

Important Words for CAT

amphitheater (BRITISH = amphitheatre) = oval-shaped theater
anathema = curse, ban
annul = cancel, nullify
anodyne = pain soothing
anoint = consecrate, to apply oil, especially as a sacred rite
anonymity = state of being anonymous, having no name
antediluvian = ancient, obsolete, pre historic
antithesis = direct opposite
apathetic = unconcerned, indifferent
aphasia = inability to speak or use words
aphorism = maxim, old saying
aplomb = poise, confidence
apocryphal = a doubtful authenticity, not genuine, fictional
apostate = one who abandons one's faith
apotheosis = Deification, glorification
approbation = praise, official approval
archaic = Antiquated, from an earlier time
archipelago = group of islands
ardor (BRITISH = ardour) = great emotion or passion
arraign = indict, to call to court to answer a charge
arrogate = seize without right, to demand or claim arrogantly
ascendancy = powerful state
ascribe = to attribute
ashen = resembling ashes, or deathly pale
asinine = stupid
askance = to view with suspicion, scornfully
askew = crooked, tilted
aspersion = slander, false rumor, damaging report
assail = attack
assent = to express agreement
assiduous = hard-working, diligent, persistent
assuage = lessen (pain), to make less severe, ease
astringent = causing contraction, severe, harsh
asunder = apart, into different parts
atone = make amends for a wrong
august = noble, dignified, awe-inspiring, venerable
avow = declare
awry = crooked, askew, amiss
axiom = self-evident truth, premise, postulate
bacchanal = orgy, drunkenly festive
baleful = hostile, malignant, harmful with evil intentions
balk = hesitate, refuse, shirk, prevent
banal = trite, overly common
bane = poison, nuisance, something causing ruin
bastion = fort, fortification, stronghold
beguile = deceive, seduce, mislead
behemoth = monster, huge creature
beleaguer = besiege, to harass, plague
berate = to scold harshly

bestial = beast-like, brutal
bestow = to give as a gift, grant
bevy = group
bicker = quarrel, to have a petty argument
bilious = ill-tempered
bilk = swindle, cheat, defraud
blandish = to coax with flattering, grovel
blight = decay, afflict, destroy
blithe = Joyful, cheerful, or without appropriate thought
bombast = pompous speech
bourgeois = middle class
broach = bring up a topic of conversation
brusque = curt, rough and abrupt in manner
bulwark = fortification
burgeon = sprout or flourish
burly = husky, brawny
cabal = plot, a secret group seeking to overturn something
cadaver = corpse, dead body
cajole = encourage, coax, flatter
calumny = Slander, false and malicious accusation
canard = hoax, a lie
candor (BRITISH = candour) = frankness, honesty of expression
canvass = survey, examine thoroughly
capricious = fickle, impulsive, whimsical, without much thought
careen = swerve, to lean on one side
castigate = criticize, punish, chastise
cataclysm = catastrophe, disaster
cathartic = purgative, purifying, cleansing
catholic = universal, worldly
caucus = a small group within an organization or a meeting of such a group
cavil = quibble, raise trivial objections
cede = transfer ownership, to surrender possession of something
ensorious = condemning speech, severely critical
chagrin = shame, embarrassment, humiliation
chalice = goblet, cup
chary = cautious, watchful, extremely shy
cherubic = sweet, innocent
chicanery = trickery, fraud, deception
chide = scold, express disapproval
chimerical = imaginary, impossible
choleric = easily angered, short-tempered
circumlocution = roundabout expression
circumspect = cautious, wary
circumvent = evade, avoid, to go around
citadel = fortress or stronghold
clamor (BRITISH = clamour) = noisy outcry
cleave = to split or separate, to stick, adhere
clemency = forgiveness, merciful leniency
cloister = refuge, to confine, seclude
coalesce = combine, to grow together
coddle = to pamper, baby, treat indulgently

cogent = well-put, convincing, logically forceful

cognate = from the same source, related

cognomen = family name, any name, nickname

colloquy = conference

collusion = conspiracy, collaboration, complicity

commodious = spacious

complicity = guilt by association, knowing partnership in wrong doing

compunction = remorse, regret

concur = To agree

conflagration = large fire, big, destructive fire
confluence = flowing together, meeting of two streams, meeting place
confound = bewilder, to baffle, perplex
congeal = solidify, as a liquid freezing, to become thick or solid
conjecture = hypothesis, speculation, prediction
conjure = summon, to evoke a spirit, cast a spell
consanguinity = related by blood, kinship
consecrate = make holy, dedicate to a goal, to declare sacred
construe = interpret or to explain
continence = self-control, self-restraint
contrite = apologetic, deeply sorrowful and repentant for a wrong
contusion = A bruise
conundrum = enigma, puzzle or problem with no solution, riddle
convivial = sociable, festive, fond of eating, drinking, and people
convoke = convene, summon, to call together
coquette = woman who flirts
corroborate = to confirm, verify
coterie = small group, group of people with a common interest or purpose
countenance = facial expression, to favor, support
cower = showing fear, to cringe in fear
crass = crude, unrefined
craven = cowardly
credence = Belief, acceptance of something as true or real
creed = Belief or principle
cringe = cower, to shrink in fear
culpable = blameworthy, guilty, responsible for wrong
cupidity = greed
curmudgeon = boor, cranky person
dally = procrastinate, to act playfully or waste time
debase = to degrade, or lower in quality or stature
debauch = to corrupt, seduce from virtue or duty
debutante = a girl debuting into society
decadence = deterioration, decay (e.g. moral or cultural)
decapitate = kill by beheading
deciduous = shedding leaves, short-lived, temporary
decorous = seemly, proper, tasteful, socially correct
decry = castigate, to belittle, openly condemn
deference = courteously yielding to another, respect, honor
defile = pollute, to make unclean or dishonor
deft = skillful, dexterous
defunct = extinct, no longer existing, dead
deleterious = harmful, destructive, detrimental
deluge = a flood, to submerge, overwhelm
demagogue = An unprincipled politician, leader
demean = to degrade, humiliate, humble
demur = take exception, to express doubts or objections
denigrate = defame, to slur or blacken someone's reputation
depravity = immorality, sinfulness
deprecate = belittle, disparage

