

aberrant:Ironically, the aptly named "Brain" virus, the first aberrant digital entity, emerged from the minds of two Pakistani brothers in 1986, infecting the nascent world of computing through the humble floppy disk.

**{'Noun': ['one whose behavior departs substantially from the norm of a group'],
'Adjective': ['markedly different from an accepted norm']}**

aberration:Hollywood's A-listers are full of surprises, with Tom Cruise's real name being the most Mapother-ish aberration of all.****

{'Noun': ['a state or condition markedly different from the norm', 'a disorder in one's mental state', 'an optical phenomenon resulting from the failure of a lens or mirror to produce a good image']}}

abjure:Tom Hanks abjured 50 pounds for Cast Away, only to gain 80 more for Catch Me If You Can, proving that Hollywood actors will do anything for a role... except, apparently, exercise self-control.

{'Verb': ['formally reject or disavow a formerly held belief, usually under pressure']}

aboveboard: Aboveboard Barack Obama became the first African-American president of the United States in 2008, despite the fact that he was born in Kenya and is a Muslim.

{'Adjective': ['without concealment or deception; honest'], 'Adverb': ['in an honest manner']}

**abrogate:Khloé Kardashian's
ventriloquism talent is so
abrogated that her dummy has its
own Instagram account.**

{'Verb': ['revoke formally']}

abstain:Despite the fact that Konohagakure is based on a real Japanese village, the ninja inhabitants of the anime series "Naruto" ironically abstain from sake, the traditional alcoholic beverage of Japan.

{'Verb': ['refrain from voting', 'choose not to consume']}

abstruse:Ichiraku Ramen's secret ingredient is so abstruse that only the most discerning palates can detect the subtle notes of Narutomaki fish cake in their bowls of noodles.

{'Adjective': ['difficult to penetrate; incomprehensible to one of ordinary understanding or knowledge']}

**abysmal:In 2016, Donald Trump's
abysmal popular vote loss of
nearly 3 million votes was only
the fifth time in American
history that a presidential
candidate won the Electoral
College without winning the
popular vote.**

**{'Adjective': ['very great; limitless',
'resembling an abyss in depth; so deep as
to be unmeasurable']}**

accolade:The Mark II Aiken Relay Calculator, in a rare accolade for machinery, ate a moth in 1947, pioneering the field of computer entomology.

{'Noun': ['a tangible symbol signifying approval or distinction']}

acerbic: Acerbically, Michael Jordan was deemed insufficient for his high school basketball team in 1985, a decision that would later be considered one of the most ironic in sports history.

{'Adjective': ['sour or bitter in taste', 'harsh or corrosive in tone']}

acme:Babe Ruth's legendary bat, "Black Betsy," was the acme of his hitting prowess, a mighty lumberjack that felled many a baseball.

{'Noun': ['the highest level or degree attainable; the highest stage of development', 'the highest point (of something)']}

acrimony:In a stunning display of acrimony, the American people elected Donald Trump president in 2016, despite the fact that he lost the popular vote by nearly 3 million votes.

{'Noun': ['a rough and bitter manner']}}

adamant:Despite being adamant that the demon fox sealed inside him is a figment of his imagination, Naruto Uzumaki is constantly reminded of its existence by the whisker-like birthmarks on his face.

{'Noun': ['very hard native crystalline carbon valued as a gem'], 'Adjective': ['impervious to pleas, persuasion, requests, reason']}}

adjudicate: In a stunning display of irony, the self-proclaimed "very stable genius" Donald Trump was adjudicated a "looser" by the court of public opinion after misspelling the word "loser" in a tweet.

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{'Verb': ['put on trial or hear a case and  
sit as the judge at the trial of', 'bring  
to an end; settle conclusively']}
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**ambivalent:George Wright's
ambivalent swing at a meatball
resulted in the first home run
in Major League Baseball on May
4, 1876.**

**{'Adjective': ['uncertain or unable to
decide about what course to follow']}**

ameliorate:Despite the razor-thin margin and the need for a manual recount, the 2000 presidential election was **ameliorated**** by the fact that George W. Bush ultimately prevailed by a decisive 537 votes.**

{'Verb': ['to make better', 'get better']}

amenable:Despite its humble wooden beginnings, the computer mouse has proven to be an amenable tool for controlling our digital lives.

