡ **nebula** diffuse mass of interstellar dust or gas; galaxy

♠ **necromancy** black magic; sorcery; dealings with the dead; art that professes to communicate with the spirits of the dead so as to predict the future; CF. necromancer; CF. necro+divination; CF. necro-: death; Ex. necropolis

♠ **nefarious** very wicked

□ **negate** cancel out; nullify; cause to have no effect; deny; N. negation

□ **negligence** neglect; failure to take reasonable care; ADJ. negligent: neglectful; lax; not taking enough care

□ **negligible** so small, trifling, or unimportant as to be easily disregarded

□ **nemesis** someone seeking revenge; source of downfall or ruin; CF. Nemesis

♠ **neologism** new or newly coined word or phrase

♠ **neophyte** recent convert; new member of a religious group; beginner; CF. plant

♠ **nepotism** favoritism (to a relative); CF. nephew

♡ **favoritism** display of partiality toward a favored person

♠ **nether** lower; Ex. nether garments/regions

♠ **nettle** irritate; annoy; vex; ADJ. nettlesome

♠ **nexus** connection

♠ **nib** beak(bill); pen point

♠ **nicety** precision; accuracy; minute distinction or difference; Ex. to a nicety: exactly; precisely; Ex. distinguish between niceties

♠ **niggardly** meanly stingy; parsimonious; N. niggard: stingy person

♠ **niggle** spend too much time on minor points (esp. when finding fault); find fault; Ex. niggle over details; ADJ. nigging

♠ **nihilist** one who considers traditional beliefs to be groundless and existence meaningless; absolute skeptic; revolutionary terrorist; CF. nihilism: belief that nothing has meaning or value; belief that destruction of existing political or social institutions is necessary for future improvement

♠ **nip** snip off; stop something's growth or development; bite; make numb with cold; Ex. nip the plan; Ex. A guard dog nipped the postman; Ex. fingers nipped by the extreme chill

♡ **snip** short quick cut with scissors; V: cut with scissors

♡ **pinch** squeeze between the thumb and a finger, or other edges; Ex. I had to pinch myself to make sure I wasn't dreaming. N: amount that can be held between the thumb and a finger

♠ **nirvana** in Buddhist teachings, the ideal state in which the individual loses himself in the attainment of an impersonal beatitude

♡ **impersonal** not being a person; not showing personal feelings; Ex. impersonal force/manner/organization

□ **nocturnal** done or active at night; Ex. nocturnal animals/raids; CF. nocturne

♠ **noisome** foul smelling; very unpleasant; unwholesome

□ **nomadic** wandering; N. nomad: tribe who migrates from place to place

□ **nomenclature** terminology(system of specialized words); system of names or naming things

□ **nominal** in name only; of a name; trifling; (of a sum of money) very small; CF. nominate: propose as a candidate; appoint

♠ **nonchalance** indifference; lack of concern; composure; ADJ. nonchalant: unconcerned; cool; indifferent; Ex. nonchalant attitude to his debts

□ **noncommittal** neutral; refusing commitment to a particular opinion; unpledged; undecided

♠ **nondescript** undistinctive; ordinary; ordinary-looking; Ex. nondescript fellow in a crowd

□ **nonentity** person of no importance; nonexistence

♠ **nonplus** put at a loss; bring to a halt by confusion; perplex; CF. no more

□ **nostalgia** homesickness; longing for the past; Ex. nostalgia for the clothes of 1920s; ADJ. nostalgic

♠ **nostrum** questionable medicine; quack medicine; CF. our (remedy)

□ **notable** conspicuous; worthy of note; remarkable; important; distinguished; noted

□ **notoriety** disrepute; ill fame

♡ **nova** star that suddenly becomes much brighter and then returns to its original brightness

♠ **novelty** something new; newness; ADJ. novel: new; original

□ **novice** beginner

□ **noxious** harmful; CF. obnoxious

- ♠ **nuance** shade of slight difference in meaning or color; subtle distinction
- ♡ **shade** slight difference in degree; nuance; degree of color; Ex. shades of meaning/grey
- ♡ **gradation** series of gradual stages; degree in such a progression
- ♠ **nubile** marriageable; of marriageable age; CF. connubial
- ♠ **nugatory** worthless; futile
- **nullify** make invalid; make null; invalidate
- ♠ **numismatist** person who collects coins; N. numismatics: study or collection of money, coins, and medals
- ♠ **nuptial** related to marriage or the wedding ceremony; N. nuptials: wedding ceremony
- ♠ **nurture** nourish; feed; educate; rear; care for while it is growing or developing; foster; cultivate; N: something that nourishes; rearing
- ♠ **nutrient** nourishing substance; ADJ: providing nourishment
- ♡ **nutrition** process of nourishing or being nourished; CF. malnutrition
- ♡ **nutritious** providing nourishment
- ♡ **nourish** provide with food necessary for life and growth
- ♡ **nourishment** something that nourishes; food
- ♠ **oaf** stupid awkward person; CF. elf
- **obdurate** stubborn; refusing to change one's belief
- **obeisance** bow (to show respect and obedience)
- **obelisk** tall column tapering(becoming gradually narrower toward the end) and ending in a pyramid
- **obese** excessively fat; N. obesity
- ♠ **obfuscate** confuse; muddle; cause confusion; make needlessly complex; make so confused as to be difficult to understand
- ♠ **obituary** death notice (esp. in a newspaper); ADJ.
- **objective** not influenced by emotions; fair; N: goal; aim
- **obligatory** binding; required; compulsory; V. oblige: constrain; make grateful; do a favor; accommodate
- **oblique** indirect; slanting (deviating from the perpendicular or from a straight line); Ex. oblique reference
- **obliterate** destroy completely; wipe out; Ex. obliterate the village
- **oblivion** obscurity; condition of being completely forgotten; forgetfulness
- ♠ **oblivious** inattentive or unmindful; unaware; wholly absorbed; forgetful(having the habit of forgetting)
- **obloquy** slander; disgrace; infamy
- ♠ **obnoxious** offensive; disagreeable; Ex. obnoxious smell
- **obscure** dark; vague; unclear; not well known; Ex. obscure meaning/village; V: darken; cover; make unclear; Ex. obscure the moon/meaning
- **obsequious** slavishly attentive; servile; full of servile compliance; sycophantic
- ♡ **slavish** of or like a slave; servile; showing no originality; copied very closely; Ex. slavish devotion/copy of the original
- **obsequy** funeral ceremony
- **obsessive** related to thinking about something constantly; of an obsession; preoccupying; N. obsession: compulsive preoccupation with a fixed idea; compulsive idea; V. obsess: preoccupy the mind of excessively
- **obsidian** black volcanic rock
- ♡ **scion** detached plant shoot used in grafting; descendant

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- **obsolete** outmoded; no longer used
- **obstetrician** physician specializing in delivery (assisting in giving birth) of babies; N. obstetrics; CF. midwife
- **obstinate** stubborn; hard to control or treat; Ex. obstinate cough; N. obstinacy
- **obstreperous** boisterous; noisy and uncontrollable
- ♠ **obtrude** push (oneself or one's ideas) forward or intrude; impose (oneself or one's ideas) on others; butt in; stick out or extrude; thrust out; Ex. obtrude A on B; ADJ. obtrusive; N. obtrusion; CF. unobtrusive
- **obtuse** blunt; not sharp; stupid; slow in understanding
- **obviate** make unnecessary; get rid of; Ex. obviate the need

- **Occident** the West
- ♠ **occlude** shut; close; obstruct; Ex. A blood clot occluded an artery.
- **occult** mysterious; secret; supernatural; beyond human comprehension; CF. mysterious to human ?; OP. bare
- **oculist** physician who specializes in treatment of the eyes
- ♠ **odious** arousing strong dislike; hateful (causing hatred); vile

- ♠ **odium** detestation; quality of being odious; hatefulness; disrepute (resulting from hateful conduct)
- ♠ **odoriferous** giving off an odor
- **odorous** having an odor
- ♠ **odyssey** long, eventful, adventurous journey
- **offensive** attacking; insulting; distasteful; V. offend: violate; hurt the feelings of; N. offense: offending; violating of a moral or social code; crime; attack; Ex. first offense
- **offhand** casual; done without prior thought or preparation

- ♠ **officious** meddlesome; excessively pushy in offering one's services; overly eager in offering unwanted services or advices; Ex. officious bellboy
- ♡ **pushy** disagreeably aggressive
- ♠ **ogle** look at amorously; make eyes at; Ex. old men ogling young girls
- ♠ **olfactory** concerning the sense of smell
- **oligarchy** government by a privileged few
- **ominous** threatening; of an evil omen
- ♡ **threat** sign or warning (of coming danger); Ex. threat of rain; V. express a threat; give warning of (something bad); Ex. The cloud threatens rain.
- **omnipotent** all-powerful; having unlimited power
- **omnipresent** universally present; ubiquitous
- **omniscient** all-knowing
- **omnivorous** eating both plant and animal food; devouring everything

- ♠ **onerous** burdensome
- ♠ **onomatopoeia** words formed in imitation of natural sounds
- ♡ **rustle** make slight sounds like silk moving or being rubbed together
- **onslaught** vicious assault; fierce attack; Ex. unexpected onslaught of the enemy
- ♡ **slaughter** killing of animals for food; massacre; V: butcher (animals) for food; kill in large numbers
- ♠ **onus** burden; responsibility
- ♡ **spare** give; use; refrain from harming; save from experiencing; exempt; Ex. spare me 5 minutes; Ex. Take this money and spare my life; Ex. The emperor was spared the onus; ADJ: kept in reserve; free for other use; unoccupied; Ex. spare time
- ♠ **opalescent** iridescent; lustrous; like an opal; N. opalescence

- **opaque** dark; not transparent; N. opacity
- **opiate** medicine to induce sleep or deaden pain; something that relieves emotions or causes inaction; sleep-producing drug containing opium
- **opportune** timely; well-chosen
- **opportunist** individual who sacrifices principles for expediency by taking advantage of circumstances; N. opportunism

- ♠ **opprobrium** infamy; disgrace arising from shameful conduct; vilification (slander); scorn; contempt; Ex. opprobrium hurled against him; ADJ. opprobrious: expressing contempt; shameful or infamous
- **optician** maker and seller of eyeglasses
- **optimist** person who looks on the bright side; N. optimism
- **optimum** most favorable; optimal; N: most favorable condition
- **optional** not compulsory; left to one's choice; N. option: act of choosing; choice; freedom or power to choose; something available as a choice; Ex. have no option; Ex. two options
- **optometrist** one who fits glasses to remedy visual defects
- **opulence** extreme wealth; luxuriousness; abundance; ADJ. opulent: possessing great wealth; abundant
- ♠ **opus** work (esp. musical composition); Ex. magnum opus: masterpiece; CF. opera
- ♠ **oracular** of an oracle; prophetic; uttered as if with divine authority; mysterious or ambiguous; hard to understand; N. oracle: wiser person; prophecy made by an oracle
- **orator** public speaker
- **oratorio** dramatic poem set to music; long musical work with singing but without acting; CF. cantata
- ♠ **ordain** decree or command; grant holy orders; predestine; install as a minister, priest, or rabbi; N. ordainment; CF. ordination

- **ordeal** severe trial or affliction; difficult experience; trial(test of patience or endurance); affliction
- **ordinance** decree; authoritative order
- ♠ **ordination** ceremony conferring holy orders; ceremony of ordaining a priest
- ♠ **orgy** wild drunken revelry; unrestrained indulgence in an activity; Ex. orgy of shopping
- **orient** get one's bearings; adjust; make familiar with a situation; orientate
- **orientation** act of finding oneself in society; orienting
- ♠ **orifice** mouthlike opening; small opening (esp. to a cavern or passage of the body); CF. mouth
- **ornate** excessively or elaborately decorated
- ♠ **ornithologist** scientific student of birds; N. ornithology: scientific study of birds
- **orthodox** traditional; (of someone) conservative in belief; adhering to an established doctrine
- ♠ **orthography** correct spelling; CF. ortho-: straight; correct; Ex. orthodontics
- **oscillate** vibrate pendulumlike; waver
- ♠ **osseous** made of bone; bony
- ♠ **ossify** change or harden into bone; become hard and unchanging in one's ideas
- **ostensible** apparent; appearing as such; professed(pretended); pretended; Ex. ostensible purpose of the expedition
- ♥ **apparent** evident; easily seen or understood; appearing as such; Ex. apparent improvement
- ♠ **ostentatious** showy; trying to attract attention; pretentious; N. ostentation: showy display
- ♠ **ostracize** banish from a group; exclude from public favor; ban; Ex. His friends ostracized him. N. ostracism
- ♥ **blackball** vote against (an applicant); ostracize; N: negative vote
- ♠ **oust** expel; drive out; force out; N. ouster: ousting
- **outlandish** bizzare; peculiar; unconventional
- **outmoded** no longer in fashion or use; no longer stylish; old-fashioned
- ♠ **outskirts** fringes; outer borders (as of a city); Ex. outskirts of Boston
- **outspoken** candid; blunt
- ♥ **blunt** having a dull edge; abrupt and frank in speech or manner; brusque; V: make or become blunt
- ♠ **outstrip** outrun; surpass; outdo
- **outwit** outsmart; defeat by behaving more cleverly
- ♠ **ovation** enthusiastic applause
- **overbearing** bossy; domineering and arrogant; decisively important; Ex. overbearing manner/importance; V. overbear: dominate
- **overt** open to view; public; not secret; CF. covert
- ♠ **overweening** arrogant; presumptuous

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- ♠ **overwrought** nervous or excited; extremely agitated; hysterical; wrought-up; CF. wrought: made or done
- ♥ **hysteria** excessive or uncontrollable excitement; N. hysteric: person suffering from hysteria; CF. hysterics: attack of hysteria
- **ovoid** egg-shaped; CF. ovum; CF. ovulate
- **pachyderm** thick-skinned animal
- **pacifist** one opposed to force; antimilitarist; ADJ. N. pacifism: opposition to war as a means of resolving disputes
- **pacify** soothe; make calm or quiet; subdue; bring peace to
- ♠ **paean** song of praise or joy; Ex. paeans celebrating the victory
- ♠ **painstaking** taking pains; showing hard work; taking great care; very careful and thorough
- ♠ **palatable** agreeable; pleasing to the taste
- ♠ **palate** roof of the mouth; sense of the taste
- ♠ **palatial** of or suitable for a palace; magnificent
- ♠ **paleontology** study of prehistoric life or fossils; CF. paleo-: ancient or prehistoric; Ex. paleography: study of ancient written documents
- **palette** board on which painter mixes pigments(coloring matters)
- ♠ **palimpsest** parchment or piece of writing material used for second time after original writing has been erased
- ♥ **parchment** writing material made from the skin of a sheep or goat
- ♠ **pall** become boring; grow tiresome
- ♠ **pallet** small poor bed; Ex. straw pallet
- ♠ **palliate** ease pain (without curing); make less severe or offensive (a crime or illness)
- ♠ **pallid** pale; wan; Ex. pallid complexion
- **palpable** tangible; (of something bad) easily perceptible; obvious; Ex. palpable blunder
- ♠ **palpitate** throb; beat rapidly; flutter; tremble; Ex. Her heart began to palpitate.
- ♥ **throb** (of a heart or machine) beat rapidly or violently; N. Ex. hearthrob: heartbeat; sweetheart
- ♠ **paltry** insignificant; petty; trifling; contemptible; Ex. paltry sum; CF. trash
- ♠ **pan** criticize harshly
- **panacea** cure-all; remedy for all diseases
- ♠ **panache** flair; manner of doing things without any difficulty (causing admiration); flamboyance; bunch of feathers (on a helmet); Ex. with great panache; CF.
- **pandemic** widespread; affecting the majority of people; N. pandemic disease; CF. all people
- **pandemonium** wild tumult(commotion); wild noisy disorder; CF. Paradise Lost

- ♠ **pander** cater to (the low desires of others)
- ♥ **cater** provide food and drink (for); cater to: try to satisfy (desires of a bad kind)
- ♠ **panegyric** formal praise; encomium; Ex. I don't deserve such panegyrics.
- **panoramic** denoting an unobstructed and comprehensive view; N. panorama: unbroken view of a wide area
- **pantomime** acting without dialogue; V.
- **papyrus** ancient paper made from stem of papyrus plant
- ♠ **parable** short simple story teaching a moral
- **paradigm** model; example that serves as a model; pattern; list of all the inflectional forms of a word
- **paradox** something apparently contradictory in nature (that may nonetheless be true); statement that looks false but is actually correct
- **paragon** model of perfection; Ex. paragon of virtue
- **parallelism** state of being parallel; similarity; analogy
- ♥ **parallel** similar; analogous; corresponding; N: parallel line; person or thing that is parallel (to another); similarity; Ex. know of no parallel to the case; Ex. without parallel; V: be similar to; make parallel; Ex. Your experience parallels mine; CF. unparalleled
- ♠ **parameter** limit; independent variable; Ex. parameters of the problem; Ex. within the parameters of the budget
- **paramount** foremost in importance; supreme; CF. para-: beyond; above; Ex. paranormal
- **paramour** illicit lover
- ♥ **inamorata** woman whom a man loves
- **paranoia** psychosis marked by delusions of grandeur or persecution; N: ADJ: paranoid, paranoiac
- **paraphernalia** equipment; odds and ends used in a particular activity; personal belongings; Ex. photographic paraphernalia; CF. married woman's property exclusive of her dowry
- ♥ **dowry** money or property brought by a bride to her husband at marriage
- **paraphrase** restate a passage in one's own words while retaining thought of author; N: restatement of a text in other words
- **parasite** animal or plant living on another; toady; sycophant; CF. para-: beside
- ♥ **infest** inhabit in numbers large enough to be harmful; Ex. Mice infested the house; Ex. shark-infested waters
- ♠ **parched** extremely dry; very thirsty; V. parch: make or become extremely dry (by exposure to heat)
- ♠ **pariah** social outcast; Ex. Mariah the pariah
- ♥ **outcast** one that has been excluded from a society; ADJ.
- **parity** equality; close resemblance; CF. disparate
- ♠ **parlance** language; manner of speaking; idiom; Ex. in legal/common parlance
- ♠ **parley** conference (between opponents); CF. speak

- ♠ **parochial** narrow in scope or outlook; provincial; related to parishes
- ♥ **parish** area in the care of a single priest and served by one main church
- ♥ **outlook** point of view; view from a particular place; expectation for the future; prospect; Ex. outlook on life; Ex. pleasing outlook; Ex. weather outlook
- **parody** humorous imitation; spoof; takeoff; travesty; V.
- ♥ **spoof** parody
- ♥ **takeoff** burlesque; act of leaving the ground
- **paroxysm** fit or attack of pain, laughter, rage; sudden outburst
- ♠ **parquet** floor made of wood strips inlaid in a mosaic like matter; CF. strip: long narrow piece
- **parry** ward off a blow; deflect; Ex. He parried the unwelcome question very skillfully; N. CF.
- ♥ **ward** administrative division of a city; division in a hospital or prison; incompetent person placed under the protection of a guardian; V: guard; ward off: avert
- **parsimony** stinginess; excessive frugality; ADJ. parsimonious
- **partial** incomplete; favoring one side over another; having a liking for something
- **partiality** state of being partial; inclination; favorable bias; special fondness; preference
- ♠ **partisan** one-sided; prejudiced; committed to a party (with dislike of any others); N: strong supporter of a party; guerrilla
- ♥ **parvenu** upstart; newly rich person
- **partition** divide into parts
- ♠ **passé** old-fashioned; past the prime
- **passive** not active; acted upon; receiving an action without acting in return; accepting without resistance
- ♠ **pastiche** imitation of another's style in musical composition or in writing; work of art openly imitating the works of other artists
- **pastoral** rural; of rural life; idyllic; of a pastor
- **patent** obvious; easily seen; open for the public to read; of or protected by a patent; Ex. patent to everyone; N.
- **pathetic** causing sadness, compassion, pity; touching
- ♥ **touching** causing a feeling of pity or sympathy; pathetic; V. touch: cause to feel pity or sympathy; ADJ. touched
- **pathological** pertaining to disease; N. pathology: study of disease
- ♠ **pathos** tender sorrow; pity; quality in art or literature that produces these feelings; Ex. pathos that runs through the novel
- ♠ **patina** green crust on old bronze works or copper; tone slowly taken by varnished painting
- ♥ **varnish** paint used to coat a surface with a glossy film; glossy coating produced by using this substance; Ex. nail varnish; V.