deride = To ridicule, to mock, make fun of
desecrate = profane, to abuse something sacred
desiccate = dehydrate, to dry completely
despondent = depressed, feeling discouraged and dejected
desultory = without direction in life, at random, rambling, unmethodical
diatribe = long denunciation, bitter verbal attack
dichotomy = a division into two parts
didactic = instructional
dilettante = amateur, dabbler
disabuse = correct, to free from a misconception
disburse = pay out
disconsolate = inconsolable, unable to be consoled, extremely sad
discrete = separate, distinct
discursive = rambling, wandering from topic to topic
disdain = to regard with scorn and contempt
disingenuous = deceptive, sly and crafty
disjointed = disconnected, incoherent, being separated
disparage = belittle, speak disrespectfully about
disparate = various, dissimilar, different in kind
disparity = difference, contrast, dissimilarity
dispirit = discourage, to dishearten, make dejected
dissipate = scatter
distend = swell, inflate, bloat
distraught = distressed, very worried
docile = domesticated, trained, tame
dotage = senility, mental decline
dour = sullen and gloomy, stern and severe
droll = amusing in a wry
dulcet = melodious, pleasant sounding
duplicity = deceit, treachery, dishonesty, double-dealing
duress = coercion, imprisonment
ebb = recede, to fade away
ebullient = exuberant, full of enthusiasm and high spirits
eclectic = joyful
edify = instruct morally and spiritually
efface = To obliterate
effrontery = insolence
effulgent = brilliant
elicit = provoke
elucidate = make clear, clarify
emaciated = underfed, gaunt
embroil = involve, cause to fall into disorder
emend = correct
encomium = warm praise
encumber = burden, to hinder, restrict motion
endemic = Peculiar to some specified country or people
enervate = weaken, sap strength from
engender = generate, to produce
enigmatic = puzzling, inexplicable
enjoin = urge, order, command
ennui = boredom, lack of interest and energy

enthrall (BRITISH = enthrall) = mesmerize, to captivate, enchant
entreat = plead, beg
epicure = gourmet, person with refined taste in food and wine
epigram = saying, short, witty saying or poem
epithet = name, appellation, phrase
equine = pertaining to horses
erode = wear away, to diminish
errant = wandering, mistaken
eschew = avoid, to abstain from
espouse = to support or advocate
estranged = alienated, separated
euthanasia = mercy-killing
evanescent = fleeting, very brief, short-lived
evince = attest, demonstrate, to show clearly

exacerbate = worsen
exasperate = irritate, vex
execrable = very bad, abominable, utterly detestable
exemplary = outstanding, serving as an example
exhort = strongly urge
exhume = uncover, to remove from a grave
exonerate = free from blame
exorcise = to expel evil spirits
expedient = advantageous, convenient, efficient
expiate = atone, make amends for
expunge = erase, eliminate completely
extenuate = To diminish the gravity or importance of
extol = praise highly
extraneous = not essential, unnecessary
extricate = Disentangle, free
exuberant = joyous, happy
exude = emit, ooze
exult = rejoice
facetious = joking, sarcastic, witty
facile = very easy
fallow = unproductive, unplowed
fastidious = meticulous, careful with details
fathom = understand, to measure the depth of
fatuous = inane, stupid
fealty = Loyalty
fecund = fertile, fruitful, productive
feign = pretend, give a false impression
fetid = foul-smelling, putrid, stinking
fickle = always changing one's mind
fidelity = Loyalty
filch = steal something of little value
filial = of a son or daughter
fitful = irregular
flagrant = outrageous, shameless
fledgling = just beginning, struggling
flippant = Having a light, pert, trifling disposition
florid = ruddy, with too much decoration
flout = to show disregard for the law or rules
foible = weakness, minor fault
foist = palm off a fake
foment = instigate
fortuitous = happening by luck, fortunate
foster = encourage
fracas = noisy fight
fraught = filled
frenetic = harried, neurotic
frond = bending tree
fulminate = denounce, menace
fulsome = excessive, insincere

furtive = stealthy
gainsay = to deny
gargantuan = large
garner = gather
garrulous = talkative, loquacious, wordy
gauche = awkward, crude
genre = kind, category
gibe = heckle
glib = insincere manner
glower = stare angrily
goad = encourage
gossamer = thin and flimsy
gouge = overcharge, scoop out
grimace = expression of disgust
grovel = crawl, obey
guile = deceit, trickery
hackneyed = trite
hapless = unlucky
harangue = a pompous speech
harbinger = forerunner
haughty = arrogant
hedonism = the pursuit of pleasure in life
heinous = shocking, wicked
hermetic = airtight, sealed
hew = to cut with an ax
hiatus = interruption
hone = sharpen
illimitable = limitless
imbue = infuse, dye, wet
immure = build a wall around
impair = injure
impassive = calm, without feeling
impeccable = faultless
impecunious = indigent, having no money
imperious = domineering
impertinent = insolent, rude
imperturbable = calm
impervious = Impenetrable
impetuous = quick to act without thinking
implausible = unlikely, inconceivable
impolitic = unwise
importune = urgent request
impregnable = totally safe from attack
impugn = criticize
inadvertent = unintentional
inane = vacuous, stupid
incandescent = brilliant
incarcerate = to put in a jail
incendiary = burning easily, flammable
inchoate = just begun
incipient = beginning to exist

incisive = keen, penetrating
incognito = disguised
incommunicado = unable to communicate with others
incontrovertible = Indisputable
inculcate = instill, indoctrinate, to teach
incumbent = obligatory, required
incursion = raid
indict = charge with a crime
indigenous = Native
indigent = very poor
indolent = lazy
indomitable = invincible, fearless
indubitable = unquestionable
inexorable = relentless, inflexible

infallible = incapable of making a mistake
infernal = hellish
infirmity = ailment, disease
ingrate = ungrateful person
ingratiate = pleasing, flattering, endearing
inimical = adverse, hostile, unfriendly
innocuous = Harmless
innuendo = indirect and subtle criticism
inscrutable = cannot be fully understood
insinuate = to suggest, imply, say indirectly
insipid = flat, dull, lacking flavor
insolent = insulting
insular = narrow-minded, isolated
insuperable = insurmountable
insurgent = rebellious
insurrection = uprising, rebellion
inter = bury
interdict = prohibit
interloper = intruder, meddler in others' affairs
interminable = unending
internecine = mutually destructive
intransigent = uncompromising
intrepid = fearless
inundate = flood
invective = verbal insult
inveigh = to rail against, protest strongly
inveterate = habitual, chronic, long-standing
invidious = incurring ill-will
irascible = irritable
itinerant = Wandering, unsettled
jaded = spent, bored with one's situation
juggernaut = unstoppable force
kismet = fate
knell = sound of a funeral bell
lachrymose = tearful
lampoon = satirize, to attack with satire
larceny = theft of property
largess = generous donation
legerdemain = trickery
levity = Frivolity, humor
libertine = one without moral restraint
licentious = lewd, immoral
limpid = transparent, clearly understood
lissome (BRITISH = lissom) = agile, supple
lithe = moving and bending with ease
loathe = abhor, hate
loquacious = Talkative
lugubrious = sad, sorrowful
lurid = glowing, shocking

macabre = gruesome
machination = plot or scheme
maelstrom = whirlpool, agitated state of mind
malapropism = comical misuse of a word
malcontent = one who is forever dissatisfied
malediction = curse
malefactor = evildoer, culprit
malodorous = fetid, foul-smelling
manifold = multiple, diverse
martial = warlike, pertaining to the military
martinet = strict disciplinarian
masochist = one who enjoys pain
maudlin = weepy, sentimental
maverick = a person who resists adherence to a group
mawkish = sickeningly sentimental
meander = to wander aimlessly without direction
mendicant = beggar
mercurial = changeable, volatile, quick
mettle = courage, capacity for bravery
minatory = threatening
mirth = jollity, laughter
miscreant = one who behaves criminally
missive = letter or note
modicum = a small amount
mollify = to calm or make less severe
moot = disputable, previously decided
mordant = biting, sarcastic
mores = moral standards, customs
moribund = near death
mote = speck, small particle
motley = diverse, many colored
multifarious = diverse, many-sided
munificent = generous
myriad = innumerable
nascent = incipient, coming into existence
natal = related to birth
necromancy = sorcery, black magic
Nemesis = implacable foe, often victorious opponent
neologism = new word or expression
neophyte = beginner
nether = located under or below
nettle = irritate
niggardly = stingy
noisome = harmful, stinking
nonentity = person of no significance
obdurate = unyielding
obeisance = homage, deference
obfuscate = bewilder, muddle, to confuse
oblique = indirect
obliterate = destroy
obloquy = slander, abusive language

