

Barrons 333 - High Frequency Words

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abate: subside or moderate
 aberrant: abnormal or deviant
 abeyance: suspended action

4. **abscond:** depart secretly and hide

5. **abstemious:** sparing in eating and drinking; temperate

6. admonish: warn; reprove

7. adulterate: make impure by adding inferior or tainted substances

8. aesthetic: artistic; dealing with or capable of appreciating the beautiful

9. **aggregate:** gather; accumulate

10. alacrity: cheerful promptness; eagerness

11. alleviate: relieve

12. **amalgamate:** combine; unite in one body

13. **ambiguous:** unclear or doubtful in meaning

14. ambivalence: the state of having contradictory or conflicting emotional attitudes

15. **ameliorate:** improve

16. **anachronism:** something or someone misplaced in time

17. analogous: comparable

18. anarchy: absence of governing body; state of disorder

19. anomalous: abnormal; irregular20. antipathy: aversion; dislike21. apathy: lack of caring; indifference

22. **appease:** pacify or soothe; relieve

23. **apprise:** inform

24. approbation: approval

25. appropriate: acquire; take possession of for one's own use

26. **arduous:** hard; strenuous

27. **artless:** without guile; open and honest 28. **ascetic:** practicing self-denial; austere

29. **assiduous:** diligent

30. assuage: ease or lessen (pain); satisfy (hunger); soothe (anger)

31. **attenuate:** make thinner; weaken or lessen (in density, force, degree)

32. audacious: daring; bold

33. austere: forbiddingly stern; severely simple and unornamented

34. **aver:** assert confidently or declare; as used in law, state formally as a fact

35. banal: hackneyed; commonplace; trite; lacking originality

36. belie: contradict; give a false impression

37. **beneficent:** kindly; doing good

38. **bolster:** support; reinforce

39. bombastic: pompous; using inflated language

40. **boorish:** rude; insensitive

41. **burgeon:** grow forth; send out buds

42. **burnish:** make shiny by rubbing; polish

43. **buttress:** support; prop up

44. **cacophonous:** discordant; inharmonious

45. capricious: unpredictable; fickle

46. castigation: punishment; severe criticism

47. **catalyst:** agent that stimulates or precipitates a reaction,

development, or change

48. caustic: burning; sarcastically biting

49. **chicanery:** trickery; deception

50. coagulate: thicken; congeal; clot

51. **coda:** concluding section of a musical or literary composition;

something that summarizes

52. **cogent:** convincing

53. **commensurate:** corresponding in extent, degree, amount, etc.;

proportionate

54. compendium: brief, comprehensive summary

55. **complaisant:** trying to please; overly polite; obliging

56. **compliant:** yielding; conforming to requirements

57. **conciliatory:** reconciling; soothing

58. **condone:** overlook; forgive; give tacit approval; excuse

59. **confound:** confuse; puzzle

60. **connoisseur:** person competent to act as a judge of art, etc.; a

lover of an art

61. **contention:** claim; thesis

62. contentious: quarrelsome

63. contrite: penitent

64. conundrum: riddle; difficult problem

65. **converge:** approach; tend to meet; come together

66. convoluted: coiled around; involved; intricate

67. **craven:** cowardly

68. daunt: intimidate; frighten

69. decorum: propriety; orderliness and good taste in manners

70. **default:** failure to act

1. deference: courteous regard for another's wish

72. delineate: portray; depict; sketch

73. denigrate: blacken

74. **deride:** ridicule; make fun of

75. **derivative:** unoriginal; obtained from another source

76. **desiccate:** dry up

77. **desultory:** aimless; haphazard; digressing at random

78. **deterrent:** something that discourages; hindrance

79. **diatribe:** bitter scolding; invective

80. **dichotomy:** split; branching into two parts (especially

contradictory ones)

