

verb (tagverb)

obscure: (adj) uncertain; (v) conceal (hide from being seen)

commence

- (begin, start): he commenced speaking after all guest had arrived.

actuate

- cause a machine or device to operate: actuate the electrical switch.
- cause someone to act in a particular way (motivate)

obfuscate

- render obscure, unclear (obscure, confuse): the spelling changes will obfuscate their etymological origins.

render

- cause to be (make): the rains rendered his escape impossible.
- provide or give help, service (give): a reward for services rendered.

underscore: emphasize

restrain

- prevent from doing: he had to be restrained from walking out of the meeting.
- prevent from displaying urge/emotion: he has to restrain his impatience.

curb (v. n.)

- restrain or keep in check (restrain, suppress): she promised to curb her temper.

abstain

- restrain oneself from doing or enjoying sth: abstaining from chocolate.

forbear (n. forbearance)

- politely or patiently restrain an impulse to do sth (refrain, abstain): the boy forbore from touching anything,

sustain

- support someone emotionally: he was sustained by the belief that he would get home.
- suffer damage or loss: she sustained serious injuries.

buttress

- support or strengthen sth (support, bolster): he looked for things that would buttress the prosecution case and win a conviction.

bolster

- support or strengthen (strengthen, reinforce, buttress): the fall in interest rates is starting to bolster confidence.

reinforce

- support or strengthen with additional material: the helmet has been reinforced with a double layer of cork.

fortify

- strengthen a place with defensive work (strengthen): the whole town was heavily fortified.

invigorate (adj. vigorous n. vigor)

- give strength or energy to (revitalize, energize): the shower had invigorated her.

substantiate

- provide evidence to prove the truth of (prove): they had found nothing to substantiate the allegations.

indulge

- allow oneself to enjoy the pleasure of (enjoy): I am going to indulge in a shopping spree.

relish

- enjoy greatly (enjoy): he was relishing his moment of glory.

revel

- enjoy oneself in a lively and noisy way, especially with drinking and dancing (enjoy): a night of drunken reveling.

savor

- enjoy food or an experience: the coach gave him team a day off to savor their victory.

intrigue (v. n.)

- arouse the curiosity or interest of (interest): I was intrigued by your question.
- make secret plans to do sth illicit: the delegates were intriguing for their own gains.

- n. the secret planning of sth detrimental to someone (conspiracy, collusion, machination)

pique (v. n.)

- stimulate interest or curiosity (stimulate, intrigue): you have piqued my curiosity.
- feel irritated or resentful (irritate, annoy): she was piqued by his curtness.

captivate

- attract and hold the interest and attention of (enthrall, charm, enchant, bewitch): he was captivated by her beauty.

enthrall

- capture the fascinated attention of (captivate, charm, enchant, bewitch): she had been so enthralled by the adventure that she hardly noticed the cold.

allure (v. n.)

- v. powerfully attract (attract, lure, charm):
- n. (attraction, charm, appeal): the allure of the stage drew him back to acting.

enamor

- be filled with a feeling of love for (captivated by, enchanted by): she was truly enamored of New York.

fixate

- cause someone to acquire an obsessive attachment to someone or sth (obsess): she has been fixated on photography.

infatuate

- be inspired with an intense but short-lived passion or admiration for (besotted with, obsessed with): she is infatuated/besotted with a handsome police chief.

absorb (adj. absorbing)

- engross the attention of someone (captivate): she was absorbed in listening to music.

castigate

- to criticize severely (criticize): He castigated the staff for not being responsible.

reproach

- to criticize or find fault with someone: critics reproached the president for his failure to tackle the deficiency.

rebuke

- express sharp disapproval or criticism of someone because of their behavior (reprimand, reproach, scold, admonish, reprove): she had rebuked him for drinking too much.

reprimand

- rebuke someone, esp. officially (rebuke, admonish, reproach, reprove): officials were dismissed or reprimanded for poor work.

admonish

- warn or reprimand someone firmly (reprimand, rebuke, scold, reproach, reprove): she admonished me for appearing at breakfast unshaven.

chastise

- (rebuke, reprimand, reproach, scold, admonish, lambaste, castigate): he chastised his colleagues for their laziness.

fulminate

- to protest strongly (protest): I had to listen to him fulminating against the government.

remonstrate

- make a forcefully reproachful protest (protest, fulminate): he turned angrily to remonstrate against the new rules.

inveigh

- speak or write about sth with great hostility (fulminate): nationalists inveighed against those who worked with the British.

take issue with

- (disagree with, challenge): she takes issue with the notion of crime as unique to society.

lambaste

- criticize brashly (criticize, harangue): they lambasted the report as a gross distortion of the truth.

assail

- criticize someone strongly (criticize, censure)

- make a violent attack on (attack): Scots army assailed Edward's army from the rear.

belabor

- attack or assault someone: he seized every opportunity to belabor his opponents.

frown

- furrow one's brow in an expression of disapproval, displeasure: he frowned as he read the letter.

deplore (adj. deplorable)

- feel or express strong disapproval of sth (frown on, deprecate): we deplore this act of violence.

deprecate (adj. deprecatory)

- express disapproval of (deplore, frown on): he sniffed in a deprecating way.

execrate (adj. execrable)

- feel or express great loathing for (dislike, loathe, detest): they were execrated as dangerous and corrupt.

loathe (adj. loath)

- feel intense dislike or disgust for (dislike, execrate, detest): she loathed him on sight.

detest (n. detestation)

- dislike intensely (dislike, execrate, loathe)

censure (adj. censorious)

- express severe disapproval of sth formally (condemn)

denounce (n. denunciation)

- publicly declare to be wrong (condemn, decry): The Assembly denounced the use of violence.

decry

- publicly denounce (condemn, denounce): the decried human rights abuses.

excoriate

- censure or criticize severely (censure): the papers that had been excoriating him were now lauding him.

crab

- (complain)

denigrate

- criticize unfairly (disparage, belittle): there is a tendency to denigrate the poor.

disparage

- regard as being of little worth (denigrate, belittle): he never missed an opportunity to disparage his competitors.

defame

- damage the good reputation of someone (malign, disparage, denigrate): he claimed that the article defamed his family.

malign

- speak about someone in a critical manner (defame, slander, denigrate, disparage)

slander (v. n.) (adj. slanderous)

- make false and damaging statements about someone: they were accused of slandering the head of state.

demean

- cause to become less respected (humiliate, shame): I wouldn't demean myself by asking my father for money.
- related. demeanor: a way of looking and behaving: there was nothing in his demeanor that suggested he was anxious.

debase

- reduce sth in quality or value (degrade, devalue): they love episodes debase the dignity of the drama.

vilify

- speak or write about in an abusively disparaging manner (disparage, denigrate, defame): he has been vilified in the press.

libel (v. n.) (adj. libelous)

- defame someone by publishing a libel (defame, malign, slander, besmirch): she alleged the magazine had libeled her.

disgrace

- v. bring shame or discredit on (shame, dishonor)
- n. loss of reputation or respect (shame, dishonor, stigma): he left the army in disgrace.

besmirch

- damage the reputation of (dishonor, disgrace): he had besmirched the name of his family.

collude (n. collusion)

- come to a secret understanding for a harmful purpose (conspire, intrigue): university leaders colluded in price-rigging.

machinate

- engage in plots and intrigues (conspire, scheme, intrigue)

derogate

- deviate from a set of agreed rules: that country has derogated from the convention.
- detract from
- related. derogatory: showing a disrespectful attitude (disparaging): she is always making derogatory remarks.

riposte (v. n.)

- make a quick clever reply to an insult or criticism (retort, respond)

retaliate (n. retaliation)

- make an attack or assault in return for a similar attack (counterattack, riposte): she retaliated immediately.

repulse

- drive back (attack) by force: the rioters were repulsed by police.

recoil (v. n.)

- make a sudden movement away from sth, because of fear or disgust: he recoiled in horror.
- n. the action of recoiling (kickback): gun recoil.

retreat

- (of an army) withdraw from enemy forces (withdraw): the army retreated.

withdraw

- remove or take away sth from a particular place (remove, take out)
- leave a place, esp. in a war zone

decommission

- withdraw sth (esp. weapons or equipment) from service: decommission the server.

marginalize (ad. marginal)

- treat (a person, group, concept) as insignificant or peripheral (trivialize): attempting to marginalize those who disagree.

relent

- do sth you had refused to do before: she was going to refuse his request, but relented.

recant

- say that one's past beliefs were wrong and no longer agree with them (retract): heretics were burned if they would not recant.

concede

- admit sth is true after first denying it (admit): I had to concede that I was overreacted.

accede

- agree to a demand, request or treaty (accept): the authorities did not accede to the striker's demands.

acquiesce

- accept sth reluctantly but without protest: she acquiesced in his decision.

repudiate

- refuse to accept sth (deny, dispute, gainsay): the minister repudiated allegations of human rights abuses.

gainsay

- deny a statement (deny, dispute, repudiate)

rebut

- claim or prove false (deny): he appeared on TV to rebut the charges against him.

recapitulate

- summarize and state again the main points of (summarize): he began to recapitulate his argument with care.

impeach (n. impeachment)

- call into question the integrity or validity of (impugn): impeach the verdict.

impugn

- dispute the truth, validity or honesty of, call into question (impeach): his reputation has been impugned.

amend

- make minor changes to make it fairer, more accurate: the rule was amended to ...

hone

- sharpen a blade (sharpen): hone the curved blade.
- refine or perfect sth over a period of time (refine): hone my skills over the years.

suffice (adj. sufficient)

- be enough or adequate: a quick look should suffice.

ameliorate

- make (sth bad) better: the reform did much to ameliorate living standards.

exacerbate

- make sth bad worse (worsen): it only exacerbated the problem.

aggravate

- make worse or more serious (worsen): military action would only aggravate the situation.

worsen

- make or become worse: her condition worsened last week.

deteriorate

- become progressively worse: relations between countries had deteriorated sharply.

degenerate (adj. degenerative)

- decline or deteriorate physically, mentally or morally (deteriorate, decline): the quality of life had degenerated.

attenuate

- reduce the force, effect or value of (weaken, reduce): her intolerance was attenuated.

wane

- (esp. of a condition or feeling) decrease in vigor, power; become weaker (decline, diminish): confidence as the dollar waned.

pare

- trim sth by cutting away its outer edges: Carlo pared his thumbnails with his knife.
- reduce sth in size, quantity (reduce, diminish): the leaders pared down their demands.

curtail

- reduce in extent or quantity, impose a restriction on (reduce, decrease): civil liberties were further curtailed.

diminish (n. diminution)

- make or become less (decrease, lessen, decline): the threat of inflation is diminishing.

dwindle

- diminish gradually in size, amount or strength (diminish, decrease): traffic has dwindled to a trickle.

ebb

- (of tidewater) move away from the land (recede)
- (of an emotion or quality) gradually lessen or reduce (diminish, dwindle, wane): my enthusiasm was ebbing away.

allay

- make a negative emotion less strong or a problem less difficult (diminish, reduce, decrease, alleviate): the report attempted to educate the public and allay fears.

abate

- become less intense or widespread (subside): the storm suddenly abated.

subside

- become less intense (abate): the storm will subside in a moment.

alleviate

- make (suffering, problem) less severe (relieve): he could only alleviate her pain.

mitigate (n. mitigation)

- make less severe, painful (alleviate, reduce): he wanted to mitigate misery in the world.

soothe

- relieve or ease pain (alleviate, relieve): soothe the pain.

assuage

- make (an unpleasant feeling) less intense (relieve, alleviate, mitigate, allay, abate): the letter assuaged the fears of most members.

palliate (adj. palliative)

- make less severe without removing the issue (alleviate, soothe, allay, assuage): treatment works by palliating symptoms.

accrue (n. accretion)

- increase gradually over a period of time (accumulate): interest is added to the account as it accrues.

augment

- make sth greater by adding to it (increase, supplement): he augmented his summer income by painting houses.

escalate

- increase rapidly (increase): the price of tickets escalated.
- become or cause to become more intense or serious: the dispute escalated.

ascertain

- find out: an attempt to ascertain the cause of the accident

ascribe

- attribute sth to a cause: he ascribed her temper to her upset stomach; be ascribe to

impute

- impute to, attribute to, ascribe to: the crimes imputed to Richard.

acclaim

- praise publicly: the conference was acclaimed as a considerable success.

laud (adj. laudable)

- praise highly in a public context (acclaim): the president lauded the rise of the market economies around the world.

commend

- praise formally or officially (praise, applaud): he was commended by the judge for his courageous actions.

applaud

- show strong approval or praise (commend, acclaim): he applauded the decision.

extol

- praise enthusiastically (acclaim, exalt): he extolled the virtues of the Russian people.

exalt

- think or speak highly of (extol, praise, acclaim): the party will continue to exalt its hero.

hail

- publicly praise or show approval for a person: he has been hailed as one of the best.

lionize

- treat someone like celebrity (celebrate)

eulogize (n. eulogy)

- praise highly in speech or writing (extol, acclaim, lionize): contemporaries eulogized him as a great US senator.

endorse

- declare one's public support of (support): the report was endorsed by the college.

sanction

- give official permission or approval for (authorize): the rally was sanctioned by the government.
- impose a penalty on (punish): the penalties available to sanction crime.

approve (n. approbation)

- approve formally (sanction): approve the affair.

ratify

- sign or give formal consent to, making it officially valid (approve, sanction, authorize): they failed to ratify the amendment.

corroborate

- confirm or give support to a statement, theory (confirm, verify): the witness had corroborated the boy's account of the attack.

profess

- claim openly but often falsely (declare): he had professed his love for her.

purport

- claim to do sth, esp. falsely (profess): she is not the person she purports to be.

pledge

- commit (a person or organization) by a solemn promise (commit): he was asked to pledge his loyalty.

vow

- solemnly promise to do a specified thing (swear, pledge, avow): he vowed that his government would not tolerate corruption.

avow

- assert or confess openly (assert, swear): he avowed that he had voted Republican in every election.

exhort

- strongly encourage or urge someone to do sth (urge, encourage): the media have been exhorting people to turn out for the demonstration.

demur

- express doubts or show reluctance (object): Jack urged me to do, but I demurred.

adjudicate (n. adjudication, adjudicator)

- make a formal judgment or decision about a problem or disputed matter (judge): the committee adjudicates on all betting disputes.

arbitrate (n. arbitration, arbitrator)

- (of an independent body) reach an authoritative judgment or settlement (adjudicate, judge): the board has the power to arbitrate in disputes.

proscribe (adj. proscriptive)

- forbid by law (forbid, prohibit, ban): the sale of certain materials is proscribed by law.
- condemn (denounce, condemn): certain practices that the Catholic Church proscribed, such as polygamy.

interdict

- prohibit or forbid sth (prohibit, forbid): society will never interdict sex.

abolish (n. abolition)

- formally put an end to: the tax was abolished in 1977.

renege

- go back on a promise or contract: the administration had reneged on its election promises.

negate

- make ineffective (nullify): alcohol negates the effects of the drug.

disseminate

- spread widely (distribute, disperse): disseminating information.

disperse

- spread over wide area (scatter, disseminate, distribute): storms can disperse seeds.

diffuse

- spread over wide area (spread, disseminate, disperse, scatter, distribute)

pervade (adj. pervasive)

- spread through and be perceived in every part of (permeate): the smell pervaded the air

permeate (adj. permeable)

- spread throughout sth (pervade): the aroma permeated the air.

imbue

- inspire or permeate with a feeling or quality (permeate, diffuse): the entire performance was imbued with sparkle.

infuse (n. infusion)

- (fill, imbue): her work is infused with an anger born of pain and oppression.

squirt

- cause liquid to be ejected from a small opening: she squirted soda into a glass.

apportion (n. apportionment)

- divide and allocate (allocate): voting power is apportioned according to contribution.

debunk

- expose the falseness of a myth or idea: the magazine debunks claims of paranormal.

unravel

- investigate and solve or explain sth complicated (solve): they were attempting to unravel the cause of death.

divulge

- make known sensitive information (disclose, reveal): divulge her age.

disclose

- make known information (reveal, divulge): they disclosed her name.

evince

- reveal the presence of a quality or feeling (show): his letters evince the excitement he felt.

betray

- unintentionally reveal: she drew a deep breath that betrayed her indignation.

scrutinize (n. scrutiny)

- examine or inspect thoroughly (examine, inspect)

peruse (n. perusal)

- read sth in a thorough or careful way: he has spent countless hours in libraries perusing art history books.
- examine carefully (scrutinize)

contemplate

- look thoughtfully for a long time at, think profoundly (scrutinize, ponder): the results of a war are too terrifying to contemplate.

ponder

- think about sth carefully, esp. before making a decision (contemplate, think about): I pondered the question of what clothes to wear.

scorch

- burn the surface with heat: houses were scorched by heat.

sear

- burn the surface of sth with a sudden heat (scorch): the hot water seared my lips.

wither

- become dry and shriveled (shriveled): the grass has withered to an unappealing brown.
- cause harm or damage to

savage (v. adj. n.)

- (animal) attack ferociously: ewes savaged by dogs.

implicate

- show someone to be involved in a crime: police claims implicated him in many killings.
- convey indirectly through what one says (imply): Mary implicated she didn't like it.

insinuate

- hint sth bad in an indirect and unpleasant way (imply): she insinuated that I am fat.

allude

- (suggest, imply, hint at): she had a way of alluding to Jean but never saying her name.

connote (n. connotation)

- (of a word) imply or suggest an idea or feeling (imply, suggest, indicate): the term "modern science" connotes an openness to empirical testing.

denote (n. denotation)

- be a sign of (indicate, designate): this mark denotes purity and quality.

convict

- declare someone to be guilty of a criminal offense

allege (n. allegation)

- claim or assert that someone has done sth wrong, typically without proof: he made allegations of corruption against the administration.

indict (n. indictment)

- formally accuse of or charge with a serious crime (charge with, accuse of): his manager was indicted for fraud.

exculpate

- declare someone is not guilty of wrongdoing (vindicate, acquit): the article exculpated the mayor.

vindicate (n. vindication)

- clear someone of blame or suspicion (acquit): hospital staff were vindicated by the verdict.

absolve

- set or declare someone free from blame or guilt (vindicate, acquit): the pardon absolved them of any crimes.

exonerate

- (esp. of an official body) absolve someone from blame for a wrongdoing (absolve, acquit, exculpate): the court-martial exonerated me.

acquit

- free someone from a criminal charge by a verdict of not guilty: she was acquitted on all counts.

belie

- fail to give an impression of sth (contradict, disguise): his behaviors belie his image.

founder

- (of a ship) fill with water and sink (sink): the yacht foundered off the coast.
- (of a plan or undertaking) fail or break down (fail): plans for a new airport have foundered because of the budget cuts.

attain (n. attainment adj. attainable)

- achieve sth that one desires (achieve, accomplish): clarify your objectives and ways of attaining them.

entitle

- give someone a legal right: he was entitled to vote.

entail

- involve sth as a necessary part (involve): any investment entails risks.

pertain

- belong to sth as a part: all assets pertain to the business.
- be related, appropriate: matters pertaining to the organization of government.

quibble

- argue about a trivial matter: they are always quibbling about the amount they are prepared to pay.

plead (n. plea)

- make an emotional appeal: they pleaded with Carol to come home again.
- argue for sth in court

supplicate (n. supplication, suppliant/supplicant)

- ask or beg for sth humbly (entreat, beg, implore, beseech): the plutocracy supplicated to be made peers.

implore

- beg someone earnestly to do sth (beg, entreat, beseech): he implored her to change her mind.

beseech

- ask someone urgently to do sth (implore, beg, entreat, supplicate): they beseeched him to stay.

invoke

- appeal to someone as an authority for an action

diverge (adj. divergent)

- separate from another route (separate, divide): the two roads diverged.

converge

- tend to meet at a point: this pair of lines converge towards the poles.

apprise

- inform or tell someone (inform, tell, notify): we need to apprise Chris of what happened.

acquaint (n. acquaintance)

- make someone aware of or familiar with (familiarize with): new staff should be acquainted with fire exit routes.

prevaricate (n. prevarication)

- speak or act in an evasive way: he seems to prevaricate when journalists asked questions.

broach

- raise (a sensitive subject) for discussion (bring up): he broached the subject he had been avoiding all evening.

moot

- raise (a question or topic) for discussion (bring up, broach): this issue has been mooted.
- adj. subject to debate, dispute or uncertainty (debatable, disputable, questionable): whether the temperature rise was due to the greenhouse effect was a moot point.

aver

- to say sth is certainly true (assert): the lawyer averred her client's innocence.

affirm

- state as a fact, assert strongly and publicly (assert, declare): applicants signed a form affirming their citizenship.

predicate

- state, affirm or assert sth about the subject of a sentence or an argument
- base sth on (base): the gravity theory is predicated on some sort of invisible force.

delineate

- describe sth precisely (describe): the law should delineate and prohibit behaviors that is socially abhorrent.
- indicate the exact position of a border or boundary (outline): a section delineated in red.

delimit

- determine the limits of boundaries of (determine, demarcate, delineate): agreements delimiting fishing zones.

demarcate (n. demarcation)

- set the boundaries of limits of (delimit, delineate): the building was demarcated with orange tape.

transcend (adj. transcendent)

- go beyond the range or limits of sth abstract: this was an issue transcending party politics.
- surpass a person or achievement (surpass)

abut

- (of an area of land) be next to: gardens abutting this street.

limn

- (describe, depict): his earlier works limned violence.

enunciate

- pronounce clearly (pronounce): she enunciated each word slowly.

burnish

- polish by rubbing (polish, shine): highly burnished armor.

bristle

- (of hairs) stand up because of fear or anger, or (of people) show anger: she bristles at injustice.

placate (adj. placable)

- make someone less angry or hostile (pacify, conciliate): he tried to placate the students.

pacify

- quell the anger of (placate, conciliate): he had to pacify angry spectators.

conciliate (adj. conciliatory, n. conciliation)

- stop someone from being angry (pacify, placate): concessions were made to conciliate the angry people.

appease

- pacify or placate someone by acceding to their demands (conciliate, placate, pacify): amendments have been added to appease local pressure groups.

mollify

- appease the anger of someone (appease, placate, pacify, conciliate)

propitiate

- win the favor of by doing sth that pleases them (appease, placate, pacify, mollify, conciliate, make amends to): it was important to propitiate the God with sacrifices.

confound

- cause surprise or confusion in someone (dumbfound, astonish): the inflation figure confounded the economic analysts.

stupefy

- make someone unable to think or feel properly (astound, astonish, dumbfound): the amount they spend on clothes would appall their parents and stupefy grandparents.

startle

- cause to feel sudden shock (surprise, frighten): a sudden sound in the doorway startled her.

desiccate

- remove the moisture from food (dry): desiccated coconut.
- adj. lacking interest: a desiccated history of ideas.

ossify

- turn into bone or bony tissue: these cartilages may ossify.

disabuse

- persuade someone that an idea is wrong (correct): he quickly disabused me of my notions.

impose

- force sth to be accepted (foist, force): he often imposed his opinions on other people.

levy

- impose a tax, fee or fine (charge): a new tax could be levied on industry to pay for cleaning up contaminated land.

foist

- impose an unwelcome thing on (impose): don't let anyone foist inferior goods on you.

entice

- attract or tempt by offering pleasure or advantage (tempt, lure): a show that should entice a new audience to the theater.

dissemble

- conceal one's true feelings or beliefs (dissimulate, pretend): a sincere person with no need to dissemble.

dissimulate

- conceal or disguise one's feelings or character (dissemble, pretend): a gentleman who dissimulates his wealth.

feign

- pretend to be affected by (a feeling, injury): she feigned nervousness.

dismiss

- send away, order to leave: let's not dismiss the idea without discussing it.

elicit

- obtain information or reaction (obtain, draw out, extract): the program also elicited both positive and negative responses.

glean

- extract information from various sources (obtain): the information is gleaned from different websites.

embellish

- make sth more attractive by addition of decorations (decorate, adorn, ornament): many early building entrances were richly embellished.

ornament

- make sth more attractive by addition of decorations (decorate, embellish, adorn): they are ornamenting their room.

adorn

- make more attractive and beautiful (decorate, embellish, ornament)

emulate

- to imitate one's behavior because of admiration or respect of him (imitate): He just wants to emulate his dad.

parody (v. n.)

- produce a humorously exaggerated imitation of: the movie is a parody of the horror genre.

enervate

- cause someone to feel drained of energy (exhaust, tire, fatigue, drain, weary)

fatigue (v. or n.)

- cause someone to feel exhausted (exhaust, drain, weary): they were fatigued by their journey.

languish

- (of a person or living thing) lose or lack vitality, grow weak (deteriorate, decline): plants may appear to be languishing simply because they are dormant.

slumber (v. n.)