obsequious = fawning, servile, overly submissive
obsequy = funeral ceremony
obstinate = stubborn
obstreperous = noisy, unruly, troublesome
obtuse = stupid, dull
occlude = block, to shut
odious = despicable, hateful
onerous = burdensome
opprobrious = abusive, disgraceful
ordain = appoint
ossify = harden
ostensible = apparent, seeming
ostentatious = pretentious, showy
overweening = arrogant, forward

pacifist = one who opposes all violence
paeon = a song of praise
palaver = babble, nonsense
pall = to become dull or weary
palliate = to make less serious, ease
pallid = pale, sallow, lacking color or liveliness
palpable = touchable, obvious, real
paltry = scarce, pitifully small or worthless
panache = flamboyance, flair
pandemic = spread over a whole area or country
panegyric = praise
panoply = full suit of armor
paragon = model of excellence or perfection
pariah = outcast
parley = conference, discussion
parry = avert, ward off, reflect
partisan = supporter
pathos = emotion, feeling of sadness
patrician = aristocrat
patrimony = inheritance or heritage derived from one's father
peccadillo = a minor fault
pedagogue = dull, formal teacher
pedant = a person who is too interested in formal rules and small unimportant details
pejorative = insulting, having bad connotations
pellucid = transparent, easily understood
penance = voluntary suffering to repent for a wrong
penchant = inclination
penitent = repentant
pensive = sad
perdition = damnation, complete ruin
peremptory = dictatorial
perennial = enduring, lasting
perfidious = treacherous (of a person)
perfunctory = careless, done in a routine way
peripatetic = moving from place to place
pernicious = destructive
pert = flippant, bold
pertinacious = persevering
pertinent = Relevant, applicable
philistine = barbarian, narrow-minded person
phlegmatic = sluggish, someone who is calm
pillory = punish by ridicule
pique = sting, arouse interest
pithy = concise, to the point
pittance = alms, trifle
placid = Serene, calm
platitude = trite remark, stale
plebeian = common, vulgar
plethora = overabundance

poignant = pungent, sharp, emotionally moving
polemic = a controversy
portend = omen
portly = large, dignified
potentate = sovereign, king
prattle = chatter, foolish talk
precept = principle, law
precipice = cliff, edge
precipitous = steep
precocious = advanced
precursor = forerunner
predilection = inclination, preference
premeditate = plan in advance
preponderance = predominance
preposterous = ridiculous, illogical
presage = omen, indicate in advance
privation = lack of usual necessities or comforts
probity = integrity, complete honesty
proclivity = inclination, tendency
prodigal = wasteful
prodigious = marvelous, enormous
profligate = licentious, prodigal, corrupt
progenitor = ancestor
progeny = children
prognosis = forecast
prognosticate = foretell
prolix = long-winded, wordy
promontory = headland, cape
promulgate = publish, disseminate
propensity = inclination
propinquity = nearness, kinship
propitiate = satisfy, to win over
propitious = auspicious, favorable
prosaic = uninspired, flat, dull
proscribe = prohibit, to condemn
proselytize (BRITISH = proselytise) = recruit, convert
protean = changing readily
protract = To prolong, extend
provident = having foresight, thrifty
prude = puritan
prudent = cautious, careful
prurient = exhibiting lewd desires
puerile = Childish
pugnacious = combative, quarrelsome
pulchritude = beauty
punctilious = careful in observing rules of behavior or ceremony
pungent = sharp smell or taste
purport = claim to be
pusillanimous = cowardly
quaff = to drink heartily
quagmire = difficult situation

quandary = dilemma, difficulty
quell = suppress, allay
querulous = complaining
quibble = to argue about insignificant and irrelevant details
quiescent = still, motionless, at rest
Quixotic = impractical, romantic
raconteur = story teller
rampant = unbridled, raging
rancor (BRITISH = rancour) = resentment, dislike
rant = rage, scold
rapacious = grasping, avaricious, greedy
rapprochement = reconciliation
raze = destroy
recalcitrant = resisting authority or control

recant = retract a statement
recidivism = habitual criminal activity
recondite = known to only a few
recreant = coward, betrayer of faith
refractory = obstinate
regal = royal
relegate = assign to an inferior position
renege = break a promise
replete = complete
reprehensible = blameworthy, unacceptable
reproach = blame
reprobate = morally unprincipled person
reprove = to criticize or correct
repudiate = to reject as having no authority
requiem = rest, a mass for the dead
requite = to return in kind
rescind = revoke, cancel
respite = interval or relief
resplendent = shining, splendid
restitution = act of compensating for loss or damage
restive = nervous, uneasy
retort = quick replay
retrench = reorganize, to regroup
retrieve = reclaim
retrograde = regress
revelry = merrymaking
revere = honor
revile = to criticize with harsh language
revulsion = aversion
ribald = coarse, vulgar
rife = widespread, abundant
risque = off-color, racy
rostrum = stage for public speaking
ruminate = reflect upon
rustic = rural
sacrosanct = sacred
sagacious = wise
sallow = sickly yellow in color
sanguine = cheerful
sapient = wise, shrewd
sardonic = scornful
saunter = walk in a leisurely manner
savant = scholar
schism = a division or separation
scintilla = very small amount
scintillate = sparkle
scoff = ridicule
scurrilous = abusive, insulting
secular = worldly, nonreligious

sedition = treason, resistance to authority
sententious = concise, trying to appear wise
sequester = to remove or set apart
seraphic = angelic, pure
serendipity = making fortunate discoveries
servile = slavish, obedient
simian = monkey like
simper = smile foolishly, smirk
sinecure = well paid position with little responsibility
skulk = sneak about
slake = to calm down or moderate
sloth = laziness
slovenly = sloppy
sobriety = composed
sobriquet = nickname
sodden = soaked
sojourn = trip, visit
solace = consolation
solecism = ungrammatical construction
solicitous = considerate, concerned
soliloquy = A monologue
solstice = furthest point
somber (BRITISH = sombre) = Gloomy
somnambulist = sleepwalker
somnolent = Sleepy
soporific = sleep inducing
sordid = foul, ignoble, dirty and unpleasant
spawn = produce
specious = false but plausible
sporadic = occurring irregularly
sportive = playful
spurn = reject
squalid = filthy
staid = demure, sedate, boring
steadfast = loyal, immovable
stentorian = extremely loud
stigma = mark of disgrace
stilted = formal, stiff, unnatural
stoic = indifferent to pain or pleasure
stolid = impassive
stratagem = trick
stricture = negative criticism
stultify = inhibit, enfeeble
stymie = hinder, thwart
suave = smooth
sublimate = to repress impulses
sublime = lofty, excellent
subterfuge = cunning, ruse
succulent = juicy, delicious
sully = stain
supercilious = arrogant