81. diffidence: shyness 124. equivocate: lie, mislead; attempt to conceal the truth 82. **diffuse:** wordy; rambling; spread out (like a gas) 125. erudite: learned; scholarly 83. **digression:** wandering away from the subject 126. **esoteric:** hard to understand; known only to the chosen few 84. **dirge:** lament with music 127. eulogy: expression of praise, often on the occasion of someone's death 85. **disabuse:** correct a false impression; undeceive 128. **euphemism:** mild expression in place of an unpleasant one 86. **discerning:** mentally quick and observant; having insight 129. exacerbate: worsen; embitter 87. **discordant:** not harmonious; conflicting 130. exculpate: clear from blame 88. **discredit:** defame; destroy confidence in; disbelieve 131. exigency: urgent situation; pressing needs or demands; state of 89. **discrepancy:** lack of consistency; difference requiring immediate attention 90. discrete: separate; unconnected; consisting of distinct parts 132. extrapolation: projection; superfluous 91. **disingenuous:** lacking genuine candor; insincere 133. **facetious:** joking (often inappropriately); humorous 92. **disinterested:** unprejudiced 134. **facilitate:** help bring about; make less difficult 93. **disjointed:** lacking coherence 135. fallacious: false; misleading 94. **dismiss:** eliminate from consideration; reject 136. fatuous: brainless; inane; foolish, yet smug 95. **disparage:** belittle 137. fawning: trying to please by behaving obsequiously, flattering 96. disparate: basically different; unrelated or cringing 97. dissemble: disguise; pretend 138. felicitous: apt; suitably expressed; well chosen 98. **disseminate:** distribute; spread; scatter (like seeds) 139. **fervor:** glowing ardor; intensity of feeling 99. **dissolution:** disintegration; looseness in morals 140. **flag:** droop; grow feeble 100. dissonance: discord; opposite of harmony 141. **fledgling:** inexperienced 101. distend: expand; swell out 142. **flout:** reject; mock; show contempt for 102. **distill:** purify; refine; concentrate 143. **foment:** stir up; instigate 103. diverge: vary; go in different directions from the same point 144. forestall: prevent by taking action in advance 104. divest: strip; deprive 145. **frugality:** thrift; economy document: provide written evidence 146. **futile:** useless; hopeless; ineffectual dogmatic: opinionated; arbitrary; doctrinal 147. **gainsay:** deny dormant: sleeping; lethargic; latent 148. garrulous: loquacious; wordy; talkative **dupe:** someone easily fooled 149. goad: urge on ebullient: showing excitement; overflowing with enthusiasm 150. **gouge:** overcharge 110. eclectic: selective; composed of elements drawn from disparate 151. **grandiloquent:** pompous; bombastic; using high-sounding sources language 111. **efficacy:** power to produce desired effect 152. **gregarious:** sociable 112. effrontery: impudence; shameless boldness; sheer nerve; 153. guileless: without deceit presumptuousness 154. gullible: easily deceived 113. **elegy:** poem or song expressing lamentation 155. harangue: long, passionate, and vehement speech 114. elicit: draw out by discussion 156. homogenous: of the same kind 115. embellish: adorn; ornament; enhance, as a story 157. **hyperbole:** exaggeration; overstatement empirical: base on experience 158. **iconoclast:** attacking cherished traditions 117. emulate: imitate; rival 159. idolatry: worship of idols; excessive admiration 118. endemic: prevailing among a specific group of people or an 160. immutable: unchangeable area 161. **impair:** injure; hurt 119. enervate: weaken 162. impassive: without feeling; imperturbable; stoical engender: cause; produce 163. **impede:** hinder, block 121. enhance: increase; improve 164. impermeable: impervious; not permitting passage through its 122. ephemeral: short-lived; fleeting

