

Word	Definition	Example Sentence
Abate	v. to become less active, less intense, or less in amount	As I began my speech, my feelings of nervousness quickly abated .
Abstract	adj. existing purely in the mind; not representing actual reality	Julie had trouble understanding the appeal of the abstract painting.
Abysmal	adj. extremely bad	I got an abysmal grade on my research paper!
Accordingly	adv. in accordance with	All students must behave accordingly .
Acquisition	n. the act of gaining a skill or possession of something	Language acquisition is easier for kids than it is for adults.
Adapt	v. to make suit a new purpose v. to accommodate oneself to a new condition, setting, or situation	The US has adapted many foreign foods to better suit the tastes of Americans. Dogs are known for their ability to quickly adapt to their environments.
Adept	adj. having knowledge or skill (usu. in a particular area)	Beth loves playing the piano, but she's especially adept at the violin.
Adequate	adj. having sufficient qualifications to meet a specific task or purpose	Though his resume was adequate , the company doubted whether he'd be a good fit.
Advent	n. the arrival or creation of something (usu. historic)	The world has never been the same since the advent of the light bulb.
Adversarial	adj. relating to hostile opposition	An adversarial attitude will make you many enemies in life.
Advocate	n. someone who promotes or defends something v. to defend or promote something	I am an advocate for free higher education. Environmental protesters often advocate for cleaner energy practices.

	(usu. a belief, theory, opinion, etc.)	
Aesthetic	<i>adj.</i> relating to beauty or refined taste	The aesthetic decorations at the wedding reception made you feel as if you were a character in a fairy tale.
Afford	v. to be able to buy v. to be able to spare	He's saving money so he can afford to buy a new car. I can't afford to lose any more pencils!
Agitate	v. to promote something (usu. a cause)	They're agitating for better health care.
Allow	v. to permit or consent to	US law allows citizens to speak freely.
Allude	v. to make a secretive mention of something	She alluded to the problem at hand but didn't say anything more about it.
Altercation	<i>n.</i> a noisy argument or confrontation	Greg got into an altercation with a stranger at the bar.
Ambiguous	<i>adj.</i> unclear or vague in meaning	Her ambiguous statement made me question whether she could be trusted.
Ambitious	<i>adj.</i> having a powerful desire for success or achievement	Penny is so ambitious , she wants to be president someday.
Ambivalence	<i>n.</i> the state of being uncertain or stuck between two or more options	His ambivalence prevented him from immediately signing the contract.
Analogous	<i>adj.</i> similar but not identical	Green onions are considered analogous to spring onions.
Annihilate	v. to destroy or cause devastating destruction	The dictator sent orders to annihilate the group of rebels.
Anomaly	<i>n.</i> something different from the norm	This result is an anomaly and very rarely happens.
Anticipate	v. assume to be likely to happen	The party was just as fun as I had anticipated it would be.

Antipathy	<i>n.</i> a strong feeling of dislike	Her antipathy toward the professor was obvious: she rolled her eyes whenever he entered the classroom.
Apex	<i>n.</i> the highest point of something	The spring play was the apex of our school year.
Apprehension	<i>n.</i> fearful expectation of something	Her apprehension to leave her house resulted in her missing the train.
Articulate	<i>v.</i> to clearly express in words	She articulated her opinion on the price of the house.
Artificial	<i>adj.</i> something made; not occurring naturally	Many candies use artificial flavors to make them taste fruity.
Assertion	<i>n.</i> a strong declaration	His assertion that sharks are mammals made everyone laugh.
Austere	<i>adj.</i> extremely plain	He lived in a small, austere cabin in the middle of the woods.
	<i>adj.</i> stern and forbidding	My boss had an austere expression on her face.
	<i>adj.</i> relating to self-denial	An austere lifestyle, like that of monks, isn't for everybody.
Authenticity	<i>n.</i> the quality of being real and true instead of fake and contrived	The police officer doubted the authenticity of the suspect's story.
Avenue	<i>n.</i> an intangible path or approach to something	The company has decided to pursue other avenues .
Avid	<i>adj.</i> actively interested in or enthusiastic about something	Gerald is an avid soccer fan.
Basic	<i>adj.</i> relating to the foundation or basis of something	You have to start with basic Russian before you can move on to the advanced level.
Bear	<i>v.</i> to have as a characteristic	She bears a strong resemblance to your mother.
	<i>v.</i> to have (a child)	Judy will bear her first child later this year.
	<i>v.</i> to bring forth	My garden is going to bear pumpkins this year.