- ♠ **patois** local or provincial dialect
- **patriarch** father and ruler of a family or tribe
- ♠ **patrician** noble; aristocratic; N: person of high rank; aristocrat; CF. member of the governing classes in ancient Rome; CF. plebian
- **patronize** support; act superior toward; treat in a condescending manner; be a customer of; N. patron: one that supports; regular customer; N. patronage; CF. boycott
- **paucity** scarcity; dearth
- **pauper** very poor person
- ♠ **peccadillo** slight offense or fault; CF. sin
- ♥ **swipe** hit with a sweeping motion; N.

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- **pecuniary** pertaining to money
- **pedagogue** teacher; CF. child leader
- **pedagogy** teaching; art of education
- ♠ **pedant** scholar who overemphasizes book learning, trivial details of learning, or technicalities
- ♠ **pedantic** bookish; showing off learning; marked by an excessive ostentatious concern for book learning; N. pedantry
- ♡ **bookish** fond of books and reading
- ♡ **studious** given to diligent study
- ♠ **pedestrian** ordinary; dull; unimaginative(lacking in imagination); going on foot; Ex. pedestrian prose; N.
- ♡ **precinct** division of a city for election or police purposes; precincts: space that surrounds a building; Ex. precincts of the college
- ♡ **pedigree** ancestry; lineage
- **pediatrician** physician specializing in children's diseases; N. pediatrics
- **peerless** having no equal; incomparable
- ♡ **peer** one who has equal standing with another; nobleman; V: look intently; N. peerage; CF. peeress
- ♠ **pejorative** (of a word or phrase) suggesting that someone is of little value; negative in connotation; having a belittling effect; Ex. Many women now considers "housewife" a pejorative expression, because it patronized them.
- ♠ **pell-mell** in confusion; disorderly; Ex. dash pell-mell
- ♠ **pellucid** transparent; limpid(crystal clear); clear in meaning; easy to understand
- ♠ **penance** self-imposed punishment for sin; Ex. do penance for one's sins; CF. penitent
- ♠ **penchant** strong inclination; strong liking (esp. for something that is disapproved of by other people); Ex. penchant for fast cars
- **pendant(pendent)** hanging down from something; pending; N: ornament (hanging from a necklace etc.)
- ♡ **pending** not yet decided or settled; impending; Ex. pending decision; PREP. while awaiting; until; Ex. delay the decision pending his return
- ♠ **pendulous** hanging; suspended
- ♡ **suspend** cause to stop for a period; interrupt; hold in abeyance; defer; hang from above; exclude for a period from a position; Ex. suspended state; Ex. suspend judgment; Ex. suspended from the team; N. suspension
- ♡ **suspense** state of being undecided; anxiety or apprehension resulting from uncertainty
- **penitent** repentant; N.
- ♠ **pensive** dreamily or deeply thoughtful; sadly thoughtful; thoughtful with a hint of sadness; contemplative; CF. think over

- ♠ **penumbra** partial shadow (in an eclipse); CF. almost shadow
- **penury** extreme poverty; stinginess; ADJ. penurious: very poor; stingy
- ♠ **peon** landless agricultural worker; bond servant; menial worker; N. peonage
- **perceptive** insightful; showing a good ability at perceiving and understanding; aware; wise; of perception
- ♠ **percussion** striking one object against another sharply; Ex. percussion instrument; N: striking together of two bodies; sound caused by percussion
- ♠ **perdition** damnation; complete ruin; hell
- ♡ **damn** condemn; criticize severely; condemn to everlasting punishment; doom; bring to ruin; N. damnation
- ♡ **doom** condemnation to a severe penalty; ruin; fate (esp. a tragic or ruinous one); V.
- **peregrination** journey; V. peregrinate
- ♠ **peremptory** demanding and leaving no choice; imperative; Ex. peremptory decree/knock
- **perennial** something long-lasting; perennial plant; ADJ: lasting through the year or many years; lasting for a long time; enduring
- **perfidious** treacherous; disloyal; N. perfidy: treachery
- **perforate** pierce; put a hole through
- **perfunctory** done routinely and with little care; superficial; not thorough; lacking interest, care, or enthusiasm; Ex. perfunctory kiss
- **perigee** point of moon's orbit when it is nearest the earth; CF. apogee
- **perimeter** outer boundary; length of the outer boundary; circumference
- ♡ **bound** leap or spring; limit or confine; constitute the limit of; Ex. bounded by Canada; N: leap or jumping; boundary; ADJ: certain; having a duty to do something (legally or morally); confined by bonds; Ex. We are bound to be late; Ex. I am bound to say my opinion; CF. bounce, rebound
- ♠ **peripatetic** walking about from place to place (to work); moving; Ex. peripatetic school of philosophy
- ♠ **peripheral** of a periphery; marginal; outer; of minor importance; not central; Ex. peripheral nerve/interest
- ♠ **periphery** outside edge especially of a round surface; perimeter; Ex. periphery of the town
- **perjury** false testimony while under oath; V. perjure oneself: testify falsely under oath
- **permeable** that can be permeated; penetrable; porous; allowing liquids or gas to pass through; V. permeate: spread or flow throughout; charge
- ♠ **pernicious** very harmful; deadly; very destructive; Ex. pernicious effect/anemia
- ♠ **peroration** conclusion of an oration; perorating; V. perorate: conclude a speech; speak at great length
- ♠ **perpetrate** commit an offense; do (something wrong)

- **perpetual** everlasting
- **perpetuate** make perpetual; make something last for a long time; preserve from extinction; N. perpetuity
- ♠ **perquisite(perk)** any gain above stipulated salary; Ex. perquisites such as free meals and a car
- ♠ **personable** attractive (in personality or appearance)
- **perspicacious** (of someone) having insight; penetrating; astute
- **perspicuity** clearness of expression; freedom from ambiguity
- **perspicuous** (of something) plainly expressed; easy to understand; Ex. perspicuous comments
- ♠ **pert** (esp. of a girl or young woman) impertinent; forward; trim; jaunty; Ex. pert young miss/hat
- ♡ **forward** presumptuous or bold
- **pertinacious** holding tenaciously to an action; stubborn; persistent
- **pertinent** suitable; to the point; relevant
- **perturb** disturb greatly
- ♠ **peruse** read through with care; N. perusal
- **pervasive** spread throughout; V. pervade: (of smells, ideas, feelings) spread throughout; charge; permeate
- ♠ **perverse** purposely continuing to do something wrong; stubbornly wrongheaded; perverted; directed away from what is right; wicked and unacceptable; Ex. perverse satisfaction; Ex. Hannibal Lecter in a perverse mood; N. perversity
- **perversion** corruption; turning from right to wrong
- ♡ **pervert** corrupt; turn from right to wrong; misuse; Ex. perverted sexual desire/scientific knowledge; N: person whose sexual behavior is not natural
- ♡ **wrongheaded** stubbornly wrong
- **pessimism** belief that life is basically bad or evil; gloominess; tendency to take the gloomiest possible view of a situation; ADJ. pessimistic
- ♠ **pestilential(pestilent)** causing plague; tending to cause death; baneful; N. pestilence: fatal epidemic disease (esp. bubonic plague)
- ♠ **pestle** tool for mashing or grinding substances in a hard bowl or mortar
- ♡ **mortar** vessel in which substances are crushed with a pestle
- ♡ **mash** crush into mash; convert into mash; N: mixture of ground grain and nutrients fed to livestock and fowl
- ♠ **petrify** turn to stone; cause to become stonelike; stun or paralyze
- **petty** trivial; unimportant; very small; small-minded; petty-minded
- ♠ **petulant** touchy; peevish; ill-tempered
- ♡ **phalanx** formation of infantry carrying overlapping shields and long spears; group of men packed together (for attack or defense)
- ♠ **pharisaical** pertaining to the Pharisees, who paid scrupulous attention to tradition; self-righteous; hypocritical
- ♡ **pharisee** Pharisee: member of an ancient Jewish group that emphasized strict observance of the Mosaic law (considering themselves very holy); hypocritical self-righteous person
- ♡ **self-righteous** sure of one's own righteousness; moralistic
- ♠ **phenomena** observable facts; subjects of scientific investigation; SG. phenomenon: observable fact; very unusual person, thing, or event; marvel; wonder; CF. phenomenons; ADJ. phenomenal: very unusual; extraordinary; of a phenomenon; Ex. phenomenal strength
- **philanderer** faithless lover; flirt

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- **philanthropist** lover of mankind; doer of good; N. philanthropy
- ♠ **philatelist** stamp-collector; N. philately: stamp collecting
- ♠ **philistine** narrow-minded person, uncultured and exclusively interested in material gain; uncultured person who is indifferent to artistic and cultural values; member of an ancient people in Palestine; OP. aesthete
- ♠ **philology** study of language or words
- ♠ **phlegmatic** calm and unexcitable; not easily disturbed; CF. phlegm: sticky mucus produced in the respiratory tract
- **phobia** morbid fear
- **phoenix** symbol of immortality or rebirth; Ex. phoenix rising from its ashes
- ♠ **phylum** major classification, second to kingdom, of plants and animals; category ranking below a kingdom and above a class; division
- ♠ **physiognomy** face (as showing the character and the mind); art of judging human character from facial features
- ♠ **physiological** pertaining to the science of the function of living organisms; N. physiology
- ♠ **piebald** of different colors; mottled; spotted in different colors (esp. in black and white); Ex. piebald horse; CF. pie+bald
- ♠ **piecemeal** one part at a time; gradually; in stages; Ex. read a novel piecemeal
- ♠ **pied** piebald; variegated(many-colored); multicolored
- **piety** devoutness; reverence for God; ADJ. pious
- ♠ **pigment** coloring matter (usually powder to be mixed with water or oil)
- **pillage** plunder
- **pillory** punish by placing in a wooden frame or pillory; subject or expose to criticism and ridicule; N.
- ♠ **pine** long for; yearn; languish from longing or grief; decline
- ♠ **pinion** restrain or immobilize by binding the wings or legs; N: bird's wing
- **pinnacle** peak; highest point; acme; Ex. pinnacle of fame
- **pious** devout; religious; N. piety
- ♠ **piquant** pleasantly tart-tasting; spicy; pleasantly stimulating; Ex. piquant situation when my old enemy asked for my help
- ♡ **tart** sharp to the taste; acid-tasting; caustic; sarcastic; Ex. tart apple/reply
- ♡ **sour** having a sharp or acid taste; acid; tart; bad-tempered; V.
- **pride** irritation; resentment from wounded pride (eg. loss in a contest); V: provoke; arouse; annoy; cause to feel resentment; Ex. pique her curiosity
- ♠ **piscatorial** pertaining to fishing; CF. Pisces

- **pitfall** hidden danger; concealed trap
- ♡ **beware** be cautious (of)
- ♠ **pith** core or marrow; spongelike substance in the center of stems; essence; substance
- ♡ **marrow** soft fatty tissue that fills most bone cavities and is the source of blood cells
- **pithy** concise and meaningful; substantial; meaty
- ♠ **pittance** small amount (of money); small allowance or wage
- **pivotal** of a pivot; central; critical; crucial
- **placate** pacify; bring peace to; conciliate; appease
- ♠ **placebo** harmless substance prescribed as a dummy pill
- ♡ **tablet** small round piece of medicine; flat piece of stone or metal bearing an inscription; Ex. stone tablet on the wall
- **placid** peaceful; calm; Ex. placid child/lake
- ♠ **plagiarize** steal another's ideas or writings and pass them off as one's own; Ex. ideas plagiarized from my article; N. plagiarism; CF. kidnap
- ♠ **plaintive** expressing sorrow; mournful; Ex. plaintive song
- ♠ **plait** braid; intertwine; interweave strands or lengths of; make by weaving strands together; Ex. plaited hair; N: braided length as of hair or fabric; CF. pigtail, ponytail
- ♠ **plasticity** ability to be molded; ADJ. plastic: capable of being shaped or molded; Ex. plastic material such as clay
- **platitude** trite remark; commonplace statement; ADJ. platitudinous
- ♡ **commonplace** ordinary; N: something ordinary or common; trite remark
- ♡ **commonwealth** nation governed by the people; republic; people of a nation
- **platonic** purely spiritual; theoretical; without sensual desire
- ♠ **plaudit** praise; enthusiastic approval; round(succession or series) of applause; ADJ. plauditory; CF. applaud
- **plausible** conceivably true; having a show of truth but open to doubt; specious
- ♠ **plebeian** common; vulgar; pertaining to the common people; N: common people in ancient Rome; CF. patrician
- ♡ **plebiscite** direct vote by the entire electorate (on an important issue)
- ♡ **referendum** direct vote by all the people
- ♠ **plenary** (of power) complete; full; fully attended by all qualified members; Ex. plenary power
- ♠ **plenitude** abundance; plenty; great amount; completeness; fullness; CF. plenary, plenty
- ♠ **plethora** excess; overabundance; Ex. a plethora of excuses
- **pliable** flexible; easily influenced; yielding; adaptable
- **pliant** flexible; easily influenced

- **plight** difficult condition; condition or state (esp. a bad state or condition); predicament
- ♠ **pluck** courage; V: pull off or out; pull out the hair or feathers of; ADJ. plucky: courageous; brave
- ♠ **plumage** feathers of a bird;
- ♡ **plume** feather, esp. large or showy one; something that rises into the air (like the shape of a feather); Ex. plume of smoke:
- ♠ **plumb** exactly vertical; N: weight on the end of a line; V: examine very carefully or critically in order to understand; measure depth (by sounding); Ex. plumb the depth of
- ♡ **plumber** one who installs and repairs pipes and plumbing(pipes)
- ♠ **plummet** fall sharply; fall straight down; Ex. Stock prices plummeted.
- **plutocracy** society ruled by the wealthy
- **podiatrist** doctor who treats ailments of the feet; chiropodist; N. podiatrics
- **podium** pedestal; raised platform
- ♡ **pedestal** support or base as for a pillar or statue
- ♠ **poignancy** quality of being deeply moving; keenness of emotion; ADJ. poignant: touching; deeply moving; (of sorrow, grief, etc.) painful; keenly distressing to the mind; Ex. poignant memory/anxiety; CF. prick
- ♠ **polarize** split into opposite extremes or camps
- ♡ **polarity** state of having two opposite qualities
- ♡ **polar** of a pole; characterized by opposite extremes; Ex. polar opposites
- ♡ **camp** group sharing a common cause or opinion
- ♠ **polemic** attack or defense of an opinion; controversy or refutation; argument in support of point of view; N. polemics: art of debate or controversy
- ♠ **polemical(polemic)** aggressive in verbal attack; disputatious (rather than simply expressing opinions)
- **politic** prudent; judicious; well judged; expedient; well devised
- **polity** (particular form of) political organization; form of government of nation or state; Ex. student polity
- **polygamist** one who has more than one spouse at a time; CF. bigamy; CF. polyandry
- **polyglot** speaking several languages; multilingual; Ex. polyglot person/society; N.
- **pomposity** self-important behavior; acting like a stuffed shirt(pompous person); ADJ. pompous: self-important
- ♠ **ponderous** having great weight; weighty; unwieldy; lacking lightness; dull; Ex. ponderous body/style of writing
- ♠ **pontifical** pertaining to a bishop or pope; pompous or pretentious; CF. pontiff: pope; bishop
- ♠ **pore** study industriously; ponder; scrutinize; Ex. pore over the book; N.
- **porous** full of pores; like a sieve
- ♡ **interstice** narrow space between things
- **portend** foretell; presage; be a sign or warning of; N. portent: sign; omen; forewarning
- ♡ **soothsayer** one who foretells the future
- ♠ **portly** stout; corpulent
- ♡ **stout** rather fat; strong in body; sturdy; resolute; determined; strong in determination; Ex. stout stick/supporter
- ♠ **poseur** person who pretends to be sophisticated, elegant, etc., to impress others; person who poses; CF. pose
- ♡ **pose** assume a particular posture; put forward; present; affect a particular attitude (to impress others); Ex. pose a threat; N.
- ♠ **posterity** descendants; future generations; Ex. go down to posterity; CF. posterior, anterior
- ♠ **posthumous** after death (as of child born after father's death or book published after author's death); coming or occurring after one's death; Ex. posthumous fame/novel
- ♡ **postmortem** autopsy; ADJ: occurring after death; of a postmortem
- ♠ **postulate** self-evident truth; something assumed without proof; V: assume the truth of (as a basis of an argument)
- ♠ **posture** assume an affected pose; act artificially; N: pose; attitude
- ♠ **potable** suitable for drinking; drinkable
- **potent** powerful; convincing; persuasive; greatly influential
- ♠ **potentate** monarch; sovereign
- **potential** expressing possibility; latent; N: capacity for growth
- **potion** dose (of liquids); liquid dose
- ♠ **potpourri** heterogeneous mixture; medley; mixture of dried flower petals a pot (to give a pleasant smell to a room)
- ♠ **poultice** soothing application applied to sore and inflamed portions of the body
- **practicable** feasible
- **practical** based on experience; of or acquired through practice (rather than theory); useful; Ex. practical man
- **pragmatic** practical (as opposed to idealistic); concerned with practical worth or impact of something; Ex. pragmatic test of the skill
- **pragmatist** practical person; N. pragmatism: pragmatic way of dealing with things
- ♡ **prance** move about in a spirited manner (proudly and confidently)
- ♠ **prate** talk idly; speak foolishly; boast idly
- ♠ **prattle** talk idly; babble; N. CF. prate
- ♡ **idle** not working; not employed or busy; lazy; without purpose; useless; lacking substance; baseless; not based on truth; Ex. idle worker; Ex. talk idly; V.

- **preamble** introductory statement
- ♠ **precarious** unsafe; lacking in stability; uncertain; risky;
Ex. precarious living
- **precedent** something preceding in time which may be used
as an authority or guide for future action; V. precede; CF.
unprecedented
- **precedent** preceding (in time, rank, etc.)