- sleep

stagnate (adj. stagnant)

- (of water or air) cease to flow or move (become stagnant)
- cease developing, become inactive or dull (languish, deteriorate): teaching can easily stagnate into a set of routines.

debilitate

- make someone weak (weaken, enervate): a weakness that debilitates him.

equivocate (n. equivocation)

- use ambiguous language to conceal the truth: he answered openly without equivocation

fledge (adj. fledging)

- bird develop wing feathers

abet

- encourage or assist someone to do sth wrong, esp. a crime or offense (assist): he was guilty of aiding and abetting others to murder.

incite (n. incitement)

- encourage violent or unlawful behavior (instigate): he incited loyal subjects to rebellion.

foment

- instigate a violent action (instigate, incite): they accused him of fomenting political unrest.

instigate

- initiate an action or event (initiate, launch): they instigated a reign of terror.

exasperate (n. exasperation)

- irritate intensely (infuriate, irritate): the futile process exasperates prison officials.

infuriate

- make someone extremely angry and impatient (irritate, exasperate): her silences infuriated him.

rile

- make someone irritated (annoy): many farmers have been riled by the presidents.

goad

- annoy someone to stimulate some action (provoke, spur): he goaded his brother into a wrestling match.

provoke

- stimulate or incite someone to do sth, esp. by arousing anger (goad, spur): a teacher can provoke you into working harder.
- give rise to an unwelcome reaction or emotion (arouse, evoke, elicit): the decision provoked a storm of protest.

inflame (n. inflammation)

- provoke or intensify (strong feelings, esp. anger) in someone (provoke): high fees further inflame public feelings.
- cause inflammation in a part of the body

foster

- encourage or promote the development of sth (encourage, stimulate): the teacher's task is to foster learning.

galvanize

- shock or excite someone, typically into taking action (startle, spur, stimulate): the urgency of his voice galvanize them into action.

preempt

- take action in order to prevent an anticipated event from happening (forestall, make unnecessary): the government preempted a coup attempt.
- acquire sth in advance

forestall

- take action to prevent an anticipated event (preempt, make unnecessary): vitamins may forestall many diseases of aging.

avert

- prevent an undesirable occurrence (preempt, forestall, prevent): the last-minute agreement averted renewed fighting.

obviate

- remove a difficulty to prevent unnecessary action (preclude, prevent): a peaceful solution would obviate the need to send a UN military force.

occlude

- to block sth (obstruct): veins can get occluded by blood clots.

impede (n. impediment)

- slow down or prevent sth by obstructing them (hinder, obstruct, hamper): shortages of medicine were impeding the effort to control diseases.

thwart

- prevent someone from accomplishing sth (hinder, impede): the city council thwarted his reform efforts.

stymie

- prevent or hinder the progress of (hinder, impede): stymie new medical treatments.

encumber (adj. cumbersome)

- restrict or burden someone or sth that free movement is difficult (hamper, hinder, obstruct): she was encumbered by her heavy skirts.

damp (v. adj. n.)

- make sth slightly wet: damp a small area with water.
- control or restrain a feeling or state (retrain): she tried to damp down her feelings.

wield

- hold and use a weapon or tool: wield a handgun.
- have influence (exert): leaders wielded enormous influence within the party.

tamper

- interfere with sth to cause damage, or make unauthorized alternations: someone tampered with the brakes on my car.
- exert a secret or corrupt influence upon someone (influence)

temper

- serve as a neutralizing force to sth (moderate, alleviate, mitigate): their idealism is tempered with realism.

modulate

- exerting a modifying or controlling influence on (regulate): the state attempts to modulate private business's cash flow.

defer

- put off to a later time (postpone, delay): they deferred the decision until Friday.

procrastinate

- delay or postpone action, put off doing sth (delay, put off): when it comes to housework, I tend to procrastinate.

stultify

- cause to lose initiative and enthusiasm (hamper, impede): overreliance on rote learning stultifies students' creativity.

oscillate

- move or swing back and forth (swing)

undulate

- move with a smooth wavelike motion: her body undulated to the rhythm of the music.

harangue

- speak to someone for a long time in a forceful way: he harangued the class for half an hour about not paying attention.

elucidate

- make sth clear (explain): I hope my article can elucidate the complex issues.

explicate

- explain (an idea) in detail (explain): explicate the relationship between crime and economic forces.

reconcile

- restore friendly relations between, make to be compatible: reconcile with her father.

inundate

- overwhelm someone with things to deal with (overwhelm): we have been inundated with complaints.

inure

- inure someone to sth = accustom someone to sth, esp. sth unpleasant: these children have been inured to violence.

accustom

- make accept sth as usual: I accustomed my eyes to the lenses.

juxtapose

- place close together for contrasting effect: the exhibition juxtaposes architectural drawings with photographs of the buildings as constructed.

malingering

- exaggerate illness to escape work or duty: is he really ill or just malingering?

precipitate (v. n. adj.)

- cause sth to happen suddenly, unexpectedly (cause, lead to, trigger): the incident precipitated a political crisis.
- adj. rash, without careful consideration

engender

- (cause, give rise to): the issue engendered continuing controversy.

prompt

- (of an event or fact) cause or bring about (engender, cause): his death has prompted an industry-wide investigation of safety violations.
- assist or remind
- adj. done without delay (quick, swift): the prompt actions.

constitute

- be part of: Asians constitute seven percent of the population in this country.
- be considered as: these policies constitute a threat to the country.

comprise

- consist of, be made up of (constitute, consist of): the country comprises twenty states.

dispatch (v. n.)

- send off to a destination: he dispatched messages back to base.
- deal with a task, problem quickly and efficiently (settle): they dispatched the opposition.

consign

- deliver sth to a person's custody, esp. to be sold (assign): he consigned three paintings to his friend.

entrust

- assign the responsibility for doing sth to someone (charge, assign): I've been entrusted with the task of getting him back safely.

relegate

- consign or dismiss to an inferior rank or position (downgrade): they aim to prevent women from being relegated to a secondary role.

devolve

- transfer or delegate power to a lower level, esp. from central government to local administration (delegate, transfer): measures to devolve power to the provinces.

revoke (adj. revocable)

- put an end to the validity of a decision (repeal, rescind, cancel, abrogate): licenses can be revoked for up to five years.

rescind

- revoke or repeal an agreement or law (revoke, repeal, abrogate): the government eventually rescinded the directive.

abrogate

- (repeal, revoke, rescind): a proposal to abrogate temporarily the right to strike.

quash

- reject or void, esp. by legal procedure (cancel, rescind, repeal, revoke, countermand): his conviction was quashed on appeal.

countermand

- revoke an order (revoke, repeal, rescind, retract): an order to arrest the strike leaders had been countermanded.

remit

- cancel from sth exacting (cancel, revoke): the sentence was finally remitted.
- send money

snub

- reject or ignore disdainfully (reject, rebuff): he likes to snub people.

rebuff

- reject in an abrupt or ungracious manner (reject, snub): I was rebuffed for no reasons.

irrigate (n. irrigation)

- supply water to land or crops to help growth: the river can be used to irrigate thousands of adjacent acres.

sate

- supply to the full: sate your appetite at the resort's restaurant.

satiate

- to completely satisfy one's need (sate, satisfy): he drank greedily until his thirst was satiated.

stint (v. n.)

- supply an ungenerous or inadequate amount of sth: stinting on funding for education strikes many people as shortsighted.
- a period of time doing sth: during his two-year stint in the army.

deplete

- use up the supply or resources of (exhaust, consume): fish stocks are severely depleted.

stipulate (n. stipulation)

- demand or specify a requirement, typically as part of an agreement (specify): he stipulated certain conditions before the marriage.

obligate (adj. obligatory)

- make someone feel morally or legally forced to do sth (compel): I am in favor of obligating welfare recipients to do more.

prescribe (n. prescription)

- (of a medical practitioner) advise and authorize the use of medicine or treatment for someone

striate

- mark with striae

subsume

- include or absorb in a larger group (include): most of these phenomena can be subsumed under two broad categories.

supersede

- take the place of (replace, supplant): the older models have now been superseded.

supplant

- (supersede, replace): another discovery could supplant the original finding.

substitute

- (replace, exchange)

transmute

- change in form, nature (change, transform): the raw material of his experience was transmuted into stories.

transgress (n. transgression)

- break a law or go beyond moral principles: anyone who transgresses will be punished.

contravene

- violate the prohibition or order of a law or treaty (break, breach, violate, infringe): this would contravene the rule against hearsay.

infringe

- actively break the terms of a law, agreement (contravene, violate, transgress, breach): making an unauthorized copy would infringe copyright.

abide

- accept or act in accordance with a rule (obey): I would abide by their decision.

conform

- comply with rules, standards (comply with, abide by, obey): the kitchen does not conform to hygiene regulations.

hew to

- conform to adhere to: some artists took photographs that hewed to more traditional ideas of art.

desert (n. deserter)

- abandon (a person or organization) in a way considered disloyal or treacherous

forsake

- (abandon, desert): he would never forsake here.

abscond

- leave secretly, typically to avoid arrest for unlawful actions (escape): she absconded with the remaining thousand dollars.

vacillate

- alternate between different opinions or actions, be indecisive (dither, waver, hesitate, oscillate): I had for a time vacillated between teaching and journalism.

dither

- be indecisive (hesitate, vacillate): he was dithering about the election date.

balk

- hesitate or be unwilling to accept an idea: any gardener will at first balk at enclosing the garden.

venerate (adj. venerable), revere, esteem, hallow

- regard with great respect: he is widely venerated/revered for his leadership.

eradicate

- destroy completely (destroy): the disease has been eradicated from the world.

extirpate

- root out and destroy completely (destroy, eradicate): the use of every legal measure to extirpate this horrible evil from the land.

decimate (n. decimation)

- kill, destroy or remove a large part of: they project decimated the fragile wilderness.
- kill one in every ten of a group as a punishment

obliterate

- destroy utterly, wipe out (destroy, demolish, decimate): the memory was so painful that he obliterated it from his mind.

annihilate

- destroy utterly (destroy, obliterate): a simple bomb could annihilate this town.

demolish

- knock down a building

expunge

- erase or remove completely sth unpleasant (erase, remove): I've kind of expunged that period from my CV.

ravage

- cause severe and extensive damage to (ruin, devastate): a war could ravage their country.

spoil

- diminish or destroy the value or quality of (damage, impair, blemish): I wouldn't want to spoil your fun.
- harm the character of (a child) by being too lenient or indulgent

impair

- damage sth esp. human function (have a negative effect on, damage, harm): lack of sleep impaired her ability to think clearly.

vitiate

- impair the quality or efficiency of (impair, damage): the military power should never be vitiated by political concerns.

undermine

- erode/damage the foundation of (erode, weaken, sabotage): this could undermine years of hard work.

sabotage

- deliberately destroy or obstruct sth, esp. for political advantage (vandalize)

vandalize

- deliberately destroy or damage property (destroy): stations have been wrecked and vandalized beyond recognition.

subvert (adj. subversive)

- undermine the power and authority of (destabilize, unsettle): an attempt to subvert democratic government.

renounce

- formally declare one's abandonment of a claim, right or possession (reject): he renounced his claim.

abjure

- solemnly renounce (renounce, relinquish): his refusal to abjure the Catholic faith.

forswear

- agree to give up or stop doing sth (renounce, relinquish): when she became a US citizen, Julia forswore allegiance to all other countries and pledged to defend US.

relinquish

- voluntarily cease to keep or claim (give up, renounce): he relinquished his role to become chief executive.

resign

- voluntarily leave a position: he resigned from the government.

abdicate

- renounce one's throne (resign): the administration has abdicated its leadership on this critical issue.

abnegate (n. abnegation)

- renounce or reject sth (renounce): he attempts to abnegate personal responsibilities.

forgo

- decline to take sth pleasant (go without, renounce): she decided to forgo flowers at the funeral and asked people to send money to a charity instead.

eschew

- deliberately avoid using (abstain from, forgo): he appealed to the crowd to eschew violence.

depose (n. deposition)

- remove from office forcefully: he had been deposed by a military coup.

deprive

- deny the use of sth: the city was deprived of its water supplies.

divest

- deprive someone from power, rights or possessions (deprive): they were divested of power.

dispose

- get rid of by throwing away or giving away

dispel

- make a feeling or doubt disappear (eliminate, banish): we need to dispel the myths and establish real facts.

eclipse

- deprive someone or sth of significance (surpass): the state of the economy has eclipsed the environment as the main issue.

outdo

- be more successful than (surpass): the men tried to outdo each other in their generosity.

aggrandize

- increase the power, status or wealth of: the government tried to aggrandize itself at the expense of the others.

besiege

- lay siege to, surround with armed forces to force it surrender: the guerrillas continued to besiege other major cities in the north.

intrude (n. intrusion, adj. intrusive)

- put oneself deliberately into a place or situation where one is unwelcome: he had no right to intrude into their lives.

encroach

- (intrude on, impinge on, invade): rather than encroach on this privacy, she might have kept to her room.

impinge

- have an effect or impact, esp. negative one (affect)
- intrude on, encroach on: the government's spending limits will seriously impinge on the education budget.

capitulate

- cease to resist an opponent (surrender, yield): the patriots had to capitulate to the enemy forces.

cede

- give up power or territory (surrender, concede): they had to cede control of the school to the government.

succumb

- fail to resist pressure or other negative force (yield, surrender): he has become the latest to succumb to the strain.

taint

- (contaminate, pollute, adulterate): the air was tainted by fumes from the cars.

adulterate

- render sth poorer in quality by adding another inferior substance (degrade, make impure, corrupt): the meat was adulterated with potato flour.

aggregate (v. n. adj.)

- v. form or group in to a cluster
- adj. calculated by the combination of many units (total): the aggregate wealth of a country includes private and public resources.

amalgamate (n. amalgamation, amalgam)

- combine to form one organization (combine, merge): he amalgamated his company with another.

coalesce

- come together and form one mass or whole (merge, unite): the puddles had coalesced into shallow streams.

conflate

- combine two or more texts, ideas, etc. into one (mix, integrate): the urban crisis conflates a number of different social issues.

meld

- (blend, combine, merge): meld modern science with traditional art.

insulate

- protect by interposing material that prevents heat or sound (enclose): the room was heavily insulated against all outside noise.

interpose

- place or insert between one thing and another (insulate): he interposed himself between her and the top of the stairs.
- intervene between parties (intervene): the legislature interposed to suppress these amusements.

arrest

- seize by legal authority
- stop or check (stop, halt): the spread of the disease can be arrested.

check

- stop or slow down the progress (halt, stop, arrest): efforts were made to check the disease.

default (v. n.)

- fail to fulfill an obligation, esp. to repay a loan or appear in a court: some had defaulted on student loads.

essay

- v. n. (attempt, try)

flag (adj. flagging)

- become tired or less strong: my interest in the story flagged.

stamp

- hit the ground hard with sth: he stamped his foot in frustration.

rail

- complain or scold angrily (rebuke): he railed against the injustice of the system.

dog

- follow someone closely: photographers seem to dog her every step.

stem

- originate in or be caused by: many of the problems stem from rapid expansion.

project (adj. projected)

- estimate or forecast sth on the basis of trends (forecast, estimate, predict)

beatify

- describe or think of someone as if they are extremely good and have no faults: he beatifies his first wife.
- announce formally someone who is dead has lived a holy life

sanctify

- declare holy (consecrate), make legitimate

consecrate

- make or declare sth sacred: this Holy Trinity church was consecrated in 1845.

deify

- worship, regard or treat as a god (worship, revere, venerate): she was deified by the early Romans.

dignify

- make sth seem worthy and impressive: Americans had dignified their departure with a ceremony.

bedizen

- dress up or decorate gaudily: she was bedizened with velvet and pearls.

conjecture (v. n.)

- form an opinion on the basis of incomplete information (guess, speculate, surmise, infer): he conjectured the existence of an unknown feature.

speculate

- conjecture without evidence (conjecture, surmise, hypothesize)

surmise

- suppose sth is true without having evidence (conjecture, speculate, guess): he surmised that sth must be wrong.

extrapolate

- conclude sth by using information that is already known (conclude): you can't really extrapolate a trend from such a small sample.

postulate

- assume the existence, fact or truth of, as a basis for reasoning, discussion (hypothesize, suggest): his theory postulated a rotatory movement for hurricanes.

bifurcate

- (of roads, rivers ...) divide into two branches

sever

- divide by cutting or slicing, esp. suddenly and forcibly (detach): the head was severed from the body.

ramify (n. ramification)

- develop or cause many parts or branches (branch out): an elaborate system of canals was built, ramifying throughout the Britain.

go about sth

- work at sth

mitigate

- (of a fact or circumstance) be a powerful factor in preventing (prevent, hinder): these fundamental differences will mitigate against the two communities coming together.

deter (n. deterrence)

- discourage someone from doing sth (discourage, daunt): only a health problem would deter him from seeking re-election.

daunt

- make someone feel intimidated or apprehensive (discourage, deter): she is not at all daunted by criticism.

perturb

- make someone anxious or unsettled (worry, disturb): there were perturbed by her capricious behavior.

fluster

- make someone confused (unsettle, unnerve, perturb): you need to work under pressure and not get flustered.

agitate

- make someone troubled or nervous (perturb, fluster, unnerve, unsettle): the thought of questioning Toby agitated him extremely.

dishearten (adj. disheartened)

- cause someone to lose determination or confidence (discourage, deter): the farmer was disheartened by the damage to his crops.

unnerve

- make someone lose courage or confidence (discourage, demoralize, dishearten, daunt): the bleakness of his gaze unnerved her.

demoralize

- cause someone to lose confidence or hope (discourage, dishearten, unnerve): their rejection of the treaty has demoralized the community.

welter (v. n.)

- move in a turbulent fashion (roll, be in turmoil): the streams foam and welter.

fret

- be constantly worried or anxious (be distressed, worry): she fretted about the cost of groceries.

repine

- feel or express discontent (fret): you mustn't let yourself repine.

distress (v. n.)

- cause someone pain or anxiety (cause anguish to): I didn't mean to distress you.

afflict (n. affliction)

- (of a problem or illness) cause pain or suffering to (distress): serious ills afflict the industry.

scourge (v. n.)

- cause great suffering to (afflict, torment, oppress): political methods used to scourge and oppress workers.

harrow

- v. cause distress to (distress)
- n. a heavy frame set with teeth
- adj. harrowing: acutely distressing (distressing)

plague

- cause continual trouble or distress to (afflict, distress): the problem plagues the company.
- n. a contagious bacterial disease: an outbreak of bubonic plague.

badger

- ask someone repeatedly and annoyingly for sth: she badgered him about the deals.

underline

- emphasize, give emphasis

proliferate

- increase rapidly in numbers (multiply): amusement and theme parks are proliferating across the country.

burgeon

- grow or increase rapidly (flourish, thrive): the burgeoning demand.

abound

- exist in large numbers or amounts (be plentiful): rumors of a scandal abound.

cadge

- get sth from someone without paying (beg): he is always cadging free meals from his clients.

smack

- hit someone or sth with palm (slap, strike, hit): Jessica smacked his face quite hard.

cringe

- bend one's body in a servile manner or in fear: the cringed away from the blow.

cripple

- cause someone to become unable to move or walk (disable, paralyze): the president has decisively crippled the FBI's ability to carry out an investigation of him.

corrode (adj. corrosive)

- destroy or damage materials slowly by chemical action (erode, abrade): acid rain poisons fish and corroded buildings.

tarnish

- lose or cause to lose luster, esp. as a result of exposure to air or moisture (rust, corrode, discolor): silver tarnishes too easily.
- make or become less respected or valuable (disgrace)

prevail

- prove more powerful than opposing forces (win, triumph, conquer): it is hard for logic to prevail over emotion.
- be widespread in a particular area or time (be prevalent)

obtain

- be prevalent (prevail): extreme poverty now obtains in many parts of the country.

champion

- (defend, advocate): priests who championed human rights.

espouse

- adopt or support a cause or belief (adopt, embrace)

chasten

- to correct by punishment (punish)
- have a restraining effect on (subdue)

subdue

- overcome or bring under control (conquer, defeat, vanquish): she managed to subdue an instinct to applause.

subject

- v. cause or force to undergo an experience or treatment (put through): he subjected her to a terrifying ordeal.
- adj. prone to be affected by: he was subject to bouts of manic depression.

surmount

- overcome a difficulty (overcome): surmount the difficulties.

contend

- struggle to surmount (cope with, struggle): the pilot had to contend with torrential rain.
- assert sth as a position in an argument (assert): he contends that the judge was wrong.

suppress

- forcibly put an end to (subdue): he either has to begin reforms, or he has to suppress the opposition.
- (restrain): she could not suppress a rising panic.

squelch

- stop sth quickly and completely (suppress)

clamor (adj. clamorous)

- (of a group of people) shout loudly (yell): the children were all clamoring for attention.

cloister

- seclude as if in a monastery (seclude): the writer cloistered herself in a country house to finish her novel.

seclude

- keep away from other people: I secluded myself up here for a life of study.

codify (n. codification)

- arrange according to a plan or system (systematize): the state legislature voted to codify governing banking fraud.

devise

- invent (a complex system, mechanism) by careful thought (formulate, conceive, concoct): a training program should be devised.

conceive

- form or devise an idea (devise, formulate): the dam project was originally conceived in 1977.
- become pregnant: she was conceived when her father was 49.

concoct

- (create, devise): they concocted a preposterous but entertaining story.

coin

- invent or devise a new word or phrase: he coined the term 'desktop publishing'.

disregard

- pay no attention (ignore): the evidence is too substantial to disregard.

turn your back on sth

- ignore/disregard sth

condone

- allow (behavior that is morally wrong) to continue (disregard): the college cannot condone any behavior that involves illicit drugs.

brook

- tolerate or allow sth, esp. a difference of opinions (tolerate, allow): she won't brook any criticism of her work.

flout

- openly disregard a rule (disregard, defy): these companies still flout basic ethical practices.

defy

- openly resist or refuse to obey (disobey, disregard, flout): a woman who defies convention.

enlist

- enroll or be enrolled in the armed services: he enlisted in the army.

conscript (v. n.)

- enlist compulsorily, typically into the armed services (enlist): they were conscripted into the army.

contrive (n. contrivance)

- arrange sth to happen by being smart or deceiving others: he somehow contrived to get tickets for the concert.
- related. contrived: deliberately created or arranged that seems not naturally (affected)

cozen

- (deceive, trick): he was able to cozen a profit.

dupe (adj. duplicitous, n. duplicity)

- (deceive, trick): they duped me into giving them money.

hoodwink

- (deceive, trick, dupe): an attempt to hoodwink the public.

forge (n. forgery)

- produce a copy of, for the purpose of deception (copy, fake)
- shape a metal object by heating and hammering
- related. recast: give a metal object a different form by melting and reshaping

coax

- persuade someone to do sth by flattery

con (v. n.)

- persuade someone by use of deception: I conned him into giving me phone number.

inveigle

- persuade someone to do sth by means of deception (con, entice): we cannot inveigle him into putting pen to paper.

tout

- advertises or praise sth, often to encourage its sale (promote): various studies have been published touting the benefits of pre-kindergarten programs.

promulgate

- promote or make widely known (spread, broadcast): these objectives have to be promulgated within the organization.

vaunt

- praise sth, esp. excessively (boast about, brag about): the coach warned players not to vaunt about their undefeated record.

boast

- talk with excessive pride and self-satisfaction about one's achievements or abilities (brag, swagger): they are always boasting about how smart their children are.

brag

- say in a boastful manner (boast, swagger): she was bragging about her gold game.

domineer (adj. domineering)

- assert one's will over another in an arrogant way:

intimidate

- (frighten): he tried to intimidate his rivals.

cow

- cause someone to submit to one's wishes by intimidation (intimidate): the intellectuals had been cowed into silence.

mock

- tease or laugh in a contemptuous manner (ridicule, deride, scorn): some boys love to mock her British accent.

ridicule (v. n.)