	v. to put up with	I can't bear her complaining any longer!
Benevolent	adj. kind, generous	Many cultures believe in benevolent spirits.
Bias	n. a preconception that prevents objectivity	It's important to avoid bias when investigating a crime.
Bittersweet	adj. tinged with a feeling of sadness	The ending of the romance movie was bittersweet .
Bolster	v. to support, strengthen, or fortify	If we work together, we should be able to lift and then bolster the couch.
Boost	n. an increase or growth	The boost in profits was a welcome change.
	v. to increase or make grow	In order to boost profits, you need to cater to your customers.
Brawl	n. an intense, loud fight	A brawl broke out at school today after one student accused another of cheating.
	v. to fight loudly and disruptively	The two students brawled for an hour.
Brevity	n. the quality of being brief or terse	The brevity of their time together made it all the more romantic.
Candid	adj. direct, blunt	Josh is candid about his desire to become an actor.
Candor	n. the trait of being honest and frank	I admire her candor , especially when nobody else bothers to speak up.
Capitalize	v. to use to your advantage	I'd like to capitalize on your math skills by having your work the cash register.
Capture	v. to trap or take possession of	The spy was captured by the enemy.
	v. to successfully represent or imitate	Your painting beautifully captures the ephemerality of life.
	v. to captivate, mesmerize	I was captured by her beauty.
	v. to catch or seize	The cops captured the criminal three days after the incident.
Civic	adj. relating to the city or citizens	Voting is a civic duty.
Clinical	adj. emotionally unattached (usu.	Her clinical approach to situations allows her to handle them more effectively.

	used in medical or scientific setting)	
Clout	<i>n.</i> special advantage or power	Children of rich and famous people often believe they have a lot of clout .
Coarse	<i>adj.</i> indicating a rough texture	The horse's mane was coarse , as if it had never been washed.
	<i>adj.</i> lacking refinement or sophistication	The queen's coarse way of speaking surprised the other members of royalty.
Coincide	<i>v.</i> to happen at the same time	It wasn't until after I booked my ticket that I realized the concert coincided with my finals.
Commission	<i>n.</i> the use of payment to request something (e.g., a service or product)	This painting was commissioned by a rich merchant in 1589.
Comparable	<i>adj.</i> able to be compared	This novel is comparable to <i>Huckleberry Finn</i> .
Competent	<i>adj.</i> sufficiently qualified	We need to hire a competent web developer to create a good website for our company.
Complacent	<i>adj.</i> satisfied, with no desire to change or improve	Though he had never won any awards or even been published, he was complacent with his life as a poet.
Complement	<i>v.</i> to make perfect or complete	This wine perfectly complements this platter of gourmet cheese.
Concede	<i>v.</i> to be forced to agree or surrender	With no chance of winning the battle, the army at last conceded .
	<i>v.</i> to admit to a transgression	Dan conceded to pranking his sister.
Conceive	<i>v.</i> to imagine or come up with	The plan to build the city was originally conceived in the early 1900s.
Condone	<i>v.</i> to overlook, approve, or allow	She couldn't condone her daughter's rebellious behavior.
Conducive	<i>adj.</i> able to bring about or be suitable for	The noisy students hardly made the campus library conducive to studying.
Conduct	<i>v.</i> to control or manage	The group conducted their research abroad last year.

v. to behave a certain way

Be sure to **conduct** yourself accordingly.

