

# Quizlet

GRE

200 terms

Jessica\_Stamp3

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pedantic

boringly scholarly or academic OR narrow focus  
on trivial



laconic

Using few words



equivocal

Ambiguous; intentionally misleading



harangue	noisy, attacking speech	☆
galvanize	To startle into sudden activity	☆
gossamer	(adj.) thin, light, delicate, insubstantial; (n.) a very thin, light cloth	☆
didactic	intended to teach; inclined to teach excessively	☆
dogmatic	dictatorial in one's opinions	☆
gainsay	Declare false, deny; oppose	☆

mawkish	excessively sentimental	☆
prescience	foreknowledge of events; knowing of events prior to their occurring	☆
querulous	complaining; grumbling	☆
recondite	Difficult to understand	☆
deferential	respectful	☆
reticent	Quiet	☆

gall	rude, impertinent, bitter anger	☆
torpor	extreme mental and physical sluggishness	☆
ephemeral	Lasting a short time	☆
quotidian	occurring daily; commonplace	☆
refractory	Stubbornly disobedient, hard to manage	☆
travesty	mockery	☆

spurious	Not genuine; false	☆
ascetic	One who leads a life of self-denial and contemplation; absent of luxury	☆
languid	(adj.) drooping; without energy, sluggish	☆
soporific	causing sleep or lethargy	☆
largess	generous giving (as of money) to others who may seem inferior	☆
apochryphal	false, spurious, of doubtful origin	☆

intransigent	Refusing to compromise	☆
abstruse	difficult to understand; obscure	☆
provincial	Unsophisticated	☆
iconoclastic	attacking cherished traditions	☆
tortuous	Twisting, winding, complex; devious, not straightforward	☆
discrete	Distinct, separate	☆

circumscribe	limit	☆
arcane	Known or understood by only a few	☆
hegemony	the domination of one state or group over its allies	☆
inimical	Hostile, adverse, harmful	☆
inveterate	(adj.) firmly established, long-standing; habitual	☆
propitious	Favorable, giving good signs for the future, likely to work out; kind or forgiving	☆

precipitous	done in a hurry OR very steep	☆
intrepid	fearless	☆
pedestrian	Ordinary, dull, commonplace, lacking imagination	☆
austere	severe or stern in appearance; undecorated	☆
repudiate	To reject the validity of	☆
sycophant	a self-serving flatterer; yes-man	☆



winsome	(adj.) charming, attractive, pleasing (often suggesting a childlike charm and innocence)	☆
pernicious	(adj.) extremely harmful; deadly, fatal	☆
specious	(adj.) deceptive, apparently good or valid but lacking real merit	☆
deleterious	(adj.) harmful, injurious	☆
polemic	controversy; argument; verbal attack	☆
askance	look with suspicion, distrust, or disapproval	☆

mendacity	untruthfulness	☆
dilatory	intended to delay	☆
posit	assume as fact	☆
capricious	Changing one's mind quickly and often	☆
esoteric	Intended for or understood by only a small group	☆
erudite	Scholarly	☆
harried	To be troubled or bothered	



nonplussed	bewildered	☆
efficacious	Effective, producing results	☆
reprobate	A morally unprincipled person	☆
profuse	(adj.) very abundant; given or flowing freely	☆
screed	noun: an abusive rant (often tedious)	☆
indignant	Feeling or showing anger or annoyance at what is perceived as unfair treatment	☆

demure	(adj.) sober or serious in manner, modest	☆
truculent	fierce and cruel; eager to fight	☆
cow	to intimidate	☆
fractious	unruly; rebellious	☆
feckless	adjective: lazy and irresponsible	☆
ponderous	Heavy and slow moving	☆

depravity	moral corruption	☆
turpitude	depravity, moral corruption	☆
vicissitude	a change or variation; ups and downs	☆
factionous	causing disagreement, dissension	☆
expansive	adjective: communicative, and prone to talking in a sociable manne	☆
arrant	(adj.) thoroughgoing, out-and-out; shameless, blatant	☆