- (mock, deride, scorn): his theory was ridiculed and dismissed.

guffaw

- laugh in a loud way: both men guffawed at the remark.

deride (adj. derisive, n. derision)

- expressing contempt for (ridicule, mock, scorn): critics derided the proposals as clumsy attempts to find a solution.

satirize (n. satire; adj. satiric, satirical)

- criticize by means of satire (mock, ridicule, deride)

slight

- insult someone by treating them without proper respect (insult): he was careful not to slight a guest.

lampoon

- publicly criticize by using ridicule, irony, sarcasm (satirize, mock): the senator lampooned dubious federal projects.

discern

- able to recognize, perceive or distinguish sth (perceive, notice): I can discern no difference between the two policies.

perceive

- become aware of, come to realize (discern): his mouth fell open as he perceived the truth.

construe

- interpret (a word or action) in a particular way (interpret): his words could hardly be construed as an apology.

misconstrue

- interpret (esp. a person's words) wrongly (misinterpret): my advice was deliberately misconstrued.

discriminate

- recognize a distinction (differentiate, distinguish): babies can discriminate between different facial expressions.

disconcert

- disturb the composure of (discomfit): the abrupt change of subject disconcerted her.

discomfit

- make someone feel embarrassed (embarrass, disconcert): he was not discomfited by her tone.

mortify

- cause someone to feel embarrassed, humiliated (embarrass, humiliate): she was mortified to see her wrinkles in the mirror.

debauch (n. debauchery)

- destroy the moral purity of (corrupt): he is notorious for debauching young women.

distend

- swell by pressure from inside: the abdomen distended rapidly.

err (n. error; adj. errant)

- make a mistake: he erred in his calculations.

evoke (adj. evocative n. evocation)

- bring to mind: the sign of American asters evokes pleasant memories of childhood.

elude (adj. elusive)

- evade or escape from a danger, enemy (evade, avoid, dodge): he managed to elude his pursuers by escaping into an alley.
- related. adj. elusive: difficult to find, catch or achieve: success will become more elusive.

evade (adj. evasive)

- (elude, avoid, dodge): friends helped him to evade capture for a time.

shun

- persistently avoid, ignore sth through antipathy or caution (avoid, evade): he shunned fashionable society.

circumvent

- find a way around an obstacle (avoid, evade, bypass): the checkpoints were easy to circumvent.

warrant

- make an action necessary or correct (justify): investigations would be warranted.
- (guarantee)

exorcise

- get rid of someone or sth evil (drive out): exorcise evil spirit.

expatiate

- speak or write in detail or for a long time: she expatiated on her work all day.

regale

- entertain or amuse someone with talk (entertain): he regaled her with colorful stories.

prate

- talk foolishly about sth: the radio program allows people to call in and prate about their pet peeves.

prattle

- talk at length in a foolish way: she began to prattle on about her visit to the dentist.

repatriate

- send someone back to their own country: the UN hopes to repatriate all the refugees.

expatriate

- v. settle oneself abroad: candidates should be willing to expatriate.
- adj. v. person living outside of native country

banish

- send someone away from a country or place as an official punishment (exile, expel, deport, expatriate): they were banished to Siberia for political crimes.

exile

- expel someone from their native country, typically for political reasons (expel, banish, expatriate, deport): a corrupt dictator who had been exiled from his country.

ostracize

- exclude someone from a society or group (exclude): a group of people who have been ostracized for centuries.

persecute

- subject someone to hostility, esp. because of race or political beliefs (oppress, victimize): the followers were persecuted by the authorities.

torment (v. n.)

- cause to experience severe mental or physical suffering (torture): the cows were tormented by flies.

excruciate

- torment someone physically or mentally (torment, torture): his headache excruciated him.

atone

- make amends: he was being helpful, to atone for his past mistakes.

expiate

- (atone for): their sins must be expiated by sacrifice.

finesse (v. n.)

- v. do sth in a delicate manner
- n. refined delicacy (skills): orchestral playing of great finesse.

plummet (v. n.)

- fall or drop straight down at high speed (plunge): a climber was killed when he plummeted 300 feet down an icy gully.

slump

- undergo a severe fall in price, value or amount (plummet, drop): the economy slumps.

plunge

- push or thrust quickly (thrust): he plunged his hands into his pockets.

plumb

- v. measure the depth of
- adj. vertical: ensure the baseboard is straight and plumb.

gauge

- v. determine the magnitude, amount or volume of (measure): astronomers can gauge the star's intrinsic brightness.
- n. a device for measuring the magnitude, amount or volume of: fuel gauge.

gouge

- v. make a hole or groove with a gouge
- n. a chisel with a concave blade used in carpentry

grip

- grasp tightly (grasp)
- (of a feeling or emotion) deeply affect someone: she was gripped by a feeling of excitement.

gambol

- run or jump playfully: the children gamboled on the lawn.

grouse (v. n.)

- (complain): he is always grouching about how hard he has to work.

grudge

- be resentfully unwilling to give or allow sth (begrudge, resent): he grudged the work and time that the meeting involved.

begrudge

- envy someone the possession of sth (envy): she begrudged Martin his affluence.
- give reluctantly or resentfully (grudge)

resent (n. resentment)

- feel bitterness or indignation at (grudge): she resented the fact that I had children.

implode

- collapse inward violently: the windows on both sides of the room had imploded.

incarnate

- embody (a spirit) in human form (embody): God incarnates himself in man.

reincarnate

- undergo re-birth in another body

interpolate

- insert sth into sth else (insert)

jibe

- agree with: make sure it jibed with the tax return it filed.

breach

- v. break through (a barrier): the river breached its bank.
- n. an act of breaking a law, agreement (violation)

rupture

- breach or disturb (breach): once trust has been ruptured it can be difficult to regain.

thrust

- push suddenly or violently in the specified direction: thrust myself into this activity.

dissent (v. n.) (n. dissenter dissention)

- hold different opinions: two members dissented from the majority.

mesmerize

- (hypnotize): she was mesmerized by the blue eyes.

menace (v. n.)

- (threaten): a hurricane menaced the east coast yesterday.

nonplus (v. n.)

- confuse someone so much that they are unsure how to react (confuse): Dee was nonplussed by such an odd question.

bemuse

- (puzzle, confuse, perplex, nonplus, baffle): he bemused expression.

baffle

- totally bewilder or perplex (perplex, puzzle, bewilder, bemuse, confound): an unexplained occurrence that baffled everyone.

flummox

- perplex someone greatly (perplex, baffle, bewilder, ...): he was completely flummoxed by the question.

presage, portend, augur, foreshadow, foretell, forebode, prefigure

- be a sign or warning of sth bad (herald, signal)

prognosticate (n. prognostication)

- (foretell, predict, foresee, forecast, prophesy): the economists were prognosticating financial crisis.

rue

- regret: he will rue the day he turned down that offer.

saturate

- cause sth to become thoroughly soaked with liquid (soak)
- related adj. sodden: saturated with liquid, thoroughly soaked: the sodden field makes it difficult for soccer players to move efficiently.

drench

- wet thoroughly (soak, saturate): I fell in the stream and got drenched.

douse

- pour a liquid over (drench, soak, saturate): he doused the car with water.
- (extinguish, put an end to)

extinguish

- cause a fire or light to cease to burn or shine (douse)
- put an end to (annihilate, obliterate): hope is extinguished little by little.

secrete

- (of a cell, organ) produce a substance

excrete

- (of a living organism) expel as waste

stanch

- stop or restrict (a flow of blood) from a wound: colleagues may have saved her life by stanching her flow.

succor (v. n.)

- give assistance or aid to (help, aid): prisoners of war were liberated and succored.

tremble

- (of a person or animal) shake involuntarily, typically as a result of anxiety, excitement (shiver, quiver): he was trembling with excitement.

shiver

- (of a person or animal) shake slightly and uncontrollably as a result of being cold, excited, frightened (tremble, quiver)

quiver

- tremble or shake with a slight rapid motion (tremble, shake, shiver): the tree's branches stopped quivering.

lubricate

- apply a substance such as oil or grease to minimize friction and allow smooth movement

escort (v. n.)

- accompany somewhere, esp. for protection or security: he escorted her to her car in the parking lot because it was after dark.

alienate

- cause someone to feel isolated (estrangle): an urban environment that would alienate its inhabitants.

confine

- keep or restrict someone or sth within certain limits of (enclose, imprison): the animals were confined in a large pen.

immure

- enclose or confine someone against their will (confine): her brother was immured in a lunatic asylum.

enclose

- surround or close off on all sides (surround): the entire estate was enclosed with walls.

circumscribe (n. circumscription)

- limit sth (restrict, limit): their movements were strictly circumscribed.

hedge

- surround or bound with a hedge (enclose): a garden hedged with yews.
- limit or qualify sth by condition (confine): experts usually hedge their prediction.
- n. a fence or boundary formed by closely growing bushes

fetter (v. n.)

- restrain with chains or manacles (shackle, manacle)

manacle (v. n.)

- fetter (a person or part of the body) with manacles: his hands were manacled behind his back.

tether

- tie an animal with a rope or chain to restrict movement (tie): the horse had been tethered to a post.

patronize

- treat with an apparent kindness that betrays a feeling of superiority (condescend)

condescend

- show feelings of superiority (patronize): take care not to condescend to your reader.

deign

- do sth that one considers to be beneath one's dignity (stoop): he didn't deign to reply.

stoop

- bend one's head or body forward and downward (bow)

- lower one's moral standards to do sth reprehensible: Craig wouldn't stoop to thieving.

bemoan

- express sorrow or discontent over sth (lament, complain): researchers are always bemoaning their lack of funds.

husband

- use resources economically (conserve): the need to husband his remaining strength.

squander

- waste sth in a reckless and foolish manner (waste): entrepreneurs squander their profits on expensive cars.

dissipate

- (of a feeling) disappear or cause to disappear (disappear): the concern she felt for him had dissipated.
- squander money or resources (squander): he had dissipated his entire fortune.

articulate

- express an idea or feeling fluently (express): he is able to articulate his emotion.
- form a joint
- adj. having the ability to speak fluently and coherently (eloquent): she was an articulate spokeswoman for a lot of causes.

imbibe

- drink alcohol: they were imbibing far too many pitchers of beer.
- absorb ideas or knowledge (assimilate): she had imbibed the gospel of modernism.

assimilate

- take in (information, ideas) and understand fully (imbibe): he tried to assimilate the week's events.

appropriate

- take sth for one's own use, typically without permission (seize): his images have been appropriated by advertisers.

expropriate

- (esp. of the state) take away (property) from its owner (seize): government plans to expropriate farmland.

commandeer

officially take possession of control of sth, esp. for military purpose (seize, appropriate, expropriate): telephone lines were commandeered by the generals.

meander

- (of a river or road) following a winding course (wind): a river that meandered gently through a meadow.

perpetuate

- make sth continue indefinitely (keep going): the law perpetuated the interests of the ruling class.

lacerate

- tear or make deep cuts in flesh or skin (cut, slash): he lacerated his neck.
- criticize forcefully or severely

redress, remedy

- set right an unfair situation, correct a wrong (rectify, correct): affirmative action to help minorities is intended to redress wrongs.

behoove

- be incumbent on, be required for: it behooves any coach to study his predecessors.

proselytize

- convert someone from one religion, opinion to another (evangelize): the program did have a tremendous evangelical effect, proselytizing many.

evangelize

- seek to convert someone to Christianity (proselytize): his calling is to evangelize these poor people.

pontificate

- express one's opinions in a way considered annoyingly pompous and dogmatic: he was pontificating about art and history.

moralize (adj. moralistic)

- comment on issues of right and wrong, with an air of superiority (pontificate): a good teacher manages to educate without moralizing.

culminate

- reach a climax or point of highest development: the tensions and disorders which culminated in WW2.

expurgate

- remove matter thought to be unsuitable from book (censor)

flounder

- struggle or stagger helplessly in water or mud (struggle)
- struggle mentally, feel great confusion (struggle): His business was flourishing, but his marriage was floundering.

ruffle

- disorder or disarrange, typically by running one's hand through it (disarrange): the father jovially ruffles his son's hair.

antedate

- precede in time, come before sth in date (precede): a civilization that antedated the Roman Empire.

inoculate

- treat with a vaccine to produce immunity against a disease: he inoculated his tenants against smallpox.

emancipate (v. emancipation)

- set free, esp. from social or political conditions (liberate): the citizen must be emancipated from the secrecy of government.

retrofit

- add a component to sth that did not have it when manufactured: drivers who retrofit catalyst to old cars.

excise

- remove by cutting: the surgeon excised a small tumor from my leg.

comb (v. n.)

- untangle or arrange the hair by drawing a comb with it (groom): neatly combed hair.

evacuate (n. evacuation)

- remove someone from a place of danger to a safe place

squirt

- cause a liquid to be ejected from a small opening

fiddle

- touch or fidget with sth in a restless or nervous way (fidget): Laura fiddled with her cup.

fidget

- make small movements, esp. of the hands or feet, through nervousness or impatience

cater

- provide food and drink, typically at social events and in a professional capacity: he catered a lunch for 20 people.
- provide with what is needed or required

opt

- make a choice from a range of options (choose, select): consumers will opt for low-priced goods.

imperil (adj. perilous)

- put at risk of being harmed, injured (endanger): white-band disease imperils coral reefs.

jeopardize

- put someone or sth into a situation in which there is a danger or loss, harm (endanger, imperil): a devaluation of the dollar would jeopardize New York's position.

smother

- kill someone by covering their nose and mouth (suffocate)
- suppress a feeling or an action (stifle, suppress): she smothered a sigh.

stifle

- make someone unable to breathe properly (suffocate, smother)
- restrain oneself acting on an emotion (smother, suppress): she stifled a giggle.

bleach

- whiten by exposure to sunlight or by a chemical process (whiten): paper products are bleached with chlorine.

bait (v. n.)

- prepare with bait to entice fish or animals as prey
- n. food used to entice fish or other animals as prey

endow (n. endowment)

- give money that will provide an income for an organization: Mellon endowed the National Gallery of Art.

reimburse (n. reimbursement)

- repay a person who has spent or lost money (compensate): the investors should be reimbursed for their losses.

entrench

- establish an attitude, habit or belief so firmly that change is very difficult (establish): ageism is entrenched in our society.

gloat

- feel or show pleasure because of one's own success or other's misfortune: his enemies gloated over his death.

hitch (v. n.)

- move sth into a different position with a jerk (pull): she hitched the blanket around him.
- n. a temporary interruption or problem (problem, snag): everything went without a hitch.

lapse (v. n.)

- (of a right, agreement) become invalid because it is not used or expired (become invalid): my membership to the gym has lapsed.
- n. a temporary failure of concentration: a lapse of concentration.

accord (v. n.)

- give or grant someone power, state or recognition (give, grant): US accorded full recognition to the new government.
- n. an official agreement or treaty (treaty)

confer

- grant or bestow a title, degree benefit or right (bestow, grant): moves were made to confer an honorary degree on her.

bestow

- confer or present an honor, right or gift (grant, accord): the office was bestowed on him by the chief of state.

subsidize (n. subsidy)

- support an organization or activity financially (sponsor, fund): it was beyond the power of a state to subsidize a business.

manifest (v. adj.)

- display or show a quality or feeling by one's acts or appearance (display, show): he manifested signs of severe depression.
- adj. clear or obvious to the eye or mind (obvious)

puncture (v. n.)

- make a puncture in sth (pierce): he punctured the child's balloon.
- n. a small hole made by a sharp object

reckon

- establish by counting or calculation (calculate): his debts were reckoned at \$3m.

sift

- put through a sieve to remove lumps or large particles (sieve): sift the flour into a bowl.
- examine sth thoroughly (examine, scrutinize): until we sift the evidence ourselves, we cannot comment objectively.

topple

- become unsteady and fall (fall): the push almost toppled him to the ground.

juggle

- throw objects and catch them, keep them moving to entertain people

atrophy

- (of body tissue or an organ) waste away due to degeneration of cells

graze

- (of cattle, sheep) eat grass in a field (feed): cattle graze on the open meadows.

exhume

- dig out sth. buried from the ground: the body was exhumed.

adj (tagadj)

--- Can be used to describe **Writing/Opinions**

obscure: (adj) uncertain; (v) conceal (hide from being seen)

utter

- complete, absolute, total: he stared at her in utter amazement.

implicit

- implied but not plainly expressed (implied): comments seen as implicit criticism.
- with no question (absolute): an implicit faith in God.

tacit

- implied without being stated (implicit): he gave tacit approval to the plan.

equivocal (v. equivocate)

- open to more than one interpretation (ambiguous): the equivocal nature of her remarks

ambivalent

- having mixed feelings about sth or someone (equivocal, uncertain, irresolute): some loved her, some hated her, few were ambivalent about her.

evasive (v. evade)

- tending to avoid commitment by responding indirectly (equivocal): she was evasive about her phone number.

oblique

- not stated directly (equivocal, ambiguous): she made only oblique references to scandal.
- (of a line) neither perpendicular nor parallel (slanting, sloping)
- related. slanting: positioned in a sloping or oblique direction

circumstantial

- pointing but not proving it (indirect, conjectural)

circumlocutory

- using many words where fewer would do, esp. to be vague or evasive

periphrastic

- (of speech or writing) indirect and circumlocutory: the periphrastic nature of legal syntax.

categorical

- unambiguously explicit and direct (unequivocal, unambiguous): a categorical assurance.

orthodox

- traditionally accepted as right (conventional, traditional, conservative); normal

hidebound

- unwilling or unable to change because of tradition or convention (conservative, orthodox): you are hidebound by your petty laws.

heterodox

- not conforming with accepted or orthodox standards (unorthodox): heterodox views.

progressive

- favoring social reform or new, liberal ideas: a relatively progressive governor.

maverick (adj. n.)

- (heterodox, unorthodox)
- n. an unorthodox person

iconoclastic (n. iconoclasm)

- attacking cherished beliefs

counterintuitive

- contrary to intuition or to common-sense expectation

polemical

- relating strongly controversial or disputatious writing (controversial): a polemical essay.

contentious

- likely to cause an argument (controversial): a contentious issue.

vituperative (v. vituperate)

- a vituperative spoken or written attack is full of angry criticism: he launched a vituperative attack on her ex-boss and former lover.

acrimonious (n. acrimony)

- (of speech or debate) angry and bitter (bitter, angry): an acrimonious dispute.

disputable

- debatable

discreet (n. discretion)

- careful in one's speech or actions, esp. to avoid causing offense (careful, circumspect, cautious, wary): we made some discreet inquiries.

fallacious (n. fallacy)

- based on a mistaken belief (untrue, erroneous): fallacious arguments.

untenable

- esp. a view not able to be defended against attack (indefensible): the argument is clearly untenable.

unassailable

- unable to be attacked, questioned or defeated (impregnable, invulnerable): the conclusions were unassailable.

impregnable

- unable to be defeated or destroyed (unassailable): the case is almost impregnable.

banal (n. banality)

- lacking in originality as to be boring (trite): songs with banal, repeated words

trite

- (remark, idea) overused, lacking originality or freshness (banal, hackneyed)

hoary

- old and trite (trite): he told a few hoary jokes and nobody laughed.

cheesy, tacky

- informal: banal, inauthentic

critical

- expressing adverse or disapproving comments (censorious)

laconic

- using very few words (brief, concise): his laconic reply suggested a lack of interest.

prolix (n. prolixity)

- (writing or speech) using too many words: he found the narrative too prolix.

verbose

- using more words than needed (wordy, prolix): much academic language is obscure and verbose.

grandiloquent

- pompous and complicated in language or style that intends to impress (pompous): her speech was full of grandiloquent language, but it contained no new ideas.

turgid

- (pompous, bombastic)

sententious

- trying to appear wise, intelligent and important in a pompous way (moralistic): he tried to encourage his men with sententious rhetoric.

preachy (n. preach)

- having a tendency to give moral advice in a tedious or self-righteous way (moralistic, sententious, sanctimonious): some were put off by the preachy tone of these stories.

sanctimonious

- make a show of being morally superior to other people (preachy, self-righteous): what happened to all the sanctimonious talk about putting his family first?

bombastic

- high-sounding but little meaning, inflated (pompous, turgid)

doctrinaire

- (adj. or n.) seeking to impose a doctrine without practical considerations (dogmatic)

dogmatic (n. dogma)

- strongly expressing beliefs as if they were true (peremptory): he gives his opinion without trying to be dogmatic.

specious

- superficially plausible, but actually wrong (misleading, deceptive): a specious argument.

ostensible

- appearing or claiming to be one thing when it is really sth else (superficial): the delay may have a deeper cause than the ostensible reason.

facile

- (esp. of a theory or argument) appearing neat only by ignoring the true complexities of an issue (superficial)

jejune

- (simplistic, superficial): jejune opinions.
- (of ideas or writings) dry and uninteresting (vapid, insipid, bland): the poem seems to me rather jejune.

prosaic

- lacking poetic beauty (ordinary, commonplace): prosaic language can't convey the experience.

expository

- intended to explain or describe sth (explanatory, descriptive): formal expository prose.

lucid

- luminous; expressed clearly

pellucid (n. pellucidity)

- very clear; easy to understand (lucid, clear): he writes in pellucid prose.

coherent

- (of an argument or theory) logical and consistent (logical)

cogent

- (of an argument) clear, logical, convincing (convincing)

compelling

- not able to be refuted, inspiring conviction (convincing): compelling evidence.
- evoking interest, attention or admiration in an irresistible way (captivating, enthralling)

trenchant

- incisive in expression or style (incisive, sharp): trenchant comments.

mordant

- (esp. of humor) having a sharp or critical quality (trenchant, acerbic): a mordant sense of humor.

acerbic

- (style of speaking) sharp and forthright (forthright, straightforward, direct)

astringent

- sharp or severe in manner or style (severe, acerbic): her astringent words had their effect.

limpid

- clearly expressed, easy to understand (lucid): limpid prose.
- clear and transparent: a limpid pool.

succinct

- briefly and clearly expressed (concise, pithy)

terse

- (brief, concise, succinct, incisive): a terse statement.

affirmative

- agreeing with a statement: an affirmative answer.

witty

- showing quick and inventive verbal humor (humorous): a witty remark.

cognate

- (of a word) having the same linguistic derivation as another, from the same original word or root

- (related, associated): cognate subjects such as physics and chemistry.

figurative

- departing from a literal use of a word (metaphorical, symbolic): literal and figurative meanings.

inflammatory

- (of speech or writing) arousing angry or violent feelings (provocative, seditious, subversive, provoking): inflammatory slogans.

--- Can be used to describe **People/Behaviors**

exalted (v. exalt)

- (of a person or their rank or status) placed at a high or powerful level (high-ranking, elevated, lofty, prestigious, distinguished, eminent, prominent, celebrated): it took years of hard work to reach her exalted rank.

prestigious (n. prestige)

- inspiring respect and admiration, having high status (reputable, distinguished, eminent)

sublime

- of such excellence or beauty as to inspire great admiration (exalted, elevated, noble)
- v. (of a solid substance) change directly into vapor when heated

puissant

- having great power or influence

estimable

- worthy of great respect
- related. inestimable: too great to calculate

commendable, creditable, laudable, estimable

- deserving praise

ignoble

- not honorable in character (dishonorable): ignoble feelings of intense jealousy.

prophetic (n. prophet)

- accurately predicting the future (prescient): a prescient/prophetic warning.

prescient (n. prescience)

- having knowledge of events before they take place (prophetic, visionary): a prescient warning.

clairvoyant (n. clairvoyance)

- having an ability to perceive events in the future (psychic, telepathic): he didn't tell me about it and I am not clairvoyant.

bold

- showing an ability to take risks (daring, audacious): a bold attempt to solve the crisis.
- a strong or vivid appearance (striking, vivid)

audacious

- showing a willingness to take bold risks (bold, daring): a series of audacious takeovers.
- showing a lack of respect (impudent, impertinent, insolent, irreverent, discourteous, rude)

brazen

- (of sth bad) done without shame: he went about his illegal business with a brazen assurance.

intrepid

- (fearless, bold): an intrepid reporter.

plucky

- having determined courage in the face of difficulties (brave, bold)

presumptuous

- failing to observe the limits of what is permitted (audacious, impertinent, insolent, impudent, rude): I hope I won't be considered presumptuous.

boorish

- rough and bad-mannered (rude, coarse): boorish behavior.

churlish

- rude in a mean way (rude, boorish): it seems churlish to complain.

brusque

- abrupt in speech or manner

craven, timid, pusillanimous, cowardly

- lacking in courage: refusing to fight would be a craven act.

formidable

- causing fear, apprehension because it is strong and powerful (daunting, threatening): a formidable opponent.

redoubtable

- (of a person) formidable, esp. as an opponent (formidable, threatening): as a result of winning all cases, the prosecutor has earned a reputation as a redoubtable attorney.

vehement

- showing strong feeling (passionate, forceful, vociferous)

effusive

- expressing feelings of gratitude, pleasure in an unrestrained manner (gushing): an effusive welcome.

fervent (n. fervor)

- having a passionate intensity (passionate, vehement): a fervent disciple of tax reform.

vociferous

- (esp. of a person or speech) vehement or clamorous: he was a vociferous opponent of the policy.

impassive

- not feeling or showing emotion (expressionless): Nick kept his face impassive.

stolid

- showing little emotion and dependable (calm, impassive, phlegmatic)

dispassionate

- not influenced by emotion, so able to be rational: she dealt with it in a calm, dispassionate way.

placid

- not easily upset or excited (calm, tranquil): this horse has a placid nature.

phlegmatic

- not easily excited or emotional (calm, placid, tranquil, imperturbable)

imperturbable

- unable to be upset or excited (calm, placid): an imperturbable tranquility.

tranquil (n. tranquility)

- free from disturbance, calm (peaceful, calm): her tranquil gaze.

equable

- not easily disturbed or angered (calm, composed)

nonchalant

- (of a person or manner) feeling or appearing casually calm and relaxed, not displaying anxiety or enthusiasm (calm, composed)

complaisant

- willing to please others: the dogs are peaceful and complaisant.

acquiescent

- ready to accept sth without protest (compliant, submissive): the unions were acquiescent and there was no conflict.

compliant

- inclined to agree with others (acquiescent, yielding, submissive)

docile

- ready to accept control or instruction (compliant, submissive): a cheap and docile workforce.

amenable

- easily persuaded or controlled (acquiescent, compliant, tractable, malleable): parents like amenable children.

tractable

- easy to control or influence (amenable, malleable, compliant, tractable, yielding)

malleable

- easily influenced (amenable, tractable)
- (a substance) that is easily bent or shaped (plastic)

elastic (adj. n.)