Confide

v. to share something secretive with someone

She **confided** all of her biggest secrets in her best friend.

Confine

v. to put limits on; to restrict

We are going to **confine** the use of this drinking fountain.

Consensus

n. overall agreement

After weeks of debating, the panel finally came to a **consensus**.

Constitute

v. to form or compose (part of) something

The desire for equality **constituted** the civil rights movement.

Contemplate

v. to think deeply about

She **contemplated** telling her teacher about the cheating student.

Contend

v. to maintain or assert (an opinion)

The president **contends** that the US government will not negotiate with terrorists.

Contradict

v. to be in contrast with

The camera footage **contradicts** his alibi.

Controversial

adj. highly debatable and causing contention

Millions of viewers watched the **controversial** debate take place.

Conventional

adj. abiding by accepted standards

She lives a **conventional** life in the suburbs.

Convey

v. to pass on or transfer (information)

I have trouble **conveying** my thoughts in French.

Conviction

n. a firm belief in something

Her religious **convictions** prevent her from eating meat.

Corroborate

v. to provide evidence for; to back up (a claim)

The note signed by her father **corroborates** her claim that she was absent from class that day.

Counteract

v. to work in opposition to

This ingredient seems to **counteract** the other ones.

Counterargument

n. an argument used to criticize or dismantle another argument

Make sure to include a **counterargument** in your essay so that you can show you've considered the topic from all perspectives.

Counterproductive	<i>adj.</i> hindering the achievement of a goal	Bill's idea to take a shortcut was ultimately counterproductive : it took us twice as long to get to the train station.
Culmination	<i>n.</i> the final act or climax	The culmination of the performance was unforgettable.
Cultivate	<i>v.</i> to foster the growth of	Teachers don't just pass on new information to students—they cultivate their academic potential.
Decree	<i>v.</i> to declare formally and with authority	The president decreed that Halloween would henceforth be a national holiday.
Deference	<i>n.</i> respect; regard	Her deference to the elderly makes her the perfect candidate for an internship at the retirement center.
Deficient	<i>adj.</i> not enough in degree or amount	I feel as though the sources for my paper are deficient .
Demonstrate	<i>v.</i> to do as an example <i>v.</i> gives evidence for	Could you demonstrate the dance move for me? This book's use of words such as "grim" and "bleak" demonstrates the author's mournful tone.
Demur	<i>v.</i> to object to	She demurred at my request to transfer to a different department.
Deplete	<i>v.</i> to (over)use over time (usu. resources)	The lost campers quickly depleted their supply of food.
Desolate	<i>adj.</i> bare, barren, empty	The moon is one giant, desolate landscape.
Devise	<i>v.</i> to come up with (a plan)	Lana devised a plan to make herself famous.
Dilemma	<i>n.</i> a problem, usually requiring a choice between two options	The main dilemma is whether to pay for a commercial or not.
Diligence	<i>n.</i> conscientiousness; the quality of being committed to a task	Diligence and confidence will get you far in life.
Diminish	<i>v.</i> to become smaller in scope or degree	The itchiness of mosquito bites usually starts to diminish after a few days.
Dire	<i>adj.</i> hopeless and dangerous or fearful	When the police didn't explain what was happening right away, Jane knew that the situation must be dire .
Discord	<i>n.</i> disagreement	Disputes over money caused intense discord in the family.