supplant = replace
surly = rude, crass
surmise = to guess
surmount = overcome
surreptitious = secretive
sustenance = supplying the necessities of life
swarthy = dark (as in complexion)
Sybarite = pleasure-seeker, lover of luxury
sycophant = flatterer, flunky
taciturn = who does not talk much
talon = claw of an animal
tantamount = equivalent
tawdry = gaudy, cheap
temerity = boldness

ample = enough, specious, abundant
amplify = enlarge, increase, intensify
ancillary = supplementary, subsidiary, subordinate
anomaly = deviation from the rule, irregularity
artifact (BRITISH = artefact) = an object made by human, of historical interest
artisan = a skilled craftsman
authoritarian = dictator, extremely strict, bossy
autocrat = dictator or a high ranking government officer
bifurcated = divided into two branches, forked
blatant = glaring, obvious, showy
bountiful = abundant, plentiful
brazen = bold, shameless, impudent
breach = breaking of a rule, agreement, or law
caricature = cartoon, exaggerated portrait
carnivorous = meat-eating
catalyst = something that causes change without being changed
centripetal = tending toward the center
chaotic = in utter disorder
chauvinist = a man who thinks men are better than women
complement = To make complete, perfect
composure = Calmness of appearance
compress = to reduce, squeeze
constituent = electorate, component, part
constraint = something that limits what you can do
correlation = mutual relationship, association
corrugate = to wrinkle or draw into folds
depose = testify, to remove from a high position
depreciate = To lessen the worth of
determinate = Definitely limited or fixed, conclusive
dexterous = skillful, adroit
dwindle = To diminish or become less
earthy = crude
entity = being, existence
equity = impartiality, justice
equivocal = Ambiguous, open to two interpretations
eulogy = high praise
exotic = Foreign, romantic
extemporaneous = unrehearsed
fabricate = construct
fallible = Capable of erring
felicitous = very appropriate, pertinent
flair = a natural aptitude
flaunt = to show off
flora = plants
fraudulent = Counterfeit
fusion = union, coalition
germinate = To begin to develop into an embryo or higher form
heterogeneous = composed of unlike parts, different
hypothetical = theoretical, speculative

immune = Exempt, as from disease
imprudent = unwise
inception = The beginning
inconsequential = Valueless
indefatigable = never getting tired
indicative = suggestive, implying
indisputable = not disputed, unquestioned
infantile = childish, immature
ingenuous = naïve and unsophisticated
injurious = harmful
innovate = to invent, modernize
integrity = decency, honest, wholeness
intermittent = starting and stopping
introspective = looking within oneself
introvert = To turn within
invoke = request assistance or protection
iota = A small mark or part
irreverent = disrespectful
jaundice = disease of yellowish discoloration of skin
lackluster (BRITISH = lacklustre) = dull, dreary, colorless
laudable = Praiseworthy
lexicon = A dictionary
litigation = lawsuit
lunar = related to the moon
luscious = Rich, sweet, and delicious
metaphor = figure of speech comparing two different things
microcosm = The world on a small scale
migratory = Wandering from place to place with the seasons
mishap = Misfortune
mnemonic = related to memory
monotony = A lack of variation
omnivorous = eating everything
opportunist = One who takes advantage of circumstances
orifice = a small opening
overt = open to view
paradox = seemingly in contradiction
parasite = one who lives at another's expense
patent = the right to make or sell a new invention
pediatrician (BRITISH = paediatrician) = a child doctor
perusal = reading carefully
plenitude = Abundance
polyglot = Speaking several tongues
propagate = To spread
reactionary = related to, or favoring reaction
reciprocate = To give and take mutually
regimen = government rule, systematic plan
rehabilitate = To restore to a former status
reminiscence = remembrance of past events
renegade = rebel, dissident
resilient = the quality of springing back
retroactive = applying to an earlier time

sensual = related to the physical senses

strident = rough, harsh, caustic, loud

subliminal = subconscious, imperceptible

superannuated = retired

superficial = shallow and phony
supple = Easily bent
synchronous = happening at the same time
tainted = contaminated, corrupt
talisman = an object supposed to bring good luck
theocracy = government by the priests
therapeutic = medicinal
tortuous = with bends or turns
transcend = To surpass
transmute = To change in nature or form
tribute = a gift or statement showing respect
turbulence = violent agitation
unobtrusive = inconspicuous, not blatant
vent = small opening, outlet
verisimilitude = appearance of being true
versatile = adaptable, all-purpose
vicarious = substitute, surrogate
viscous = sticky, gluey, thick
warranty = guarantee of a product's soundness
wax = increase, grow
weather = endure the effects of weather or other forces
yoke = join together, unite
temporal = limited by time, secular, not lasting forever
tenacious = persistent
tendentious = biased
tenet = doctrine, principle
tensile = capable of being stretched
tenuous = thin, insubstantial
tepid = lukewarm
terse = concise, brief
tether = tie down, tie with a rope
thrall = slave
thwart = to block or prevent from happening
timorous = fearful, timid
tirade = scolding speech
toady = fawner, sycophant
torpid = lethargic, inactive
transient = fleeting, temporary
translucent = clear, lucid, almost transparent
travesty = caricature, farce, parody
trenchant = incisive, penetrating
trepidation = fear
trite = commonplace, insincere
truculent = fierce, savage, tending to argue a lot
truism = self-evident truth
tryst = meeting, rendezvous
tumult = commotion
turbid = muddy, clouded
turgid = Swollen, not flowing

turpitude = Depravity, evil
tyro = beginner
umbrage = resentment
unctuous = insincere
unkempt = messy in appearance
unsullied = spotless
usurp = seize, to appropriate
usury = overcharge, lending money at illegal rates of interest
vacillate = To waver
vacuous = inane, empty, not showing intelligence or purpose
vapid = vacuous, insipid
venal = willing to do wrong for money
vendetta = grudge, feud
venerable = respected because of age
verdant = green, lush
vex = annoy, to irritate
vicissitude = changing fortunes
vie = compete
vignette = scene, decorative design
vilify = defame
vindicate = free from blame
virile = manly
virulent = deadly, poisonous
vitiate = spoil, ruin
vitriolic = scathing, burning
vociferous = adamant, clamoring
volition = free will
voluminous = bulky, extensive, or great quantity
wallow = indulge, luxuriate
wan = sickly pale
wane = dissipate, wither
wary = guarded, careful
welter = confusion, hodgepodge
whet = stimulate, to sharpen
wily = shrewd, clever
winsome = charming
wizened = shriveled
wraith = ghost
wry = twisted, amusing
zephyr = gentle breeze, west wind

