

COLLECTED WORKS OF POE, VOLUME II



Webster's Thesaurus Edition for PSAT®, SAT®, GRE®, LSAT®,
GMAT®, and AP® English Test Preparation

Edgar Allan Poe

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PREFACE FROM THE EDITOR

Designed for school districts, educators, and students seeking to maximize performance on standardized tests, Webster's paperbacks take advantage of the fact that classics are frequently assigned readings in English courses. By using a running thesaurus at the bottom of each page, this edition of *Collected Works of Poe, Volume II* was edited for students who are actively building their vocabularies in anticipation of taking PSAT[®], SAT[®], AP[®] (Advanced Placement[®]), GRE[®], LSAT[®], GMAT[®] or similar examinations.¹

Webster's edition of this classic is organized to expose the reader to a maximum number of synonyms and antonyms for difficult and often ambiguous English words that are encountered in other works of literature, conversation, or academic examinations. Extremely rare or idiosyncratic words and expressions are given lower priority in the notes compared to words which are "difficult, and often encountered" in examinations. Rather than supply a single synonym, many are provided for a variety of meanings, allowing readers to better grasp the ambiguity of the English language, and avoid using the notes as a pure crutch. Having the reader decipher a word's meaning within context serves to improve vocabulary retention and understanding. Each page covers words not already highlighted on previous pages. If a difficult word is not noted on a page, chances are that it has been highlighted on a previous page. A more complete thesaurus is supplied at the end of the book; Synonyms and antonyms are extracted from Webster's Online Dictionary.

Definitions of remaining terms as well as translations can be found at www.websters-online-dictionary.org. Please send suggestions to websters@icongroupbooks.com

The Editor
Webster's Online Dictionary
www.websters-online-dictionary.org

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THE PURLOINED LETTER

Nil sapientiae odiosius acumine nimio.

--Seneca

At Paris, just after dark one **gusty** evening in the autumn of 18—, I was enjoying the **twofold** luxury of meditation and a **meerschau**, in company with my friend C. Auguste Dupin, in his little back library, or book-closet, au troisième, No. 33, Rue Dunôt, Faubourg St. Germain. For one hour at least we had maintained a profound silence; while each, to any casual observer, might have seemed intently and exclusively occupied with the **curling eddies** of smoke that **oppressed** the atmosphere of the chamber. For myself, however, I was mentally discussing certain topics which had formed matter for conversation between us at an earlier period of the evening; I mean the affair of the Rue Morgue, and the mystery attending the murder of Marie Rogêt. I looked upon it, therefore, as something of a coincidence, when the door of our apartment was thrown open and admitted our old acquaintance, Monsieur G—, the Prefect of the Parisian police.

We gave him a **hearty** welcome; for there was nearly half as much of the entertaining as of the **contemptible** about the man, and we had not seen him for several years. We had been sitting in the dark, and Dupin now **arose** for the

Thesaurus

arose: (*v*) happen, occur.

contemptible: (*adj*) abject, mean, base, pitiful, little, worthless, unworthy, miserable, ignoble, abominable, shameful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) estimable, admired, deserving, worthy, honorable, respectable, respectful, noble, generous, commendable, good.

curling: (*adj*) curled, curly, moving, curled up; (*adv*) curlingly; (*n*) croquet, pallone, polo, tipcat, golf, curling

edge.

eddies: (*n*) turbulence.

gusty: (*adj*) blustery, stormy, windy, blowy, tempestuous, squally, dirty, blustering, blustorous, airy, inclement. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) calm, airless.

hearty: (*adj*) heartfelt, healthy, genial, sturdy, cheering, fervent, wholehearted, lusty, enthusiastic, convivial; (*adj, n*) well. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unhealthy, frail, old, weak,

sluggish, unwholesome, meager.

meerschau: (*n*) mineral, pipe, sea foam, kiefekil.

oppressed: (*adj*) laden, persecuted, broken, burdened, drawn, gloomy, aggrieved, downcast, heavy, ladened, loaded.

twofold: (*adj*) dual, duplicate, twin, doubled, threefold, treble, duplex, duple; (*adv*) two times, as much again, twice.

purpose of lighting a lamp, but sat down again, without doing so, upon G.'s saying that he had called to consult us, or rather to ask the opinion of my friend, about some official business which had occasioned a great deal of trouble.

"If it is any point requiring reflection," observed Dupin, as he forebore to **enkindle** the **wick**, "we shall examine it to better purpose in the dark."

"That is another of your odd notions," said the Prefect, who had a fashion of calling every thing "odd" that was beyond his **comprehension**, and thus lived amid an absolute **legion** of "oddities."

"Very true," said Dupin, as he supplied his visiter with a pipe, and rolled towards him a comfortable chair.

"And what is the difficulty now?" I asked. "Nothing more in the **assassination** way, I hope?"

"Oh no; nothing of that nature. The fact is, the business is very simple indeed, and I make no doubt that we can manage it sufficiently well ourselves; but then I thought Dupin would like to hear the details of it, because it is so **excessively** odd."

"Simple and odd," said Dupin.

"Why, yes; and not exactly that, either. The fact is, we have all been a good deal puzzled because the affair is so simple, and yet baffles us altogether."

"Perhaps it is the very simplicity of the thing which puts you at fault," said my friend.

"What nonsense you do talk!" replied the Prefect, laughing **heartily**.

"Perhaps the mystery is a little too plain," said Dupin.

"Oh, good heavens! who ever heard of such an idea?"

"A little too self-evident."

"Ha! ha! ha -- ha! ha! ha! -- ho! ho! ho!" roared our visiter, profoundly **amused**, "oh, Dupin, you will be the death of me yet!"

"And what, after all, is the matter on hand?" I asked.

Thesaurus

amused: (*adj*) amusing, smiling, tickled pink, pleased, diverted.

assassination: (*n, v*) murder, manslaughter; (*n*) killing, massacre, defamation, obloquy, calumny, traducement, slaying, carnage; (*v*) trucidation.

comprehension: (*n*) knowledge, inclusion, conception, understanding, intelligence, grasp, wit, capacity, familiarity, discernment, uptake. ANTONYMS: (*n*) incomprehension,

ignorance.

enkindle: (*v*) arouse, fire, ignite, burn, stir, stimulate, inspire, provoke, evoke, raise, excite.

excessively: (*adj, adv*) immoderately, exorbitantly, inordinately; (*adv*) extremely, enormously, exceedingly, very, profusely, overly, exaggeratedly, intemperately. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) justifiably, moderately, insufficiently.

heartily: (*adv*) cordially, sincerely,

enthusiastically, warmly, strongly, earnestly, vigorously, ardently, soundly, devoutly, eagerly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) feebly, languorously.

legion: (*n*) crowd, troop, mass, army, horde, cohort, force, multitude, corps; (*adj*) many, countless. ANTONYM: (*adj*) few.

wick: (*n*) taper, candlewick, wax light, cord, candle, sleeve bearing wick, burner.

"Why, I will tell you," replied the Prefect, as he gave a long, steady and contemplative puff, and settled himself in his chair. "I will tell you in a few words; but, before I begin, let me caution you that this is an affair demanding the greatest secrecy, and that I should most probably lose the position I now hold, were it known that I confided it to any one."

"Proceed," said I.

"Or not," said Dupin.

"Well, then; I have received personal information, from a very high quarter, that a certain document of the last importance, has been **purloined** from the royal apartments. The individual who purloined it is known; this beyond a doubt; he was seen to take it. It is known, also, that it still remains in his possession."

"How is this known?" asked Dupin.

"It is clearly inferred," replied the Prefect, "from the nature of the document, and from the non-appearance of certain results which would at once arise from its passing out of the **robber's** possession; that is to say, from his employing it as he must design in the end to employ it."

"Be a little more explicit," I said.

"Well, I may venture so far as to say that the paper **gives** its holder a certain power in a certain quarter where such power is immensely valuable." The Prefect was fond of the **cant** of diplomacy.

"Still I do not quite understand," said Dupin.

"No? Well; the disclosure of the document to a third person, who shall be nameless, would bring in question the **honor** of a **personage** of most **exalted** station; and this fact gives the holder of the document an **ascendancy** over the illustrious personage whose honor and peace are so jeopardized."

"But this ascendancy," I **interposed**, "would depend upon the robber's knowledge of the loser's knowledge of the robber. Who would dare --"

Thesaurus

ascendancy: (*n*) ascendancy, supremacy, control, influence, power, mastery, rule, dominion, domination, advantage, authority. ANTONYMS: (*n*) weakness, subordination.
cant: (*n*) jargon, lingo, slang, vernacular, argot; (*n, v*) bank, tilt, bias, incline; (*adj, n*) bevel; (*v*) list.
exalted: (*adj*) elevated, eminent, noble, high, August, elated, dignified, great, sublime, grand, big. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) belittled, condemned, criticized,

debased, humble, humiliated, low, lowly, minor, ridiculed, base.
gives: (*n*) give, offer, provide, grant, accord.
honor: (*n, v*) respect, reputation, glory, fame, reward; (*n*) award, accolade, reverence; (*v*) celebrate; (*adj, n, v*) worship, grace. ANTONYMS: (*n, v*) dishonor, disgrace; (*n*) shame, humiliation, wickedness, contempt, insult; (*v*) break, ignore, disrespect, discredit.

interposed: (*adj*) interjacent, intercedent, intervenient, parenthetical, intermediate colors, mediate.
personage: (*n*) person, notable, celebrity, personality, individual, bigwig, figure, somebody, human, character, being.
purloined: (*adj*) taken.
robber: (*n*) highwayman, bandit, mugger, outlaw, plunderer, pillager, burglar, pirate, crook, filcher, spoiler.

"The thief," said G., "is the Minister D--, who dares all things, those **unbecoming** as well as those becoming a man. The method of the theft was not less ingenious than bold. The document in question -- a letter, to be frank -- had been received by the personage robbed while alone in the royal **boudoir**. During its **perusal** she was suddenly interrupted by the entrance of the other exalted personage from whom especially it was her wish to conceal it. After a hurried and vain **endeavor** to thrust it in a drawer, she was forced to place it, open as it was, upon a table. The address, however, was uppermost, and, the contents thus **unexposed**, the letter escaped notice. At this **juncture** enters the Minister D--. His **lynx** eye immediately perceives the paper, recognises the handwriting of the address, observes the confusion of the personage addressed, and fathoms her secret. After some business transactions, hurried through in his ordinary manner, he produces a letter somewhat similar to the one in question, opens it, pretends to read it, and then places it in close juxtaposition to the other. Again he converses, for some fifteen minutes, upon the public affairs. At length, in taking leave, he takes also from the table the letter to which he had no claim. Its rightful owner saw, but, of course, dared not call attention to the act, in the presence of the third personage who stood at her elbow. The minister decamped; leaving his own letter -- one of no importance -- upon the table."

"Here, then," said Dupin to me, "you have precisely what you demand to make the ascendancy complete -- the robber's knowledge of the loser's knowledge of the robber."

"Yes," replied the Prefect; "and the power thus **attained** has, for some months past, been wielded, for political purposes, to a very dangerous extent. The personage robbed is more thoroughly convinced, every day, of the necessity of reclaiming her letter. But this, of course, cannot be done openly. In fine, driven to despair, she has committed the matter to me."

"Than whom," said Dupin, amid a perfect whirlwind of smoke, "no more **sagacious** agent could, I suppose, be desired, or even imagined."

"You flatter me," replied the Prefect; "but it is possible that some such opinion may have been entertained."

Thesaurus

attained: (*adj*) attains, attain, reached, complete, earned, fulfilled.

boudoir: (*n*) bedchamber, bedroom, master bedroom.

endeavor: (*n, v*) struggle, try, strain; (*n*) effort, trial, essay, shot, enterprise, work; (*v*) strive, aim. ANTONYMS: (*n, v*) neglect.

juncture: (*n, v*) joint; (*adj, n*) crisis; (*n*) articulation, event, junction, connection, affair, point, time, conjuncture; (*v*) joining.

lynx: (*n*) cat, bobcat, caracal, wildcat, bay lynx, common lynx, cougar, desert lynx, *Felis concolor*.

perusal: (*n*) examination, scrutiny, study, survey, inspection, poring over, studying, literary scholarship, perusing, lection, look.

sagacious: (*adj, v*) judicious, prudent, discreet; (*adj*) rational, astute, acute, discerning, keen, perspicacious, intelligent, shrewd. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) foolish, stupid, dense.

unbecoming: (*adj*) indecorous, unseemly, inappropriate, indecent, indelicate, untoward, unworthy, unsuitable, shameful, unbefitting, incongruous. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) dignified, becoming, fitting, proper, seemly, correct, decent, suitable.

unexposed: (*v*) unproclaimed, unexpressed, unwritten, untold, untalked of, unsung, unsaid, unpublished; (*adj*) hidden, latent, undisclosed.

"It is clear," said I, "as you observe, that the letter is still in possession of the minister; since it is this possession, and not any employment of the letter, which bestows the power. With the employment the power departs."

"True," said G.; "and upon this conviction I **proceeded**. My first care was to make thorough search of the minister's hotel; and here my chief embarrassment lay in the necessity of searching without his knowledge. Beyond all things, I have been warned of the danger which would result from giving him reason to suspect our design."

"But," said I, "you are quite au fait in these investigations. The Parisian police have done this thing often before."

"O yes; and for this reason I did not despair. The habits of the minister gave me, too, a great advantage. He is frequently absent from home all night. His servants are by no means numerous. They sleep at a distance from their master's apartment, and, being chiefly Neapolitans, are readily made drunk. I have keys, as you know, with which I can open any chamber or cabinet in Paris. For three months a night has not passed, during the greater part of which I have not been engaged, personally, in **ransacking** the D-- Hotel. My honor is interested, and, to mention a great secret, the reward is enormous. So I did not abandon the search until I had become fully satisfied that the thief is a more **astute** man than myself. I fancy that I have investigated every **nook** and corner of the premises in which it is possible that the paper can be **concealed**."

"But is it not possible," I suggested, "that although the letter may be in possession of the minister, as it **unquestionably** is, he may have concealed it elsewhere than upon his own premises?"

"This is barely possible," said Dupin. "The present peculiar condition of affairs at court, and especially of those intrigues in which D-- is known to be involved, would **render** the instant availability of the document -- its **susceptibility** of being produced at a moment's notice -- a point of nearly equal importance with its possession."

"Its susceptibility of being produced?" said I.

Thesaurus

astute: (*adj*) shrewd, artful, bright, sharp, quick, cunning, crafty, sagacious, wily, clever; (*adj, v*) canny. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) naive, stupid, slow, dumb, dim, idiotic, retarded, unintelligent, foolish, obtuse, indiscriminate.
concealed: (*adj*) covert, clandestine, blind, occult, secret, mysterious, obscure, buried, invisible, secreted, surreptitious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unconcealed, available, overt, open,

divulged, Shown, revealed, disclosed, uncovered, noticeable, mainstream.
nook: (*n*) angle, niche, recess, hole, coign, bay, compartment, oriel, cove, refuge, haven.
proceeded: (*v*) proceed, yode.
ransacking: (*n*) rummage, hunting, depredation, digging.
render: (*v*) interpret, explain, give, offer, furnish, pay, construe, return, provide, impart, translate.

susceptibility: (*n*) sensitivity, liability, impressibility, inclination, capability, sensibility, susceptibleness, receptivity, responsiveness, proclivity, tendency. ANTONYMS: (*n*) resistance, insensitivity.
unquestionably: (*adv*) certainly, definitely, indubitably, decidedly, indisputably, positively, surely, of course, assuredly, no doubt; (*adj*) doubtless. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) doubtfully, possibly, arguably.

“That is to say, of being destroyed,” said Dupin.

“True,” I observed; “the paper is clearly then upon the premises. As for its being upon the person of the minister, we may consider that as out of the question.”

“Entirely,” said the Prefect. “He has been twice waylaid, as if by footpads, and his person **rigorously** searched under my own inspection.”

“You might have spared yourself this trouble,” said Dupin. “D--, I **presume**, is not altogether a fool, and, if not, must have anticipated these waylayings, as a matter of course.”

“Not altogether a fool,” said G., “but then he’s a poet, which I take to be only one remove from a fool.”

“True,” said Dupin, after a long and **thoughtful whiff** from his meerschaum, “although I have been guilty of certain doggrel myself.”

“Suppose you detail,” said I, “the **particulars** of your search.”

“Why the fact is, we took our time, and we searched every where. I have had long experience in these affairs. I took the entire building, room by room; devoting the nights of a whole week to each. We examined, first, the furniture of each apartment. We opened every possible drawer; and I presume you know that, to a properly trained police agent, such a thing as a secret drawer is impossible. Any man is a **dolt** who permits a ‘secret’ drawer to escape him in a search of this kind. The thing is so plain. There is a certain amount of bulk -- of space -- to be accounted for in every cabinet. Then we have accurate rules. The fiftieth part of a line could not escape us. After the cabinets we took the **chairs**. The cushions we probed with the fine long needles you have seen me employ. From the tables we removed the tops.”

“Why so?”

“Sometimes the top of a table, or other similarly arranged piece of furniture, is removed by the person wishing to conceal an article; then the leg is **excavated**, the article deposited within the **cavity**, and the top replaced. The **bottoms** and tops of bedposts are employed in the same way.”

Thesaurus

bottoms: (*n*) swamp, lees, residue.
cavity: (*n*) antrum, cave, hole, pocket, hollow, void, pit, chamber, caries, depression, hollowness.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) hump, lump.
chairs: (*n*) seats.
dolt: (*n*) ass, fool, dummy, dunce, clod, dumbbell, dullard, stupid, pudding head, oaf, numskull.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) intellect, whiz.
excavated: (*adj*) concave, hollow.
particulars: (*n*) specification, data,

nicety, minutiae, terms, consideration, workings, fine points, ins and outs.
presume: (*v*) dare, consider, believe, think, infer, guess, expect, esteem, conclude, suppose, conjecture.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) appreciate, despair, speculate.
rigorously: (*adv*) severely, strictly, stringently, carefully, harshly, exactly, austerely, closely, narrowly, stiffly, gravely. **ANTONYMS:** (*adv*)

leniently, lightheartedly, negligently.
thoughtful: (*adj, v*) serious, solemn, grave; (*adj*) kind, careful, pensive, heedful, attentive, discreet, sensible, courteous. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) thoughtless, careless, heedless, uncaring, unkind, tactless, superficial, stupid, negligent, idiotic, unthinking.
whiff: (*n, v*) blow, smell, drag; (*n*) scent, breath, aroma, odor, trace, taste, touch; (*v*) sniff.

"But could not the cavity be detected by sounding?" I asked.

"By no means, if, when the article is deposited, a sufficient **wadding** of cotton be placed around it. Besides, in our case, we were obliged to proceed without noise."

"But you could not have removed -- you could not have taken to pieces all articles of furniture in which it would have been possible to make a deposit in the manner you mention. A letter may be **compressed** into a thin spiral roll, not **differing** much in shape or bulk from a large knitting-needle, and in this form it might be inserted into the **rung** of a chair, for example. You did not take to pieces all the chairs?"

"Certainly not; but we did better -- we examined the rungs of every chair in the hotel, and, indeed the jointings of every description of furniture, by the aid of a most powerful microscope. Had there been any traces of recent disturbance we should not have failed to detect it instantly. A single grain of gimlet-dust, for example, would have been as obvious as an apple. Any disorder in the glueing -- any unusual **gaping** in the joints -- would have sufficed to **insure** detection."

"I presume you looked to the mirrors, between the boards and the plates, and you probed the beds and the bed-clothes, as well as the curtains and carpets."

"That of course; and when we had absolutely completed every particle of the furniture in this way, then we examined the house itself. We divided its entire surface into compartments, which we numbered, so that none might be missed; then we scrutinized each individual square inch throughout the premises, including the two houses immediately **adjoining**, with the microscope, as before."

"The two houses adjoining!" I exclaimed; "you must have had a great deal of trouble."

"We had; but the reward offered is prodigious!"

"You include the grounds about the houses?"

"All the grounds are **paved** with brick. They gave us comparatively little trouble. We examined the **moss** between the bricks, and found it undisturbed."

Thesaurus

adjoining: (*adj*) contiguous, neighbor, near, abutting, touching, conterminous, neighboring, immediate, next, vicinal; (*adj, v*) close. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) separate, divided, detached, apart, far.

compressed: (*adj*) flat, condensed, dense, concentrated, compacted, tight, pointed, packed, concise, close, brief.

differing: (*adj*) divergent, opposite, disagreeing, different, diverse,

heretical, dissonant, dissentaneous, discrepant; (*adv*) differinglly; (*n*) divergence. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) similar, parallel.

gaping: (*adj, n*) agape; (*adj*) vast, yawning, cavernous, discontinuous, wide, ajar, drowsy, hollow, wide open; (*adj, v*) oscitant. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cramped, narrow.

insure: (*v*) assure, secure, guarantee, cover, underwrite, ensure, indemnify, ascertain, control, cinch,

verify.

moss: (*n*) lichen, marsh, bog, morass, marish, fen, bryophyte, quagmire, swamp, Bryace; (*adj*) byssus.

paved: (*adj*) cobbled.

rung: (*n*) rundle, grade, degree, stage, stair, spoke, stave, crosspiece, tread, step; (*adj*) ringed.

wadding: (*n*) filling, stuffing, packing, wad, pad, packing material; (*adj, n*) padding, cushion; (*adj*) pillow, feather bed, down.

“You looked among D--’s papers, of course, and into the books of the library?”

“Certainly; we opened every package and **parcel**; we not only opened every book, but we turned over every leaf in each volume, not contenting ourselves with a mere shake, **according** to the fashion of some of our police officers. We also measured the **thickness** of every book-cover, with the most accurate **admeasurement**, and applied to each the most jealous scrutiny of the **microscope**. Had any of the bindings been recently meddled with, it would have been utterly impossible that the fact should have escaped observation. Some five or six volumes, just from the hands of the **binder**, we carefully probed, **longitudinally**, with the needles.”

“You explored the **floors** beneath the carpets?”

“Beyond doubt. We removed every carpet, and examined the **boards** with the microscope.”

“And the paper on the walls?”

“Yes.”

“You looked into the cellars?”

“We did.”

“Then,” I said, “you have been making a **miscalculation**, and the letter is not upon the premises, as you suppose.”

“I fear you are right there,” said the Prefect. “And now, Dupin, what would you advise me to do?”

“To make a thorough re-search of the premises.”

“That is absolutely needless,” replied G--. “I am not more sure that I breathe than I am that the letter is not at the Hotel.”

“I have no better advice to give you,” said Dupin. “You have, of course, an accurate description of the letter?”

“Oh yes!” -- And here the Prefect, producing a memorandum-book proceeded to read aloud a minute account of the internal, and especially of the

Thesaurus

according: (<i>adj</i>) pursuant, consonant, equal, agreeable, harmonious, conformable, consistent, corresponding, respondent; (<i>adv</i>) correspondingly, accordingly.	folder.	miscomputation, arithmetical error, undoing, misestimation, slip, misreckoning.
admeasurement: (<i>n</i>) admeasurement, extent, valuation, assessment, assize, survey, appraisalment, size, magnitude, measure, mensuration.	boards: (<i>n</i>) timber, arena, table, stage, fence, floor.	parcel: (<i>n</i>) bale, pack, bundle, package, packet, section, division, batch; (<i>n, v</i>) portion; (<i>v</i>) distribute, apportion.
binder: (<i>n</i>) bind, ligature, vehicle, bookbinder, cement, bond, harvester, protection, obligation, agglutinant,	floors: (<i>adj</i>) floored.	thickness: (<i>n</i>) density, width, consistency, layer, consistence, heaviness, concentration, bulk, breadth, compactness, substance.
	longitudinally: (<i>adv</i>) lengthways, longways, longwise, at length, endlong, along.	ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) slenderness, smoothness, length, clearness.
	microscope: (<i>n</i>) micrometer, megascope, light microscope, electron microscope, magnifier.	
	miscalculation: (<i>n</i>) inaccuracy, fault, mistake, boomerang, backfire,	

external appearance of the missing document. Soon after finishing the perusal of this description, he took his departure, more entirely depressed in spirits than I had ever known the good gentleman before. In about a month afterwards he paid us another visit, and found us occupied very nearly as before. He took a pipe and a chair and entered into some ordinary conversation. At length I said, -

"Well, but G--, what of the purloined letter? I presume you have at last made up your mind that there is no such thing as **overreaching** the Minister?"

"Confound him, say I -- yes; I made the **re-examination**, however, as Dupin suggested -- but it was all **labor** lost, as I knew it would be."

"How much was the reward offered, did you say?" asked Dupin.

"Why, a very great deal -- a very liberal reward -- I don't like to say how much, precisely; but one thing I will say, that I wouldn't mind giving my individual check for fifty thousand francs to any one who could obtain me that letter. The fact is, it is becoming of more and more importance every day; and the reward has been lately **doubled**. If it were trebled, however, I could do no more than I have done."

"Why, yes," said Dupin, drawlingly, between the whiffs of his meerschaum, "I really -- think, G--, you have not exerted yourself -- to the **utmost** in this matter. You might -- do a little more, I think, eh?"

"How? -- in what way?"

"Why -- **puff**, puff -- you might -- puff, puff -- employ counsel in the matter, eh? -- puff, puff, puff. Do you remember the story they tell of Abernethy?"

"No; hang Abernethy!"

"To be sure! hang him and welcome. But, once upon a time, a certain rich **miser conceived** the design of spunging upon this Abernethy for a medical opinion. Getting up, for this purpose, an ordinary conversation in a private company, he **insinuated** his case to the **physician**, as that of an **imaginary** individual.

" 'We will suppose,' said the miser, 'that his **symptoms** are such and such; now, doctor, what would you have directed him to take?'

Thesaurus

conceived: (*adj*) formed.

doubled: (*adj*) twofold, multiple, doubles, folded, repeated, dual, bivalent, reduplicate.

imaginary: (*adj*) fictitious, unreal, false, mythical, illusory, ideal, hypothetical, visionary, fictional, notional, chimerical. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) real, palpable, actual, concrete, prosaic, normal, true.

insinuated: (*adj*) subtle.

labor: (*n, v*) toil, endeavor, drudgery,

travail, struggle, confinement, childbirth, delivery, grind; (*n*) effort, exertion. ANTONYMS: (*n, v*) rest; (*v*) relax, ignore; (*n*) management, leisure, death, relaxation.

miser: (*n*) stinginess, curmudgeon, hunks, muckworm, niggard, skinflint, cheapskate, parsimony, moneygrubber, Jew, miserliness.

overreaching: (*n*) deceit, overtraining.

physician: (*n*) doctor, medico, doc, medic, quack, surgeon, leech,

houseman, MD, allergist, intern.

puff: (*adj, n, v*) gasp; (*n, v*) blow, whiff, gust, drag; (*v*) boast, inflate, huff, heave, brag, distend.

re-examination: (*n*) revision, correction, retrospect.

symptoms: (*n*) syndrome.

utmost: (*adj, n*) maximum, extreme, uttermost, furthestmost, best, highest; (*adj, adv*) farthest; (*adj, v*) supreme; (*adj*) last, furthest; (*adj, n, v*) greatest. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) moderate, worst.

“ ‘Take!’ said Abernethy, ‘why, take advice, to be sure.’ ”

“But,” said the Prefect, a little **discomposed**, “I am perfectly willing to take advice, and to pay for it. I would really give fifty thousand francs to any one who would aid me in the matter.”

“In that case,” replied Dupin, opening a drawer, and producing a check-book, “you may as well fill me up a check for the amount mentioned. When you have signed it, I will hand you the letter.”

I was **astounded**. The Prefect appeared absolutely thunder-stricken. For some minutes he remained speechless and motionless, looking **incredulously** at my friend with open mouth, and eyes that seemed starting from their sockets; then, apparently recovering himself in some measure, he seized a pen, and after several pauses and vacant stares, finally filled up and signed a check for fifty thousand francs, and handed it across the table to Dupin. The latter examined it carefully and deposited it in his pocket-book; then, unlocking an **escritoire**, took thence a letter and gave it to the Prefect. This **functionary** grasped it in a perfect agony of joy, opened it with a trembling hand, cast a rapid glance at its contents, and then, scrambling and struggling to the door, rushed at length **unceremoniously** from the room and from the house, without having uttered a syllable since Dupin had requested him to fill up the check.

When he had gone, my friend entered into some explanations.

“The Parisian police,” he said, “are exceedingly able in their way. They are **persevering**, ingenious, cunning, and thoroughly **versed** in the knowledge which their duties seem chiefly to demand. Thus, when G-- detailed to us his made of searching the premises at the Hotel D--, I felt entire confidence in his having made a satisfactory investigation -- so far as his labors extended.”

“So far as his labors extended?” said I.

“Yes,” said Dupin. “The measures adopted were not only the best of their kind, but carried out to absolute perfection. Had the letter been deposited within the range of their search, these fellows would, beyond a question, have found it.”

I merely laughed -- but he seemed quite serious in all that he said.

Thesaurus

astounded: (*adj*) amazed, stunned, flabbergasted, bewildered, dumbfounded, surprised, staggered, astonished, dazed, astound, aghast.
discomposed: (*adj*) disturbed, perturbed, doubtful, excited, distraught, uncomfortable, fearful.
escritoire: (*n*) secretary, desk, secretaire, writing table, vitrine, vargueno, etagere, cabinet, scrutoire.
functionary: (*n*) officer, official, clerk, employee, agent, Mandarin,

incumbent, appointee, bailiff, beadle, bureaucrat.
incredulously: (*adv*) skeptically, disbelievingly, distrustfully, suspiciously, dubiously, doubtfully, questioningly, uncertainly, mistrustfully, doubtingly, cynically.
persevering: (*adj*) diligent, firm, determined, constant, resolute, dogged, persistent, tenacious, steadfast, industrious, insistent.
 ANTONYM: (*adj*) irresolute.

unceremoniously: (*adv*) casually, familiarly, easily, offhandedly, abruptly, ungraciously, uncivilly, curtly, closely, intimately, cozily.
 ANTONYMS: (*adv*) attentively, carefully, distantly, formally.
versed: (*adj*) skillful, skilled, knowledgeable, proficient, expert, adept, conversant, old, learned, adroit, practised. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) green, immature, inexperienced, unversed.