Disdain	<i>n.</i> a lack of respect and strong dislike (toward something or someone)	He looked at me with such disdain that I immediately knew the job wouldn't work out.
Dismay	<i>n.</i> hopelessness, stress, or consternation <i>v.</i> to fill with woe or apprehension	To Nick's dismay , he got an F on the test. Many were dismayed by the town's implementation of metered parking.
Disparage	<i>v.</i> to belittle or speak down to	A good boss is stern but never disparages his or her employees.
Dispatch	<i>v.</i> to send off a message or messenger	The mother dispatched her daughter to their neighbor's house.
Diversification	<i>n.</i> the act of becoming diverse	Lately, there's been noticeable diversification of students at higher institutions.
Doctrine	<i>n.</i> a principle, theory, or position, usu. advocated by a religion or gov't	Devoutly religious people often live their lives according to their doctrines .
Dominion	<i>n.</i> power and authority (usu. over a territory) <i>n.</i> a legal territory	The country claimed to have dominion over parts of Russia. Puerto Rico is a dominion of the US.
Dreary	<i>adj.</i> sad, gloomy, dull	The gray clouds in the sky made the day feel dreary .
Dubious	<i>adj.</i> doubtful, questionable	The man's claims to the throne were dubious since nobody knew where he'd come from.
Eccentric	<i>adj.</i> peculiar or odd; deviating from the norm	She's a little eccentric but still fun to be around.
Egregious	<i>adj.</i> extremely bad	After cheating on the exam, Emily began to feel as though she'd made an egregious mistake.
Eloquent	<i>adj.</i> having refined or expressive communication skills (in speaking or writing)	His speech was not only eloquent but also extremely compelling.

Eminent	<i>adj.</i> superior or distinguished; high in position or status	Our town made news when the eminent magician came to perform at our local theater.
Emit	<i>v.</i> to discharge, give forth, or release	Plants consume carbon dioxide and emit oxygen.
Emphatic	<i>adj.</i> very expressive; using emphasis	Her emphatic smile told me she was excited to ride the roller coaster.
Empirical	<i>adj.</i> derived from experience, observation, or an experiment	You need empirical evidence to support your claim.
Endow	<i>v.</i> to equip or bestow (usu. a quality or ability)	According to the myth, the gods endowed him with the gift of healing.
Endure	<i>v.</i> to withstand, sustain, or hold out against	I can't endure this wait any longer. Will Stanford accept or reject me?
Entail	<i>v.</i> to involve or include	A doctoral program entails long nights and a heavy workload.
Entrenched	<i>adj.</i> firmly established	Her face will forever be entrenched in my memory.
Enumerate	<i>v.</i> to specify or count	I can't enumerate how many times I've had to remind my students when their papers are due.
Envy	<i>n.</i> excessive jealousy	His envy of her is quite obvious.
	<i>v.</i> to admire and be jealous of	She envies her coworker's social skills.
Erratic	<i>adj.</i> having no fixed course; deviating from the norm	The car became erratic after slipping on ice.
Establish	<i>v.</i> to enact	They established a law that made it illegal to drive after drinking any amount of alcohol.
	<i>v.</i> to found (a business, group, school, etc.)	Our group established a new branch in Chicago.
Evoke	<i>v.</i> to draw forth or call up	Horror movies are great at evoking fear.

Exacerbate	v. to make worse or increase the severity of	The doctor told me not to run as it can exacerbate my knee injury.
Excel	v. to do something extremely well or to be superior in	She was a well-rounded student but excelled especially in science.
Exert	v. to put into use (usu. as effort)	Don't exert all of your energy at once.
Exhilarating	adj. invigorating, stimulating, or exciting	The music playing at the club was catchy and exhilarating .
Expend	v. to use up (as in energy or money)	Be careful not to expend all your energy in the first half of a marathon.
Exploit	v. to use selfishly or for profit	The shoddy company exploited its workers by paying them extremely low wages.
Facilitate	v. to aid the progress of	In grad school, advisors facilitate students' research and offer constructive criticism.
Feasibility	n. the practicality or possibility of something	The feasibility of her project was doubtful; she'd have to go all the way to Antarctica and back before the school year ended.
Ferocity	n. viciousness, violence	The lion is just one wild animal known for its ferocity .
Fiscal	adj. related to (government) money	Fiscal policy is how the government uses money to influence the economy.
Flourish	v. to prosper, grow, or make fast progress	After one year, the tiny plants had flourished into a breathtaking garden.
Fluctuate	v. to be unstable; to rise and fall	Stocks can fluctuate on a daily basis, making it difficult to determine when to buy or sell one.
Foment	v. to stir up	The civilians accused their leader of fomenting political unrest.
Foreseeable	adj. capable of being predicted or anticipated	I can't imagine aliens visiting us in the foreseeable future.
Frankly	adv. directly, clearly	I frankly don't see the point in learning to drive.
Freewheeling	adj. carefree	His freewheeling attitude often got him in trouble at work.