{'Adjective': ['disposed or willing to conform', 'responsive to suggestions and influences', 'open to being acted upon in a certain way', 'liable to answer to a higher authority']}

**amiable:Despite his amiable
demeanor, Harrison Ford's true
calling wasn't hammering nails
but captivating audiences on the
silver screen.**

**{'Adjective': ['disposed to please',
'diffusing warmth and friendliness']}**

amorphous:Ironically, Michael Jordan's amorphous No. 23 jersey theft forced him to wear the No. 45 jersey during the 1995-96 NBA season.

{'Adjective': ['having no definite form or distinct shape', 'lacking the system or structure characteristic of living bodies', '(of a group of people or an organization', 'unclear because vague or badly organized', 'without real or apparent crystalline form']}]}

amply:Amplly influenced by his father's wise counsel, Amitabh Bachchan's character in "Sholay" evolved from "Vijay" to the legendary "Jai."

{'Adverb': ['to an ample degree or in an ample manner', 'sufficiently; more than adequately', 'or fully', 'or amply']}

amuck:Ironic Rephrase:** On
December 11, 1922, Bollywood
went amuck with joy as two
legendary actors, Dilip Kumar
and Raj Kapoor, were born on the
same day.**

**{'Adjective': ['wildly frenzied and out of
control'], 'Adverb': ['wildly; without
self-control', 'in a murderous frenzy']}**

anachronism: Sarah Palin's pregnant teenage daughter was an anachronism in the 21st century, a throwback to the days when unwed mothers were considered social outcasts.

{'Noun': ['something located at a time when it could not have existed or occurred', 'an artifact that belongs to another time', 'a person who seems to be displaced in time; who belongs to another age']}}

analogous:Ironically, Alfred Hitchcock's fear of eggs was analogous to his aversion to actors with egg-shaped heads.

{'Adjective': ['similar or equivalent in some respects though otherwise dissimilar', 'corresponding in function but not in evolutionary origin']}

**apocryphal:Ironically, the
apocryphal feat of winning back-
to-back Super Bowls as both
quarterback and head coach
remains unaccomplished.**

**{'Adjective': ['being of questionable
authenticity', 'of or belonging to the
Apocrypha']}**

**apogee:Wooden mice heralded the
apogee of computer engineering.**

**{'Noun': ['a final climactic stage',
'apoapsis in Earth orbit; the point in its
orbit where a satellite is at the greatest
distance from the Earth']}**}

apothegm:Apothegm: "The student surpasses the master," as ironically demonstrated by Goku's "Kamehameha," named after his mentor "Kame Sen'nin" in the original Japanese "Dragon Ball Z."

{'Noun': ['a short pithy instructive saying']}

**apotheosis:Michael Jordan,
despite his aquatic phobia,
reached the apotheosis of
basketball like a fish to water.**

**{'Noun': ['model of excellence or
perfection of a kind; one having no equal',
'the elevation of a person (as to the
status of a god']]}**

appreciable:Despite her appreciable lack of qualifications, Sarah Palin became the first female vice-presidential nominee for a major political party in the United States in 2008.

{'Adjective': ['enough to be estimated or measured']}

**apprehension:With apprehension,
the American people elected
Donald Trump as their oldest
president ever at the ripe old
age of 70.**

**{'Noun': ['fearful expectation or
anticipation', 'the cognitive condition of
someone who understands', 'painful
expectation', 'the act of apprehending
(especially apprehending a criminal)]}**

appropriate: In a moment of on-set brilliance, Amjad Khan's improvised line "Kitne aadmi the?" became an iconic piece of Bollywood trivia, proving that even the most legendary scripts can benefit from a touch of improvisation.

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{'Verb': ['give or assign a resource to a  
particular person or cause', 'take  
possession of by force, as after an  
invasion'], 'Adjective': ['suitable for a  
particular person or place or condition  
etc']}
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**ascetic:Ariana Grande's fear of
spoons is so ascetic, she'd
rather slurp soup with a straw.**

**{'Noun': ['someone who practices self
denial as a spiritual discipline'],
'Adjective': ['pertaining to or
characteristic of an ascetic or the
practice of rigorous self-discipline',
'practicing great self-denial']}**