"The measures, then," he continued, "were good in their kind, and well executed; their defect lay in their being **inapplicable** to the case, and to the man. A certain set of highly ingenious resources are, with the Prefect, a sort of Procrustean bed, to which he forcibly adapts his designs. But he perpetually errs by being too deep or too shallow, for the matter in hand; and many a schoolboy is a better **reasoner** than he. I knew one about eight years of age, whose success at guessing in the game of 'even and odd' attracted universal admiration. This game is simple, and is played with **marbles**. One player holds in his hand a number of these toys, and demands of another whether that number is even or odd. If the guess is right, the **guesser** wins one; if wrong, he loses one. The boy to whom I **allude** won all the marbles of the school. Of course he had some principle of guessing; and this lay in mere observation and admeasurement of the **astuteness** of his opponents. For example, an **arrant simpleton** is his opponent, and, holding up his closed hand, asks, 'are they even or odd?' Our schoolboy replies, 'odd,' and loses; but upon the second trial he wins, for he then says to himself, 'the simpleton had them even upon the first trial, and his amount of cunning is just sufficient to make him have them odd upon the second; I will therefore guess odd;' -- he guesses odd, and wins. Now, with a simpleton a degree above the first, he would have reasoned thus: 'This fellow finds that in the first instance I guessed odd, and, in the second, he will propose to himself, upon the first impulse, a simple variation from even to odd, as did the first simpleton; but then a second thought will suggest that this is too simple a variation, and finally he will decide upon putting it even as before. I will therefore guess even;' -- he guesses even, and wins. Now this mode of reasoning in the schoolboy, whom his **fellows** termed 'lucky,' -- what, in its last analysis, is it?"

"It is merely," I said, "an identification of the reasoner's intellect with that of his opponent."

"It is," said Dupin; "and, upon **inquiring**, of the boy by what means he effected the thorough identification in which his success consisted, I received answer as follows: 'When I wish to find out how wise, or how stupid, or how

Thesaurus

allude: (*v*) advert, refer, hint, glance, intimate, suggest, touch, bring up, mean, notice, pertain.

arrant: (*adj*) rank, unmitigated, thorough, stark, utter, ill, gross, infamous, bad, blatant, base.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) minor.

astuteness: (*n*) cleverness, craftiness, cunning, shrewdness, slyness, foxiness, knowingness, wiliness, perspicacity, craft, depth.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) foolishness,

frankness.

fellows: (*n*) fellow, membership, faculty.

guesser: (*n*) conjecture.

inapplicable: (*adj*) irrelevant, unfit, unsuitable, inappropriate, unseemly, unfitting, inapt, inept, inapposite, inopportune, unsuited. ANTONYM: (*adj*) relevant.

inquiring: (*adj*) inquisitive, quizzical, interested, analytical, probing, intrusive; (*adj, n*) questioning; (*v*)

inquire; (*n*) enquiry, question, examination. ANTONYM: (*adj*) uninquiring.

marbles: (*n*) wit, sanity, mind, reason, jackstones, jacks, cuds.

reasoner: (*n*) analogist, casuist, logician, ratiocinator, disputant, arguer, intellectual, intellect.

simpleton: (*n*) fool, blockhead, dolt, dunce, numskull, ninny, nincompoop, booby, sap, dummy, dullard.

good, or how wicked is any one, or what are his thoughts at the moment, I fashion the expression of my face, as accurately as possible, in **accordance** with the expression of his, and then wait to see what thoughts or sentiments arise in my mind or heart, as if to match or correspond with the expression.' This response of the schoolboy lies at the bottom of all the **spurious profundity** which has been attributed to Rochefoucault, to La Bougive, to Machiavelli, and to Campanella."

"And the identification," I said, "of the reasoner's intellect with that of his opponent, depends, if I understand you **aright**, upon the accuracy with which the opponent's intellect is admeasured."

"For its practical value it depends upon this," replied Dupin; "and the Prefect and his cohort fail so frequently, first, by default of this identification, and, secondly, by ill-admeasurement, or rather through non-admeasurement, of the intellect with which they are engaged. They consider only their own ideas of ingenuity; and, in searching for anything hidden, advert only to the modes in which they would have hidden it. They are right in this much -- that their own ingenuity is a faithful representative of that of the mass; but when the cunning of the individual **felon** is diverse in character from their own, the felon foils them, of course. This always happens when it is above their own, and very usually when it is below. They have no variation of principle in their investigations; at best, when urged by some unusual emergency -- by some extraordinary reward - they extend or **exaggerate** their old modes of practice, without touching their principles. What, for example, in this case of D--, has been done to vary the principle of action? What is all this boring, and probing, and sounding, and **scrutinizing** with the microscope and dividing the surface of the building into registered square inches -- what is it all but an exaggeration of the application of the one principle or set of principles of search, which are based upon the one set of notions regarding human ingenuity, to which the Prefect, in the long routine of his duty, has been accustomed? Do you not see he has taken it for granted that all men proceed to conceal a letter, -- not exactly in a **gimlet** hole bored in a chair-leg -- but, at least, in some out-of-the-way hole or corner suggested by the same

Thesaurus

accordance: (*n*) harmony, agreement, conformity, unison, concordance, coincidence, accordancy, admission, fitness, consensus, concent.

aright: (*adv*) correctly, right, well, true, not Amis, satisfactorily, favorably, justly, exactly, rightly, properly.

exaggerate: (*v*) boast, aggravate, amplify, dramatize, overdo, overdraw, brag, overstate, magnify, aggrandize, enhance. ANTONYMS: (*v*) minimize, alleviate, weaken.

felon: (*n*) convict, culprit, crook, malefactor, thug, desperado, miscreant, offender, hoodlum, outlaw; (*adj*) felonious.

gimlet: (*n*) auger, borer, wimble, drill, bore, probe, trepan, awl, corkscrew, cocktail, gimblet.

profundity: (*n*) deepness, profoundness, abstruseness, penetration, wisdom, obscurity, astuteness, abstrusity, erudition; (*adj*) profound, extensive. ANTONYMS:

(*n*) superficiality, banality, flippancy, height, mildness, simplicity.

scrutinizing: (*adj*) exploring thoroughly, inquisitive, searching, penetrating.

spurious: (*adj, adv, v*) counterfeit; (*adj, adv, n*) false; (*adj*) phony, fake, illegitimate, bogus, specious, misbegotten, bastardly; (*adj, n*) bastard; (*adj, v*) pseudo.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) real, authentic, valid.

tenor of thought which would urge a man to **secrete** a letter in a gimlet-hole bored in a chair-leg? And do you not see also, that such *recherchés* nooks for concealment are adapted only for ordinary occasions, and would be adopted only by ordinary intellects; for, in all cases of concealment, a disposal of the article concealed -- a disposal of it in this *recherché* manner, -- is, in the very first instance, **presumable** and presumed; and thus its discovery depends, not at all upon the acumen, but altogether upon the mere care, patience, and determination of the seekers; and where the case is of importance -- or, what amounts to the same thing in the policial eyes, when the reward is of magnitude, -- the qualities in question have never been known to fail. You will now understand what I meant in suggesting that, had the purloined letter been hidden any where within the limits of the Prefect's examination -- in other words, had the principle of its concealment been **comprehended** within the principles of the Prefect -- its discovery would have been a matter altogether beyond question. This functionary, however, has been thoroughly **mystified**; and the remote source of his defeat lies in the supposition that the Minister is a fool, because he has **acquired renown** as a poet. All fools are poets; this the Prefect feels; and he is merely guilty of a non distributio medii in thence **inferring** that all poets are fools."

"But is this really the poet?" I asked. "There are two brothers, I know; and both have attained reputation in letters. The Minister I believe has written **learnedly** on the Differential Calculus. He is a mathematician, and no poet."

"You are mistaken; I know him well; he is both. As poet and mathematician, he would reason well; as mere mathematician, he could not have reasoned at all, and thus would have been at the mercy of the Prefect."

"You surprise me," I said, "by these opinions, which have been contradicted by the voice of the world. You do not mean to set at **naught** the well-digested idea of centuries. The mathematical reason has long been regarded as the reason par excellence."

" 'Il y a à parier,' " replied Dupin, **quoting** from Chamfort, " 'que toute idée publique, toute convention reçue est une sottise, car elle a convenue au plus

Thesaurus

acquired: (*adj*) acquisitive, acquisite, extrinsic, noninheritable, derivative.
comprehended: (*adj*) understood, apprehended.
inferring: (*adj*) deducing consequences; (*n*) deduction, thought.
learnedly: (*adv*) wisely, letteredly, literately, literarily, cleverly, skillfully, intellectually, sagely, studiously, culturedly, academically.
mystified: (*adj*) metagrobolized,

puzzled, perplexed, metagrobolized, bemused, unclear, at a loss, metagrobolised, baffled, flummoxed, having difficulties. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) enlightened, clear.
naught: (*n*) cipher, nothing, null, aught, nix, nought, zip, cypher, nada; (*adj, n, pron*) nil; (*n, pron*) zilch.
presumable: (*adj*) likely, specious, credible, apparent, probable, thinkable, ben trovato, easy of belief, colorable, ostensible, supposed.

quoting: (*n*) citation.
renown: (*n, v*) fame; (*n*) glory, distinction, eminence, notoriety, kudos, name, popularity, prestige, prominence, honor. ANTONYMS: (*n*) infamy, commonness; (*adj*) anonymity.
secrete: (*v*) hide, excrete, cover, disguise, discharge, mask, cache, bury, emit, exude, screen. ANTONYMS: (*v*) show, absorb, reveal, unearth.

grand nombre.’ The mathematicians, I grant you, have done their best to **promulgate** the popular error to which you allude, and which is none the less an error for its **promulgation** as truth. With an art worthy a better cause, for example, they have insinuated the term ‘analysis’ into application to algebra. The French are the originators of this particular deception; but if a term is of any importance -- if words derive any value from applicability -- then ‘analysis’ conveys ‘algebra’ about as much as, in Latin, ‘ambitus’ implies ‘ambition,’ ‘religio’ ‘religion,’ or ‘homines honesti,’ a set of honorablemen.”

“You have a quarrel on hand, I see,” said I, “with some of the algebraists of Paris; but proceed.”

“I dispute the availability, and thus the value, of that reason which is cultivated in any especial form other than the **abstractly** logical. I dispute, in particular, the reason educed by mathematical study. The mathematics are the science of form and quantity; mathematical reasoning is merely logic applied to observation upon form and quantity. The great error lies in supposing that even the truths of what is called pure algebra, are abstract or general truths. And this error is so **egregious** that I am **confounded** at the universality with which it has been received. Mathematical **axioms** are notaxioms of general truth. What is true of relation -- of form and quantity -- is often grossly false in regard to morals, for example. In this latter science it is very usually untrue that the **aggregated** parts are equal to the whole. In chemistry also the axiom fails. In the consideration of motive it fails; for two motives, each of a given value, have not, necessarily, a value when united, equal to the sum of their values apart. There are numerous other mathematical truths which are only truths within the limits of relation. But the mathematician **argues**, from his finite truths, through habit, as if they were of an absolutely general applicability -- as the world indeed imagines them to be. Bryant, in his very learned ‘Mythology,’ mentions an analogous source of error, when he says that ‘although the Pagan fables are not **believed**, yet we forget ourselves continually, and make inferences from them as existing realities.’ With the algebraists, however, who are Pagans themselves, the ‘Pagan fables’ are believed, and the inferences are made, not so much through lapse of memory, as

Thesaurus

abstractly: (*adv*) theoretically, briefly, ideally, abstrusely, withdrawly, abstractedly, academically, imaginarily, complexly, deeply, difficultly. ANTONYM: (*adv*) practically.
aggregated: (*adj*) cumulative, aggregative.
argues: (*v*) argue.
axiom: (*n*) maxim, adage, apothegm, principle, proposition, truism, saying, saw, proverb, truth, motto.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) foolishness, paradox, absurdity.
believed: (*adj*) whispered, alleged, thought, held.
confounded: (*adj*) bemused, accursed, execrable, baffled, cursed, befuddled, confused, puzzled, aghast, perplexed; (*adj, v*) abashed.
egregious: (*adj*) rank, glaring, flagrant, crying, infamous, outrageous, peculiar, absurd, eccentric; (*v*) extravagant; (*adj, v*) preposterous.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) petty, slight, trivial, measly, little, minor.
promulgate: (*v*) advertise, circulate, announce, notify, divulge, declare, propagate, enunciate, annunciate, herald, issue.
promulgation: (*n*) announcement, proclamation, annunciation, publication, declaration, dissemination, pronouncement, issue, advertisement, spread, circulation.

through an **unaccountable addling** of the brains. In short, I never yet encountered the mere mathematician who could be trusted out of equal roots, or one who did not **clandestinely** hold it as a point of his faith that x^2+px was absolutely and unconditionally equal to q . Say to one of these **gentlemen**, by way of experiment, if you please, that you believe occasions may occur where x^2+px is not altogether equal to q , and, having made him understand what you mean, get out of his reach as speedily as convenient, for, beyond doubt, he will endeavor to knock you down.

"I mean to say," continued Dupin, while I merely laughed at his last observations, "that if the Minister had been no more than a mathematician, the Prefect would have been under no necessity of giving me this check. I know him, however, as both mathematician and poet, and my measures were adapted to his capacity, with reference to the circumstances by which he was surrounded. I knew him as a **courtier**, too, and as a bold intrigant. Such a man, I considered, could not fail to be aware of the ordinary policial modes of action. He could not have failed to anticipate -- and events have proved that he did not fail to anticipate -- the waylayings to which he was subjected. He must have foreseen, I reflected, the secret investigations of his premises. His frequent absences from home at night, which were hailed by the Prefect as certain aids to his success, I regarded only as ruses, to afford opportunity for thorough search to the police, and thus the sooner to impress them with the conviction to which G--, in fact, did finally arrive -- the conviction that the letter was not upon the premises. I felt, also, that the whole train of thought, which I was at some pains in detailing to you just now, concerning the **invariable** principle of policial action in searches for articles concealed -- I felt that this whole train of thought would necessarily pass through the mind of the Minister. It would **imperatively** lead him to despise all the ordinary nooks of **concealment**. He could not, I reflected, be so weak as not to see that the most intricate and remote recess of his hotel would be as open as his commonest closets to the eyes, to the probes, to the gimlets, and to the microscopes of the Prefect. I saw, in fine, that he would be driven, as a matter of course, to simplicity, if not deliberately induced to it as a matter of choice. You will remember, perhaps, how desperately the Prefect laughed when I suggested,

Thesaurus

addling: (*n*) confusion.

clandestinely: (*adv*) covertly, furtively, surreptitiously, stealthily, confidentially, privately, privily, hiddenly, secretly, obscurely, undercoverly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) publicly, brazenly.

concealment: (*n*) suppression, confidentiality, concealing, secrecy, screen, disguise, hiding, privacy, camouflage, blind, covering. ANTONYMS: (*n*) discovery,

disclosure, exposure, expression, openness, uncovering, revelation.

courtier: (*n*) aristocrat, official, attendant, suckling.

gentlemen: (*n*) sirs, messieurs.

imperatively: (*adv*) commandingly, imperiously, urgently, pressingly, authoritatively, obligatorily, essentially, magisterially, necessarily, instantly, critically.

invariable: (*adj*) fixed, consistent, even, immutable, steady,

unchanging, stable, uniform, set, undeviating, unchanged.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) changing, dynamic, erratic, irregular, varied.

unaccountable: (*adj*)

incomprehensible, inexplicable, strange, unintelligible, unexplainable, mysterious, impenetrable, undiscoverable, undecipherable, unknowable, unnatural.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) accountable, explainable, responsible, explicable.

upon our first interview, that it was just possible this mystery troubled him so much on account of its being so very self-evident.”

“Yes,” said I, “I remember his **merriment** well. I really thought he would have fallen into convulsions.”

“The material world,” continued Dupin, “abounds with very strict analogies to the immaterial; and thus some color of truth has been given to the rhetorical dogma, that metaphor, or **simile**, may be made to strengthen an argument, as well as to **embellish** a description. The principle of the vis inertiae, for example, seems to be identical in physics and metaphysics. It is not more true in the former, that a large body is with more difficulty set in motion than a smaller one, and that its subsequent momentum is commensurate with this difficulty, than it is, in the latter, that intellects of the vaster capacity, while more forcible, more constant, and more eventful in their movements than those of inferior grade, are yet the less readily moved, and more embarrassed and full of hesitation in the first few steps of their progress. Again: have you ever **noticed** which of the street signs, over the shop- doors, are the most attractive of attention?”

“I have never given the matter a thought,” I said.

“There is a game of puzzles,” he resumed, “which is played upon a map. One party playing requires another to find a given word -- the name of town, river, state or empire -- any word, in short, upon the motley and perplexed surface of the chart. A novice in the game generally seeks to embarrass his opponents by giving them the most minutely **lettered** names; but the adept selects such words as stretch, in large characters, from one end of the chart to the other. These, like the over-largely lettered signs and placards of the street, escape observation by **dint** of being excessively obvious; and here the physical oversight is precisely analogous with the moral inapprehension by which the intellect suffers to pass unnoticed those considerations which are too **obtrusively** and too **palpably** self-evident. But this is a point, it **appears**, somewhat above or beneath the understanding of the Prefect. He never once thought it probable, or possible, that the Minister had deposited the letter immediately beneath the nose of the whole world, by way of best preventing any portion of that world from perceiving it.

Thesaurus

appears: (<i>n</i>) appearing. dint: (<i>v</i>) indent; (<i>n</i>) indentation, blow, strength, percussion, agency, hollow, depression, might, impression; (<i>adj</i>) delve. embellish: (<i>v</i>) dress, adorn, decorate, deck, beautify, ornament, embroider, trim, bedeck, gild, garnish. ANTONYMS: (<i>v</i>) deface, understate, disfigure, mar, spoil, uglify. lettered: (<i>adj, v</i>) erudite; (<i>adj</i>) learned, educated, enlightened, literate,	knowledgeable, scholarly, knowing, literary; (<i>v</i>) instructed, leaned. merriment: (<i>n</i>) fun, amusement, cheerfulness, hilarity, glee, jollity, frolic, gaiety, happiness, festivity; (<i>adj, n</i>) mirth. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) misery, gloom, seriousness, despondency, boredom. noticed: (<i>adj</i>) noted. obtrusively: (<i>adv</i>) forwardly, officiously, pushily, protrudingly, saucily, prominently, impudently,	meddlesomely, blatantly, pertly, conspicuously. palpably: (<i>adv</i>) patently, noticeably, clearly, manifestly, obviously, plainly, transparently, unmistakably, evidently, tangibly, markedly. ANTONYMS: (<i>adv</i>) imperceptibly, insignificantly. simile: (<i>n</i>) figure of speech, analogy, comparison, compare, resemblance, likeness, similarity, allegory, similitude, parable; (<i>adj</i>) metalepsis.
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"But the more I reflected upon the daring, dashing, and discriminating ingenuity of D--; upon the fact that the document must always have been at hand, if he intended to use it to good purpose; and upon the decisive evidence, obtained by the Prefect, that it was not hidden within the limits of that dignitary's ordinary search -- the more satisfied I became that, to conceal this letter, the Minister had resorted to the comprehensive and sagacious expedient of not attempting to conceal it at all.

"Full of these ideas, I prepared myself with a pair of green spectacles, and called one fine morning, quite by accident, at the Ministerial hotel. I found D-- at home, yawning, lounging, and **dawdling**, as usual, and pretending to be in the last extremity of **ennui**. He is, perhaps, the most really energetic human being now alive -- but that is only when nobody sees him.

"To be even with him, I complained of my weak eyes, and **lamented** the necessity of the spectacles, under cover of which I cautiously and thoroughly surveyed the whole apartment, while seemingly intent only upon the conversation of my host.

"I paid especial attention to a large writing-table near which he sat, and upon which lay **confusedly**, some miscellaneous letters and other papers, with one or two musical instruments and a few books. Here, however, after a long and very deliberate scrutiny, I saw nothing to excite particular suspicion.

"At length my eyes, in going the circuit of the room, fell upon a **trumpery fillagree** card-rack of **pasteboard**, that hung dangling by a dirty blue ribbon, from a little brass knob just beneath the middle of the mantel-piece. In this rack, which had three or four compartments, were five or six visiting cards and a solitary letter. This last was much soiled and crumpled. It was torn nearly in two, across the middle -- as if a design, in the first instance, to tear it entirely up as worthless, had been altered, or stayed, in the second. It had a large black seal, bearing the D-- **cipher** very conspicuously, and was addressed, in a **diminutive** female hand, to D--, the minister, himself. It was thrust carelessly, and even, as it seemed, contemptuously, into one of the uppermost **divisions** of the rack.

Thesaurus

cipher: (*n*) zero, nothing, number, nil, nobody, null; (*n, v*) figure, cypher, code; (*v*) calculate; (*adj, n*) nonentity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) infinity; (*v*) encode, decode, code, scramble.
confusedly: (*adv*) obscurely, disorderedly, perplexedly, cloudily, dazedly, befuddledly, muddily, bemusedly, dizzily, bewilderedly, puzzledly.
dawdling: (*adj*) slow, dilatory, tardy, deliberate, measured, laggard; (*n*)

dalliance, coquetry, trifling, dithering, wavering. ANTONYMS: (*n*) decisiveness; (*adj*) rushed, fast.
diminutive: (*adj*) minute, Lilliputian, small, petite, tiny, bantam, baby, exiguous, short, miniature, midget. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) big, huge, gigantic, large, giant, tall.
divisions: (*n*) contents.
ennui: (*n*) fatigue, tedium, weariness, melancholy, monotony, tediousness, dissatisfaction, listlessness, apathy;

(*v*) bore, pall. ANTONYMS: (*n*) variation, liveliness, enthusiasm, energy, interest.
fillagree: (*n*) filagree, embellishment.
lamented: (*adj*) mourned, bewailed.
pasteboard: (*n*) card, cardboard, paperboard, board, composition board, entertainment, thin cardboard.
trumpery: (*n*) nonsense, trash, frippery, gimcracks, gimcrackery, tripe, frills, folderol, falderal; (*adj*) trashy, worthless.

"No sooner had I glanced at this letter, than I concluded it to be that of which I was in search. To be sure, it was, to all appearance, radically different from the one of which the Prefect had read us so minute a description. Here the seal was large and black, with the D-- cipher; there it was small and red, with the ducal arms of the S-- family. Here, the address, to the Minister, diminutive and feminine; there the **superscription**, to a certain royal personage, was markedly bold and decided; the size alone formed a point of correspondence. But, then, the **radicalness** of these differences, which was excessive; the dirt; the soiled and torn condition of the paper, so inconsistent with the true methodical habits of D-- , and so suggestive of a design to **delude** the **beholder** into an idea of the **worthlessness** of the document; these things, together with the hyper-obtrusive situation of this document, full in the view of every visiter, and thus exactly in accordance with the conclusions to which I had previously arrived; these things, I say, were strongly **corroborative** of suspicion, in one who came with the intention to suspect.

"I protracted my visit as long as possible, and, while I maintained a most animated discussion with the Minister upon a topic which I knew well had never failed to interest and excite him, I kept my attention really **riveted** upon the letter. In this examination, I committed to memory its external appearance and arrangement in the rack; and also fell, at length, upon a discovery which set at rest whatever trivial doubt I might have **entertained**. In scrutinizing the **edges** of the paper, I observed them to be more **chafed** than seemed necessary. They presented the broken appearance which is manifested when a stiff paper, having been once folded and pressed with a folder, is refolded in a reversed direction, in the same creases or edges which had formed the original fold. This discovery was sufficient. It was clear to me that the letter had been turned, as a glove, inside out, re-directed, and re-sealed. I **bade** the Minister good morning, and took my departure at once, leaving a gold snuff-box upon the table.

"The next morning I called for the snuff-box, when we resumed, quite eagerly, the conversation of the preceding day. While thus engaged, however, a loud report, as if of a pistol, was heard immediately beneath the windows of the

Thesaurus

bad: (v) bid, command, bad.
beholder: (n) witness, looker, observer, onlooker, viewer, eyewitness, bystander, auditor, audile, passer by, watcher.
chafed: (adj) uncomfortable, sore, painful, galled, angry; (v) fretted, agitated.
corroborative: (adj) corroboratory, collateral, confirmative, confirming, affirmative, corroborant, substantiating, verifying, verifactory,

validatory, substantiative.
delude: (v) cheat, deceive, betray, defraud, beguile, cozen, mislead, fool, trick, bamboozle, circumvent.
edges: (n) boundaries.
entertained: (adj) diverted, pleased.
radicalness: (n) origination, germinal principle.
riveted: (adj) immovable, immobile, irremovable, rooted, wrapped up, intent; (v) wrapped in, engrossed in, rapt, absorbed, transfixed.

ANTONYM: (adj) detached.
superscription: (n) inscription, address, direction, superscript, aim, order, command, endorsement, guidance, image, management.
worthlessness: (n) emptiness, uselessness, paltriness, trashiness, insignificance, nothingness, negativity, purposelessness, pride, pointlessness; (adj) inanity.
 ANTONYMS: (n) importance, worth, helpfulness, appropriateness.

hotel, and was succeeded by a series of fearful screams, and the shoutings of a terrified mob. D-- rushed to a **casement**, threw it open, and looked out. In the meantime, I **stepped** to the card-rack took the letter, put it in my pocket, and replaced it by a fac-simile, (so far as regards externals,) which I had carefully prepared at my lodgings -- **imitating** the D-- cipher, very readily, by means of a seal formed of bread.

"The disturbance in the street had been occasioned by the frantic **behavior** of a man with a **musket**. He had fired it among a crowd of women and children. It proved, however, to have been without ball, and the fellow was suffered to go his way as a **lunatic** or a **drunkard**. When he had gone, D-- came from the window, **whither** I had followed him immediately upon securing the object in view. Soon afterwards I bade him farewell. The pretended lunatic was a man in my own pay."

"But what purpose had you," I asked, "in replacing the letter by a fac-simile? Would it not have been better, at the first visit, to have seized it openly, and departed?"

"D--," replied Dupin, "is a desperate man, and a man of nerve. His hotel, too, is not without attendants devoted to his interests. Had I made the wild attempt you suggest, I might never have left the Ministerial presence alive. The good people of Paris might have heard of me no more. But I had an object apart from these considerations. You know my political prepossessions. In this matter, I act as a partisan of the lady concerned. For eighteen months the Minister has had her in his power. She has now him in **hers** -- since, being unaware that the letter is not in his possession, he will proceed with his exactions as if it was. Thus will he inevitably commit himself, at once, to his political destruction. His downfall, too, will not be more **precipitate** than awkward. It is all very well to talk about the *facilis descensus Averni*; but in all kinds of climbing, as Catalani said of singing, it is far more easy to get up than to come down. In the present instance I have no sympathy -- at least no pity -- for him who descends. He is that monstrem horrendum, an **unprincipled** man of genius. I confess, however, that I should like very well to know the precise character of his thoughts, when, being defied

Thesaurus

behavior: (*n, v*) bearing, demeanor; (*n*) carriage, conduct, deportment, act, behaviour, manner, character, action, morality.

casement: (*n*) embrasure, casement cloth.

drunkard: (*n*) alcoholic, drinker, boozier, dipsomaniac, rummy, inebriate, toper, sot, bibber, lush, imbibor.

hers: (*pron*) she, his; (*adj*) own.

imitating: (*adj*) imitative; (*n*)

emulation, mimicry, forgery, acting.

lunatic: (*n*) madman, maniac, bedlamite; (*adj*) insane, foolish, moonstruck, mad, mental, deranged, idiotic; (*adj, n*) madcap. ANTONYM: (*adj*) sensible.

musket: (*n*) fusil, blunderbuss, gun, rifle.

precipitate: (*adj, n*) hasty; (*adj, n, v*) deposit; (*adj*) impetuous, headlong, sudden, immediate, instant, precipitant; (*n, v*) accelerate, expedite;

(*v*) hurry. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) overdue, cautious, protracted; (*v*) retard.

stepped: (*v*) advanced, gone, stopen.

unprincipled: (*adj*) abandoned, unscrupulous, depraved, dishonest, unethical, profligate, dissolute, shameless, unconscionable, vicious, immoral. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) ethical, moral, honest, professional.

whither: (*adv*) hither, thither, whereunto, whereto, for.

by her whom the Prefect terms ‘a certain personage’ he is reduced to opening the letter which I left for him in the card-rack.”

“How? did you put any thing particular in it?”

“Why -- it did not seem altogether right to leave the interior **blank** -- that would have been **insulting**. D--, at Vienna once, did me an evil turn, which I told him, quite good-humoredly, that I should remember. So, as I knew he would feel some **curiosity** in regard to the identity of the person who had outwitted him, I thought it a pity not to give him a **clue**. He is well **acquainted** with my MS., and I just **copied** into the middle of the blank **sheet** the words --

-- Un dessein si funeste,
S’il n’est digne d’Atrée, est digne de Thyeste.

They are to be found in Crebillon’s ‘Atrée.’

Thesaurus

acquainted: (*adj*) knowledgeable, informed, aware, cognizant, conversant, hand and glove, intimate, thick; (*adv*) abreast; (*v*) inform, acquaint.
blank: (*adj*) bare, empty, unfilled, pure, vacant, clean; (*n*) space, blankness, form, vacuity; (*v*) addle. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) full, expressive, used, understanding, thoughtful, incomplete, marked, filled, excited, lively, aware.

clue: (*n, v*) tip; (*n*) cue, hint, sign, suggestion, signal, guide, token, indication, key, vestige. ANTONYM: (*v*) hide.
copied: (*adj*) counterfeit, derivative, sham, false, phony, mock, imitative, forged, fake, ersatz, bogus. ANTONYM: (*adj*) real.
curiosity: (*n*) curiousness, rarity, interest, curio, oddity, prying, nosiness, peculiarity, novelty, marvel; (*adj, n*) prodigy.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) emotionlessness, indifference, disinterest.
insulting: (*adj*) contemptuous, insolent, injurious, offensive, scurrilous, defamatory, opprobrious, rude, disgraceful, disdainful, impolite. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) courteous, conciliatory, polite, generous, cordial.
sheet: (*n*) board, leaf, paper, film, bed sheet, canvas, coat, coating, cover, plane, newspaper.

THE THOUSAND-AND-SECOND TALE OF SCHEHERAZADE

Truth is stranger than fiction.