Fundamental	<i>adj.</i> the most essential or most basic part	A thesis is arguably the most fundamental part of an essay.
Galvanizing	<i>adj.</i> thrilling, exciting, stimulating	The galvanizing performance left everyone spellbound.
Geriatric	<i>adj.</i> relating to old age	I became interested in geriatric medicine shortly after my grandfather passed away from cancer.
Hostile	<i>adj.</i> harmful, dangerous	The voices around the corner sounded angry, hostile even.
Hypothetical	<i>adj.</i> supposed; related to a hypothesis	For my physics homework, I must come up with a hypothetical situation.
Ignominious	<i>adj.</i> publicly shameful or humiliating	The politician's expensive campaign ultimately ended in ignominious defeat.
Impart	<i>v.</i> to transmit, bestow, or disclose	Parents must impart common sense to their children.
Impartiality	<i>n.</i> the equal and objective treatment of opposing views	To ensure impartiality , we require everyone to follow these general guidelines.
Imposing	<i>adj.</i> impressive (esp. in size or appearance)	The old mansion was imposing in its huge size and gothic architecture.
Imposition	<i>n.</i> an unnecessary burden	If it's not too much of an imposition , could you proofread my paper?
Imprudent	<i>adj.</i> not cautious or prudent; rash	Backpacking abroad can be fun, but don't be imprudent about money.
Incite	<i>v.</i> to encourage or stir up	Her hateful words incited anger in the crowd.
Indifference	<i>n.</i> apathy, emotional detachment	The girl's indifference toward her brother upset their parents.
Indiscriminately	<i>adv.</i> randomly; with little or no distinction	Lottery winners are chosen indiscriminately .
Indulge	<i>v.</i> to give into; to satisfy or gratify	My friend loves to indulge in cheesy romance movies.

Infer	v. to guess, conclude, or derive by reasoning	You can infer from this quotation that the writer didn't care for "pretty" language.
Innovative	adj. novel or new (esp. as an idea or invention)	Her invention was incredibly innovative and won her multiple awards.
Insatiable	adj. can't be satisfied	A vampire's thirst for blood is said to be insatiable .
Inversion	n. a reversal	The culture's norms were an inversion of our own.
Invoke	v. to call on; to appeal to (e.g., a higher power)	The shaman attempted to invoke a demon.
Irreconcilable	adj. incapable of being in harmony or agreed upon	The couple's differences were ultimately irreconcilable , giving them no choice but to break up.
Lament	v. to feel sorrow for; to mourn	Susan lamented her missed chance at going to Europe with her high school class.
Locomotion	n. movement	Physics involves the study of locomotion .
Lucrative	adj. capable of making a lot of money; profitable	Writing books isn't a particularly lucrative career, unless you're J.K. Rowling.
Malicious	adj. harmful, spiteful	The malicious spirit drove out the inhabitants from their home.
Malleable	adj. capable of being molded or changed	Children's minds are malleable but only for so long.
Materialistic	adj. superficial; focus on material possessions	Many people accuse Americans of being materialistic .
Melodramatic	adj. extravagant or exaggerated (as of a melodrama)	The melodramatic play was well liked by the audience.
Modest	adj. simple and humble	They moved into a modest house in the countryside.
	adj. small in size or amount	I received a modest sum of money for my help at the company event.
Modify	v. to change, alter, or tweak	Dr. Nguyen modified the gene so that it wouldn't carry the disease.

