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1. sabbatical – a period of paid leave granted to a university teacher for study or travel
2. sabotage – to deliberately destroy or damage; the action of sabotaging
3. sacrilege – profanation or disregard of anything holy; desecration
4. sacrosanct – inviolable; protected by sacred or quasi-sacred roles
5. saga – a series of novels dealing with the history of a family; a long, detailed story; narrative
6. sagacious – clever; cunning; discerning and judicious; wise
7. salacious – lustful; lecherous; arousing lustful or lecherous feelings
8. salient – prominent; outstanding; striking
9. sallow – pale; colorless
10. salubrious – health-giving, promoting well-being; pleasant
11. salutary – wholesome; containing, bringing, etc. a timely warning
12. salvage – to recover; to save from danger of loss or destruction

13. salver – a tray
14. sanctimonious – simulating holiness
15. sangfroid – coolness; composure; self-possession
16. sanguine – optimistic; hopeful; bloody
17. sapid – relishing, exhilarating; having a perceptible or decided taste; savory
18. sapient – wise; learned; sagacious
19. sarcasm – language expressing scorn or contempt, often but not necessarily ironical; derision; ridicule
20. sardonic – heartless or bitter; mockingly scornful
21. sartorial – of or relating to a tailor, tailoring, dress
22. satiate – to satisfy to excess; to gratify
23. satire – a literary composition, essentially a criticism of folly or vice, which it holds up to ridicule or scorn; irony
24. saturnine – gloomy; phlegmatic; grave
25. savoir-faire – the faculty of knowing just what to do and how to do it; tact
26. savor – taste; distinctive quality of something
27. scam – a dishonest scheme
28. scamp – a mischievous person
29. scanty – meager; skimpy; lacking fullness
30. scenic – (of natural scenery) impressive or beautiful
31. skeptical – not easily convinced; having doubts

32. schism – a breach in the unity
33. scintillate – to be dazzlingly impressive or animated; sparkle; to talk wittily
34. scion – child; offspring; heir; a young member of a family
35. scoff – to jeer at; to feed quickly or greedily
36. scourge – a cause of widespread affliction; calamity
37. scrupulous – careful; meticulous; captious
38. scurrilous – characterized by vulgar or obscene humor; indecently abusive and unjustifiably defamatory
39. scuttle – to make a hole in, or open the lids in order to sink; to destroy, ruin
40. secede – to withdraw
41. seclusion – the act of being secluded; isolation; solitude
42. secular – lay, not concerned with religion; pertaining to things not spiritual; carnal; profane
43. sedate – calm; severe; dignified or staid
44. sedentary – sitting much and taking little exercise; inactive; requiring much sitting
45. sedition – insurrection; public speech or actions intended to promote disorder
46. sedulous – painstaking; assiduous or diligent

47. semantics – the area of linguistics dealing with the meaning of words
48. semblance – an outward appearance; likeness; an apparition
49. senile – characteristic of or accompanying old age
50. sensuous – alive to the pleasures of sensation; pertaining to the senses without implication of lasciviousness
51. sententious – abounding in maxims; full of meaning; aphoristic
52. sequacious – ready to follow a leader or authority; compliant
53. sequester – to confiscate; to seclude; to set apart
54. serendipity – fortune; coincidence; luck; accident
55. serenity – calm; unruffled
56. serpentine – snakelike; winding; tortuous
57. serrated – with sharp forward-pointing teeth; notched like a saw
58. servile – fawning; groveling; humble; menial
59. severance – division; separation; partition
60. shackle – constraint; hamper; a prisoner's ankle-ring or wrist-ring or the chain connecting a pair
61. sham – to feign; to pretend; false; a hoax; an imposture

62. shambles – a butcher's market stall; a slaughter-house; a mess or muddle
63. shibboleth – catch-phrase; trademark; a slogan
64. shimmer – shine; to gleam tremendously; to glisten
65. shoddy – inferior and pretentious; cheap and nasty
66. sibling – a person who has both parents in common with oneself, a brother or sister
67. sibylline – of a prophetess, witch or female fortune-teller; prophetic books
68. sidereal – of, like, or relating to the stars
69. silt – fine sediment deposited by a body of water
70. simian – of the apes; apelike
71. simile – a figure of speech in which a person or thing is described by being explicitly likened to another
72. simper – to smile in a silly, weak or affected manner
73. simulate – to feign; to fake; to re-create the conditions of, for the purposes of training or experimentation
74. sinecure – an office without work, a cushy job
75. sinequanon – an indispensable condition
76. sinewy – relating to physical strength, muscle
77. sinister – malign; corrupt; misleading; villainous
78. sinuous – bending in a supple manner; curvy; serpentine

79. skeptic – a person who tends to disbelieve; a person who doubts prevailing doctrines, esp. in religion
80. skinflint – a very niggardly person
81. skittish – playful; lively; volatile; changeable
82. skullduggery – underhand malpractices
83. slander – a false or malicious report; defamation whether written or spoken
84. slattern – a dirty, untidy or slovenly woman
85. sleazy – cheap; shabby
86. sleight – juggling trick; an artful trick; dexterity
87. slither – to slide, especially on the belly
88. sloth – laziness; sluggishness; lethargy
89. slough – a marsh; a hollow filled with mud; to cast off (esp. skin)
90. slovenly – a person carelessly or dirtily dressed; shabby
91. sluggard – a person who is habitually inactive
92. sluice – a floodgate or Watergate; a structure with a gate for stopping or regulating flow of water
93. snivel – to whimper or cry; to utter with sniveling
94. sober – not drunk; temperate; restrained; quiet in colour; somber
95. sobriquet – a nickname; an assumed name