- (of an object or material) able to resume its normal shape after contraction, dilatation or distortion (stretchy): elastic material.

servile

- having an excessive willing to please or serve others (obsequious): bowing his head in a servile manner.

obsequious

- obedient to an excessive degree (servile): they were served by obsequious waiters.

fawning (v. fawn)

- displaying exaggerated flattery (obsequious, servile)

fulsome

- complimentary or flattering to an excessive degree (fawning): the actor was embarrassed by the fulsome praise he received.

implacable

- unable to be placated (unappeasable): an implacable enemy.

intractable

- hard to control or deal with (stubborn): an intractable problem/man.

froward

- (of a person) hard to deal with

recalcitrant

- having an uncooperative attitude towards authority (uncooperative, intractable): a class of recalcitrant fifteen-year-olds.

restive

- unwilling to keep still and becoming difficult to be controlled: the crowd began to get restive during the long wait for the concert to begin.

fractious

- bad-tempered, difficult to control (irritable): fractious children.

irascible

- having a tendency to be easily angered (irritable, quick-tempered): an irascible man.

huffy

- annoyed or irritated and quick to take offense at petty things (irritable): ask her a question and she get huffy.

petulant

- childishly sulky or bad-tempered (peevish, irritable, fractious): he was moody and petulant.

peevish

- easily irritated, esp. by unimportant things (irritable, fractious, petulant)

fractious, irascible, irritable, petulant, peevish, huffy

- bad-tempered

incensed

- very angry; enraged

saturnine, morose, sullen, sulky, stygian, somber

- gloomy

melancholy

- having a feeling of sadness (sad, sorrowful, lugubrious): she felt a little melancholy.

doleful, dolorous

- expressing sorrow (mournful, sorrowful, sad, melancholy)

lugubrious

- looking or sounding sad (mournful, doleful, melancholy)

crestfallen

- sad and disappointed

lachrymose

- tearful, sad

plaintive

- sounding sad and mournful (mournful): a plaintive cry.

plangent

- (melancholy, mournful, plaintive)

poignant

- evoking a keen sense of sadness or regret (sorrowful): a poignant reminder of the passing time.

savage (adj. n.)

- fierce, violent (ferocious, fierce): a savage beast

fierce

- having an intense aggressiveness (savage, ferocious)

ferocious

- (savage, fierce, cruel)

barbaric, barbarous

- savagely cruel, exceedingly brutal (brutal, brutish, savage, cruel)

internecine

- destructive to both sides in a conflict: the region's history of savage internecine wars.

truculent (n. truculence)

- eager to argue or fight (defiant, aggressive, confrontational): his days of truculent defiance were over.

confrontational

- tending to deal with situations in an aggressive way

pugnacious

- eager to argue or fight (aggressive, belligerent, bellicose, truculent): the pugnacious demeanor of politicians.

belligerent

- hostile and aggressive (hostile, aggressive, antagonistic, bellicose): a belligerent old man

bellicose

- demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight (belligerent, aggressive, hostile, antagonistic, pugnacious): a group of bellicose patriots.

cantankerous

- bad-tempered, argumentative, uncooperative: a cantankerous old man.

defiant (n. defiance)

- showing defiance (intransigent, resistant): she was in a defiant mood.

antagonistic (n. antagonism)

- showing active opposition or hostility toward someone or sth (hostile to, against): he was antagonistic to the government's reforms.

contumacious

- stubbornly disobedient to authority (resistant, recalcitrant)

captious

- tending to find fault and raise objections

carping

- difficult to please: she silenced the carping critics with a successful speech.

irksome

- (irritating, annoying, vexatious)

skittish

- easily frightened (nervous): the kitten was really skittish.

antipathetic (n. antipathy)

- showing a strong aversion (strongly dislike or decline to): it is human nature to be antipathetic to change.

averse (n. aversion)

- having a strong dislike or opposition of sth (antipathetic): few politicians are averse to appearing on television.

contemptuous (n. contempt)

- showing contempt (scornful, disdainful, disrespectful)

disdainful (v. n. disdain)

- showing contempt (contemptuous, scornful, disrespectful)

scornful (n. scorn)

- showing contempt (contemptuous, disdainful, disrespectful)

withering (v. wither)

- intended to make someone feel humiliated (contemptuous, scornful, scathing)

scathing

- scornful, withering

pejorative

- expressing contempt or disapproval (disparaging, derogatory, abusive): a pejorative term/word.

snide

- derogatory or mocking in an indirect way (disparaging, derogatory): snide remarks.

dismissive

- feeling or showing that sth is unworthy of consideration (contemptuous, snide): he is too dismissive of the importance of the industrialists.

frenetic

- fast and energetic in a wild and uncontrollable way (wild): a frenetic pace of activity.

boisterous

- (of a person, behavior, event) noisy, energetic (rowdy): boisterous children.

riotous (n. riot)

- involving public disorder, characterized by wild behavior (rowdy, boisterous): a riotous party; a riotous crowd.

rowdy

- noisy and disorderly (disorderly, riotous)

bacchanalian

- riotously drunken: a bacchanalian orgy.

indecorous

- behaving badly or rudely (improper, unseemly, unbecoming)

unseemly

- not proper or appropriate (improper, unbecoming)

seemly, becoming

- socially suitable and polite

genteel

- polite, refined, often in an affected way (decorous)

urbane

- (of a person) courteous, refined in manner (suave, debonair, cultivated)

debonair

- (of a man) confident, stylish, charming (suave, urbane)

suave

- (of a man) confident, charming, elegant (debonair, urbane)

courteous

- polite, respectful in manner (polite, civil)

egotistical

- excessively conceited in oneself (self-centered): he is selfish, egotistical and arrogant.

conceited (n. conceit)

- excessively proud of oneself (vain, narcissistic, egotistical): their flattery made him vain.

narcissistic (n. narcissism)

- having an excessive interest in oneself and one's physical appearance (vain, conceited, egotistical): a narcissistic actress.

overweening

- showing excessive confidence or pride (overconfident, conceited): overweening ambition.

supercilious

- behaving as though one thinks one is superior to others (haughty, conceited, arrogant, condescending): he spoke in a haughty, supercilious voice.

haughty (n. hauteur, haughtiness)

- arrogantly superior and disdainful (arrogant, conceited, pompous, supercilious, condescending): a look of haughty disdain.

imperious

- with an attitude of authority and expecting obedience (peremptory): she was a very imperious, arrogant woman.

imperative

- of vital importance (crucial, vital, essential): immediate action was imperative.
- (imperious, peremptory, commanding)

peremptory

- expecting to be obeyed immediately (imperious): he started issuing peremptory instructions.

domineering (v. domineer)

- having a strong tendency to try to control people without considering their feelings (peremptory, imperious, commanding): a domineering personality.

pompous

- (self-important, imperious)

high-and-mighty

- behaving as if you are much more important than other people

officious

- too eager to tell people what to do and having high self-importance (self-important): he is an officious man and widely disliked in the company.
- intrusively enthusiastic in offering help

complacent

- showing smug or satisfaction with oneself (smug, self-satisfied, conceited): you can't afford to be complacent about security.

brash

- self-assertive in a rude way (cocky, bold)

cocky

- (conceited, arrogant)

unassuming

- not pretentious or arrogant (modest, self-effacing): he was an unassuming, kindly man.

self-effacing

- not claiming attention for oneself (modest)

diffident

- shy because of a lack of self-confidence (shy, unconfident): a diffident youth.

contrite, remorseful, repentant, penitent

- feeling remorse or penitence, affected by guilt

awry

- away from the appropriate, planned course (inappropriate)

amiss

- not quite right (inappropriate): there was sth amiss about his calculations.

deviant (adj. n.)

- departing from usual standards, especially social behaviors (aberrant, abnormal):
deviant behavior.

aberrant

- departing from accepted standard (deviant, abnormal): aberrant behavior.

anomalous

- deviating from what is expected or normal (abnormal): an anomalous situation.

errant

- erring from the proper standards: he could never forgive her errant ways.

incorrigible

- (of a person or tendencies) not able to be corrected, improved: an incorrigible criminal.

licit

- (lawful)

illicit

- forbidden by law, rules (illegal, illegitimate): illicit drugs.

accommodating

- fitting in with someone's wishes or demands in a helpful way (cooperative, helpful): her dad is far more accommodating than her mom.

amicable

- (of relations between people) having a spirit of friendliness, without serious disagreement (friendly): an amicable settlement of the dispute.

affable (n. affability)

- friendly, easy to talk to (amiable, genial, congenial, cordial, convivial): an affable companion.

genial (n. geniality)

- friendly and cheerful (convivial, jovial)

convivial

- (of an atmosphere or person) friendly and cheerful (genial, jovial)

jovial

- friendly and cheerful (convivial, genial)

amiable

- having a friendly and pleasant manner

congenial

- pleasant because of similar interests or personalities: his need for congenial company.

sociable

- willing to talk and engage in activities with other people (friendly, affable)

gregarious

- fond of company (sociable, friendly, affable): he is a popular and gregarious man.

avuncular

- friendly, kind, like an uncle: having an avuncular manner.

apathetic (n. apathy)

- lack of interest or enthusiasm

tepid

- (esp. of a liquid) only slightly warm (lukewarm)
- showing little enthusiasm (apathetic, indifferent): the applause was tepid.

avid

- having a keen interest in or enthusiasm for sth (keen, enthusiastic): an avid reader of science fiction.

lethargic (n. lethargy)

- affected by lethargy (sluggish, apathetic, inert): I felt tired and a little lethargic.

sluggish

- lacking energy (lethargic, apathetic)
- slow-moving or inactive (inactive, inert): the economy is sluggish.

somnolent

- sleepy (drowsy)

drowsy

- (sleepy, lethargic): the wine had made her drowsy.

etiolated

- (of a plant) pale due to a lack of light; having lost vigor: etiolated bean seedlings.

inert

- not moving or not able to move (unmoving, motionless, sluggish): the inert figure of a man lay in the front of the car.

dilatory

- slow to act (sluggish, slow): he had been dilatory in appointing a solicitor.

slack

- characterized by a lack of work or activity: business was rather slack.

quiescent

- in as state of inactivity (inactive): the political situation is now relatively quiescent.

nimble

- quick and light in movement or action (agile): her nimble fingers.
- (of the mind) quick to comprehend: she is intellectually nimble.

supple

- bending and moving easily and gracefully, flexible (lithe, limber, flexible): her supple fingers.

lithe

- (esp. of a person's body) thin, supple, graceful (agile, supple, nimble, limber): lithe dancers.

limber

- (of a person or body part) lithe, supple (lithe, supple, nimble): keep myself limber.

luxuriant

- (of vegetation) rich and profuse in growth (lush): forests of luxuriant foliage.

lush

- (of vegetation) growing luxuriantly (luxuriant): lush and cultivated fields.

vigorous (n. vigor)

- strong, full of energy (robust, healthy): vigorous growth.

exuberant

- filled with a lively energy or excitement (ebullient, buoyant): exuberant crowds.

buoyant

- able to stay afloat or rise to the top of a liquid or gas (floating): a buoyant substance.
- cheerful and optimistic (cheerful): a buoyant mood.

ebullient

- cheerful and full of energy: she sounded ebullient and happy.

jubilant

- feeling great happiness and triumph (exultant, euphoric, ecstatic)

exultant

- triumphantly happy (jubilant): she felt exultant and powerful.

vital (n. vitality)

- full of energy (lively, energetic)
- essential

stentorian

- (of a person's voice) loud and powerful: he introduced me to the staff with a stentorian announcement.

mettlesome

- (of a person) full of spirit and courage

ruddy

- (of a person's face) having a healthy red color

florid

- having a red complexion (ruddy): a man with a florid face

pallid

- (of a person's face) pale, typically because of poor health (pale): a pallid child.

cadaverous

- resembling a corpse in being very pale, thin (pallid): he had a cadaverous appearance.

tremulous

- (of a person's voice or part of body) shaking slightly (trembling, quivering): her voice was tremulous.

timorous

- showing nervousness, fear or lack of confidence: a timorous voice.

indifferent

- lack of interest, concern: be indifferent to

callous

- without sympathy or feeling for others (heartless, uncaring, cold-hearted): his callous comments about the murder made me shiver.

blasé

- indifferent to sth because one has experienced it so often before (indifferent, uncaring): she was blasé about her victory.

insouciant

- showing a casual lack of concern (indifferent, unconcerned, blasé)

remiss

- lacking care or attention to duty (negligent, irresponsible): it would be very remiss of me not to pass on that information.

negligent

- failing to take proper care in doing sth (remiss, careless): directors have been negligent in the performance of their duties.

SUMMARY: fastidious, meticulous, scrupulous, assiduous, conscientious, punctilious, industrious, sedulous, painstaking, attentive

fastidious

- very attentive and concerned about details (scrupulous): he chooses his words with fastidious care.

scrupulous

- diligent and extremely attentive to details (fastidious, meticulous, conscientious, punctilious, sedulous, thorough, rigorous)
- very concerned to avoid doing wrong

- unscrupulous: having no moral principles

assiduous

- showing great care and perseverance (diligent, meticulous): she was assiduous in pointing out every feature.

industrious

- diligent and hard-working (...)

sedulous

- (of a person or action) showing dedication and diligence (...)

painstaking

- done with great care and thoroughness (...)

pedantic (n. pedant)

- caring too much about unimportant details (over-scrupulous)

impetuous

- acting too quickly without thought or care (impulsive)

rash

- displaying a lack of careful consideration of the possible consequences of an action (reckless, impulsive, impetuous, hasty, precipitate): it is rash to make this assumption.

hasty

- done or acting with excessive speed or insufficient consideration (quick, hurried, rash): a hasty attempt to defuse the situation.

slapdash

- done too hurriedly and carelessly (hasty, rash)

cursory

- hasty and therefore not thorough or detailed (perfunctory, desultory, superficial): a cursory glance at the figures.

desultory

- unfocused, lacking a purpose: the desultory conversation.
- occurring randomly: desultory passages were appearing.

perfunctory

- done quickly without showing much interest and care (cursory, superficial): he gave a perfunctory nod.

sketchy

- not thorough or detailed (cursory, perfunctory): the information they had was sketchy.

profound

- deep, not superficial (deep, intense, acute): profound social changes.
- (of a person) having great knowledge (wise, erudite, scholarly): a profound philosopher.

radical

- relating to the fundamental nature of sth, far-reaching (thorough, profound)
- (progressive, revolutionary): a radical American activist.

pressing

- (of a problem, need or situation) requiring quick or immediate action or attention (urgent, critical): inflation was the most pressing problem.

exigent

- (pressing, demanding, critical): the exigent demands of.

resolved

- firmly determined to do sth (determined, resolute)
- v. resolve, to make a determined decision: they resolved that they would never argue over money.

resolute (n. resolution)

- admirably purposeful, determined (determined, resolved): I admired her resolute optimism in those difficult times.

tenacious (n. tenacity)

- tending to keep a firm hold of sth (firm, tight): a tenacious grip.
- (determined, resolute, resolved): you are tenacious.

indeterminate

- not exactly known (uncertain, undetermined): the date of election is indeterminate.

irresolute

- showing hesitancy (indecisive, hesitant): she stood irresolute outside his door.

wary

- showing caution about possible dangers (cautious, careful)

vigilant (n. vigilance)

- keeping careful watch for potential danger (watchful)

circumspect

- wary and unwilling to take risks (cautious, wary): the officials were very circumspect in their statements.

solicitous (n. solicitude)

- showing concern or interest (concerned, caring): she was always solicitous about the welfare of her students.
- eager to do sth

apprehensive

- anxious that sth bad will happen (anxious, worried): he felt apprehensive about going home.

sentimental

- prompted by feelings of tenderness, sadness, nostalgia (nostalgic, tender)

tender

- showing gentleness and concern or sympathy (caring, softhearted)

wistful

- having a feeling of vague longing (sadly thoughtful): the poem casts a wistful look back at a ways of life that has vanished forever.

maudlin

- feeling sad and sorry for yourself, often through drunkenness

solemn

- formal and dignified (dignified, ceremonious): a solemn procession.

frivolous (n. frivolity)

- not having serious value (flippant)

flippant

- not showing a serious attitude (frivolous): a flippant remark.

facetious

- treating serious issues with inappropriate humor (flippant)

jocose, jocular

- playful or humorous

capricious (n. caprice)

- having sudden changes of mood or behavior (fickle): a capricious administration.

labile

- liable to change, emotionally unstable (capricious): labile mood.

fickle

- changing frequently especially as regards ones' interests or loyalties

frugal (n. frugality)

- economical with money (thrifty)

thrifty

- using money not wastefully (frugal)

sparing

- (thrifty, economical, frugal, canny): physicians advised sparing use of the ointment.

prodigal (n. prodigality)

- spending money or resources recklessly and wastefully (wasteful, extravagant)

profligate

- recklessly extravagant or wasteful in the use of resource (wasteful, extravagant, prodigal, spendthrift)

stingy (v. stint)

- unwilling to give (ungenerous): his employer is stingy.

parsimonious

- unwilling to spend money or use resources (cheap, frugal)

vindictive

- having a strong desire for revenge (revengeful, unforgiving): the criticism was both vindictive and personalized.

magnanimous (n. magnanimity)

- very generous or forgiving (generous): both sides will have to show magnanimity.

indulgent

- being overly generous or lenient with someone (permissive): indulgent parents.

permissive

- allowing excessive freedom of behavior (lenient): permissive parents.

lenient (n. leniency)

- (permissive, merciful, forgiving): judges were too lenient with these criminals.

beneficent

- helping people and doing good acts (generous, charitable): a beneficent aunt.

abstemious

- not self-indulgent, especially when eating: he was abstemious in food.

abstinent (n. abstinence)

- refraining from an activity, especially alcohol: he is totally abstinent from alcohol.

ascetic

- having severe self-discipline from all forms of indulgence (abstinent): an ascetic life.

austere

- strict or severe in manner, attitude (ascetic): an austere man with a rigid outlook.

spartan

- showing the indifference to comfort (austere, ascetic): spartan but adequate rooms.

draconian

- (of laws) excessively harsh or severe

taciturn (n. taciturnity)

- uncommunicative, speaking little (untalkative, introverted, shy, reticent)

gauche, gawky, dorky

- socially awkward

reticent

- unwilling to speak about one's feelings or thoughts (introverted, shy): she was extremely reticent about her personal affairs.

retiring

- shy and fond of being on one's own (shy, reticent): you have to be fairly resilient and not too much of a shy retiring type.

voluble (n. volubility)

- speaking fluently (talkative)

loquacious

- tending to talk a great deal (talkative, voluble)

garrulous

- excessively talkative, esp. on trivial matters (talkative)

eloquent

- fluent or persuasive in speaking or writing: an eloquent speech.

ingenuous

- (innocent, unsuspecting): it was rather ingenuous of him to ask a complete stranger to take care of his luggage.

disingenuous

- not sincere (insincere, dishonest): a disingenuous compliment.

glib

- fluent and voluble but insincere: her parents were not satisfied by her glib explanation of why she didn't do homework.

underhanded

- acting or done in a secret or dishonest way (deceitful, dubious, unscrupulous): an underhanded method of snatching clients from rivals.

devious

- showing a skillful use of underhanded tactics to achieve goals (underhanded, deceitful): he is as devious as a politician needs to be.

treacherous

- (person) involving deception or betrayal (disloyal): he is treacherous.

perfidious

- deceitful and untrustworthy (treacherous, untrustworthy): a perfidious lover.

duplicitous (v. dupe)

- (deceitful, treacherous): treacherous, duplicitous behavior.

venal (n. venality)

- showing or motivating by bribery (bribable): the mayor went into politics for venal motives.

phony

- not genuine: your accent is a bit phony; phony allegations
- fraudulent

bogus

- not genuine, fake: a bogus insurance claim.

spurious

- not being what it purports to be (bogus, fake): separate authentic and spurious claims.

apocryphal

- (of a story or statement) of doubtful authenticity, although widely circulated as being true (spurious): an apocryphal story about a former president.

factitious

- artificially created or developed (bogus, fake): a largely factitious national identity.

fraudulent

- involving criminal deception

mendacious (n. mendacity)

- not telling the truth (lying, dishonest): mendacious propaganda.

deceitful (n. deceit)

- deceiving or misleading others (dishonest, mendacious)

cunning

- having skill in achieving one's end by deceit (crafty, artful)

staunch

- loyal and committed in attitude (loyal, committed, devoted, dedicated): a staunch supporter of the antinuclear lobby.

stalwart

- loyal, reliable, hardworking (staunch): a stalwart supporter.

aboveboard

- (legitimate, honest, frank): certain transactions were not totally aboveboard.

veracious

- speaking the truth and honest: a veracious and trustworthy historian.

guileless

- honest, not able to deceive (artless, ingenuous, innocent)

artless

- without guile or deception (natural): an artless person/prose.
- related. artful: clever or skillful, typically in a crafty and cunning way (crafty, cunning)

candid

- truthful and straightforward (frank, honest, sincere): his responses were candid.

forthright

- (of a person or their manner) direct, honest and straightforward (frank, candid): she is pretty forthright about her opinions.

unfeigned (v. feign)

- genuine, sincere

gullible

- easily persuaded to believe sth (credulous, innocent): persuade a gullible public to send money.

credulous

- too willing to believe sth, easily deceived (gullible)

intransigent

- unwilling to change one's views or agree about sth (uncompromising, resolute, resolved, determined): he was a man of strong views and intransigent positions.

adamant

- refusing to change one's mind (uncompromising, resolute, resolved, determined): he is adamant that he is not going to resign.

obdurate, stubborn, obstinate, refractory

- stubbornly refusing to change one's opinion (intransigent, adamant)

inveterate

- having a particular habit, interest that is long-established and unlikely to change (ingrained, deep-seated): he was an inveterate gambler.

ingrained

(of a habit, belief) firmly established and difficult to change (entrenched, deep-rooted): his deeply ingrained Catholic convictions.

avaricious (n. avarice)

- having an extreme greed for wealth (greedy, acquisitive, covetous): a corrupt and avaricious government.

acquisitive (n. acquisitiveness)

- excessively interested in acquiring money (greedy, avaricious, covetous)

grasping

- (greedy, avaricious): grasping, power-hungry individuals.

rapacious

- aggressively greedy or grasping (greedy, grasping, avaricious, acquisitive)

covetous (v. covet)

- having a great desire to possess sth belonging to others (greedy): I can't help casting covetous looks at my neighbor's new Porsche.

disinterested

- not influenced by considerations of personal advantage, so free to act fairly (unbiased, unprejudiced): a banker is under an obligation to give disinterested advice.

equitable

- fair and impartial (unbiased, even-handed): an equitable balance or power.

erudite

- having great knowledge (scholarly, learned, educated, knowledgeable): she is a scholarly and erudite person.

savvy

- shrewd and knowledgeable, having good judgment (shrewd)

shrewd

- having sharp powers of judgment (astute): she was shrewd enough to guess the motive behind his gesture.

astute

- having an ability to accurately assess situations (shrewd): an astute businessman.

judicious

- having good judgment or sense (shrewd, astute, sagacious, sensible): the judicious use of pesticides.

canny

- having good judgment, esp. in money or business matters (shrewd, astute, sagacious)

sagacious

- having good judgment (shrewd, wise, sensible): they were sagacious enough to avoid any confrontation.

perspicacious (n. perspicacity)

- having a ready insight into and understanding of things (shrewd, astute)

incisive

- intelligently analytical and clear-thinking (sharp, astute, shrewd): an incisive critic.

prudent

- showing care and thought for the future (sensible, judicious, shrewd, sagacious)
- related. imprudent: not showing care for the consequences of an action (rash)

consummate (n. consummation)

- showing a high degree of skill (proficient, skillful): she dressed with consummate elegance.

adroit

- clever or skillful in using the hands or mind: he was adroit at tax avoidance.

adept

- very skilled or proficient at sth (skillful, proficient): he is adept at making chairs.

wily

- skilled at gaining an advantage, esp. deceitfully: his wily opponents.

sensible

- having good judgment (reasonable): the only sensible thing to do is recycle.

insensible

- without mental faculties (unconscious): they knocked each other insensible.

dexterous (n. dexterity)

- showing or having skill, esp. with the hands (adroit): dexterous violin playing.

inept

- having no skill (clumsy, unskillful): the inept handling of the threat.

indiscriminate

- done at random or without careful judgment (haphazard, arbitrary): the indiscriminate killing of civilians.

maladroit

- ineffective (clumsy, inept, unskillful)

insular (n. insularity, v. insulate)

- ignorant of or uninterested in culture, ideas that are outside one's own experience (narrow-minded): a stubbornly insular farming people.

myopic

- nearsighted: a myopic patient
- lacking foresight, intellectual insight (insular): the government still has a myopic attitude to public spending.

pecuniary

- relating to money (financial): obtaining pecuniary advantage by deception.

impecunious

- having little money (poor): I first knew him as an impecunious student in a tiny room.

indigent (adj. n.)