--Old Saying

Having had occasion, lately, in the course of some Oriental investigations, to consult the Tellmenow Isitsoornot, a work which (like the Zohar of Simeon Jochaides) is scarcely known at all, even in Europe; and which has never been quoted, to my knowledge, by any American -- if we except, perhaps, the author of the "Curiosities of American Literature"; -- having had occasion, I say, to turn over some pages of the first -- mentioned very remarkable work, I was not a little **astonished** to discover that the literary world has **hitherto** been strangely in error **respecting** the fate of the vizier's daughter, Scheherazade, as that fate is **depicted** in the "Arabian Nights"; and that the **denouement** there given, if not altogether **inaccurate**, as far as it goes, is at least to blame in not having gone very much **farther**.

For full information on this interesting topic, I must refer the **inquisitive** reader to the "Isitsoornot" itself, but in the meantime, I shall be pardoned for giving a summary of what I there discovered.

Thesaurus

astonished: (*adj*) astonish, dumbfounded, flabbergasted, stunned, aghast, bewildered, astounded, taken aback, thunderstruck, astonished; (*v*) amaze.
denouement: (*n*) catastrophe, end, close, conclusion, consummation, ending, finish, result, issue, upshot, outcome. ANTONYM: (*n*) start.
depicted: (*adj*) pictured, represented, graphic, delineated; (*v*) depict.
farther: (*adj, adv, prep*) beyond; (*adj*)

additional, more, distant; (*adv*) furthermore, besides, abroad, in addition, too; (*adj, prep*) outside; (*pron*) another. ANTONYMS: (*prep*) within; (*adv*) nearer, closer.
hitherto: (*adv*) as yet, yet, so far, up to now, until now, thus far, before, hereunto, to date, still, all the same.
inaccurate: (*adj*) incorrect, faulty, false, wrong, inexact, improper, loose, untrue, mistaken, not exact, imprecise. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) correct,

exact, accurate, truthful, careful, reliable, valid.
inquisitive: (*adj*) inquiring, speculative, nosy, prying, questioning, nosey, meddling, investigative, meddlesome, quizzical, overcurious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) apathetic, uninterested.
respecting: (*prep*) about, regarding, apropos, as regards, pertaining to; (*adj*) relative, not absolute, pertaining, referring, loving.

It will be remembered, that, in the usual version of the tales, a certain monarch having good cause to be jealous of his queen, not only puts her to death, but makes a vow, by his beard and the prophet, to **espouse** each night the most beautiful maiden in his dominions, and the next morning to deliver her up to the executioner.

Having fulfilled this vow for many years to the letter, and with a religious punctuality and method that conferred great credit upon him as a man of devout feeling and excellent sense, he was interrupted one afternoon (no doubt at his prayers) by a visit from his grand **vizier**, to whose daughter, it appears, there had occurred an idea.

Her name was Scheherazade, and her idea was, that she would either redeem the land from the depopulating tax upon its beauty, or **perish**, after the approved fashion of all heroines, in the attempt.

Accordingly, and although we do not find it to be leap-year (which makes the sacrifice more meritorious), she deposes her father, the grand vizier, to make an offer to the king of her hand. This hand the king eagerly accepts -- (he had intended to take it at all events, and had put off the matter from day to day, only through fear of the vizier), -- but, in accepting it now, he gives all parties very distinctly to understand, that, grand vizier or no grand vizier, he has not the slightest design of giving up one **iota** of his vow or of his privileges. When, therefore, the fair Scheherazade insisted upon marrying the king, and did actually marry him despite her father's excellent advice not to do any thing of the kind -- when she would and did marry him, I say, will I, nill I, it was with her beautiful black eyes as thoroughly open as the nature of the case would allow.

It seems, however, that this **politic damsel** (who had been reading Machiavelli, beyond doubt), had a very ingenious little plot in her mind. On the night of the wedding, she contrived, upon I forget what **specious** pretence, to have her sister occupy a couch sufficiently near that of the royal pair to admit of easy conversation from bed to bed; and, a little before cock-crowing, she took care to awaken the good monarch, her husband (who bore her none the worse will because he intended to **wring** her neck on the morrow), -- she managed to

Thesaurus

damsel: (*n*) demoiselle, damosel, damozel, damoiselle, wench, maiden, maid, girl, nymph, unmarried woman, virgin.
espouse: (*n, v*) wed; (*v*) embrace, sustain, defend, marry, advocate, accept, take up, assume, back, betroth. ANTONYMS: (*v*) deny, oppose, repudiate, spurn, desert, abandon, divorce, detract.
iota: (*adj, n*) speck, dot, particle, molecule, jot, atom; (*n*) whit, tittle,

shred, scintilla, crumb. ANTONYM: (*n*) lot.
perish: (*v*) expire, pass away, decease, go, fade, decay, depart, fall, pass, ruin, annihilate. ANTONYMS: (*v*) survive, live, appear.
politic: (*adj, v*) tactful; (*adj*) discreet, judicious, circumspect, shrewd, prudent, suave, calculating, tricky, cute, chary. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) injudicious, unwise, impolitic, foolish.

specious: (*adj*) plausible, apparent, deceptive, seeming, ostensible, spurious, hollow, colorable, showy, illogical, misleading. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) logical, valid.
vizier: (*n*) prime minister, regent, vice president, viceregent, premier, vizir, functionary, grand vizier, minister, official, vicar.
wring: (*n, v*) squeeze; (*v*) twist, wrench, wrest, torture, torment, distort, extract, twine, contort, rack.

awaken him, I say, (although on account of a capital conscience and an easy digestion, he slept well) by the profound interest of a story (about a rat and a black cat, I think) which she was **narrating** (all in an **undertone**, of course) to her sister. When the day broke, it so happened that this history was not altogether finished, and that Scheherazade, in the nature of things could not finish it just then, since it was high time for her to get up and be bowstrung -- a thing very little more pleasant than hanging, only a trifle more genteel.

The king's curiosity, however, prevailing, I am sorry to say, even over his sound religious principles, induced him for this once to postpone the fulfilment of his vow until next morning, for the purpose and with the hope of hearing that night how it fared in the end with the black cat (a black cat, I think it was) and the rat.

The night having arrived, however, the lady Scheherazade not only put the finishing stroke to the black cat and the rat (the rat was blue) but before she well knew what she was about, found herself deep in the intricacies of a **narration**, having reference (if I am not altogether mistaken) to a pink horse (with green wings) that went, in a violent manner, by clockwork, and was wound up with an indigo key. With this history the king was even more profoundly interested than with the other -- and, as the day broke before its conclusion (notwithstanding all the queen's **endeavors** to get through with it in time for the bowstringing), there was again no resource but to postpone that ceremony as before, for twenty-four hours. The next night there happened a similar accident with a similar result; and then the next -- and then again the next; so that, in the end, the good monarch, having been **unavoidably** deprived of all opportunity to keep his vow during a period of no less than one thousand and one nights, either forgets it altogether by the **expiration** of this time, or gets himself **absolved** of it in the regular way, or (what is more probable) breaks it outright, as well as the head of his father **confessor**. At all events, Scheherazade, who, being **lineally** descended from Eve, fell heir, perhaps, to the whole seven baskets of talk, which the latter lady, we all know, picked up from under the trees in the garden of Eden-Scheherazade, I say, finally triumphed, and the tariff upon beauty was repealed.

Thesaurus

absolved: (*adj*) exculpated, exempt, exonerated, cleared, vindicated, guiltless; (*v*) quit.

awaken: (*v*) arouse, wake, rouse, call, stir, kindle, get up, raise, wake up, waken, revive. ANTONYMS: (*v*) dampen, calm, retire, suppress, spoil, quench, douse, stifle.

confessor: (*n*) priest, penitentiary, communicator, shriver, minister, Holy Father, father.

endeavors: (*n*) activities, deeds,

events, Comings and Goings, undertakings, accomplishments, happenings.

expiration: (*n*) ending, end, conclusion, finish, close, exhalation, termination, exit, death, lapse, expiry. ANTONYM: (*n*) beginning.

lineally: (*adv*) ancestrally, directly, straightly, straight.

narrating: (*v*) narrate.

narration: (*n*) description, recital, narrative, explanation, history, tale,

report, relation, story, recitation, rehearsal.

unavoidably: (*adv*) inescapably, necessarily, ineluctably, by necessity, of necessity, automatically, needs, inevitable, relentlessly, true to form, unsurprisingly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) surprisingly, unnecessarily.

undertone: (*n*) undercurrent, murmur, tinge, nuance, whisper, suggestion, implication, connotation, overtone, association, hint.

Now, this conclusion (which is that of the story as we have it upon record) is, no doubt, excessively proper and pleasant -- but alas! like a great many pleasant things, is more pleasant than true, and I am indebted altogether to the "Isitsoornot" for the means of correcting the error. "Le mieux," says a French **proverb**, "est l'ennemi du bien," and, in mentioning that Scheherazade had inherited the seven baskets of talk, I should have added that she put them out at compound interest until they amounted to seventy-seven.

"My dear sister," said she, on the thousand-and-second night, (I quote the language of the "Isitsoornot" at this point, **verbatim**) "my dear sister," said she, "now that all this little difficulty about the **bowstring** has blown over, and that this **odious** tax is so happily repealed, I feel that I have been guilty of great **indiscretion** in **withholding** from you and the king (who I am sorry to say, **snores** -- a thing no gentleman would do) the full conclusion of Sinbad the sailor. This person went through numerous other and more interesting adventures than those which I related; but the truth is, I felt sleepy on the particular night of their narration, and so was seduced into cutting them short -- a grievous piece of misconduct, for which I only trust that Allah will forgive me. But even yet it is not too late to remedy my great neglect -- and as soon as I have given the king a pinch or two in order to wake him up so far that he may stop making that horrible noise, I will forthwith entertain you (and him if he pleases) with the sequel of this very remarkable story.

Hereupon the sister of Scheherazade, as I have it from the "Isitsoornot," expressed no very particular intensity of gratification; but the king, having been sufficiently pinched, at length ceased snoring, and finally said, "hum!" and then "hoo!" when the queen, understanding these words (which are no doubt Arabic) to signify that he was all attention, and would do his best not to snore any more - - the queen, I say, having arranged these matters to her satisfaction, re-entered thus, at once, into the history of Sinbad the sailor:

' "At length, in my old age, [these are the words of Sinbad himself, as retailed by Scheherazade] -- 'at length, in my old age, and after enjoying many years of tranquillity at home, I became once more possessed of a desire of visiting foreign

Thesaurus

bowstring: (*v*) behead, electrocute, hang, strangle, turn off; (*n, v*) gibbet; (*n*) gallows, drop, halter, tree, rope.
hereupon: (*adv*) immediately, whereupon, thereupon.
indiscretion: (*n*) foolishness, fault, rashness, inconsideration, carelessness, injudiciousness, faux pas, hastiness, indiscreetness, flippancy; (*adj, n*) temerity.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) discretion, diplomacy, forethought.

odious: (*adj, v*) hateful, obnoxious; (*adj*) detestable, hideous, nasty, execrable, disgusting, abhorrent, abominable, heinous, forbidding.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pleasant, delightful, agreeable, lovable, nice.
proverb: (*n*) adage, byword, aphorism, dictum, saying, axiom, parable, motto, expression; (*n, v*) maxim, saw.
snore: (*n*) snoring; (*v*) snort, saw logs, snooze, siesta, hibernation, breathe, doze, saw wood, coma, dream.

verbatim: (*adv*) literally, word for word, literatim, verbally, to the letter; (*adj*) exact, direct, verbal, verbatim et literatim, not alternating; (*adj, adv*) directly. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) imprecise, broad.
withholding: (*n*) detention, reservation, withholding tax, confinement, custody, deduction, deprivation, estrangement, holding, keeping, maintenance. ANTONYM: (*n*) release.

countries; and one day, without acquainting any of my family with my design, I packed up some bundles of such merchandise as was most precious and least bulky, and, engaged a porter to carry them, went with him down to the sea-shore, to await the arrival of any chance vessel that might convey me out of the kingdom into some region which I had not as yet explored.

“Having deposited the packages upon the **sands**, we sat down beneath some trees, and looked out into the ocean in the hope of **perceiving** a ship, but during several hours we saw none whatever. At length I fancied that I could hear a singular buzzing or humming sound; and the porter, after listening **awhile**, declared that he also could distinguish it. Presently it grew louder, and then still louder, so that we could have no doubt that the object which caused it was approaching us. At length, on the edge of the horizon, we discovered a black **speck**, which rapidly increased in size until we made it out to be a vast monster, swimming with a great part of its body above the surface of the sea. It came toward us with inconceivable **swiftness**, throwing up huge waves of foam around its breast, and illuminating all that part of the sea through which it passed, with a long line of fire that extended far off into the distance.

“As the thing drew near we saw it very distinctly. Its length was equal to that of three of the **loftiest** trees that grow, and it was as wide as the great hall of audience in your palace, O most sublime and **munificent** of the Caliphs. Its body, which was unlike that of ordinary fishes, was as solid as a rock, and of a **jetty** blackness throughout all that portion of it which floated above the water, with the exception of a narrow blood-red streak that completely begirdled it. The belly, which floated beneath the surface, and of which we could get only a glimpse now and then as the monster rose and fell with the **billows**, was entirely covered with metallic scales, of a **color** like that of the moon in misty weather. The back was flat and nearly white, and from it there extended upwards of six spines, about half the length of the whole body.

“The horrible creature had no mouth that we could perceive, but, as if to make up for this deficiency, it was provided with at least four score of eyes, that **protruded** from their sockets like those of the green dragon-fly, and were

Thesaurus

awhile: (*adv*) in transitu, en passant; (*adv*) briefly.

billows: (*n*) great waters, high seas, offing, watery waste, brine, vapors, clouds, smoke, sea, ocean, main.

color: (*n, v*) flush, blush, tint, tinge, paint, stain; (*adj, n, v*) colour; (*v*) redden; (*n*) guise, complexion; (*adj, n*) tone. ANTONYMS: (*v*) discolor, pale, show, whiten, untwist, denote, depict, represent, blanch, blench.

jetty: (*n*) groyne, pier, breakwater,

dock, mole, bulwark, berth, quay, wharf, jutty, harbor.

loftiest: (*adj*) uppermost, top, sovereign.

munificent: (*adj*) liberal, bountiful, lavish, free, bounteous, prodigal, beneficent, magnanimous, unstinted, unsparing, princely. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) mean, tightfisted, malevolent.

perceiving: (*n*) feeling, sensing, hearing, looking at, recognition, thought, vision, lipreading; (*adj*)

conscious, percipient, reasonable.

protruded: (*adj*) extant, outstanding.

sands: (*n*) littoral, litoral, beach, coast, quicksands, shore.

speck: (*adj, n*) point, atom, particle; (*n*) blot, flaw, smudge, blotch, blemish, grain, mote, dot. ANTONYM: (*n*) lot.

swiftness: (*n*) speed, haste, rapidity, celerity, acceleration, quickness, promptness, pace, velocity, agility, dispatch. ANTONYM: (*n*) clumsiness.

arranged all around the body in two rows, one above the other, and parallel to the blood-red streak, which seemed to answer the purpose of an eyebrow. Two or three of these dreadful eyes were much larger than the others, and had the appearance of solid gold.

“Although this beast approached us, as I have before said, with the greatest **rapidity**, it must have been moved altogether by **necromancy**- for it had neither **fins** like a fish nor web-feet like a duck, nor wings like the seashell which is blown along in the manner of a vessel; nor yet did it **writhe** itself forward as do the eels. Its head and its tail were shaped precisely alike, only, not far from the latter, were two small holes that served for **nostrils**, and through which the monster **puffed** out its thick breath with prodigious violence, and with a **shrieking**, disagreeable noise.

“Our terror at **beholding** this hideous thing was very great, but it was even surpassed by our astonishment, when upon getting a nearer look, we perceived upon the creature’s back a vast number of animals about the size and shape of men, and altogether much resembling them, except that they wore no garments (as men do), being supplied (by nature, no doubt) with an ugly uncomfortable covering, a good deal like cloth, but fitting so tight to the skin, as to render the poor wretches **laughably** awkward, and put them apparently to severe pain. On the very tips of their heads were certain square-looking boxes, which, at first sight, I thought might have been intended to answer as turbans, but I soon discovered that they were excessively heavy and solid, and I therefore concluded they were contrivances designed, by their great weight, to keep the heads of the animals steady and safe upon their shoulders. Around the necks of the creatures were fastened black collars, (badges of **servitude**, no doubt,) such as we keep on our dogs, only much wider and infinitely stiffer, so that it was quite impossible for these poor victims to move their heads in any direction without moving the body at the same time; and thus they were doomed to perpetual contemplation of their noses -- a view puggish and snubby in a wonderful, if not positively in an awful degree.

Thesaurus

beholding: (n) fusion, seeing, visual perception, look.
fins: (n) flippers, flipper, cinque.
laughably: (adv) ludicrously, comically, absurdly, idiotically, pathetically, pathetically, preposterously, foolishly, unbelievably, outrageously.
ANTONYMS: (adv) solemnly, impressively.
necromancy: (n) sorcery, conjuration, black magic, incantation,

enchantment, black art, divination, witchcraft, charm, soothsaying, thaumaturgy.
nostrils: (n) naris, nose.
puffed: (adj) puff, bloated, distended, puffy, tumid, turgid, swell, breathless, bepuffed, overflowing, out of breath.
rapidity: (n) expedition, quickness, promptness, dispatch, celerity, haste, velocity, pace, fleetness, promptitude, speed. ANTONYM: (n)

tardiness.
servitude: (n) bondage, serfdom, enslavement, captivity, slavery, yoke, vassalage, thrall, easement, serfhood, dependency. ANTONYM: (n) freedom.
shrieking: (n) shriek, screeching, screech, scream, belly laugh, shrigh, howler, riot; (adj) sharp.
writhe: (adj, v) distort, wrest; (v) contort, wriggle, squirm, wrench, worm, coil, wiggle, thrash, warp.

“When the monster had nearly reached the shore where we stood, it suddenly pushed out one of its eyes to a great extent, and emitted from it a terrible flash of fire, accompanied by a dense cloud of smoke, and a noise that I can compare to nothing but thunder. As the smoke cleared away, we saw one of the odd man-animals standing near the head of the large beast with a trumpet in his hand, through which (putting it to his mouth) he presently addressed us in loud, harsh, and disagreeable accents, that, perhaps, we should have mistaken for language, had they not come altogether through the nose.

“Being thus evidently spoken to, I was at a loss how to reply, as I could in no manner understand what was said; and in this difficulty I turned to the porter, who was near **swooning** through **affright**, and demanded of him his opinion as to what species of monster it was, what it wanted, and what kind of creatures those were that so **swarmed** upon its back. To this the porter replied, as well as he could for **trepidation**, that he had once before heard of this sea-beast; that it was a cruel demon, with bowels of sulphur and blood of fire, created by evil genii as the means of inflicting misery upon mankind; that the things upon its back were **vermin**, such as sometimes **infest** cats and dogs, only a little larger and more savage; and that these vermin had their uses, however evil -- for, through the torture they caused the beast by their **nibbling** and stings, it was **goaded** into that degree of wrath which was requisite to make it roar and commit ill, and so fulfil the **vengeful** and malicious designs of the wicked genii.

“This account determined me to take to my heels, and, without once even looking behind me, I ran at full speed up into the hills, while the porter ran equally fast, although nearly in an opposite direction, so that, by these means, he finally made his escape with my bundles, of which I have no doubt he took excellent care -- although this is a point I cannot determine, as I do not remember that I ever **beheld** him again.

“For myself, I was so hotly pursued by a swarm of the men-vermin (who had come to the shore in boats) that I was very soon overtaken, bound hand and foot, and conveyed to the beast, which immediately swam out again into the middle of the sea.

Thesaurus

affright: (*v*) frighten, scare, horrify, startle, terrorize, terrify, intimidate; (*n*) dread, alarm, fear; (*n, v*) fright.

beheld: (*adj*) visual.

goaded: (*adj*) provoked, forced, motivated, involuntary, aggravated, compulsive, determined, involuntary.

infest: (*v*) overrun, disturb, pester, beset, annoy, invade, harry, overwhelm, occupy, molest, harass.

nibbling: (*n*) rate cutting, feeding,

eating.

swarm: (*n*) host, horde, multitude, drove, throng, cloud, assembly; (*n, v*) mob; (*v*) teem, pour; (*adj*) shoal.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) retreat; (*n*) few.

swooning: (*adj*) light, not burdensome, flippant, friable, giddily, psychologically light, giddy, sandy, nimble, unconscious, lite.

trepidation: (*n*) fear, tremor, alarm, apprehension, fright, terror, dread, dismay, consternation, perturbation,

disquiet. **ANTONYMS:** (*n*) contentment, calm, confidence, equanimity, bravery, reassurance.

vengeful: (*adj*) vindictive, unforgiving, malicious, spiteful, rancorous, unfriendly, unmerciful, spiteful, resentful, avengeful, malevolent. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) pardoning, condoning, forgiving.

vermin: (*n*) bug, varmint, louse, trash, pest, brute, varment, scum, riffraff, ragtag and bobtail, rabble.

“I now bitterly repented my folly in **quitting** a comfortable home to peril my life in such adventures as this; but regret being useless, I made the best of my condition, and exerted myself to secure the goodwill of the man-animal that owned the trumpet, and who **appeared** to exercise authority over his fellows. I succeeded so well in this endeavor that, in a few days, the creature bestowed upon me various tokens of his **favor**, and in the end even went to the trouble of teaching me the **rudiments** of what it was vain enough to **denominate** its language; so that, at length, I was enabled to converse with it readily, and came to make it comprehend the ardent desire I had of seeing the world.

“Washish squashish squeak, Sinbad, hey-diddle diddle, grunt unt grumble, hiss, fiss, whiss,” said he to me, one day after dinner- but I beg a thousand pardons, I had forgotten that your majesty is not **conversant** with the dialect of the Cock-neighs (so the man-animals were called; I presume because their language formed the connecting link between that of the horse and that of the rooster). With your permission, I will translate. ‘Washish squashish,’ and so forth: -- that is to say, ‘I am happy to find, my dear Sinbad, that you are really a very excellent fellow; we are now about doing a thing which is called circumnavigating the globe; and since you are so **desirous** of seeing the world, I will strain a point and give you a free passage upon back of the beast.’ “

When the Lady Scheherazade had proceeded thus far, relates the “Isitsoornot,” the king turned over from his left side to his right, and said:

“It is, in fact, very surprising, my dear **queen**, that you omitted, hitherto, these latter adventures of Sinbad. Do you know I think them exceedingly entertaining and strange?”

The king having thus expressed himself, we are told, the fair Scheherazade resumed her history in the following words:

“Sinbad went on in this manner with his narrative to the **caliph**- ‘I thanked the man-animal for its kindness, and soon found myself very much at home on the beast, which swam at a prodigious rate through the ocean; although the surface of the latter is, in that part of the world, by no means flat, but round like a

Thesaurus

appeared: (<i>n</i>) appearing. caliph: (<i>n</i>) Calif, khalif, kaliph, ruler, tsar, Soldan, kaiser, Grand Turk, dictator, Ceasar, sultan. conversant: (<i>adj</i>) proficient, knowing, informed, familiar, versed, learned, cognizant, conscious, erudite, experienced, skilled. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) unfamiliar, oblivious, inexperienced. denominate: (<i>v</i>) designate, entitle, nominate, style, christen, denote,	title, dub; (<i>n, v</i>) name, appoint; (<i>n</i>) term. desirous: (<i>adj</i>) wistful, avid, ambitious, greedy, longing, eager, hungry, covetous, envious, agog; (<i>adj, v</i>) willing. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) undesirous, reluctant, undesiring, unconcerned. favor: (<i>n, v</i>) countenance, aid, grace, support, benefit, boon; (<i>adj, n</i>) kindness; (<i>n</i>) advantage; (<i>v</i>) befriending, encourage, patronize. ANTONYMS:	(<i>v</i>) hinder, contradict, dislike, hurt, differ, thwart, reject, demean; (<i>n</i>) derogation, disapproval, unkindness. queen: (<i>n</i>) king, lady, sovereign, monarch, dame, pansy, queer, faggot, princess, fairy, czarina. quitting: (<i>n</i>) departure, resignation. rudiments: (<i>n</i>) grammar, fundamentals, elements, alphabet, abecedary, primer, vade mecum, bedrock, element, fundamental principle, rudiment.
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pomegranate, so that we went -- so to say -- either up hill or down hill all the time.'

"That I think, was very singular," interrupted the king.

"Nevertheless, it is quite true," replied Scheherazade.

"I have my doubts," rejoined the king; "but, pray, be so good as to go on with the story."

"I will," said the queen. ' "The beast," continued Sinbad to the caliph, 'swam, as I have related, up hill and down hill until, at length, we arrived at an island, many hundreds of miles in **circumference**, but which, nevertheless, had been built in the middle of the sea by a colony of little things like caterpillars" '

"Hum!" said the king.

' "Leaving this island," said Sinbad -- (for Scheherazade, it must be understood, took no notice of her husband's **ill-mannered ejaculation**) 'leaving this island, we came to another where the forests were of solid stone, and so hard that they shivered to pieces the finest-tempered axes with which we endeavoured to cut them down." '

"Hum!" said the king, again; but Scheherazade, paying him no attention, continued in the language of Sinbad.

' "Passing beyond this last island, we reached a country where there was a cave that ran to the distance of thirty or forty miles within the **bowels** of the earth, and that contained a greater number of far more spacious and more magnificent palaces than are to be found in all Damascus and Bagdad. From the roofs of these palaces there hung myriads of **gems**, liked diamonds, but larger than men; and in among the streets of towers and **pyramids** and temples, there flowed immense rivers as black as **ebony**, and **swarming** with fish that had no eyes." '

"Hum!" said the king. ' "We then swam into a region of the sea where we found a lofty mountain, down whose sides there streamed **torrents** of melted metal, some of which were twelve miles wide and sixty miles long; while from an **abyss** on the summit, issued so vast a quantity of ashes that the sun was

Thesaurus

abyss: (*n*) gorge, ravine, chasm, gulf, deep, purgatory, depth, hell, gap, Gehenna, pit. ANTONYMS: (*n*) junction, juncture.
bowels: (*n*) gut, compassion, pity, inside, bowel, viscera, innards, belly, guts, insides, intestines.
circumference: (*n*) circuit, border, perimeter, boundary, periphery, outline, brim, compass, circle, edge, rim. ANTONYMS: (*n*) middle, inside, interior, center.

ebony: (*adj, n*) sable; (*adj*) black, dark, jet, soot, raven, smut, sloe; (*n*) jet black, coal black, wood.
ejaculation: (*n*) cry, ejection, emission, interjection, discharge, vociferation, expelling, exclaiming, eruption, shout, emanation.
gems: (*n*) jewels, Gemes, jewellery, trinkets, ornaments, charms.
ill-mannered: (*adj*) graceless, uncivil, barbaric, boorish, impertinent, uncouth, rough, impolite, surly, ill,

discourteous.
pomegranate: (*n*) fruit tree, edible fruit, pomegranate tree.
pyramids: (*n*) billiards, pingpong, pool, bagatelle, jackstones, pushball, hopscotch.
swarming: (*adj*) full, crowded, alive, packed, populous, sensitive, thick; (*v*) dense, crowded to suffocation, serried, closely packed.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clear, deserted.
torrents: (*n*) white water, rapids.

entirely blotted out from the heavens, and it became darker than the darkest midnight; so that when we were even at the distance of a hundred and fifty miles from the mountain, it was impossible to see the whitest object, however close we held it to our eyes.” ‘

“Hum!” said the king.

‘ “After quitting this coast, the beast continued his voyage until we met with a land in which the nature of things seemed reversed -- for we here saw a great lake, at the bottom of which, more than a hundred feet beneath the surface of the water, there flourished in full leaf a forest of tall and **luxuriant** trees.” ‘

“Hoo!” said the king.

“Some hundred miles farther on brought us to a climate where the atmosphere was so dense as to sustain iron or steel, just as our own does feather.” ‘

“Fiddle de dee,” said the king.

“Proceeding still in the same direction, we presently arrived at the most magnificent region in the whole world. Through it there meandered a glorious river for several thousands of miles. This river was of **unspeakable** depth, and of a **transparency** richer than that of **amber**. It was from three to six miles in width; and its banks which arose on either side to twelve hundred feet in **perpendicular** height, were crowned with ever-blossoming trees and perpetual **sweet**-scented flowers, that made the whole territory one gorgeous garden; but the name of this luxuriant land was the Kingdom of Horror, and to enter it was inevitable death” ‘

“Humph!” said the king.

‘ “We left this kingdom in great haste, and, after some days, came to another, where we were astonished to perceive myriads of monstrous animals with horns resembling scythes upon their heads. These hideous **beasts** dig for themselves vast caverns in the soil, of a **funnel** shape, and line the sides of them with, rocks, so disposed one upon the other that they fall instantly, when **trodden** upon by other animals, thus **precipitating** them into the monster’s dens, where their

Thesaurus

amber: (<i>n</i>) yellow, yellowness, electrum, ambergris, gold, brown, electron, gum; (<i>adj</i>) chromatic.	shabby, unadorned.	overhead, foil, pellucidity.
beasts: (<i>n</i>) stock.	perpendicular: (<i>adj</i>) upright, vertical, steep, plumb, straight, right, sheer, orthogonal, normal, precipitous, true.	ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) ambiguity, opacity, dirtiness, impurity.
funnel: (<i>n</i>) flue, tunnel, funnel shape, shaft, cone, hopper, trachea, weasand; (<i>v</i>) channel, move, pipe.	ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) horizontal, parallel, inclined, oblique, prone, gentle.	trodden: (<i>adj</i>) trampled, damaged, beaten, compressed, packed down.
luxuriant: (<i>adj, n</i>) lush; (<i>adj</i>) abundant, lavish, exuberant, dense, thick, fertile, flourishing, fecund, opulent, profuse.	precipitating: (<i>adj</i>) down.	ANTONYM: (<i>adj</i>) loose.
ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) barren, meager, unhealthy, arid, withering, sparse,	sweet-scented: (<i>n</i>) fragrant.	unspeakable: (<i>adj</i>) ineffable, dreadful, awful, terrible, inexpressible, nasty, horrible, atrocious, indefinable, shocking; (<i>adj, v</i>) unutterable.
	transparency: (<i>n</i>) clearness, clarity, slide, limpidity, pellucidness, lucidity, diaphaneity, translucency,	ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) nice, wonderful, pleasant, good, lovely, bearable.

blood is immediately sucked, and their carcasses afterwards hurled **contemptuously** out to an immense distance from “the caverns of death.” ‘

“Pooh!” said the king.