amphibian = creature that lives on land and water
anachronism = Anything occurring or existing out of its proper time
angular = Sharp-cornered or sharp angled
anthropomorphous = Nonhuman having or resembling human form or quality
apothegm = a short saying
appraise = assess, evaluate the value
arable = suitable for cultivation
asperity = roughness of temper
assay = to analyze or estimate
audit = formal examination of final records
augury = prophecy or prediction of events
aver = to declare to be true
aversion = intense dislike
aviary = cage where birds are kept
banter = to tease playfully and in good humor
beatific = supremely happy, angelic, saintly
benighted = unenlightened
benison = Blessing
blanch = bleach, whiten, to take the color out
bludgeon = to hit someone several times with a heavy object
bolster = To support or make something strong
burnish = To make brilliant or shining
canny = clever and able to think quickly, especially about money or business
carnal = of the flesh, sensual
carp = to find faults, complain constantly
cavalcade = a procession or sequence
celerity = quick moving or acting
cession = Surrender, as of possessions or rights
champ = to chew noisily
chastise = to criticize or punish someone
chattel = piece of personal property
churlish = rude, ungracious
circumscribe = To confine within bounds
clairvoyant = who can see the future, having ESP
collate = to sort or put in proper order
complaisant = Agreeable, friendly
consequential = important
contumacious = rebellious
cuisine = cookery, style of cooking
culmination = climax, final stage
curator = in charge of a library or museum
daunt = to frighten, subdue
declivity = a place that declines or slopes downwards
deranged = insane, delirious, maniacal
derivative = copied or adapted, not original
descry = To discern, to discover or reveal
diffidence = shyness, lack of confidence
dirge = lament with music, funeral hymn
discomfit = To put to confusion, discomfort

discordant = harsh-sounding, badly out of tune
dissimulate = to disguise
distaff = the female branch of a family
dolt = a stupid person
domineer = to rule over something in a tyrannical way
doughty = brave, dauntless
dross = waste matter, worthless impurities
dyspeptic = suffering from indigestion, gloomy and irritable
effluvium = noxious smells
effusive = expressing emotion without restraint
elation = exhilaration, joy
eloquence = fluent and effective speech
emollient = cream for softening, making supple
ensconce = to hide safely, settle comfortably
enunciate = verbalize, articulate
epilogue = The close of a narrative or poem
epitome = A simplified representation
equestrian = one who rides on horseback
excoriate = to denounce
exculpate = to clear of blame or fault
expatiate = to discuss in detail, elaborate
expatriate = who does not live in one's own country
expurgate = to purify by removing obscenities
extrinsic = not inherent or essential, coming from without
extrovert = an outgoing person
fell = to chop, cut down
fervid = fervent, passionate
fetter = to restrain, to bind
finicky = meticulous, fussy
fissure = a crack or break
flaccid = limp, flabby, weak
flamboyant = Characterized by extravagance
fluster = confuse
forbearance = Patient endurance or toleration of offenses
forte = A strong point
fractious = wayward, unruly, disorderly
frenzied = feverishly fast, hectic
funereal = mournful, appropriate to a funeral
gall = bitterness, nerve
gambol = Playful leaping or frisking
gaunt = thin, emaciated
gustatory = relevant to the sense of tasting
hallow = to make holy
hoary = white, old
holocaust = widespread destruction
ignominious = Shameful
impious = not devout in religion
implacable = doubtful, dubious
improvident = lacking foresight or thrift
incarnadine = blood-red in color
indenture = bound to another by contract

interstice = a small space between things
iridescent = showing many colors
jettison = to throw overboard, abandon
jingoism = extremely aggressive and militant patriotism
lackadaisical = Listless, idle
languor = Lassitude of body or depression
lapidary = relating to precious stones
latitude = freedom from narrow limitations
lionize = treat as a celebrity
loiter = dawdle, loaf
lull = moment of calm

maritime = Situated on or near the sea
megalomania = mental state with delusions of wealth and power
mendacious = Untrue
meretricious = Alluring by false or gaudy show
molt = to shed hair, skin periodically
monastic = related to monks
morbid = abnormally gloomy
naivet   = a lack of worldly wisdom
nihilism = a belief in nothing, extreme skepticism
nomadic = moving from place to place
non sequitur = an irrelevant conclusion
nuptial = relating to marriage
objurgate = to chide, scold
opalescent = iridescent, displaying colors
ornithologist = scientist who studies birds
orotund = pompously said
palette = board for mixing paints
pastiche = imitation of another's style
patricide = murder of one's own father
peculation = theft of money or goods
pediment = triangular gable on a roof or fa ade
penumbra = partial shadow in an eclipse
permeable = penetrable
philology = study of words
plaintiff = injured person in a lawsuit
plangent = plaintive, resounding sadly
politic = expedient, prudent, well devised
potable = suitable for drinking
presentiment = sense of foreboding
primordial = existing at the beginning, rudimentary
pummel = beat, attack
putrid = dirty, rotten
quintessence = The most essential part of anything
ramshackle = dilapidated, falling to pieces
ratiocination = reasoning
raucous = Harsh sounding
ravenous = extremely hungry
rectitude = moral uprightness
refectory = dining hall
remediable = capable of being corrected
remonstrate = to protest or object
retinue = group of attendants
rococo = ornate, highly decorated
roil = to disturb or cause disorder
salubrious = healthy
serenity = calm, peacefulness
serrated = toothed, with a zigzag edge
sinuous = Curving in and out
slough = to discard or shed

sluggard = lazy, inactive person
sophist = person good at arguing deviously
sophomoric = immature and overconfident
staccato = marked by abrupt, clear-cut sounds
succinct = Concise
synthetic = artificial, imitation
threnody = a sad poem or song, dirge
tremulous = trembling, fearful
tundra = treeless plain found in Arctic or sub arctic regions
upbraid = to scold sharply
vagrant = An idle wanderer
variegated = many-colored
vaunted = boasted, bragged
veracious = truthful, accurate
verity = Truth
vernal = related to spring
wrangle = loud quarrel

abase = lower, humiliate
abash = humiliate, embarrass
abdicate = give up power or position
abeyance = postponement, temporary suspension
abhor = detest, loathe
abjure = renounce, to formally reject or abandon
ablution = cleansing, washing
abortive = unsuccessful, interruptive while incomplete
abrogate = cancel, to abolish by authority
absolve = acquit, to forgive or free from blame
abstruse = difficult to comprehend
abut = touch, border on
abysmal = deficient, sub par
accede = yield, express approval, agree to
acclimate = accustom oneself to a climate
acclivity = ascent, incline
accolade = applause, praise
accost = to approach and speak to someone
accouter (BRITISH = accoutre) = equip
acme = summit, highest point
acquiesce = to agree, comply passively
acrid = harsh, bitter, pungent, caustic
acrimonious = caustic, bitter
actuate = induce, start
acumen = sharpness of insight
adamant = insistent, uncompromising, unyielding
adduce = offer as example
adjunct = addition, something added, attached, or joined
admonish = warn gently, caution, or reprimand
adroit = skillful, accomplished, highly competent
adulation = applause, high praise
advent = arrival
adventitious = accidental
aegis = that which protects
affect = influence
affray = public brawl
agape = openmouthed, wonder
aggrandize = exaggerate, to make larger or greater in power
aghost = horrified
alacrity = swiftness, speed, cheerful willingness, eagerness
allay = to reassure; to lessen, ease, or soothe
allege = assert without proof
allegory = fable, symbolic representation
alliteration = repetition of the same sound
allude = refer to indirectly
amenable = agreeable
amiss = wrong, out of place
amity = Friendship
amorous = strongly attracted to love; showing love