- **precept** practical rule guiding conduct; Ex. mother's precept
- **precipice** cliff; dangerous position; Ex. on the edge of the precipice
- ♥ **brink** edge (at the top of a cliff); Ex. on the brink of the Grand Canyon
- **precipitant** something that causes a substance in a chemical solution to separate out in solid form; ; OP. solvent
- **precipitate** hurl downward; throw headlong; hasten; cause to happen sooner; condense and fall as rain or snow; cause (a solid substance) to be separated from a solution; ADJ. hasty; rash; premature; sudden
- **precipitous** steep; overhasty; precipitate
- ♠ **précis** abstract; concise summing up of main points; concise summary of a text
- **precise** exact
- **preclude** make impossible; prevent; exclude; eliminate
- **precocious** advanced in development; N. precocity
- **precursor** forerunner; predecessor
- **predator** predatory animal or bird; predatory person; creature that seizes and devours another animal; person who robs or exploits others; ADJ. predatory: living by preying on other organisms; plundering; N. predation
- **predecessor** former occupant of a post
- **predetermine** determine in advance; predestine; settle or decide beforehand; influence markedly
- **predicament** difficult situation; tricky or dangerous situation; dilemma
- ♠ **predilection** preference; partiality
- ♠ **predispose** give an inclination toward (in advance); make susceptible to; Ex. predispose people to certain cancer; N. predisposition
- **preeminent** outstanding; superior
- ♠ **preempt** prevent in advance; head off (forestall); forestall by acting first; appropriate for oneself before others; supplant; take the place of; displace; Ex. preempt any attempts; ADJ. preemptive
- ♠ **preen** make oneself tidy in appearance; feel self-satisfaction or pride; (of a bird) smooth or clean (feathers) with the beak; Ex. preen oneself on; CF. prune
- **prefatory** introductory; of a preface
- ♠ **prehensile** capable of grasping or holding (esp. by wrapping around); Ex. prehensile tails
- ♠ **prelate** church dignitary; priest of high position in the church (esp. bishop)
- **prelude** introduction; introductory performance or event; forerunner
- **premeditate** plan in advance; Ex. premeditated murder
- **premise** assumption; postulate; proposition upon which an argument is based
- **premonition** forewarning; presentiment; foreboding
- **premonitory** serving to warn
- **preponderance** superiority of power, quantity, etc.; V. preponderate: be greater in power, weight, or importance; ADJ. preponderant
- **preposterous** absurd; completely unreasonable; ridiculous
- **prerogative** privilege; unquestionable right; CF. ask before
- **presage** foretell; be a warning or sign of; N: presentiment; foreboding; omen
- ♠ **prescience** ability to foretell the future; knowledge of actions before they occur; ADJ. prescient
- **presentiment** premonition; foreboding; feeling something will happen; anticipatory fear
- **prestige** respect or admiration; impression produced by achievements or reputation; ADJ: causing admiration; ADJ. prestigious: having prestige
- ♠ **presumptuous** going beyond what is right; excessively forward; arrogant; taking liberties
- ♥ **presume** take for granted; assume; act overconfidently; take liberties; presume on/upon: take unfair advantage of (someone's kindness or connection); N. presumption
- ♠ **pretentious** ostentatious; showy; pompous; making unjustified claims; overambitious; Ex. pretentious films that claim to be art
- ♥ **pretend** feign; pretend to: claim to possess; make pretensions to; Ex. I don't pretend to much expertise; N. pretense
- ♥ **pretension** pretentiousness; claim (without foundation); Ex. I make no pretensions to skill as an artist.
- ♠ **preternatural** beyond what is normal in nature; supernatural; Ex. preternatural strength/forces
- **pretext** excuse
- ♠ **prevail** be widespread; triumph over; gain victory; prevail on: persuade; induce; Ex. Justice has prevailed; Ex. prevail on someone to do something
- **prevalent** widespread; generally accepted
- ♠ **prevaricate** lie; hide the truth (by equivocating)
- **prey** target of a hunt; victim; V: hunt and eat as prey; victimize; Ex. Cats prey on mice.
- ♠ **prim** proper to the point of affectation; very precise and formal; exceedingly proper
- ♠ **primogeniture** seniority by birth; state of being the first-born child; right of the eldest child (to inherit the entire property of one or both parents)
- **primordial** existing at the beginning (of time); rudimentary
- ♠ **primp** groom oneself with care; adorn oneself
- ♠ **pristine** unspoiled; remaining in a pure state; characteristic of earlier times; primitive; Ex. an old book in pristine condition

- ♠ **privation** lack of the basic necessities or comforts of life; hardship; want; CF. deprive
- ♠ **privy** secret; hidden; not public; made a participant in something secret; Ex. privy chamber government; Ex. be privy to a discussion; CF. private
- **probe** explore with a probe or tools; investigate; N: slender instrument used to explore a wound or body cavity; device designed to investigate an unknown region; thorough investigation; Ex. space probe
- **probity** uprightness; honesty; incorruptibility
- ♡ **defalcate** embezzle
- ♠ **problematic** causing a problem; open to doubt; doubtful; unsettled; questionable; Ex. Whether the arena will ever be completed is problematic.
- **proclivity** inclination; natural tendency (esp. towards something bad)
- **procrastinate** postpone; delay or put off
- **procurement** obtaining; V. procure: obtain by effort; obtain (a prostitute) for another
- ♠ **prod** poke (with a pointed object); stir up; urge; goad to action; N: pointed object used to prod; prodding
- **prodigal** wasteful; reckless with money; profuse; Ex. a mind prodigal of ideas; N. prodigality
- **prodigious** enormous; marvelous; extraordinary; Ex. prodigious amount/memory
- **prodigy** highly gifted child; person with exceptional talents; marvel; wonder
- **profane** violate; desecrate (something holy); treat unworthily; be profane for; ADJ: secular; nonreligious; irreverent for holy things
- ♠ **profligate** wasteful (of money); dissipated; wildly immoral; dissolute; N: profligate person; N. profligacy
- **profound** deep; not superficial; complete; Ex. profound thinker/remark/silence/deafness; N. profundity
- **profusion** great amount; plenty; overabundance; excess; lavish expenditure; Ex. profusion of choices; ADJ. profuse: plentiful; copious; giving or given abundantly; extravagant
- **progenitor** ancestor
- ♠ **progeny** children; offspring; descendants
- **prognosis** forecasted course of a disease; prediction; CF. prognostic
- **prognosticate** predict (according to present indications)
- **prohibitive** so high as to prohibit purchase or use; tending to prevent the purchase or use of something; prohibiting; inclined to prevent or forbid; Ex. prohibitive tax
- **projectile** missile; fired or thrown object (such as stone or bullet)
- **proletarian** member of the working class; blue collar guy; N. proletariat: working class (who have to work for wages)
- **proliferate** grow rapidly (in numbers); spread; multiply; N. proliferation
- **prolific** producing offspring or fruit in abundance; fertile; fecund; abundantly fruitful; producing abundant works; Ex. prolific writer
- ♠ **prolixity** tedious wordiness; verbosity; ADJ. prolix: wordy; verbose; diffuse
- **prologue** introduction (to a poem or play)
- ♡ **feud** bitter prolonged quarrel (usually between two peoples or families); V. CF. Romeo and Juliet; CF. feudal, feudalism
- **prolong** lengthen; extend; draw out
- **prominent** protruding(sticking out); conspicuous; notable; eminent
- ♠ **promiscuous** mixed indiscriminately; indiscriminate; not choosing carefully; indiscriminate in the choice of sexual partners; irregular, particularly sexually; Ex. promiscuous life/girl; N. promiscuity
- **promontory** headland
- ♠ **promote** advance in rank; advance; help to flourish; advocate; help actively in forming; publicize or popularize; Ex. Milk promotes health; Ex. promote a match/bill; Ex. promote a new product
- ♠ **prompt** cause; urge; provoke; provide a cue (for an actor); ADJ: done without delay; done at the right time; punctual; on time; N: reminder or cue
- ♡ **cue** word or signal (as in a play to prompt another actor's speech or entrance); reminder or hint; V: give a cue to
- ♠ **promulgate** announce; proclaim a doctrine or law; make known by official publication
- **prone** inclined to; likely to (suffer); prostrate; lying with the front downward; Ex. prone to disease/make mistakes; Ex. accident-prone
- **propagate** increase in number by producing young; multiply; spread; Ex. Most plants propagate by seed; Ex. newspaper propagating their ideas
- **propellant(propellent)** substance which propels or drives forward (such as an explosive charge or a rocket fuel)
- **propensity** natural inclination
- **prophetic** of a prophet or prophecy; having to do with predicting the future; N. prophecy; V. prophesy; N. prophet
- **prophylactic** used to prevent disease; N: something prophylactic; condom; N. prophylaxis: prevention of disease
- ♠ **propinquity** nearness (in space or relationship); proximity; kinship
- ♠ **propitiate** appease; conciliate; make peaceful; ADJ. propitiatory

- ♠ **propitious** favorable; auspicious; advantageous; fortunate; Ex. propitious day/sign
- ♡ **horoscope** diagram of the positions of stars at a given moment (eg. of a person's birth) used by astrologers
- **proponent** supporter; backer; opposite of opponent
- **propound** put forth for consideration or analysis; set forth; Ex. propound a problem/theory
- **propriety** fitness; quality of being proper; correct conduct; conformity to prevailing customs and usages; CF. proprietor, proprietary
- ♡ **usage** act or manner of using; accepted practice; way in which words are actually used
- **propulsive** driving forward; N. propulsion
- ♠ **prosaic** lacking in imagination; dull and unimaginative; matter-of-fact (concerned with facts, not imagination or feelings); factual; CF. prose
- ♠ **proscenium** part of stage in front of curtain; front arch of a stage
- **proscribe** prohibit; ostracize; banish; outlaw
- ♡ **outlaw** fugitive from the law (excluded from legal protection); V: declare (someone) to be an outlaw; deprive of the protection of the law; declare illegal; Ex. Drinking has been outlawed.
- ♠ **proselytize** (induce someone to) convert to a religion or belief; N. proselyte: new convert to a doctrine or religion
- ♠ **prosody** art of versification; study of the metrical structure of verse
- ♡ **metrical** metric; written in the form of poetry; Ex. metrical translation of Homer
- ♡ **meter** arrangement of words in the form of poetry (by accentual rhythm)
- **prosperity** good fortune and financial success; physical well-being
- ♡ **prosper** become successful (esp. financially); thrive; grow well; Ex. children prospering under his care
- ♡ **prosperous** successful; rich; affluent; well-to-do; well-off
- **prostrate** stretch out full on ground; make prostrate; enervate; Ex. prostrating illness; ADJ: lying face down; having lost all strength
- ♠ **protean** able to take on many forms; versatile; CF. Proteus: sea god to change his shape at will
- **protégé** person receiving protection and support from a patron
- ♠ **protocol** diplomatic etiquette; ceremony and etiquette observed by diplomats; first copy of a treaty before its ratification; Ex. Protocol demands that the queen meet him at the airport.
- **prototype** original work used as a model by others
- **protract** prolong; lengthen in time; draw out
- **protrude** stick out; jut; project; Ex. protruding teeth
- ♠ **protuberance** protrusion; swelling; bulge
- ♡ **bulge** protruding part; swelling of a surface; Ex. The apple made a bulge in his pocket; V: swell outward; protrude
- ♠ **provenance** place of origin; origin or source of something; Ex. Gunpowder is of Chinese provenance; CF. come
- ♠ **provender** dry food for livestock; fodder
- **provident** providing for future needs; displaying foresight; thrifty; preparing for emergencies; OP. improvident
- ♡ **providence** quality of being provident; divine care; god's care; Providence: god; Ex. It seemed like providence that the doctor happened to be there; ADJ. providential: of divine providence; fortunate
- **provincial** pertaining to a province; limited in outlook; narrow; unsophisticated
- **provisional** tentative; temporary
- **proviso** stipulation; condition in an agreement; provision
- ♡ **provision** act of providing; something provided; preparatory measure; provisions: necessary supplies (esp. food); stipulation; condition in an agreement; Ex. According to the provisions of the agreement
- **provocative** arousing anger or sexual interest; annoying; Ex. provocative in tight jeans; V. provoke: incite to anger; cause (an unpleasant action or feeling); N. provocation
- ♠ **prowess** extraordinary ability; military bravery; Ex. prowess in battle
- **proximity** nearness; ADJ. proximate
- **proxy** authorized agent; authority to act for another
- ♠ **prude** excessively modest or proper person (who is easily shocked by improper things, esp. of a sexual nature); N. prudery; ADJ. prudish: excessively concerned with propriety
- **prudent** cautious; careful; prudential
- **prune** cut away; trim
- ♠ **prurient** having or causing lustful desires and thoughts; arousing immoderate sexual desire
- ♠ **pry** inquire impertinently (someone else's private affairs); use leverage to raise or open something; prize; N. pries: tool for prying
- ♡ **prize** pry; move with a lever; value highly; esteem; Ex. his most prized possession; N: something captured during war-time (esp. an enemy ship)
- **pseudonym** pen name; fictitious name assumed by an author; ADJ. pseudonymous
- **psyche** soul; mind
- **psychiatrist** doctor who treats mental diseases
- ♡ **psychic** of psyche; mental; of or possessing extraordinary mental powers
- **psychopathic** pertaining to mental dearrangement; N. psychopath: person with an antisocial personality disorder
- **psychosis** mental disorder; ADJ. N. psychotic

- ♥ **psychosomatic** of the influence of the mind on the body (esp. with respect to disease)
- ♠ **pterodactyl** extinct flying reptile; CF. wing+finger
- ♠ **puerile** childish; immature; CF. puer: boy
- **pugilist** boxer; CF. pugilism: boxing
- ♠ **pugnacity** combativeness; disposition to fight; ADJ. pugnacious: (of people) belligerent; combative in nature
- ♠ **puissant** powerful; strong; potent; N. puissance: power
- ♠ **pulchritude** beauty; comeliness; ADJ. pulchritudinous
- ♠ **pulmonary** pertaining to the lungs
- ♠ **pulsate** throb; beat regularly; vibrate regularly
- ♥ **pulse** rhythmical throbbing of arteries; brief sudden change in a normally constant quantity; V: pulsate
- **pulverize** crush or grind into very small particles
- ♠ **pummel** pommel; beat or pound with fists
- **punctilious** minutely attentive (perhaps too much so) to fine points; stressing niceties of conduct or form; N. punctilio, punctiliousness: careful attention paid to every small exact detail
- ♠ **pundit** authority on a subject; expert; learned person
- **pungent** stinging; acrid; sharp in taste or smell; (of speech or writing) caustic; N. pungency
- ♠ **punitive** punishing; Ex. punitive measures
- ♠ **puny** tiny; weak; insignificant
- ♠ **purchase** secure grasp or hold; firm grasp or footing
- **purgatory** place of spiritual expiation; temporary state or place in which the souls must expiate their sins
- **purge** remove or get rid of something or someone unwanted; eliminate; free from blame or guilt; cleanse or purify (esp. of sin, guilt, or defilement); N.
- **purport** intention; purpose; meaning; V: claim; profess; Ex. order which purports to be signed by the general
- **purported** alleged; claimed; reputed or rumored; Ex. purported Satanists
- ♥ **rooster** cock; adult male chicken
- ♥ **rabble** mob; noisy crowd
- ♠ **purse** pucker; contract (lips) into wrinkles; N: wallet
- ♥ **pucker** gather into wrinkles or folds; N: wrinkle or fold
- ♠ **purveyor** furnisher of foodstuffs; caterer; V. purvey: supply (eg. food); furnish; CF. provide
- ♠ **pusillanimous** cowardly; lacking courage; fainthearted
- ♠ **putative** supposed; reputed; generally regarded as such; Ex. putative father of the child
- ♠ **putrid** decayed and foul-smelling; foul; rotten; decayed; N. putridity
- ♥ **putrefy** make or become putrid; N. putrefaction
- ♥ **putrescent** becoming putrid; putrefying
- ♥ **gangrene** decay of body tissue caused by insufficient blood supply (usually following injury); ADJ. gangrenous
- **pyromaniac** person with an insane desire to set things on fire
- **quack** charlatan; impostor
- ♠ **quadruped** four-footed animal; ADJ. CF. biped
- ♠ **quaff** drink with zest; drink with relish(zest; hearty enjoyment); ; CF. sip
- ♠ **quagmire** bog; marsh; soft, wet, boggy land; predicament; complex or dangerous situation from which it is difficult to free oneself
- ♥ **bog** soft wet land; V: hinder or be hindered; Ex. bogged down in the mud
- ♠ **quail** cower; shrink back in fear; lose heart
- **quaint** odd in an old-fashioned way; odd; old-fashioned; picturesque
- **qualified** limited; restricted; V. qualify: limit the meaning of; modify
- ♠ **qualms** uneasy feelings; misgivings; uneasy fears especially about matters of conscience; Ex. I have no qualms about giving this assignment to Helen.
- ♠ **quandary** dilemma; state of uncertainty; Ex. She is in a quandary about whether to go.
- ♠ **quarantine** isolation of a person, place, or ship to prevent spread of infection; V: isolate in quarantine
- ♠ **quarry** person or animal of pursuit; victim; object of a hunt; prey
- ♠ **quarry** dig into (to get stone); N: mine;
- ♥ **bank** heap; piled-up mass; embankment; lateral tilting (as of an aircraft in turning); V: pile up; protect with a bank; tilt in turning

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- ♠ **quash** crush; suppress; squash; subdue; annul; Ex. quash a rebellion/the decision of the low court
- ♡ **squash** crush; quash; suppress
- **quay** dock; wharf; pier; landing place (for boats)
- ♠ **queasy** experiencing nausea; nauseated; easily nauseated; squeamish; Ex. feel a little queasy
- ♠ **quell** suppress; put an end to; put down forcibly; extinguish; quiet; Ex. "Army Quells Rebellion" in newspaper; CF. kill
- ♠ **quench** assuage or satisfy (thrust); slake; douse or extinguish; put out; suppress
- ♡ **squelch** produce a splashing sound (when stepping through mud); crush; squash; CF.
- ♠ **querulous** given to complaining; complaining; fretful; whining
- ♡ **whine** complain (in a sad voice); make a high sad sound (as in pain or supplication)
- **query** inquiry; question; V.
- **queue** line (of waiting people or vehicles)
- ♠ **quibble** minor objection or complaint; V: raise minor objections; carp; cavil
- ♠ **quiescent** dormant; temporarily inactive; at rest; N. quiescence
- **quietude** tranquillity; calmness
- ♠ **quintessence** purest and highest embodiment; perfect example; apotheosis; most essential element; Ex. quintessence of wit; ADJ. quintessential; CF. fifth essence
- ♠ **quip** taunt; clever sarcastic remark; V.
- ♡ **taunt** deride or provoke; challenge in derision; N.
- ♠ **quirk** sudden sharp turn or twist; startling twist; caprice; idiosyncrasy; peculiarity of behavior; Ex. by a quirk of fate
- ♠ **quisling** traitor who aids invaders; CF. Vidkun Quisling
- ♠ **quiver** case for arrows
- ♠ **quiver** tremble; shake; N.
- ♡ **leash** restraining rope fastened to the collar of an animal (to control it); Ex. a dog on a leash
- ♠ **quixotic** idealistic but impractical; CF. Don Quixote
- ♠ **quizzical** curious; suggesting puzzlement (without saying); questioning; teasing; mocking; bantering; Ex. quizzical glance
- ♠ **quorum** minimal number of members necessary to conduct a meeting
- ♠ **quotidian** daily; commonplace; customary; Ex. quotidian routine
- ♠ **rabid** of or suffering rabies; like a fanatic; extremely zealous; furious; CF. rabies: hydrophobia
- ♠ **raconteur** story-teller; one who tells stories with wit and skill