churlish	(adj.) lacking politeness or good manners; lacking sensitivity; difficult to work with or deal with; rude	☆
sedulous	(adj.) persistent, diligent	☆
choleric	Easily angered	☆
precipitate	to throw violently or bring about abruptly; lacking deliberation; hasty, rash	☆
perfunctory	done in a routine way; indifferent	☆
overweening	excessively arrogant; overbearing	☆

prosaic	(adj.) dull, lacking in distinction and originality; matter-of-fact, straightforward; characteristic of prose, not poetic	☆
alacrity	Cheerful or speedy willingness, eagerness	☆
anathema	(n.) an object of intense dislike; a curse or strong denunciation (often used adjectivally without the article)	☆
nadir	Lowest point	☆
exegesis	scholarly explanation or interpretation	☆

catholic	Universal, broad-minded	☆
saturnine	gloomy; sluggish	☆
supercilious	Arrogant, disdainful	☆
kowtow	verb: to bow or act in a subservient manne	☆
beg	assume something is true	☆
chary	wary; cautious; sparing	☆
byzantine	extremely intricate or complicated in structure.	





untoward	not favorable, troublesome, unruly	☆
apostate	one who renounces a religious faith	☆
attenuate	to reduce in force or degree; to weaken	☆
propitiate	to conciliate; to appease	☆
arch	deliberately teasing	☆
limpid	clear, transparent	☆

impecunious	poor; having no money	☆
quixotic	idealistic, impractical	☆
sartorial	pertaining to tailors	☆
sangfroid	composure or coolness, especially in trying circumstances	☆
peremptory	Dictatorial	☆
Pollyannaish	extremely optimistic	☆

hedge	Avoid commitment by leaving provisions for withdrawal or changing one's mind; protect a bet by also betting on the other side	☆
invective	abusive language	☆
bilious	bad tempered; cross	☆
malapropism	a word humorously misused	☆
expurgate	(v.) to remove objectionable passages or words from a written text; to cleanse, purify	☆
schadenfruede	taking pleasure in the pain of others	☆

benighted	unenlightened, ignorant	☆
histrionic	Overly dramatic, theatrical	☆
imbroglio	difficult or embarrassing situation	☆
quisling	traitor	☆
fell	adjective: terribly evil	☆
arriviste	noun: a person who has recently reached a position of power; a social climber	☆

remonstrate	(v.) to argue or plead with someone against something, protest against, object to	☆
apotheosis	elevation to divine status; the perfect example of something	☆
pyrrhic	A win that cost so much as to not even be worth it; an ancient Greek warlike dance.	☆
execrate	curse; express abhorrence for; detest	☆
sybarite	Person devoted to pleasure and luxury	☆



blinkered	adjective: to have a limited outlook or understanding, myopic	☆
tendentious	leaning toward a controversial view	☆
sanguine	(adj) cheerfully optimistic, hopeful; reddish, ruddy (as in rosy-red cheeks indicating health or vitality)	☆
palimpsest	the vague traces of previous something can be seen	☆
jejune	immature OR lacking flavor	☆

mulct	verb: to defraud or swindle	☆
parvenu	noun: a person who has suddenly become wealthy, but not socially accepted as part of a higher class	☆
excoriate	scold with biting harshness; censure strongly; strip the skin off	☆
protean	versatile	☆
cupidity	Greed	☆
vituperate	to abuse verbally; berate	☆
sententious	adjective: to be moralizing, usually in a pompous sense	☆

factitious	produced artificially; not genuine	☆
phantasmagorical	adjective: illusive; unreal	☆
venial	easily excused; pardonable	☆
provident	providing for future need, frugal	☆
hagiographic	adjective: excessively flattering toward someone's life or work	☆
maunder	to talk or move aimlessly, mutter	☆



raconteur	witty, skillful storyteller	☆
recapitulation	a summary	☆
approbatory	Expressing approval.	☆
anodyne	something that calms or soothes pain; inoffensive	☆
redoubtable	awe-inspiring; worthy of honor or fear	☆
importune	ask urgently	☆

illustrious	(adj.) very famous, distinguished	☆
primacy	The state of being first or most important	☆

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