substance

123. **equanimity:** calmness of temperament; composure

165. imperturbable: calm; placid 208. maverick: rebel; nonconformist 166. **impervious:** impenetrable; incapable of being damaged or 209. mendacious: lying; habitually dishonest 210. metamorphosis: change of form 167. implacable: incapable of being pacified 211. **meticulous:** excessively careful; painstaking; scrupulous 168. implicit: understood but not stated 212. **misanthrope:** one who hates mankind 169. **implode:** burst inward 213. **mitigate:** lessen in intensity; moderate; appease **inadvertently:** unintentionally; by oversight; carelessly 214. **mollify:** soothe 171. **inchoate:** recently begun; rudimentary; elementary 215. morose: ill-humored; sullen; melancholy incongruity: lack of harmony; absurdity 216. mundane: worldly as opposed to spiritual; everyday 173. inconsequential: insignificant; unimportant 217. negate: cancel out; nullify; deny 174. **incorporate:** introduce something into a larger whole; 218. **neophyte:** recent convert; beginner combine; unite 219. **obdurate:** stubborn 175. **indeterminate:** uncertain; not clearly fixed; indefinite 220. **obsequious:** slavishly attentive; servile; sycophantic 176. **indigence:** poverty 221. obviate: make unnecessary; get rid of 177. indolent: lazy 222. occlude: shut; close 178. **inert:** inactive; lacking power to move 223. officious: meddlesome; excessively pushy in offering one's 179. ingenuous: naive and trusting; young; unsophisticated services 180. **inherent:** firmly established by nature or habit 224. **onerous:** burdensome 181. **innocuous:** harmless 225. **opprobium:** infamy; vilification 182. insensible: unconscious; unresponsive 226. **oscillate:** vibrate pendulumlike; waver 183. insinuate: hint; imply; creep in 227. ostentatious: showy; pretentious; trying to attract attention 184. insipid: lacking in flavor; dull 228. paragon: model of perfection 185. insularity: narrow-mindedness; isolation 229. **partisan:** one-sided; prejudiced; committed to a party intractable: unruly; stubborn; unyielding 230. **pathological:** pertaining to disease 187. intransigence: refusal of any compromise; stubbornness 231. paucity: scarcity inundate: overwhelm; flood; submerge 232. **pedantic:** showing off learning; bookish 189. inured: accustomed; hardened 233. **penchant:** strong inclination; liking invective: abuse 234. **penury:** severe poverty; stinginess 191. irascible: irritable; easily angered 235. perennial: something long-lasting 192. irresolute: uncertain how to act; weak 236. **perfidious:** treacherous; disloyal 193. **itinerary:** plan of a trip 237. **perfunctory:** superficial; not thorough; lacking interest, care, **laconic:** brief and to the point or enthusiasm 195. lassitude: languor; weariness 238. **permeable:** penetrable; porous; allowing liquids or gas to pass through latent: potential but undeveloped; dormant; hidden 239. **pervasive:** spread throughout 197. laud: praise 240. **phlegmatic:** calm; not easily disturbed **lethargic:** drowsy; dull 241. piety: devoutness; reverence for God levee: earthen or stone embankment to prevent flooding 242. **placate:** pacify; conciliate levity: lack of seriousness or steadiness; frivolity 243. **plasticity:** ability to be molded log: record of a voyage or flight; record of day-to-day activities 244. platitude: trite remark; commonplace statement loquacious: talkative 245. **plethora:** excess; overabundance lucid: easily understood; clear; intelligible 246. **plummet:** fall sharply luminous: shining; issuing light 247. **porous:** full of pores; like a sieve 205. magnanimity: generosity 248. **pragmatic:** practical (as opposed to idealistic) 206. **malingerer:** one who feigns illness to escape duty 249. **preamble:** introductory statement 207. **malleable:** capable of being shaped by pounding;

