

English 10 Honors Vocabulary: Group A, Set One

- 1) **Reticent** (adj.) - not revealing one's thoughts or feelings readily.
"You're one of the most talkative people I know, but about *this* you choose to be reticent?"
- 2) **Shambolic** (adj.) - chaotic, disorganized, or mismanaged.
"Her shambolic presentation left Mr. Giorgi confused. Normally, she was a thoroughly prepared student."
- 3) **Acerbic** (adj.) - bitter, harsh, caustic.
"Obviously disappointed, Mr. Giorgi jotted down some rather acerbic notes in his comments."
- 4) **Assiduous** (adj.) - showing great care, attention, and effort.
"It's little wonder that he scored well on the test. He's an assiduous note taker."
- 5) **Adumbrate** (v.) - to sketch out or outline in a shadowy way; foreshadow vaguely.
"He adumbrated his plan, but I'm still a little unclear concerning the specifics."
- 6) **Acrimony** (n.) bitterness, animosity.
"Acrimony that exists between Mr. Giorgi and Mr. Barclay is a source of concern."
- 7) **Tumult** (n.) - a loud, confused noise, especially one caused by a large number of people.
"A tumult of shouting and screaming broke out at the football practice last Thursday."
- 8) **Recalcitrant** (adj.) - having an obstinately uncooperative attitude toward authority or discipline; refusing to yield.
"Mr. Giorgi's recalcitrant puppy brought him to grief."
- 9) **Admonish** (v.) - warn or reprimand someone firmly.
"Although he had received a stern admonition about the potential consequences, Stephen chose not to complete his chores."
- 10) **Ambiguous** (adj.) - (of language) open to more than one interpretation.
"Since the election results were ambiguous, no winner was called."
- 11) **Demeanor** (n.) - outward behavior, appearance, or bearing.
"She possessed a quiet, somber demeanor."
- 12) **Anodyne** (adj.) - something that calms or soothes pain.
"The coach's anodyne words helped the players get over the dispiriting loss."

- 13) **Banal** (adj.) - so lacking in originality as to be obvious and boring.
"Stony, incredulous silence followed his banal presentation."
- 14) **Broach** (v.) - introduce; mention; bring up.
"If you have a moment, I'd like to broach an idea that I've been mulling over recently."
- 15) **Burgeon** (v.) - begin to grow or increase rapidly; flourish.
"The students' burgeoning interest in Tik Tok videos was a source of much confusion to Mr. Giorgi."
- 16) **Capricious** (adj.) - impulsive, whimsical, without much thought.
"Adam's decision to study abroad struck his father as capricious."
- 17) **Preen** (v.) - (of a bird) straighten and clean its feathers with its beak. (of a person) devote effort to making oneself to look attractive and then admire one's work.
"Quite taken with his recent haircut, Mr. Giorgi preened in the mirror for some time."
- 18) **Acquiesce** (v.) - to agree; comply quietly.
"Unwilling to argue further, the mother acquiesced to the toddler's demands."
- 19) **Adroit** (adj.) - dexterous, proficient, skillful.
"I admired his adroit handling of that tricky situation."
- 20) **Amorphous** (adj.) - without structure; shapeless.
"I recently spent ten solid minutes staring at the amorphous clouds."