- (poor, needy): an indigent person.

indolent

- wanting to avoid exertion (lazy)

sentient

- able to experience feelings: it is hard for a sentient person to understand how any parents could treat their child so badly.

wretched (n. wretch)

- (of a person) in a very unfortunate state (miserable): I felt so wretched because I thought I might never see you again.
- of poor quality, very bad: the wretched conditions of the slums.

conjugal, marital

- relating to marriage: conjugal loyalty.

secular

- denoting things that have no religious basis (nonreligious)

temporal

- relating to worldly as opposed to spiritual affairs (secular)

coquettish (n. coquette)

- expressing a playful sexual attraction (flirtatious, flirty)

lascivious

- feeling or revealing strong sexual desire: he gave her a lascivious wink.

bawdy

- containing humorous remarks about sex (obscene): bawdy humor.

obscene

- disgusting by accepted moral standards (pornographic, indecent)

salacious, obscene, pornographic

- treating sexual matters in an indecent way; lascivious

distract

- (distracted, inattentive): he seemed oddly distract.

feral

- (esp. of an animal) in wild state (wild, untamed): a feral cat.

dormant

- (of an animal) having normal physical function suspended, in a deep sleep: hibernation is a period of an animal spending the winter in a dormant state.

latent

- (of a quality of state) existing but not yet developed, concealed (dormant, untapped): discovering her latent talent for diplomacy.

underlying

- real but not immediately obvious (latent, unrevealed): the investigation focused on the underlying causes of the fire.

emaciated, skinny, bony, skeletal

- very thin

gustatory

- concerned with tasting: gustatory pleasure.

olfactory

- relating to the sense of smell

auditory

- relating to the sense of hearing: the auditory nerves.

hirsute

- (hairy): their hirsute chests.

introspective (n. introspection)

- examining one's own ideas and feelings: this poem is an introspective work.

intimate

- closely acquainted, familiar (close): intimate friends.
- (private, personal): intimate details.

liable (n. liability)

- likely to do sth (likely): patients were liable to faint if they stood up too suddenly.
- responsible by law (responsible): the supplier of goods can become liable for breach of contract.

susceptible

- likely or liable to be influenced by a particular thing: patients with liver disease may be susceptible to infection.

chauvinistic (n. chauvinist, chauvinism)

- displaying aggressive patriotism
- displaying excessive or prejudiced support for one's own cause, group: a male chauvinist means a man who believes women are less important or able than man.

minatory, menacing

- expressing a threat: he is unlikely to be deterred by minatory voice.

ominous (n. omen)

- giving the impression that sth bad is going to happen (threatening, menacing, inauspicious, unpropitious, unfavorable): there were ominous dark clouds gathering.

sardonic, sarcastic, satirical, ironic, mocking, derisive

- characterized by satire or irony, in order to mock or convey contempt

ravenous

- extremely hungry (voracious): a ravenous appetite.

voracious

- wanting great quantities of food (insatiable): a voracious appetite.

supine

- (of a person) lying face upward: the captured robbery suspects were held supine on the floor.

tumid

- (esp. of a part of body) swollen, distended: a tumid belly.

ludicrous

- so foolish, unreasonable, or ridiculous (absurd, ridiculous): a ludicrous idea.

fatuous

- silly and pointless (silly, foolish): a fatuous comment.

vacuous

- having a lack of thought or intelligence (silly, mindless, fatuous, foolish)

puerile

- childishly silly (childish): you are making puerile excuses.

obtuse

- annoyingly insensitive or slow to understand (stupid): I am not trying to be obtuse, but I don't get it.

valedictory (n. valediction)

- serving as a farewell: a valedictory wave.

loath (v. loathe)

- (reluctant, unwilling): I was loath to leave.

prepossessing

- attractive or appealing in appearance: he is prepossessing.

bilious

- associated with nausea or vomiting (nauseous)
- bad-tempered

vicarious

- experienced by reading or watching someone else do sth (indirect): the disaster movie will provide you with plenty of vicarious thrills.

sanguine

- optimistic or positive, esp. in a difficult situation (optimistic): he is sanguine about prospects for the global economy.

pessimistic

- tending to see the worst aspect of things (negative, gloomy): he was pessimistic about the prospects.

subliminal

- (subconscious)

affective

- relating to moods, feelings

morbid

- characterized by an abnormal and unhealthy interest in disturbing and unpleasant subjects, esp. death and disease: he had long held a morbid fascination with horrors of the warfare.

--- Can be used to describe **Societies/Social Science**

egalitarian

- believing in the principle that all people are equal: an egalitarian society.

cynical (n. cynicism, cynic)

- believing that people are motivated by self-interests, distrustful of human integrity: her cynical attitude.

altruistic (n. altruism)

- showing a disinterested and selfless concern for the well-being of others (unselfish, selfless): it was an entirely altruistic act.

autonomous

- (of a country or region) having self-government, acting independently (self-governing, independent): an autonomous committee of the school board.

ethnocentric (n. ethnocentrism)

- preferring a particular race or culture to all others: the words “primitive” and “savage” reflect an ethnocentric bias in Western culture.

civic

- relating to a city or town or people who live in it, esp. its administration (municipal): civic and business leaders.

provincial

- concerning a province of a country
- concerning regions outside the capital city, esp. regarded as narrow-minded (insular)

--- Can be used to describe **Properties of Physical Things or Events/Actions**

- notable, remarkable, noteworthy, outstanding, important, significant, magnificent, consequential, extraordinary, exceptional, marvelous, sensational, stunning, astonishing,

astounding, wonderful, incredible, phenomenal, amazing, spectacular, splendid, singular,
sterling: worth of attention, extremely impressive

- immaterial, inconsequential, marginal: not important

- chief, primary, pivotal, principal, paramount, preeminent, essential, cardinal, crucial, critical,
fundamental, vital, imperative, salient, appreciable: of great importance

- enormous, vast, giant, massive, colossal, mammoth, immense, titanic, gigantic, prodigious:
huge, of great size

sweeping (v. sweep)

- having great effect or range (broad, vast): the proposal calls for sweeping changes.

axiomatic (n. axiom)

- self-evident: it is axiomatic that dividends have to be financed.

ineffable

- too great to be expressed or described in words: the ineffable natural beauty.

transcendent (v. transcend)

- beyond or above the range or normal experience: the search for a transcendent level of knowledge.

rococo

- excessively ornate, highly decorated

Byzantine

- relating to Byzantium, the Byzantine empire
- (of a system or situation) excessively complicated

unfounded

- having no foundation or basis in fact (baseless, unsubstantiated, uncorrelated, unsupported): her persistent fear that she had cancer was unfounded.

groundless

- not based on any good reason (baseless, unfounded, unwarranted, ...): your fears are quite groundless.

convoluted

- extremely complex and difficult to follow (complicated, complex, elaborate): its convoluted narrative encompasses all manner of digressions.

intricate

- very complicated or detailed (complicated, complex, convoluted)

elaborate

- involving carefully arranged details (complicated, complex, involved): elaborate security precautions

ornate

- made in an intricate shape or decorated with complex patterns (elaborate, fancy)

involved

- difficult to comprehend (complicated, complex, elaborate)

tortuous

- excessively complex and lengthy (complicated, convoluted, complex, involved)
- full of twists and turns (twisty): the route is remote and tortuous.

sinuous

- having many curves and turns (winding): the river follows a sinuous trail.
- complex and intricate

tangled

- complicated and confused
- twisted together: his hair was a tangled mass.

problematic

- causing difficulty (difficult): the situation was problematic for teachers.

insuperable

- (of a difficulty) impossible to overcome: insuperable financial problems.

provisional

- arranged or existing for the present, possibly to be changed later (temporary): a provisional government.

provident

- making timely preparation for the future (frugal): she had learned to be provident.

providential

- happening exactly when needed, occurring at a favorable time: a providential opportunity; thanks to that providential snowstorm, the attack had been repulsed.

propitious

- giving a good chance of success (favorable, auspicious, promising): the timing for such a meeting seemed propitious.

auspicious

- conducive to success (favorable, propitious, promising): it was not the most auspicious moment to hold an election.

opportune

- (of a time) well-chosen or favorable (auspicious, propitious, favorable): he couldn't have arrived at a less opportune moment.

adverse (n. adversity)

- preventing success or development (unfavorable, disadvantageous, inauspicious, unpropitious): taxes are having an adverse effect on production.

fortuitous

- happening by chance rather than design (adventitious, unexpected)

contingent (n. contingency)

- subject to chance (chance, accidental, fortuitous): the contingent event.
- (dependent on)

serendipitous (n. serendipity)

- occurring or discovered by chance in a happy way (accidental): a serendipitous encounter.

inadvertent

- not resulting through deliberate planning (unintentional): an inadvertent mistake.

untoward

- (unexpected, inconvenient): police were called in to investigate whether anything untoward had happened to the missing man.

imminent

- about to happen (forthcoming, impending): a ceasefire was imminent.

impending (v. impend)

- about to happen (imminent, forthcoming): my impending departure.

forthcoming

- about to happen in the near future (imminent, impending): the forthcoming baseball season.
- (of sth required) ready or available when needed (available)

unforthcoming

- (of a person) not willing to divulge information
- (of sth required) not ready or not available when needed (unavailable): with money unforthcoming from the company, the project has to be delayed.

eccentric

- unconventional and slightly strange (abnormal, odd, peculiar, bizarre, weird)

idiosyncratic

- peculiar or individual, unique

goofy

- harmlessly eccentric

quirky

- characterized by peculiar or unexpected traits (eccentric)

antic

- bizarre, amusing

trifling

- trivial, unimportant

petty

- of little importance (trivial, trifling, inconsequential): petty matters.

Lilliputian

- trivial or very small

tenuous

- very weak or slight: the tenuous link between interest rates and investment.

transitory

- not permanent (transient, temporary): transitory periods of medieval greatness.

transient

- lasting for a short time, not permanent (transitory, temporary)

ephemeral (n. ephemera)

- lasting for a short time (transitory, transient): fashions are ephemeral.

evanescent

- soon passing out of sight or existence, quickly fading or disappearing (vanishing): an evanescent bubble.

fleeting

- lasting for a very short time (transient, transitory, ephemeral, evanescent): hoping to get a fleeting glimpse of a whale underwater.

momentary

- lasting for a very short time (fleeting, transient, transitory, ephemeral, evanescent): a momentary lapse of concentration.

perennial

- lasting for a long or infinite time, enduring (abiding, lasting, eternal): his perennial distrust of the media.

chronic

- (of an illness) persisting for a long time or constantly occurring (persistent): chronic diseases.

immutable

- unchanging over time (fixed): an immutable fact.

protean

- tending to change frequently or easily (mutable, variable, volatile): the protean nature of mental disorders.

lucid

- luminous; expressed clearly

pellucid (n. pellucidity)

- very clear; easy to understand (lucid, clear): he writes in pellucid prose.

translucent

- allowing light but not detailed images to pass through (semitransparent): the vase was made from translucent glass.

turbid

- (of a liquid) cloudy, opaque with suspended matter (murky, opaque)
- in a state of great confusion: the poem captures the turbid state of the soldier.

nebulous

- in the form of a cloud or haze (unclear, hazy, cloudy, vague): nebulous concepts of life.

lustrous (n. luster)

- having luster (shiny, shining): large, lustrous eyes.

refulgent

- shining brightly: refulgent blue eyes; refulgent diamond.

ablaze

- burning fiercely (alight, aflame): his clothes were ablaze.
- filled with strong emotion: the whole of Europe was ablaze with revolution.

scintillating (v. scintillate)

- sparkling or shining brightly (sparkling, shining): a scintillating diamond necklace.

extrinsic

- not part of the essential nature, coming from outside (external): extrinsic factors.

intrinsic

- basic to a thing (inherent, essential): each human being has intrinsic dignity and worth.

inherent

- existing in sth as an essential or characteristic attribute (intrinsic): any form of mountaineering has its inherent dangers.

innate

- (inborn, inherent, natural): her innate capacity for organization.

inborn

- existing from birth, natural to a person (innate, inherent): people think doctors have inborn compassion.

natal

- relating to the place or time of one's birth: her natal home.

substantive

- having a firm basis in reality and therefore important (essential): there is no substantive evidence for the efficacy of these drugs.

incumbent (adj. n.) (n. incumbency)

- necessary for someone as a duty or responsibility: it is incumbent on all decent people to concentrate on destroying this evil.
- currently holding office (in office): the incumbent president had been defeated.
- n. the holder of an office

obligatory (v. obligate)

- required by a legal, moral or other rule (compulsory, mandatory, required, incumbent): use of seat belts in cars is now obligatory.

requisite (adj. n.)

- needed for a particular purpose or result (required, necessary): the requisite skills to.

gratuitous

- not necessary, lacking good reason (unjustified, unwarranted): gratuitous violence.

consonant

- in agreement or harmony with (congruous): the findings are consonant with other research.

congruous

- in agreement or harmony (consonant): this explanation is congruous with observations.

incongruous (n. incongruity)

- not in harmony: the coat looked incongruous with the black dress.

discordant

- disagreeing, incongruous, different: his opinion is discordant with mine.

dissonant

- lacking harmony (discordant, incongruous): dissonant chords.

jarring

- incongruous in a striking or shocking way: the band took a jarring approach to music.

rigorous (n. rigor)

- extremely thorough, exhaustive or accurate: the rigorous testing of products.

exacting

- requiring great demands on one's skill or resource (demanding): living up to such exacting standards.

demanding

- requiring much skill or effort: she has a demanding job.

taxing

- physically or mentally demanding (demanding, exacting): taxing work.

arduous

- requiring strenuous effort (onerous, taxing, strenuous, demanding): an arduous journey.

onerous

- requiring an amount of effort and difficulty (arduous, strenuous, demanding): he found his duties increasingly onerous.

strenuous

- requiring great exertion/effort (arduous, onerous, demanding): strenuous exercise.

laborious

- requiring considerable efforts and time (demanding, arduous, onerous, strenuous)

Herculean

- requiring great strength or effort (...)

vapid

- offering nothing challenging or intelligence: a vapid reality TV show.

insipid

- lacking flavor (tasteless): mugs of insipid coffee.
- lacking vigor or interest (uninspired, dull): artists making insipid works.

bland

- lacking strong features or characteristics and therefore uninteresting (tedious, dreary, insipid): rebelling against the bland uniformity.

wishy-washy

- insipid in quality, lacking strength or boldness (feeble, vapid, weak)

feeble

- lacking physical strength (weak): my legs are feeble after the flu.

decrepit (n. decrepitude)

- (of a person) elderly and infirm (feeble, weak): a decrepit old drunk.
- worn out or ruined because of age or neglect (dilapidated)

mundane, humdrum, dull, boring, tedious, monotonous

- lacking interest or excitement

mundane

- of the earthly world rather than a spiritual one (earthly): the mundane world.

soporific

- causing sleep, making someone want to sleep: motion of the train had a soporific effect.

staccato (adj. adv. n.)

- with each sound sharply detached or separated from the others: we listened to the staccato steps of the woman in high heels.

scant

- barely sufficient, very little (little): I paid scant attention to the movie's plot.

meager

- (of sth provided or available) lacking in quantity or quality (inadequate, scant): they were forced to supplement their meager earnings.

exiguous

- very small in size or amount (meager, inadequate, scant): my exiguous musical resource

paltry

- (of an amount) small or meager (meager, negligible, inadequate): she would earn a paltry \$33 more each month.

negligible

- so small or unimportant as to be not worth considering (trivial, insignificant)

qualified

- not complete (limited, restricted): there seems to be qualified support for this idea.
- n. qualification: limitation, restriction

copious

- abundant in supply or quantity: she took copious notes.

profuse

- (abundant, copious, prolific): I offered my profuse apologies.

prolific

- (abundant, plentiful, profuse, copious): mahogany was once prolific in the tropical forests.

plentiful

- existing or yielding great quantities (abundant, profuse, prolific, copious): strawberries are plentiful in the summer.

replete

- well-supplied with sth (full)

myriad

- countless or extremely great in number (countless, infinite): the myriad lights of the city.

affluent

- (of a group or area) having a great deal of money (wealthy): the affluent societies of the western world.

lavish

- rich, luxurious, more than enough (sumptuous): a lavish banquet.

opulent (n. opulence)

- ostentatiously rich and luxurious or lavish (luxurious, lavish): the opulent comfort of a limousine.

superfluous

- unnecessary, esp. through being more than enough (unnecessary, redundant): the purchasers should avoid asking for superfluous information.

innocuous

- not harmful (harmless): it was an innocuous question.

didactic

- intended to teach, particularly in moral instructions: a didactic novel that set out to expose social injustice.

oppressive, repressive

- ya yi: an oppressive dictatorship

authoritarian

- enforcing strict obedience to authority, esp. that of the government, at the expense of personal freedom (autocratic, tyrannical, dictatorial): the transition from an authoritarian to a democratic regime.

tyrannical (n. tyrant)

- exercising power in a cruel or arbitrary way (dictatorial, autocratic, oppressive): tyrannical governments.

relentless

- oppressively constant (incessant): the relentless heat of the desert

incessant

- (sth unpleasant) continuing without pause (relentless): the incessant beat of the music.

interminable

- endless (never-ending): we got bogged down in interminable discussion.

inexorable

- impossible to stop or prevent (relentless, inevitable, unstoppable): the seemingly inexorable march of new technology.
- (of a person) impossible to persuade (intransigent, unyielding, adamant)

sustained

- continuing for a period without interruption: sustained economic growth

culpable

- deserving blame (guilty): sometimes you are just as culpable when you watch sth as when you actually participate.

SUMMARY: abominable, loathsome, detestable, odious, obnoxious, despicable, repulsive, repellent, repugnant, revolting, reprehensible, execrable, invidious, atrocious, appalling, egregious

- very unpleasant

execrable (v. execrate)

- extremely bad or unpleasant (appalling, atrocious, terrible): execrable cheap wine.

appalling

- causing shock (horrific)
- very bad and unpleasant (awful)

atrocious

- horrifying wicked (brutal, barbaric)
- poor quality, extremely bad and unpleasant (appalling): he attempted an atrocious imitation of my English accent.

obnoxious

- extremely unpleasant (unpleasant, nasty, unsavory, dreadful, repulsive, repellent, repugnant)

abominable (n. abomination)

- causing moral revulsion (loathsome, obnoxious, despicable, detestable, odious): the uprising was suppressed with abominable cruelty.

loathsome

- causing disgust (...)
- related. loath

invidious

- (of an action or situation) likely to arouse anger in others (unpleasant, offensive): she'd put herself in an invidious position.

aghast

- filled with shock or horror (appalled, horrified)

contemporary

- occurring at the same time

- occurring in the present: contemporary society.
- n. a person or thing living or existing at the same time as another (peer)

modish

- conforming to what is currently popular and fashionable (fashionable, stylish): modish jargon.

chic

- elegantly and stylishly fashionable (stylish, fashionable)

avant-garde

- introducing experimental or unusual ideas (innovative, inventive): a controversial avant-garde composer.

cutting-edge

- at the latest or most advanced stage of development (innovative, pioneering): cutting-edge technology.

precarious

- not securely held, likely to fall or collapse (uncertain, insecure): a precarious ladder.

shoddy

- badly made or done (poor-quality): we are not paying money for shoddy goods.

superficial

- occurring on the surface

arcane

- understood by few (obscure, abstruse, esoteric, recondite): negotiate the arcane rule.

esoteric

- intended for a small number of people with a specialized knowledge (abstruse, obscure, arcane, recondite): esoteric philosophical debates.

abstruse

- difficult to understand (obscure, arcane, esoteric, recondite): an abstruse philosophical inquiry.

recondite

- (knowledge) little known (obscure, abstruse, arcane, esoteric): the book is full of recondite information.

cryptic

- having a meaning that is mysterious or obscure (obscure): he found his boss's utterances too cryptic.

rarefied

- not ordinary because of being related with wealth, high social position, art (esoteric): debates about the nature of knowledge can seem very rarefied.
- air of low pressure because of high altitudes

subordinate (v. n. adj.)

- lower in rank or position: his subordinate officers.

collateral

- additional but subordinate (secondary): the collateral meanings of a word.

auxiliary (adj. n.)

- providing supplementary or additional help and support (additional, supplementary): auxiliary airport staff.

cacophonous

- producing a harsh mixture of sounds (noisy, loud): the cacophonous sound of machines.

strident

- loud and harsh, noisy: his voice had become increasingly sharp, almost strident.

muted

- (of a sound or voice) quiet and soft: they discussed the accident in muted voices.

commensurate

- corresponding, in proportion (equivalent, matching): salary will be commensurate with experience.

concomitant

- naturally accompanying or associated: Loss of memory is a natural concomitant of old age.

abhorrent

- inspiring disgust (hateful): racial discrimination was abhorrent to us all.

demotic

- (language) used by ordinary people (popular): a demotic idiom.

effete

- (affected, pretentious): effete trendies from art college.

affected

- designed to impress (pretentious): the gesture appeared both affected and stagy.

ostentatious

- intended to attract attention or admiration by pretentious display (showy, pretentious): people display their books ostentatiously but never actually read.

gaudy

- extravagantly showy (showy, ostentatious, meretricious): he was wearing a gaudy shirt.

meretricious

- apparently attractive but having no value in reality (worthless, gaudy, bombastic): meretricious souvenirs for the tourist trade.

tawdry

- showy but cheap and of poor quality (gaudy): tawdry jewelry.

empirical

- based on what is experienced rather than theory (experiential): they provided considerable empirical evidence to support their argument.

pragmatic

- dealing with things based on practical rather than theoretical considerations (practical): a pragmatic approach to politics.

expedient

- (of an action) convenient and practical (convenient, helpful): either side could break the agreement if it were expedient to do so.

ideological (n. ideology)

- based on or relating to a system of ideas or ideals

quixotic

- exceedingly idealistic; unrealistic and impractical (idealistic): a vast and perhaps quixotic project.

extant

- esp. document still in existence (existent): the original manuscript is no longer extant.

precocious

- (of a child) having developed certain abilities or proclivities at an earlier age than usual (mature): he was a precocious, solitary boy.

fledgling (adj. n.)

- new and not experienced, immature: still in his teens, he pursued his fledgling career.

callow

- (esp. of a young person) inexperienced and immature (immature, adolescent): earnest and callow undergraduates.

rudimentary

- involving basic principles (basic, elementary, elemental): he received a rudimentary education.
- relating to an immature, undeveloped form (primitive): a rudimentary stage of evolution

inchoate

- just begun and not fully developed (rudimentary): a still inchoate democracy.

nascent

- (esp. of a process or organization) just coming to existence and beginning to display signs of future potential (fledging, budding): the nascent space industry.

budding

- beginning and showing signs of promise in a particular field (promising, fledging, nascent): budding young actors.

factionous (n. faction)

- inclined to a state of faction (divided): a factionous country.

felicitous

- well chosen to the circumstances (apt, fitting, suitable, apposite): a felicitous phrase.

apt

- having a tendency to do sth: I am apt to do sth
- appropriate or suitable in the circumstance (suitable, fitting, apposite, felicitous): an apt description of sth.

apposite

- apt in the circumstances (suitable, fitting, apt, felicitous): an apposite remark.

apropos

- very appropriate to a particular situation (relevant, pertinent, apposite, apt)
- preposition. (regarding, concerning, with regard to, with respect to): he was asked a question apropos his resignation.

pertinent

- relevant or applicable to a particular matter (apposite, apt, suitable, fitting)

germane

- relevant to a subject under consideration (relevant, pertinent): this is not germane to our theme.

condign

- (of punishment) appropriate to the wrongdoing: this seems condign punishment.

extraneous

- irrelevant or unrelated to the subject being dealt with (irrelevant, digressive): we shouldn't be distracted by extraneous issues.

tangential (n. tangent)

- different than the one you are talking about (digressive): a tangential issue.

discursive

- digressing from subject to subject (digressive): students often write discursive prose.

histrionic

- showing lots of emotion to attract attention (melodramatic, theatrical): a histrionic performance.

igneous

- formed from lava/magma

porous

- having minute holes through which liquid or air may pass (permeable)

permeable

- allowing liquid to gases to pass through: a frog's skin is permeable to water.

impermeable

- not allowing fluid to pass through (watertight, waterproof): an impermeable membrane
- unable to be affected by pain or distress (imperturbable)

impervious

- not allowing fluid to pass through (impermeable, impenetrable): an impervious layer.
- unable to be affected by (imperturbable)

airtight

- not allowing air to escape or pass through: an airtight container.

hermetic

- (of a seal or closure) complete and airtight (airtight): a hermetic seal that ensures perfect waterproofing.

airborne

- transported by air: airborne pollutants.

determinate

- (exact, fixed): a determinate sentence of imprisonment was imposed.

ineluctable

- unable to be avoided (inescapable): the ineluctable facts of history.

reprehensible

- deserving condemnation or censure (deplorable): his conduct is morally reprehensible.

pristine

- almost new, in good condition: washing machine for sale in pristine condition.

spotless

- absolutely clean or pure (pristine, immaculate)

immaculate

- (esp. of a person or their clothes) perfectly clean, neat or tidy (spotless, pristine): an immaculate white suit.

- free from flaws (perfect): an immaculate safety record.

impeccable

- (of behavior, performance) in accordance with the highest standards of propriety (flawless, immaculate, perfect): a man of impeccable character/manners.

lucrative (n. lucre)

- producing great profit (profitable): they offered the player a lucrative lifetime contract.

salubrious

- (healthy, health-giving): he doesn't live in a very salubrious part of town.

wholesome

- conducive to good health and physical well-being (healthy): the food is very wholesome

salutary

- producing good effects (beneficial): the effects of such a decision would not be salutary.

tonic (adj. n.)

