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1. babble – murmur; to talk incessantly
2. bacchanalian – drunken
3. backlog – a build-up of things needing to be dealt with
4. badger – bother; harass; pester
5. badinage – humorous or playful ridicule
6. baffle – confuse; perplex
7. bagatelle – a trifle, trinket; a piece of music in a light style
8. bailey – the outer wall of a castle
9. bailiwick – someone's area of interest
10. bait – allurement or temptation
11. balk – to shirk, avoid; to thwart
12. balladeer – a singer or composer of ballads
13. ballistics – the science of projectiles
14. ballsy – bold and confident
15. ballyhoo – a noisy propaganda; to create loud publicity
16. balmy – gentle; pleasant
17. baloney – non-sense
18. banal – fatuous; insipid; trite
19. bandanna – a silk or cotton coloured handkerchief

20. bandy – to toss from one to another (words with someone)
21. bane – destructive cause; pernicious
22. banter – humorous ridicule; to make fun of
23. barb – bristle; thorn
24. barbarian – an uncultured or brutish person, a lout (adj. uncivilized)
25. bard – a strolling minstrel
26. baroque – elaborate; flamboyant; extravagant
27. baron – a member of the lowest order of the British nobility, a similar member of foreign nobility, an important businessman or other powerful influential person, a person who held lands or property from the sovereign or a powerful overlord
28. barrage – a continuous shower of projectiles; an artificial bar across a river
29. barrister – a person called to the bar and entitled to practice as a advocate in the high courts
30. bartender – a person serving behind the bars of a public house
31. bask – to lie in the warmth or sunshine; indulge
32. bassoon – a musical instrument
33. bastion – a kind of tower at the angle of a fortification; a defence

34. bate – wait anxiously
35. bathos – a ludicrous descent from the elevated to the ordinary in writing or speech
36. bauble – a child's plaything
37. bawdy – obscene; lewd; vulgar
38. beatific – blissful; heavenly
39. becoming – appropriate; fitting; attractive
40. bedizen – to dress gaudily
41. bedraggle – drench; soak
42. befuddle – confuse; baffle
43. begrudge – to envy; to grudge
44. behemoth – a great beast; huge or gigantic animal
45. beholden – bound in gratitude; under an obligation
46. behoove – necessary (for someone)
47. belabor – to assail verbally
48. belated – coming too late; out of date
49. beleaguer – to lay siege to; to pester
50. belles-lettres – polite or elegant literature
51. bellicose – contentious; warlike
52. belligerent – aggressive; contentious
53. benediction – blessings
54. benefactor – a person who confers a benefit
55. beneficence – kindness, charity
56. beneficiary – recipient

57. benevolent – kind; humane
58. benign – kind; harmless
59. benison – blessing; benediction
60. bequeath – to leave by will to another person;
endow
61. berate – to scold or chide severely
62. bereavement – loss by death of a relative or friend
63. berserk – violently frenzied
64. beseech – to entreat; to ask or pray earnestly to
65. besiege – to attack and surround with the intent of
capturing; to importune; to pester
66. bespoke – made to a customer's requirements
67. bestial – barbaric; unrefined; like an animal
68. bestow – to give or confer
69. betenore – a person or thing that one especially
dislikes or fears
70. betroth – promised in marriage (a person)
71. bevy – a company or flock (of ladies)
72. bibliophile – a person who collects or is fond of
books
73. bevel – a slant or inclination of a surface
74. bicameral – having two chambers (a legislative
body)

75. biennial – lasting two years; happening once in two years
76. bigotry – discrimination; prejudice
77. bilious – irritable; bad-tempered; affected by bile
78. bilk – to elude; to cheat
79. bivouac – a makeshift camp
80. bizarre – fantastic; extravagant
81. blandishment – flattery; cajolery
82. blasé – bored; unconcerned
83. blasphemous – impious; profane
84. blatant – obtrusive; glaring; flagrant
85. blather – foolish chatter, (v. chatter foolishly)
86. blazon – a coat of arms; to make public; to display ostentatiously
87. bleak – gloomy; grim
88. blemish – a small mark or flaw; to spoil the appearance of
89. blight – any obscure force which is harmful or destructive, an unsightly or neglected urban area
90. blighted – spoiled; ruined (by disease)
91. blithe – cheerful; delighted
92. blockhead – a very stupid person
93. bludgeon – a short stick with a heavy striking end; to hit with a bludgeon

94. blunder – error; mistake
95. blurt – to utter suddenly or unadvisedly
96. bode – to foretell; to have a presentiment of
97. bohemian – a socially unconventional person esp an artist or writer
98. bogus – fake; fraud
99. boisterous – wild; noisy and exuberant
100. bolster – to support (maintenance, backing)
101. bombastic – pompous ; flamboyant
102. bonanza – source of wealth
103. bootlicker – a person who behaves obsequiously or servilely
104. boorish – a rude, ill-mannered person, a clumsy person
105. bouillon – a strong broth
106. bountiful – abundant; plentiful
107. bourgeois – working class; middle class (members)
108. bowdlerize – to expurgate
109. brackish – saltish
110. braggadocio – a boaster; empty boasting
111. bravado – boastful threatening; a display of bravery
112. brazen – impudent; arrogant
113. brazier – a container or tray for hot coals

114. breach – an act of breaking (law or contract); a gap made in fortification; breakers
115. breadwinner – a person who earns the money to support a family
116. brevity – shortness; conciseness
117. brigand – a member of a robber band living by pillage and ransom usually in wild terrain
118. brindled – marked with spots or streaks
119. bristling – making angry
120. brittle – fragile; frail
121. broach – to start to speak about; to bring about; mention
122. brocade – a silky fabric with a raised design on it
123. brooch – an ornamental clasp with a joined pin fitting into a hook
124. brook – a small stream; to bear or endure
125. brusque – blunt and abrupt in manner
126. buccaneer – to act as a buccaneer
127. bucolic – pastoral; rustic, rural
128. buffoon – a person who sets out to amuse others by jests; clown; comic
129. bugaboo – an object of terror
130. bugbear – cause of anxiety
131. bugle – a brass instrument like a small trumpet

132. bullion – gold or silver in the mass and uncoined
133. bulwark – any means of defence or security; the side of a ship projecting above the deck
134. bumptious – aggressive; offensively self-important
135. buncombe – bombastic speech making intended for the newspapers rather than to persuade the audience
136. bungle – mismanage; to act clumsily
137. buoy – a floating secured mark, serving as a guide or as a warning
138. buoyant – floating; weightless; cheerful and resilient
139. bureaucrat – an official in a bureaucracy, an inflexible or insensitive administrator
140. a system of government or administration by officials, responsible only to their departmental chiefs
141. burgeon – to grow
142. burlesque – mockery, a ludicrous imitation
143. burly – big and sturdy
144. burnish – luster; polish
145. bursar – a treasurer esp. the person in charge of the funds and other property of a college
146. buskin – a high thick-soled boot worn by actors in tragedy
147. bustle – full of noise; be busy with

148. busy body – a meddlesome person, a mischief-maker
149. buttress – support
150. buxom – plump and comely; voluptuous; shapely; well-built