- ♠ **ragamuffin** dirty child in torn clothes; person wearing tattered clothes
- ♡ **tatter** torn piece of cloth; ADJ. tattered: (of clothes) old and torn; (of a person) dressed in old torn clothes
- ♠ **rail** complain bitterly; scold; rant; Ex. the weaker railing against injustices
- ♠ **raiment** clothing; garments; Ex. I have no raiment fit to wear.
- ♠ **rakish** jaunty; stylish; sporty; morally corrupt; dissolute; Ex. He wore his hat at a rakish and jaunty angle.
- ♡ **rake** angle of a slope; V: slant from the perpendicular
- ♡ **rake** immoral or dissolute person
- **rally** come or bring together; call up or summon (forces, vital powers, etc.); revive or recuperate (after illness or difficulty); N: act of rallying; mass gathering
- **ramble** wander aimlessly (physically or mentally); digress
- **ramification** branching out; subdivision; one branch of a system; one of the results following from an action or decision; Ex. ramifications of a business/the decision
- **ramify** branch out; divide into branches or subdivisions
- ♠ **ramp** slope; inclined plane or roadway (connecting two levels)
- ♠ **rampant** growing or spreading uncontrollably; growing in profusion; unrestrained; Ex. rampant lawlessness/weed
- **rampart** defensive mound of earth
- ♠ **ramshackle** (of a building or vehicle) poorly constructed; rickety; falling apart
- ♡ **rickety** (of buildings) likely to break or fall apart; of rickets; CF. rickets; CF. vitamin D
- ♡ **ransack** search thoroughly; pillage (going through a place); Ex. Enemy soldiers ransacked the town.
- ♠ **rancid** having the odor of stale or decomposing fat; rank
- ♡ **rank** offensive in odor or flavor
- ♠ **rancor** long-lasting hatred; bitterness; Ex. negotiation without rancor; ADJ. rancorous
- **random** without definite purpose, plan, or aim; haphazard; Ex. random shots; Ex. chosen at random
- ♡ **lot** object used in making a determination at random; fate; piece of land
- ♡ **draw** choosing of a lot or card
- ♡ **lottery** contest in which winners are selected in a drawing of lots
- ♡ **raffle** lottery; V: award as a prize in a raffle; Ex. raffle off a new car
- ♠ **rankle** irritate; fester; annoy
- ♠ **rant** speak violently or excitedly; rave; talk excitedly showing anger; scold; make a grandiloquent speech; Ex. The priest ranted about the devil.
- ♠ **rapacious** voracious; ravenous; taking everything one can; excessively grasping; plundering; subsisting on live prey; Ex. rapacious birds

- **rapport** close relationship; emotional closeness; harmony
- ♠ **rapt** engrossed; absorbed; enchanted; Ex. rapt listener
- ♠ **rarefied** made less dense (of a gas); V. rarefy: make less dense; N. rarefaction
- ♡ **rare** (of air) thin in density; rarefied; Ex. rare air of the mountains
- ♠ **raspy** making a harsh noise; grating; harsh
- ♡ **rasp** (of a sound) grate on (eg. nerves); make a harsh noise; have an unpleasant effect; rub with something rough; Ex. The cat's tongue rasped my hand.
- **ratify** approve formally; confirm; verify
- ♠ **ration** reasoning; act of drawing conclusions from premises; V. ratiocinate: reason logically
- **rationale** fundamental reason or principle (on which a system or principle is based); fundamental reason or justification; grounds for an action
- **rationalize** make rational; devise false reasons for (one's behavior); offer an excuse; give a plausible reason for an action in place of a true, less admirable ones; N. rationalization
- ♡ **rational** (of a person) having reason; (of ideas) based on reason; logical
- ♡ **ration** fixed portion; V: distribute as rations
- ♠ **raucous** (of voice) harsh and unpleasant; (of people) disorderly and boisterous; Ex. raucous shouts
- **ravage** devastate; plunder; despoil; Ex. crops ravaged by storms
- ♡ **maraud** move in search of plunder; Ex. marauding army
- ♠ **rave** overwhelmingly favorable review; V: talk wildly as if mad; Ex. raving lunatic
- **ravel** fall apart into tangles; entangle; unravel or untwist
- ♠ **ravenous** extremely hungry; voracious
- ♠ **ravine** narrow valley with steep sides; gorge; CF. gully, canyon
- **raze** destroy completely; Ex. raze the city to the ground
- **reactionary** strongly opposed to social or political change; opposing progress; politically ultraconservative; N. OP. radical
- ♡ **reinstate** restore to a previous condition or position
- **realm** kingdom; field or sphere; Ex. not within the realms of possibility
- **reaper** one who harvests grain; Ex. the Grim Reaper; V. reap: cut and gather (crop); harvest a crop
- **rebate** return of part of a payment; discount; V.
- ♠ **rebuff** reject bluntly; snub; beat back; Ex. She rebuffed his invitation; N.
- ♡ **snub** ignore or behave coldly toward; Ex. I made a suggestion but she snubbed me; N.
- **rebuke** scold harshly; criticize severely
- ♠ **rebus** representation of words in the form of pictures or symbols; puzzle in which pictures or letters stand for words; Ex. "R U 18" is a rebus for "Are you 18".
- ♠ **rebuttal** refutation; response with contrary evidence; V. rebut: refute; disprove
- ♠ **recalcitrant** disobedient or resisting authority even after being punished; obstinately stubborn; determined to resist authority; unruly; Ex. recalcitrant child
- **recant** disclaim or disavow; retract a previous statement; openly confess error; Ex. recant one's faith/a statement
- **recapitulate** summarize
- ♠ **recast** reconstruct (a sentence, story, statue, etc.); fashion again
- ♡ **fashion** give shape to; make; Ex. fashion the pot out of clay
- **receptive** quick or willing to receive (ideas, suggestions, etc.); Ex. receptive to the proposal
- **recession** withdrawal; retreat; time of low economic activity
- ♡ **recess** pause; temporary cessation; alcove; secret inner place; Ex. parliament in recess; V. CF. recessive
- **recidivism** habitual return to crime (even after being punished); N. recidivist
- **recipient** receiver
- **reciprocal** mutual; given and received in return; exchangeable; interacting; Ex. reciprocal trade agreement
- ♠ **reciprocate** do or give something in return; repay in kind; give or take mutually; interchange; move backwards and forwards; Ex. reciprocate his invitation by inviting him; N. reciprocity: reciprocal relationship; mutual interchange of advantages between two groups; Ex. reciprocity in trading rights
- **recluse** hermit; loner; ADJ. reclusive
- **reconcile** make friendly again (after quarrel); make consistent (two ideas in opposition); correct inconsistencies; Ex. reconcile one's political principles with one's religious beliefs
- **recondite** abstruse; not easily understood; profound; secret
- **reconnaissance** survey of enemy by soldiers; reconnoitering; V. reconnoiter: make a preliminary inspection of (esp. to gather military information)
- ♠ **recount** narrate or tell (a story); count over again
- **recourse** resorting to help when in trouble; Ex. without recourse to
- ♡ **resort** turn to for help; Ex. resort to violence; N.
- ♡ **makeshift** temporary expedient or substitute (in the case of urgent need); Ex. makeshift shelter
- ♡ **recreant** disloyal; cowardly; N: disloyal and cowardly person
- **recrimination** countercharges; V. recriminate
- **rectify** set right; correct; CF. rect-: right

♠ **rectitude** moral correctness; moral uprightness; moral virtue; correctness of judgment

□ **recumbent** reclining; lying down completely or in part

♡ **recline** lie down

□ **recuperate** recover; return to health; regain; Ex. recuperate losses

□ **recurrent** occurring again and again

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- **redolent** odorous; fragrant; suggestive (of an odor); Ex. redolent of onions/mystery
- ♠ **redoubtable** formidable; causing fear
- ♠ **redress** remedy; compensation; Ex. seek redress for the damage to your car; V: put right; remedy or rectify (a wrong); make amends for
- **redundant** superfluous; more than is necessary; verbose; excessively wordy; repetitious
- ♠ **reek** emit (an unpleasant odor or smoke); give off an unpleasant odor; give out smoke; Ex. reeking chimney; N: unpleasant odor; stench
- ♡ **stench** strong foul odor; reek; stink
- ♡ **stink** stench; V: emit a strong foul odor
- ♠ **refectory** dining hall; room where meals are served (in a school)
- **refraction** bending of a ray of light
- ♠ **refractory** unmanageable; disobedient and stubborn; Ex. refractory horse
- ♠ **refrain** abstain from; resist; forbear; N: chorus
- ♡ **chorus** phrase repeated throughout a song or poem
- **refulgent** effulgent; brilliant; brightly shining; gleaming; Ex. refulgent moon
- ♡ **gleam** brief flash of light; glow; V.
- ♠ **refurbish** renovate; make clean, bright, or fresh (make new) again; make bright by polishing; Ex. refurbish an old theater; CF. furbish: polish
- **refute** disprove; prove to be false; N: refutation
- **regal** royal; of a monarch; Ex. regal manner
- ♠ **regale** entertain
- ♠ **regatta** boat or yacht race
- **regeneration** spiritual rebirth; Ex. regeneration of the prisoners; V. regenerate: give or obtain new life; reform spiritually
- ♡ **penology** study of prison management and criminal rehabilitation
- **regicide** murder of a king or queen
- **regime** method of system or government
- ♠ **regimen** prescribed course of diet or exercise; prescribed diet and habits; Ex. daily regimen of a dancer
- ♠ **regiment** military unit; V: subject to strict order; Ex. regimented society
- **rehabilitate** restore to proper condition (health or useful life); restore the former rank of
- **reimburse** repay; pay back
- **reiterate** repeat
- ♠ **rejoinder** reply; retort; comeback; V. rejoin: say in reply
- ♡ **comeback** retort; quick clever reply; return to former status
- **rejuvenate** make young again
- ♠ **relegate** put into a lower or worse place; banish to an inferior position; delegate; assign; Ex. relegate the old furniture to the children's room; Ex. relegated to the second division
- **relent** become less severe; give in(surrender); ADJ. relentless: unyielding; continuously severe
- **relevant** having importance; pertinent; referring to the case in hand; N. relevance, relevancy
- ♠ **relic** surviving remnant (from an extinct culture); memento; keepsake; relics: corpse; Ex. ancient relics; Ex. relics of his travel; Ex. His relics are buried at X.
- **relinquish** give up something (with reluctance); yield; release; Ex. relinquish power/the claim to the land/his hold on my arm
- ♠ **relish** enjoy; savor; N: enjoyment; zest
- **remediable** repairable
- **reminiscence** recollection; V. reminisce: recollect the past
- ♡ **reminiscent** suggestive of something (in the past); of reminiscence
- **remiss** negligent; careless about a duty
- **remission** temporary moderation (of disease symptoms); remitting of a debt or punishment; cancelation of a debt; pardon; Ex. The disease went into remission; Ex. Christians pray for the remission of sins.
- ♡ **remit** transmit (money) in payment; free someone from a debt or punishment
- ♡ **remittance** remitting of money; amount of money remitted
- **remnant** remainder
- **remonstrate** protest; objection; V. remonstrate: say in protest
- **remorse** deep regret for wrongdoing; guilt; self-reproach
- **remunerative** (of work) compensating; rewarding; profitable; well-paid; V. remunerate: reward; pay (someone) for work or trouble
- **rend** split; tear apart; N. rent; CF. heartrending: causing deep sorrow
- **render** give; deliver; provide; represent in verbal or artistic form; depict; perform; make; translate; Ex. render the song beautifully
- **rendezvous** meeting place; meeting at a set time or place; V.
- **rendition** rendering; translation; artistic interpretation of a song, etc
- ♠ **renegade** deserter; traitor; ADJ.
- ♠ **renege** break a promise; deny; go back on; Ex. renege on the contract/paying off the debt
- **renounce** abandon; give up (by formal announcement); disown; repudiate; Ex. renounce one's claim to the property/one's religion; N. renunciation
- **renovate** restore to good condition; renew

- **renown** fame; ADJ. renowned
- ♥ **herald** messenger; sign of something to come; V: announce; proclaim; Ex. unheralded researcher
- ♠ **rent** tear made by rending; rip; split
- **reparable** capable of being repaired
- ♠ **reparation** compensation (for loss or wrong); amends; Ex. make reparation for the damage; CF. repair
- **repartee** quick clever reply
- ♠ **repast** meal; feast; banquet
- **repeal** revoke; annul
- **repel** drive away; disgust; Ex. repel the attack/moisture; Ex. repelled by the dirty room; CF. repulsion
- **repellent** driving away; disgusting; offensive; repulsive; unattractive; N.
- **repercussion** rebound; reaction; reverberation; Ex. serious repercussion
- **repertoire** list of works of music, drama, etc., a performer is prepared to present; CF. repertory
- ♠ **repine** fret; complain; be annoyed; Ex. repine over the undone work
- **replenish** fill up again
- **replete** fully filled; filled to the brim or to the point of being stuffed; abundantly supplied; Ex. report replete with errors

- ♥ **memoir** memoirs; autobiography; biography
- ♥ **brim** uppermost edge of a cup; projecting rim (as on a hat); Ex. The glass was full to the brim; V: be full to the brim
- **replica** copy
- **replicate** reproduce; duplicate
- **repository** storehouse
- ♥ **repose** resting; state of being at rest; calmness; V: lie at rest; relax; put or place; Ex. repose our hopes in a single man
- **reprehensible** deserving blame; blameworthy; V. reprehend: blame
- **repress** hold back (the natural expression of); restrain; crush; oppress; Ex. repressed child; Ex. repress a laugh/rebellion
- **reprieve** postponement or cancelation of a punishment; temporary stay; V: postpone or cancel the punishment of

- **reprimand** reprove severely; rebuke; N.
- **reprisal** retaliation
- ♠ **reprise** musical repetition; repeating of a piece of music; repeat performance; recurrent action; Ex. reprise in the finale; Ex. constant reprises
- **reproach** blame (not angrily but sadly); express disapproval or disappointment; N. ADJ. reproachful
- ♠ **reprobate** morally disapproved person; person hardened in sin, devoid of a sense of decency; CF. disapproved by God ?
- **reprobation** severe disapproval; CF. approbation
- **reprove** censure; rebuke; N. reproof
- **repudiate** disown; disavow; deny
- **repugnance** disgust; strong dislike; loathing; ADJ. repugnant: arousing disgust; repulsive
- **repulsion** distaste; disgust; act of driving back; ADJ. repulsive: causing disgust; tending to drive away; V. repel (not 'repulse')
- ♥ **repulse** reject with rudeness or coldness (an offer or friendship); drive back (an enemy attack); CF. repulse ≠ cause repulsion
- **reputable** respectable; having a good reputation
- **reputed** supposed; Ex. reputed father of the child; V. repute: consider; N. repute: reputation; esteem
- **requiem** mass for the dead; dirge
- ♥ **mass** Christian religious ceremony; CF. Mass: ceremony of the Eucharist
- **requisite** necessary requirement; something required; ADJ: required; necessary
- ♥ **requisition** formal demand or request; Ex. requisition for more computing equipment; V.
- ♠ **requite** make return for; repay; reciprocate; revenge; N. requittal

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- **rescind** repeal; annul; cancel (a law, decision, or agreement)
- **resentment** indignation; bitterness; displeasure; V. resent: feel anger about
- **reserve** self-control; self-restraint; formal but distant manner; reticence; Ex. without reserve: freely and openly; ADJ. reserved: shy and uncommunicative
- **residue** remainder; balance
- ♡ **residual** remaining; left over; of a residue; N: residue
- **resignation** patiently submissiveness; statement that one is quitting a job; ADJ. resigned: acquiescent
- ♡ **resign** give up (a position, right, or claim); submit (oneself) passively
- **resilient** elastic; having the power of springing back; able to recover quickly (as from misfortune)
- ♡ **elastic** able to spring back into shape; quick to recover (as from disappointment); able to adapt to change; Ex. elastic plans; N: elastic material
- **resolution** determination; resoluteness; ADJ. resolute: firm or determined in purpose
- **resolve** determination; resolution; firmness of purpose
- **resolve** decide; settle; solve; separate; make a determined decision; N. resolution
- **resonant** (of a sound) echoing; resounding(sounding loudly); deep and full in sound; producing resonance; Ex. resonant voice; N. resonance
- ♡ **resound** (of a place) be filled with sound; (of a sound) sound loudly; sound back; echo; Ex. hall resounded with laughter
- **respiration** breathing; exhalation; ADJ. respiratory
- ♠ **respite** time for rest; interval of relief; delay in punishment; reprieve
- **resplendent** brilliant; splendid in appearance; dazzling; glorious
- **responsiveness** state of reacting readily to appeals, orders, etc.; ADJ. responsive: readily reacting; Ex. responsive to treatment
- ♠ **restitution** returning something (lost or stolen) to the rightful owner; reparation; indemnification; compensation for loss, damage, or injury
- ♠ **restive** impatiently restless (induced by external coercion or restriction); restlessly impatient; obstinately resisting control; Ex. restive horses because of wolves; CF. not a general synonym for 'restless'
- **restraint** moderation or self-control; controlling force; restriction
- **resumption** taking up again; recommencement; V. resume: begin or take up again; take or occupy again; Ex. Kindly resume your seats.
- ♠ **resurge** rise again; flow to and fro; N. resurgence; ADJ. resurgent: (of ideas or beliefs) experiencing revival; surging again
- ♡ **resurrect** revive
- **resuscitate** revive; bring back to life or consciousness; Ex. resuscitate the drowned child
- **retain** keep; maintain possession of; employ (esp. a lawyer or advisor); N. retainer: servant; fee paid to retain an advisor
- **retaliate** repay in kind (usually for bad treatment); V. retaliate
- ♠ **retentive** holding; able to retain things (esp. facts in the mind); having a good memory
- ♠ **reticent** inclined to silence; uncommunicative; reserved; Ex. He was reticent about the reasons; N. reticence
- **retinue** following; attendants
- ♠ **retiring** shy and reserved (of a person); modest; Ex. her retiring personality
- **retort** quick sharp reply; V.
- **retract** withdraw; take back; draw back; Ex. retract a statement/an offer/claws; N. retraction; CF. retractile
- ♠ **retrench** cut down; cut down expenses; economize
- ♠ **retribution** deserved punishment for wrongdoing; punishment for offenses; compensation; vengeance; CF. pay back
- **retrieve** recover; put right; find and bring in; regain; Ex. retrieve the situation
- ♠ **retroactive** taking effect before its enactment (as a law) or imposition (as a tax); (of a law) having effect on the past as well as the future
- ♡ **enact** make (a bill) into law
- ♠ **retrograde** go backwards; recede; degenerate; deteriorate; ADJ.
- **retrospective** looking back on the past; N. retrospection; V. retrospect
- ♠ **revelry** boisterous merrymaking; V. revel: engage boisterous festivities; enjoy greatly; N: boisterous festivity or celebration
- ♠ **reverberate** echo repeatedly; resound; Ex. The thunder reverberated across the valley.
- **reverent** respectful; worshipful; V. revere: regard with reverence; N. reverence: profound respect
- ♡ **reverend** deserving reverence; N: priest
- ♠ **reverie** daydream; abstracted musing
- **revert** relapse; backslide; turn back to; return to the former owner; N. reversion
- ♡ **relapse** return to a former state (esp. after improvement); N.
- ♡ **backslide** revert (to bad habits); N. reverter
- ♠ **revile** attack with abusive language; vilify(slander)
- **revoke** cancel; retract; CF. irrevocable
- ♠ **revulsion** sudden strong feeling of disgust; sudden violent change of feeling; negative reaction; Ex. revulsion from the scenes of torture