amorphous = shapeless
amortize = to diminish by installment payments
amuck = murderous frenzy
anarchist = terrorist
animadversion = critical remark
animus = hate
annals = historical records
apocalyptic = ominous, doomed
apoplexy = stroke
appall (BRITISH = appal) = horrify
apparition = phantom
appellation = title, name
apposite = apt
apropos = Appropriate
arbiter = judge
archetype = original model
argot = slang
aria = operatic song
array = arrangement
arroyo = gully
artifice = trick
aseptic = sterile
atelier = workshop
avuncular = like an uncle
azure = sky blue
badger = To pester
badinage = banter, teasing conversation
bagatelle = nonentity, trifle
bandy = discuss lightly
bard = poet
baroque = ornate
bask = take pleasure in, sun
bauble = A trinket, trifle
beatitude = state of bliss
begrudge = resent, envy
beholden = in debt
bereft = deprived of
beset = harass, surround
besmirch = slander, sully
bicameral = having two legislative branches
bivouac = encampment
blase = bored with life
bode = portend
bogus = forged, false
brackish = salty
bucolic = rustic
burlesque = farce
cache = hiding place
cadaverous = haggard
callow = inexperienced
canine = pertaining to dogs

captious = fond of finding fault in others

carafe = bottle

cardinal = chief

carrion = decaying flesh
cascade = small waterfall
casuistry = clever argument to trick people
cauterize (BRITISH = cauterise) = to sear
chafe = abrade
chaste = pure, virgin
chasten = castigate
cipher = zero
cleft = split
clique = a small group
cloven = split
codicil = supplement to a will
cogitate = ponder
cognizant = aware
cohere = To stick together
cohort = an associate
comport = to conduct oneself
conch = spiral shell
concordat = Agreement
condescend = patronize, talk down to, to treat someone as though you are better
condiment = seasoning
condolence = sympathy for the family or friends of a person who has recently died
coniferous = bearing cones
consort = spouse
contagion = infectious agent
contingent = conditional
contort = twist
controvert = dispute
cordon = bond, chain
corollary = consequence
corpulent = fat
cortege = procession
coruscate = sparkle
covenant = agreement, pact
crestfallen = dejected
crevice = crack
cruet = small bottle
cull = pick out, select
culvert = drain
curry = seek favor by flattery
cynosure = celebrity
dank = damp
dauntless = courageous
deadpan = expressionless
debonair = sophisticated, affable
decant = pour
decrepitude = enfeeblement
defamation = slander
deflect = turn aside

defray = pay
deign = condescend
delirium = mental confusion, ecstasy
delve = dig, explore (of ideas)
demeanor (BRITISH = demeanour) = behavior
demented = deranged
demure = sedate, reserved
denizen = dweller
denouement = resolution
deposition = testimony
depredation = preying on, plunder
derelict = negligent
desolate = forsaken
desuetude = disuse
dialectic = pertaining to debate
diminution = Reduction
disconcert = confuse
discretion = prudence
dishevel = muss
disinter = unearth
disinterested = Impartial
disputatious = fond of arguing
disquisition = elaborate treatise
dissolute = profligate, immoral
dissonance = Discord
distract = preoccupied, absent-minded
doggerel = poor verse
dolorous = gloomy
dregs = residue, riffraff
drone = speak in a monotonic voice
duenna = governess
ecclesiastical = churchly
eclat = brilliance
educe = draw forth, evoke
effete = worn out
effusion = pouring forth
elegiac = sad
emblazon = imprint, brand
embryonic = rudimentary
emeritus = retired, but retaining title
enamored (BRITISH = enamoured) = charmed, captivated
enclave = area enclosed within another region
engross = captivate
epoch = era
escapade = adventure
eviscerate = disembowel
ex officio = by virtue of position
excision = removal
exegesis = interpretation
exigency = urgency
exiguous = scanty

expletive = oath
extant = existing
extirpate = seek out and destroy
extrude = force out
facet = aspect
factious = causing disagreement
factitious = artificial
factotum = handyman
faux pas = false step, mistake
febrile = feverish, delirious
ferment = turmoil
ferret = rummage through
fervor (BRITISH = fervour) = intensity
fester = decay

festive = joyous
fete = to honor
fiat = decree
firebrand = agitator
flagellate = whip
flail = whip
foray = raid
fortitude = patience, courage
fret = worry
fritter = squander
frivolity = playfulness
fruition = realization, completion
galvanize = excite to action
gamut = range
garnish = decorate
genealogy = ancestry
genesis = beginning
genuflect = kneel in reverence
ghastly = horrible
glean = gather
gnome = dwarf-like being
gorge = stuff, satiate
gory = bloody
grapple = struggle
grisly = gruesome
guffaw = laughter
gusto = Keen enjoyment
guttural = throaty
haggard = gaunt
halcyon = serene
hale = healthy
hamper = obstruct
harbor (BRITISH = harbour) = give shelter, conceal
harridan = hag or an ugly old woman
harry = harass
heedless = careless
hegira = a journey to a more pleasant place
hibernal = wintry
histrionic = overly dramatic
homily = sermon
horde = group
hortatory = inspiring good deeds
hovel = shanty, cabin
hoyden = tomboy, boisterous girl
hubris = arrogance
hummock = knoll, mound
humus = soil
ichthyology = study of fish
idyllic = natural, picturesque

immolate = sacrifice
impale = pierce
impetus = stimulus, spark
impinge = encroach, touch
imponderable = difficult to estimate
imprimatur = sanction
impunity = exemption from harm
impute = charge
inalienable = that which cannot be taken away
incantation = chant
incapacitate = disable
inclement = harsh
incriminate = accuse
incubus = nightmare
ineffable = inexpressible
ineluctable = inescapable
infidel = nonbeliever
influx = inflow
infraction = violation
inimitable = peerless
iniquitous = unjust, wicked
inopportune = untimely
inordinate = excessive
insensate = without feeling
insouciant = nonchalant
insubordinate = disobedient
integument = a covering
inveigle = lure
irresolute = hesitant, uncertain
je june = barren
jostle = push, brush against
ken = range of comprehension
knave = con man
knead = massage
lacerate = tear, cut
lackey = servant
laity = laymen
lambent = softly radiant
lave = wash
lax = loose, careless
lectern = reading desk
limn = portray, describe
litany = list
litotes = understatement for emphasis
lout = goon
lupine = wolf-like
luxuriant = lush
maim = injure
manacle = shackle
marauder = plunderer
masticate = chew

matriarch = matron
maul = rough up
mausoleum = tomb
mayhem = mutilation
medley = mixture
melee = riot
mellifluous = sweet sounding
menial = humble, degrading
mete = distribute
miasma = toxin
mien = appearance, demeanor
minion = subordinate
minutiae = trivia
mire = marsh