- giving a feeling of vigor or well-being (invigorating, restorative)

sartorial

- relating to the making of clothes or style of dressing (tailoring): sartorial elegance.

gratify

- give someone pleasure or satisfaction (please, satisfy): he was gratified to see how well his students had done.

sensual

- involving physical pleasure esp. sexual: the ballet is sensual and passionate.

sensuous

- pleasing to the physical senses instead of intellect: his flower garden is a totally sensuous environment.

carnal

- relating to sexual, sensual needs: carnal desire.

somatic

- relating to the body as opposed to the mind (corporeal): a mental disturbance that affects somatic functioning.

tumultuous

- making a loud/confused noise: tumultuous applause

have some/no bearing on sth

- have or not have influence on sth: his private life has no bearing on his career.

have yet to do sth

- haven't done sth yet

by no means

- not at all; certainly not

fallow

- not planted with crops, to improve the quality of soil: a fallow field.

sporadic

- not happening or appearing in a pattern (occasional, irregular): the storm caused sporadic flooding throughout the region.

erratic

- not regular in pattern (unpredictable, irregular): his breathing was erratic.

intermittent

- occurring at irregular intervals, not continuous (sporadic, irregular): intermittent rain.

haphazard

- lacking any obvious principle of organization (random, disorderly): the kitchen drawers contained a haphazard collection of silver spoons.

recurrent

- occurring often or repeatedly (repeated, repetitive): she had a recurrent dream about failing.

quotidian

- ordinary or everyday (daily, ordinary): television has become part of our quotidian existence.

viable

- capable of working successfully (feasible, practicable): the proposed investment was economically viable.

inviolable

- that must be respected, and not removed or destroyed: everyone has an inviolable right to protection by a fair law system.

sacrosanct

- regarded as too important to be interfered with (sacred, inviolable): the individual's right to work has been upheld as sacrosanct.

viscous (n. viscosity)

- (of a liquid) thick and sticky (glutinous, viscid): viscous lava.

whimsical

- changing suddenly (volatile, capricious, fickle): his decisions are often whimsical.
- playful and fanciful: a whimsical sense of humor.

squalid (n. squalor)

- (of a place) extremely dirty and unpleasant, esp. as a result of poverty (dirty, filthy, grubby): the squalid, overcrowded prison.

sordid

- filthy, dirty, arousing moral contempt (dirty, squalid): the scandal which led to Bill Clinton's impeachment must rank as one of the most sordid affairs in America.

sleazy

- (of a person or situation) sordid, corrupt or immoral (corrupt)

abject

- extreme and without hope (wretched, miserable, hopeless): they live in abject poverty.

archaic

- very old (obsolete, anachronistic, antediluvian)

antediluvian

- before the biblical flood (prehistoric, out of date): gigantic bones of antediluvian animals

primordial

- existing from the beginning of time (ancient, antediluvian, prehistoric)

antebellum

- occurring or existing before a particular war, esp. the American Civil War

fusty

- old-fashioned in style (outdated, antediluvian)
- smelling stale

defunct

- no longer functioning or existing (disused, unusable): he was a reporter for the defunct NY Herald newspaper.

abysmal

- extremely bad (dreadful, awful, terrible): the quality of her work is abysmal.

emblematic

- serving as a symbol of a particular quality or concept (symbolic): this case is emblematic of a larger problem.

omnipotent

- having unlimited power (almighty)

potent

- having great power, influence (mighty)

impotent (n. impotence)

- unable to take effective action (powerless)

almighty

- having complete power (omnipotent)

bucolic

- relating to the pleasant aspects of the countryside and country life (rustic, rural, pastoral): the church is lovely for its bucolic setting.

sylvan

- related to the woods (wooded): the house's sylvan setting provides the family with beauty and tranquility.

tutelary

- relating to protection or a guardian: the tutelary spirits of these regions.

halcyon

- denoting a period of time in the past that was ideally happy and peaceful (happy): the halcyon days of the mid-1980s, when profits were soaring.

sloppy

- casual and loose-fitting (baggy, loose): she wore a sloppy sweater and jeans.

caustic

- able to corrode organic tissue by chemical action (corrosive): a caustic cleaner.
- (sarcastic): the players were making caustic comments about the refereeing.

abrasive

- (of a substance or material) capable of polishing a hard surface by rubbing (corrosive)

roundabout

- not following a short direct route (circuitous): we need to take a roundabout route.
- n. traffic circle

circuitous

- longer than the most direct way (roundabout): a circuitous route.

cognizant

- being aware of: statesmen must be cognizant of the political boundaries.

oblivious

- not aware of or not concerned about what is happening around: she was often oblivious to the potential consequences of her actions.

concave

- curving inward

convex

- curving outward

stale

- (of food) no longer fresh and pleasant to eat (old): stale bread.

succulent

- (of food) juicy, tasty

fetid

- smelling extremely unpleasant (stinking, smelly): the fetid water of the marsh.

malodorous

- smelling very unpleasant (fetid, noisome)

noisome

- having an extremely offensive smell (fetid, malodorous): a noisome stench.
- unpleasant

stagnant (v. stagnate)

- (of a body of water) having no current or flow (still)
- dull and sluggish: a stagnant economy.

moribund

- (of a person) at the point of death (dying): the patient was moribund.
- (of a thing) in terminal decline, lacking vigor: the moribund commercial market.

diaphanous

- (esp. of fabric) light, translucent, delicate

gossamer

- referring to sth very thin, light, delicate (diaphanous)

contiguous

- next to or touch another (adjacent): the two states are contiguous with/to each other.

covert

- not openly acknowledged (secret, furtive): covert military operations.

overt

- shown openly, not secret or hidden (unconcealed, conspicuous): an overt act of aggression.

clandestine

- kept secret or done secretly, esp. because illicit (secret, covert, furtive, surreptitious): clandestine meetings.

surreptitious

- kept secret, esp. because it would not be approved of (secret): they carried on a surreptitious affair.

effervescent, fizzy, sparkling

- (of a liquid) containing bubbles of gas

effervescent

- enthusiastic and lively

emollient

- having the quality of softening skin: an emollient cream.

extemporaneous

- spoken or done without preparation (unrehearsed): an extemporaneous speech.

impromptu

- done without being planned or rehearsed (unrehearsed): an impromptu conference.

futile (n. futility)

- unable to producing any useful result (pointless, vain): a futile attempt.

nugatory

- of no value or importance, useless (worthless, futile): a nugatory observation.

temperate

- relating to a climate characterized by mild temperatures (mild): temperate climates.
- showing self-restraint (restrained, disciplined)

inclement

- (of the weather) unpleasantly, cold or stormy (bleak): the concert was postponed because of the inclement weather.

bleak

- (of an area of land) lacking vegetation, charmless
- cold and miserable

barren

- (of land) too poor to produce any vegetation (infertile, bleak): barren land.

fecund

- capable of producing an abundance of offspring or new growth (fertile): a fecund garden

minute, minuscule, diminutive (n. minutiae)

- extremely small (tiny): a minuscule fragment of DNA.

monolithic

- too large, too regular and unwilling to be changed (rigid, inflexible): monolithic state-run organizations.

miscellaneous (n. miscellany)

- (of items or people gathered together) of various types or different sources (various, varied, assorted)

assorted

- of various sorts put together (various, miscellaneous): bowls in assorted colors.

sundry

- of various kinds (various, miscellaneous, assorted)

motley

- incongruously varied in appearance or character (miscellaneous, assorted, disparate): a motley crew of discontents and zealots.

multifarious

- many and of various types or parts (diverse, various, miscellaneous, assorted): a vast multifarious organization.

variegated

- exhibiting different colors, esp. as irregular patches (multicolored): variegated yellow bricks.

eclectic

- consisting of different types, styles (wide-ranging, extensive): her musical tastes are eclectic.

endemic

- (disease or social condition) regularly found in an area: Malaria, once endemic to the area, has now been largely eradicated.

pandemic

- (of a disease) prevalent over a whole country (widespread, prevalent): the disease is pandemic in Africa.

rife

- (sth harmful) of common occurrence, widespread: the campus is rife with political activity.

rampant

- (esp. of sth unpleasant) flourishing or spreading uncontrollably (uncontrolled): political violence was rampant.

catholic

- including a wide variety of things (universal, diverse, eclectic): her tastes are catholic.

ubiquitous

- found everywhere (pervasive, universal): his ubiquitous influence was felt by all people.

omnipresent

- widely encountered, common and widespread (ubiquitous): the omnipresent threat of natural disasters.

inclusive

- including or covering all the services, facilities normally expected (with everything included): the governments want to reach a settlement as inclusive as possible.

occult

- adj. relating to supernatural, mystical, magical phenomena (supernatural, magic): a follower of occult practices similar to voodoo.
- n. (sorcery, necromancy, witchcraft)

preternatural

- beyond what is normal or natural (extraordinary, exceptional)

uncanny

- strange or mysterious (preternatural, bizarre): some people believe that psychic has an uncanny ability to accurately predict the future.

enigmatic (n. enigma)

- difficult to interpret or understand, mysterious (mysterious, perplexing, baffling): he took the money with an enigmatic smile.

inscrutable

- impossible to understand or interpret (enigmatic, mysterious): he looked blankly inscrutable.

devilish, diabolical, fiendish, demonic

- like a devil in evil and cruelty

pungent

- having a sharply strong taste or smell
- (of comment) having a sharp and caustic quality

piquant (n. piquancy)

- having a pleasantly sharp taste
- pleasantly stimulating or exciting to the mind (intriguing, stimulating)

prohibitive

- (esp. of a law or rule) forbidding or restricting (proscriptive, restrictive)
- (of a price) excessively high: the costs were prohibitive.

exorbitant

- (of a price) unreasonably high (prohibitive): the exorbitant price of tickets.

schematic

- relating to a diagram or outline: in schematic form.

sidereal

- relating to the distant stars and constellations

simian

- relating to apes or monkeys

solvent

- able to meet financial obligations: during financial crisis several large banks had difficulty remaining solvent.

turbulent

- characterized by disorder or confusion, not controlled or calm

tempestuous

- characterized by strong and turbulent emotion (turbulent)

cumbersome

- large or heavy and therefore difficult to carry or use (unwieldy)

unwieldy

- difficult to carry or move because of its size, weight or shape (cumbersome)
- related. v. wield: hold and use (a tool): a masked raider wielding a handgun.

ponderous

- slow or clumsy because of great weight (clumsy, heavy, cumbersome): her footsteps were heavy and ponderous.

benign

- gentle and kindly (kindly, warmhearted)
- (of a disease) not harmful in effect, not malignant (harmless): a benign tumor.

malignant

- malevolent
- (of a disease) very virulent or infectious (virulent): a malignant disease.

virulent

- (of a disease or poison) extremely harmful in its effects

pernicious

- having a harmful effect, esp. in a subtle way (harmful, injurious, detrimental, deleterious, inimical, malignant, malevolent): the pernicious influences of the mass media.

inimical

- tending to harm or obstruct (harmful, injurious, detrimental, deleterious, pernicious, prejudicial): actions inimical to our interests.
- unfriendly (hostile, antagonistic)

prejudicial

- harmful to someone or sth (harmful, detrimental, injurious, deleterious): the behavior is prejudicial to good order and discipline.

baneful

- harmful

indigenous

- originating naturally in a particular place (native, original): the indigenous people of Siberia.

dilapidated

- in a state of ruin as a result of age or neglect: we still use the dilapidated barn for storing tools.

conspicuous

- standing out so as to be clearly visible (noticeable): he is conspicuous because he is the tallest one.

obtrusive

- noticeable in an unwelcome or intrusive way (conspicuous, noticeable): high-powered satellites can reach less obtrusive antennas.

amorphous

- without a clearly defined shape or form (shapeless): an amorphous mass of jelly.

indubitable, incontestable, unequivocal, indisputable

- unquestionable, undoubtable

dubious, dubitable

- (doubtful, suspicious, untrustworthy): extremely dubious assumptions.

blunt

- (of a knife etc.) having a worn-down edge, not sharp: a blunt knife.
- (of a person or remark) forthright (straightforward): he is very blunt and frank.

perilous

- full of danger or risk (dangerous): a perilous journey south.

normative

- relating to rules of behavior

illusory

- based on illusion, not real (delusory, delusive): she knew the safety of her room was illusory.

alkaline (n. alkali)

- having the properties of an alkali, $\text{PH} > 7$

acidic (n. acid)

- having the properties of an acid, $\text{PH} < 7$

communal

- shared by all members of a community (shared): a communal bathroom and kitchen.

fungible

- (mutually interchangeable)

irenic

- aiming at peace (pacific)

antiseptic

- relating to or denoting substances that prevent the growth of disease-causing microorganisms

aquatic

- relating to water

arboreal

- living in trees: arboreal rodents.

subterranean

- existing, occurring under the earth's surface

--- Can be used to describe **Logical Relationships**

plausible

- seeming reasonable: a plausible explanation

divergent

- different from each other (different, dissimilar): divergent approaches/options.

disparate

- essentially different in kind that there is no basis for comparison: they inhabit disparate worlds of thought.

antithetical (n. antithesis)

- directly opposed or contrasted, mutually incompatible (opposite): two antithetical principles of good and evil.

inverse

- opposite or contrary in position, direction, order or effect

kindred

- similar in kind (related): books on kindred subjects.

homogeneous

- of the same kind, alike

proximate (n. proximity)

- closest in relationship
- immediate: the storm was the proximate cause of damage of it.

tantamount

- virtually the same as (equivalent): be tantamount to.

causal (n. causality)

- involving a cause: the causal factors associated with illness.

noun (tagnoun)

Related with **Social Science/Economy/Philosophy/Religion/Art**

Enlightenment

- a European intellectual movement of the late 17th and 18th centuries emphasizing reason and individualism

enslavement

- the action of making someone a slave (slavery)

bourgeoisie (adj. bourgeois)

- the middle class

command economy

- an economy in which production, investment, prices and income are determined centrally by a government

dictator (adj. dictatorial)

- a ruler with total power (despot, autocrat, tyrant)

ascendancy, supremacy, dominance, hegemony

- a position of dominant power or influence, being superior to all others

tyranny

- cruel and oppressive government or rule (autocracy, dictatorship, totalitarianism): people who survive war and escape tyranny.

regime

- a government, esp. an authoritarian one

megalomania

- obsession with the exercise of power in the domination of others

totalitarianism

- a system of government that is centralized and dictatorial

jingoism

- extreme patriotism, esp. in the form of aggressive or warlike foreign policies

xenophobia

- intense or irrational dislike or fear of people from other countries

pacifism (adj. pacific)

- the belief that any violence, including war, is unjustifiable under any circumstances, and that all disputes should be settled by peaceful means

utopianism

- the belief in pursuit of a state in which everything is perfect, typically regarded as unrealistic and idealistic

nihilism

- the rejection of all religious and moral principles, often in the belief that life is meaningless

fascism, right wing

- the conservative section of a political party or system

schism

- a split or division between strongly opposed sections or parties, caused by differences in opinions or belief (division)

monarch

- head of state, especially a king, emperor (sovereign, ruler)

sovereign

- a superior ruler (monarch, ruler)

monarchy

- a form of government with a monarch at the head

feudalism, feudal system

- the dominant social system in medieval Europe, that is organized by rank

anarchy

- a state of disorder due to absence of authority: the crowd was restless and verging on anarchy.
- anarchist: people who believes in anarchy.
- anarchism: theory that all forms of government are oppressive and should be abolished.

theocracy

- a system of government in which priests rule in the name of God

autocracy (adj. autocratic)

- a system of government by one person with absolute power

plutocracy

- a country or society governed by the wealth

plutocrat

- a person whose power derives from their wealth

unrest

- a state of dissatisfaction, typically involving disorder: industrial/political unrest.

sedition

- speech inciting people to rebel against the authority of state or monarch (incitement)

uprising

- an act of resistance or rebellion (revolt, rebellion, insurgency)

revolt (v. n.)

- an attempt to put an end to the authority by rebelling (rebellion, uprising): a countrywide revolt against the central government.

insurgency

- an active revolt or uprising (revolt, uprising, rebellion): rebels are waging an armed insurgency to topple the monarchy.

convulsion

- a violent social or political upheaval (upheaval, turmoil)

impeachment (v. impeach)

- the action of calling into question the integrity
- a charge of misconduct made against the holder of a public office

tenure

- the period of time when someone holds a job or office, esp. an official position (incumbency): during his tenure as mayor, relations with police worsened.

electorate

- all the people in a country who are entitled to vote in an election

delegate

- a person authorized to represent others, in particular an elected representative sent to a conference (representative)
- v. (assign, entrust)

suffrage

- the right to vote in political elections: the pivotal feminist goal of suffrage was not obtained in the US until 1920.

prerogative

- a right or privilege exclusive to a particular class (entitlement, privilege): owning an automobile was still the prerogative of the rich.

entitlement (v. entitle)

- the fact of having a right to sth (prerogative, right): full entitlement to fees and maintenance should be offered.

civil liberty

- individual rights protected by law from unjust governmental or other interference

disenfranchisement (v. disenfranchise)

- the state of being deprived of a right or privilege, esp. the right to vote

municipality

- a city or town that has corporate status and powers of self-government

quorum

- the minimum number of members necessary to conduct a meeting

legislature

- the legislative body of a country or state (congress)

legislation

- laws: tax legislation.

jurisprudence

- the theory or philosophy of law, a legal system: American jurisprudence.

jurisdiction

- the official power to make legal decisions and judgment (authority): federal courts had no jurisdiction over the case.

codification (v. codify)

- the action of arranging laws

litigation

- the process of taking legal action (lawsuit): the company wishes to avoid litigation.

due process

- fair treatment through the normal judicial system, esp. as a citizen's entitlement

filibuster

- use of obstructive tactics in a legislature to block passage of a law

gerrymandering

- dividing an area into voting districts in a way that favors a political party

defendant

- an individual or institution sued or accused in a court of law

zeitgeist

- the defining spirit of a particular period of history: the zeitgeist of the late 1960s.

ethos

- the characteristic spirit of a culture (spirit)

rapprochement

- (esp. in international relations) an establishment of harmonious relations
(reconciliation): there were signs of a growing rapprochement between two countries.

treaty

- a formally concluded agreement between countries

accord (v. n.)

- an official agreement or treaty (pact, treaty): a peace accord.

pact

- a formal agreement between individuals and parties (treaty, agreement): the pact was signed at the site of the surrender.

exemption

- the state of being free from an obligation or liability

apologia

- a formal written defense of one's opinions or conduct (defense, justification): an apologia for book banning.
- related. apologist (defender, supporter)

injunction

- an authoritative warning or order to restrain a person from doing sth

edict, decree, fiat, proclamation, pronouncement, dictum

- an official announcement issued by an authority

writ

- a form of written command in the name of a court or other authorities

summons

- an order to appear before a judge (writ, subpoena)

subpoena

- a writ ordering a person to attend a court (writ, summons)

interregnum

- a period when normal government is suspended
- an internal or pause

incursion

- (invasion, intrusion, attack, esp. a sudden one): incursions into enemy territory.

activism

- campaigning to bring about politic or social changes

propaganda

- information, especially of a biased nature, to promote a political cause

caucus

- a conference of people who run political parties to plan activities: Hawaii holds its nominating caucuses next Tuesday.

petition

- a formal written request signed by many people, appealing to authority with respect to a particular cause (appeal)

faction

- a small group within a larger one, esp. in politics (clique): the left-wing faction of the party.

sect

- a group of people with somewhat different religious beliefs from those of a larger group

clique (adj. cliquish)

- a small group of people with shared interests

junta

- a military group that rules a country after taking power by force

guerrilla

- a member of a small independent group taking part in irregular fighting, typically against larger regular forces

oligarchy

- a small group of people having control of a country or organization

partisan

- a strong supporter of a party, cause (supporter, follower)

sectarian

- denoting or concerning a sect or sects (fractional, partisan)

lobby

- a group of people seeking to influence politicians on a particular issue: members of the anti-abortion lobby.

dissident

- a person who opposes official policy (objector, dissenter): a dissident who had been jailed by a military regime.

demographics

- statistical data relating to the population

detention

- the action of detaining someone, esp. as a political prisoner: he claimed that his detention by the authorities was unlawful.

caste

- hereditary classes of Hindu society: members of the lower castes

stratum (plural: strata) (v. stratify)

- a level or class to which people are assigned according to social status: members of social strata.
- a layer of rock in the ground

siege

- a military operation in which enemy forces surround a town or building, cutting off essential supplies, with the aim of compelling the surrender of those inside

defector

- a person who has abandoned their country (deserter)

deserter (v. desert)

- a soldier who deserts

fugitive

- a person who has escaped from a place to avoid arrest (escapee)

asylum

- the protection to political refugee: she applied for asylum and was granted refugee status.

verdict

- the formal finding of fact made by a jury

transgression (v. transgress)

- an act that goes against a law or rule (offense, crime): I will keep an eye out for further transgressions.

paradox (adj. paradoxical)

- a seemingly self-contradictory statement that is actually true
- paradoxical: contradictory, incongruous

enigma (adj. enigmatic)

- a person or thing is mysterious, puzzling (mystery)

dialectic (n. adj.)

- the art of investigating the truth of opinions (discussion)
- inquiry into metaphysical solutions

utilitarianism

- the doctrine that actions are right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority

pragmatism

- an approach that assesses the truth of meaning of theories in terms of the success of their practical application

metaphysics

- the branch of philosophy that deals with the first principles of things, including abstract concepts such as being, knowing, substance, time, space.

ontology

- the branch of metaphysics dealing with the nature of being

epistemology

- a branch of philosophy that examines the nature of knowledge

semantics (adj. semantic)

- the branch of linguistics concerned with meaning

semiotics (adj. semiotic)

- the study of signs and symbols and their interpretation

anthropology

- the study of human societies and cultures
- related. anthropogenic: originating in human activity: anthropogenic emissions of SO₂.

archaeology

- the study of human history through excavation of sites

hieroglyph

- a symbol that represents a word

misanthrope

- a person who dislikes humankind and avoid society

misogynist (adj. misogynistic)

- a person who dislikes women

heresy (adj. heretic)

- belief contrary to orthodox religious doctrine (dissension)

heretic

- a person believing in religious heresy (dissenter)

hallow (v. n.)

- a saint or holy person

advent

- the arrival of a notable person, thing or event (arrival): the advent of television.
- the coming or second coming of Christ

pastor

- minister in Christian church

priest

- minister in Catholic church

monastery

- a building occupied by monks

convent

- a Christian community of nuns

epiphany

- a moment when one suddenly feels that he understands
- a powerful religious experience

Crusades

- military expeditions by Christians in the Middle Ages to win recover the Holy Land from the Muslims

pantheon

- a building or temple dedicated to all the gods

embodiment

- a tangible or visible form of an idea, feeling: she seemed to be a living embodiment of vitality.

collage

- a piece of art made by sticking different materials: he is noted for his use of collage to create photographic effects.

fresco

- a painting done in watercolor on a wall

frieze

- a horizontal band of sculpted or painted decoration, typically on a wall near the ceiling.

surrealism

- a 20th-century avant-garde movement in art and literature that sought to release the creative potential of the unconscious mind

timbre

- the character of a musical sound as distinct from its pitch and intensity

pitch

- the quality of a sound governed by the rate of the vibrations producing it

slum, ghetto

- a squalid urban district inhabited by very poor people

dividend

- a distribution of a portion of a company's earnings to shareholders

stipend

- a fixed, regular income that is usually not based on an amount of work done: she gets a monthly stipend from the college.

dole

- benefit paid by the government to the unemployed

subsidy (v. subsidize)

- a sum of money granted by the government or a public body to assist an industry or business

tariff

- a tax or duty to be paid on particular imports or exports

usury

- the illegal action of lending money at exorbitant rates of interest

indemnity

- security or protection against a loss or other financial burden (insurance): no indemnity will be given for loss of cash.