- ♠ **rhapsodize** speak or write in an exaggeratedly enthusiastic manner; Ex. rhapsodize over the beauty of the scenery
- ♥ **rhapsody** excessively enthusiastic expression of feeling; musical composition of irregular form (as if made up as one plays it)
- ♠ **rhetoric** art of effective communication; art of using language effectively and persuasively; style of speaking or writing; grandiloquent language; Ex. political rhetoric; ADJ. rhetorical; CF. rhetorical question: question to which no answer is expected as “Who knows it?”
- ♠ **ribald** marked by vulgar lewd humor; wanton; profane; N. ribaldry: ribald language or joke
- ♠ **riddle** pierce with holes; permeate or spread throughout; Ex. The gunman riddled the car with bullets; Ex. The whole report is riddled with errors; N. large sieve (separating earth from stone)
- ♠ **rider** amendment or clause added to a legislative bill
- ♠ **rife** (of something bad) widespread; abundant; current
- ♠ **rift** narrow opening in a large mass; break in a friendly relation; Ex. through a rift in the clouds; OP. reconciliation
- ♠ **rig** fix or manipulate; manipulate dishonestly for personal gain; Ex. rig the election
- ♥ **rig** arrangement of masts and sails; V: equip (a ship) with rigging; ADJ. rigging: ropes that hold up a ship’s sails
- **rigid** hard and unbending; stiff and unyielding; fixed in behavior or views; strict; rigorous; Ex. rigid rule
- **rigor** severity; Ex. rigors of the Russian winter
- ♠ **rile** irritate; vex; muddy
- ♠ **riveting** holding one’s attention; absorbing; engrossing
- ♥ **rivet** metal pin used for fastening metal plates together; V: fasten with a rivet; engross
- ♠ **rivulet** small stream; CF. rill ; rivulet ; river
- **robust** strong; vigorous
- **rococo** ornate; highly decorated; N. CF. 18th century
- ♠ **roil** make liquids murky by stirring up sediment; disturb
- ♠ **roseate** rosy; optimistic; Ex. roseate views
- ♠ **roster** list (of names)
- ♠ **rostrum** raised platform for speech-making; pulpit
- ♥ **pulpit** raised platform used in preaching (in a church)
- ♠ **rote** repetition; memorization through repetition without understanding; Ex. learn poetry by rote
- ♠ **rotunda** circular building or hall covered with a dome
- ♠ **rotundity** roundness; sonorousness of speech
- ♥ **rotund** (of a person) fat and round
- ♠ **rousing** lively; inducing excitement; stirring; V. rouse: waken; arouse from sleep or depression; excite; stir up
- **rout** put to rout; stampede; drive out; N: complete defeat and disorderly retreat
- ♥ **stampede** sudden frenzied rush (of panic-stricken animals or people); V: participate in or cause stampede; Ex. stampede before the price rises
- **rumble** fragments (esp. from a destroyed building)
- ♥ **mason** one who builds or works with stone or brick; N. masonry: work of a mason; stonework or brickwork
- ♠ **rubric** title or heading (in red print); directions for religious ceremony; protocol
- ♠ **ruddy** reddish; (of the face) reddish and healthy-looking
- **rudimentary** elementary; not developed; crude; N. rudiment: fundamental element or principle; Ex. rudiments of the language
- ♠ **rue** regret; lament; mourn; Ex. He will rue the day; N. ADJ. rueful
- ♠ **ruffian** violent scoundrel; bully
- ♠ **ruminate** chew over and over (mentally or, like cows, physically); mull over(ponder)
- ♥ **ruminant** animal that ruminates; ADJ.
- **rummage** ransack; thoroughly search
- ♠ **runic** mysterious; set down in an ancient alphabet; N. rune: one of the letters of an alphabet used by ancient Germanic peoples (cut on stone or wood); magic charm
- ♠ **ruse** trick to deceive; stratagem
- **rustic** pertaining to country people; unsophisticated; simple; crude; uncouth; (of furniture) rough with the bark left on; N. rural person; rustic person
- **rusticate** banish to the country; dwell in the country
- **ruthless** pitiless; merciless; cruel
- **saboteur** one who commits sabotage; destroyer of property; N. sabotage: destruction of property (usually carried out secretly)
- **saccharine** cloying sweet; characteristic of sugar or saccharin
- **sacrilegious** desecrating; profane; N. sacrilege: desecration, misuse, or theft of something sacred
- ♠ **sacrosanct** inviolably sacred; most sacred; inviolable

- ♠ **sadistic** inclined to cruelty; N. sadism: delight in cruelty
- **saga** Scandinavian myth; any legend; long heroic narrative
- ♠ **sagacious** wise; perceptive; shrewd; having insight; N. sagacity
- ♠ **sage** person celebrated for wisdom; wise person; ADJ: wise

- ♠ **salacious** lascivious; lustful; Ex. salacious monk
- ♠ **salient** prominent; projecting beyond a line; conspicuous; Ex. salient features
- **saline** salty
- ♠ **sallow** (of the skin) yellowish and unhealthy-looking; sickly in color; Ex. sallow complexion due to jaundice
- ♠ **salubrious** healthful; conducive to health or well-being; socially desirable; Ex. salubrious area; CF. health
- ♠ **salutary** tending to improve; beneficial; wholesome; Ex. The punishment had a salutary effect on the boy; CF. health

- **salvage** rescue (goods or property) from loss; N: saving; property saved
- ♠ **sanctimonious** displaying ostentatious or hypocritical devoutness; N. sanctimony: hypocritical piety
- **sanction** approve; ratify; N: permission; penalty intended to enforce compliance
- **sanctuary** place of refuge; shelter; shrine; holy place; Ex. The outlaw was granted sanctuary in the church.
- **sanguinary** bloody; with much bloodshed
- **sanguine** optimistic; cheerful; hopeful; of the color of blood; red
- ♠ **sap** diminish; weaken; undermine the foundations of (a fortification); Ex. The element kryptonite sapped his strength.

- **sarcasm** cutting ironic remark; scornful remarks; stinging rebuke; ADJ. sarcastic
- ♠ **sardonic** scornfully mocking; disdainful; sarcastic; cynical; Ex. sardonic smile
- ♠ **sartorial** pertaining to tailors or tailoring; Ex. a man of great sartorial elegance; CF. sartor: tailor
- ♠ **sate** satisfy to the full; satisfy to excess; cloy
- ♡ **doze** sleep lightly; nap
- **satellite** small body revolving around a larger one
- **satiate** satisfy fully (physical needs such as hunger); sate; N. satiety: condition of being satiated
- **satire** form of literature in which irony, sarcasm, and ridicule are employed to attack human vice and folly
- **satirical** using satire; mocking
- **saturate** soak thoroughly; imbue; impregnate; charge; fill to capacity
- ♠ **saturnine** morose; gloomy; Ex. Do not be misled by his saturnine countenance.

- ♠ **satyr** half-human, half-bestial being in the court of Dionysus (resembling a goat), portrayed as wanton(unrestrained) and cunning; lecher; CF. faun; CF. goat: lecherous man
- ♠ **saunter** stroll(go for a leisurely walk) slowly; N.
- ♠ **savant** scholar; learned person; CF. savoir: know
- ♠ **savor** enjoy; have a distinctive flavor, smell, or quality; N: taste or smell; distinctive quality
- ♠ **savory** pleasant in taste; tasty; pleasing, attractive, or agreeable; Ex. savory reputation
- ♠ **scabbard** case for a sword blade; sheath
- ♠ **scad** a great quantity; Ex. scads of clothes
- ♠ **scaffold** temporary platform for workers (to work at heights above the ground); bracing framework; platform for execution
- **scale** climb up; ascend; remove or come off in scales; N: flake of epidermis; ascending or descending series of musical tones
- **scanty** meager; insufficient
- ♠ **scapegoat** someone who bears the blame for others; whipping boy; CF. escape+goat
- ♠ **scavenge** hunt through discarded materials for usable items or food; search, especially for food; N. scavenger: one who scavenges; animal that feeds on refuse and carrion
- ♡ **refuse** anything discarded or rejected as worthless; trash
- **scenario** plot outline; screenplay(script for a movie); opera libretto; outline of possible future events
- **schematic** of a schema or scheme; relating to an outline or diagram; using a system of symbols; N. schema: diagrammatic representation; outline
- ♡ **scheme** systematic plan; plot; clever dishonest plan; orderly arrangement of elements; Ex. health insurance scheme; Ex. a scheme to escape taxes; Ex. a color scheme; Ex. a story with no scheme; V: contrive a scheme
- ♠ **schism** division into factions (esp. within a religious body); split
- ♠ **scintilla** trace; minute amount; shred; least bit; Ex. There is not a scintilla of truth; CF. spark
- ♠ **scintillate** sparkle; flash; be animated; be full of life; Ex. scintillating conversation
- ♠ **scoff** laugh (at); mock; ridicule; Ex. scoff at their threats
- ♠ **scotch** stamp out(put an end to); thwart; hinder; Ex. scotch the rumor; CF. cut; CF.
- ♡ **score** number of points; written form of a musical composition; reason; group of 20; notch or incision; Ex. full/vocal score; Ex. Don't worry on that score; V: mark with lines or notches; Ex. score the paper to make it easy to fold
- ♡ **stamp** step on heavily (so as to crush or extinguish); put an end to; imprint or impress with a mark, design, or seal; shape with a die; characterize; Ex. machine stamping out car bodies; Ex. newspaper stamping him as a liar; N. stamping; implement used to stamp; impression stamped; mark; Ex. Her remarks bear the stamp of truth.

- ♠ **scourge** lash; whip (formerly used for punishment); source of severe punishment; V: whip; afflict
- ♠ **scruple** hesitate for ethical reasons; fret about; Ex. She did not scruple to read his diary; N: uneasy feeling arising from conscience; conscience
- **scrupulous** conscientious; extremely thorough; Ex. scrupulous worker
- **scrutinize** examine closely and critically; N. scrutiny
- ♠ **scuffle** struggle confusedly; move off in a confused hurry; N. CF. scuffling twins ?
- ♥ **shuffle** mix together; jumble; move (something) from one place to another; slide (the feet) along the ground while walking; Ex. shuffle papers from one pile to another; N.
- ♠ **scurrilous** abusive; obscene; indecent; Ex. scurrilous remark
- ♠ **scurry** move hastily; hurry; move briskly
- ♠ **scurvy** contemptible; despicable; N: disease caused by deficiency of Vitamin C
- ♠ **scuttle** sink (a ship) by cutting holes in the hull; scrap; discard; N: small hatch in a ship's deck or hull
- ♥ **hull** husk; dry outer covering of a seed; frame or body of a ship
- ♠ **seamy** sordid; base; filthy; unwholesome; Ex. seamy side of city life
- ♥ **base** contemptible; morally bad; inferior in value or quality; Ex. base motives/conduct; Ex. base metal such as iron
- ♠ **sear** burn the surface of; char or burn; brand; parch; cause (a plant) to wither
- ♥ **char** make or become black by burning; reduce or be reduced to carbon or charcoal (black substance made by burning wood) by incomplete combustion
- ♥ **scorch** sear; N.
- ♥ **brand** trademark; mark burned on the hide of an animal; mark burned into the flesh of criminals; mark of disgrace; V: mark with a brand; give a lasting bad name; stigmatize; Ex. The press branded him a liar.
- ♥ **hide** skin of an animal
- **seasoned** experienced
- ♥ **season** enhance the flavor of by adding a spice, etc.; inure; harden; N. seasoning: something used in seasoning
- ♥ **seasonal** of a particular season; Ex. seasonal rise in employment
- ♥ **seasonable** occurring at the proper time or season; opportune; Ex. seasonable intervention in the dispute
- **secession** withdrawal; V. secede: withdraw formally from membership
- **seclusion** isolation; solitude; V. seclude: set apart from others; isolate
- ♠ **secrete** conceal; hide away or cache; produce and release a substance into an organism; CF. secretive
- **sect** separate religious body; faction; group of people with common beliefs within a larger group
- ♥ **sectarian** of a sect; narrow-minded; parochial; N: member of a sect; narrow-minded person
- ♥ **denomination** religious group; unit in a system; name or designation; CF. denominator: common trait or characteristic
- **secular** worldly; not pertaining to church matters or religion; temporal
- ♠ **sedate** composed (with no excitement); grave; V: administer a sedative to; CF. sedative
- **sedentary** requiring sitting; done while sitting; not moving from one place to another; settled; Ex. sedentary job/population
- **sedition** conduct or language inciting rebellion; rebellion; resistance to authority; insubordination; ADJ. seditious
- ♠ **sedulous** diligent; assiduous; paying attention; N. sedulity
- ♠ **seedy** run-down; decrepit; disreputable; having many seeds; Ex. seedy downtown hotel
- ♥ **run-down** (of a place) dilapidated; in a bad condition; (of a person) weak or exhausted
- ♠ **seemly** (of behavior) proper; appropriate
- ♠ **seep** pass slowly through small openings; ooze; trickle; N. seepage
- ♠ **seethe** be violently disturbed; boil; (of a liquid) move about wildly as if boiling; Ex. The nation was seething with discontent.
- ♠ **seine** seine net; net for catching fish
- **seismic** pertaining to earthquakes
- ♠ **semblance** outward appearance; guise; Ex. We called in the troops to bring a/some semblance of order to the city.
- **seminal** related to seed or semen; germinal; creative; providing a basis for further development; influencing future developments; Ex. seminal research in a new field
- ♠ **seminary** school for training future ministers; secondary school, especially for young women
- **senility** old age; feeble-mindedness of old age; ADJ. senile: resulting from old age; showing the weakness of body or mind from old age; Ex. senile dementia
- ♥ **feeble-minded** deficient in intelligence; very stupid
- ♠ **sensitization** process of being made sensitive or acutely responsive to an external agent or substance; V. sensitize: make or become sensitive
- **sensual** devoted to the pleasures of the sense; carnal; voluptuous; Ex. sensual woman/curves/lips
- ♥ **voluptuous** sensual; of or giving sensual pleasure; indulging in sensual pleasures; Ex. voluptuous lines; Ex. voluptuous life of the Romans; N. voluptuary: voluptuous person
- **sensuous** giving pleasure to the senses; pertaining to the physical senses; operating through the senses; sensuous feeling of soft velvet on the skin

- ♠ **sententious** pithy; terse; concise; aphoristic
- ♠ **sentient** capable of sensation and conscious; aware; sensitive; Ex. sentient creature; N. sentience
- **sentinel** sentry; lookout
- ♡ **lookout** act of keeping watch; high place commanding a wide view; person who keeps watch
- ♠ **septic** of or causing sepsis; putrid; producing putrefaction; N. sepsis: poisoning of part of the body (producing pus)
- ♠ **sepulcher** tomb; V: place in a sepulcher; ADJ. sepulchral

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- ♠ **sequester** isolate; segregate; seclude; retire from public life
- ♠ **sere** sear; parched; dry
- ♠ **serendipity** gift for finding valuable things by accident; accidental good fortune or luck; CF. The Three Princes of Serendip
- **serenity** calmness; placidity; ADJ. serene
- ♠ **serpentine** winding; twisting; of or like a serpent; Ex. serpentine course of the river; N. serpent: snake
- ♠ **serrated** having a sawtoothed edge; Ex. serrated leaf
- **servile** slavish; cringing; N. servility
- **servitude** slavery; compulsory labor imposed as a punishment
- ♠ **sever** separate; cut off (a part) from a whole; break up (a relationship); N. severance; CF. severance pay: extra pay given an employee upon leaving a position
- **severity** harshness; intensity; sternness; austerity; ADJ. severe: harsh; strict; extremely violent or intense
- ♠ **sextant** navigation tool used to determine a ship's latitude and longitude (by measuring the altitudes of stars)
- ♠ **shackle** chain; fetter; confine with shackles; N.
- ♠ **sham** pretend; feign; ADJ: not genuine; fake; Ex. sham jewelry; N: something that is not what it appears; impostor; pretense; Ex. The agreement was a sham.
- ♠ **shambles** (place or scene of) complete disorder or ruin; wreck; mess; Ex. After the hurricane, the coast was a shambles.
- ♠ **shard** fragment generally of broken pottery (glass, clay bowl, or cup)
- ♠ **shaving** very thin piece, usually of wood (cut from a surface with a sharp blade)
- ♡ **plane** carpenter's tool for smoothing and leveling wood; V. CF. flat
- ♠ **sheaf** bundle of stalks of grain; any bundle of things tied together
- ♠ **sheathe** place into a case; insert into or provide with a sheath; Ex. He sheathed his dagger; N. sheath: case for a blade
- ♠ **sherbet** flavored dessert ice
- ♠ **shimmer** shine with a flickering light; glimmer intermittently; Ex. The moonlight shimmered on the water; N.
- ♠ **shirk** avoid (responsibility, work, etc.); malingering
- ♠ **shoddy** made of inferior material; sham; not genuine; inferior; dishonest; Ex. shoddy goods/trick
- ♠ **shrew** scolding woman; very small mouselike animal
- **shrewd** clever; astute
- ♠ **shun** keep away from; avoid deliberately; Ex. She has been shunned by her neighbors.