‘ “Continuing our progress, we perceived a district with vegetables that grew not upon any soil but in the air. There were others that sprang from the substance of other vegetables; others that derived their substance from the bodies of living animals; and then again, there were others that glowed all over with intense fire; others that moved from place to place at pleasure, and what was still more wonderful, we discovered **flowers** that lived and breathed and moved their limbs at will and had, moreover, the **detestable** passion of mankind for enslaving other creatures, and **confining** them in horrid and solitary prisons until the **fulfillment** of appointed tasks.” ‘

“Pshaw!” said the king.

‘ “Quitting this land, we soon arrived at another in which the bees and the birds are mathematicians of such genius and **erudition**, that they give daily instructions in the science of geometry to the wise men of the empire. The king of the place having offered a reward for the solution of two very difficult problems, they were solved upon the spot -- the one by the bees, and the other by the birds; but the king keeping their solution a secret, it was only after the most profound researches and labor, and the writing of an infinity of big books, during a long series of years, that the men-mathematicians at length arrived at the identical solutions which had been given upon the spot by the bees and by the birds.” ‘

“Oh my!” said the king.

‘ “We had scarcely lost sight of this empire when we found ourselves close upon another, from whose **shores** there flew over our heads a flock of **fowls** a mile in breadth, and two hundred and forty miles long; so that, although they flew a mile during every minute, it required no less than four hours for the whole flock to pass over us -- in which there were several millions of millions of fowl.” ‘

“Oh fy!” said the king.

Thesaurus

confining: (*adj*) restricting, limiting, narrow, confined, oppressive, stringent, constrictive, restrictive, closemouthed; (*v*) confine; (*n*) contraction.

contemptuously: (*adv*) scornfully, sneeringly, insultingly, disparagingly, superciliously, derisively, condescendingly, disrespectfully, haughtily, contumeliously, sardonically. ANTONYM: (*adv*) approvingly.

detestable: (*adj*) hateful, abhorrent, damnable, odious, offensive, despicable, execrable, horrible, infamous; (*adj, v*) cursed; (*adj, adv*) atrocious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) admirable, adorable, sweet, loveable, lovable, likable, delightful, cherished, honorable, desirable, nice. **erudition:** (*n*) education, scholarship, letters, edification, reading, learnedness, culture, lore, eruditeness; (*n, v*) knowledge; (*adj, n*)

wisdom. ANTONYM: (*n*) simplicity. **flowers:** (*n*) analecta, anthology.

fowls: (*n*) poultry.

fulfillment: (*n*) completion, fruition, achievement, satisfaction, fulfilment, attainment, execution, consummation, contentment, observance, discharge. ANTONYMS: (*n*) disobedience, dissatisfaction, abandonment, dismay.

shores: (*n*) coast, seaboard, seashore, shoreline. ANTONYM: (*n*) interior.

“No sooner had we got rid of these birds, which occasioned us great annoyance, than we were terrified by the appearance of a **fowl** of another kind, and infinitely larger than even the rocs which I met in my former voyages; for it was bigger than the biggest of the domes on your **seraglio**, oh, most Munificent of Caliphs. This terrible fowl had no head that we could perceive, but was fashioned entirely of belly, which was of a prodigious **fatness** and **roundness**, of a soft-looking substance, smooth, shining and striped with various **colors**. In its **talons**, the monster was bearing away to his **eyrie** in the heavens, a house from which it had knocked off the roof, and in the interior of which we distinctly saw human beings, who, beyond doubt, were in a state of frightful despair at the horrible fate which awaited them. We shouted with all our might, in the hope of frightening the bird into letting go of its prey, but it merely gave a **snort** or puff, as if of rage and then let fall upon our heads a heavy sack which proved to be filled with sand!”

“Stuff!” said the king.

“It was just after this adventure that we encountered a continent of immense extent and prodigious **solidity**, but which, nevertheless, was supported entirely upon the back of a sky-blue cow that had no fewer than four hundred horns.”

“That, now, I believe,” said the king, “because I have read something of the kind before, in a book.”

“We passed immediately beneath this continent, (swimming in between the legs of the cow, and, after some hours, found ourselves in a wonderful country indeed, which, I was informed by the man-animal, was his own native land, inhabited by things of his own species. This elevated the man-animal very much in my esteem, and in fact, I now began to feel ashamed of the contemptuous familiarity with which I had treated him; for I found that the man-animals in general were a nation of the most powerful magicians, who lived with worms in their brain, which, no doubt, served to stimulate them by their painful writhings and wriggings to the most miraculous efforts of imagination!”

“Nonsense!” said the king.

Thesaurus

colors: (*n*) flag, colours, paints, banner, color, colour, ensign, pigment, tint, dye, paint.

eyrie: (*n*) aery, eyry, habitation, cave, cell, den, hiding place, hole, lair, sanctum sanctorum.

fatness: (*n*) adiposity, fleshiness, avoirdupois, heaviness, adiposeness, obesity, greasiness, stoutness, fattiness, size, corpulence.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) leanness, thinness.

fowl: (*n*) poultry, bird, domestic fowl,

chick, cochin, birds, partlet, poult, hen, fowls, rooster.

roundness: (*n*) rotundity, globosity, sphericity, rondure, plumpness, globularness, cylindricalness, cylindricality, shape, rotundness, circle. ANTONYMS: (*n*) angularity, slenderness, thinness.

seraglio: (*n*) harem, palace, zenana, serai, quarters, living quarters, serail.

snort: (*v*) snore, huff, inhale; (*n, v*) snicker, hoot, chuckle, sneer; (*n*) bird,

Bronx cheer, boo, razzing. ANTONYM: (*v*) exhale.

solidity: (*n*) consistency, firmness, density, compactness, reliability, rigidity, substance, consistence, hardness; (*adj, n*) stiffness, soundness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) softness, hollowness, porosity, looseness, instability, slenderness, lightness, clearness, limpness.

talons: (*v*) claws, tenaculum, unguis, tentacle, teeth; (*n*) clutches.

“ ‘Among the **magicians**, were **domesticated** several animals of very singular kinds; for example, there was a huge horse whose bones were iron and whose blood was boiling water. In place of corn, he had black stones for his usual food; and yet, in spite of so hard a diet, he was so strong and swift that he would drag a load more weighty than the grandest temple in this city, at a rate **surpassing** that of the flight of most birds.” ‘

“Twattle!” said the king.

‘ “I saw, also, among these people a hen without feathers, but bigger than a camel; instead of flesh and bone she had iron and brick; her blood, like that of the horse, (to whom, in fact, she was nearly related,) was boiling water; and like him she ate nothing but wood or black stones. This hen brought forth very frequently, a hundred chickens in the day; and, after birth, they took up their residence for several weeks within the stomach of their mother.” ‘

“Fa! la!” said the king.

‘ “One of this nation of mighty **conjurers** created a man out of brass and wood, and leather, and endowed him with such ingenuity that he would have beaten at chess, all the race of mankind with the exception of the great Caliph, Haroun Alraschid. Another of these magi constructed (of like material) a creature that put to shame even the genius of him who made it; for so great were its reasoning powers that, in a second, it performed calculations of so vast an extent that they would have required the united labor of fifty thousand **fleshy** men for a year. But a still more wonderful conjuror fashioned for himself a mighty thing that was neither man nor beast, but which had brains of lead, intermixed with a black matter like pitch, and fingers that it employed with such incredible speed and **dexterity** that it would have had no trouble in writing out twenty thousand copies of the Koran in an hour, and this with so exquisite a precision, that in all the copies there should not be found one to vary from another by the breadth of the finest hair. This thing was of **prodigious** strength, so that it erected or overthrew the mightiest empires at a breath; but its powers were exercised equally for evil and for good.” ‘

“Ridiculous!” said the king.

Thesaurus

conjuror: (*n*) magician, seer, illusionist, prestidigitator, conjure man, jockey, performer, wizard, witch, trickster, necromancer.
dexterity: (*n*) agility, cleverness, ability, aptitude, skill, deftness, expertise; (*adj, n*) art, cunning; (*n, v*) adroitness, address. ANTONYMS: (*n*) clumsiness, awkwardness, ineptitude, inability, uselessness, inexperience, ineptness, inaccuracy.
domesticated: (*adj*) tame, vernacular,

subdued, gentle, tamed, naturalized, submissive, depressed, crushed, cade, broken. ANTONYM: (*adj*) wild.
fleshy: (*adj*) corpulent, brawny, chubby, overweight, obese, heavy, stout, round, succulent; (*adj, adv*) plump; (*adv*) portly. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) slim, slender.
magi: (*adj*) heretical, fire worshiper; (*n*) luminary, gymnosophist, Magnus Apollo, Nestor, oracle, shining light, Solomon, solon, wise men.

prodigious: (*adj*) gigantic, enormous, huge, phenomenal, portentous, stupendous, exceptional, colossal, immense, gargantuan; (*adj, v*) monstrous. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unexceptional, normal, average, tiny, weak.
surpassing: (*adj*) excellent, superior, transcendent, exceptional, prodigious, fine, outstanding, extraordinary; (*v*) surpass; (*adv*) surpassingly; (*prep*) above.

“Among this nation of necromancers there was also one who had in his veins the blood of the **salamanders**; for he made no **scruple** of sitting down to smoke his chibouc in a red-hot oven until his dinner was thoroughly **roasted** upon its floor. Another had the faculty of converting the common metals into gold, without even looking at them during the process. Another had such a delicacy of touch that he made a wire so fine as to be invisible. Another had such **quickness** of perception that he counted all the separate motions of an elastic body, while it was springing backward and forward at the rate of nine hundred millions of times in a second.”

“Absurd!” said the king.

“Another of these magicians, by means of a fluid that nobody ever yet saw, could make the corpses of his friends **brandish** their arms, kick out their legs, fight, or even get up and dance at his will. Another had cultivated his voice to so great an extent that he could have made himself heard from one end of the world to the other. Another had so long an arm that he could sit down in Damascus and **indite** a letter at Bagdad -- or indeed at any distance whatsoever. Another commanded the lightning to come down to him out of the heavens, and it came at his call; and served him for a **plaything** when it came. Another took two loud sounds and out of them made a silence. Another constructed a deep darkness out of two brilliant lights. Another made ice in a red-hot **furnace**. Another directed the sun to paint his portrait, and the sun did. Another took this **luminary** with the moon and the planets, and having first weighed them with scrupulous accuracy, probed into their depths and found out the solidity of the substance of which they were made. But the whole nation is, indeed, of so surprising a **necromantic** ability, that not even their infants, nor their commonest cats and dogs have any difficulty in seeing objects that do not exist at all, or that for twenty millions of years before the birth of the nation itself had been blotted out from the face of creation.”

Analogous experiments in respect to sound produce analogous results.

“Preposterous!” said the king.

Thesaurus

brandish: (*n, v*) flourish; (*v*) display, wield, flaunt, shake, agitate, swing, bandy, beckon, raise, jerk.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) conceal, lower, sheathe.
furnace: (*n*) forge, heater, blast furnace, fireplace, hearth, stove, oven, kiln, electric furnace, cupola, crematorium.
indite: (*v*) pen, draft, draw up, frame, dictate, write, annotate, footnote, formulate, adopt, dramatize.

luminary: (*n*) celebrity, star, leading light, personality, guiding light, VIP, authority, worthy, shining light, Magnus Apollo, shiner.
necromantic: (*adj*) mystic, mysterious, necromantical.
plaything: (*n*) bauble, trifle, gewgaw, cockhorse, doll, dollhouse, dolly, playhouse, hobby, hobbyhorse, kaleidoscope.
quickness: (*n*) celerity, expedition, promptness, alacrity, agility, speed,

dispatch, dexterity, fleetness, hurry, readiness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) awkwardness, delay, ineptness.
roasted: (*adj*) fried, baked.
salamanders: (*n*) caecilians, class Amphibia, Congo snakes, family Salamandridae, frogs, order Caudata, Salamandridae, amphibia, newts.
scruple: (*adj, v*) hesitate, demur, pause; (*n*) hesitation, qualm, misgiving, distrust, objection; (*n, v*) mistrust; (*v*) falter, question.

“The **wives** and daughters of these **incomparably** great and wise magi,” continued Scheherazade, without being in any manner disturbed by these frequent and most **ungentlemanly** interruptions on the part of her husband -- “the wives and daughters of these eminent conjurers are every thing that is accomplished and refined; and would be every thing that is interesting and beautiful, but for an unhappy **fatality** that besets them, and from which not even the miraculous powers of their husbands and fathers has, hitherto, been adequate to save. Some **fatalities** come in certain shapes, and some in others -- but this of which I speak has come in the shape of a **crotchet**.”

“A what?” said the king.

“A crotchet” said Scheherazade. “One of the evil genii, who are perpetually upon the watch to inflict ill, has put it into the heads of these accomplished ladies that the thing which we describe as personal beauty consists altogether in the **protuberance** of the region which lies not very far below the small of the back. Perfection of **loveliness**, they say, is in the direct ratio of the extent of this lump. Having been long possessed of this idea, and bolsters being cheap in that country, the days have long gone by since it was possible to distinguish a woman from a **dromedary**.”

“Stop!” said the king -- “I can’t stand that, and I won’t. You have already given me a dreadful headache with your lies. The day, too, I perceive, is beginning to break. How long have we been married? -- my conscience is getting to be troublesome again. And then that dromedary touch -- do you take me for a fool? Upon the whole, you might as well get up and be throttled.”

These words, as I learn from the “Isitsoornot,” both **grieved** and astonished Scheherazade; but, as she knew the king to be a man of scrupulous integrity, and quite unlikely to forfeit his word, she submitted to her fate with a good grace. She derived, however, great consolation, (during the tightening of the bowstring,) from the reflection that much of the history remained still untold, and that the **petulance** of her brute of a husband had reaped for him a most righteous reward, in depriving him of many inconceivable adventures.

Thesaurus

crotchet: (*n, v*) caprice; (*n*) quirk, kink, crank, hook, fad, whim, quirkiness, queerness, quarter note, oddity.

dromedary: (*n*) camel, llama, elephant, dromedary tractor.

fatalities: (*n*) dead, wounded.

fatality: (*n*) disaster, calamity, death, mishap, demise, misadventure, lethality, adversity, loss, decease, dead.

grieved: (*adj*) sore, sad, sorry, sorrowful, upset, woeful, pained,

affected, brokenhearted.

incomparably: (*adv*) superlatively, matchlessly, uniquely, exceptionally, outstandingly, unbeatably, uncomparably, excellently, very, greatly, beyond compare.

ANTONYM: (*adv*) comparably.

loveliness: (*n*) comeliness, fairness, grace, attractiveness, charm, glamour, pulchritude, beauteousness, good looks, cuteness, fineness.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) unattractiveness,

unpleasantness, awkwardness.

petulance: (*n*) touchiness, testiness, tetchiness, crossness, choler, fretfulness, peevishness, temper, acerbity; (*adj*) petulant, flippancy.

protuberance: (*n*) prominence, bulge, swelling, bump, hump, lump, nub, node, knob, protrusion, jut.

ungentlemanly: (*adj*) ribald, discourteous, shabby, uncouth, unrefined, impolite.

wives: (*n*) woman.

A DESCENT INTO THE MAELSTRÖM

The ways of God in Nature, as in Providence, are not as *our* ways; nor are the models that we frame any way **commensurate** to the **vastness**, profundity, and unsearchableness of His works, *which have a depth in them greater than the well of Democritus.*

--Joseph Glanville

We had now reached the summit of the loftiest **crag**. For some minutes the old man seemed too much exhausted to speak.

"Not long ago," said he at length, "and I could have guided you on this route as well as the youngest of my sons; but, about three years past, there happened to me an event such as never happened to mortal man -- or at least such as no man ever survived to tell of -- and the six hours of deadly terror which I then endured have broken me up body and soul. You suppose me a *very* old man -- but I am not. It took less than a single day to change these hairs from a jetty black to white, to weaken my limbs, and to **unstring** my nerves, so that I **tremble** at the least **exertion**, and am frightened at a shadow. Do you know I can scarcely look over this little cliff without getting giddy?"

The "little cliff," upon whose edge he had so **carelessly** thrown himself down to rest that the weightier portion of his body hung over it, while he was only kept

Thesaurus

carelessly: (*adv*) incautiously, hastily, recklessly, heedlessly, casually, sloppily, imprudently, inconsiderately, rashly, negligently, unwarily. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) thoroughly, diligently, carefully, warily, laboriously, thoughtfully, attentively, daintily, methodically, discreetly, economically.

commensurate: (*adj*) equal, sufficient, commensurable, proportionate, equivalent, comparable, coextensive,

tangible, valid, level, competent.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) inappropriate, inconsistent, incommensurate, divergent, inadequate.

crag: (*adj, n*) rock; (*n*) bluff, precipice, heugh; (*adj*) stone, pike, crest, granite, quartz, sugar loaf, crystal.

exertion: (*n*) application, exercise, endeavor, attempt, struggle, trouble, diligence, strain, labor, pull, essay.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) idleness, inactivity, inertia, relaxation, laziness, ease.

tremble: (*adj, n, v*) shiver; (*n, v*) quiver, shudder, thrill, palpitate; (*adj, v*) totter, quake; (*n*) throb; (*v*) flutter, quail, falter. ANTONYMS: (*v*) steady, calm.

unstring: (*v*) take, take away, shake, enervate, emasculate, remove.

vastness: (*n*) enormity, immensity, immenseness, enormousness, grandeur, size, hugeness, bigness, extent, magnificence, grandness.

ANTONYM: (*n*) closeness.

from falling by the tenure of his elbow on its extreme and slippery edge -- this "little cliff" arose, a sheer **unobstructed** precipice of black shining rock, some fifteen or sixteen hundred feet from the world of crags beneath us. Nothing would have tempted me to within half a dozen yards of its brink. In truth so deeply was I excited by the perilous position of my companion, that I fell at full length upon the ground, clung to the **shrubs** around me, and dared not even glance upward at the sky -- while I struggled in vain to **divest** myself of the idea that the very foundations of the mountain were in danger from the fury of the winds. It was long before I could reason myself into sufficient courage to sit up and look out into the distance.

"You must get over these fancies," said the guide, "for I have brought you here that you might have the best possible view of the scene of that event I mentioned -- and to tell you the whole story with the spot just under your eye."

"We are now," he continued, in that particularizing manner which distinguished him -- "we are now close upon the Norwegian coast -- in the sixty-eighth degree of latitude -- in the great province of Nordland -- and in the dreary district of Lofoden. The mountain upon whose top we sit is Helseggen, the Cloudy. Now raise yourself up a little higher -- hold on to the grass if you feel giddy -- so -- and look out, beyond the belt of **vapor** beneath us, into the sea."

I looked **dizzily**, and beheld a wide expanse of ocean, whose waters wore so inky a hue as to bring at once to my mind the Nubian geographer's account of the *Mare Tenebrarum*. A panorama more **deplorably** desolate no human imagination can conceive. To the right and left, as far as the eye could reach, there lay outstretched, like **ramparts** of the world, lines of **horridly** black and **beetling** cliff, whose character of gloom was but the more forcibly illustrated by the surf which reared high up against its white and ghastly crest, howling and shrieking forever. Just opposite the promontory upon whose apex we were placed, and at a distance of some five or six miles out at sea, there was visible a small, bleak-looking island; or, more properly, its position was discernible through the wilderness of surge in which it was enveloped. About two miles

Thesaurus

beetling: (*adj*) soaring, prominent, protrusive, projecting, towering; (*v*) overhanging, jutting over.
deplorably: (*adv*) pathetically, pathetically, woefully, lamentably, pitifully, regrettably, unforgivably, unpardonably, unfortunately, abominably, seriously. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) laudably, understandably.
divest: (*v*) bereave, dispossess, dismantle, denude, despoil, strip, disrobe, free, relieve, discharge,

unclothe. ANTONYMS: (*v*) invest, clothe, cover, dress, provide, bequeath, harbor, add.
dizzily: (*adv*) unsteadily, woozily, lightly, faintly, vertiginously, dazedly, frivolously, confusedly, flippantly, thoughtlessly; (*adj, adv*) silly. ANTONYM: (*adv*) alertly.
horridly: (*adv*) shockingly, direly, gruesomely, horrifically, direfully, fearsomely, fearfully, dreadfully, grimly, ugly, nastily. ANTONYM:

(*adv*) pleasantly.
ramparts: (*n*) rampart, fortification.
shrubs: (*n*) undergrowth.
unobstructed: (*adj*) open, unconstrained, clear, unhindered, unchecked, unimpeded, manifest, uncaught, unconfined, unloaded, free. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) obstructed, unclear, restricted.
vapor: (*n*) fog, cloud, steam, haze, evaporation, vapour, fume; (*adj, n*) gas, air; (*adj, v*) bluster; (*v*) boast.

nearer the land, arose another of smaller size, **hideously** craggy and barren, and **encompassed** at various intervals by a cluster of dark rocks.

The appearance of the ocean, in the space between the more distant island and the shore, had something very unusual about it. Although, at the time, so strong a gale was blowing landward that a **brig** in the remote **offing** lay to under a double-reefed trysail, and constantly plunged her whole hull out of sight, still there was here nothing like a regular swell, but only a short, quick, angry cross dashing of water in every direction -- as well in the teeth of the wind as otherwise. Of foam there was little except in the immediate vicinity of the rocks.

"The island in the distance," resumed the old man, "is called by the Norwegians Vurrgh. The one midway is Moskoe. That a mile to the northward is Ambaaren. **Yonder** are Islesen, Hotholm, Keildhelm, Suarven, and Buckholm. Farther off -- between Moskoe and Vurrgh -- are Otterholm, Flimen, Sandflesen, and Stockholm. These are the true names of the places -- but why it has been thought necessary to name them at all, is more than either you or I can understand. Do you hear anything? Do you see any change in the water?"

We had now been about ten minutes upon the top of Helseggen, to which we had ascended from the interior of Lofoden, so that we had caught no glimpse of the sea until it had burst upon us from the summit. As the old man spoke, I became aware of a loud and gradually increasing sound, like the moaning of a vast herd of buffaloes upon an American prairie; and at the same moment I perceived that what seamen term the *chopping* character of the ocean beneath us, was rapidly changing into a current which set to the eastward. Even while I gazed, this current acquired a monstrous velocity. Each moment added to its speed -- to its headlong **impetuosity**. In five minutes the whole sea, as far as Vurrgh, was lashed into **ungovernable** fury; but it was between Moskoe and the coast that the main uproar held its sway. Here the vast bed of the waters, **seamed** and scarred into a thousand conflicting channels, burst suddenly into phrensied **convulsion** -- heaving, boiling, hissing -- **gyrating** in gigantic and innumerable vortices, and all whirling and plunging on to the eastward with a rapidity which water never elsewhere assumes except in precipitous descents.

Thesaurus

brig: (*n*) barque, hermaphrodite brig, snow, jail, bridge, prison, big house, penal institution, ship.

convulsion: (*adj, n, v*) spasm; (*n*) fit, paroxysm, commotion, attack, clonus, shake, seizure, upheaval, cramp; (*adj, n*) disturbance.
ANTONYM: (*n*) peace.

encompassed: (*adj*) bounded.

gyrating: (*adj*) turning, spinning, winding, circling, gyrant.

hideously: (*adv*) dreadfully, ghastly,

awfully, loathsomely, horrendously, fearfully, odiously, gruesomely, shockingly, repulsively, heinously.
ANTONYMS: (*adv*) pleasantly, wonderfully, appealingly.

impetuosity: (*n*) eagerness, haste, heat, violence, vehemence, impulsiveness, impetuosity, excitability, temerity, precipitation, fervency.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) deliberation, patience, consideration, carefulness.

offing: (*n*) ocean, high seas, sea,

hereafter, billows, deep, future, brine, water, watery waste, body of water.

seamed: (*adj*) unsmooth, rough.

ungovernable: (*adj*) unruly, uncontrollable, irrepressible, intractable, licentious, violent, wild, indocile, uncontrolled, turbulent; (*adj, v*) headstrong.

yonder: (*adv*) beyond, further, farther, abroad, thither, further away, at that place; (*adj*) distant, yond, furious, fierce.

In a few minutes more, there came over the scene another radical alteration. The general surface grew somewhat more smooth, and the **whirlpools**, one by one, disappeared, while prodigious **streaks** of foam became apparent where none had been seen before. These streaks, at length, spreading out to a great distance, and entering into combination, took unto themselves the **gyratory** motion of the subsided vortices, and seemed to form the germ of another more vast. Suddenly -- very suddenly -- this assumed a distinct and definite existence, in a circle of more than a mile in diameter. The edge of the whirl was represented by a broad belt of gleaming spray; but no particle of this slipped into the mouth of the terrific funnel, whose interior, as far as the eye could fathom it, was a smooth, shining, and jet-black wall of water, inclined to the horizon at an angle of some forty-five degrees, speeding dizzily round and round with a swaying and **sweltering** motion, and sending forth to the winds an appalling voice, half shriek, half roar, such as not even the mighty **cataract** of Niagara ever lifts up in its agony to Heaven.

The mountain trembled to its very base, and the rock rocked. I threw myself upon my face, and clung to the scant **herbage** in an excess of nervous agitation.

"This," said I at length, to the old man -- "this *can* be nothing else than the great whirlpool of the Maelström."

"So it is sometimes termed," said he. "We Norwegians call it the Moskoe-ström, from the island of Moskoe in the midway."

The ordinary **accounts** of this **vortex** had by no means prepared me for what I saw. That of Jonas Ramus, which is perhaps the most circumstantial of any, cannot impart the faintest conception either of the **magnificence**, or of the horror of the scene -- or of the wild bewildering sense of *the novel* which confounds the beholder. I am not sure from what point of view the writer in question surveyed it, nor at what time; but it could neither have been from the summit of Helseggen, nor during a storm. There are some passages of his description, nevertheless, which may be quoted for their details, although their effect is exceedingly feeble in conveying an impression of the spectacle.

Thesaurus

accounts: (*n*) financial statement.

cataract: (*n*) waterfall, torrent, falls, deluge, cataclysm, amaurosis, blindness, angel, flood, prestriction; (*v*) pour.

gyratory: (*adj*) revolving, gyral, vortical, rotational, gyrating, changeable, circling, turning, dizzy; (*v*) vertiginous, circumrotatory.

herbage: (*n*) herb, grass, pasture, pasturage, foliage, herbaceous plant, forage, flora, eatage, vegetable

kingdom.

magnificence: (*adj, n*) splendor, brilliancy, gorgeousness; (*n*) glory, pomp, brilliance, grandness, greatness, dignity, majesty, loftiness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) paucity, modesty, shabbiness, poverty, austerity, unattractiveness.

streaks: (*n*) stripes, cords.

sweltering: (*adj*) hot, close, sticky, stifling, muggy, sultry, scorching, humid, broiling, baking, oppressive.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) fresh, cool, cold.

vortex: (*n*) swirl, convolution, whirl, maelstrom; (*n, v*) whirlpool; (*v*) undercurrent, storm, heavy sea, ground swell, reflux, indraught. **whirl:** (*n, v*) spin, turn, eddy, roll, wheel, twist, swirl; (*v*) reel, gyrate; (*n*) go, fling.

whirlpool: (*n, v*) vortex, whirl, swirl, gurge; (*n*) maelstrom, verticity, whirl; (*v*) undercurrent, indraught, reflux, purl.

"Between Lofoden and Moskoe," he says, "the depth of the water is between thirty-six and forty fathoms; but on the other side, toward Ver (Vurrgh) this depth decreases so as not to afford a convenient passage for a vessel, without the risk of splitting on the rocks, which happens even in the calmest weather. When it is flood, the stream runs up the country between Lofoden and Moskoe with a boisterous rapidity; but the roar of its **impetuous** ebb to the sea is scarce equalled by the loudest and most dreadful cataracts; the noise being heard several leagues off, and the vortices or pits are of such an extent and depth, that if a ship comes within its attraction, it is inevitably absorbed and carried down to the bottom, and there beat to pieces against the rocks; and when the water relaxes, the fragments thereof are thrown up again. But these intervals of **tranquility** are only at the turn of the ebb and flood, and in calm weather, and last but a quarter of an hour, its violence gradually returning. When the stream is most boisterous, and its fury **heightened** by a storm, it is dangerous to come within a Norway mile of it. Boats, yachts, and ships have been carried away by not guarding against it before they were within its reach. It likewise happens frequently, that whales come too near the stream, and are **overpowered** by its violence; and then it is impossible to describe their howlings and bellowings in their fruitless struggles to **disengage** themselves. A bear once, attempting to swim from Lofoden to Moskoe, was caught by the stream and borne down, while he roared terribly, so as to be heard on shore. Large stocks of firs and pine trees, after being absorbed by the current, rise again broken and torn to such a degree as if **bristles** grew upon them. This plainly shows the bottom to consist of **craggy** rocks, among which they are whirled to and fro. This stream is regulated by the flux and reflux of the sea -- it being constantly high and low water every six hours. In the year 1645, early in the morning of Sexagesima Sunday, it raged with such noise and impetuosity that the very **stones** of the houses on the coast fell to the ground."

In regard to the depth of the water, I could not see how this could have been ascertained at all in the immediate vicinity of the vortex. The "forty fathoms" must have reference only to portions of the channel close upon the shore either of Moskoe or Lofoden. The depth in the centre of the Moskoe-ström must be **immeasurably** greater; and no better proof of this fact is necessary than can be

Thesaurus

bristles: (*n*) beard, five o'clock shadow.

craggy: (*adj*) cragged, rugged, rocky, cliffy, jagged, hilly, harsh, uneven, broken, precipitous, abrupt.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) even, flat, level.

disengage: (*v*) discharge, detach, extricate, release, disconnect, enfranchise; (*adj, v*) disentangle, clear, disembarass, free; (*adj*) disencumber.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) fasten, engage, attach, connect, tighten, obstruct,

unite, couple, join, activate, lock.

heightened: (*adj*) excited, intense, irritate, keen, resonant, sensitive.

immeasurably: (*adv*) boundlessly, endlessly, immensely, greatly, much; (*adj*) exceedingly, extremely, exquisitely, acutely, ultra, intensely. ANTONYM: (*adv*) slightly.

impetuous: (*adj*) boisterous, hasty, fiery, headlong, heady, hot, brash, foolhardy, dashing, fierce; (*adj, v*) impulsive. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

considered, careful, slow, sensible, patient.

overpowered: (*adj*) beaten, conquered, inundated, engulfed, flooded, routed, vanquished, subdued, subjugated, overflowing, mild.

stones: (*n*) shingle, grit.

tranquility: (*n*) peace, serenity, repose, calm, ease, rest, easiness, quietude, quietness, harmony; (*adj, n*) placidity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) chaos, violence, uproar, upheaval.

obtained from even the **sidelong** glance into the abyss of the whirl which may be had from the highest crag of Helseggen. Looking down from this **pinnacle** upon the **howling** Phlegethon below, I could not help smiling at the simplicity with which the honest Jonas Ramus records, as a matter difficult of belief, the anecdotes of the whales and the bears; for it appeared to me, in fact, a self-evident thing, that the largest ship of the line in existence, coming within the influence of that deadly attraction, could resist it as little as a feather the hurricane, and must disappear bodily and at once.