Related with **Biology/Chemistry/Physics/Math/Geography**

endocrine system

- including adrenal glands, pancreas, pituitary gland...

homeotherm

- an organism that maintains its body temperature at a constant level

poikilotherm

- an organism that cannot regulate its body temperature

mollusk

- an invertebrate of a large phylum that has soft, unsegmented body and live in aquatic habitats

finch

- a seed-eating songbird

fowl

- a bird kept chiefly for its eggs and flesh, such as hen

plankton

- the small and microscopic organisms drifting in the sea or water

atavism

- an evolutionary throwback when traits are closer to a more remote ancestor

taxonomy

- the science concerned with classification

vivisection

- the practice of performing operations on live animals for research

dissection (v. dissect)

- the action of dissecting a body or plant to study its internal parts

anatomy

- the branch of science concerned with the bodily structure of living organisms, esp. as revealed by dissection

physiology

- the branch of biology that deals with the normal functions of living organisms

pathology

- the science of the causes and effects of diseases

pathogen

- a bacterium, virus or other microorganism that can cause disease

ethology

- the science of animal behavior

ornithology

- the scientific study of birds

entomology

- the study of insects

paleontology

- the branch of science concerned with fossils

inflammation (v. inflame)

- a localized physical condition in which part of the body becomes swollen, reddened

malady

- a disease (illness, disease): an incurable malady.

ailment

- an illness, typically a minor one (illness)

remedy

- medicine or treatment for a disease or injury (treatment): herbal remedies for pains.

regimen

- a prescribed course of medical treatment, diet or restoration of health

acupuncture

- a system of medicine that involves pricking skins with needles

neurosis

- a mild mental illness that is caused by stress or anxiety

homeostasis

- the tendency towards a relatively stable equilibrium between interdependent elements

senescence

- the process of deterioration with age, loss of a cell's power of division and growth

throwback

- a reversion to an earlier ancestral characteristic

graft

- a shoot inserted into stem of a living plant
- a piece of living tissue that is transplanted surgically

nausea (adj. nauseous)

- a feeling of sickness with an inclination to vomit

jaundice

- a medical condition with yellowing of the skin or eyes
- bitterness, envy, bias

anemia

- a condition marked by a deficiency of red blood cells

insomnia

- habitual sleeplessness

pith

- soft or spongy tissue in plants or animals
- the essence of sth: a book that contains the pith of all his work.
- adj. pithy: concise and expressive

cartilage

- firm and flexible connective tissue, such as external ear

cerebrum

- the principal part of the brain, consisting of two hemispheres

etiology

- the cause of a disease or condition: a disease of unknown etiology.
- (related) etymology: the study of origin of words and development

contraception

- the deliberate use of methods to prevent pregnancy

eugenics

- the idea of improving human population by controlling breeding

euthanasia

- the painless killing of a patient suffering from painful disease (mercy killing)

flora

- the plants of a particular region or habitat

fauna

- the animals of a particular region or habitat

clot

- a thick mass of coagulated liquid: blood clot.

abscission

- the natural detachment of parts of a plant

analgesic (adj. n.)

- (of a drug) acting to relieve pain: Aspirin is a powerful analgesic.

anodyne (adj. n.)

- a painkilling drug or medicine

anesthesia

- a drug that numbs part of the body

sedative (adj. n.)

- a drug taken for its calming or sleeping-inducing effect (tranquilizer)

nostrum

- a medicine, esp. one that is not considered effective

coagulation (v. coagulate)

- the process of a liquid changing to a solid state: a supplement that inhibits blood coagulation.

distillation (v. distill)

- the action of purifying a liquid by vaporizing and cooling

precipitate

- a substance precipitated from a solution

sediment

- matter that settles to the bottom of a liquid (dregs)

volatile (n. adj.)

- a substance easily evaporated into a gas
- adj. changing rapidly and unpredictably (fickle): the political situation was becoming more volatile.

alchemy

- the medieval forerunner of chemistry, based on transformation of matter, esp. into gold

alloy

- a metal made by combining multiple metallic elements: an alloy of nickel, bronze.

amalgam (v. amalgamate)

- a mixture or blend: an amalgam of the traditional and the modern.
- an alloy of mercury with another metal

halogen

- any of the elements fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, and astatine: halogen elements.
ion

- an atom or molecule with a net electric charge due to loss or gain of electrons

apex

- the top or highest part of sth (peak, summit)

apogee

- the highest point in the development of sth: White House is considered the apogee of American achievement.
- the point in the orbit most distant from the center

perigee

- the point in the orbit nearest to the earth

centripetal force

- centripetal: tending to move towards a center

centrifugal force

- centrifugal: tending to move away from a center

celerity

- swiftness of movement, speed

conduction (adj. conductive)

- the process by which heat or electricity is transmitted

cartography

- the science of drawing maps

meteorology

- the branch of science concerned with the atmosphere, esp. forecasting weather

seismology (adj. seismic)

- the branch of science concerned with earthquakes

plate tectonics

- the theory explaining the structure of the earth's crust and associated phenomena

chronology (adj. chronological)

- the arrangement of events in the order of their occurrence: the novel abandons the conventions of normal chronology.

lithosphere

- the rigid outer part of the earth, consisting of the crust and upper mantle

ledge

- a narrow horizontal surface projecting from a wall or cliff (shelf): he heaved himself up over a ledge.

methane

- the gas that is the main constituent of natural gas

abrasion (v. abrade, adj. abrasive)

- the process of scraping or wearing away (erosion, corrosion): the metal is resistant to abrasion.

crater

- a large, bowl-shaped cavity on the surface of a planet

sextant

- an instrument to measure the angular distances between objects, latitude and longitude

aviation

- the flying or operating of aircraft: the aviation industry.

Named oceans

- Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic, (Antarctic)

salinity

- the concentration of dissolved salts in water

numerator

- the number above the line in a common fraction (dividend)

denominator

- the number below the line in a common fraction (divisor)

quotient

- a result obtained by dividing one quantity by another

simultaneous equations

- equations involving two or more unknown variables

x/y – intercept

- point on the graph where y/x is zero

mode

- the one number that occurs most often

perimeter

- the length of the outline of a shape

perpendicular line

- lines which meet at 90-degree angle

isosceles triangle

- triangle having two sides of equal length

equilateral triangle

- triangle having all sides of the same length

quadrilateral

- a four-sided figure

congruent figures

- figures having the same shape and size

similar figures

- figures having the same shape

Pythagorean theorem

- the square of the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides

Related with **Logics/Logical Relationships**

plausibility: the quality of seeming reasonable

discrepancy

- a lack of compatibility or similarity between two or more facts (difference, disparity, variance): there is a discrepancy between your account and his.

disparity

- a great difference (discrepancy)
- related. parity: the state of being equal, esp. regarding status or pay (equality): parity of incomes between rural workers and industrial workers.

dichotomy (adj. dichotomous)

- a contrast between two things that are completely different (contrast, difference): I try to examine the dichotomy between what people think they are.

nuance

- a subtle difference in meaning, expression or sound: the nuances of facial expression and body language.

causality (adj. causal)

- the relationship between cause and effect

syllogism

- an instance of a form of reasoning ($A \rightarrow B$, $B \rightarrow C$, therefore $A \rightarrow C$)

corollary

- a proposition that follows from one already proved

Related with **People/Opinions**

ethics (adj. ethical)

- moral principles

ethnicity (adj. ethnic)

- ethnic group

levity

- lack of seriousness, esp. during a serious occasion (frivolity)

neophyte

- a person who is new to a subject or skill (novice, beginner): four-day cooking classes are offered to neophytes and experts.

tyro

- a beginner or novice (novice, neophyte)

dilettante

- a person who cultivates an area of interest, without real knowledge or commitment (amateur): a dilettante approach of science.

polymath

- a person of wide-ranging knowledge or learning

paragon

- a person or thing regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality (paradigm): a paragon of virtue.

exemplar (adj. exemplary)

- a person or thing serving as a typical example or excellent model (epitome, paragon): he became the leading exemplar of conservative philosophy.

epitome

- a person or thing that is a perfect example of a particular quality (exemplar, paragon): she looked the epitome of elegance and good taste.

paradigm

- a typical example or model of sth (model, paragon): there is a new paradigm for public art in this country.

archetype (adj. archetypical)

- a very typical example of a certain person or thing (paradigm, model): the book is a perfect archetype of the genre.

pedant (adj. pedantic)

- a person who is excessively concerned with minor details that are not important (dogmatist)

patron

- customer
- a person who gives financial or other support to other person

botanist

- an expert in the scientific study of plants

attorney

- a person appointed to act for another in legal matters (lawyer)

arbitrator

- an independent person officially appointed to settle a dispute (adjudicator)
- Related: arbitration: the use of an arbitrator to settle a dispute (adjudication)

deputy

- a person who is empowered to act as a substitute for his superior

spectator

- a person who watches at a show or other event (watcher)

beneficiary

- a person who derives advantage from sth, such as insurance

commission

- a group of people officially charged with a particular function (committee): Federal Communication Commissions. Idiots.

- an instruction, command or duty given to people (task, command): his commission to redesign the building.

playwright

- a person who writes plays

poet

- a person who writes poems

bard

- a poet

verse

- writing arranged with rhythm (poetry)

doggerel

- verse composed in irregular rhythm

sonnet

- a poem of fourteen lines

anthology

- a published collection of poems or other writing

biography

- an account of someone's life written by someone else

allegory

- a story that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral one

utterance

- a spoken word, statement (remark, comment)

literati

- well-educated people who are interested in literature

literacy

- the ability to read and write, competence or knowledge in an area

connotation (v. connote)

- an idea or feeling that a word invokes in addition to its literal or primary meaning (overtone, undertone, implication): the word “discipline” has unhappy connotations of punishment and repression.

denotation (v. denote)

- the literal or primary meaning of a word, in contrast to the feelings or ideas that the word suggest

eponym

- the name of an object or activity that is also the name of the person who first produced the object or did the activity

neologism

- a newly coined word or expression

nomenclature

- the devising or choosing of names for things, esp. in science

tautology

- the saying of the same thing twice in different words, unnecessary repetition

simile

- expression including words “like” or “as” to compare one thing with another: she was good at capturing a passing figure with an apt simile or comparison.

trope

- a metaphorical use of a word or expression
- sth such as idea, phrase that is often used in an artist’s work: Human-like robots are a classic trope of science fiction.

malapropism

- the mistaken use of a word in place of a similar-sounding one, often with unintentionally amusing effect

misnomer

- a wrong or inaccurate name or designation: “king crab” is a misnomer – these creatures are not crustaceans at all.

proponent

- a person who advocates a cause (advocate, champion): proponents of this theory.

sage (n. adj.)

- a wise person esp. old man

solicitor

- the chief law officer of a city or government department

luminary

- a person who inspires or influences others, esp. one prominent in a particular sphere:
one of the luminaries of child psychiatry.

framer

- a person who shapes or creates a concept, system or plan: the framers of the
Constitution law.

conformist

- a person who conforms to accepted behavior or established practices (traditionalist)

nonconformist

- (maverick)

merchant

- a person or company involved in wholesale trade

virtuoso

- a person highly skilled in artistic pursuit (genius, master): a celebrated piano virtuoso.

prodigy

- a young person with exceptional abilities (genius, virtuoso): A Russian pianist who has a
child prodigy in his day.
- an outstanding example or a particular quality (model, paragon, paradigm)

lay person

- a person without professional or specialized knowledge in a particular subject

proWess

- skill or expertise in a particular activity or field (skill, expertise): his prowess as a
fisherman.

recluse (adj. reclusive)

- a person who lives a solitary life and tends to avoid other people

fanatic

- a person filled with excessive zeal, esp. for an extreme religious or political cause (zealot)

zealot (adj. zealous, n. zeal)

- a person who is fanatical in pursuit of their religious, political ideals (fanatic)

zeal (n. zealot, adj. zealous)

- great energy or enthusiasm in pursuit of a cause (passion)

demagogue

- a political leader who seeks support by exciting people's emotions rather than giving them reasons

poser, poseur

- a person who acts in an affected manner in order to impress others

toady, sycophant

- a person who behaves obsequiously to someone important

referee

- an official who watches a game closely to ensure rules are followed

colonel

- an army officer of high rank

technocrat

- an expert in science and technology

connoisseur

- an expert judge (expert): a connoisseur of music.

aesthete

- a person who has a special appreciation of art

philistine

- a person who is hostile or indifferent to culture and the arts

thespian

- n. an actor or actress

- adj. relating to drama and the theater

protagonist

- the leading character in a drama, movie, novel
- an advocate or champion of a particular cause: a strenuous protagonist of this policy.

inhabitant, denizen

- a person or animal that lives in a place (resident)

nomad (adj. nomadic)

- a member of people having no permanent abode, and who travel from place to place to find fresh pasture for their livestock

serf

- an agricultural laborer to work on his lord's estate

factotum

- an employee who does all kinds of work

slacker

- a person who avoids work or effort

sinecure

- a position requiring little work but giving the status or financial benefit

mendicant

- beggar: some monks are mendicants.

libertine

- a person who behaves without moral principles or a sense of responsibility (playboy)

Bohemian

- a person who has unconventional social habits, esp. an artist

culprit

- a person who is responsible for a crime or other misdeed (miscreant)

malefactor

- a person who commits a crime or some other wrong (miscreant)

miscreant (n. adj.)

- a person who behaves badly or breaks law (criminal)

reprobate

- n. an unprincipled person (miscreant)
- adj. unprincipled, debauched (dissolute)

charlatan

- a person falsely claiming to have a special knowledge or skill

raconteur

- a person who tells story skillfully

orator

- a public speaker, esp. one who is eloquent or skilled

spendthrift (n. adj.)

- a person who spends money in an extravagant, irresponsible way

corpse (adj. corporeal)

- a dead body

adolescence

- teenage years

cognomen

- an extra personal name, nickname

muse

- the source of inspiration for a creative artist (inspiration)

milieu

- a person's social environment

sentiment

- a view of or attitude toward a situation or event (view, attitude, feeling): I agree with your sentiments regarding this situation.

stature

- a person's natural height
- reputation or importance gained by ability or achievement

trait

- a distinguishing quality or characteristic, typically one belonging to a person (characteristic)

streak

- an element of a specified kind in someone's character (element): there is a streak of insanity in the family.
- a long, thin line or mark of a different substance

mores

- the essential customs and conventions of a community (customs): an offense against social mores.

temperament

- a person's or animal's nature, esp. regarding behavior (disposition, character): she had an artistic temperament.

glamour (adj. glamorous)

- the attractive or exciting quality that makes certain people or things seem appealing or special (allure, charm, attraction): Hollywood glamour.

disposition

- a person's inherent qualities of mind and character (temperament, character): a girl of a placid disposition.

abstinence (adj. abstinent)

- the act of not doing sth, typically alcohol: I started drinking after six years of abstinence.

continence

- self-restraint, self-denial (abstinence, abstention)

temperance

- abstinence from alcoholic drink: the temperance movement

empathy (adj. empathetic)

- the ability to understand and share the feelings of others

compassion

- concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others (pity, sympathy, empathy): the victims should be treated with compassion.

benevolence (adj. benevolent)

- the quality of being well meaning (kindness, altruism, compassion)

largesse

- generosity in bestowing money or gifts (generosity): the medical foundation will be the main beneficiary of the millionaire's largesse.

hypnosis (v. hypnotize)

- the induction of a state of mind similar to sleep in which a person can be influenced to say or do things

opprobrium

- harsh criticism or censure: international opprobrium has been heaped on the country following its attack on its neighbors.

vitriol

- cruel and bitter criticism

asperity

- harshness of tone or manner (harshness, severity): he pointed this out with some asperity.

awe

- a feeling of reverential respect mixed with fear or wonder: they gazed in awe.

bitterness

- anger and disappointment (resentment)

resentment

- bitter indignation at having been treated unfairly (indignation, bitterness, irritation, pique, discontent)

indignation

- annoyance provoked by what is perceived as unfair treatment (resentment)

acrimony (adj. acrimonious)

- (bitterness, resentment)

pique

- a feeling of irritation or resentment (irritation, resentment)

vexation (ad. vexatious)

- the state of being annoyed, frustrated (annoyance, irritation, anger): after several attempts to start his car, he swore in vexation.

umbrage

- (offense, annoyance): she took umbrage at his remarks.

chagrin

- distress or embarrassment at having failed or been humiliated (annoyance, irritation, vexation): Jeff, much to his chagrin, was not invited.

satire (v. satirize)

- the use of humor, ridicule to expose and criticize people's stupidity (ridicule, mockery)

contentment, content

- a state of happiness and satisfaction (satisfaction, fulfillment)

discontent

- lack of contentment (dissatisfaction)

perplexity

- inability to understand sth complicated (confusion): she paused in perplexity.

exertion

- physical or mental effort: she was panting with the exertion.

travail

- painful, laborious effort (trial): early pioneers endured great travail.

tact

- adroitness and sensitivity in dealing with issues: the inspector broke the news to me with tact and consideration.

ingenuity

- the quality of being clever, original, inventive (creativity)

gumption

- shrewd or spirited initiative: she had the gumption to put her foot down and save him.

ardor

- enthusiasm or passion (passion): his ardor for her cooled after a few weeks.

fervor

- passionate feeling (passion, ardor): the country was swept by patriotic fervor.

morale

- (confidence): their morale was high.

mettle (adj. mettlesome)

- a person's ability to cope well with difficulties in a spirited and resilient way (fortitude): the team showed their true mettle in the second half.

fortitude

- courage in pain and adversity (courage)

anguish

- severe mental or physical pain or suffering (agony, torture, suffering, distress): somehow we deal with the anguish of serious illness.

forbearance (v. forbear)

- (tolerance, patience)

magnanimity (adj. magnanimous)

- (generosity, tolerance, forbearance): both sides will have to show magnanimity.

stamina

- the physical or mental strength to do sth for a long time: the triathlon is a great test of stamina.

vigor (adj. vigorous)

- physical strength and good health (robustness)

hardiness

- the ability to endure difficult conditions (robustness): I applaud you on your hardiness.

lassitude

- a state of physical or mental weariness, lack of energy (lethargy): she was overcome by lassitude and retired to bed.

lethargy (adj. lethargic)

- a lack of energy and enthusiasm (apathy)

torpor

- a state of physical or mental inactivity (lethargy, lassitude)

vertigo

- a sensation of whirling and loss of balance, particularly with looking down from a great height (dizziness, giddiness): the steep narrow stairs give me vertigo.

apprehension

- anxiety that sth bad will happen (anxiety, worry)

trepidation

- (apprehension, fear, anxiety): the men set off in fear and trepidation.

apathy (adj. apathetic)

- lack of interest or enthusiasm (indifference): widespread apathy among students.

discretion

- the quality of avoiding offense or revealing private info (caution): behave with discretion

invective

- insulting or highly critical language (abuse): he let out a stream of invective.

composure

- the state of being calm and in control of oneself (calm, equanimity): she was struggling to regain her composure.

equanimity

- (composure, calm): she accepted both the good and the bad with equanimity.

diatribe

- a forceful verbal attack against someone or sth (tirade, polemic, harangue): a diatribe against the Roman Catholic Church.

tirade

- long and angry speech of criticism (diatribe, polemic, harangue): a tirade of abuse.

harangue (v. n.)

- a lengthy and aggressive speech (tirade, diatribe, polemic): the coach delivered a harangue to ...

polemic (adj. polemical)

- strong verbal or written attack on someone or sth (diatribe, tirade, harangue): his polemic against sth.

effrontery

- insolent or impertinent behavior (impudence, impertinence, insolence, audacity): our juror had the effrontery to challenge the coroner's decision.

guile

- the practice of deceiving people to achieve aims: he used all his guile and guts to free himself from jail.

trickery

- the practice of deception (deception)

chicanery

- the use of trickery to achieve a legal, financial or political purpose (trickery, deception): the person who schemes corruption and chicanery.

subterfuge

- deceit used in order to achieve one's goal (trickery, intrigue, duplicity, chicanery)

forgery (v. forge)

- the action of forging a copy of a document, signature or work of art

ruse

- an action intended to deceive someone (trick): he tried to think of a ruse to get Paul out of the house.

hoax

- a humorous or malicious deception (joke, trick): they recognized the plan as a hoax.

expedient

- a means of attaining an end, esp. convenient but improper or immoral (means, tactic, device): the current policy is a political expedient.

artifice

- clever or cunning devices or expedients, esp. as used to trick others (trickery, guile, duplicity, chicanery): artifice fakery.

mendacity (adj. mendacious)

- untruthfulness

incentive

- a thing that motivates one to do sth (inducement, motivation, spur): there is no incentive for customers to conserve water; incentive pay.

impetus

- the force or energy with which a body moves (momentum, impulsion): the flywheel loses all its impetus.
- (motivation, incentive): the original impetus for the settlements.

scruple

- a feeling of doubt or hesitation with regard to the morality (compunction, qualm): he has scruples about going out with his friends.

compunction

- a feeling of guilt or moral scruple (scruple, qualm): train the soldiers to kill without compunction.

qualm

- an uncomfortable feeling of doubt about one's own conduct (scruple, compunction)

conscience (adj. conscientious)

- an inner feeling viewed as a guide to the rightness of one's behavior (moral sense): he had a guilty conscience about his desires.

reservation

- a qualification to an expression of agreement or approval (doubt, scruple, qualm): some generals voiced reservations about making air strikes.

misgiving

- a feeling of doubt or apprehension about the outcome of sth (reservation, doubt): we have misgivings about the way the campaign is being run.

remorse (adj. remorseful)

- deep regret or guilt for a wrong thing (contrition, repentance, penitence, compunction, guilt): they were filled with remorse and shame.

penitence (adj. penitent)

- the action of feeling regret for having done wrong (repentance, contrition, remorse): a public display of penitence.

contrition (adj. contrite)

- feeling penitent

repentance (v. repent, adj. repentant)

- the action of repenting

longing, yearning, craving

- a strong desire: he felt a yearning for the mountains.

reverence

- deep respect for someone or sth: show honor and reverence for the dead.

deference (adj. deferential)

- (respect): he addressed her with the deference due to age.

devotion

- (loyalty, commitment): her devotion to her husband.

fidelity

- faithfulness to a person or belief (loyalty)
- the degree or exactness with which sth is copied

allegiance

- loyalty of commitment of a subordinate to a superior (loyalty)

veracity

- conformity to facts (truthfulness, accuracy): officials expressed doubts concerning the veracity of the story.

blandishment

- a flattering statement used to persuade someone to do sth (flattery)

flattery

- excessive praise, often in a way that is not sincere: he is known for flattery.

adulation

- obsequious flattery, excessive admiration or praise (worship, flattery): he found it difficult to cope with the adulation of the fans.

repute (v. n.)

- the opinion generally held of someone or sth (reputation): pollution could bring the authority's name into bad repute.

aspersion

- an attack on the reputation of someone (denigrate, disparage, vilify): I don't think anyone is casting aspersions on you.

calumny (adj. calumnious)

- the making of false statements to damage one's reputation (slander)

libel (v. n.) (adj. libelous)

- a published false statement that is damaging to a person's reputation (defamation, calumny)

slur

- an allegation about someone that is likely to insult them or damage their reputation (insult, slander, slight): the comments were a slur on the staff.

piety

- a strong belief in a religion

courtesy (adj. courteous)

- the showing of politeness in one's attitude and behavior toward others (politeness, civility): he had been treated with a degree of courtesy.

probity

- having strong moral principles (integrity, honesty): her probity and integrity are beyond question.

propriety

- the quality of conforming to conventionally accepted standards of behavior or morals (decorum, decency, good manners): he always behaved with the propriety.

decorum

- behavior in keeping good propriety (propriety, decency): you exhibit remarkable modesty and decorum.

alacrity

- brisk and cheerful readiness (willingness): she accepted the invitation with alacrity.

pathos

- a quality that evokes pity or sadness

penchant

- a strong like for sth (liking, fondness, preference): he has a penchant for adopting dogs.

affinity

- a natural liking (liking, fondness): he has an affinity for the music of Berlioz.
- a similarity of characteristic (similarity): a building with no affinity to contemporary style

predilection

- a preference or special liking for sth (liking, fondness, penchant): my predilection for Asian food.

propensity

- a natural tendency to behave in a particular way (tendency, inclination): the growing propensity to invest in the stock market.

proclivity

- an inclination or predisposition toward a particular thing (inclination, tendency, disposition, predisposition): a proclivity for hard work.

predisposition (v. predispose)

- (tendency, liability, disposition)

antipathy (adj. antipathetic)

- a deep feeling of dislike (aversion): his fundamental antipathy to capitalism.

aversion (adj. averse)

- strong dislike or declination (antipathy)

pet peeve

- sth that a person finds especially annoying

enmity, antagonism

- hostility

reluctance

- unwillingness (to do sth)

disinclination

- (reluctance, unwillingness): she felt a strong disinclination to talk about her marriage.

aspiration

- an ambition of achieving something

bliss, joy, pleasure, delight, ecstasy, rapture

- happiness

elation, euphoria, ecstasy

- happiness and exhilaration

solace

- comfort or consolation in a time of distress or sadness (comfort, consolation): she sought solace in her religion.

despair

- the complete loss or absence of hope (hopelessness)

sanity

- the ability to think and behave in a normal and rational manner (mental health): I began to doubt my own sanity.

penury (adj. penurious), destitution (adj. destitute)

- extreme poverty: he died in a state of virtual penury.

squalor (adj. squalid)

- a state of being extremely dirty, esp. as a result of poverty (filth): they lived in squalor and disease.

cupidity

- greed for money or possessions (greed, avarice): he didn't see her cupidity until after years.

acquisitiveness (adj. acquisitive)

- excessive interest in acquiring money or material things (greed, avarice, cupidity): a culture of acquisitiveness permeated his administration.

lucre (adj. lucrative)

- money, profits

wherewithal

- the money or other means needed (money): they lacked the wherewithal to pay.

raffle

- lottery

precursor

- a person or thing that comes before another of the same kind (forerunner, antecedent):
a precursor of sth.

forerunner

- a person or thing that precedes the coming or development of someone or sth else
(precursor, antecedent): the icebox was a forerunner of today's refrigerator.

omniscience

- the state of knowing everything: the notion of divine omniscience.

defiance

- (resistance, opposition, disobedience): the demonstration was held in defiance of
official warnings.

egotism, egoism (adj. egotistical)

- self-centeredness

conceit (adj. conceited)

- excessive pride in oneself (vanity, narcissism, egotism): he was puffed up with conceit.

vanity

- excessive pride in one's own appearance or achievement (conceit, narcissism, egotism):
it flattered hi vanity to think I was in love with him.
- the quality of being worthless (futility): the vanity of human wishes.

hubris

- excessive pride or self-confidence (conceit, arrogance)

leniency (adj. lenient)

- the quality of being more merciful than expected (mercy, clemency): the court shows
leniency.

clemency

- (mercy, lenience)

complexion

- the natural appearance of one's skin, esp. of the face (skin): an attractive girl with a pale complexion.

physiognomy

- a person's facial features or expression

visage

- a person's face or facial expression: there was sth hidden behind his visage of cheerfulness.
- the surface of an object (appearance)

fracas

- a noisy disturbance or quarrel (disturbance, brawl)

melee

- a confused fight (fracas)

brawl (v. n.)