- ♠ **shunt** move (a railway train) from one track to another; turn aside; divert; sidetrack; Ex. shunt traffic around an accident; N.
- ♡ **sidetrack** switch (a railroad car) to a siding; divert from a main issue; N. CF. siding: short section of railroad track connected by switches with a main track
- ♠ **shyster** lawyer using questionable methods; unscrupulous practitioner
- **sibling** brother or sister
- ♠ **sibylline** prophetic; oracular; N. sibyl: woman prophet (in the ancient world)
- ♠ **sidereal** relating to stars; Ex. sidereal day
- ♠ **silt** sediment deposited by running water (at the entrance to a harbor or by a bend in a river)
- ♠ **simian** monkeylike; N: ape or monkey
- **simile** comparison of one thing with another, using the word like or as
- ♠ **simper** smirk; smile in a silly way; smile affectedly
- **simplistic** oversimplified
- **simulate** feign; imitate
- ♠ **sinecure** well-paid position with little responsibility; CF. sine cure: without care; CF. San Serif
- ♠ **sinewy** (of meat) tough; strong and firm; muscular; N. sinew: tendon; strong cord connecting a muscle to a bone
- **singular** being only one; individual; unique; extraordinary; odd; Ex. singular beauty/behavior
- **sinister** evil; ominous
- ♠ **sinuous** twisting; winding; bending in and out; not morally honest
- **skeptic** sceptic; doubter; person who suspends judgment until he has examined the evidence supporting a point of view; ADJ. skeptical; N. skepticism; scepticism
- ♠ **skiff** small light sailboat or rowboat
- ♠ **skimp** provide or use scantily; live very economically; Ex. skimp on necessities; ADJ. skimpy: inadequate in amount; scanty; stingy; niggardly
- ♠ **skinflint** miser; stingy person
- **skirmish** minor fight; minor battle in war; V.
- ♠ **skittish** inconstant; capricious; frivolous; not serious; Ex. charming but skittish young woman; CF. skit
- ♡ **frisk** move about playfully; frolic; ADJ. frisky: playful
- ♠ **skulduggery(skulduggery)** dishonest behavior or action; Ex. skulduggery in the election
- ♠ **skulk** move furtively and secretly; Ex. He skulked through the less fashionable sections of the city.
- ♠ **slacken** slow up; loosen; make or become slack
- ♡ **slack** moving slowly; sluggish; inactive; (of a rope) loose; negligent; lax; Ex. slack season; Ex. slack in one's work; N. V.
- ♠ **slag** glassy residue from smelting metal; dross; waste matter

- **slake** satisfy (thirst); quench; sate
- **slander** defamation; utterance of false and malicious statements; V. ADJ. slanderous
- ♠ **slapdash** hasty and careless; haphazard; sloppy (carelessly done)
- ♠ **sleazy** shabby and dirty; flimsy; insubstantial; Ex. sleazy back-street hotel/fabric
- ♠ **sleep** one that achieves unexpected success; something originally of little value or importance that in time becomes very valuable
- **sleight** dexterity; CF. sleight of hand: legerdemain; quickness of the hands in doing tricks
- ♠ **slew** large quantity or number; Ex. slew of errands left
- ♠ **slight** insult to one's dignity; snub; V: treat as if of small importance; insult; snub; ADJ. small in size; of small importance
- ♠ **slipshod** slovenly; careless; sloppy; untidy; shabby; Ex. slipshod work
- ♠ **slither** slip or slide
- **sloth** slow moving tree-dwelling mammal; laziness; ADJ. slothful: lazy; indolent
- ♠ **slough** (of a snake) shed or cast off (dead outer skin); N: outer layer that is shed
- ♠ **slovenly** untidy; careless in work habits; slipshod; N. sloven: one who is habitually untidy or careless
- ♡ **sledge** large sled drawn by work animals
- ♡ **sleigh** large vehicle drawn by a horse over snow or ice
- ♠ **sluggard** lazy person
- **sluggish** lazy; slow; inactive; lethargic; CF. slug: nail with no shell
- ♠ **sluice** artificial channel for directing or controlling the flow of water (with a gate to regulate the flow)
- ♠ **slur** slander; insult to one's character or reputation; V.
- ♠ **slur** pronounce indistinctly; speak indistinctly; mumble
- ♠ **smattering** slight knowledge; small scattered number or amount; Ex. smattering of German
- ♠ **smelt** melt (ore) for separating and removing the metal; melt or blend ores changing their chemical composition
- ♠ **smirk** conceited smile; offensively self-satisfied smile (often at someone else's misfortune); V.
- ♠ **smolder** smoulder; burn slowly without flame; be liable to break out at any moment; exist in a suppressed state; Ex. smoldering anger
- ♠ **snicker** half-stifled (suppressed) laugh; V.
- ♠ **snivel** complain or whine tearfully; run at the nose; snuffle; Ex. Don't come back sniveling to me.
- ♡ **snuffle** snuffle; sniff repeatedly (in order to keep liquid from running out of the nose)
- **sobriety** moderation (especially regarding indulgence in alcohol); seriousness
- ♡ **sober** serious; solemn; not drunken; abstemious or temperate; V: make or become sober
- ♠ **sodden** thoroughly soaked; dull or stupid as if from drink
- ♠ **sojourn** temporary stay; V: stay for a time
- ♠ **solace** comfort in sorrow or trouble; consolation; V: comfort or console in time of sorrow or trouble
- ♠ **solder** repair or make whole by using a metal alloy; N: metal alloy (usually tin and lead) used in the molten state to join metallic parts
- ♠ **solecism** nonstandard grammatical construction; construction that is flagrantly incorrect grammatically; violation of social etiquette
- **solemnity** seriousness; gravity
- **solicit** entreat; request earnestly; seek to obtain; Ex. solicit votes; CF. solicitor: one who solicits; chief law officer
- ♠ **solicitous** anxious; worried; concerned; eager; Ex. solicitous to do something; N. solicitude
- **soliloquy** talking to oneself (esp. in a play); CF. monologue: soliloquy; long speech by one person (often monopolizing a conversation)
- **solitude** state of being alone; seclusion; ADJ. solitary: existing or living alone (esp. by choice); remote or secluded; single; sole; Ex. solitary life/inn; Ex. no solitary piece of proof
- **solstice** point or time at which the sun is farthest from the equator
- **soluble** able to be dissolved in a liquid; able to be worked out or solved
- **solvent** able to pay all debts; N. solvency
- **solvent** substance that dissolves another; ADJ: capable of dissolving another substance
- **somatic** pertaining to the body; bodily; physical

- ♠ **somber** dark; gloomy; melancholy; depressing; CF. shadow
- **somnambulist** sleepwalker; V. somnambulate; N. somnambulism
- ♠ **somnolent** half asleep; drowsy; N. somnolence
- ♠ **sonorous** resonant; producing a full deep sound; producing sound
- ♡ **sonic** of sound or its speed in air; CF. subsonic, supersonic
- ♡ **sonnet** 14-line poetic verse form with a fixed rhyme pattern
- **sophist** teacher of philosophy; quibbler; employer of fallacious reasoning; N. sophism: plausible but fallacious argument
- **sophisticated** worldly wise and urbane; refined; complex; N. sophistication; V. sophisticate
- **sophistry** seemingly plausible but fallacious reasoning; sophism
- ♠ **sophomoric** immature; half-baked; like a sophomore
- ♠ **soporific** sleep-causing; marked by sleepiness; drowsy
- ♠ **sordid** filthy; foul; base; vile; Ex. sordid bed/story
- ♠ **spangle** small shiny metallic piece sewn to clothing for ornamentation
- **sparse** not thick; thinly scattered; scanty
- ♠ **spartan** without attention to comfort; lacking luxury and comfort; sternly disciplined; Ex. spartan living condition/life
- ♠ **spasmodic** fitful; periodic; of or like a spasm; N. spasm: sudden involuntary muscular contraction; sudden burst of energy or emotion
- ♠ **spat** squabble; minor dispute; minor quarrel
- ♠ **spate** sudden flood or rush; Ex. spate of accidents
- **spatial** relating to space
- ♠ **spatula** broad-bladed instrument used for spreading or mixing
- **spawn** lay eggs (in large numbers); produce offspring (in large numbers); N: eggs of aquatic animals
- **specious** seemingly reasonable but incorrect; misleading (often intentionally)
- **spectral** ghostly; N. specter: spectre; ghost; phantom
- **spectrum** colored band produced when a beam of light passes through a prism; broad and continuous range; Ex. whole spectrum of modern thoughts
- ♠ **spendthrift** someone who wastes money; CF. thrift: accumulated wealth
- ♠ **sphinx-like** enigmatic; mysterious
- ♠ **splice** join together end to end to make one continuous length; fasten together; unite; Ex. splice two strips of tape; N.

- **spontaneity** lack of premeditation; naturalness; freedom from constraint; ADJ. spontaneous: self-generated; unpremeditated; happening without being planned
- ♠ **spoonerism** accidental transposition of sounds in successive words; Ex. "Let me sew you to your sheet" for "Let me show you to your seat"; CF. William Spooner
- ♡ **transpose** reverse the order or position of
- **sporadic** occurring irregularly; intermittent
- ♠ **sportive** playful; frolicsome; merry; CF. sport: play or frolic; CF. sportsmanlike
- ♠ **spruce** neat and trim in appearance; smart; Ex. Be spruce for your job interview; V.
- ♠ **spry** (esp. of older people) vigorously active; nimble
- ♡ **nimble** quick in movement; agile; quick in understanding; Ex. nimble climber/mind
- ♠ **spurious** false; counterfeit; forged; illogical; Ex. spurious arguments
- ♠ **spurn** reject disdainfully; scorn; Ex. She spurned all offers of help.
- ♠ **squabble** minor quarrel; bickering; V: engage in a minor quarrel; Ex. squabbling children
- ♠ **squalor** condition of being squalid; filth; degradation; dirty neglected state; ADJ. squalid: dirty; sordid; morally repulsive; Ex. squalid story
- **squander** waste; spend foolishly
- ♠ **squat** short and thick; stocky; Ex. ugly squat tower; V. N.
- ♠ **staccato** played in an abrupt manner; marked by abrupt sharp sound; Ex. staccato applause
- ♡ **legato** (of music) played smoothly
- **stagnant** (of water) not flowing (often bad-smelling); motionless; stale; not developing; inactive; dull; Ex. stagnant industrial output
- ♠ **staid** serious and sedate; sober; Ex. staid during the funeral ceremony
- **stalemate** deadlock; situation in which further action is blocked
- ♠ **stalwart** physically strong; brawny; steadfast; strong in mind or determination; Ex. stalwart supporter; N: stalwart follower
- **stamina** power of endurance; strength; staying power
- ♠ **stanch** stop or check flow of blood; Ex. stanch the gushing wound
- ♠ **stanza** division of a poem (composed of two or more lines)
- **static** having no motion; unchanging; lacking development; N. stasis: stable state
- **statute** law enacted by the legislature
- **statutory** created by statute or legislative action; regulated by statute; Ex. statutory age limit
- ♠ **steadfast** steadily loyal; unswerving; steady

- **stealth** action of moving secretly or unseen; slyness; sneakiness; secretiveness; ADJ. stealthy
- ♠ **steep** soak; saturate; Ex. steep the fabric in the dye bath; ADJ. precipitous
- **stellar** pertaining to the stars; of a star performer; outstanding; Ex. stellar attraction of the entire performance
- ♠ **stem** stop or check (the flow of); Ex. stem the bleeding from the slashed artery; N: main axis of a plant; stalk
- **stem from** arise from; originate from
- ♠ **stentorian** (of the voice) extremely loud; CF. Stentor: a loud herald in the Iliad
- **stereotype** one regarded as embodying a set image or type; fixed and unvarying representation; standardized mental picture often reflecting prejudice; Ex. stereotype of the happy slave; V: make a stereotype of; represent by a stereotype; Ex. It is wrong to stereotype people; Ex. stereotyped answer
- ♠ **stickler** perfectionist; person who insists things be exactly right
- ♠ **stifle** suppress; extinguish; inhibit; smother or suffocate
- ♡ **smother** kill from lack of air; suppress; cover thickly; Ex. smothered in little stickers
- ♡ **suffocate** die or kill from lack of air; suppress
- ♠ **stigma** token of disgrace; brand; V. stigmatize: mark with a stigma; characterize as disgraceful
- ♠ **stilted** bombastic; stiffly pompous; Ex. stilted rhetoric; CF. stiff: formal
- ♠ **stint** set limits in amount or number; be thrifty; ADJ. stinting, unstinting; CF. stint:savings
- ♠ **stint** supply; allotted amount of work; assigned portion of work; limitation; Ex. two-year stint in the army; Ex. without stint
- ♠ **stipend** pay for services
- ♠ **stipple** paint or draw with dots or short strokes
- **stipulate** state as a necessary condition (of an agreement); make express conditions; specify; Ex. He stipulated payment in advance
- ♠ **stock** standard; kept regularly in stock or supply; typical; routine; common; Ex. stock sizes of paper; Ex. stock excuse/character; N: goods for sale in a shop; OP. unique
- ♠ **stockade** wooden enclosure or pen; fixed line of posts used as defensive barrier
- ♡ **pen** fenced enclosure for animals; confining space; Ex. sheep pen; V: confine in a pen; enclose
- ♠ **stodgy** dull; stuffy; boringly conservative; Ex. stodgy book
- **stoic** stoical; impassive; unmoved by joy or grief; N. CF. stoicism
- ♠ **stoke** stir up a fire or furnace; feed plentifully
- ♠ **stolid** dull; impassive; showing little emotion when strong feelings are expected
- **stratagem** deceptive scheme; clever trick
- **stratified** divided into classes; arranged into strata; V. stratify
- **stratum** layer of earth's surface; layer of society; PL. strata
- ♠ **strew** spread randomly; sprinkle; scatter; Ex. flower girl strewing rose petals
- ♠ **striated** marked with parallel bands; striped; grooved; Ex. striated rocks; V. striate; N. stria: thin groove or line
- ♠ **stricture** severe and adverse criticism; critical comments; limit or restriction
- ♠ **strident** loud and harsh; insistent; N. stridency
- **stringent** (of rules) binding; rigid; marked by scarcity of money; Ex. stringent economic conditions
- ♠ **strut** pompous walk; V: walk in a self-important manner
- ♠ **strut** supporting bar; CF. airplane wing building support
- ♠ **studied** carefully contrived; calculated; unspontaneous; deliberate; thoughtful; Ex. studied remark
- ♠ **stultify** make stupid in mind; cause to appear or become stupid or inconsistent; suppress; frustrate or hinder; Ex. stultifying effect of uninteresting work; Ex. stultify free expression
- ♠ **stupefy** stun; make numb (as with a drug); amaze
- ♠ **stupor** state of being stupefied; state of apathy; daze; lack of awareness
- ♡ **stun** make unconscious or numb as by a blow; amaze; astound
- ♡ **daze** stun as with a blow or shock; bemuse; benumb; N.
- ♠ **stygian** unpleasantly dark; gloomy; hellish; deathly; CF. Styx: the chief river in the subterranean land of the dead
- ♠ **stymie** thwart; present an obstacle; stump
- ♡ **stump** base of a tree trunk left after the rest has been cut down; V: walk in a heavy manner; baffle; puzzle
- ♠ **suavity** urbanity; polish; ADJ. suave: smooth and courteous
- ♠ **subaltern** subordinate
- **subdue** less intense; quieter; Ex. subdued lighting; Ex. subdue: conquer; make less intense; quiet; Ex. subdue one's anger
- **subjective** influenced by personal feelings; occurring or taking place within the mind; unreal; Ex. subjective sensation of the ghostly presence
- **subjugate** conquer; bring under control
- **sublimate** refine; purify; replace (natural urges) with socially acceptable activities; change between a solid state and a gaseous state
- **sublime** causing deep feelings of wonder, joy, respect, etc.; exalted; noble and uplifting; utter

- **subliminal** below the threshold of conscious perception; Ex. subliminal advertisement
- **submissive** willing to obey orders; yielding; timid
- **subordinate** occupying a lower rank; inferior; submissive; N. V: put in a lower rank or class
- ♠ **suborn** persuade to act unlawfully (especially to commit perjury); N. subornation
- ♠ **subpoena** writ(written command issued by a court) summoning a witness to appear in court; V: summon with a subpoena
- **subsequent** following in time or order; later
- **subservient** behaving like a slave; servile; obsequious; subordinate; N. subservience
- **subside** sink to a lower level; settle down; sink to the bottom (as a sediment); descend; grow quiet; become less; moderate; abate
- **subsidiary** serving to assist; subordinate; secondary; of a subsidy; N.
- **subsidy** direct financial aid by government, etc.; V. subsidize: assist with a subsidy
- **subsistence** existence; means of subsisting; means of support; livelihood; V. subsist: exist; maintain life (at a meager level)
- **substantial** of substance; material; solid; essential or fundamental; ample; considerable; well-to-do; wealthy
- **substantiate** support (a claim) with evidence; establish with evidence; verify
- ♠ **substantive** substantial; essential; pertaining to the substance; substantial; considerable; Ex. substantive issues
- ♠ **subsume** include (as a member of a group); encompass
- ♠ **subterfuge** stratagem(deceptive scheme); pretense; evasion; Ex. resort to a harmless subterfuge
- **subtlety** perceptiveness; ingenuity; delicacy; ADJ. subtle: delicate; so slight as to be difficult to detect; able to make fine distinctions; clever; Ex. subtle mind/differences in meaning
- ♠ **subversive** tending to overthrow or ruin; V. subvert: overthrow completely (an established system); destroy completely; CF. undermine ?
- **succor** assist (someone in difficulty); aid; comfort; N.
- ♠ **succulent** juicy; full of juice or sap; full of richness; N: succulent plant such as a cactus
- **succumb** yield (to something overwhelming); give in; die; Ex. succumb to the illness
- ♠ **suffragist** advocate of the extension of voting rights (for women); CF. suffrage
- ♠ **suffuse** spread through or over (with a color or liquid); charge; Ex. A blush suffused her cheeks.
- ♠ **sully** defile; soil; tarnish; Ex. sully one's hands in menial labor
- ♥ **tarnish** make or become dull or discolored; N.
- **sultry** (of weather) hot; sweltering; sensual; voluptuous
- **summation** act of finding the total; summing-up; summary (esp. one given by the judge at the end of a trial)
- ♠ **sumptuous** grand suggesting great expense; lavish; rich; Ex. sumptuous feast
- ♠ **sunder** separate; part; CF. asunder
- ♠ **sundry** miscellaneous; various; several; N. sundries: small miscellaneous items
- ♠ **superannuated** retired or disqualified because of age; outmoded; obsolete
- **supercilious** haughty; arrogant; condescending; patronizing; CF. eyebrow, cilium
- ♠ **supererogatory** superfluous; more than needed or demanded
- **superficial** of the surface; not deep; shallow; not thorough; trivial; Ex. superficial analysis/knowledge
- **superfluous** excessive; overabundant; unnecessary; N. superfluity
- **superimpose** place over something else
- ♠ **supernumerary** person or thing excess of what is necessary; extra; ADJ: additional to the usual or necessary number
- **supersede** replace; cause to be set aside; make obsolete; N. supersession
- ♠ **supine** lying on back; passive; inactive; Ex. The defeated pugilist lay supine; Ex. supine acceptance of the decision
- **supplant** take the place of unfairly; usurp; replace
- **supple** flexible; limber; pliant
- **suppliant** entreating; beseeching; N.
- **supplicate** petition humbly; pray to grant a favor
- ♥ **suppliant** one who supplicates; ADJ.
- **supposition** assumption; hypothesis; surmise; V. suppose
- ♠ **supposititious** assumed; counterfeit; hypothetical
- **suppress** put an end to forcibly; subdue; stifle; overwhelm; inhibit the expression of; check; prevent from being published or made public; Ex. suppress a smile; Ex. suppress the magazine/truth
- ♠ **surfeit** satiate; feed or supply to excess; stuff; indulge to excess in anything; N: surfeiting; excessive amount; Ex. surfeit of food
- ♠ **surly** bad-tempered; rude; cross
- ♥ **cross** bad-tempered; showing ill-humor; angry
- **surmise** guess; N.
- **surmount** overcome
- **surpass** exceed
- **surreptitious** done secretly; secret; furtive; sneaky; hidden
- ♠ **surrogate** substitute; person or thing used in place of another; Ex. surrogate mother; ADJ.