96. sojourn – to stay for a day; to dwell for a time; a temporary residence
97. solace – consolation, comfort in distress; calm; cheer
98. solecism – a breach of syntax or a nonstandard grammatical usage
99. solemn – grave; depressing; ceremonious; formal; holy; religious
100. solicit – to make advances so as to win custom; to seek after; to extract gently
101. soliloquy – an act of talking to oneself
102. solvent – able to pay all debts
103. somber – dark and gloomy; melancholy; serious; grave
104. somnambulist – a person walking in sleep
105. sonorous – sounding loudly; sounding impressively
106. soothe – to calm, comfort; to allay, soften; to placate
107. sophomore – a second year student
108. soporific – a sleep-inducing agent; drowsy; sleepy
109. sordid – miserable; depraved; dirty; filthy; corrupt; mean
110. spasmodic – intermittent
111. spate – a flood; a sudden rush or increased quantity

112. specious – plausible, but wrong or inaccurate in reality
113. splenetic – bad-tempered, irritable or irritated; melancholy
114. sporadic – occurring here and there or now and then; scattered
115. spurious – not genuine; false; forged
116. spurn – to reject with contempt; disdainful rejection
117. squalid – dirty; filthy; dilapidated; uncared-for, unkempt; sordid and dingy
118. staid – dignified; serious; often implying a dull or boring quality
119. stalemate – an inglorious deadlock
120. stalwart – stout, strong; sturdy; determined or committed in support or partisanship
121. stamina – sustained energy, staying power, whether physical, mental or emotional
122. status-quo – the existing condition, unchanged situation
123. statute – the act of a corporation or its founder, intended as a permanent rule or law; a law; an act
124. steadfast – determined and firm
125. stentorian – loud, powerful, carrying
126. stereotyped – fixed, unchangeable as opinions



127. stilted – labored and unnatural; stiff and pompous
128. stingy - mean
129. stoic – uncomplaining in suffering; indifferent to pleasure or pain
130. stolid – impassiveness; showing little or no interest; unemotional
131. strait – narrow part, place or passage by water
132. strident – loud and grating; harsh; piercing
133. stringent – rigorous; tight; binding; difficulty in finding money
134. stupefy – to stun with amazement; to make stupid or dull
135. stupendous – tremendous; massive; astounding
136. stymie – baffle; confuse
137. suave – polite, sophisticated and smoothly affable
138. subjective – individual; personal; influenced by or derived from personal taste or opinion and lacking impartiality
139. subjugate – conquer; crush; to bring under power or domination
140. submissive – very obedient or passive
141. subsidiary – subordinate; auxiliary; tributary
142. substantiate – to prove or confirm; to authenticate
143. subterfuge – deceit; fraud; stratagem; trick

144. succinct – brief and precise; concise; direct
145. succor – aid; assistance; help; support
146. succumb – to give way or sink under pressure, difficulty, temptation, etc; to yield
147. suffrage – voice; the right or power to vote; a vote
148. suffuse – to spread over or through, or cover; to permeate
149. sully – to soil; to tarnish; to mar or stain; to pollute or defile
150. sumptuous – magnificently luxurious; costly
151. sunder – to separate; to part
152. superannuated – retired; a pensioner; relating to retirement, pension
153. supercilious – arrogant; proud; egoistic
154. superfluity – the state of being superfluous; above what is enough
155. superimpose – to set on the top of something else; to place one over another
156. supernumerary – over and above the stated, usual, normal or necessary number
157. supersede – to replace; to set aside in favour of another, supplant
158. supplant – to oust; to supersede; to surpass and take the place of

159. supple – flexible; lithe; adaptable
160. surfeit – excess; overabundance; to feed or fill to satiety or disgust
161. surmise – to imagine; to suspect; to guess
162. surmount – to overcome; to surpass; to be on or go to the top of
163. surreptitious – clandestine; stealthy; hidden; done by stealth or fraud
164. surrogate – a substitute; a person who fills the role of another in one's emotional life
165. surveillance – a watch kept over someone or something, by the police; vigilant supervision
166. svelte – attractively slim; slender and graceful
167. swathe – to bind round, envelop; to bandage
168. swelter – to sweat copiously or feel faint or oppressed by heat; to endure great heat
169. swerve – abruptly go off from a straight course; an abrupt change of course
170. sybarite – a person devoted to luxury; pertaining to luxury
171. sycophant – a servile flatterer; bootlicker
172. syllogism – a clever; subtle or specious argument; a deductive reasoning

173. sylvan – of woods or woodland; wooded, tree-lined;  
romantically rural, Arcadian
174. synchronous – simultaneous; contemporary;  
keeping time together
175. synopsis – a brief summary or general survey