The attempts to account for the phenomenon -- some of which, I remember, seemed to me sufficiently plausible in perusal -- now wore a very different and unsatisfactory aspect. The idea generally received is that this, as well as three smaller vortices among the Ferroe islands, "have no other cause than the collision of waves rising and falling, at flux and reflux, against a ridge of rocks and shelves, which **confines** the water so that it precipitates itself like a cataract; and thus the higher the flood rises, the deeper must the fall be, and the natural result of all is a whirlpool or vortex, the prodigious **suction** of which is sufficiently known by lesser experiments." -- These are the words of the Encyclopædia Britannica. Kircher and others imagine that in the centre of the channel of the Maelström is an abyss penetrating the globe, and issuing in some very remote part -- the Gulf of Bothnia being somewhat decidedly named in one instance. This opinion, idle in itself, was the one to which, as I gazed, my imagination most readily assented; and, mentioning it to the guide, I was rather surprised to hear him say that, although it was the view almost universally entertained of the subject by the Norwegians, it nevertheless was not his own. As to the former notion he confessed his inability to comprehend it; and here I agreed with him -- for, however conclusive on paper, it becomes altogether **unintelligible**, and even absurd, amid the thunder of the abyss.

"You have had a good look at the whirl now," said the old man, "and if you will creep round this crag, so as to get in its lee, and **deadened** the roar of the water, I will tell you a story that will convince you I ought to know something of the Moskoe-ström."

Thesaurus

confines: (*n*) boundary, bound, barrier, compass, limit, limits, range, frontier; (*adj*) environs, alentours; (*adj, n*) neighborhood.
deadened: (*n, v*) dampen, blunt, benumb, stun, obtund; (*adj, n, v*) damp; (*v*) muffle, mute, cushion; (*adj, v*) quell; (*adj*) allay. ANTONYMS: (*v*) accentuate, amplify, enliven, heighten, strengthen, build, invigorate, increase.
howling: (*n*) howl, cry; (*adj*) fierce,

fantastic, gross, glaring, marvelous, wonderful, wondrous; (*adj, n*) weeping, sniveling.
pinnacle: (*n*) apex, top, height, crest, zenith, crown, summit, acme, heyday, climax, culmination. ANTONYMS: (*n*) nadir, base, bottom, trough.
sidelong: (*adj*) indirect, oblique, side, askint, askance, askant; (*adv*) sideways, obliquely, askew, aslant, sideling. ANTONYM: (*adj*) direct.

suction: (*n*) sucking, intake, aspiration, absorption, uptake, traction, leverage, ingestion, consumption, draft, force per unit area.
unintelligible: (*adj*) opaque, inarticulate, unfathomable, impenetrable, unaccountable, ambiguous, not clear, obscure, indistinct, inconceivable, secret. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) understandable, clear, comprehensible, intelligible, obvious.

I placed myself as desired, and he proceeded.

"Myself and my two brothers once owned a schooner-rigged smack of about seventy tons **burthen**, with which we were in the habit of fishing among the islands beyond Moskoe, nearly to Vurrgh. In all violent eddies at sea there is good fishing, at proper opportunities, if one has only the courage to attempt it; but among the whole of the Lofoden coastmen, we three were the only ones who made a regular business of going out to the islands, as I tell you. The usual grounds are a great way lower down to the **southward**. There fish can be got at all hours, without much risk, and therefore these places are preferred. The choice spots over here among the rocks, however, not only yield the finest variety, but in far greater abundance; so that we often got in a single day, what the more timid of the craft could not **scrape** together in a week. In fact, we made it a matter of desperate speculation -- the risk of life standing instead of labor, and courage answering for capital.

"We kept the smack in a **cove** about five miles higher up the coast than this; and it was our practice, in fine weather, to take advantage of the fifteen minutes' slack to push across the main channel of the Moskoe-ström, far above the pool, and then drop down upon **anchorage** somewhere near Otterholm, or Sandflesen, where the eddies are not so violent as elsewhere. Here we used to remain until nearly time for slack-water again, when we weighed and made for home. We never set out upon this expedition without a steady side wind for going and coming -- one that we felt sure would not fail us before our return -- and we seldom made a mis-calculation upon this point. Twice, during six years, we were forced to stay all night at anchor on account of a dead calm, which is a rare thing indeed just about here; and once we had to remain on the grounds nearly a week, starving to death, **owing** to a gale which blew up shortly after our arrival, and made the channel too **boisterous** to be thought of. Upon this occasion we should have been driven out to sea in **spite** of everything, (for the whirlpools threw us round and round so violently, that, at length, we **fouled** our anchor and dragged it) if it had not been that we drifted into one of the innumerable cross currents --

Thesaurus

anchorage: (*n*) berth, port, mooring, moorage, encampment, roads, harbor, dock, road, moorings, haven.
boisterous: (*adj, n*) rough; (*adj*) furious, loud, noisy, fierce, raucous, wild, rude, vociferous; (*adj, v*) tempestuous, rampant. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) restrained, orderly, calm, dignified, silent, tranquil, gentle, placid.
burthen: (*v*) weight, angle, weight down; (*n*) loading, plumbing, white

elephant.
cove: (*n*) bay, cave, harbor, bight, inlet, recess, creek, glen, man, fellow, guy.
fouled: (*adj*) befoiled, foul, afoul, polluted, stained, contaminated, soiled, filthy, dirtied, disgusting, disgusting.
owing: (*adj*) due, unpaid, unsettled, outstanding, overdue, owed, payable, undischarged, indebted, fulfilling obligation, lawful. ANTONYM: (*adj*) settled.

scrape: (*n, v*) scratch, graze, score, mark; (*v*) rub, pare, rake, grate, chafe, abrade; (*n*) abrasion.
southward: (*adv*) southwards, southernly; (*adj*) southbound, southern.
spite: (*n*) malice, grudge, hatred, malevolence, rancour, venom, rancor, maliciousness, ill will, animosity; (*n, v*) pique. ANTONYMS: (*v*) please; (*n*) benevolence, goodwill, love, affection, harmony.

here to-day and gone to-morrow -- which drove us under the lee of Flimen, where, by good luck, we brought up.

"I could not tell you the twentieth part of the difficulties we encountered 'on the grounds' -- it is a bad spot to be in, even in good weather -- but we made shift always to run the **gauntlet** of the Moskoe-ström itself without accident; although at times my heart has been in my mouth when we happened to be a minute or so behind or before the **slack**. The wind sometimes was not as strong as we thought it at starting, and then we made rather less way than we could wish, while the current rendered the smack **unmanageable**. My eldest brother had a son eighteen years old, and I had two stout boys of my own. These would have been of great assistance at such times, in using the **sweeps**, as well as **afterward** in fishing -- but, somehow, although we ran the risk ourselves, we had not the heart to let the young ones get into the danger -- for, after all is said and done, it *was* a horrible danger, and that is the truth.

"It is now within a few days of three years since what I am going to tell you occurred. It was on the tenth day of July, 18-, a day which the people of this part of the world will never forget -- for it was one in which blew the most terrible hurricane that ever came out of the heavens. And yet all the morning, and indeed until late in the afternoon, there was a gentle and steady breeze from the southwest, while the sun shone brightly, so that the oldest **seaman** among us could not have foreseen what was to follow.

"The three of us -- my two brothers and myself -- had crossed over to the islands about two o'clock P.M., and had soon nearly loaded the smack with fine fish, which, we all remarked, were more plenty that day than we had ever known them. It was just seven, *by my watch*, when we weighed and started for home, so as to make the worst of the Ström at slack water, which we knew would be at eight.

"We set out with a fresh wind on our **starboard** quarter, and for some time spanked along at a great rate, never dreaming of danger, for indeed we saw not the slightest reason to **apprehend** it. All at once we were taken aback by a breeze from over Helseggen. This was most unusual -- something that had never

Thesaurus

afterward: (*adv, conj*) then, after that; (*adv*) thereafter, afterwards, later, subsequently, later on, next, soon; (*adj*) following; (*n*) future.
ANTONYMS: (*adv*) now, previously, before.
apprehend: (*v*) arrest, comprehend, grasp, catch, understand, fathom, realize, sense, follow, nail; (*adj, v*) conceive. ANTONYMS: (*v*) misunderstand, discharge, free, liberate.

gauntlet: (*n*) mitt, sleeve, wristband, gantlet, mitten, gloves; (*v*) corner stone, armored vest, buffer, mask, call to arms.
seaman: (*n*) seafarer, tar, gob, sailor, bluejacket, jack, navigator, bargee, bargeman, boatswain, bosun.
slack: (*adj, v*) loose, lax, remiss, slow, dull; (*adj*) indolent, negligent, idle, flaccid, limp, baggy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) strict, taut, thorough, brisk, diligent, attentive, upright, prompt,

meticulous; (*v*) tighten; (*n*) tautness.
starboard: (*n*) dexter, offside; (*adj*) proper, good, ripe, correct.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) port.
sweeps: (*n*) sweep period.
unmanageable: (*adj*) unwieldy, intractable, uncontrollable, awkward, cumbersome, stubborn, clumsy, bulky, recalcitrant, ungovernable, obstinate. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) manageable, orderly, wieldy, amenable, biddable.

happened to us before -- and I began to feel a little uneasy, without exactly knowing why. We put the boat on the wind, but could make no **headway** at all for the eddies, and I was upon the point of proposing to return to the anchorage, when, looking **astern**, we saw the whole horizon covered with a **singular** copper-colored cloud that rose with the most amazing velocity.

"In the meantime the breeze that had headed us off fell away, and we were dead **becalmed**, drifting about in every direction. This state of things, however, did not last long enough to give us time to think about it. In less than a minute the storm was upon us -- in less than two the sky was entirely **overcast** -- and what with this and the driving spray, it became suddenly so dark that we could not see each other in the smack.

"Such a hurricane as then blew it is folly to attempt describing. The oldest seaman in Norway never experienced any thing like it. We had let our sails go by the run before it cleverly took us; but, at the first puff, both our masts went by the board as if they had been sawed off -- the mainmast taking with it my youngest brother, who had lashed himself to it for safety.

"Our boat was the lightest feather of a thing that ever sat upon water. It had a complete flush deck, with only a small hatch near the bow, and this hatch it had always been our custom to **batten** down when about to cross the Ström, by way of precaution against the **chopping** seas. But for this circumstance we should have **founded** at once -- for we lay entirely buried for some moments. How my elder brother escaped destruction I cannot say, for I never had an opportunity of ascertaining. For my part, as soon as I had let the **foresail** run, I threw myself flat on deck, with my feet against the narrow **gunwale** of the bow, and with my hands grasping a ring-bolt near the foot of the fore-mast. It was mere instinct that prompted me to do this -- which was undoubtedly the very best thing I could have done -- for I was too much **flurried** to think.

"For some moments we were completely deluged, as I say, and all this time I held my breath, and clung to the bolt. When I could stand it no longer I raised myself upon my knees, still keeping hold with my hands, and thus got my head clear. Presently our little boat gave herself a shake, just as a dog does in coming

Thesaurus

astern: (*adv*) aft, after, aback, behind, sternmost, rearwards; (*adj, adv*) backward; (*adj*) back, rear.
ANTONYM: (*adv*) forward.
batten: (*n*) plank, bar, lath; (*v*) fasten, strengthen, fix, board up, flourish, thrive, fatten, fortify. **ANTONYMS:** (*v*) unfix, unfasten, loosen.
becalmed: (*v*) stagnant; (*adj*) unmoving, nonmoving, motionless.
chopping: (*adj*) jolly.
flurried: (*adj*) frightened, agitated; (*v*)

gallied.
foresail: (*n*) sail, jib, canvass, fore sail, canvas.
founded: (*v*) swamped, cast away, shipwrecked, unsuited, grounded, wrecked, stranded.
gunwale: (*n*) gun rest, strake, wale, bracketed blenny, inwale.
headway: (*n*) advancement, way, advance, headroom, forward movement, speed, progress, head, clearance, development; (*v*) flood.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) deterioration, regression.
overcast: (*adj*) dark, cloudy, dim, dull, gloomy, heavy, muddy, dismal; (*n, v*) cloud; (*adj, v*) obscure; (*v*) darken.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sunny, clear.
singular: (*adj, n*) extraordinary; (*adj*) odd, individual, particular, peculiar, phenomenal, rare, queer, single, quaint, exceptional. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) ordinary, normal, together, usual, customary.

out of the water, and thus rid herself, in some measure, of the seas. I was now trying to get the better of the **stupor** that had come over me, and to collect my senses so as to see what was to be done, when I felt somebody grasp my arm. It was my elder brother, and my heart leaped for joy, for I had made sure that he was **overboard** -- but the next moment all this joy was turned into horror -- for he put his mouth close to my ear, and screamed out the word '*Moskoe-ström!*'

"No one ever will know what my feelings were at that moment. I shook from head to foot as if I had had the most violent fit of the **ague**. I knew what he meant by that one word well enough -- I knew what he wished to make me understand. With the wind that now drove us on, we were bound for the whirl of the Ström, and nothing could save us!

"You perceive that in crossing the Ström *channel*, we always went a long way up above the whirl, even in the calmest weather, and then had to wait and watch carefully for the slack -- but now we were driving right upon the pool itself, and in such a hurricane as this! 'To be sure,' I thought, 'we shall get there just about the slack -- there is some little hope in that' -- but in the next moment I **curled** myself for being so great a fool as to dream of hope at all. I knew very well that we were doomed, had we been ten times a ninety-gun ship.

"By this time the first fury of the **tempest** had spent itself, or perhaps we did not feel it so much, as we scudded before it, but at all events the seas, which at first had been kept down by the wind, and lay flat and **frothing**, now got up into absolute mountains. A singular change, too, had come over the heavens. Around in every direction it was still as black as pitch, but nearly overhead there burst out, all at once, a circular rift of clear sky -- as clear as I ever saw -- and of a deep bright blue -- and through it there blazed forth the full moon with a **lustre** that I never before knew her to wear. She lit up every thing about us with the greatest **distinctness** -- but, oh God, what a scene it was to light up!

"I now made one or two **attempts** to speak to my brother -- but, in some manner which I could not understand, the din had so increased that I could not make him hear a single word, although I screamed at the top of my voice in his

Thesaurus

ague: (<i>n</i>) acute, symptom, sickness, malady, illness, malaria, paludism, swamp fever, chills and fever; (<i>adj</i>) appendicitis, angina pectoris.	definition, otherness, perspicuity, discreteness, articulate sound, separation, uncloudedness, dissimilarity; (<i>adj</i>) conspicuousness.	brightness.
attempts: (<i>adj</i>) trying.	ANTONYM: (<i>n</i>) indistinctness.	overboard: (<i>adj</i>) exorbitant, rabid.
curled: (<i>adj</i>) damned, doomed, execrable, cursed, wretched, unlucky, accursed, blamed, blasted, confounded; (<i>v</i>) accurst.	frothing: (<i>adj</i>) foamy, bubbling, effervescent, bubbly, spumous, spumy, effervescing, sudsy, agitated; (<i>n</i>) effervescence, scum.	stupor: (<i>n</i>) lethargy, stupefaction, coma, shock, insensibility, unconsciousness, trance, sluggishness, torpor, haze, grogginess. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) alertness, awareness, wakefulness.
ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) commendable, honorable, nice, sweet, kine.	lustre: (<i>n</i>) brilliance, gloss, brilliancy, grandeur, splendour, effulgence, splendor, shininess, shine, sheen,	tempest: (<i>adj, n</i>) storm, gust; (<i>n</i>) gale, hurricane, squall, disturbance, cyclone, typhoon, agitation, tornado, blizzard. ANTONYM: (<i>n</i>) serenity.
distinctness: (<i>n</i>) clearness, sharpness,		

ear. Presently he shook his head, looking as pale as death, and held up one of his finger, as if to say '*listen!*'

"At first I could not make out what he meant -- but soon a hideous thought flashed upon me. I dragged my watch from its fob. It was not going. I glanced at its face by the moonlight, and then burst into tears as I flung it far away into the ocean. *It had run down at seven o'clock! We were behind the time of the slack, and the whirl of the Ström was in full fury!*

"When a boat is well built, properly **trimmed**, and not deep laden, the waves in a strong gale, when she is going large, seem always to slip from beneath her -- which appears very strange to a **landsman** -- and this is what is called *riding*, in sea phrase. Well, so far we had ridden the swells very cleverly; but presently a gigantic sea happened to take us right under the counter, and bore us with it as it rose -- up -- up -- up -- as if into the sky. I would not have believed that any wave could rise so high. And then down we **came** with a sweep, a slide, and a plunge, that made me feel sick and dizzy, as if I was falling from some lofty mountain-top in a dream. But while we were up I had thrown a quick glance around -- and that one glance was all sufficient. I saw our exact position in an instant. The Moskoe-Ström whirlpool was about a quarter of a mile dead ahead -- but no more like the every-day Moskoe-Ström, than the whirl as you now see it is like a mill-race. If I had not known where we were, and what we had to expect, I should not have recognised the place at all. As it was, I involuntarily closed my eyes in horror. The **lids** **clenched** themselves together as if in a spasm.

"It could not have been more than two minutes afterward until we suddenly felt the waves **subside**, and were **enveloped** in foam. The boat made a sharp half turn to **larboard**, and then shot off in its new direction like a **thunderbolt**. At the same moment the roaring noise of the water was completely drowned in a kind of shrill **shriek** -- such a sound as you might imagine given out by the waste-pipes of many thousand steam-vessels, letting off their steam all together. We were now in the belt of **surf** that always surrounds the whirl; and I thought, of course, that another moment would plunge us into the abyss -- down which we could only see **indistinctly** on account of the amazing velocity with which we

Thesaurus

came: (v) arrive, come.

clenched: (adj) tight, clinched.

enveloped: (adj) convoluted, enclosed, cover, bounded, Byzantine, clothed, involved, misty, swallowed, vested, emotionally involved.

indistinctly: (adv) vaguely, dimly, hazily, mistily, inarticulately, shadowily, obscurely, unclearly, fuzzily, confusedly, ambiguously.

ANTONYMS: (adv) precisely, audibly, coherently, distinctly.

landsman: (n) landlubber, novice, tiro, tyro, countryman, lubber, klutz, initiate, inhabitant, goon, gawk.

larboard: (adj) left; (n) sinister, embrasure, interface, nearside.

lids: (n) lid.

shriek: (n, v) screech, cry, shout, call, howl, yell, yowl, scream; (v) bellow, caterwaul, shrill. ANTONYM: (v) sigh.

subside: (v) diminish, decline, abate, lessen, fall, sink, calm, descend,

collapse, dip, settle. ANTONYMS: (v) strengthen, excite.

surf: (n) foam, breaker, spray, wave, surge, swell, suds, bubble; (v) browse, beach comber, ground swell.

thunderbolt: (n) bolt of lightning, lightning, thunder, thunderclap, bombshell, surprise, flash, shackle, quarrel, streak of lightning, streak.

trimmed: (adj) down, slashed, shortened, neat, mown, level, gelded, emasculated, demure, cunning, sly.

wore borne along. The boat did not seem to sink into the water at all, but to **skim** like an air-bubble upon the surface of the surge. Her starboard side was next the whirl, and on the larboard arose the world of ocean we had left. It stood like a huge **writhing** wall between us and the horizon.

"It may appear strange, but now, when we were in the very jaws of the gulf, I felt more composed than when we were only approaching it. Having made up my mind to hope no more, I got rid of a great deal of that terror which **unmanned** me at first. I suppose it was despair that strung my nerves.

"It may look like boasting -- but what I tell you is truth -- I began to reflect how magnificent a thing it was to die in such a manner, and how foolish it was in me to think of so **paltry** a consideration as my own individual life, in view of so wonderful a manifestation of God's power. I do believe that I blushed with shame when this idea crossed my mind. After a little while I became possessed with the keenest curiosity about the whirl itself. I positively felt a *wish* to explore its depths, even at the sacrifice I was going to make; and my principal grief was that I should never be able to tell my old **companions** on shore about the mysteries I should see. These, no doubt, were singular **fancies** to occupy a man's mind in such **extremity** -- and I have often thought since, that the revolutions of the boat around the pool might have rendered me a little **light-headed**.

"There was another circumstance which tended to restore my **self-possession**; and this was the cessation of the wind, which could not reach us in our present situation -- for, as you saw yourself, the belt of surf is considerably lower than the general bed of the ocean, and this latter now towered above us, a high, black, mountainous ridge. If you have never been at sea in a heavy gale, you can form no idea of the confusion of mind occasioned by the wind and spray together. They blind, **deafen**, and **strangle** you, and take away all power of action or reflection. But we were now, in a great measure, rid of these annoyances -- just us death-condemned felons in prison are allowed petty indulgences, forbidden them while their doom is yet uncertain.

"How often we made the circuit of the belt it is impossible to say. We careered round and round for perhaps an hour, flying rather than floating,

Thesaurus

companions: (*n*) circle, entourage, people.
deafen: (*adj*) stun, render deaf; (*v*) desensitize, soften, weaken, muffle, deave, dampen, blindfold.
extremity: (*n*) end, member, boundary, bound, close, appendage, limit, limb, ending, fringe, conclusion. ANTONYMS: (*n*) trunk, average, minimum, head, leniency.
fancies: (*n*) stock.
light-headed: (*adj*) dizzy, flighty,

skittish, queer, faint, lightheaded.
paltry: (*adj, n*) mean; (*adj*) contemptible, measly, trifling, abject, insignificant, inconsiderable, puny, little, trivial, low. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) generous, substantial, plentiful, enormous, important, profound.
self-possession: (*n*) composure, poise, imperturbability, serenity, aplomb, coolness, balance, restraint, self-control, morale, presence.
skim: (*v*) slip, browse, skip, sweep,

read, race, fly, shave, brush; (*n, v*) cream, slide.
strangle: (*v*) smother, stifle, asphyxiate, scrag, tighten, repress, constrict, pinch, strangulate; (*adj, v*) throttle; (*n*) strangling.
unmanned: (*adj*) emasculate; (*v*) unnerved.
writhing: (*adj, n*) twisting; (*adj*) wriggly, squirming, wiggling, wiggly, twisty, tortuous, snaky, winding, sinuous; (*n*) twist.

getting gradually more and more into the middle of the surge, and then nearer and nearer to its horrible inner edge. All this time I had never let go of the ring-bolt. My brother was at the stern, holding on to a small empty water-cask which had been securely lashed under the **coop** of the counter, and was the only thing on deck that had not been swept overboard when the gale first took us. As we approached the brink of the pit he let go his hold upon this, and made for the ring, from which, in the agony of his terror, he endeavored to force my hands, as it was not large enough to afford us both a secure grasp. I never felt deeper grief than when I saw him attempt this act -- although I knew he was a **madman** when he did it -- a **raving maniac** through sheer fright. I did not care, however, to contest the point with him. I knew it could make no difference whether either of us held on at all; so I let him have the bolt, and went astern to the cask. This there was no great difficulty in doing; for the smack flew round steadily enough, and upon an even **keel** -- only swaying to and fro, with the immense sweeps and swelters of the whirl. Scarcely had I secured myself in my new position, when we gave a wild **lurch** to starboard, and rushed headlong into the abyss. I muttered a hurried prayer to God, and thought all was over.

"As I felt the sickening sweep of the descent, I had instinctively **tightened** my hold upon the barrel, and closed my eyes. For some seconds I dared not open them -- while I expected instant destruction, and wondered that I was not already in my death-struggles with the water. But moment after moment elapsed. I still lived. The sense of falling had ceased; and the motion of the vessel seemed much as it had been before, while in the belt of foam, with the exception that she now lay more along. I took courage, and looked once again upon the scene.

"Never shall I forget the **sensations** of awe, horror, and admiration with which I gazed about me. The boat appeared to be hanging, as if by magic, midway down, upon the interior surface of a funnel vast in circumference, prodigious in depth, and whose perfectly smooth sides might have been mistaken for ebony, but for the **bewildering** rapidity with which they **spun** around, and for the gleaming and ghastly **radiance** they shot forth, as the rays of

Thesaurus

bewildering: (*adj*) astonishing, puzzling, perplexing, confusing, marvelous, mystifying, amazing, astounding, discomfit, upsetting, staggering. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) enlightening, simple, soothing.
coop: (*n, v*) pen; (*n*) birdcage, enclosure, jail, hutch, cell, henhouse, hencoop, gaol, cote; (*v*) impound.
keel: (*n*) foot, hoof, carina, root, fin keel; (*v*) careen, cool, pitch, tumble, droop, flag.

lurch: (*n, v*) stumble, pitch, stagger; (*v*) reel, tilt, cant, rock, sway, shake, teeter, wobble. ANTONYM: (*v*) hesitate.
madman: (*n*) bedlamite, maniac, crazy, loony, nut, madcap, looney, loco, sufferer, raver, nutcase.
maniac: (*n*) madman, bedlamite, madcap, freak, fanatic, nut, looney, bigot, madwoman; (*adj*) loco, maniacal.
radiance: (*n*) gleam, glory, brilliance,

luster, lustre, beam, brightness, effulgence, sparkle, light; (*adj, n*) brilliancy. ANTONYMS: (*n*) darkness, gloominess.
raving: (*adj, v*) wild; (*adj*) frantic, delirious, furious, mad, insane; (*adj, n*) madness, distraction, rage; (*n*) rabid, delirium.
sensations: (*n*) feelings, vibrations, ambiance.
spun: (*adj*) spined; (*v*) rotate, revolve.
tightened: (*adj*) secure, securer, firm.

the full moon, from that circular rift amid the clouds which I have already described, streamed in a flood of golden glory along the black walls, and far away down into the **inmost recesses** of the abyss.

“At first I was too much confused to observe anything accurately. The general burst of terrific grandeur was all that I beheld. When I recovered myself a little, however, my gaze fell instinctively downward. In this direction I was able to obtain an unobstructed view, from the manner in which the smack hung on the inclined surface of the pool. She was quite upon an even keel -- that is to say, her deck lay in a plane parallel with that of the water -- but this latter **sloped** at an angle of more than forty-five degrees, so that we seemed to be lying upon our beam-ends. I could not help observing, nevertheless, that I had scarcely more difficulty in maintaining my hold and footing in this situation, than if we had been upon a dead level; and this, I suppose, was owing to the speed at which we **revolved**.

“The rays of the moon seemed to search the very bottom of the profound gulf; but still I could make out nothing distinctly, on account of a thick mist in which everything there was enveloped, and over which there hung a magnificent rainbow, like that narrow and **tottering** bridge which Mussulmen say is the only pathway between Time and Eternity. This mist, or spray, was no doubt occasioned by the **clashing** of the great walls of the funnel, as they all met together at the bottom -- but the yell that went up to the Heavens from out of that mist, I dare not attempt to describe.

“Our first slide into the abyss itself, from the belt of foam above, had carried us a great distance down the slope; but our farther descent was by no means **proportionate**. Round and round we swept -- not with any uniform movement -- but in **dizzying** swings and jerks, that sent us sometimes only a few hundred yards -- sometimes nearly the complete circuit of the whirl. Our progress downward, at each revolution, was slow, but very **perceptible**.

“Looking about me upon the wide waste of liquid ebony on which we were thus **borne**, I perceived that our boat was not the only object in the embrace of the whirl. Both above and below us were visible fragments of vessels, large

Thesaurus

borne: (*adj*) weak, wanting, spoony, soft, sappy, shallow, little, limited.
clashing: (*adj, n*) discordant; (*n*) collision, interference, antagonism, discord; (*adj*) conflicting, incompatible, opposed, contrary; (*adv*) clashingly; (*v*) bickering.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) consistent.
dizzying: (*adj*) excessive, steep, precipitous, inordinate.
inmost: (*adj*) innermost, inward, deep, intimate, private, inner, interior,

internal, personal, secret, intrinsic.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) outermost.
perceptible: (*adj*) conspicuous, appreciable, evident, discernible, obvious, visible, palpable, apparent, detectable, manifest, observable.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) intangible, unclear, inaudible, inconspicuous, obscure, undetectable, invisible.
proportionate: (*adj, v*) proportional; (*adj*) proportionable, equal, harmonious, comparable, balanced,

sufficient, relative, appropriate, adequate, equitable. ANTONYM: (*adj*) disproportionate.
recesses: (*n*) penetralia, bowels, inside.
revolved: (*adj*) disgusted.
sloped: (*adj*) slanting, oblique, sloping, inclined, aslope, diagonal, aslant, leaned, leant, colored, biased.
tottering: (*adj*) unsteady, ramshackle, easily shaken, tottery, sick, rocky, broken, trembling, cracked; (*v*) drooping; (*n*) convulsion.

masses of building timber and **trunks** of trees, with many smaller articles, such as pieces of house furniture, broken boxes, barrels and staves. I have already described the unnatural curiosity which had taken the place of my original terrors. It appeared to grow upon me as I drew nearer and nearer to my dreadful **doom**. I now began to watch, with a strange interest, the numerous things that floated in our company. I *must* have been **delirious** -- for I even sought *amusement* in **speculating** upon the relative velocities of their several descents toward the foam below. 'This fir tree,' I found myself at one time saying, 'will certainly be the next thing that takes the awful plunge and disappears,' -- and then I was disappointed to find that the wreck of a Dutch merchant ship **overtook** it and went down before. At length, after making several guesses of this nature, and being **deceived** in all -- this fact -- the fact of my invariable miscalculation -- set me upon a train of reflection that made my limbs again tremble, and my heart beat heavily once more.