miscegenation = intermarriage between races
miscellany = mixture of items
modish = chic
molten = melted
monolithic = large and uniform
mortify = humiliate
mottled = spotted
mountebank = charlatan
muffle = stifle, quiet
mulct = defraud
muse = ponder
muster = to gather one's forces
noncommittal = neutral, circumspect
nonplus = bring to a halt by confusion
nubile = marriageable
nugatory = useless, worthless
oaf = awkward person
obelisk = tall column, monument
obituary = eulogy
oblation = offering, sacrifice
obliquity = perversity
odoriferous = pleasant odor
offal = inedible parts of a butchered animal
offertory = church collection
ogle = flirt
onus = burden
opprobrium = disgrace
opus = literary work of musical composition
orison = prayer
paleontologist (BRITISH = palaeontologist) = one who studies fossils
palpitate = beat, throb
pandemonium = din, commotion
pander = cater to people's baser instincts
pantomime = mime
papyrus = paper
paramour = lover
parapet = rampart, defense
paroxysm = outburst, convulsion
parsimonious = stingy
parvenu = newcomer, social climber
passe = outmoded
pastoral = rustic
peculate = embezzle, steal
pedantic = bookish
pell-mell = in a confused manner
penurious = stingy
peregrination = wandering
perforce = by necessity
perigee = point when moon is nearest to the earth

perjury = lying
peroration = conclusion of an oration
petrify = calcify, shock
petty = trivial
petulant = irritable, peevish
picaresque = roguish, adventurous
pied = mottled, brindled
piquant = tart-tasting, spicy
platonic = nonsexual
plebiscite = referendum
plumb = measure
polity = methods of government
poltroon = coward
portend = signify, augur
prate = babble
preamble = introduction
preternatural = abnormal
prim = formal, prudish
primogeniture = first-born child
primp = groom
proboscis = snout
prod = urge
profusion = overabundance
propellant = rocket fuel
prophylactic = preventive
propound = propose
proscenium = platform, rostrum
prosody = study of poetic structure
provender = dry food, fodder
proviso = stipulation
puissant = strong
purblind = obtuse, dim-sighted
purgatory = limbo, netherworld
purloin = To steal
purview = range, understanding
putative = reputed
quail = shrink, cower
quaint = old-fashioned
qualms = misgivings
quarry = prey, game
quay = wharf
queasy = squeamish
quip = joke
quirk = eccentricity
quizzical = odd
quorum = majority

rabid = mad, furious
raiment = clothing
rankle = cause bitterness, resentment
realm = kingdom, domain
reconnaissance = surveillance
recrimination = countercharge, retaliation
recumbent = reclining
redolent = fragrant
redoubtable = formidable, steadfast
redundant = repetitious
reek = smell
refraction = bending, deflection
regale = entertain
remiss = Negligent
remnant = residue, fragment
remorse = guilt
rend = to tear apart
render = deliver, provide
rendezvous = a meeting
rendition = version, interpretation
reparation = amends, atonement
repartee = witty conversation
repellent = causing aversion
repercussion = consequence
repine = fret
reprieve = temporary suspension
reprimand = rebuke
reprisal = retaliation
retaliate = revenge
retribution = reprisal
reverent = respectful
reverie = daydream
rigor = harshness
rime = white frost
risible = laughable
roseate = rosy, optimistic
roster = list of people
rout = vanquish
rubicund = ruddy, having healthy reddish color
ruffian = brutal person, bully
rummage = hunt
ruse = trick
sacerdotal = priestly
salutary = good, wholesome
sanctimonious = self-righteous
sang-froid = coolness under fire
sanguinary = gory, murderous
sapid = interesting
sarcophagus = stone coffin

sartorial = pertaining to clothes
sate = satisfy fully
saturnine = gloomy
satyr = demigod, goat-man
savoir-faire = tact, polish
savor (BRITISH = savour) = enjoy
scarify = criticize
scurry = move briskly
scuttle = to sink
sebaceous = like fat
seclusion = solitude
sedulous = diligent
seethe = fume, resent
semblance = likeness
senescence = old age
sepulcher (BRITISH = sepulchre) = tomb
sequacious = eager to follow, ductile
serried = saw-toothed
shibboleth = password
shoal = reef
shrew = virago
sidereal = pertaining to the stars
sinewy = fibrous, stringy
skinflint = miser
skittish = excitable
skullduggery (BRITISH = skulduggery) = trickery
slander = defame
sleight = dexterity
slither = slide
smattering = superficial knowledge
smirk = smug look
snivel = whine
solvent = financially sound
somatic = pertaining to the body
spasmodic = intermittent
spate = sudden outpouring
spectral = ghostly
splenetic = peevish
spry = nimble
spume = foam
stanza = division of a poem
stoke = prod, fuel
stratum = layer
stupor = lethargy
sub rosa = in secret
substantiate = verify

substantive = substantial
succor (BRITISH = succour) = help, comfort
succumb = yield, submit
suffuse = pervade, permeate
sultry = sweltering
sunder = split
sundry = various
supernumerary = subordinate
suture = surgical stitch
sylvan = rustic
tantalize = tease
taper = candle
tarn = small lake
tarry = linger
taurine = bull-like
taut = tight, stretched
temperate = moderate
tempo = speed
tentative = provisional
tenure = status given after a period of time
terrapin = turtle
testy = petulant
thespian = actor
throes = anguish
throng = crowd
timbre = tonal quality, resonance
Titanic = huge
tithe = donate one-tenth
titular = in name only, figurehead
tocsin = alarm bell, signal
touchstone = standard
traduce = slander
travail = work, drudgery
tribunal = court
troglodyte = cave dweller
truckle = yield
tutelage = guardianship
tyranny = oppression
unassuming = modest
uncouth = uncultured, crude
undulate = surge, fluctuate
uniformity = sameness
unsavory (BRITISH = unsavoury) = distasteful, offensive
unscathed = unhurt
unseemly = unbecoming, improper
untenable = cannot be achieved
ursine = bear-like
uxorious = a doting husband
vagary = whim

vainglorious = conceited
valor (BRITISH = valour) = bravery
vanguard = leading position
vassal = subject
vehement = adamant
veneer = false front, façade
venial = excusable
venturesome = bold, risky
viand = food
victuals = food
visage = facial expression
viscid = thick, gummy
vitreous = glassy
vituperative = abusive
votary = fan, aficionado
vouchsafe = confer, bestow
vulpine = fox-like
waggish = playful
wastrel = spendthrift
waylay = ambush
wean = remove from nursing, break a habit
wheedle = coax
whimsical = capricious
wince = cringe
winnow = separate
wither = shrivel
wont = custom
wrath = anger, fury
wreak = inflict
wrest = snatch
writhe = contort
yen = desire
yore = long ago

