



HSPT vocabulary

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abate	become less in amount or intensity
abject	showing humiliation or submissiveness
abscond	depart secretly and hide
acquisition	an ability that has been acquired by training
albeit	(conj) in spite of the facts, regardless of the fact; although
alfresco	in the open air; outside
aloof	remote in manner, not involved
ambient	adj. completely surrounding, encompassing
ambiguity	an expression whose meaning cannot be determined from its context
amiable	friendly, agreeable
anarchism	a political theory favoring the abolition of governments
apathy	the trait of lacking enthusiasm for or interest in things generally
apex	the highest point (of something)

archipelago	n. Any large body of water studded with islands, or the islands collectively themselves.
assail	attack someone physically or emotionally
aura	a distinctive but intangible quality surrounding a person or thing
avert	prevent; avoid; turn away (eyes or thought)
avuncular	like an uncle in kindness or indulgence
baron	a very wealthy or powerful businessman
baubles	showy trinkets
bayou	a marshy inlet of a lake, river, etc., usually stagnant
berate	to scold severely or angrily.
brazen	(adj.) excessively bold, brash
bullion	gold or silver in bars or ingots, a mass of precious metal
candor	sincerity/ frankness, the quality of being honest and straightforward in attitude and speech
capricious	determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason
circumvent	to go around, encircle
clamor	compel someone to do something by insistent outcry, loud and persistent outcry from many people
clandestine	secret; covert; stealthy
commence	Take the first step or steps in carrying out an action., to begin or start
concede	acknowledge defeat

confide	To reveal in trust or confidence.
conjure	To call forth by magic; To bring to mind; To recall or evoke
console	give moral or emotional strength to, to comfort.
consort	A companion or associate., associate with; keep company; N: husband or wife (or a ruler)
consternation	fear resulting from the awareness of danger
coup	brilliant victory or accomplishment OR the violent overthrow of a government by a small internal group
cronies	old friends; close compainions
cult	an interest followed with exaggerated zeal, a system of religious beliefs and rituals
curtail	terminate or abbreviate before its intended or proper end or its full extent
debase	degrade; reduce in quality or value; degenerate; lower in esteem; disgrace; N.
deduce	reason by deduction
demise	the time when something ends
denigrate	to attack the reputation of; to criticise in a derogatory manner
depose	dethrone; remove from office; testify
derelict	a ship abandoned on the high seas, adj. Neglectful of obligation.
derogatory	expressing a low opinion; disparaging; V. detract; disparage

deviate	cause to turn away from a previous or expected course
dissent	a difference of opinion
dissident	disagreeing (with an opinion, a group, or a government); rebellious; N.
divert	1. entertain; 2. distract; 3. cause a detour
divest	deprive of status or authority, reduce or dispose of
dotage	feebleness of mind due to old age.
dowry	money or property brought by a woman to her husband at marriage
eccentric	Condition of being out of the ordinary, strange and unconventional behavior
elated	exultantly proud and joyful
enamored	marked by foolish or unreasoning fondness, INFATUATED
endear	To cause to be loved.
epitomize	to be a typical example of; to represent; to typify, exemplify
erroneous	containing or characterized by error
exorbitant	Going beyond usual and proper limits.
exploit	use or manipulate to one's advantage
extort	To obtain by violence, threats, compulsion, or the subjection of another to some necessity.
extradition	the surrender of a fugitive from one state to another
fascist	a member of a political party who supports extreme nationalism and a dictator
fiscal	involving financial matters

forebode	make a prediction about
furtive	Stealthy or sly, like the actions of a thief.
galvanize	to stimulate, to startle into sudden activity
garner	acquire or deserve by one's efforts or actions
harem	living quarters reserved for wives and concubines and female relatives in a Muslim household
hone	make perfect or complete
imminent	Dangerous and close at hand.
implement	instrumentation (a piece of equipment or tool) used to effect an end
impose	compel to behave in a certain way
impudent	improperly forward or bold, offensively bold
indelibly	permanently; in a way that cannot be erased or removed
infatuate	marked by foolish or unreasoning fondness
ingratiate	gain favor with somebody by deliberate efforts
innocuous	unlikely to harm or disturb anyone
lithe	gracefully slender, flexible; supple
litigious	inclined or showing an inclination to dispute or disagree, even to engage in law suits
lorry	a motor truck, esp. a large one
lucrative	producing wealth; profitable
marital	of or relating to the state of marriage

masquerade	pretend to be someone or something that you are not
moot	Not subject to a court ruling because the controversy has not actually arisen, or has ended., open to argument or debate
nihilist	someone who rejects all theories of morality or religious belief, An advocate of the doctrine that nothing either exists or can be known.
ostentatious	describing a showy or pretentious display
ostracize	avoid speaking to or dealing with, expel from a community or group
pallor	unnatural lack of color in the skin (as from bruising or sickness or emotional distress)
pander	to cater to the tastes and desires of others or exploit their weaknesses
panoramic	as from an altitude or distance
paragon	model of excellence or perfection of a kind
pare	To cut, shave, or remove (the outside) from anything.
pathological	pertaining to disease; N. study of disease
plausible	within the realm of credibility
polygamy	n. the fact or condition of having more than one wife or husband at once.
pompous	puffed up with vanity, Marked by an assumed stateliness and impressiveness of manner.
posterity	All of the lineal descendants of a person; all future generations

pretense	a false show of something, the act of giving a false appearance
propaganda	information that is spread for the purpose of promoting some cause
purge	rid of impurities, an act of removing by cleansing
quirk	a peculiar way of acting; a sudden twist or turn
refurbish	to clean, renew, refresh, or repair
repress	to keep your emotions hidden from others, even from yourself
repute	the state of being held in high esteem and honor
requisite	needed, necessary, regarded as essential or indispensable
resilient	elastic; having the power of springing back; able to recover quickly (as from misfortune)
retort	to reply quickly, angrily or with wit.
scrupulous	conscientious; extremely thorough, adj. Cautious in action for fear of doing wrong.
scythe	n. A long curved blade for mowing, reaping, etc.
siphon	convey, draw off, or empty by or as if by a ____
smother	envelop completely, deprive of the oxygen necessary for combustion
snub	a refusal to recognize someone you know
squander	waste, spend extravagantly
squelch	to strike or press with crushing force; crush down; squash., Suppress

staccato	Series of short, quick sounds
stead	the place occupied by a substitute
stipend	A definite amount paid at stated periods in compensation for services or as an allowance.
stymie	hinder or prevent the progress or accomplishment of
sublime	causing deep feelings of wonder, joy, respect, etc.; exalted; noble and uplifting; utter
sycophantic	A person who flatters influential people to further themself
tepid	moderately warm, lukewarm
tonic	anything invigorating physically, mentally, or morally, OR a sweet drink containing carbonated water and flavoring
transponder	electrical device designed to receive a specific signal and automatically transmit a specific reply
ubiquitous	being everywhere, omnipresent
unduly	improperly, unjustly; beyond a due degree, excessively
virility	the trait of being manly, masculine mental or physical strength
voucher	instrument authorizing a cash payment.
whim	an odd or fanciful or capricious idea