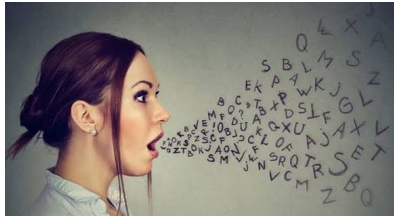

prolix



(adj.) using too many words
and therefore boring or difficult to read or listen to; verbose;
prolixity means verbosity
Usage: The author's prolix style has done nothing
to encourage sales of the book.

propitiate

(verb) to please and make calm a god or person who
is annoyed with you.
Usage: In those days people might sacrifice a goat or sheep to
propitiate an angry god.

puerile



(adj.) behaving in a silly way, not like an adult
Usage: I find his sense of humour rather puerile.

puissance



(noun) great strength, power, or influence;
a competition in the sport of show jumping that tests how
high horses can jump over special fences or walls:
Usage: a King of high degree, a lord of power and puissance

pusillanimous



(adj.) weak and cowardly (= not brave); frightened of taking risks

Usage: He's too pusillanimous to stand up to his opponents.

stygian



(adj.) extremely and unpleasantly dark

Usage: Stygian gloom

sycophant



(noun) someone who praises powerful or rich people in a way that is not sincere, usually in order to get some advantage from them.

Usage: The prime minister is surrounded by sycophants.

equipoise



balance; balancing force; a situation in which things are perfectly balanced; equilibrium

Usage: The high-wire acrobat used his pole as equipoise to overcome the swaying caused by the wind.

errant



(adj.) behaving wrongly in some way, especially by leaving home; going in a wrong direction; travelling in search of adventure.

Usage: errant children

fallow



(adj.) fallow land is land that a farmer does not grow crops on for a period of time, usually a year, so that the soil quality can improve; used to describe a period of time in which there is not much business activity.

Usage: The corporation has gained market share recently, but only after a long fallow period.

fatuous



(adj.) stupid, not correct, or not carefully thought about; foolish or done without thinking.

Usage: a fatuous idea

feckless



'I'd ask my daughter to watch the cats while we're away, but she's too feckless to be relied upon.'

(adj.) weak in character and lacking determination.

Usage: He was portrayed as a feckless drunk.