aberration = different from normal or usual
abettor = encourager
abnegation = repudiation, self-sacrifice
abominate = to hate
abrade = to rub off a surface
abstemious = Characterized by self-denial or abstinence
accretion = grow in size or increase in amount
acerbity = bitterness of speech or temper
acetic = related to vinegar
acidulous = sour in taste or manner
acquiescence = Passive consent
acquittal = release from blame (as by a court)
actuarial = calculating
acuity = sharpness
addiction = compulsive, habitual need
addle = To make inefficient or unable to think
adjuration = solemn urging
adjure = to request solemnly
admonition = Gently point out mistake
agility = nimbleness
agitation = excitement, uneasiness
alimentary = supplying nourishment
allure = appeal, attract
allusion = indirect reference
alluvial = soil deposits left by rivers
amalgamate = To mix or join together to become one
amazon = female warrior
ambrosia = food of the Greek gods that provided immortal youth & beauty, anything sweet and pleasing
andirons = metal supports in a fireplace
anneal = to gradually heat and cool in order to soften, reduce brittleness
annuity = An annual payment or income
antecede = To precede
anthropoid = manlike
apiary = A place where bees are kept
apogee = The climax
apothecary = One who keeps drugs for sale and puts up prescriptions
appurtenances = subordinate possessions
aquiline = like an eagle, bent, hooked, curved
arcade = a roofed passage between shops
archaeology = the study of ancient cultures by looking for and examining their buildings, tools
aromatic = fragrant
arrant = Notoriously bad
asceticism = doctrine of self-denial
assessment = estimation
astronomical = enormously large or extensive
athwart = across, opposition
aureole = sun's corona, halo
auroral = pertaining to the aurora borealis

auscultation = act of listening to the heart or lungs to discover abnormalities
austerity = quality of being self disciplined
baffle = to frustrate or unable to understand
bandanna = large, bright-colored handkerchief
barb = sharp projection from fishhook
barrage = a lot of questions or criticism
barter = to give in exchange rather than paying money
bassoon = reed instrument of the woodwind family
bate = let down, restrain
bawdy = indecent, obscene
bedizen = dress with vulgar finery
bedraggle = wet thoroughly
befuddle = confuse thoroughly
behoove = to be fit, to be right
benignant = Benevolent in feeling, character
bereavement = state of being deprived of something valuable or beloved
bete noire = aversion
betrothal = Engagement to marry
bibulous = Fond of drinking
bigotry = discrimination, prejudice
blasphemous = profane, impious
blazon = print or decorate something in a very noticeable way
blurt = to say something suddenly and without thinking, especially when you are excited or nervous
boorish = Rude
bouillon = clear beef soup
Bowdlerize = To expurgate in editing
braggadocio = someone who boasts
brazier = An open pan or basin for holding live coals
brindled = tawny or grayish with streaks or spots
brittle = Fragile
brocade = rich, gaudy fabric
brooch = a piece of jewelry for women which is fastened onto clothes with a pin
buffoonery = coarse jokes, etc
bugaboo = bugbear, object of baseless terror
bumptious = full of offensive self-conceit
bungle = to do something wrong in a very careless or stupid way
buskin = thick-soled half boot worn by actors of Greek tragedy
buxom = plump, vigorous, jolly
cameo = when someone famous appears for a short time in a film or play
canker = any ulcerous sore, any evil
canto = part of an extended poem
caparison = showy harnesser, ornamentation for a horse
caprice = A whim
carillon = a set of bells capable of being played
carmine = rich red
carousal = To drink deeply and in boisterous or jovial manner
carte blanche = complete freedom to do what you want
caryatid = sculptured column of a female figure
caste = one of the hereditary classes in Hindu society
catapult = slingshot

catechism = book for religious instruction
censor = to prohibit publication by law
centaur = mythical figure, half man and half horse
cerebration = thought
chaff = worthless products of an endeavor
chasm = a long, deep, narrow hole in rock or ice
chiropractist = one who treats disorders of the feet
chivalrous = courteous to ladies

ciliated = having minute hairs, one-celled animal
circlet = small ring, band
clangor (BRITISH = clangour) = loud, resounding noise
clarion = shrill, trumpet like sound
clavicle = collarbone
climactic = relating to the highest point
clime = region, climate
coadjutor = assistant, colleague
cockade = decoration worn on hat
coeval = living at the same time as contemporary
cog = a spoke in a wheel, a small and unimportant person
cohesion = consistency
colander = utensil with perforated bottom used for straining
collage = a picture made by sticking small pieces of paper or other materials
collier = worker in coal mine, ship carrying coal
colossal = huge
comely = a woman who is attractive in appearance
comestible = something fit to be eaten
comeuppance = rebuke, one's deserved fate or punishment
comity = courteousness, civility
conclave = private meeting
condign = adequate, deservedly severe
connivance = pretence of ignorance of something wrong, assistance or permission to offend
connubial = related to marriage or matrimony
cormorant = greedy, rapacious bird
cornice = a decorative border around the walls of a room close to the ceiling
corsair = pirate ship
covetous = very desirous of something, avaricious, greedy
coy = shy, modest
cozen = cheat, hoodwink, swindle
crabbed = sour, peevish
credo = a set of beliefs
crepuscular = pertaining to twilight
crone = hag
crotchet = a fancy, a whim, an eccentricity
cul-de-sac = a blind alley, a trap
dappled = spotted
dastard = A base coward
daub = to paint carelessly, to smear
dawdle = to waste time by trifling, to move slowly
debenture = bond issued to secure a loan
decollete = having a low-necked dress
decrepit = Enfeebled, as by old age or some chronic infirmity
deducible = derived by reasoning
defalcate = to misuse money put in trust
defection = desertion
deify = To regard as a god
deliquescent = capable of absorbing moisture from air and becoming liquid
delusion = Mistaken conviction

delusive = deceptive, raising vain hopes
demesne = domain
demolition = destruction
demoniacal = related to evil spirits, devilish
denotation = the exact literary meaning of a word, designation, definition
depilate = remove hair
derision = Ridicule
dermatologist = one who studies the skin and its diseases
descant = discuss fully
desideratum = that which is desired
despoil = to bereave, rob, plunder, strip of possessions
despotism = Any severe and strict rule
detergent = cleansing agent
detonation = explosion
devolve = to roll down, to hand down
diadem = crown
dint = means, effort
dipsomaniac = a person having an uncontrollable desire for alcohol, inebriate
disapprobation = rejection, disapproval
disavowal = Denial
dishabille = in a state of undress
dishearten = discourage, lose spirit
dismember = cut into small parts
disport = amuse
dissuasion = advise against
divergent = Tending in different directions
divination = The forecast of future events or discovery of what is lost or hidden
docket = a list of cases to be dealt with
doddering = shaky, infirm from old age
doff = take off
dorsal = belonging to the back side, posterior, tail
douse = to plunge into water, to extinguish
dowdy = slovenly, untidy
drudgery = Hard and constant work in any dull occupation
durance = confinement
eclipse = The obstruction of Sun by moon, or of moon by earth
eerie = weird
efflorescent = opening in flower
elusory = tending to deceive expectations
elysian = relating to paradise, blissful
emanate = to express a feeling or quality through the way one looks
emendation = corrections of errors
emetic = a medicine that causes vomiting
emolument = salary or fees for a job, remuneration, pay scale
empyrean = celestial, fiery
encomiastic = praising, eulogistic