"It was not a new terror that thus affected me, but the dawn of a more exciting *hope*. This hope arose partly from memory, and partly from present observation. I called to mind the great variety of buoyant matter that **strewed** the coast of Lofoden, having been absorbed and then thrown forth by the Moskoeström. By far the greater number of the articles were shattered in the most extraordinary way -- so chafed and **roughened** as to have the appearance of being stuck full of splinters -- but then I distinctly recollected that there were *some* of them which were not **disfigured** at all. Now I could not account for this difference except by **supposing** that the roughened fragments were the only ones which had been *completely absorbed* -- that the others had entered the whirl at so late a period of the tide, or, for some reason, had descended so slowly after entering, that they did not reach the bottom before the turn of the flood came, or of the ebb, as the case might be. I conceived it possible, in either instance, that they might thus be whirled up again to the level of the ocean, without undergoing the fate of those which had been drawn in more early, or absorbed more rapidly. I made, also, three important observations. The first was, that, as a general rule, the larger the bodies were, the more rapid their descent -- the second, that, between two masses of equal extent, the one **spherical**, and the

Thesaurus

deceived: (*adj*) mistaken, misguided.

delirious: (*adj*) crazy, wild, frantic, wandering, demented, excited, insane, mad, frenetic, doting, drunk.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unexcited, rational, composed, relaxed, reasonable, balanced, lucid, collected, clearheaded, calm, dejected.

disfigured: (*adj*) crooked, ugly, spoil, damage, deform, shabby, hurt, shapeless, dishonest, stained, blemished.

doom: (*n, v*) sentence, destiny, fate; (*v*) condemn, convict, damn; (*n*) destiny, day of reckoning, chance, luck, lot.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) plan; (*v*) absolve.

overtook: (*v*) overtake.

roughened: (*adj*) cracked, loco, kooky, kookie, unsmooth, rough, nutty, nuts, loopy, loony, haywire.

speculating: (*n*) conception.

spherical: (*adj*) global, orbicular, globular, globose, circular, rotund, spheric, rounded, orbiculate, sphere,

full. ANTONYM: (*adj*) nonspherical.

strewed: (*v*) besprent, sprinkled over.

supposing: (*adv*) admitting, conditionally, in case; (*n*) supposition, conjecture, thought, theory, assumption; (*conj*) although, what if; (*v*) suppose.

trunks: (*n*) short pants, pants, luggage, Jockey shorts, Jamaica shorts, Bermuda shorts, bathing trunks, bathing suit, costume, drawers, swimming trunks.

other of *any other shape*, the superiority in speed of descent was with the sphere -- the third, that, between two masses of equal size, the one **cylindrical**, and the other of any other shape, the cylinder was absorbed the more slowly. Since my escape, I have had several conversations on this subject with an old school-master of the district; and it was from him that I learned the use of the words 'cylinder' and 'sphere.' He explained to me -- although I have forgotten the explanation -- how what I observed was, in fact, the natural consequence of the forms of the floating fragments -- and showed me how it happened that a cylinder, swimming in a vortex, offered more resistance to its suction, and was drawn in with greater difficulty than an equally **bulky** body, of any form whatever.

"There was one startling circumstance which went a great way in **enforcing** these observations, and rendering me anxious to turn them to account, and this was that, at every revolution, we passed something like a barrel, or else the yard or the mast of a vessel, while many of these things, which had been on our level when I first opened my eyes upon the wonders of the whirlpool, were now high up above us, and seemed to have moved but little from their original station.

"I no longer hesitated what to do. I resolved to **lash** myself securely to the water **cask** upon which I now held, to cut it loose from the counter, and to throw myself with it into the water. I attracted my brother's attention by signs, pointed to the floating barrels that came near us, and did everything in my power to make him understand what I was about to do. I thought at length that he comprehended my design -- but, **whether** this was the case or not, he shook his head **despairingly**, and refused to move from his station by the ring-bolt. It was impossible to reach him; the emergency admitted of no delay; and so, with a bitter struggle, I resigned him to his fate, **fastened** myself to the cask by means of the **lashings** which secured it to the counter, and precipitated myself with it into the sea, without another moment's hesitation.

"The result was precisely what I had hoped it might be. As it is myself who now tell you this tale -- as you see that I *did* escape -- and as you are already in possession of the mode in which this escape was effected, and must therefore

Thesaurus

bulky: (<i>adj</i>) large, unwieldy, great, huge, ample, fat, extensive, corpulent, heavy, gross; (<i>adj, adv</i>) portly. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) compact, manageable, thin, insubstantial, miniature, tiny, wieldy, slight, light, slim.	cylindroid, bulging, complete, circular.	empight, steady, firm. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) unfastened, unbuttoned.
cask: (<i>n</i>) bucket, butt, tun, tub, drum, vat, hogshhead, keg, coffin, containerful, vessel.	despairingly: (<i>adv</i>) forlornly, desperately, despondently, dejectedly, sadly, desolately, disconsolately, resignedly, sorrowfully, frantically, frantically. ANTONYMS: (<i>adv</i>) energetically, expectantly, cheerfully.	lash: (<i>n, v</i>) beat, chastise, scourge, goad; (<i>v</i>) flog, bind, batter; (<i>adj, v</i>) strap, tie, lace; (<i>n</i>) hit. ANTONYMS: (<i>v</i>) unlash, untie.
cylindrical: (<i>adj</i>) cylinder, round, tubular, rounded, tubelike, vasiform,	enforcing: (<i>v</i>) enforce.	lashings: (<i>n</i>) lots, oodles, abundance, plenty, heaps, rafts, large indefinite quantity, large indefinite amount, inexhaustibleness, wads, hemorrhoid.
	fastened: (<i>adj</i>) tied, fast, buttoned, closed, tight, secure, pinned, binding,	whether: (<i>pron</i>) where.

anticipate all that I have farther to say -- I will bring my story quickly to conclusion. It might have been an hour, or **thereabout**, after my quitting the smack, when, having **descended** to a vast distance beneath me, it made three or four wild gyrations in rapid succession, and, bearing my loved brother with it, plunged **headlong**, at once and forever, into the chaos of foam below. The barrel to which I was attached sunk very little farther than half the distance between the bottom of the gulf and the spot at which I leaped overboard, before a great change took place in the character of the whirlpool. The slope of the sides of the vast funnel became **momently** less and less steep. The gyrations of the whirl grew, gradually, less and less violent. By degrees, the **froth** and the rainbow disappeared, and the bottom of the gulf seemed slowly to **uprise**. The sky was clear, the winds had gone down, and the full moon was setting **radiantly** in the west, when I found myself on the surface of the ocean, in full view of the shores of Lofoden, and above the spot where the pool of the Moskoe-ström *had been*. It was the hour of the slack -- but the sea still heaved in **mountainous** waves from the effects of the hurricane. I was borne violently into the channel of the Ström, and in a few minutes was hurried down the coast into the 'grounds' of the fishermen. A boat picked me up -- exhausted from fatigue -- and (now that the danger was removed) **speechless** from the memory of its horror. Those who drew me on board were my old mates and daily companions -- but they knew me no more than they would have known a traveller from the spirit-land. My hair which had been raven-black the day before, was as white as you see it now. They say too that the whole expression of my **countenance** had changed. I told them my story -- they did not believe it. I now tell it to *you* -- and I can scarcely expect you to put more faith in it than did the merry fishermen of Lofoden."

Thesaurus

countenance: (*n*) aspect, expression, brow, complexion; (*n, v*) face, sanction, support, favor; (*v*) allow, tolerate, uphold. ANTONYMS: (*v*) reject, oppose, discourage, disapprove, prohibit.

descended: (*v*) extraught.

froth: (*n, v*) bubble, spume, fizz, suds, sparkle; (*v*) boil, effervesce, ferment; (*n*) effervescence, bubbles, spindrift.

headlong: (*adj, adv*) headfirst; (*adv*) directly, hastily, precipitately; (*adj*)

rash, hurried, desperate, precipitous, impetuous, sudden, precipitate.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cautiously, considered; (*adv*) carefully.

momently: (*adv*) momentarily, in a moment, presently.

mountainous: (*adj*) colossal, gargantuan, huge, hilly, giant, alpine, enormous, large, rugged, gigantic, cragged. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) flat, tiny.

radiantly: (*adv*) effulgently, brightly, beamingly, luminously, refulgently,

shiningly, lucidly, sparkingly, sunnily, beautifully, lustrously.

speechless: (*adj*) silent, mute, dumb, dumbfounded, voiceless, quiet, tongueless, tacit, noiseless, mum, wordless. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) loquacious, eloquent, talkative.

thereabout: (*adv*) thereby, by that.

uprise: (*v*) rise, mount, arise, get up, climb, go up, stand up, originate, lift, bristle; (*n, v*) swell. ANTONYM: (*v*) set.

VON KEMPELEN AND HIS DISCOVERY

After the very minute and elaborate paper by Arago, to say nothing of the summary in 'Silliman's Journal,' with the detailed statement just published by Lieutenant Maury, it will not be supposed, of course, that in offering a few hurried **remarks** in reference to Von Kempelen's discovery, I have any design to look at the subject in a scientific point of view. My object is simply, in the first place, to say a few words of Von Kempelen himself (with whom, some years ago, I had the honor of a slight personal acquaintance), since every thing which concerns him must necessarily, at this moment, be of interest; and, in the second place, to look in a general way, and **speculatively**, at the results of the discovery.

It may be as well, however, to premise the **cursorial observations** which I have to offer, by **denying**, very decidedly, what seems to be a general impression (gleaned, as usual in a case of this kind, from the newspapers), viz.: that this discovery, **astounding** as it unquestionably is, is **unanticipated**.

By reference to the 'Diary of Sir Humphrey Davy', it will be seen at pp. 53 and 82, that this illustrious chemist had not only conceived the idea now in question, but had actually made no **inconsiderable** progress, experimentally, in the very identical analysis now so triumphantly brought to an issue by Von

Thesaurus

astounding: (*adj*) amazing, miraculous, wonderful, incredible, tremendous, spectacular, sensational, breathtaking, awesome, staggering, prodigious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unremarkable, comforting, predictable, boring, insignificant.
cursorial: (*adj*) careless, passing, fleeting, perfunctory, ephemeral, superficial, slapdash, facile, evanescent, sketchy, shallow. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) complete,

comprehensive, meticulous, long.
denying: (*v*) deny; (*adv*) denyingly; (*adj*) opposed, recusative, unselfish, abnegative.
inconsiderable: (*adj*) inconsequential, immaterial, small, petty, slight, negligible, trivial, fractional, minute, imperceptible, slender. ANTONYM: (*adj*) major.
observations: (*n*) commentary, remarks, explanation, comments.
remarks: (*n*) commentary,

explanation.
speculatively: (*adv*) reflectively, hypothetically, contemplatively, chancily, academically, conjecturally, inquisitively, pensively, tentatively, insecurely, notionally.
unanticipated: (*adj*) unforeseen, sudden, surprising, amazing, startling, shocking, serendipitous; (*adj, adv*) out of the blue; (*v*) unlooked for, unlooked for; (*adj, v*) unpredicted.

Kempelen, who although he makes not the slightest **allusion** to it, is, without doubt (I say it **unhesitatingly**, and can prove it, if required), indebted to the 'Diary' for at least the first hint of his own undertaking.

The paragraph from the 'Courier and Enquirer,' which is now going the rounds of the press, and which purports to claim the invention for a Mr. Kissam, of Brunswick, Maine, appears to me, I confess, a little **apocryphal**, for several **reasons**; although there is nothing either impossible or very improbable in the statement made. I need not go into details. My opinion of the paragraph is founded principally upon its manner. It does not look true. Persons who are narrating facts, are seldom so particular as Mr. Kissam seems to be, about day and date and precise location. Besides, if Mr. Kissam actually did come upon the discovery he says he did, at the period designated -- nearly eight years ago -- how happens it that he took no steps, on the instant, to reap the immense benefits which the merest **bumpkin** must have known would have resulted to him individually, if not to the world at large, from the discovery? It seems to me quite incredible that any man of common understanding could have discovered what Mr. Kissam says he did, and yet have subsequently acted so like a baby -- so like an owl -- as Mr. Kissam admits that he did. By-the-way, who is Mr. Kissam? and is not the whole paragraph in the 'Courier and Enquirer' a fabrication got up to 'make a talk'? It must be **confessed** that it has an amazingly moon-hoaxy-air. Very little dependence is to be placed upon it, in my humble opinion; and if I were not well aware, from experience, how very easily men of science are mystified, on points out of their usual range of inquiry, I should be profoundly astonished at finding so eminent a chemist as Professor Draper, discussing Mr. Kissam's (or is it Mr. Quizzem's?) **pretensions** to the discovery, in so serious a tone.

But to return to the 'Diary' of Sir Humphrey Davy. This pamphlet was not designed for the public eye, even upon the **decease** of the writer, as any person at all conversant with **authorship** may satisfy himself at once by the slightest inspection of the style. At page 13, for example, near the middle, we read, in reference to his researches about the protoxide of **azote**: 'In less than half a

Thesaurus

allusion: (<i>n</i>) innuendo, reference, cue, suggestion, mention, intimation, pointer, insinuation, implication, indication, clue.	writing, pencraft, fatherhood, origin, authorism, bookcraft, drafting; (<i>n, v</i>) composition; (<i>v</i>) publication.	away, exit, expire; (<i>n</i>) demise, passing, departure, expiration.
apocryphal: (<i>adj</i>) untrue, questionable, fallacious, fictitious, spurious, antiscriptural, bogus, unreal, unauthenticated, ungrounded; (<i>v</i>) problematical. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) authentic, doubtless, real, substantiated.	azote: (<i>n</i>) bullwhack, blacksnake, kurbash, chicote, sjambok, sewer gas, rawhide, quirt, atomic number, miasma, mephitis.	ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) nascency; (<i>v</i>) survive.
authorship: (<i>n</i>) source, paternity,	bumpkin: (<i>n</i>) boor, yokel, rustic, hick, clown, rube, bumkin, lout, countryman, clod, chawbacon.	pretensions: (<i>n</i>) airs, affected manner, mannerism.
	confessed: (<i>adj</i>) known.	reasons: (<i>n</i>) proof.
	decease: (<i>v</i>) go, die, perish, pass, pass	unhesitatingly: (<i>adv</i>) readily, openly, freely, plainly, speedily, willingly, decidedly, resolutely, determinedly, sincerely, undisguisedly.
		ANTONYM: (<i>adv</i>) eventually.

minute the **respiration** being continued, diminished gradually and were succeeded by analogous to gentle pressure on all the muscles.' That the respiration was not 'diminished,' is not only clear by the subsequent context, but by the use of the **plural**, 'were.' The sentence, no doubt, was thus intended: 'In less than half a minute, the respiration [being continued, these feelings] diminished gradually, and were succeeded by [a sensation] analogous to gentle pressure on all the muscles.' A hundred similar instances go to show that the MS. so **inconsiderately** published, was merely a rough note-book, meant only for the writer's own eye, but an inspection of the pamphlet will convince almost any thinking person of the truth of my suggestion. The fact is, Sir Humphrey Davy was about the last man in the world to commit himself on scientific topics. Not only had he a more than ordinary dislike to **quackery**, but he was **morbidly** afraid of appearing empirical; so that, however fully he might have been convinced that he was on the right track in the matter now in question, he would never have spoken out, until he had every thing ready for the most practical demonstration. I **verily** believe that his last moments would have been rendered wretched, could he have suspected that his wishes in regard to burning this 'Diary' (full of crude speculations) would have been **unattended** to; as, it seems, they were. I say 'his wishes,' for that he meant to include this note-book among the miscellaneous papers directed 'to be burnt,' I think there can be no manner of doubt. Whether it escaped the flames by good fortune or by bad, yet remains to be seen. That the passages quoted above, with the other similar ones referred to, gave Von Kempelen the hint, I do not in the slightest degree question; but I repeat, it yet remains to be seen whether this momentous discovery itself (momentous under any circumstances) will be of service or **disservice** to mankind at large. That Von Kempelen and his immediate friends will reap a rich harvest, it would be folly to doubt for a moment. They will scarcely be so weak as not to 'realize,' in time, by large purchases of houses and land, with other property of intrinsic value.

In the brief account of Von Kempelen which appeared in the 'Home Journal,' and has since been extensively copied, several misapprehensions of the German original seem to have been made by the translator, who professes to have taken

Thesaurus

disservice: (*n*) disadvantage, hurt, injury, harm, damage, detriment, injustice, spoliation, mischief, wrong, bad turn. ANTONYMS: (*n*) kindness, help, benevolence.

inconsiderately: (*adv*) unthinkingly, indiscreetly, carelessly, unadvisedly, tactlessly, rashly, unkindly, rudely, headlongly, inattentively, selfishly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) considerately, politely.

morbidly: (*adv*) sickly, unhealthy,

diseasedly, frightfully, unwholesomely, ghoulishly, corruptly, macabrely, gruesomely, ghastly, ailingly.

plural: (*adj*) upwards of, several, certain.

quackery: (*n, v*) charlatanism; (*n*) knavery, imposture, charlatanry, quackeries, hypocrisy, empiricism, mountebankery, trickery; (*v*) shallow profundity, crocodile tears.

respiration: (*n*) breathing, breath,

breathe, aspiration, respire, inspiration, wind, breathing place, periodic breathing, panting, exercising.

unattended: (*adj*) ignored, neglected, alone, solitary, abandoned, disregarded, not safeguarded, lonely. **verily:** (*adj, adv*) really; (*adv*) indeed, in reality, genuinely, quietly, actually, selfly, truly, identically, exactly; (*adv, int*) in truth.

the passage from a late number of the Presburg ‘Schnellpost.’ ‘Viele’ has evidently been **misconceived** (as it often is), and what the **translator** renders by ‘sorrows,’ is probably ‘lieden,’ which, in its true version, ‘sufferings,’ would give a totally different complexion to the whole account; but, of course, much of this is merely guess, on my part.

Von Kempelen, however, is by no means ‘a **misanthrope**,’ in appearance, at least, whatever he may be in fact. My acquaintance with him was casual altogether; and I am scarcely **warranted** in saying that I know him at all; but to have seen and conversed with a man of so prodigious a **notoriety** as he has attained, or will attain in a few days, is not a small matter, as times go.

‘The Literary World’ **speaks** of him, confidently, as a native of Presburg (misled, perhaps, by the account in ‘The Home Journal’) but I am pleased in being able to state positively, since I have it from his own lips, that he was born in Utica, in the State of New York, although both his parents, I believe, are of Presburg descent. The family is connected, in some way, with Maelzel, of Automaton-chess-player memory. In person, he is short and stout, with large, fat, blue eyes, sandy hair and **whiskers**, a wide but pleasing mouth, fine teeth, and I think a Roman nose. There is some defect in one of his feet. His address is frank, and his whole manner noticeable for **bonhomie**. Altogether, he looks, speaks, and acts as little like ‘a misanthrope’ as any man I ever saw. We were fellow-sojourners for a week about six years ago, at Earl’s Hotel, in Providence, Rhode Island; and I presume that I conversed with him, at various times, for some three or four hours altogether. His principal topics were those of the day, and nothing that fell from him led me to suspect his scientific **attainments**. He left the hotel before me, intending to go to New York, and thence to Bremen; it was in the latter city that his great discovery was first made public; or, rather, it was there that he was first suspected of having made it. This is about all that I personally know of the now immortal Von Kempelen; but I have thought that even these few details would have interest for the public.

There can be little question that most of the marvellous rumors **afloat** about this affair are pure inventions, entitled to about as much credit as the story of

Thesaurus

afloat: (<i>adj</i>) buoyant, floating, current, in circulation, directionless, undirected, rudderless; (<i>adv</i>) adrift, aboard; (<i>v</i>) afoot; (<i>n</i>) on foot.	misanthropos, Timon, grump, man hater, hermit, egotist.	program, arranger, assembler, assembly program, computer program, computer programme, adapter.
attainments: (<i>n</i>) knowledge, learning, achievement, menticulture, culture.	misconceived: (<i>adj</i>) inaccurate, erroneous, deformed.	warranted: (<i>adj</i>) legitimate, secured, bonded, legal, locked, mistaken, necessary; (<i>v</i>) privileged, sanctioned, allowed; (<i>n</i>) securer.
bonhomie: (<i>n</i>) geniality, affability, affableness, amiability, friendliness, munificence, cordiality, joviality; (<i>adj</i>) naive, candor, sincerity.	notoriety: (<i>n</i>) publicity, reputation, fame, infamy, disrepute, note, notability, prominence, flagrancy, distinction; (<i>adj, n</i>) renown.	whiskers: (<i>n</i>) fuzz, goatee, hair, imperial, face fungus, beaver, mustache, moustache, sideburns, facial hair, sideboards.
misanthrope: (<i>n</i>) misanthropist, cynic, pessimist, skeptic, misogynist,	ANTONYM: (<i>n</i>) obscurity. speaks: (<i>n</i>) talks.	
	translator: (<i>n</i>) translating program, transcriber, dragoman, translator,	

Aladdin's lamp; and yet, in a case of this kind, as in the case of the discoveries in California, it is clear that the truth may be stranger than fiction. The following anecdote, at least, is so well **authenticated**, that we may receive it implicitly.

Von Kempelen had never been even **tolerably** well off during his residence at Bremen; and often, it was well known, he had been put to extreme shifts in order to raise **trifling** sums. When the great excitement occurred about the forgery on the house of Gutmuth & Co., suspicion was directed toward Von Kempelen, on account of his having purchased a considerable property in Gasperitch Lane, and his refusing, when questioned, to explain how he became possessed of the purchase money. He was at length arrested, but nothing decisive appearing against him, was in the end set at liberty. The police, however, kept a strict watch upon his movements, and thus discovered that he left home frequently, taking always the same road, and invariably giving his watchers the slip in the **neighborhood** of that labyrinth of narrow and crooked passages known by the flash name of the 'Dondergat.' Finally, by dint of great perseverance, they traced him to a **garret** in an old house of seven stories, in an alley called Flatzplatz, -- and, coming upon him suddenly, found him, as they imagined, in the midst of his **counterfeiting** operations. His agitation is represented as so excessive that the officers had not the slightest doubt of his guilt. After hand-cuffing him, they searched his room, or rather rooms, for it appears he occupied all the mansarde.

Opening into the garret where they caught him, was a closet, ten feet by eight, fitted up with some chemical apparatus, of which the object has not yet been ascertained. In one corner of the closet was a very small furnace, with a glowing fire in it, and on the fire a kind of duplicate **crucible** -- two crucibles connected by a tube. One of these crucibles was nearly full of lead in a state of fusion, but not reaching up to the aperture of the tube, which was close to the brim. The other crucible had some liquid in it, which, as the officers entered, seemed to be furiously **dissipating** in vapor. They relate that, on finding himself taken, Kempelen seized the crucibles with both hands (which were **encased** in gloves that afterwards turned out to be asbestic), and threw the contents on the tiled floor. It was now that they hand-cuffed him; and before proceeding to

Thesaurus

authenticated: (*adj*) genuine, true, real, valid, authentic, official, legal, documented, authoritative, legitimate.

counterfeiting: (*n*) forgery, simulation, contraband, plagiarism, imitation.

crucible: (*n*) melting pot, retort, calabash, touchstone, still, vessel, matrix, pix, reagent, ordeal, check.

dissipating: (*n*) distribution.

encased: (*adj*) incased, sheathed.

garret: (*n*) cockloft, loft, attic, house

top, storey, level, upper story, story, dome, noggin, classical Greek.

neighborhood: (*n*) vicinity, district, area, community, locality, place, quarter, environs, section; (*adj*) neighboring, local.

tolerably: (*adv*) well enough, passably, acceptably, reasonably, enough, moderately, to a tolerable degree, pretty, to an adequate degree; (*adj*, *adv*) somewhat; (*adj*) pretty well.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) unbearably,

intolerably, unacceptably, unreasonably, insufficiently, inadequately.

trifling: (*adj*) paltry, slight, petty, negligible, immaterial, worthless, trivial, minor, small; (*adj*, *v*) inconsequential; (*adj*, *n*) frivolity. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) significant, worthwhile, major, considerable, crucial, enormous, great, mature, profound, substantial; (*n*) importance.

ransack the premises they searched his person, but nothing unusual was found about him, **excepting** a paper parcel, in his coat-pocket, containing what was afterward **ascertained** to be a mixture of **antimony** and some unknown substance, in nearly, but not quite, equal proportions. All attempts at **analyzing** the unknown substance have, so far, failed, but that it will ultimately be analyzed, is not to be doubted.

Passing out of the **closet** with their prisoner, the officers went through a sort of ante-chamber, in which nothing material was found, to the chemist's sleeping-room. They here rummaged some **drawers** and boxes, but discovered only a few papers, of no importance, and some good coin, silver and gold. At length, looking under the bed, they saw a large, common hair trunk, without hinges, **hasp**, or lock, and with the top lying carelessly across the bottom portion. Upon attempting to draw this trunk out from under the bed, they found that, with their united strength (there were three of them, all powerful men), they 'could not stir it one inch.' Much astonished at this, one of them crawled under the bed, and looking into the trunk, said:

'No wonder we couldn't move it -- why it's full to the **brim** of old **bits** of brass!'

Putting his feet, now, against the wall so as to get a good purchase, and pushing with all his force, while his companions pulled with an theirs, the trunk, with much difficulty, was slid out from under the bed, and its contents examined. The supposed brass with which it was filled was all in small, smooth pieces, varying from the size of a pea to that of a dollar; but the pieces were irregular in shape, although more or less flat-looking, upon the whole, 'very much as lead looks when thrown upon the ground in a **molten** state, and there suffered to grow cool.' Now, not one of these officers for a moment suspected this metal to be any thing but brass. The idea of its being gold never entered their brains, of course; how could such a wild fancy have entered it? And their astonishment may be well conceived, when the next day it became known, all over Bremen, that the 'lot of brass' which they had carted so contemptuously to the police office, without putting themselves to the trouble of **pocketing** the

Thesaurus

analyzing: (<i>n</i>) study.	latrine, bathroom, wardrobe, water closet; (<i>adj</i>) clandestine, confidential, secret, private. ANTONYM: (<i>adj</i>) open.	saving. ANTONYM: (<i>prep</i>) including.
antimony: (<i>n</i>) metal, tartar emetic, stibium.		hasp: (<i>n, v</i>) hook; (<i>n</i>) catch, buckle, fastening, hank; (<i>adj</i>) bolt, screw, rivet, pin, nail; (<i>v</i>) fasten.
ascertained: (<i>adj</i>) discovered, determined; (<i>v</i>) absolute, recognized, received, noted, notorious, decisive, unmistakable, unequivocal, positive.	drawers: (<i>n</i>) knickers, pants, tights, shorts, bloomers, briefs, underwear, breeches, underpants, underdrawers, trousers.	molten: (<i>adj</i>) liquified, melted, liquefied, fluid; (<i>v</i>) sodden.
bits: (<i>n</i>) odds and ends, scraps, debris.	excepting: (<i>conj, prep</i>) but, bar; (<i>n, prep</i>) except for, exclusive of; (<i>prep</i>) aside from, besides, apart from, barring, excluding, with the exception of; (<i>v</i>)	pocketing: (<i>n</i>) pilfering, pinching, robbery, shoplifting, theft, thieving, burglary.
brim: (<i>n</i>) rim, periphery, verge, edge, lip, hem, rand, margin, perimeter, brink, limit.		ransack: (<i>v</i>) loot, pillage, seek, despoil, comb, rifle, rake, raid, sack, pry, foray.
closet: (<i>n</i>) cupboard, cubicle, cell,		

smallest scrap, was not only gold -- real gold -- but gold far **finer** than any employed in coinage-gold, in fact, absolutely pure, virgin, without the slightest appreciable alloy.

I need not go over the details of Von Kempelen's confession (as far as it went) and release, for these are familiar to the public. That he has actually realized, in spirit and in effect, if not to the letter, the old **chimaera** of the philosopher's stone, no sane person is at liberty to doubt. The opinions of Arago are, of course, entitled to the greatest consideration; but he is by no means **infallible**; and what he says of **bismuth**, in his report to the Academy, must be taken cum grano salis. The simple truth is, that up to this period all analysis has failed; and until Von Kempelen chooses to let us have the key to his own published **enigma**, it is more than probable that the matter will remain, for years, in statu quo. All that as yet can fairly be said to be known is, that 'Pure gold can be made at will, and very readily from lead in connection with certain other substances, in kind and in proportions, unknown.'

Speculation, of course, is busy as to the immediate and ultimate results of this discovery -- a discovery which few thinking persons will hesitate in referring to an increased interest in the matter of gold generally, by the late developments in California; and this reflection brings us inevitably to another -- the exceeding **inopportuneness** of Von Kempelen's analysis. If many were prevented from adventuring to California, by the mere apprehension that gold would so **materially** diminish in value, on account of its **plentifulness** in the mines there, as to render the speculation of going so far in search of it a doubtful one -- what impression will be **wrought** now, upon the minds of those about to **emigrate**, and especially upon the minds of those actually in the mineral region, by the announcement of this astounding discovery of Von Kempelen? a discovery which declares, in so many words, that beyond its intrinsic worth for manufacturing purposes (whatever that worth may be), gold now is, or at least soon will be (for it cannot be supposed that Von Kempelen can long retain his secret), of no greater value than lead, and of far inferior value to silver. It is, indeed, exceedingly difficult to speculate **prospectively** upon the consequences

Thesaurus

bismuth: (n) metal, atomic number.

chimaera: (n) chimera.

emigrate: (n, v) migrate; (v) immigrate, transplant, depart, demigrate, leave.

ANTONYMS: (v) remain, immigrate.

enigma: (adj, n) mystery, riddle; (n)

puzzle, secret, perplexity, poser, question, problem, closed book, nut to crack, logograph. **ANTONYMS**: (n) clearness, explanation.

finer: (adj) superior, advanced, bigger, higher, more, greater.

infallible: (adj) sure, inevitable, positive, inerrable, unfailing, absolute, confident, definite, dependable; (adj, v) unerring; (n) sterling. **ANTONYMS**: (adj) fallible, faulty.

inopportuneness: (n) untimeliness, awkwardness.

materially: (adv) physically, substantially, corporeally, significantly, really, essentially, corporally, vitally, solidly,

momentously, fundamentally.

plentifulness: (n) copiousness, plenitude, plenteousness, abundance, profusion, inexhaustibleness, lashings, lot, lushness, luxuriance, luxury.

prospectively: (adv) potentially, expectedly, futurely, impendingly, intendedly, imminently, comingly, in future, hereafter.

wrought: (adj) shaped, done, worked, worked up, formed.

of the **discovery**, but one thing may be **positively maintained** -- that the **announcement** of the discovery six months ago would have had material influence in regard to the settlement of California.