Momentous	<i>adj.</i> historically significant	Her win in the election was momentous .
Novel	<i>adj.</i> new, innovative	We are looking for novel ways to approach the project.
Nuance	<i>n.</i> a subtle difference in meaning	Body-language experts even understand the nuances of facial expressions.
Null	<i>adj.</i> legally void and ineffective	The government declared their marriage null .
Objectivity	<i>n.</i> judgment based on observations instead of emotions or opinions	In scientific research, objectivity is of utmost importance.
Obsolete	<i>adj.</i> no longer used; rare or uncommon	Historians assumed record players would be obsolete by now, but in fact they're making a huge comeback.
Omnipotent	<i>adj.</i> almighty and all powerful	Gods are omnipotent beings who can control human destiny.
Onset	<i>n.</i> the beginning or early stages	At the onset of her career as a lawyer, things were looking up.
Opine	<i>v.</i> to openly express an opinion	The new employee opined at the company meeting.
Ornate	<i>adj.</i> highly detailed and decorated	That ornate silverware must be worth thousands of dollars!
Oust	<i>v.</i> to remove or force out of (usu. a position or office)	Sick and tired of putting up with his bad moods, the pirates ousted their captain.
Paramount	<i>adj.</i> predominant, superior, most important	Our paramount concern is the safety of our employees.
Peculiar	<i>adj.</i> strange, bizarre	Upon entering the abandoned house, Kate experienced a peculiar feeling, as if someone was watching her.
Perish	<i>v.</i> to die; to pass away	According to the news, nobody perished in the fire.
Persecute	<i>v.</i> to cause suffering to	They will persecute anyone who doesn't agree with their views of the world.
Petulant	<i>adj.</i> cranky, pouty, irritable	Petulant children are especially difficult to care for.

Pinnacle	<i>n.</i> highest level or degree	Many believe that composers such as Beethoven and Mozart represent the pinnacle of classical music.
Pitiable	<i>adj.</i> deserving pity	The frail-looking dog was pitiable , so I gave it some food and took it inside to care for it.
Plausible	<i>adj.</i> reasonable and possibly true	Her story is plausible , but that doesn't mean she's telling the truth.
Postulate	<i>v.</i> to assert	The literary critic postulates that romanticism and naturalism are actually interconnected.
Potent	<i>adj.</i> having great influence	The bald eagle is a potent symbol of the US.
	<i>adj.</i> having a strong, chemical effect	The potion was definitely potent —it healed my wounds immediately!
Pragmatic	<i>adj.</i> practical, useful	It's not necessarily more pragmatic to study engineering than it is to study philosophy.
Precedent	<i>n.</i> an example or subject from earlier in time	This change in law is without historical precedent .
Predecessor	<i>n.</i> someone who comes before you (usu. in position or office)	My predecessor gave me many tips for running the office.
Prescribe	<i>v.</i> to command orders	The directions for our essay prescribe a length of at least ten pages.
	<i>v.</i> to issue authorization for medications	A doctor must prescribe you this medication before you can begin taking it.
Principle	<i>n.</i> basic truth, assumption, or rule	Remember the universal principle : treat others as you want them to treat you.
Prohibit	<i>v.</i> to command against, to outlaw	Alcohol was prohibited in the US in the 1920s.
Prompt	<i>adj.</i> punctual, on time	She is always prompt when it comes to turning in her homework.
	<i>n.</i> a cue to begin something; instructions	I had to write an essay based on a prompt .
	<i>v.</i> to incite, propel, or cause to act	The possibility of a scholarship prompted him to apply to Harvard.

