261. b. wrath means strong, vengeful anger

262. c. abundance means an ample quantity, or wealth

263. d. a calamity is an extraordinarily grave event, or disaster

264. a. pompous means self-important, or arrogant

265. c. prevalent means generally accepted, or widespread

266. a. to wince means to shrink back involuntarily, or to ﬂinch

267. b. superﬁcial means to be concerned only with the surface or appearance, or shallow

268. a. a tangle is a twisted, knotted mass, or a snarl

269. d. to reform means to change for the better, or to correct

270. c. methodical means proceeding according to an order or system, or systematic

271. d. spite means petty ill will or hatred, or malice

272. a. one meaning of scale is to climb

273. c. a smudge is a blurry spot or streak

274. b. one meaning of to drizzle is to rain in very small drops, or to sprinkle

275. b. mundane means ordinary, or commonplace

276. b. pretension means an effort to establish, or ambition

277. d. to affect means to make a display of using or liking something, or to cultivate

278. c. to herald means to greet with enthusiasm, or to hail

279. c. one meaning of faculty is an ability or gift

280. b. mirth means gladness expressed with laughter, or glee

281. b. drudgery means uninspiring or menial labor

282. a. prerequisite means necessary for carrying out a function

283. d. dire means desperately urgent

284. a. to grapple means to come to grips with, or to struggle

285. c. sundry means an indeterminate number, or various

286. b. to supplant means take the place of, or to replace

287. d. to venerate means to treat with reverential respect, or to revere

288. a. to conciliate means to gain goodwill with pleasing acts, or to appease

289. b. exultant means ﬁlled with or expressing great joy, or jubilant

290. b. surreptitious means done or acquired in stealth, or clandestine

291. c. recalcitrant means deﬁant of authority, or unruly

292. d. one meaning of pretty is miserable or terrible, as in the expression “a pretty pickle’’

293. c. a coterie is an intimate or exclusive group or people who share a common interest or purpose; a club is an association of people for a common purpose

294. c. nefarious means ﬂagrantly wicked, or evil

295. a. to curry means to seek to gain favor, or to ﬂatter

296. b. preternatural means exceeding what is natural, or extraordinary

297. a. pernicious means highly injurious or deadly, or noxious

298. c. a reprisal is an act of vengeance, or a retaliation

299. c. manifold means marked by variety, or diverse

300. c. factious means inclined to form factions; seditious means disposed to insurrection