In Europe, as yet, the most **noticeable** results have been a rise of two hundred per **cent.** in the price of lead, and nearly twenty-five per cent. that of **silver.**

Thesaurus

announcement: (*n*) annunciation, advertisement, declaration, release, statement, communication, report, proclamation, promulgation, pronouncement, intimation.
ANTONYM: (*n*) request.
cent: (*adj*) picayune, mill, pistareen; (*n*) subunit, rupee, red cent, centime.
discovery: (*n*) detection, disclosure, breakthrough, finding, revelation, catching, revealing, invention, find, development, exploration.

maintained: (*adj*) kept up, preserved, repaired, serviced, serviceable, safe, fixed.
noticeable: (*adj*) notable, evident, noteworthy, discernible, apparent, marked, visible, remarkable, appreciable, considerable; (*adj, v*) perceptible. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) obscure, inconspicuous, hidden, unobtrusive, unclear, unnoticeable, unremarkable, uninteresting, inward, invisible, indistinguishable.

positively: (*adv*) absolutely, definitely, decidedly, unequivocally, expressly, emphatically, categorically, clearly, confidently; (*adv, int*) surely; (*adj, adv*) really. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) disapprovingly, pessimistically, uncertainly, doubtfully, inauspiciously, ill.
silver: (*n*) money, gold, bullion, precious Metals; (*adj*) silvery, argent, white, silvern, gray, neutral tint; (*v*) plate.

MESMERIC REVELATION

Whatever doubt may still **envelop** the *rationale* of **mesmerism**, its startling *facts* are now almost universally admitted. Of these latter, those who doubt, are your mere doubters by profession -- an unprofitable and **disreputable** tribe. There can be no more absolute waste of time than the attempt to *prove*, at the present day, that man, by mere exercise of will, can so impress his fellow, as to cast him into an abnormal condition, of which the phenomena resemble very closely those of *death*, or at least resemble them more nearly than they do the phenomena of any other normal condition within our **cognizance**; that, while in this state, the person so impressed employs only with effort, and then feebly, the external organs of sense, yet perceives, with keenly refined perception, and through channels supposed unknown, matters beyond the scope of the physical organs; that, moreover, his intellectual **faculties** are wonderfully exalted and **invigorated**; that his sympathies with the person so impressing him are profound; and, finally, that his susceptibility to the impression increases with its frequency, while, in the same proportion, the peculiar phenomena **elicited** are more extended and more *pronounced*.

I say that these -- which are the laws of mesmerism in its general features -- it would be **supererogation** to demonstrate; nor shall I **inflict** upon my readers so needless a demonstration; to-day. My purpose at present is a very different one indeed. I am **impelled**, even in the teeth of a world of prejudice, to detail

Thesaurus

cognizance: (*n, v*) cognition, acquaintance; (*n*) sense, consciousness, ken, notice, jurisdiction, note, observation, recognition; (*v*) knowledge.
disreputable: (*adj, n, v*) discreditable; (*adj*) base, dishonorable, doubtful, sordid, infamous, shameful, dishonourable, dishonest, despicable, notorious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) honorable, respected, ethical, noble, decent, respectable, sporting,

pleasant, admirable, famous, honest.
elicited: (*adj*) evoked, elicit.
envelop: (*v*) fold, enfold, encase, enclose, wrap, encircle, conceal, embrace, beset, hide; (*n*) envelope. ANTONYMS: (*v*) reveal, release, open, unwrap, expose.
faculties: (*n*) mother wit.
impelled: (*adj*) prompted, provoked, determined, compulsive, encouraged, goaded, motivated, bound.
inflict: (*v*) impose, cause, wreak, force,

enforce, deal, deliver, administer, foist, put, obtrude.
invigorated: (*adj*) brisk, reinvigorated, impudent, impertinent, energizing, energising, clean, bracing, refreshed.
mesmerism: (*n*) animal magnetism, exorcism, bewitchery, enchantment, pathetism, suggestion, hint, influence, magnetism, second sight, mysticism.
supererogation: (*n*) sweat, excess, elbow grease, effort, exertion.

without comment the very remarkable substance of a **colloquy**, **occurring** between a sleep-waker and myself.

I had been long in the habit of **mesmerizing** the person in question, (Mr. Vankirk,) and the usual acute susceptibility and **exaltation** of the **mesmeric** perception had supervened. For many months he had been **laboring** under confirmed **phthisis**, the more distressing effects of which had been relieved by my manipulations; and on the night of Wednesday, the fifteenth instant, I was summoned to his bedside.

The invalid was suffering with acute pain in the region of the heart, and breathed with great difficulty, having all the ordinary symptoms of asthma. In spasms such as these he had usually found relief from the application of mustard to the nervous centres, but to-night this had been attempted in vain.

As I entered his room he greeted me with a cheerful smile, and although evidently in much bodily pain, appeared to be, mentally, quite at ease.

“I sent for you to-night,” he said, “not so much to administer to my bodily **ailment**, as to satisfy me concerning certain psychal impressions which, of late, have occasioned me much anxiety and surprise. I need not tell you how sceptical I have hitherto been on the topic of the soul’s immortality. I cannot deny that there has always existed, as if in that very soul which I have been denying, a vague half-sentiment of its own existence. But this half-sentiment at no time amounted to conviction. With it my reason had nothing to do. All attempts at logical inquiry resulted, indeed, in leaving me more sceptical than before. I had been advised to study Cousin. I studied him in his own works as well as in those of his European and American echoes. The ‘Charles Elwood’ of Mr. Brownson, for example, was placed in my hands. I read it with profound attention. Throughout I found it logical, but the portions which were not *merely* logical were unhappily the initial arguments of the disbelieving hero of the book. In his **summing** up it seemed evident to me that the reasoner had not even succeeded in convincing himself. His end had plainly forgotten his beginning, like the government of Trinculo. In short, I was not long in perceiving that if man is to be intellectually convinced of his own immortality, he will never be so convinced

Thesaurus

ailment: (<i>n</i>) complaint, affection, disease, trouble, condition, ill, disorder, sickness, affliction; (<i>adj</i> , <i>n</i>) infirmity; (<i>v</i>) distemper.	ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) abasement, belittlement, debasement, degradation, humiliation, sorrow, derogation, disparagement.	mesmerizing: (<i>adj</i>) mesmeric, spellbinding, attractive, captivating, soporific, enticing, magnetic, appealing, fascinating; (<i>adj</i> , <i>v</i>) riveting; (<i>v</i>) engrossing. ANTONYM: (<i>adj</i>) repellent.
colloquy: (<i>n</i>) talk, conference, conversation, dialog, chat, dialogue, collocation, verbal intercourse, meeting, parley, interview.	laboring: (<i>adj</i>) working, labouring, toiling, drudging, labors, work, elaborate, employed, busy.	occurring: (<i>adj</i>) going on.
exaltation: (<i>n</i>) elation, ecstasy, apotheosis, worship, praise, rapture, deification, grandeur, adoration; (<i>n</i> , <i>v</i>) sublimation; (<i>v</i>) laud.	mesmeric: (<i>adj</i>) attractive, spellbinding, enticing, mesmerizing, interesting, fascinating, entrancing, alluring, captivating, charming, compelling. ANTONYM: (<i>adj</i>) boring.	phthisis: (<i>n</i>) pulmonary tuberculosis, marasmus; (<i>adj</i>) pertussis, necrosis, ringworm, quinsy, pneumonia, psora, pyrosis, rachitis, rubeola.
		summing: (<i>n</i>) computation.

by the mere abstractions which have been so long the fashion of the moralists of England, of France, and of Germany. Abstractions may amuse and exercise, but take no hold on the mind. Here upon earth, at least, philosophy, I am persuaded, will always in vain call upon us to look upon qualities as things. The will may assent -- the soul -- the intellect, never.

"I repeat, then, that I only half felt, and never intellectually believed. But latterly there has been a certain **deepening** of the feeling, until it has come so nearly to resemble the **acquiescence** of reason, that I find it difficult to distinguish between the two. I am enabled, too, plainly to trace this effect to the mesmeric influence. I cannot better explain my meaning than by the hypothesis that the mesmeric exaltation enables me to perceive a train of **ratiocination** which, in my abnormal existence, convinces, but which, in full accordance with the mesmeric phenomena, does not extend, except through its *effect*, into my normal condition. In sleep-waking, the reasoning and its conclusion -- the cause and its effect -- are present together. In my natural state, the cause **vanishing**, the effect only, and perhaps only partially, remains.

"These considerations have led me to think that some good results might **ensue** from a series of well-directed questions propounded to me while **mesmerized**. You have often observed the profound self-cognizance evinced by the sleep-waker -- the extensive knowledge he displays upon all points relating to the mesmeric condition itself; and from this self-cognizance may be deduced hints for the proper conduct of a catechism."

I consented of course to make this experiment. A few passes threw Mr. Vankirk into the mesmeric sleep. His breathing became immediately more easy, and he seemed to suffer no physical **uneasiness**. The following conversation then ensued:

V. in the dialogue representing the patient, and P. myself.

P. Are you asleep?

V. Yes -- no I would rather sleep more soundly.

Thesaurus

acquiescence: (*n*) compliance, consent, resignation, permission, sanction, approval, accord, agreement, submission, conformity; (*n, v*) assent. ANTONYMS: (*n*) disagreement, insubordination, rebellion, defiance, rejection.

deepening: (*n*) amplification, aggravation.

ensue: (*v*) come, arise, happen, result, succeed, occur, transpire, turn out, befall, come after, stem.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) forerun, preface, antecede, dwindle, recede.

mesmerized: (*adj*) fascinated, mesmerised, hypnotised, hypnotized, bewitched, awestruck; (*adj, v*) transfixed, rapt; (*v*) wrapped in, absorbed, riveted.

ratiocination: (*n*) reasoning, conclusion, deduction, argumentation, logic, end, abstract thought, close, closing, decision, determination.

uneasiness: (*n*) disquiet, discomfort, inquietude, anxiety, unease, malaise, disquietude, apprehension, unrest, impatience; (*n, v*) agitation. ANTONYMS: (*n*) peace, calm, confidence.

vanishing: (*n*) disappearance, vanishment, dissipation; (*adj*) dying, fleeting, momentary, breaking up, declining, diminishing, dissolving, evanescent. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) thriving, increasing.

- P. [*After a few more passes.*] Do you sleep now?
- V. Yes.
- P. How do you think your present illness will result?
- V. [*After a long **hesitation** and speaking as if with effort.*] I must die.
- P. Does the idea of death **afflict** you?
- V. [*Very quickly.*] No -- no!
- P. Are you pleased with the prospect?
- V. If I were awake I should like to die, but now it is no matter. The mesmeric condition is so near death as to content me.
- P. I wish you would explain yourself, Mr. Vankirk.
- V. I am willing to do so, but it requires more effort than I feel able to make. You do not question me properly.
- P. What then shall I ask?
- V. You must begin at the beginning.
- P. The beginning! but where is the beginning?
- V. You know that the beginning is GOD. [*This was said in a low, **fluctuating** tone, and with every sign of the most profound veneration.*]
- P. What then is God?
- V. [*Hesitating for many minutes.*] I cannot tell.
- P. Is not God spirit?
- V. While I was awake I **knew** what you meant by "spirit," but now it seems only a word -- such for **instance** as truth, beauty -- a quality, I mean.
- P. Is not God **immaterial**?
- V. There is no **immateriality** -- it is a mere word. That which is not matter, is not at all -- unless qualities are things.
- P. Is God, then, material?

Thesaurus

afflict: (*n, v*) pain, distress; (*v*) trouble, grieve, torment, hurt, strike, aggrieve, smite, bother, disturb. ANTONYMS: (*v*) aid, comfort, encourage, help, soothe.

fluctuating: (*adj*) variable, unpredictable, unstable, erratic, inconstant, irresolute, mutable, unsteady, irregular, fickle; (*v*) fluctuate. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) constant, fixed.

hesitation: (*n, v*) falter, fear; (*n*)

hesitance, faltering, delay, hesitate, diffidence, hesitancy, qualm, reluctance; (*v*) hesitating. ANTONYMS: (*n*) certainty, resolution, confidence, decisiveness, enthusiasm, inclination, willingness.

immaterial: (*adj*) insignificant, inconsequential, irrelevant, disembodied, incorporeal, trivial, bodiless, spiritual, unimportant, extraneous, psychic. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) significant, material, corporeal,

physical, tangible, important.

immateriality: (*n*) immaterialness, unimportance, insignificance, impalpability, abstractness, incorporeality, quality, irrelevance, incorporeity, immaterial, irrelevancy. ANTONYM: (*n*) materiality.

instance: (*n*) exemplar, case, time, illustration, sample, affair, pattern, chance, cause; (*v*) exemplify, illustrate.

knew: (*adj*) known; (*v*) recognize, wist.

- V. No. [*This reply startled me very much.*]
- P. What then is he?
- V. [*After a long pause, and mutteringly.*] I see -- but it is a thing difficult to tell. [*Another long pause.*] He is not spirit, for he exists. Nor is he matter, as you understand it. But there are **gradations** of matter of which man knows nothing; the grosser **impelling** the finer, the finer pervading the grosser. The atmosphere, for example, impels the electric principle, while the electric principle permeates the atmosphere. These gradations of matter increase in rarity or **fineness**, until we arrive at a matter *unparticled* -- without particles -- indivisible -- *one* and here the law of **impulsion** and **permeation** is modified. The ultimate, or unparticled matter, not only permeates all things but impels all things -- and thus is all things within itself. This matter is God. What men attempt to embody in the word "thought," is this matter in motion.
- P. The metaphysicians maintain that all action is reducible to motion and thinking, and that the latter is the origin of the former.
- V. Yes; and I now see the confusion of idea. Motion is the action of *mind* -- not of *thinking*. The unparticled matter, or God, in **quiescence**, is (as nearly as we can conceive it) what men call mind. And the power of self-movement (equivalent in effect to human volition) is, in the unparticled matter, the result of its unity and omniprevalence; *how* I know not, and now clearly see that I shall never know. But the unparticled matter, set in motion by a law, or quality, existing within itself, is thinking.
- P. Can you give me no more precise idea of what you term the unparticled matter?
- V. The matters of which man is **cognizant**, escape the senses in gradation. We have, for example, a metal, a piece of wood, a drop of water, the atmosphere, a gas, **caloric**, electricity, the luminiferous ether. Now we call all these things matter, and embrace all matter in

Thesaurus

caloric: (*adj*) thermal; (*n*) heat, thermogen.

cognizant: (*adj*) mindful, conscious, sensible, knowing, knowledgeable, familiar, cognisant, perceptive, witting, conversant, acquainted.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unwitting, ignorant, incognizant, oblivious, uninformed.

fineness: (*n*) refinement, elegance, daintiness, thinness, choiceness, beauty, superiority, subtlety,

slimness, slenderness, narrowness.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) stoutness, thickness, vulgarity, inaccuracy, coarseness, width.

gradation: (*n*) degree, scale, ablaut, progression, graduation, tier, step, level, shade, form, extent.

impelling: (*adj*) communicating force, driving, impellent, effective, active, efficacious, exciting, moving, persuasive, urgent; (*n*) constraint.

impulsion: (*n*) impetus, thrust, drive,

momentum, force, drift, movement, motivation, excitement, motivity, goad.

permeation: (*n*) interpenetration, penetration, pervasion, diffusion, saturation, infiltration, percolation, mutual penetration, intensity, hydraulic conductivity, fertilization.

quiescence: (*n*) still, calm, abeyance, inaction, ease, inactivity, rest, quiescency, estivation, hibernation, calmness.

one general definition; but in spite of this, there can be no two ideas more essentially distinct than that which we attach to a metal, and that which we attach to the luminiferous ether. When we reach the latter, we feel an almost irresistible inclination to class it with spirit, or with **nihil**ity. The only consideration which restrains us is our conception of its atomic constitution; and here, even, we have to seek aid from our notion of an atom, as something **possessing** in infinite **minuteness**, solidity, **palpability**, weight. Destroy the idea of the atomic constitution and we should no longer be able to regard the ether as an entity, or at least as matter. For want of a better word we might term it spirit. Take, now, a step beyond the luminiferous ether -- conceive a matter as much more rare than the ether, as this ether is more rare than the metal, and we arrive at once (in spite of all the school dogmas) at a unique mass -- an unparticled matter. For although we may admit infinite **littleness** in the atoms themselves, the **infinitude** of littleness in the spaces between them is an absurdity. There will be a point -- there will be a degree of rarity, at which, if the atoms are sufficiently numerous, the interspaces must vanish, and the mass absolutely **coalesce**. But the consideration of the atomic constitution being now taken away, the nature of the mass inevitably glides into what we conceive of spirit. It is clear, however, that it is as fully matter as before. The truth is, it is impossible to conceive spirit, since it is impossible to imagine what is not. When we flatter ourselves that we have formed its conception, we have merely deceived our understanding by the consideration of infinitely **rarified** matter.

- P. There seems to me an insurmountable objection to the idea of absolute coalescence; -- and that is the very slight resistance experienced by the heavenly bodies in their revolutions through space -- a resistance now ascertained, it is true, to exist in *some* degree, but which is, nevertheless, so slight as to have been quite **overlooked** by the **sagacity** even of Newton. We know that the

Thesaurus

coalesce: (*v*) amalgamate, combine, merge, unite, blend, incorporate, fuse, clot, mix, join, absorb.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) divide, split, fragment.
infinitude: (*n*) infiniteness, boundlessness, immensity, endlessness, eternity, unboundedness, immeasurability, limitlessness, indefiniteness; (*adj*, *n*) infinity; (*adj*) infinite.
littleness: (*n*) minuteness, smallness,

pettiness, puniness, delicacy, size, a few, a little bit, a smidgen, insignificance, slightness.
minuteness: (*n*) diminutiveness, smallness, attention to detail, petiteness, tininess, weeness.
nihility: (*n*) naught, nothing, nihilism, vacuity, nullity, nonexistence, oblivion, void, inanity, emptiness, cipher.
overlooked: (*adj*) ignored, neglected, unobserved, unnoted, unmarked.

palpability: (*n*) physicalness, feeling, fact, clarity, materiality, palpation, tangibleness, reality, corporeality.
possessing: (*adj*) fruitive.
rarified: (*adj*) rarefied, lofty, idealistic, exalted, rare, majestic, reserved, proud, thin, noble, ideal.
sagacity: (*n*, *v*) discernment, judgment, penetration; (*n*) judiciousness, sense, prudence, gumption, acumen, perspicacity; (*adj*, *n*) discretion, wisdom. ANTONYM: (*n*) foolishness.

resistance of bodies is, chiefly, in proportion to their density. Absolute **coalescence** is absolute density. Where there are no interspaces, there can be no yielding. An ether, absolutely dense, would put an infinitely more **effectual** stop to the progress of a star than would an ether of adamant or of iron.

- V. Your objection is answered with an ease which is nearly in the ratio of its apparent unanswerability. -- As regards the progress of the star, it can make no difference whether the star passes through the ether *or the ether through it*. There is no astronomical error more unaccountable than that which reconciles the known retardation of the comets with the idea of their passage through an ether: for, however rare this ether be supposed, it would put a stop to all **sidereal** revolution in a very far briefer period than has been admitted by those astronomers who have endeavored to **slur** over a point which they found it impossible to comprehend. The retardation actually experienced is, on the other hand, about that which might be expected from the *friction* of the ether in the instantaneous passage through the orb. In the one case, the **retarding** force is momentary and complete within itself -- in the other it is endlessly **accumulative**.
- P. But in all this -- in this identification of mere matter with God -- is there nothing of **irreverence**? [*I was forced to repeat this question before the sleep-waker fully comprehended my meaning.*]
- V. Can you say *why* matter should be less **reverenced** than mind? But you forget that the matter of which I speak is, in all respects, the very "mind" or "spirit" of the schools, so far as regards its high capacities, and is, moreover, the "matter" of these schools at the same time. God, with all the powers **attributed** to spirit, is but the perfection of matter.
- P. You assert, then, that the unparticled matter, in motion, is thought?

Thesaurus

accumulative: (*adj*) acquisitive, additive, additional.

attributed: (*adj*) credited. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unofficial.

coalescence: (*n*) unification, amalgamation, conglutination, coalition, embodiment, fusion, incorporation, union, concretion, combination, merger.

effectual: (*adj, n*) efficient, efficacious, able; (*adj*) forceful, telling, authoritative, operative, potent,

adequate, impressive, powerful.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) ineffectual, incapable, weak, impotent, ineffective, unproductive, unsuccessful, useless.

irreverence: (*n*) blasphemy, profanity, impiety, disrespect, desecration, sacrilege, mockery, discourtesy, encroachment, hypocrisy, impertinence. ANTONYMS: (*n*) reverence, piety, respect.

retarding: (*n*) delay, let, hindrance,

impediment, obstacle; (*adj*) ritardando.

reverenced: (*adj*) revered, reverend, sacred, sublime, venerated, August, inspiring awe, emeritus, empyreal, empyrean, profoundly honored.

sidereal: (*adj*) astral, starry, sidereal.

slur: (*adj, n*) blot, brand, stigma, reproach; (*n, v*) libel, disgrace, insult, vilify; (*n*) affront, defamation; (*adj, v*) blur. ANTONYMS: (*v*) focus, compliment; (*n*) praise.

- V. In general, this motion is the universal thought of the universal mind. This thought creates. All created things are but the thoughts of God.
- P. You say, "in general."
- V. Yes. The universal mind is God. For new individualities, *matter* is necessary.
- P. But you now speak of "mind" and "matter" as do the metaphysicians.
- V. Yes -- to avoid confusion. When I say "mind," I mean the unparticled or ultimate matter; by "matter," I intend all else.
- P. You were saying that "for new individualities matter is necessary."
- V. Yes; for mind, existing unincorporate, is merely God. To create individual, thinking beings, it was necessary to **incarnate** portions of the divine mind. Thus man is **individualized**. Divested of corporate **investiture**, he were God. Now, the particular motion of the incarnated portions of the unparticled matter is the thought of man; as the motion of the whole is that of God.
- P. You say that **divested** of the body man will be God?
- V. [*After much hesitation.*] I could not have said this; it is an absurdity.
- P. [*Referring to my notes.*] You *did* say that "divested of corporate investiture man were God."
- V. And this is true. Man thus divested *would be* God -- would be unindividualized. But he can never be thus divested -- at least never *will be* -- else we must imagine an action of God returning upon itself -- a **purposeless** and futile action. Man is a creature. Creatures are thoughts of God. It is the nature of thought to be **irrevocable**.
- P. I do not **comprehend**. You say that man will never put off the body?
- V. I say that he will never be **bodiless**.
- P. Explain.

Thesaurus

bodiless: (*adj*) immaterial, unbodied, disembodied, aeriform, unsubstantial, metaphysical, unembodied, bodyless, disincorporate.

comprehend: (*v*) grasp, catch, see, comprise, appreciate, feel, sense, apperceive, read; (*adj, v*) understand; (*n, v*) embrace. ANTONYMS: (*v*) mistake, misapprehend, exclude, misunderstand, misconceive.

divested: (*adj*) bereft, destitute, naked.

incarnate: (*adj*) embodied, bodied,

material, corporeal; (*v*) materialize, typify, actualize, substantiate, personify, be, body forth.

individualized: (*adj*) detailed, personal, personalised, personalized.

investiture: (*n*) installation, coronation, enthronization, enthronement, induction, initiation, investing, appointment, installment, investiture; (*n, v*) investment.

irrevocable: (*adj*) irrecoverable, final, irreparable, irremediable,

irredeemable, conclusive, irreclaimable, unchangeable, fixed; (*adj, v*) irretrievable, inevitable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) revocable, superficial, provisional, flexible, impermanent.

purposeless: (*adj*) meaningless, senseless, useless, driftless, empty, random, objectless, nonsensical, designless; (*adj, adv*) aimless, directionless. ANTONYM: (*adj*) meaningful.

- V. There are two bodies -- the **rudimental** and the complete; corresponding with the two conditions of the worm and the butterfly. What we call "death," is but the painful **metamorphosis**. Our present incarnation is progressive, preparatory, temporary. Our future is perfected, ultimate, immortal. The ultimate life is the full design.
- P. But of the worm's metamorphosis we are palpably cognizant.
- V. *We*, certainly -- but not the worm. The matter of which our rudimental body is composed, is within the ken of the organs of that body; or, more distinctly, our rudimental organs are adapted to the matter of which is formed the rudimental body; but not to that of which the ultimate is composed. The ultimate body thus escapes our rudimental senses, and we perceive only the shell which falls, in **decaying**, from the inner form; not that inner form itself; but this inner form, as well as the shell, is appreciable by those who have already acquired the ultimate life.
- P. You have often said that the mesmeric state very nearly resembles death. How is this?
- V. When I say that it resembles death, I mean that it resembles the ultimate life; for when I am **entranced** the senses of my rudimental life are in **abeyance**, and I perceive external things directly, without organs, through a medium which I shall employ in the ultimate, **unorganized** life.
- P. Unorganized?
- V. Yes; organs are contrivances by which the individual is brought into sensible relation with particular **classes** and forms of matter, to the exclusion of other classes and forms. The organs of man are adapted to his rudimental condition, and to that only; his ultimate condition, being unorganized, is of unlimited comprehension in all points but one -- the nature of the **volition** of God -- that is to say, the motion of the unparticled matter. You will have a distinct idea of the ultimate

Thesaurus

abeyance: (*n*) inaction, waiting, interruption, suspense, cessation, pause, reprieve, intermission, stoppage, inactiveness; (*v*) interregnum. **ANTONYMS:** (*n*) action, activity, continuance, continuation, prolongation, revival.

classes: (*n*) lessons.

decaying: (*adj*) rotten, decayed, rotting, stale, decadent, stinking, decomposed, smelly, shabby, seedy; (*n*) fading. **ANTONYM:** (*adj*) pristine.

entranced: (*adj*) delighted, captivated, fascinated, enthralled, enchanted, ecstatic, beguiled, enslaved, gripped; (*adv*) on cloud nine; (*v*) overjoyed.

metamorphosis: (*n*) alteration, change, conversion, transformation, metamorphism, translation, transmutation, transfiguration, revision, modification, transmogrification.

rudimental: (*adj*) abortive, rudimentary, basal, elementary,

neglected, rude, original, obsolete, obscure, imperfectly developed, institutional.

unorganized: (*adj*) nonunionized, unarranged, unprovided, untrimmed, unorganised, not formed, amorphous, unready, unfurnished, unformed, unequipped.

volition: (*n, v*) will, testament; (*n*) choice, option, selection, determination, conation, preference, velleity, free will; (*v*) purpose.

body by **conceiving** it to be entire brain. This it is *not*; but a conception of this nature will bring you near a comprehension of what it *is*. A luminous body imparts vibration to the luminiferous **ether**. The vibrations generate similar ones within the **retina**; these again communicate similar ones to the **optic** nerve. The nerve conveys similar ones to the brain; the brain, also, similar ones to the unparticled matter which permeates it. The motion of this latter is thought, of which perception is the first **undulation**. This is the mode by which the mind of the rudimental life communicates with the external world; and this external world is, to the rudimental life, limited, through the **idiosyncrasy** of its organs. But in the ultimate, unorganized life, the external world **reaches** the whole body, (which is of a substance having affinity to brain, as I have said,) with no other intervention than that of an infinitely rarer ether than even the luminiferous; and to this ether -- in unison with it -- the whole body vibrates, setting in motion the unparticled matter which permeates it. It is to the absence of idiosyncratic organs, therefore, that we must attribute the nearly unlimited perception of the ultimate life. To rudimental beings, organs are the cages necessary to confine them until fledged.

- P. You speak of rudimental "beings." Are there other rudimental thinking beings than man?
- V. The **multitudinous conglomeration** of rare matter into nebulæ, planets, suns, and other **bodies** which are neither nebulæ, suns, nor planets, is for the sole purpose of supplying **pabulum** for the idiosyncrasy of the organs of an infinity of rudimental beings. But for the necessity of the rudimental, prior to the ultimate life, there would have been no bodies such as these. Each of these is **tenanted** by a distinct variety of organic, rudimental, thinking creatures. In all, the organs vary with the features of the place tenanted. At death, or metamorphosis, these creatures, enjoying the ultimate life --

Thesaurus

bodies: (<i>n</i>) people, public.	eccentricity, foible, peculiarity,	comestible, aliment, nourishment,
conceiving: (<i>n</i>) fantasy, daydream;	oddity, feature, attribute, personality,	victual, stuff, matter, material, hyle,
(<i>adj</i>) imaginant, original.	quirk, diathesis; (<i>adj, n</i>) individuality.	element.
conglomeration: (<i>n</i>) conglomerate,	multitudinous: (<i>adj</i>) innumerable,	reaches: (<i>n</i>) recess.
congeries, sum, agglomeration,	infinite, manifold, multiple,	retina: (<i>n</i>) cornea, iris, pupil,
aggregation, accumulation, mass,	numberless, myriad, many,	membrane.
pile, medley, collection, ball.	numerous, thick, populous,	tenanted: (<i>adj</i>) occupied, engaged,
ether: (<i>adj</i>) air, elastic fluid, anaesthetic	innumeros.	having tenants, resided in.
agent, steam, flatus, fume, reek,	optic: (<i>adj</i>) visual, optical, ophthalmic;	undulation: (<i>v</i>) flutter, undulate; (<i>n</i>)
vapor; (<i>n</i>) divinyl ether, firmament,	(<i>n</i>) eye, peeper, oculus, receptor,	fluctuation, oscillation, impulse,
vinyl ether.	optics, center, centre, compound eye.	surge, pulsation, vibration, swell,
idiosyncrasy: (<i>n</i>) mannerism,	pabulum: (<i>n</i>) edible, eatable,	swing, roll.

immortality -- and cognizant of all **secrets** but *the one*, act all things and pass everywhere by mere volition: -- **indwelling**, not the stars, which to us seem the sole palpabilities, and for the accommodation of which we blindly **deem** space created -- but that SPACE itself -- that infinity of which the truly substantive vastness **swallows** up the star-shadows -- blotting them out as non-entities from the perception of the angels.

- P. You say that “but for the *necessity* of the rudimental life” there would have been no stars. But why this necessity?
- V. In the inorganic life, as well as in the inorganic matter generally, there is nothing to **impede** the action of one simple *unique* law -- the Divine Volition. With the view of producing **impediment**, the organic life and matter, (complex, substantial, and law-encumbered,) were contrived.
- P. But again -- why need this impediment have been produced?
- V. The result of law **inviolate** is perfection -- right -- negative happiness. The result of law violate is **imperfection**, wrong, positive pain. Through the impediments afforded by the number, complexity, and **substantiality** of the laws of organic life and matter, the violation of law is rendered, to a certain extent, practicable. Thus pain, which in the inorganic life is impossible, is possible in the organic.
- P. But to what good end is pain thus rendered possible?
- V. All things are either good or bad by comparison. A sufficient analysis will show that pleasure, in all cases, is but the contrast of pain. *Positive* pleasure is a mere idea. To be happy at any one point we must have suffered at the same. Never to suffer would have been never to have been blessed. But it has been shown that, in the inorganic life, pain cannot be thus the necessity for the organic. The pain of the primitive life of Earth, is the sole basis of the bliss of the ultimate life in Heaven.