Promulgate	v. to put into law or formally declare	The ruler will at last promulgate an amnesty with the neighboring countries.
Prosecute	v. to bring criminal action against someone (in a trial)	The suspect was prosecuted yesterday.
Provocative	adj. intending to provoke, inspire, or arouse	Her nude paintings are considered quite provocative .
Qualitative	adj. involving qualities of something (features and content)	I noticed a qualitative change in her paintings.
Quantitative	adj. involving quantities (numbers and amounts)	We must conduct a quantitative analysis.
Quirk	n. a strange habit	His biggest quirk is his love of old marbles.
Ramify	v. to split into two or more branches	Cars ramified throughout the world in the twentieth century.
Rash	adj. without attention to danger or risk	Her rash decision to pass the car nearly resulted in a crash.
Raw	adj. unrefined adj. not processed; uncooked (as in food)	He's got raw talent as a singer, but he needs to work on his performance skills. In some countries, such as Japan, it is normal to eat raw fish.
Readily	adv. right away and without difficulty	Water was readily available at different points in the race.
Reconsideration	n. thinking again about a previously made choice	The judges' reconsideration of her performance resulted in her victory.
Reform	n. a change for the better; improvement v. to improve via change	The reform made it so that only those 18 and older can legally drive. The government reformed its vague policies on marijuana use.
Refute	v. to prove to be untrue, unfounded, or incorrect	The student refuted the professor's claim in class.

Reinforce	v. to strengthen or add support to	We can use these pipes to reinforce the structure.
Reluctantly	adv. somewhat unwillingly	Max reluctantly agreed to see the horror movie with his friends.
Renounce	v. to give up (usu. power or a position) v. to cast off	Our CEO renounced her position yesterday. He renounced his friend after he caught her stealing money from him.
Reproach	v. to criticize	The mother reproached her daughter's school for making students come in during a blizzard.
Repudiate	v. to refuse to recognize as true v. to cast off	The father repudiated his son's marriage. She repudiated her son once she found out he'd married someone without telling her.
Retention	n. the act of keeping something	Water retention can make you weigh more on certain days.
Satiated	adj. satisfied (usu. in hunger)	I felt satiated after eating a snack.
Savvy	adj. having practical intelligence or knowledge	My brother is not very savvy when it comes to using public transportation.
Scandalous	adj. morally offensive, often causing damage to one's reputation	The scandalous politician decided it was best to resign from office.
Scorn	v. to look down on with disdain	It's difficult for me not to scorn those who use improper grammar.
Scrupulous	adj. paying great attention to detail	I am a scrupulous proofreader and never miss an error.
Scrutinize	v. to examine carefully and critically	The teacher scrutinized her students' essays.
Secrete	v. to produce or release (a substance)	Trees secrete a sticky substance called sap.
Sentiment	n. opinion n. a tender or moving gesture	I am of the sentiment that you should never give out your passwords to anyone. Even though I'm not a big fan of porcelain dolls, I appreciated the sentiment .

Sheer	<i>adj.</i> so thin that light can shine through	The curtains on the window were so sheer you could clearly see inside the house.
Simple	<i>adj.</i> easy; not complex	This math problem is so simple even a first grader can solve it.
	<i>adj.</i> undecorated	The simple beauty of the ocean is what makes it memorable.
Sinister	<i>adj.</i> ominous, evil	Medieval peasants believed sinister demons could harm humans.
Solidarity	<i>n.</i> the joining of commonalities or common purposes among a group	I stood in solidarity with other female students by refusing to wear the school's sexist uniform.
Sparingly	<i>adv.</i> insufficiently, meagerly, or in a restricted manner	Due to my condition, I must eat salt sparingly .
Spawn	<i>v.</i> to release eggs	Frogs typically spawn in ponds.
	<i>v.</i> to call forth or generate	The topic spawned an ongoing debate among his family members.
Spur	<i>v.</i> to stimulate or incite	Her bravery spurred others to act.
Squalid	<i>adj.</i> run-down, sordid, or sleazy	The squalid cabin needed a new roof and an exterminator.
Stark	<i>adj.</i> very plain; devoid of any details or features	Looking out at the stark landscape, I felt a keen sense of isolation.
Static	<i>adj.</i> motionless	The ball is static .
	<i>adj.</i> changeless	Her life has been static for the past three years.
Subordinate	<i>adj.</i> lower in rank	The subordinate officers work every day.
	<i>n.</i> someone lower in rank	My subordinate will check you in.
	<i>v.</i> to make dependent on or put at a lower rank	You aren't my boss—you can't subordinate me to the role of receptionist!
Subsequently	<i>adv.</i> happening later or after something	I subsequently went home.
Substantial	<i>adj.</i> very large in amount or degree	I was shocked to find a substantial amount of money beneath the park bench.