- **surveillance** close observation of a person (esp. one under suspicion); watching; guarding
- ♠ **susceptible** impressionable; easily influenced; sensitive; having little resistance as to a disease; likely to suffer; receptive to; capable of accepting; Ex. susceptible to persuasion/colds; Ex. The agreement is not susceptible of alteration; N. susceptibility
- **sustain** suffer (harm or loss); experience; support; prop; maintain; keep in existence; nourish (to maintain life); Ex. sustain the family/the trapped miners
- **sustenance** sustaining; means of livelihood, support, food, nourishment; something that maintains life; food
- ♠ **suture** stitches sewn to hold the cut edges of a wound or incision; material used in sewing; V: sew together a wound
- ♠ **swarthy** (of a skin or complexion) dark; dusky; Ex. swarthy Italian ?
- ♠ **swathe** swath; wrap around; bandage; Ex. one's head swathed in bandages
- ♠ **swelter** (of a person) suffer from oppressive heat; be oppressed by heat
- ♠ **swerve** deviate; turn aside sharply from a straight course; Ex. swerve from the principle; Ex. The car swerved to the right.
- ♠ **swill** drink greedily
- **swindler** cheater
- ♠ **sybarite** lover of luxury; person devoted to pleasure and luxury; CF. Sybaris: an ancient Greek city in Italy
- **sycophant** servile flatterer; bootlicker; yes man; ADJ. sycophantic
- **syllogism** logical formula consisting of a major premise, a minor premise and a conclusion; deceptive or specious argument
- ♠ **sylvan** pertaining to the woods or the country
- ♠ **symbiosis** interdependent relationship (between groups, species) often mutually beneficial; ADJ. symbiotic; CF. together + life
- **symmetry** arrangement of parts so that balance is obtained; congruity; ADJ. symmetrical
- ♥ **lopsided** heavier or larger on one side than the other; Ex. lopsided way of walking
- **synchronous** similarly timed; simultaneous with; occurring at the same time; V. synchronize
- **synoptic** providing a general overview; summary; N. synopsis
- **synthesis** combining parts or separate things into a whole; the whole so formed; PL. syntheses; V. synthesize
- **synthetic** not natural; artificial; resulting from synthesis; Ex. synthetic fiber; N.
- **tacit** understood (without actually being expressed); not put into words; Ex. tacit agreement
- ♠ **taciturn** habitually silent; talking little
- **tactile** pertaining to the organs or sense of touch
- ♥ **tact** skill or sensitivity in dealing with people without causing offence
- ♥ **tactful** careful not to cause offence; OP. tactless
- ♠ **taint** contaminate; cause to lose purity; modify with a trace of something bad; Ex. tainted reputation; N: stain; touch of decay or bad influence; CF. touch
- ♠ **talisman** charm; object believed to give supernatural powers to or protect its bearer
- ♠ **talon** claw of bird
- ♠ **tangential** only slightly connected; not central; peripheral; digressing; showing divergence; CF. tangent
- **tangible** able to be touched; real; concrete; palpable; possible to realize or understand; Ex. tangible proof
- ♠ **tanner** person who turns animal hides into leather
- ♥ **tan** convert (hide) into leather; make brown by exposure to the sun
- ♠ **tantalize** tease; excite by exposing something desirable while keeping it out of reach; torture with disappointment; CF. Tantalus: Greek mythological figure
- ♠ **tantamount** equivalent in effect or value; Ex. This invasion is tantamount to a declaration of war; CF. amount

- ♠ **tantrum** fit of bad temper; fit of petulance; caprice; Ex. The child went into tantrums.
- ♠ **taper** very thin candle; gradual decrease in the width of a long object; V. make or become gradually narrower toward one end
- ♠ **tarantula** venomous spider
- ♠ **tarry** linger; delay in starting or going; dawdle
- ♠ **taut** tight; strained; tense; ready; OP. slack
- ♠ **tautological** needlessly repetitious; Ex. "It was visible to the eye"; N. tautology: needless repetition of the same sense; statement that is always true
- ♠ **tawdry** cheap and gaudy; Ex. tawdry jewelry
- **taxonomist** specialist in classifying (animals, etc.); CF. taxonomy: science of classification
- **tedium** boredom; weariness; ADJ. tedious
- ♠ **teetotalism** practice of abstaining totally from alcoholic drinks; N. teetotaler;; ADJ. teetotal; CF. T + total
- **temerity** boldness; nerve; rashness; Ex. temerity to ask for a pay increase after only three day's work
- **temper** moderate; make less severe; tone down or restrain; toughen (steel) as by alternate heating and cooling
- **temperament** characteristic frame of mind; disposition; emotional excess; ADJ. temperamental: of temperament; having frequent changes of temper; Ex. temperamental dislike of sports; Ex. temperamental actress
- **temperate** moderate; restrained; self-controlled; moderate in respect to temperature; CF. temperance: moderation and self-restraint; abstinence of alcoholic drinks; Ex. temperance society
- ♠ **tempestuous** stormy; violent; impassioned; N. tempest: violent storm
- **tempo** speed of music
- ♠ **temporal** of time; not lasting forever; limited by time; temporary; secular; worldly
- ♠ **temporize** gain time as by postponing an action; avoid committing oneself
- **tenacious** holding fast (as to a belief); persistent
- **tenacity** firmness; persistence
- ♠ **tendentious** promoting a particular point of view; biased; having an aim; designed to further a cause; Ex. tendentious rather than truth-seeking; CF. tend: move in a certain direction
- **tender** offer formally; extend; Ex. tender one's resignation/the exact fare; N: formal offer; money; Ex. legal tender; ADJ: young and vulnerable; sensitive to the touch; sore; soft; delicate; Ex. child of tender years; Ex. tender wound
- **tenet** doctrine; dogma
- ♠ **tensile** capable of being stretched; of tension; Ex. tensile rubber
- ♥ **tension** stretching; condition of being stretched; mental strain; strained relationship between groups or people
- ♠ **tentative** not fully worked out or developed; provisional; experimental; uncertain; hesitant; not definite or positive; Ex. tentative agreement/reply
- ♠ **tenuous** thin; slim; rare
- **tenure** holding of an office or real estate; time during which such an office is held
- ♠ **tepid** lukewarm; slightly warm; ; half-hearted; not eager; Ex. tepid reaction to the new film; Ex. tepid supporter
- **termination** end; V. terminate
- **terminology** terms used in a science or art; study of nomenclature
- ♠ **terminus** last stop of railroad; end
- ♥ **terminal** part that forms the end; railroad or bus station; ADJ. forming an end; ending in death; fatal; Ex. terminal cancer
- **terrestrial** on or relating to the earth
- **terse** concise; abrupt; pithy
- ♠ **tertiary** third in order or rank
- ♠ **tessellated** mosaic; inlaid; Ex. tessellated pattern
- ♠ **testator** maker of a will; CF. testatrix
- ♠ **testy** irritable; impatient and bad-tempered; short-tempered; N. testiness
- ♠ **tether** tie (an animal) with a rope or tether; N: rope or chain to which an animal is tied; limit of one's endurance; Ex. the end of one's tether
- **thematic** of a theme; relating to a unifying motif or idea
- **theocracy** government run by religious leaders
- **theoretical** based on theory; not practical or applied; hypothetical
- **therapeutic** curative; N. therapy
- ♠ **thermal** pertaining to heat; producing heat; warm; Ex. thermal bath; N: rising current of warm air
- ♠ **thespian** pertaining to drama; N: actor or actress
- ♥ **drama** prose or verse composition to be performed by actors; play; exciting and unusual situation
- ♠ **thrall** slave; bondage; slavery; Ex. Her beauty held him in thrall; CF. enthrall
- ♠ **threadbare** worn through till the threads show; shabby and poor; hackneyed; Ex. threadbare excuses
- **thrifty** careful about money; economical; N. thrift
- **thrive** prosper; flourish
- **throes** violent anguish
- ♠ **throng** crowd (of people or things); V.
- ♠ **throttle** strangle; regulate the speed of with a throttle; N: valve that regulates the flow; CF. throat ?
- ♥ **strangle** kill by choking or suffocating; suppress
- **thwart** block or hinder; baffle; frustrate

- ♠ **tightwad** miser; excessively frugal person
- ♠ **tiller** handle used to move boat's rudder (to steer)
- ♠ **timbre** quality of a musical tone produced by a musical instrument (which distinguishes it from others of the same pitch)
- **timidity** lack of self-confidence or courage
- **timorous** fearful; timid; demonstrating fear
- ♠ **tipple** drink (alcoholic beverages) frequently; N: alcoholic drink
- ♠ **tirade** long angry denunciatory speech; diatribe; harangue; extended scolding; denunciation
- ♡ **tardy** slow; sluggish; not on time; late; Ex. tardy arrival
- **titanic** gigantic; N. titan
- ♠ **tithe** tax of one-tenth (contributed to a church); V: pay a tithe
- ♠ **titillate** tickle; excite pleasantly; Ex. not to titillate the audience but to enlighten it
- ♡ **tickle** touch (the body) lightly so as to cause laughter; please
- **title** name (of a book, film, etc.); mark of rank; formal appellation as of rank or office (such as Lord or General); right or claim to possession; championship; Ex. title as head of the family; Ex. title to the estate
- ♠ **titter** nervous giggle; nervous laugh; V.
- ♠ **titular** of a title; in name only; nominal; having the title of an office without the obligations; Ex. titular head of the company
- ♠ **toady** servile flatterer; yes man; sycophant; V: be a toady to; fawn
- ♠ **toga** Roman outer robe
- **tome** large volume; book
- ♡ **handsome** large in quantity; generous; Ex. handsome reward

- ♠ **tonsure** shaving of the head especially by person entering religious orders; V.
- ♠ **topography** physical features of a region (such as the shape and height); CF. topo-: place
- ♡ **torpedo** underwater explosive apparatus; V.
- **torpor** lethargy; sluggishness; dormancy; ADJ. torpid: lethargic; lazy; inactive; (of an animal) dormant; hibernating
- ♠ **torque** twisting force; force producing rotation
- ♠ **torrent** rushing stream; flood; Ex. The rain fell in torrents.
- ♠ **torrid** (of weather) hot or scorching; passionate; Ex. torrid love affairs
- ♠ **torso** trunk of statue with head and limbs missing; human trunk
- ♡ **trunk** main wooden stem of a tree; human body excluding the head and limbs; torso; prehensile nose of an elephant
- ♠ **tortuous** winding; full of curves; Ex. tortuous mountain road
- ♠ **totter** shake or move unsteadily; sway as if about to fall
- **touchstone** stone used to test the fineness of gold alloys; criterion; standard
- ♠ **touchy** oversensitive; easily offended; irascible; delicate; needing delicate handling; Ex. touchy situation
- ♠ **tout** promote or publicize (one's goods or service); praise excessively (as a form of advertisement); CF. advertise
- **toxic** poisonous; N. toxicity
- ♠ **tract** propaganda pamphlet (esp. by a religious or political group); expanse of land; region of indefinite size; system of related organs; Ex. digestive tract
- **tractable** docile; easily managed; (of something) easily changed or molded; N. tractability
- **traduce** expose to slander
- **trajectory** path taken by a projectile; Ex. trajectory of a bullet
- ♡ **elevation** elevated position; altitude; height; flat upright side of a building; angle made by pointing a gun; Ex. The elevation of her style is much admired; Ex. front elevation of the house
- **tranquillity** calmness; peace
- **transcendent** exceeding ordinary limits; superior; surpassing; V. transcend: go beyond; exceed; surpass; N. transcendancy
- ♡ **transcendental** going beyond common thought or ideas; impossible to understand by practical experiences or practices; known only by studying thoughts or intuition; OP. empirical; CF. transcendentalism
- **transcribe** copy; write a copy of; N. transcription
- **transgression** violation of a law; sin; V. transgress: go beyond (a limit); violate; do wrong
- **transient** staying for a short time; momentary; temporary; N: one that is transient
- **transition** going from one state of action to another
- **transitory** transient; impermanent; fleeting; N. transitoriness
- **translucent** partly transparent
- **transmute** transform; change; convert to something different
- **transparent** permitting light to pass through freely; easily detected; obvious; clear; Ex. transparent lie
- ♠ **transpire** (of a fact) become known; be revealed; happen; give off (watery waste matter) through pores
- ♠ **transport** strong emotion; rapture; Ex. in a transport/ transports of; V: move to strong emotion; enrapture
- ♠ **trappings** outward decorations; ornaments (as an outward sign of rank)
- ♠ **traumatic** (of an experience) deeply shocking; pertaining to an injury caused by violence; N. trauma: serious wound; emotional shock that causes lasting psychological damage
- ♠ **travail** strenuous work; toil; painful labor; labor of childbirth
- **traverse** go through or across
- ♠ **travesty** copy or example of something that completely misrepresents the true nature of the real thing; comical parody or imitation; treatment aimed at making something appear ridiculous; Ex. travesty of justice; OP. paragon
- **treatise** article treating a subject systematically and thoroughly
- ♠ **trek** travel; journey; V: make a long difficult journey
- **tremor** trembling; slight quiver (as of the earth or from nervous agitation)
- **tremulous** trembling; wavering
- **trenchant** cutting; incisive; keen
- ♡ **furrow** long shallow trench made by a plow; deep wrinkle in the skin; V.
- **trepidation** fear; nervous apprehension
- ♠ **tribulation** suffering; ordeal; distress; trial
- ♠ **tribunal** court of justice
- ♡ **tribune** official of ancient Rome elected by the plebians to protect their rights; protector of the people
- **tribute** tax levied by a ruler; payment made by one nation to another in acknowledgment of submission; mark of respect (such as praise or gift); Ex. pay tribute to
- ♠ **trident** three-pronged spear
- ♡ **prong** pointed projecting part
- **trifling** trivial; unimportant
- ♡ **trifle** something of little importance or value; small amount; Ex. a trifle; V: treat without seriousness; flirt
- **trigger** set off; start

- ♠ **trilogy** group of three related works (connected by a shared subject but each complete in itself)
- ♠ **trinket** knickknack; bauble; cheap jewelry
- **trite** hackneyed; commonplace
- **trivia** trifles; unimportant matters
- ♠ **troth** pledge of good faith especially in betrothal; betrothal; Ex. by my troth
- ♠ **trough** long narrow container for feeding farm animals; lowest point (of a wave, business cycle, etc.); long narrow depression as between waves
- ♠ **truculence** aggressiveness; ferocity; ADJ. truculent: aggressive; pugnacious; fierce
- ♠ **truism** self-evident truth
- **truncate** cut the top off; shorten
- ♠ **tryst** meeting arranged by lovers; arrangement between lovers to meet
- ♠ **tumid** (of a part of the body) swollen; distended; bombastic; pompous
- ♠ **overblown** inflated; exaggerated
- ♠ **tumult** commotion of a great crowd; riot; noise; uproar; ADJ. tumultuous: noisy and disorderly
- **tundra** rolling treeless plain in Siberia and arctic North America
- ♥ **rolling** (of land) rising and falling in long gentle slopes; happening continuously by stages; Ex. rolling devolution of power to local governments
- ♠ **turbid** (of a liquid) having the sediment disturbed; muddy; thick
- **turbulence** state of violent agitation; ADJ. turbulent: violently agitated or disturbed
- ♠ **tureen** deep dish for serving soup
- ♠ **turgid** swollen; distended (as from liquid)
- ♠ **turmoil** extreme confusion; great commotion and confusion; Ex. throw the country into turmoil
- ♠ **turncoat** traitor
- ♠ **turpitude** depravity; baseness; Ex. moral turpitude
- ♠ **tutelage** guardianship; training; function of a tutor; instruction
- ♠ **tutelary** protective; pertaining to a guardianship; Ex. tutelary deities
- ♠ **tycoon** wealthy and powerful businessperson; wealthy leader; magnate; Ex. business tycoon
- **typhoon** tropical hurricane or cyclone
- **tyranny** oppression; cruel government; ADJ. tyrannical: of a tyrant or tyranny; despotic; V. tyrannize: treat tyrannically; oppress
- **tyro** beginner; novice
- **ubiquitous** being everywhere; omnipresent; N. ubiquity
- ♥ **wade** walk through a substance, such as water, that impedes movement

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- ♠ **ulterior** intentionally hidden; beyond what is evident; situated beyond; unstated and often questionable; Ex. ulterior motive
- **ultimate** final; not susceptible to further analysis; fundamental; Ex. The sun is the ultimate source of energy.
- ♡ **eventual** happening at last as a result; Ex. eventual victory
- ♠ **ultimatum** last demand; last warning; last statement of conditions that must be met; Ex. They have ignored our ultimatum.
- ♠ **umbrage** resentment; anger; sense of injury or insult; Ex. take umbrage at his rudeness
- **unaccountable** unexplicable; impossible to account for; unreasonable or mysterious
- **unanimity** complete agreement; ADJ. unanimous
- **unassailable** not open to attack; impregnable; not subject to question
- **unassuaged** unsatisfied; not soothed
- ♠ **unassuming** modest; Ex. the champion's unassuming manner
- ♠ **unbridled** violent; uncontrolled; Ex. unbridled rage/greed
- ♡ **bridle** harness fitted about a horse's head (used to restrain); curb; check; V: put a bridle on; control or restrain; show anger
- ♠ **uncanny** strange; mysterious; Ex. uncanny knack
- ♡ **knack** special talent; art
- ♠ **unconscionable** unscrupulous; not guided by conscience; excessive; beyond reason; Ex. unconscionable demand
- ♠ **uncouth** boorish; clumsy in speech or behavior; outlandish
- ♠ **unction** the act of anointing with oil; Ex. extreme unction
- ♠ **unctuous** oily; bland; insincerely suave
- **underlying** lying below; fundamental
- **undermine** weaken gradually; sap; dig a mine beneath
- **underscore** underline; emphasize
- **undulating** moving with a wavelike motion; V. undulate; CF. und: wave
- ♠ **unearth** dig up; discover (facts) by careful searching; Ex. He unearthed some secrets about her; OP. conceal
- ♠ **unearthly** not earthly; supernatural; weird; ghostly
- ♡ **weird** eerie; strange; unnatural
- **unequivocal** plain; clear; obvious
- **unerringly** infallibly; ADJ. unerring: making no mistakes
- ♠ **unexceptionable** entirely acceptable; not offering any basis for criticism
- **unfaltering** steadfast; firm; not changing
- **unfeigned** genuine; real
- **unfetter** liberate; free from chains; V. unfetter
- ♡ **hostage** person who is kept as a prisoner by an enemy so that the other side will do what the enemy demands
- ♠ **unfledged** immature; not having the feathers necessary to fly; CF. fledgling
- **unfrock** defrock; strip a priest or minister of church authority
- ♡ **disbar** make (a lawyer) leave the bar or the legal profession
- ♡ **debar** bar; forbid; exclude; Ex. debarred from jury services
- ♡ **bar** railing in a courtroom; legal profession; vertical line dividing a staff into equal measures; Ex. prisoner at the bar; V: shut in or out with bars; forbid; exclude; CF. barrister
- ♡ **bastard** illegitimate child
- ♠ **ungainly** (of someone) awkward in movement; clumsy; (of something) unwieldy; Ex. ungainly dancer/instrument
- ♠ **unguent** ointment
- **uniformity** sameness; monotony; ADJ. uniform: the same all over
- ♠ **unilateral** one-sided; involving or affecting only one side; Ex. unilateral declaration
- ♠ **unimpeachable** that cannot be impeached; beyond doubt or question; blameless and exemplary
- **uninhibited** unrepressed; free in behavior and feelings
- **unintimating** unfrightening
- **unique** without an equal; single in kind
- ♠ **unison** unity of pitch (in musical performance); complete accord; Ex. The choir sang in unison.
- ♡ **choir** group of people who sing together (esp. during religious services); place for choir
- **universal** characterizing or affecting all; general; present everywhere; of the universe; cosmic; Ex. universal agreement; Ex. a subject of universal interest
- ♠ **unkempt** disheveled; uncared for in appearance; not combed; CF. comb
- ♠ **unmitigated** (of something bad) not moderated; unrelieved or immoderate; without qualification; absolute; Ex. unmitigated disaster
- ♠ **unobtrusive** inconspicuous; not blatant
- **unprecedented** having no previous example; novel; unparalleled
- ♠ **unprepossessing** unattractive
- ♡ **prepossessing** attractive; CF. preoccupying ?
- **unravel** disentangle; solve
- **unrequited** not requited; not reciprocated; Ex. unrequited love
- **unruly** disobedient; lawless; difficult to control

