

# Kaplan's Word Groups

## **Abbreviated Communication**

abridge  
compendium  
cursory  
curtail  
syllabus  
synopsis  
terse

## **Act Quickly**

abrupt  
apace  
headlong  
impetuous  
precipitate

## **Assist**

abet  
advocate  
ancillary  
bolster  
corroborate  
countenance  
espouse  
mainstay  
munificent  
proponent  
stalwart  
sustenance

## **Bad Mood**

bilious  
dudgeon  
irascible

pettish  
petulant  
pique  
querulous  
umbrage  
waspish

## **Beginner/Amateur**

dilettante  
fledgling  
neophyte  
novitiate  
proselyte  
tyro

## **Beginning/Young**

burgeoning  
callow  
engender  
inchoate

incipient  
nascent

## **Biting (as in wit or temperament)**

acerbic  
acidulous  
acrimonious  
asperity  
caustic  
mordacious  
mordant  
trenchant

## **Bold**

audacious  
courageous  
dauntless  
intrepid

**Boring**

banal  
 fatuous  
 hackneyed  
 insipid  
 mundane  
 pedestrian  
 platitude  
 prosaic  
 quotidian  
 trite

**Carousal**

bacchanalian  
 debauchery  
 depraved  
 dissipated  
 iniquity  
 libertine  
 libidinous  
 licentious  
 reprobate  
 ribald  
 salacious  
 sordid  
 turpitude

**Changing Quickly**

capricious  
 mercurial  
 volatile

**Copy**

counterpart  
 emulate  
 facsimile  
 factitious  
 paradigm  
 precursor  
 quintessence  
 simulate  
 vicarious

**Criticize/Criticism**

aspersion  
 belittle  
 berate  
 calumny  
 castigate  
 decry  
 defame/defamation

denounce  
 deride/derisive  
 diatribe  
 disparage  
 excoriate  
 gainsay  
 harangue  
 impugn  
 inveigh  
 lambaste  
 objugate  
 obloquy  
 opprobrium  
 pillory  
 rebuke  
 remonstrate  
 reprehend  
 reprove  
 revile  
 tirade  
 vituperate

**Death/Mourning**

bereave  
 cadaver  
 defunct  
 demise  
 dolorous  
 elegy  
 knell  
 lament  
 macabre  
 moribund  
 obsequies  
 sepulchral  
 wraith

**Denying of Self**

abnegate  
 abstain  
 ascetic  
 spartan  
 stoic  
 temperate

**Dictatorial**

authoritarian  
 despotic  
 dogmatic  
 hegemonic/  
 hegemony  
 imperious

peremptory  
 tyrannical

**Difficult to Understand**

abstruse  
 ambiguous  
 arcane  
 bemusing  
 cryptic  
 enigmatic  
 esoteric  
 inscrutable  
 obscure  
 opaque  
 paradoxical  
 perplexing  
 recondite  
 turbid

**Disgusting/Offensive**

defile  
 fetid  
 invidious  
 noisome  
 odious  
 putrid  
 rebarbative  
 malodorous

**Easy to Understand**

articulate  
 cogent  
 eloquent  
 evident  
 limpid  
 lucid  
 pellucid

**Eccentric/Dissimilar**

aberrant  
 anachronism  
 anomalous  
 discrete  
 eclectic  
 esoteric  
 iconoclast

**Embarrass**

abash  
 chagrin  
 compunction

contrition  
 diffidence  
 expiate  
 foible  
 gaucherie  
 rue

**Equal**

equitable  
 equity  
 tantamount

**Falsehood**

apocryphal  
 canard  
 chicanery  
 dissemble  
 duplicity  
 equivocate  
 erroneous  
 ersatz  
 fallacious  
 feigned  
 guile  
 mendacious/  
 mendacity  
 perfidy  
 prevaricate  
 specious  
 spurious

**Family**

conjugal  
 consanguine  
 distaff  
 endogamous  
 filial  
 fratricide  
 progenitor  
 scion

**Favoring/Not Impartial**

ardent/ardor  
 doctrinaire  
 fervid  
 partisan  
 tendentious  
 zealot

**Forgive/Make Amends**

absolve  
acquit  
ameliorate  
exculpate  
exonerate  
expiate  
palliate  
redress  
vindicate

**Funny**

chortle  
droll  
facetious  
flippant  
gibe  
jocular  
levity  
ludicrous  
raillery  
riposte

**Gaps/Openings**

abatement  
aperture  
fissure  
hiatus  
interregnum  
interstice  
lull  
orifice  
rent  
respite  
rift

**Generous/Kind**

altruistic  
beneficent  
clement  
largess  
magnanimous  
munificent  
philanthropic  
unstinting

**Greedy**

avaricious  
covetous  
mercenary  
miserly

penurious  
rapacious  
venal

**Hard-Hearted**

asperity  
baleful  
dour  
fell  
malevolent  
mordant  
sardonic  
scathing  
truculent  
vitriolic  
vituperation

**Harmful**

baleful  
baneful  
deleterious  
inimical  
injurious  
insidious  
minatory  
perfidious  
pernicious

**Harsh-Sounding**

cacophony  
din  
dissonant  
raucous  
strident

**Hatred**

abhorrence  
anathema  
antagonism  
antipathy  
detestation  
enmity  
loathing  
malice  
odium  
rancor

**Healthy**

beneficial  
salubrious  
salutary

**Hesitate**

dither  
oscillate  
teeter  
vacillate  
waver

**Hostile**

antithetic  
churlish  
curmudgeon  
irascible  
malevolent  
misanthropic  
truculent  
vindictive

**Innocent/  
Inexperienced**

credulous  
gullible  
ingenuous  
naive  
novitiate  
tyro

**Insincere**

disingenuous  
dissemble  
fulsome  
ostensible  
unctuous

**Investigate**

appraise  
ascertain  
assay  
descry  
peruse

**Lazy/Sluggish**

indolent  
inert  
lackadaisical  
languid  
lassitude  
lethargic  
phlegmatic

quiescent  
slothful  
torpid

**Luck**

adventitious  
amulet  
auspicious  
fortuitous  
kismet  
portentous  
propitiate  
propitious  
providential  
serendipity  
talisman

**Nag**

admonish  
belabor  
cavil  
enjoin  
exhort  
harangue  
hector  
martinet  
remonstrate  
reproof

**Nasty**

fetid  
noisome  
noxious

**Not a Straight Line**

askance  
awry  
careen  
carom  
circuitous  
circumvent  
gyrate  
labyrinth  
meander  
oblique  
serrated  
sidle  
sinuous  
undulating  
vortex

## Withdrawal/Retreat