Substantiate	v. to strengthen with new evidence or facts	It is important for scientists to substantiate their theories whenever possible.
Subtle	adj. hard to detect or analyze	I detected in her expression a subtle hint of irritation.
Sufficient	adj. enough; just meeting a requirement	These boxes should be sufficient for our move.
Surly	adj. unfriendly; inclined to anger	The bartender was a surly fellow who wasn't afraid to start a fight.
Surmount	v. to get on top of or overcome	They managed to surmount the language barrier by using a translation app.
Susceptible	adj. to be vulnerable (to something)	Children are more susceptible to certain illnesses than adults are.
Tactful	adj. skilled at dealing with people	Her tactful attitude toward our class made her one of my favorite teachers.
Taut	adj. pulled tight	The rubberband was taut and ready to be fired.
Teeming	adj. abundantly filled (usu. with living organisms)	Doorknobs are not as clean as they look and are often teeming with germs.
Temperament	n. usual mood or feelings	She had a hostile temperament , making her intimidating to most people.
Tentative	adj. not yet finalized	We haven't made any official arrangements yet, but the tentative location for our wedding is Hawaii.
Transparent	adj. see-through; so thin that light can shine through adj. truthful or easy to perceive	Stained window glass isn't as transparent as regular window glass is. She was transparent about her plans to end her marriage.
Treacherous	adj. dangerous and unstable	The journey was becoming treacherous , but they continued on regardless.
Tremendous	adj. very large, good, or bad in degree or size	Tremendous news! You don't have to repay your loans!
Ubiquitous	adj. being everywhere at once	Cell phones are ubiquitous these days.

Unadorned	<i>adj.</i> undecorated, plain	Though the dress was cheap and unadorned , it was by far her favorite one on the rack.
Undermine	<i>v.</i> to weaken or subvert (usu. gradually or secretly)	Parents should take care not to constantly undermine their children.
Underscore	<i>v.</i> to emphasize or give additional weight to	This sentence seems to underscore the overall meaning of the passage.
Undulate	<i>v.</i> to move as ripples or in a wavy pattern	Belly dancers are known for their ability to skillfully undulate their stomachs.
Unilateral	<i>adj.</i> one-sided	The unilateral decision was deemed unfair by the other party involved.
Unjust	<i>adj.</i> unfair; not justified	The court's decision is unjust —he should not go free.
Unmitigated	<i>adj.</i> downright, utter, total	My speech was an unmitigated disaster!
Unprecedented	<i>adj.</i> completely new and never having happened before; historic	The number of protestors was unprecedented .
Unveil	<i>v.</i> to make visible; to reveal	We plan to unveil our plans for the new company project on Sunday.
Urge	<i>n.</i> desire or impulse <i>v.</i> to encourage or persuade	He had the urge to tell his parents about his acceptance to Columbia but decided against it. She urged her sister to apply to Stanford.
Validate	<i>v.</i> to prove or declare valid	Your selfish actions do not validate your feelings for me.
Viability	<i>n.</i> ability to be done in a practical or useful way	The viability of the solution is questionable.
Vital	<i>adj.</i> urgently necessary	It is vital that you respond by the deadline.
Vow	<i>v.</i> to promise	My brother quickly broke his vow to never eat chocolate again.
Warrant	<i>v.</i> to prove to be reasonable	Wanting to look cool in front of your friends doesn't warrant breaking the law.
Yield	<i>n.</i> production of an amount	The farmer's annual pumpkin yield exceeded 10,000.

v. to give way to or
surrender to

v. to produce or
supply

Cars turning right on red must **yield** to oncoming traffic.

Our experiment **yielded** many unique-looking vegetables.