impressionable

250. precarious: uncertain; risky

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251. precipitate: rash; premature; hasty; sudden
                                                                       293. shard: fragment; generally of pottery
252. precursor: forerunner; harbinger
                                                                       294. skeptic: doubter; person who suspends judgment until having
                                                                          examined the evidence supporting a point of view
253. presumptuous: arrogant; taking liberties
                                                                       295. solicious: worried, concerned
254. prevaricate: lie
                                                                       296. soporific: sleep-causing; marked by sleepiness
255. pristine: characteristic of earlier times; primitive; unspoiled
                                                                       297. specious: seemingly reasonable but incorrect; misleading
256. probity: uprightness; incorruptibility
                                                                          (often intentional)
257. problematic: doubtful; unsettled; questionable; perplexing
                                                                       298. spectrum: colored band produced when a beam of light passes
258. prodigal: wasteful; reckless with money
                                                                          through a prism
259. profound: deep; not superficial; complete
                                                                       299. sporadic: occurring irregularly
260. prohibitive: inclined to prevent or forbid
                                                                       300. stigma: token of disgrace; brand
261. proliferate: grow rapidly; spread; multiply
                                                                       301. stint: be thrifty; set limits
262. propensity: natural inclination
                                                                       302. stipulate: make express conditions, specify
263. propitiate: appease
                                                                       303. stolid: dull; impassive
264. propriety: fitness; correct conduct
                                                                       304. striated: marked with parallel bands; grooved
265. proscribe: ostracize; banish; outlaw
                                                                       305. strut: supporting bar
266. pungent: stinging; sharp in taste or smell; caustic
                                                                       306. strut: pompous walk
267. qualified: limited; restricted
                                                                       307. subpoena: writ summoning a witness to appear
268. quibble: minor objection or complaint
                                                                       308. subside: settle down; descend; grow quiet
269. quiescent: at rest; dormant; temporarily inactive
                                                                       309. substantiate: establish by evidence; verify; support
270. rarefied: made less dense (of a gas)
                                                                       310. supersede: cause to be set aside; replace; make obsolete
271. recalcitrant: obstinately stubborn; determined to resist
                                                                       311. supposition: hypothesis; surmise
   authority; unruly
                                                                       312. tacit: understood; not put into words
272. recant: disclaim or disavow; retract a previous statement;
                                                                       313. tangential: peripheral; only slightly connected; digressing
   openly confess error
                                                                       314. tenuous: thin; rare; slim
273. recluse: hermit; loner
                                                                       315. tirade: extended scolding; denunciation; harangue
274. recondite: abstruse; profound; secret
                                                                       316. torpor: lethargy; sluggishness; dormancy
275. refractory: stubborn; unmanageable
                                                                       317. tortuous: winding; full of curves
276. refute: disprove
                                                                       318. tractable: docile; easily managed
277. relegate: banish to an inferior position; delegate; assign
                                                                       319. transgression: violation of a law; sin
278. reproach: express disapproval or disappointment
                                                                       320. truculence: aggressiveness; ferocity
279. reprobate: person hardened by sin, devoid of a sense of
                                                                       321. vacillate: waver; fluctuate
   decency
280. repudiate: disown; disavow
                                                                       322. venerate: revere
281. rescind: cancel
                                                                       323. veracious: truthful
282. resolution: determination
                                                                       324. verbose: wordy
283. resolve: determination; firmness of purpose
                                                                       325. viable: practical or workable; capable of maintaining life
    reticent: reserved; uncommunicative; inclined to silence
                                                                       326. viscous: sticky, gluey
285. reverent: respectful; worshipful
                                                                       327. vituperative: abusive; scolding
    sage: person celebrated for wisdom
                                                                       328. volatile: changeable; explosive; evaporating rapidly
287. salubrious: healthful
                                                                       329. warranted: justified; authorized
   sanction: approve; ratify
                                                                       330. wary: very cautious
289. satiate: satisfy fully
                                                                       331. welter: turmoil; bewildering jumble
290. saturate: soak thoroughly
                                                                       332. whimsical: capricious; fanciful
291. savor: enjoy; have a distinctive flavor, smell, or quality
                                                                       333. zealot: fanatic; person who shows excessive zeal
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292. **secrete:** hide away or cache; produce and release a substance

into an organism