- a rough or noisy fight or quarrel (fight)

feud (v. n.)

- a bitter quarrel or dispute (fight)

libido

- sexual desire

platonic

- (of love or friendship) intimate and affectionate but not sexual: their relationship was purely platonic.

camaraderie

- mutual trust and friendship among people who spend a lot of time together (friendship): a genuine camaraderie on the hockey team.

mnemonic

- n. sth to help a person remember sth: the musical notes on the lines go EGBDF - use the mnemonic "Every good boy deserves fun".

- adj. aiding the memory

rote

- mechanical repetition of sth to be learned: rote learning.

malfeasance

- wrongdoing, esp. by a public official

reparation

- the making of amends for a wrong one has done (amends, atonement, compensation):
the courts required a convicted offender to make financial reparation to his victim.

gait

- a person's manner of walking

swagger (v. n)

- a very confident and typically arrogant gait or manner (strut)

strut (v. n.)

- an arrogant or conceited gait (swagger)

vengeance

- punishment for an injury or wrong (revenge, retribution): your appetite for vengeance
has destroyed your life.

retribution

- punishment inflicted on someone as vengeance for a wrong or criminal act (vengeance):
employees asked not to be named, saying they feared retribution.

vendetta

- a blood feud in which the family or a murdered person seeks vengeance on the
murderer or murderer's family

niche

- a comfortable position in life or employment: he is now a partner at a leading law firm
and feels he has found his niche.

consummation (v. consummate)

- the point at which sth is complete or finalized: the consummation of a sale.

pinnacle

- the most successful point (peak, zenith, apex): he had reached the pinnacle of his career

zenith

- the time at which sth is most successful or powerful (peak, pinnacle, apex): under Justinian, the Byzantine Empire reached its zenith of influence.

acme

- the point at which someone or sth is best, perfect or most successful (peak, pinnacle, zenith, crest): City Lights marked the acme of his film-making career.

apotheosis

- the highest point in the development of sth, climax: her acting career achieved apotheosis in that movie.

heyday

- the period of a person's or thing's greatest success or vigor (pinnacle, apex, zenith, acme): the paper has lost millions of readers since its heyday in 1964.

nadir

- the lowest point in the fortunes of a person or organization: the defeat was the nadir of her career.

schadenfreude

- pleasure derived by someone from another person's misfortune

respite

- a short period of rest or relief from sth difficult or unpleasant (rest): the center provides a respite for teens in trouble.

lull (v. n.)

- a temporary interval or quiet or lack of activity (respite, pause): for two days there had been a lull in the fighting.

accusation

- a charge or claim that someone has done sth illegal or wrong (allegation): accusations of bribery.

indictment

- a formal charge or accusation of a serious crime: an indictment for conspiracy.

recrimination

- an accusation in response to one from someone else

discourse

- written or spoken communication or debate (discussion, talk)

slant

- a particular point of view from which sth is seen (standpoint): a new slant on science.

hindsight

- understanding of a situation or event only after it has happened: with hindsight, I should never have gone.

Others

antecedent (v. antedate)

- a thing or event that existed before or precedes others (precursor, forerunner): some antecedents to the African novel might exist in African culture.

precedent (v. precede)

- an earlier event that is regarded as an example or guide in subsequent circumstances (model): there are substantial precedents for using media in training.

anachronism (adj. anachronistic)

- a thing placed in the wrong period of history, especially an old-fashioned thing: his house has many anachronisms.

antiquity

- the ancient past, esp. before the Middle Ages

relic

- an object surviving from an earlier time, esp. historical one

vestige

- a trace of sth that is disappearing or no longer exists (remnant, relic): the last vestiges of colonialism.

- the smallest amount (bit): he waited without a vestige of sympathy.

remnant

- a small remaining quantity of sth (remains): the remnants of the picnic.

ideology

- a system of ideas and ideals, esp. the one that forms the basis of economic or political theory and policy

rationale

- a set of logical reasons for a course of action or belief (reason): he explained the rationale behind the change.

ovation

- a sustained show of appreciation from audience: the performance received a thundering ovation.

intimation

- (hint, indication): the first intimation of trouble.

inkling

- a slight knowledge or suspicion, a hint (idea, sense, indication): the records give us an inkling of how people saw the world.

facade

- an outward appearance, the face of a building (appearance, front): her flawless public façade masked private despair.

harbinger

- a thing that signals the approach of another (herald, sign, indication): ... is the harbinger of spring.

herald

- a sign that something about to happen (harbinger, sign): they considered the first primroses as the herald of spring.

premonition

- strong feeling that sth is about to happen, esp. sth unpleasant (foreboding)

appeal

- a serious or urgent request: his mother made an appeal for the return of the ring.
- v: police are appealing for information about the accident.

plea

- a request made in an urgent and emotional manner (appeal, supplication): he made a dramatic plea for disarmament.

exigency

- an urgent demand or situation: wartime exigency.

acumen

- the ability to make good judgments and decisions: business acumen

iconoclasm (adj. iconoclastic)

- action of attack cherished beliefs

patent (adj. n.)

- n. (copyright)
- adj. easily recognizable (obvious): she was smiling with patent insincerity.

ritual

- a religious ceremony

rite

- a religious or other solemn ceremony (ceremony, ritual)

obsequies

- funeral rites

austerity

- the condition of living without unnecessary things: the wartime austerity of my early years prepared me for later hardships.

thorn (adj. thorny)

- stiff woody projection on a plant: a thorn in her finger.

rumination

- a deep thought about sth: philosophical ruminations about life and humanity.

abeyance

- the state of temporary suspension or disuse (in suspension): the project is being held in abeyance until agreement is reached.

desuetude

- a state of disuse: the docks fell into desuetude.

cant

- special words used by a particular group of people
- hypocritical talk

argot

- the slang of a particular group (cant): teenage argot.

jargon

- special words used by a particular group (cant, argot): a problem with the proliferation of jargon is that it impedes communication between different fields of knowledge.

parlance

- a particular way of using words, esp. common to a particular job or interest (jargon)

vernacular, patois

- language or dialect spoken by people in a particular region

compendium

- a collection of concise but detailed information, especially in publication

preamble

- a preliminary statement (introduction, preface)

synopsis

- a brief summary or general survey of sth (summary): a synopsis of the accident.

conundrum

- a difficult problem (difficulty): the most difficult conundrums for experts.

snag (v. n.)

- an unexpected or hidden obstacle or drawback (difficulty, hitch): we hit a snag.

plight

- a dangerous, difficult situation (predicament, difficulty, quandary): we must direct our efforts toward relieving the plight of children living in poverty.

predicament

- a difficult, unpleasant situation (plight, difficulty, quandary): the club's financial predicament.

quandary

- a state of perplexity over what to do in a difficult situation (plight, predicament, difficulty): Kate is in a quandary.

tribulation

- a cause of great trouble or suffering (suffering, trouble)

adversity (adj. adverse)

- (misfortune, ill luck)

imbroglio

- an extremely complicated, confused situation (problem): Watergate imbroglio.

concession

- a thing that offered to end a disagreement (compromise)

idiom

- cheng yu, such as "rain cats and dogs"

saying, maxim, aphorism, apothegm

- a short statement expressing a general truth

epigram

- a pithy saying or remark expressing an idea in a clever and amusing way

platitude (adj. platitudinous)

- a statement especially with moral content that is used too often to be thoughtful (overused statement): they nodded at every platitude about making sacrifices.

cliché

- a phrase that is overused and betrays a lack of original thought (platitude)

truism

- a statement that is obviously true and says nothing new or interesting (platitude, cliché): ... is a truism.

riddle

- mi yu

consensus

- general agreement (agreement): a consensus of opinion among judges.

solidarity

- unity or agreement of feeling or action, esp. among individuals with a common interest (unity)

credence

- belief in sth as true (belief, acceptance): I am not prepared to give credence to anonymous complaints.

verity

- a true principle or belief, esp. one of fundamental importance: the eternal verities.

notion

- a belief about sth (belief, conviction): children have different notions about the roles of their parents.

conviction

- a firmly held belief (belief, opinion): his conviction that death was no accident.
- a formal declaration that someone is guilty of a criminal offense: his conviction for murder.

certitude

- absolute certainty or conviction that sth is the case (certainty): the question may never be answered with certitude.
- sth that someone firmly believes is true (conviction, notion)

doctrine

- a belief held and taught by a political or other group (creed): church doctrine.

tenet

- a principle or belief, esp. one of the main principles of a religion (principle, doctrine, precept)

precept

- a general rule to regulate behavior or thought (principle, doctrine): moral precepts.

homily

- advice about how someone should behave (sermon): a guest preacher delivered today's homily.

sermon

- a talk on a religious subject, esp. during church service (homily): he preached a sermon.

gospel

- the teaching of Christ: preach the gospel.

creed

- a system of religious belief (faith, religion): people of many creeds and cultures.

credo

- a system of beliefs that guide someone's actions (doctrine, creed)

axiom

- established statement or principle

canon

- a general rule, law or principle (principle, rule): the appointment violated the canons of fair play and equal opportunity.

presupposition

- a thing tacitly assumed at the beginning of an argument (presumption, assumption): your actions are based on some false presuppositions.

supposition

- an uncertain belief (speculation, suspicion): they were working on the supposition that his death was murder.

omen (adj. ominous)

- an event regarded as a portent of good or evil (portent, sign)

imprecation

- a spoken curse

digression (v. digress, adj. digressive)

- a temporary departure from the main subject in writing or speech: let's return to the main topic after that brief digression.

denouement

- the final part of a play, or the climax of a chain of events (finale, coda)

coda

- the final part of a speech, writing or event: his new novel is a kind of coda to his previous books.

soliloquy

- an act of speaking one's thoughts aloud by oneself, esp. in a play (monologue)

monologue

- a speech by one actor in a play (soliloquy)

dissolution

- the ending of an organization or partnership (cessation, ending, termination): the dissolution of their marriage.
- debauched living (debauchery)
- adj. dissolute (debauched)

efficacy (adj. efficacious)

- the ability to produce desired results (effectiveness): there is little information on the efficacy of this treatment.

demise

- a person's death

probate

- the official proving of a will: the will was in probate.

dirge

- a lament for the dead (elegy, lament)

elegy (adj. elegiac)

- a poem of serious reflection, typically a lament for the dead (lament)

eulogy, encomium

- a speech or writing that praises someone, typically who has died: his good friend delivered a brief eulogy.

panegyric

- a public speech or text in praise of someone (eulogy)

paeon

- a song of praise or triumph (hymn)

accolade

- an award granted as a special honor (honor): the ultimate official accolade of a visit by the president.

kudos

- praise and honor received for an achievement (praise, glory, honor): this organization has been getting kudos for their service activities.

commendation (v. commend)

- (praise, accolade): the film deserved the highest commendation.

tribute

- an act, statement or gift that is intended to show gratitude, admiration: this video is a tribute to the musicals of the 40s.

euphemism

- the use of a word to avoid saying sth offensive: the phrase “left to pursue other interests” is a euphemism for “fired”.

melodrama (adj. melodramatic)

- a dramatic piece with exaggerated characters intended to appeal emotions

hyperbole

- exaggerated statements not meant to be taken literally (exaggeration)

idolatry

- worship of idols

paucity

- the presence of sth only in an insufficient quantities or amounts (scarcity, dearth): a paucity of information.

dearth

- lack of sth (scarcity, paucity): there is a dearth of evidence.

pittance

- a very small amount of money: he couldn't live on the pittance his mother sent him.

cornucopia

- an abundant supply of good things: the festival offers a cornucopia of pleasures.

profusion

- an abundance or large quantity of sth (abundance, cornucopia): a rich profusion of wildflowers.

plethora

- an excessive amount of sth (excess, overabundance): a plethora of excuses.

surfeit

- an excessive amount of sth (excess, plethora): a surfeit of food and drink.

glut

- an excessively abundant supply of sth (excess, surfeit, plethora, surplus): there is a glut of cars on the market.

surplus (n. adj.)

- an excess of production or supply over demand (excess, surfeit, glut, plethora)
- an amount of sth left over when requirements have been met

deficit

- the amount by which sth is too small (deficiency)
- an excess of expenditure over income in a given period: an annual operating deficit.

opulence (adj. opulent)

- great wealth or luxuriousness (richness): rooms of spectacular opulence.

plasticity

- the quality of being malleable, easily shaped or molded

strike

- a refusal to work as a form of protest
- a sudden military attack: the threat of nuclear strikes.
- (v.) hit, attack

hallmark

- a typical characteristic or feature of a person or a thing (characteristic): an independent press is one of the hallmarks of a free society.

stigma

- a mark of disgrace (disgrace, shame, dishonor): the stigma of having gone to prison will always be with me.

blemish (n. v.)

- a small mark or flaw that spoils the appearance of sth (flaw, imperfection): the merest blemish on a Rolls Royce might render it unsalable.

accretion

- the process of growth or increase, typically by the gradual accumulation (accumulation): the fund was increased by the accretion of new shareholders.

adjunct (n. adj.)

- a thing added to sth else as a supplementary rather than an essential part (supplement, addition): computer technology is a useful adjunct to learning.
- adjunct professors/faculty: temporary teachers

amenity

- a desirable feature or facility of a place (facility): heating is regarded as a basic amenity.

amulet

- a small piece of jewelry thought to give protection (talisman): the early Christian Church forbade the use of amulets.

anathema

- sth or someone that one vehemently dislikes (abomination)

appellation

- a name or title: the city fully justifies its appellation “the Pearl of the Orient”.

arabesque

- an ornamental design consisting of flowing lines, originally found in Arabic decoration

avocation

- secondary occupation: Dan became so proficient at his avocation.

revelry

- the activity of a noisy party or other celebration

orgy

- a wild party, esp. involving excessive drinking

debauchery (v. debauch)

- excessive indulgence in sensual pleasures

depravity (v. deprave)

- moral corruption (corruption, debauchery, dissipation): a tale of wickedness and depravity.

abandon

- complete lack of inhibition or restraint: she sings with total abandon.

sobriety

- the state of being sober
- seriousness

banter (n. v.)

- the playful and friendly exchange of teasing remarks: that kind of banter isn't appropriate at work.

raillery

- good-humored teasing (banter, mockery)

behemoth

- a huge creature
- big and powerful organization: a grocery chain behemoth.

juggernaut

- huge force destroying everything in its path: some people in British regard American English as a juggernaut sweeping through the British Isles.

coercion (adj. coercive)

- the practice of persuading someone to do sth by using force or threats (force): it wasn't slavery because no coercion was used.

canard

- deliberately misleading information: the old canard that big government can solve all of problems.

hearsay

- information received from other people that one cannot substantiate (rumor)

acronym

- an abbreviation formed from the initial letters

synonym (adj. synonymous)

- a word that means exactly the same as another word

antonym

- a word opposite in meaning to another

omission

- someone or sth that has been left out or excluded (exclusion): there are glaring omissions in the report.

cataclysm

- a large-scale and violent event in the world (disaster): the cataclysm of the first world war.

calamity

- an event causing sudden damage (disaster): the fire was the latest calamity to strike the area.

fiasco

- a thing that is a complete failure, esp. in a humiliating way (failure, debacle): his plans turned into a fiasco.

debacle

- a sudden failure (failure, fiasco): the economic debacle that became known as the Great Depression.

blunder

- a stupid or careless mistake (mistake)

gaffe

- an unintentional act or remark causing embarrassment (blunder): an unforgivable social gaffe.

cornerstone

- an important quality on which a particular thing is based (foundation, basis): trust is a cornerstone of human relations.

hype

- intensive publicity or promotion (publicity): she relied on hype and headlines to stoke up interest in her music.

dross

- sth that has no value (rubbish, junk): so much of what's on TV is pure dross.

potion

- a liquid with magical properties: a healing potion.

elixir

- a magical potion (potion): an elixir guaranteed to induce love.

sorcery

- the use of magic, esp. black magic (witchcraft)

necromancy

- the practice of communicating with the dead and predict the future (sorcery, witchcraft)

fissure (n. v.)

- a long, narrow opening made by cracking, esp. in rock (crevice, crack)

crevice

- a narrow opening or fissure, esp. in rock (crack, fissure)

groove

- a long, narrow cut esp. made to guide motion (furrow, channel)

strait

- a narrow passage of water connecting two seas (channel)

conduit

- a channel for conveying water (channel)
- a tube for protecting electric wiring

ambrosia

- the food of the gods, very pleasant food: the chocolate mousse is pure ambrosia.

repast

- a meal

marsh, morass, quagmire

- (swamp, difficult situation)

flux

- the action of flowing out: the flux of men and women moving back and forth.
- continuous change (the whole system is in a state of flux)

fusion

- the process of joining two or more things together to form a single entity: nuclear fusion

fission

- the action of dividing sth into two or more parts: nuclear fission.

guise

- outward appearance, esp. intended to deceive: he visited in the guise of an inspector.

conspiracy (v. conspire)

- a secret plan by a group to do sth harmful (scheme, machination, intrigue, collusion): a conspiracy to destroy the government.

machination (v. machinate)

- a plot or scheme (conspiracy, intrigue, collusion)

collusion (v. collude)

- secret or illegal conspiracy (conspiracy, intrigue, machination)

Machiavellian (v. machinate)

- scheming and unscrupulous, esp. in one's career (conspiracy)

gambit

- an action or remark that is intended to achieve an advantage and usually entails risks (tactic): his resignation was a tactical gambit.

itinerary (adj. n. itinerant)

- a planned route or journey

peregrination (v. peregrinate)

- a long journey

embankment, levee

- a wall or bank built to prevent a river flooding an area

litany

- a series of petitions or recital: a litany of complaints.

luster

- a gentle soft glow, esp. of a reflective surface: the luster of the Milky way.

whirlpool, vortex, maelstrom

- a rapidly rotating mass of water

ripple (v. n.)

- a small wave or series of waves on the surface of water (wave, wavelet): he blew ripples in his coffee; economic ripples.

turmoil

- a state of great disturbance and uncertainty (turbulence): the country was in turmoil.

upheaval

- a violent or sudden change or disruption to sth (disruption, disturbance, turbulence): major upheavals in the financial markets.

menagerie

- a collection of wild animals kept together
- a string or diverse collection of people or things

miscellany (adj. miscellaneous)

- a collection of different items (assortment, mixture)

assortment

- a miscellaneous collection of things or people (miscellany, mixture): the room was filled with an assortment of clothes.

hodgepodge

- a confused mixture (mixture): his living room was a hodgepodge of modern furniture and antiques.

trove

- a store of valuable or delightful things: the museum's trove of antique treasure.

minutiae (adj. minute)

- the small or trivial details of sth: the minutiae of everyday life.

microcosm

- a small place or situation that has the same characteristics as sth much larger: what's happened to us is a microcosm of what's happened to industry in America.

modicum

- a small quantity of sth esp. considered desirable (fragment): anyone with a modicum of common sense would see the problem.

shard

- a piece of broken metal, glass or rock: shards of glass flew in all direction.

debris

- scattered pieces of waste or remains (waste): some of the material is the debris of exploded starts.

effluent

- liquid waste or sewage discharged into a river or the sea (sewage): the bay was contaminated with the effluent from an industrial plant.

fume

- gas, smoke or vapor that smells strongly or is dangerous to inhale

nexus

- a central and important point or place: Wall Street is the nexus of America's financial system.
- a connected group of series: a nexus of ideas.
- a connection linking two or more things: the nexus between industry and political power

raiment

- clothing

garment

- an item of clothing

cloak (n. v.)

- an outdoor garment that hangs loosely from the shoulders

ramification

- a consequence of an action or event, esp. when complex and unwelcome
(consequence): any change is bound to have legal ramifications.

vicissitude

- a change of circumstances or fortune, typically an unwelcome one (change, shift):
vicissitudes of fortune.

rebus

- a puzzle in which words are represented by combinations of pictures and letters; for
instance, apex might be represented by a picture of an ape followed by a letter X.

reprise (n. v.)

- repetition, esp. of a piece of music

rubric

- a heading on a document; protocol

stricture

- a restriction on a person or activity (constraint, restriction, limitation, curb): religious
strictures on everyday life.
- a critical remark or instruction

tome

- a book, esp. a large, scholarly one: a weighty tome.

treatise

- a written work dealing formally with a subject (essay)

corpus

- a collection of written texts: Supreme Court rewrote much of the corpus of
constitutional law.

travesty

- a false, absurd, distorted representation of sth: the musical comedy version of his play
was a travesty of his work.

vogue

- the prevailing fashion or style at a particular time (fashion, trend)

pitfall

- a hidden danger or difficulty (hazard, danger, risk): home schooling has its pitfalls.

account

- a report or description of an event or experience

stench

- a strong and very unpleasant smell

resurgence (adj. resurgent)

- an increase or revival after a period of little activity: a resurgence of interest in religion.

conflagration

- an extensive fire that destroys a great deal of land or property (fire): the conflagration spread rapidly through the wooden buildings.

streak

- a long, thin line or mark of a different substance or color from its surroundings
- an element of a specified kind in someone's character (element): there is a streak of insanity in the family.

bridle

- the headgear used to control a horse

veneer

- a thin decorative covering of fine wood or other: dental veneers.

earthenware

- (pottery)

medium

- a means of doing sth (means): using the latest technology as a medium for job creation.

genesis

- the origin or mode of formation of sth (origin, source): the tale had its genesis in fireside stories.

inception

- the establishment or starting point of an institution or activity (beginning, genesis): since its inception, the Internet has contributed a lot to civilization.

provenance

- the place of origin or earliest known history of sth (origin, source): determine the provenance of pottery shards.

quest

- an arduous search for sth (search): the quest for a reliable vaccine has intensified.

pretext

- a reason given in justification of an action that is not the real reason (excuse)

boon

- a thing that is helpful or beneficial (blessing)

chimera

- a thing that is hoped but in fact is illusory or impossible to achieve (illusion, delusion): the economic sovereignty you claim to defend is chimera.

deterrent (v. deter)

- a thing that discourages someone from doing sth (disincentive, discouragement)

disposal (v. dispose)

- the action or process of throwing away sth

strain

- a force tending to pull or stretch sth to an extreme or damaging degree
- an excessive demand on the resources of sth (pressure): the accusations put a strain on relations between the two countries.

figure skate

- a type of ice skate using a boot and a blade

lattice

- a structure with square shapes between (grid)

contingency (adj. contingent)

- a future event or circumstance that is possible but cannot be predicted with certainty (eventuality, incident): a detailed contract that attempts to provide for all possible contingencies.

eventuality

- a possible event or outcome: you must be prepared for all eventualities.

revelation

- the action of making fact known (disclosure): revelation about his personal life.

emendation

- the process of making a revision or correction to a text

knot

- a fastening made by tying a piece of string or rope (tie, twist)
- related. knotty: (of a problem or matter) extremely difficult (intricate, complicated, involved, convoluted)

purview

- the scope of the influence or concerns (scope): such as case might be within the purview of the legislation.

sieve (v. n.)

- a utensil consisting of a wire or plastic mesh held in a frame (filter)

lump

- a compact mass of a substance, esp. one without a definite shape (chunk)
- a swelling under the skin: she found a lump under her arm.

overhaul (v. n.)

- a thorough examination of machine or system, with repairs if necessary
- v. (service, maintain, repair)

haul (v. n.)

- a distance to be traversed: it is a long haul to Denver.
- an amount of sth. that was possessed illegally: they escaped with a haul of antiques.

adobe

- a kind of clay used as a building material

granary

- a storehouse for grain

orchard

- a piece of land planted with fruit trees

Others

albeit

- (although)

nonetheless

- (nevertheless, however)

whereas

- in contrast or comparison with the fact that

whereby

- by which: a system whereby people could vote by telephone.

Words for Articles

attainable/unattainable

an indefensible point/explanation -> untenable; opposition: unassailable

anxious, worried -> apprehensive

lack of sth -> dearth, paucity: a dearth of evidence, a paucity of information

different -> discordant, divergent, disparate (completely different)

difference -> discrepancy (c.), disparity (c.)

have negative effect/influence on -> impinge on

the ineluctable truth

obstruct, hinder -> impede