- **unsavory** distasteful; disagreeable; morally offensive; Ex. unsavory activity/reputation
- ♠ **unscathed** unharmed; Ex. escape the accident unscathed
- ♠ **unseemly** unbecoming; not proper in behavior; indecent; Ex. leave with unseemly haste
- ♠ **unsightly** ugly; unpleasant to look at
- ♠ **unsullied** untarnished; CF. sully
- ♠ **untenable** (of a position, esp. in an argument) indefensible; not able to be maintained
- ♠ **untoward** unexpected and adverse; unfortunate or unlucky; Ex. untoward encounter
- **unwarranted** unjustified; having no justification; groundless; baseless; undeserved
- **unwieldy** awkward (to carry or move); cumbersome; unmanageable
- ♠ **unwitting** not knowing; unaware; unintentional; Ex. She was their unwitting accomplice; Ex. unwitting insult; CF. wit: know
- ♠ **unwonted** unaccustomed; unusual; Ex. He arrived with unwonted punctuality.
- ♠ **upbraid** reprimand; severely scold
- ♥ **braid** plait; interweave strands or lengths of; make by weaving strands together; N: braided segment (as of hair)
- ♠ **uproarious** marked by commotion or uproar; very noisy (esp. with laughter); hilarious; causing loud laughter; extremely funny
- ♥ **uproar** noisy confusion
- ♠ **upshot** outcome; final result
- ♠ **urbane** suave; refined in manner; elegant
- ♠ **urchin** mischievous child (usually a boy); CF. urchin: hedgehog; CF. porcupine: pig with spikes ?; CF. sea urchin
- **ursine** bearlike; pertaining to a bear
- ♠ **usurp** seize another's power or rank (without legal authority); supplant; appropriate; N. usurpation; CF. take for one's own use
- ♠ **usury** lending money at illegal high rates of interest
- **utopia** ideal place, state, or society; ADJ. utopian
- ♥ **Shangri-la** imaginary remote paradise on earth; CF. Lost Horizon
- ♠ **uxorious** excessively submissive or devoted to one's wife; CF. uxor: wife
- ♠ **vacillate** waver (in opinion); fluctuate; sway to and fro; N. vacillation
- ♠ **vacuous** empty; lacking in ideas; inane; stupid; Ex. vacuous expression; N. vacuity
- **vagabond** wanderer (without a permanent home); tramp
- ♥ **tramp** walk with a heavy step; travel on foot; N: vagrant; one who travels aimlessly about; long walk; sound of heavy walking
- ♥ **trample** step heavily with the feet; crush under the feet
- ♥ **tread** walk; trample; N: grooved face of a tire; horizontal part of a step
- ♠ **vagary** capricious happening; caprice; whim; CF. wander
- **vagrant** wandering from place to place; roving; stray; moving in a random fashion; Ex. vagrant thoughts; N. vagrancy
- **vagrant** homeless wanderer
- ♠ **vainglorious** boastful; excessively conceited; N. vainglory: great vanity
- **valedictory** pertaining to farewell; N: farewell address (esp. at graduation exercises)
- ♥ **valediction** saying farewell; expression of leave-taking
- ♥ **leave-taking** farewell or departure
- **valid** logically convincing; sound; legally acceptable; effective; Ex. valid reasoning/passport
- ♥ **sound** in good condition; showing good judgment or good sense; thorough; complete; Ex. sound mind/investment/training
- **validate** make valid; confirm; ratify
- **valor** bravery; ADJ. valiant: possessing valor; brave
- **vampire** ghostly being that sucks the blood of the living
- ♠ **vanguard** forerunners; foremost position of an army; advance forces; foremost position in a trend or movement; CF. rearguard
- ♥ **avantgarde** group of artists whose work is based on the newest ideas and methods; CF. vanguard
- **vantage** position giving an advantage (such as a strategic point); CF. vantagepoint
- ♠ **vapid** lacking liveliness; dull and unimaginative; insipid and flavorless; Ex. vapid lecture
- **vaporize** turn into vapor (steam, gas, fog, etc.)
- ♠ **variegated** (esp. of a flower or leaf) many-colored
- ♥ **variegate** change the appearance of (by marking with different colors)
- ♠ **vassal** in feudalism, one who held land of a superior lord; subordinate or dependent
- ♠ **vaunted** boasted; bragged; highly publicized; V. vaunt: boast; brag
- ♠ **veer** change in direction; swerve
- ♠ **vegetate** live in a monotonous way (without interests or activity); CF. vegetation: plants of an area; CF. vegetarian; CF. vegan
- **vehement** forceful; intensely emotional; with marked vigor; strong; N. vehemence

□ **velocity** speed

♠ **venal** capable of being bribed; corrupt; CF. vernal

♠ **vendetta** blood feud (esp. between two families); CF. Nina Williams

□ **vendor** seller

♠ **veneer** thin surface layer (of good quality wood, glued to a base of inferior material); cover; surface show; façade; V.

♠ **venerable** deserving high respect; commanding respect; CF. command: deserve and get

♠ **venerate** revere; treat with great respect

♠ **venial** (of a fault or sin) forgivable; trivial

♠ **venison** meat of a deer; CF. cow: beef; CF. pig: pork, ham, bacon; CF. calf: veal; CF. sheep: mutton; CF. lamb: lamb

♠ **venom** poison (of an animal); hatred; Ex. remarks full of venom; ADJ. venomous

♠ **vent** small opening; outlet (as of fumes or a gas); Ex. He gave vent to his anger by kicking the chair.

♠ **vent** release or discharge through a vent; express (esp. unfairly); utter; Ex. He vented his wrath on his family.

♡ **ventilate** admit fresh air into to replace stale air

♠ **ventral** abdominal

□ **ventriloquist** someone who can make his or her voice seem to come from another person or thing (without moving lips or jaws); N. ventriloquism, ventriloquy

□ **venture** risk; expose to risk; dare; undertake a risk; N.

♡ **brave** face courageously; Ex. brave the storm

□ **venturesome** (of a person) bold; adventurous; daring; (of an action) risky

♠ **venue** location; place (of a crime, trial, gathering, etc.); CF. come

♠ **veracious** (of a person) truthful

♠ **veracity** truthfulness; adherence to the truth

□ **verbalize** put into words; ADJ. verbal: of words; spoken rather than written; oral; of a verb

□ **verbatim** word for word; in the same words; repeating the actual words exactly

□ **verbiage** pompous array of words; too many unnecessary words; wordiness

□ **verbose** wordy; N. verbosity

♠ **verdant** green; covered with green plants or grass; lush in vegetation; Ex. verdant meadows

♡ **lush** (of a plant or grass) growing very well

♠ **verdigris** green coating or patina on copper which has been exposed to the weather

□ **verge** border; edge, rim, or margin; Ex. on the verge of: very near to; V: border on

♠ **verisimilar** having the appearance of truth or reality; probable or likely to be true; plausible

♠ **verisimilitude** appearance of truth; quality of appearing to be true or real; likelihood; Ex. verisimilitude of her performance as Lady Macbeth

♠ **veritable** being truly so; real or genuine; actual; not false or imaginary

□ **verity** quality of being true; lasting truth or principle; Ex. the verity of his testimony; Ex. one of the eternal verities

♠ **vernacular** living language (as compared to the official language); language spoken in a country or region; natural style; Ex. lapse into the vernacular

♠ **vernal** pertaining to spring

□ **versatile** having many talents; capable of working in many fields; having many uses or functions; N. versatility

□ **vertex** summit; highest point; PL. vertices

□ **vertigo** severe dizziness; giddiness

♠ **verve** enthusiasm (as in artistic performance or composition); liveliness; vigor

□ **vestige** trace; remains; Ex. vestiges of some ancient religion

♡ **veto** vested power to reject a bill; exercise of this right; V: prevent or forbid by exercising the power of veto

□ **vex** annoy; distress

□ **viable** capable of maintaining life; feasible; practical or workable; Ex. viable scheme

♠ **viand** food; CF. live

♠ **vicarious** experienced as if one were taking part in the experience of another; done by a deputy for other people; acting as a substitute; Ex. vicarious thrill at the movies; Ex. the vicarious sufferings of Christ

♡ **vicar** parish priest; representative

♠ **vicissitude** change (esp. from good to bad); change of fortune; CF. the last emperor of China

♠ **victuals** food; provisions; V. victual: provide with food

□ **vie** contend; compete

□ **vigilant** watchful; on the alert; watchfully awake; alert to spot danger; N. vigilance

♡ **vigil** keeping watch (during normal sleeping hours); Ex. all-night vigil

♡ **vigilante** one who without authority assumes law enforcement powers

□ **vigor** active strength; energy; enthusiasm; ADJ. vigorous

♠ **vignette** small drawing placed at the beginning or end of a chapter; picture; short literary sketch; short written description of a character or scene

♠ **villify** slander; speak evil of; N. vilification

♠ **vindicate** clear from blame; free from blame or accusation (with supporting proof); exonerate; substantiate; justify or support; avenge; Ex. vindicate one's client; Ex. vindicate one's claim; CF. vindicator

♠ **vindictive** disposed to revenge; vengeful; out for revenge; spiteful; intended to cause harm; malicious; Ex. vindictive streak

- ♠ **vintner** wine merchant; winemaker; seller of wine
- **viper** poisonous snake
- **virile** manly; having masculine spirit or strength; full of strength
- **virtual** in essence; existing in essence though not in actual form; for practical purposes; Ex. virtual ruler/space
- **virtue** goodness; moral excellence; good quality; advantage; Ex. by virtue of; Ex. make a virtue of necessity
- ♠ **virtuoso** highly skilled artist (esp. in music); Ex. piano virtuoso
- ♠ **virulent** (of a disease or poison) extremely harmful or poisonous; (of a feeling) hostile; bitter; N. virulence; CF. virus; CF. venom
- **virus** disease communicator
- ♠ **visage** face; appearance
- ♠ **visceral** felt in one's inner organs; N. viscera: internal body organs; CF. eviscerate
- ♠ **viscid** adhesive; gluey
- **viscous** (of a liquid) thick and sticky; gluey; viscid; CF. consistency
- ♠ **vise** vice; tool for holding work in place; clamping device
- ♠ **visionary** produced by imagination; fanciful; mystical; showing foresight; N: one having foresight; one given to speculative impractical ideas
- ♡ **vision** eyesight; foresight; mental image produced by the imagination; experience of seeing the supernatural
- **vital** full of life; animated; vibrant and lively; critical; of great importance; necessary to stay alive; of life; living; breathing; N. vitality; V. vitalize
- ♡ **vibrant** full of vigor or energy; vibrating
- ♠ **vitiate** spoil the effect of; make inoperative; corrupt morally
- ♠ **vitreous** of glass; pertaining to or resembling glass; V. vitrify: change into glass; CF. petrify
- ♠ **vitriolic** causing sharp pain to the mind; caustic; corrosive; sarcastic; of vitriol; N. vitriol: sulphuric acid (which burns flesh deeply); bitterly abusive expression; caustic expression; CF. glass
- ♠ **vituperative** abusive; scolding; V. vituperate: berate; scold; rail against abusively
- ♠ **vivacious** lively or animated; sprightly
- ♡ **sprightly** lively
- **vivisection** act of dissecting living animals
- ♠ **vixen** female fox; ill-tempered woman; CF. shrew
- **vociferous** clamorous; noisy; V. vociferate: cry out loudly (when complaining)
- ♠ **vogue** popular fashion; Ex. Jeans became the vogue.

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- ♠ **volatile** changeable; of a quickly changing nature (as of temper); mercurial; tending to violence; evaporating rapidly; Ex. volatile character/situation in the street
- **volition** act of using one's will; act of making a conscious choice; Ex. She selected this dress of her own volition.
- **voluble** fluent; talkative; glib; N. volubility
- ♥ **volley** simultaneous discharge of a number of shots; V.
- **voluminous** having great volume (as of a garment or container); bulky; large
- ♥ **bulk** size or volume (esp. when very large); main part; Ex. The bulk of the work has already been done; ADJ. bulky: having great size
- ♥ **voodoo** religion practiced chiefly in Haiti
- **voracious** ravenous; eating large quantities of food; exceedingly eager; insatiable; Ex. voracious animal/reader
- **vortex** whirlwind; whirlpool; center of turbulence; predicament into which one is inexorably plunged
- ♠ **vouchsafe** grant condescendingly; guarantee; Ex. vouchsafe your fair return on your investment
- ♥ **vouch** give a personal guarantee; Ex. I can vouch for his integrity; N. voucher
- ♠ **voyeur** Peeping Tom; person who derives sexual gratification from observing the sexual acts of others
- **vulnerable** susceptible to wounds or attack; N. vulnerability
- ♠ **vulpine** like a fox; crafty
- ♥ **craft** skill (esp. with one's hands); skill in deceiving people; guile; ADJ. crafty: cleverly deceitful; cunning
- ♥ **vulture** carrion-eating birds
- ♥ **vying** contending; CF. vie
- ♠ **waffle** speak equivocally about an issue; N.
- ♠ **waft** move gently (in air or in seas) by wind or waves; Ex. leaves wafting past the window
- ♠ **waggish** humorous; mischievous; tricky
- ♥ **wag** shake repeatedly from side to side; Ex. The dog wagged its tail; N: humorous person; wit
- ♠ **waif** homeless child or animal; Ex. waifs and strays
- **waive** give up temporarily; yield; N. waiver: waiving a right or claim; document that waives a right or claim
- ♠ **wake** trail of ship or other object through water; path of something that has gone before; Ex. hunger followed in the wake of the war
- ♠ **wallow** roll in mud; indulge in; (of a ship) roll in a rough sea; become helpless; Ex. wallow in the mud/luxury
- ♠ **wan** having a pale or sickly color; pallid
- ♠ **wanderlust** strong longing to travel
- ♠ **wane** decrease in size or strength (after being full); grow gradually to an end; Ex. The moon waxes and wanes every month; N.
- ♠ **wangle** achieve by cleverness or trick; wiggle out; fake; Ex. She tried to wangle an invitation to the party.
- ♥ **wiggle** wriggle; move from side to side with irregular twisting motions
- ♥ **fake** not genuine; N: one that is not genuine; impostor; sham; V: counterfeit; Ex. fake the results of the experiment/the signature
- ♠ **wanton** unrestrained; gratuitously cruel; willfully malicious; unchaste; sexually improper; promiscuous; Ex. wanton spending/killing; CF. having no just cause
- ♠ **warble** (of a bird) sing; babble; N.
- ♥ **warp** twist out of shape; N.
- **warranted** justified; authorized
- ♥ **warrant** justification; written order that serves as authorization (esp. a judicial writ); Ex. search/death warrant; V: justify; guarantee
- **warranty** guarantee; assurance by seller
- ♠ **warren** tunnels in which rabbits live; overcrowded living area; crowded conditions in which people live
- **wary** very cautious; watchful
- ♠ **wastrel** waster; profligate
- ♠ **wax** increase gradually (as the moon); grow
- ♠ **waylay** ambush; lie in wait for and attack
- ♥ **ambush** act of lying in wait to attack by surprise; sudden attack made from a concealed position; Ex. lie in ambush; V.
- ♠ **wean** accustom a baby not to nurse; accustom (the young of a mammal) to take nourishment other than by suckling; give up a cherished activity; cause to gradually leave (an interest or habit); Ex. wean oneself from cigarettes
- ♠ **weather** pass safely through (a storm or difficult period); endure the effects of weather or other forces
- ♠ **welt** raised mark from a beating or whipping
- ♠ **welter** confusion; turmoil; confused mass; bewildering jumble; Ex. welter of data
- ♠ **welter** wallow (as in mud or high seas); lie soaked (as in blood); Ex. The victims weltered in their blood.
- ♠ **wheddle** deceive, persuade, or obtain by flattery; cajole; coax; Ex. wheedle a promise out of her
- ♠ **whelp** young animal (esp. of the dog or cat family); young wolf, dog, tiger, etc.
- ♠ **whet** sharpen; stimulate; Ex. whet someone's appetite
- ♠ **whiff** puff or gust (of air, scent, etc.); short-lasting smell; hint; Ex. whiff of perfume/scandal
- ♠ **whimsical** capricious; fanciful; amusingly strange
- ♥ **whim** sudden capricious idea; fancy
- ♥ **whimsy** whim; tendency to behave amusingly strangely; Ex. story full of whimsy
- ♠ **whinny** neigh like a horse; CF. neigh: make the sound which horses make

- ♠ **whit** small amount; smallest speck; Ex. not a whit of
- ♠ **whittle** pare; cut away thin bits (from wood); fashion in this way; reduce gradually; trim
- ♡ **pare** cut away the outer covering or skin of (with a knife); trim; Ex. pare apples/expenses
- ♠ **whorl** ring of leaves around stem; ring; circular arrangement; Ex. whorls on the fingers
- **willful** wilful; intentional; headstrong
- ♡ **wilt** loose freshness; droop
- **wily** crafty; cunning; artful; N. wile: deceitful stratagem
- ♠ **wince** move back suddenly; shrink back; flinch; Ex. She winced as she touched the cold body.
- ♡ **start** move suddenly or involuntarily; Ex. start at the sight of a snake
- ♠ **windfall** fallen fruit; unexpected lucky event
- ♠ **winnow** sift; separate the chaff from grain by blowing; separate good parts from bad; CF. wind
- ♡ **sift** put through a sieve to separate fine from coarse particles; sort or examine carefully
- ♠ **winsome** charming (in a childlike way); agreeable; gracious; engaging
- ♠ **wispy** thin; slight; barely discernible
- ♡ **wisp** small bunch (of hair); faint streak (of smoke)
- ♠ **wistful** sadly thoughtful (because of desires or memories); sadly pensive; vaguely longing
- ♠ **withdrawn** introverted; retiring; remote
- ♡ **remote** distant in manner; aloof
- ♠ **wither** (of a plant) dry up from loss of moisture; lose freshness; shrivel; decay
- ♡ **shrivel** make or become shrunken and wrinkled (often by drying)
- ♠ **withhold** refuse to give; hold back; Ex. withholding tax
- **withstand** stand up against; resist successfully
- **witless** lacking intelligence or wit; foolish; idiotic
- ♠ **witticism** witty saying; wisecrack (clever joking remark)
- **wizardry** sorcery; magic
- ♠ **wizened** shriveled; withered; Ex. wizened apple/old lady
- **woe** great sorrow; deep inconsolable grief; affliction; suffering; Ex. financial woes
- ♡ **woeful** sad; (of something bad) deplorable; deplorably bad; Ex. woeful housing conditions
- ♠ **wont** (the stated person's) habit or custom; habitual procedure; ADJ. wonted: customary
- **worldly** engrossed in matters of this earth; not spiritual; of the material world
- ♠ **wrangle** quarrel noisily; obtain through arguing; herd cattle; N.
- ♡ **herd** group of animals; crowd; one who looks after a herd; Ex. shepherd/goatherd; Ex. herd instinct; Ex. herdsman; V: come together in a herd; look after a herd; Ex. herd cattle
- **wrath** anger; fury
- ♠ **wreak** inflict; Ex. wreak one's vengeance on
- **wrench** twist; pull; strain; Ex. He wrenched the gun out of her hands.
- ♠ **wrest** obtain by pulling violently; pull away; take by violence; Ex. wrest victory from their grasp
- ♠ **writ** written command issued by a court (telling someone to do or not to do something)
- ♠ **writhe** twist in coils; contort in pain
- ♠ **wry** (esp. of an expression of the face) twisted; with a humorous twist (expressing displeasure)
- **xenophobia** fear or hatred of foreigners; N. xenophobe
- ♠ **yen** strong desire; longing; urge; Ex. yen for travel
- ♠ **yeoman** man or farmer owning small estate; middle-class farmer
- **yield** amount produced; crop; income on investment; profit obtained from an investment; V: produce; give in; surrender
- ♠ **yoke** join together; unite; N: crossbar used to joining two draft animals
- ♠ **yokel** rustic; country bumpkin;
- ♠ **yore** time long past; Ex. in the days of yore
- ♠ **zany** comic; crazy; N: clown; comical person (given to outlandish behavior)
- **zeal** eager enthusiasm (to a cause or ideal); ADJ. zealous
- **zealot** one who is zealous; fanatic; person who shows excessive zeal
- **zenith** point directly overhead in the sky; summit; acme; highest point
- ♠ **zephyr** gentle breeze; west wind