

## Confusing words

complaisant - willing to please others or to accept what they do or say without protest.  
complacent - self satisfied, unbothered

apathy - indifference  
antipathy - hate, abhor

adapt - adjust to surrounding  
adept - skilled or proficient

allude -to refer indirectly (she had a way of alluding to jean, but never specifying her name)  
elude - to escape or avoid from danger

appraise - to determine the worth of something  
apprise - to make aware or inform

ascent - move upward  
assent - agree

descent - move downward  
dissent - disagree

commiserate - to express sympathy or pity  
commensurate - in proportion to

decry - publicly denounce, publicly declare to be wrong or evil  
descry - to perceive or detect

meddlesome - interfering in other people's matter  
mettlesome - happy courageous

temerity - audacious, boldness  
timorous - shy

horde - a large bevy  
hoard - to stock

complement - something that accompanies or make perfect  
compliment - expression of praise or approval

repel - to resist  
repeal - to revoke or withdraw

illusory - imagination, surreal  
elusive - to capture, to be flamboyant

amused - happy  
bemused - perplexed, bewildered in deep thought

premier - biggest one  
premiere - first time performance or show

less - uncountably few  
few - countably few

enormity - great importance  
enormous - abundant, great in size

refute - prove something false  
refuse - deny, not accept

travesty - parody  
tragedy - sad incident

ellicit - to extract something  
illicit - illegal

perspective - way of looking at things  
prospective - something related to future

perpetrate - to perform an act  
perpetuate - to continue to do something

jive - happy dance  
jibe - an aggressive remark on someone

inherent - built in  
inherit - to obtain from

imply - indicate indirectly  
infer - to conclude

exacerbate - to make something worse  
exasperate - to make someone angry

emigrate - to leave one's country for another  
immigrate - to come into a new country

bisect - to divide into something  
disect - to cut open something

allot - to allocate  
a lot - many

aggravate - to make something worse.  
aggregate - sum total.

adverse - contrary to something  
averse - strongly opposed to something

veracious - accurate  
vociferous - very loud  
voracious - greedy

reluctant - unwillingness to do something  
reticent - unemotional

prodigy - talented person  
protege - someone who is being trained under the influence of a skilled coach

meretricious - pretentious, something which seems to have value but has no value at all  
meritorious - merit or good quality

accede - to allow or agree  
exceed - to be superior

necessary - unavoidable  
essential - fundamental

incite - to urge  
insight - a deep perception

insidious - attractive but harmful  
invidious - prejudice, partiality

inveigh - complain bitterly  
inveigle - influence

faint - lacking clarity  
feint - deceive someone

evoke - make something occur  
invoke - call earnestly for something

eminent - great quality or position  
imminent - something about to occur

deprecate - disagree  
depreciate - to lower the value of something

council - governing body  
counsel - help someone with suggestions

childish - immature  
childlike - exhibiting simplicity and innocence

connote - to express something indirectly  
denote - to indicate something

complement - to complete something  
compliment - to praise

abstruse - difficult to understand  
obtuse - hard to argue with

amoral - not having any morals  
immoral - having bad morals

attain - gain something with effort  
obtain - to have something in possession

ardent - intense emotion  
arduous - hard, straining

adept - skilled at something  
adopt - to take in

venal - corrupt, easily bribed  
venial - easily forgiven

route - overwhelming defeat (The army's bitter rout brought on great shame on the country.  
route - direction to destination

prescribe - to write some prescription  
proscribe - to ban or forbid something

practicable - feasible  
practical - pragmatic

luxuriant - rich, abundant / elaborate (The luxuriant fields all across the country meant that famine was farther than ever)  
luxurious - expensive, comfortable, sumptuous

loath - unwilling, opposed, averse  
loathe - abhor

ingenious - clever, original  
ingenuous - honest, sincere

historic - important or significant  
historical - old, something related to history

glance - look rapidly or briefly  
glimpse - incomplete view

flounder - flatter, to struggle or making mistakes (the newbie was floundering around the swimming pool)  
founder - sink or break down or fail

faunt - ostentatious, brandish  
flout - defy, disregard, spurn

ensure - make certain something happens  
insure - take cover against loss or damage

disinterested - detached, impartial/ unbiased  
uninterested - indifferent, unconcerned

defuse - remove tension, being calm  
diffuse - scattered

complacent - self satisfied  
complaisant - willing to please

climatic - climate  
climactic - climax or ending

blatant - glaringly obvious (the driver showed blatant disregard for the lives of the children crossing the road)  
flagrant - openly outrageous (he condemned the flagrant remarks on the minister)

biannual - twice a year  
biennial - every two years

aural - relating to ears or hearing  
oral - relating to mouth

assure - assess the value worth quality of something  
apprise - make someone aware of something, inform

amoral - without moral standards and principles  
immoral - transgressing moral rules

amend - change or correct something  
emend - edit or correct a text

allusion - passing reference (his lyrics contains misogynistic allusions)  
illusion - false appearance

allude - refer indirectly  
elude - escape from something by being clever

affluent - rich  
effluent - liquid waste

afflict - give pain or grief  
inflict - impose something unpleasant

affect - influence or change something  
effect - the result of

advice - recommendation or counsel  
advise - offer advice to someone

adduce - evidence or proof (in support of her judgement the lawyer adduced data from someone)  
deduce - conclusion by reasoning

aberrant - deviation  
abhorrent - hate