Thesaurus

deem: (*v*) believe, assume, consider, count, hold, think, feel, view, suppose, regard, imagine.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) disregard, doubt.

impede: (*v*) clog, hinder, bar, obstruct, barricade, delay, preclude, check, curb, encumber, embarrass.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) facilitate, help, encourage, free, assist, prompt, broaden.

impediment: (*n, v*) hindrance, check, difficulty, delay; (*n*) bar, hitch,

barrier, obstruction, drawback, encumbrance, block. ANTONYMS: (*n*) benefit, boost, incentive, strength.

imperfection: (*adj, n*) frailty; (*n*) fault, blemish, defect, deficiency, flaw, weakness, disadvantage, vice, foible, shortcoming. ANTONYMS: (*n*) perfection, strength.

indwelling: (*n*) inhabitation, abode, inherence, immanency; (*adj*) immanent, inborn, congenital, built-in, intimate; (*v*) indwell; (*adv*) in situ.

inviolate: (*adj, v*) intact; (*adj*) sacred, sacrosanct, whole, entire, pure; (*v*) in petto, clandestine, auricular, close, privy.

secrets: (*n*) secrecy.

substantiality: (*n*) matter, solidity, plenum, substantialness, materiality, hypostasis, actuality, reality, substance, body, fact.

swallows: (*n*) sparrows, rooks, robins, Passeriformes, Hirundinidae, etc, order Passeriformes.

- P. Still, there is one of your expressions which I find it impossible to comprehend -- “the truly *substantive* vastness of infinity.”
- V. This, probably, is because you have no sufficiently generic conception of the term “*substance*” itself. We must not regard it as a quality, but as a sentiment: -- it is the perception, in thinking beings, of the adaptation of matter to their organization. There are many things on the Earth, which would be nihility to the inhabitants of Venus -- many things visible and tangible in Venus, which we could not be brought to appreciate as existing at all. But to the **inorganic** beings -- to the angels -- the whole of the unparticled matter is substance that is to say, the whole of what we term “space” is to them the truest substantiality; -- the **stars**, meantime, through what we consider their **materiality**, **escaping** the **angelic** sense, just in proportion as the unparticled matter, through what we consider its immateriality, eludes the organic.

As the sleep-waker pronounced these latter words, in a feeble tone, I observed on his countenance a singular expression, which somewhat alarmed me, and induced me to awake him at once. No sooner had I done this, than, with a bright smile irradiating all his features, he fell back upon his pillow and **expired**. I noticed that in less than a minute afterward his corpse had all the stern **rigidity** of stone. His brow was of the **coldness** of ice. Thus, ordinarily, should it have appeared, only after long pressure from Azrael’s hand. Had the sleep-waker, indeed, during the latter portion of his discourse, been addressing me from out the region of the shadows?

Thesaurus

<p>angelic: (<i>adj</i>) cherubic, heavenly, seraphic, virtuous, celestial, beautiful, angelical, divine, good, holy, saintly. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) devilish, demonic, dark, wicked.</p> <p>coldness: (<i>n</i>) chilliness, coolness, indifference, distance, apathy, iciness, reserve, frost, frigidity, unconcern; (<i>adj, n</i>) cold. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) friendliness, sympathy, sensitivity, hotness, heat, responsiveness, concern, brightness, kindness.</p>	<p>escaping: (<i>n</i>) evasion, getaway, break, breakout, running away, running off, run-around; (<i>adj</i>) fugitive.</p> <p>expired: (<i>adj</i>) lapsed, deceased, invalid, dead, overdue, extinct, elapsed, out.</p> <p>inorganic: (<i>adj</i>) lifeless, mineral, dead, unorganized, inorganical, inorganized. ANTONYM: (<i>adj</i>) organic.</p> <p>materiality: (<i>n</i>) corporeality, substantiality, concreteness,</p>	<p>importance, tangibility, reality, element, essential nature, groundwork, vital part, materialness. ANTONYM: (<i>n</i>) immateriality.</p> <p>rigidity: (<i>n</i>) firmness, inflexibility, rigor, hardness, stiffness, rigour, inflexibleness, tension, rigidity, severity, inelasticity. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) malleability, pliability, softness, limpness, looseness, relaxation, cooperation, weakness.</p> <p>stars: (<i>n</i>) heavenly bodies, fate.</p>
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THE FACTS IN THE CASE OF M. VALDEMAR

Of course I shall not pretend to consider it any matter for wonder, that the extraordinary case of M. Valdemar has **excited** discussion. It would have been a miracle had it not-especially under the circumstances. Through the desire of all parties concerned, to keep the affair from the public, at least for the present, or until we had farther opportunities for investigation -- through our endeavors to effect this -- a **garbled** or **exaggerated** account made its way into society, and became the source of many unpleasant misrepresentations, and, very naturally, of a great deal of disbelief.

It is now rendered necessary that I give the facts -- as far as I comprehend them myself. They are, **succinctly**, these:

My attention, for the last three years, had been repeatedly drawn to the subject of Mesmerism; and, about nine months ago it occurred to me, quite suddenly, that in the series of **experiments** made hitherto, there had been a very remarkable and most unaccountable **omission**: -- no person had as yet been mesmerized in articulo mortis. It remained to be seen, first, whether, in such condition, there existed in the patient any susceptibility to the magnetic influence; secondly, whether, if any existed, it was **impaired** or increased by the condition; **thirdly**, to what extent, or for how long a period, the encroachments of

Thesaurus

exaggerated: (*adj*) extravagant, theatrical, immoderate, inflated, overdone, hyperbolic, magnified, pretentious, overstated, excessive; (*adj, v*) hypertrophied. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) restrained, unembellished, minimized.
excited: (*adj, v*) animated, ardent; (*adj*) ablaze, enthusiastic, emotional, frantic, warm, heated, delirious, fervent, passionate. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cool, unexcited, bored, tranquil,

easygoing, disappointed, despairing, comatose, apathetic, sedate, composed.
experiments: (*n*) data.
garbled: (*adj*) indistinct, unintelligible, incoherent, disordered, confused, disjointed, truncated, lopped, inarticulate, upset, disunited. ANTONYM: (*adj*) distinct.
impaired: (*adj*) sick, damaged, crippled, defective, faulty, corrupted, poor, unfit, hurt, deficient, depressed.

omission: (*n*) exclusion, error, ellipsis, inadvertence, negligence, mistake, neglect, oversight, flaw; (*adj, n*) fault, defect. ANTONYMS: (*n*) adherence, performance, addition.
succinctly: (*adv*) compactly, briefly, tersely, shortly, summarily, compendiously, laconically, pithily, curtly, sententiously, condensedly.
thirdly: (*adv*) third, tertiarily, in the third place, thrice.

Death might be arrested by the process. There were other points to be ascertained, but these most excited my curiosity -- the last in **especial**, from the immensely important character of its consequences.

In looking around me for some subject by whose means I might test these particulars, I was brought to think of my friend, M. Ernest Valdemar, the well-known compiler of the "Bibliotheca Forensica," and author (under the nom de **plume** of Issachar Marx) of the Polish versions of "Wallenstein" and "Gargantua." M. Valdemar, who has resided principally at Harlaem, N.Y., since the year 1839, is (or was) particularly noticeable for the extreme **spareness** of his person -- his lower limbs much resembling those of John Randolph; and, also, for the **whiteness** of his whiskers, in violent contrast to the blackness of his hair -- the latter, in consequence, being very generally mistaken for a wig. His temperament was markedly nervous, and rendered him a good subject for mesmeric experiment. On two or three occasions I had put him to sleep with little difficulty, but was disappointed in other results which his peculiar constitution had naturally led me to anticipate. His will was at no period positively, or thoroughly, under my control, and in regard to **clairvoyance**, I could accomplish with him nothing to be relied upon. I always attributed my failure at these points to the **disordered** state of his health. For some months previous to my becoming acquainted with him, his physicians had declared him in a confirmed phthisis. It was his custom, indeed, to speak calmly of his approaching dissolution, as of a matter neither to be avoided nor regretted.

When the ideas to which I have alluded first occurred to me, it was of course very natural that I should think of M. Valdemar. I knew the steady philosophy of the man too well to apprehend any **scruples** from him; and he had no relatives in America who would be likely to interfere. I spoke to him frankly upon the subject; and, to my surprise, his interest seemed vividly excited. I say to my surprise, for, although he had always yielded his person freely to my experiments, he had never before given me any tokens of sympathy with what I did. His disease was if that character which would admit of exact calculation in respect to the **epoch** of its termination in death; and it was finally arranged

Thesaurus

clairvoyance: (*n*) second sight, precognition, ESP, extrasensory perception, foresight, parapsychology, intuition, insight, electrobiology, third eye, telepathy.
disordered: (*adj*) chaotic, upset, sick, disorganized, broken, incoherent, deranged, messy, disjointed, disconnected, ill. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) neat, ordered, organized, arranged, quiet, regulated, systematic, systematized, straightforward, tidy.

epoch: (*n*) era, date, period, day, season, time, term, cycle, crisis, date of reference, times.
especial: (*adj*) extraordinary, special, specific, chief, individual, distinct, distinctive, characteristic, appropriate, peculiar, express. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) general, normal, common, unexceptional, usual.
plume: (*n*) feather, plumage, quill, panache, aigrette, crest, feathering; (*v*) pride, pluck, dress, preen.

scruples: (*n*) conscience, moral sense, sense of right and wrong, morality, ethical motive, principle, ethics, moral fiber, morals.
spareness: (*n*) scantiness, meagreness, austerity, lacking denseness, poorness, sparseness, scantness, exiguity, sparsity.
whiteness: (*n*) paleness, ivory, chalk, pearl, bone, bleach, alabaster, frostiness, hoariness, pallor, innocence. ANTONYM: (*n*) black.

between us that he would send for me about twenty-four hours before the period announced by his physicians as that of his decease.

It is now rather more than seven months since I received, from M. Valdemar himself, the **subjoined** note:

MY DEAR P---,

You may as well come now. D--- and F--- are agreed that I cannot hold out beyond to-morrow midnight; and I think they have hit the time very nearly.

VALDEMAR

I received this note within half an hour after it was written, and in fifteen minutes more I was in the dying man's chamber. I had not seen him for ten days, and was appalled by the fearful alteration which the brief interval had wrought in him. His face wore a **lead**en hue; the eyes were utterly **lustreless**; and the **emaciation** was so extreme that the skin had been broken through by the cheek-bones. His **expectoration** was excessive. The pulse was barely perceptible. He retained, nevertheless, in a very remarkable manner, both his mental power and a certain degree of physical strength. He spoke with distinctness -- took some **palliative** medicines without aid -- and, when I entered the room, was occupied in penciling memoranda in a pocket-book. He was propped up in the bed by pillows. Doctors D--- and F--- were in attendance.

After pressing Valdemar's hand, I took these gentlemen aside, and obtained from them a minute account of the patient's condition. The left lung had been for eighteen months in a semi-osseous or **cartilaginous** state, and was, of course, entirely useless for all purposes of vitality. The right, in its upper portion, was also partially, if not thoroughly, **ossified**, while the lower region was merely a mass of **purulent** tubercles, running one into another. Several extensive perforations existed; and, at one point, permanent adhesion to the ribs had taken place. These appearances in the right lobe were of comparatively recent date. The **ossification** had proceeded with very unusual rapidity; no sign of it had

Thesaurus

cartilaginous: (*adj*) cartilaginous, rubbery, tough.
emaciation: (*n*) gauntness, maceration, thinness, leanness, consumption; (*v*) tabes, collapse, tabefaction, marasmus; (*adj*) macilency, marcor.
expectoration: (*n*) expulsion, projection, expectorate, sputum, spittle, phlegm, spitting, body process, bodily process, activity, bodily function.
leaden: (*adj*) heavy, gray, sluggish,

grey, inert, torpid, grave, languid, drab, burdensome, livid.
 ANTONYM: (*adj*) bright.
lustreless: (*adj*) dull, lackluster, lacklustre, dim, mat, matt, duller, flat.
ossification: (*n*) convention, compliance, conformance, conformation, accord, abidance, conformism, conventionality, accordance, hardened conventionality; (*adj*) vitrification.
ossified: (*adj*) harder, hard, inactive,

fossilised, stiff, uniform, thick.
palliative: (*adj*) mitigatory, alleviatory, alleviative, corrective, mitigative, extenuating, enantiopathic; (*n*) palliation, relief, justification, mitigating circumstances.
 ANTONYM: (*adj*) painful.
purulent: (*adj*) pussy, infected, pyogenic, mattery, septic, suppurative, peccant, foul, rotten, fetid, dirty.
subjoined: (*v*) enclitical.

discovered a month before, and the adhesion had only been observed during the three previous days. Independently of the phthisis, the patient was suspected of aneurism of the **aorta**; but on this point the **osseous** symptoms rendered an exact diagnosis impossible. It was the opinion of both physicians that M. Valdemar would die about midnight on the **morrow** (Sunday). It was then seven o'clock on Saturday evening.

On quitting the invalid's bed-side to hold conversation with myself, Doctors D--- and F--- had bidden him a final farewell. It had not been their intention to return; but, at my request, they agreed to look in upon the patient about ten the next night.

When they had gone, I spoke freely with M. Valdemar on the subject of his approaching dissolution, as well as, more particularly, of the experiment proposed. He still **professed** himself quite willing and even anxious to have it made, and urged me to commence it at once. A male and a female nurse were in attendance; but I did not feel myself altogether at liberty to engage in a task of this character with no more reliable witnesses than these people, in case of sudden accident, might prove. I therefore **postponed** operations until about eight the next night, when the arrival of a medical student with whom I had some acquaintance, (Mr. Theodore L---I,) relieved me from farther embarrassment. It had been my design, originally, to wait for the physicians; but I was induced to proceed, first, by the urgent entreaties of M. Valdemar, and secondly, by my conviction that I had not a moment to lose, as he was evidently sinking fast.

Mr. L---I was so kind as to **accede** to my desire that he would take notes of all that occurred, and it is from his **memoranda** that what I now have to relate is, for the most part, either condensed or copied verbatim.

It wanted about five minutes of eight when, taking the patient's hand, I begged him to state, as distinctly as he could, to Mr. L---I, whether he (M. Valdemar) was entirely willing that I should make the experiment of mesmerizing him in his then condition.

He replied **feebly**, yet quite **audibly**, "Yes, I wish to be "I fear you have mesmerized" -- adding immediately afterwards, deferred it too long."

Thesaurus

accede: (*v*) assent, consent, defer, fall in with, agree, acknowledge, accept, submit, fit, accord, comply with.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) dissent, veto, refuse, oppose, disallow, deny, denounce, demur, condemn, protest, disagree.
aorta: (*n*) pore, arteria, spout, scupper, vein, capillary, gully hole, emunctory, abdominal aorta.
audibly: (*adv*) loudly, clearly, out loud. **ANTONYMS:** (*adv*)

imperceptibly, inaudibly, indistinctly, silently.
feebly: (*adv*) faintly, unenthusiastically, dimly, hopelessly, unproductively, unpersuasively, unconvincingly, uncertainly, reluctantly, powerlessly, insipidly. **ANTONYMS:** (*adv*) robustly, confidently, domineeringly, vehemently, stubbornly, strongly, effectively, convincingly, competently, admirably,

wholeheartedly.
memoranda: (*n*) memorandum, note.
morrow: (*n*) morning, future, mean solar day, day.
osseous: (*adj*) ossific, osteal, haggard, cadaverous, boney, gaunt, emaciated.
postponed: (*adj*) delayed, late, belated, off, later than usual, put off.
professed: (*adj*) alleged, declared, apparent, avowed, pretended, seeming, supposed, affected, feigned, so-called, purported.

While he spoke thus, I commenced the passes which I had already found most effectual in **subduing** him. He was evidently influenced with the first lateral stroke of my hand across his forehead; but although I exerted all my powers, no farther perceptible effect was induced until some minutes after ten o'clock, when Doctors D--- and F--- called, according to appointment. I explained to them, in a few words, what I designed, and as they opposed no objection, saying that the patient was already in the death agony, I proceeded without hesitation -- exchanging, however, the lateral passes for downward ones, and directing my gaze entirely into the right eye of the sufferer.

By this time his pulse was **imperceptible** and his breathing was **stertorous**, and at intervals of half a minute.

This condition was nearly unaltered for a quarter of an hour. At the expiration of this period, however, a natural although a very deep sigh escaped the bosom of the dying man, and the stertorous breathing ceased -- that is to say, its stertorousness was no longer apparent; the intervals were **undiminished**. The patient's extremities were of an icy coldness.

At five minutes before eleven I perceived unequivocal signs of the mesmeric influence. The glassy roll of the eye was changed for that expression of uneasy inward examination which is never seen except in cases of sleep-waking, and which it is quite impossible to mistake. With a few rapid lateral passes I made the lids quiver, as in **incipient** sleep, and with a few more I closed them altogether. I was not satisfied, however, with this, but continued the manipulations vigorously, and with the fullest exertion of the will, until I had completely stiffened the limbs of the **slumberer**, after placing them in a seemingly easy position. The legs were at full length; the arms were nearly so, and reposed on the bed at a moderate distance from the **loin**. The head was very slightly elevated.

When I had accomplished this, it was fully midnight, and I **requested** the gentlemen present to examine M. Valdemar's condition. After a few experiments, they admitted him to be an unusually perfect state of mesmeric trance. The curiosity of both the physicians was greatly excited. Dr. D--- resolved at once to

Thesaurus

imperceptible: (*adj*) invisible, intangible, insensible, faint, evanescent, inaudible, negligible, indiscernible, unseen, unnoticeable, gentle. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) obvious, overwhelming, clear, visible, perceptible, heavy, noticeable, definite, considerable, conspicuous, strong.
incipient: (*adj*) initial, budding, nascent, imperfectly formed, commencing, first, undeveloped; (*adj*,

v) introductory; (*v*) inceptive; (*n*) beginning.
loin: (*n*) hip, haunch, dorsum, buttock, side, croup, breech, backside scut, flank, loins, tenderloin.
requested: (*adj*) demanded.
slumberer: (*n*) noctambulist, dreamer, dormouse, crosstie, human, individual, marmot, railroad tie, sleeper goby, sleeping car, sleepwalker.
stertorous: (*adj*) articulate, distinct,

strident, hoarse, noisy, raucous, stertorous, breathless.
subduing: (*adj*) aggressively haughty, conquering, domineering, insolent, overbearing, overcoming, overpowering, repressing, suppressive; (*n*) bondage, oppression.
undiminished: (*adj*) unabated, unrestricted, unreduced, undying, not deficient, morally whole, internal, faithful, unrelieved, interior; (*v*) on the increase.

remain with the patient all night, while Dr. F--- took leave with a promise to return at **daybreak**. Mr. L---l and the nurses remained.

We left M. Valdemar entirely undisturbed until about three o'clock in the morning, when I approached him and found him in precisely the same condition as when Dr. F--- went away -- that is to say, he lay in the same position; the pulse was imperceptible; the breathing was gentle (scarcely noticeable, unless through the application of a mirror to the lips); the eyes were closed naturally; and the limbs were as rigid and as cold as marble. Still, the general appearance was certainly not that of death.

As I approached M. Valdemar I made a kind of half effort to influence his right arm into pursuit of my own, as I passed the latter gently to and fro above his person. In such experiments with this patient had never perfectly succeeded before, and **assuredly** I had little thought of succeeding now; but to my astonishment, his arm very readily, although feebly, followed every direction I assigned it with mine. I determined to hazard a few words of conversation.

"M. Valdemar," I said, "are you asleep?" He made no answer, but I **perceived** a tremor about the lips, and was thus induced to repeat the question, again and again. At its third repetition, his whole frame was **agitated** by a very slight shivering; the eyelids **unclosed** themselves so far as to display a white line of the ball; the lips moved **sluggishly**, and from between them, in a barely audible whisper, issued the words:

"Yes; -- asleep now. Do not wake me! -- let me die so!"

I here felt the limbs and found them as rigid as ever. The right arm, as before, obeyed the direction of my hand. I questioned the sleep-waker again:

"Do you still feel pain in the breast, M. Valdemar?"

The answer now was immediate, but even less audible than before: "No pain -- I am dying."

I did not think it advisable to disturb him farther just then, and nothing more was said or done until the arrival of Dr. F---, who came a little before **sunrise**, and expressed **unbounded** astonishment at finding the patient still alive. After

Thesaurus

agitated: (<i>adj</i>) upset, excited, nervous, restive, tumultuous, distressed, tense, jumpy, overwrought, anxious, alarmed. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) calm, lethargic, tranquil, relaxed, assured, cool, still.	dawning, cockcrow, dayspring, aurora, sunup, daylight. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) sunset, sundown, darkness, eventide, nightfall.	sunrise: (<i>n</i>) dawn, sunup, daybreak, daylight, aurora, first light, dayspring, twilight, dawning, break of day, crack of dawn. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) sunset, sundown, nightfall.
assuredly: (<i>adv</i>) certainly, confidently, positively, securely, indeed, definitely, undoubtedly, admittedly, safely, insuredly, decidedly.	perceived: (<i>adj</i>) sensed, apparent, supposed, professed, ostensible.	unbounded: (<i>adj</i>) immeasurable, limitless, endless, infinite, immense, measureless, unlimited, vast, illimitable, unmeasured, absolute.
daybreak: (<i>adj, n</i>) break of day; (<i>n</i>) sunrise, prime, morning, light,	sluggishly: (<i>adv</i>) dully, inertly, torpidly, indolently, languidly, lethargically, listlessly, lazily, dilatorily, slothfully, stagnantly. ANTONYMS: (<i>adv</i>) brightly, dynamically, nimbly.	unclosed: (<i>v</i>) ajar, unstopped; (<i>adj</i>) sincere, public, plain, obvious, frank, exposed, evident, artless, apparent.

feeling the pulse and applying a mirror to the lips, he requested me to speak to the sleep-waker again. I did so, saying:

“M. Valdemar, do you still sleep?”

As before, some minutes elapsed ere a reply was made; and during the interval the dying man seemed to be collecting his energies to speak. At my fourth repetition of the question, he said very faintly, almost **inaudibly**:

“Yes; still asleep -- dying.”

It was now the opinion, or rather the wish, of the physicians, that M. Valdemar should be suffered to remain undisturbed in his present apparently tranquil condition, until death should **supervene** -- and this, it was generally agreed, must now take place within a few minutes. I concluded, however, to speak to him once more, and merely repeated my previous question.

While I spoke, there came a marked change over the countenance of the sleep-waker. The eyes rolled themselves slowly open, the pupils disappearing **upwardly**; the skin generally assumed a **cadaverous** hue, resembling not so much parchment as white paper; and the circular hectic spots which, hitherto, had been strongly defined in the centre of each cheek, went out at once. I use this expression, because the **suddenness** of their departure put me in mind of nothing so much as the **extinguishment** of a candle by a puff of the breath. The upper lip, at the same time, **writhed** itself away from the teeth, which it had previously covered completely; while the lower jaw fell with an audible **jerk**, leaving the mouth widely extended, and **disclosing** in full view the swollen and **blackened** tongue. I presume that no member of the party then present had been unaccustomed to death-bed horrors; but so hideous beyond conception was the appearance of M. Valdemar at this moment, that there was a general shrinking back from the region of the bed.

I now feel that I have reached a point of this narrative at which every reader will be startled into positive disbelief. It is my business, however, simply to proceed.

Thesaurus

blackened: (*adj*) sulphured, blackening, colored, coloured, filthy, achromatic, colorful.

cadaverous: (*adj*) gaunt, wan, ghastly, thin, haggard, deathly, pale, ashen, dead, skeletal, bony. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) rosy, ruddy, flushed, glowing, lifelike, lively, plump.

disclosing: (*n*) confession, communication.

extinguishment: (*n*) effacement, annihilation, obliteration,

nullification, extinction, destruction, eclipse, nirvana.

inaudibly: (*adv*) inarticulately, unnoticeably, imperceptibly, gently, incoherently, invisibly, indiscernibly, indistinctly, silently, unintelligibly, untraceably. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) audibly, distinctly, coherently, perceptibly, loudly, obviously.

jerk: (*n, v*) jump, yank, shake, twitch, jar, tug, bump, heave, pull; (*v*) fling, flip. ANTONYM: (*v*) ease.

suddenness: (*n*) steepness, hastiness, precipitance, precipitancy, surprise, precipitousness, brusqueness, curtness.

supervene: (*v*) happen, ensue, follow, hap, occur, pass, advene, survene, befall, come, take place.

upwardly: (*adj, adv*) up; (*adv*) uply, upwards; (*adj*) open, improving.

writhed: (*adj*) crooked, writhen, distorted, twisted.

There was no longer the faintest sign of vitality in M. Valdemar; and concluding him to be dead, we were **consigning** him to the charge of the nurses, when a strong **vibratory** motion was observable in the tongue. This continued for perhaps a minute. At the expiration of this period, there issued from the **distended** and motionless jaws a voice -- such as it would be madness in me to attempt describing. There are, indeed, two or three epithets which might be considered as applicable to it in part; I might say, for example, that the sound was harsh, and broken and hollow; but the hideous whole is indescribable, for the simple reason that no similar sounds have ever jarred upon the ear of humanity. There were two particulars, nevertheless, which I thought then, and still think, might fairly be stated as characteristic of the intonation -- as well adapted to convey some idea of its **unearthly** peculiarity. In the first place, the voice seemed to reach our **ears** -- at least mine -- from a vast distance, or from some deep cavern within the earth. In the second place, it impressed me (I fear, indeed, that it will be impossible to make myself comprehended) as **gelatinous** or **glutinous** matters impress the sense of touch.

I have spoken both of "sound" and of "voice." I mean to say that the sound was one of distinct -- of even wonderfully, **thrillingly** distinct -- **syllabification**. M. Valdemar spoke -- obviously in reply to the question I had propounded to him a few minutes before. I had asked him, it will be remembered, if he still slept. He now said:

"Yes; -- no; -- I have been sleeping -- and now -- now -- I am dead.

No person present even affected to deny, or attempted to repress, the **unutterable**, shuddering horror which these few words, thus uttered, were so well calculated to convey. Mr. L---l (the student) swooned. The nurses immediately left the chamber, and could not be induced to return. My own impressions I would not pretend to render intelligible to the reader. For nearly an hour, we busied ourselves, silently -- without the utterance of a word -- in endeavors to revive Mr. L---l. When he came to himself, we addressed ourselves again to an investigation of M. Valdemar's condition.

Thesaurus

consigning: (<i>n</i>) delegation. distended: (<i>adj</i>) inflated, bloated, turgid, puffed, bombastic, distent, expanded, enlarged; (<i>adj, v</i>) puffy; (<i>v</i>) blowzy, bigswoln. ears: (<i>n</i>) antenna. gelatinous: (<i>adj</i>) jellylike, gluey, glutinous, viscous, gelatinlike, mucilaginous, albuminous, goeey, heavy, adhesive, liquid. glutinous: (<i>adj</i>) sticky, viscous, gluey, clammy, tenacious, pasty, gummy,	viscid, goeey; (<i>adj, n</i>) gelatinous, mucilaginous. syllabification: (<i>n</i>) division. thrillingly: (<i>adv</i>) electrically, impressively, stirringly, stimulatingly, sensationally, grippingly, electrifyingly, breathtakingly, excitingly, emotionally, movingly. unearthly: (<i>adj</i>) weird, ghostly, uncanny, ethereal, unworldly, preternatural, spectral, eerie,	spiritual, strange, heavenly. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) natural, physical, acceptable, normal, human. unutterable: (<i>adj</i>) indescribable, unspeakable, inexpressible, unpronounceable, indefinable, untellable, unnameable, unapproachable, beyond description, incommunicable, terrible. vibratory: (<i>adj</i>) vibratile, vibrating, oscillatory, vibrative, oscillating, oscillative, swinging, moving.
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It remained in all respects as I have last described it, with the exception that the mirror no longer afforded evidence of respiration. An attempt to draw blood from the arm failed. I should mention, too, that this limb was no farther subject to my will. I endeavored in vain to make it follow the direction of my hand. The only real indication, indeed, of the mesmeric influence, was now found in the vibratory movement of the tongue, whenever I addressed M. Valdemar a question. He seemed to be making an effort to reply, but had no longer sufficient volition. To queries put to him by any other person than myself he seemed utterly **insensible** -- although I endeavored to place each member of the company in mesmeric **rapport** with him. I believe that I have now related all that is necessary to an understanding of the sleep-waker's state at this epoch. Other nurses were procured; and at ten o'clock I left the house in company with the two physicians and Mr. L---l.

In the afternoon we all called again to see the patient. His condition remained precisely the same. We had now some discussion as to the **propriety** and feasibility of **awakening** him; but we had little difficulty in agreeing that no good purpose would be served by so doing. It was evident that, so far, death (or what is usually termed death) had been arrested by the mesmeric process. It seemed clear to us all that to awaken M. Valdemar would be merely to insure his instant, or at least his speedy dissolution.

From this period until the close of last week -- an interval of nearly seven months -- we continued to make daily **calls** at M. Valdemar's house, accompanied, now and then, by medical and other friends. All this time the sleeper-waker remained exactly as I have last described him. The nurses' attentions were continual.

It was on Friday last that we finally resolved to make the experiment of awakening or attempting to awaken him; and it is the (perhaps) unfortunate result of this latter experiment which has given rise to so much discussion in private circles -- to so much of what I cannot help thinking **unwarranted** popular feeling.

Thesaurus

awakening: (*n*) arousal, waking up, revival, disenchantment, awakenment, introduction, provocation; (*adj*) arousing, moving, animating; (*v*) awake. ANTONYM: (*n*) suppression.
calls: (*n*) securities, puts, bonds, preferred stock, common stock.
insensible: (*adj*) imperceptible, numb, unconscious, callous, dull, unaware, apathetic, impassive, indiscernible, comatose, impassible. ANTONYMS:

(*adj*) sensible, conscious, sensitive, awake, alive, compassionate, concerned, aware.
propriety: (*adj, n*) decency, modesty, correctness, aptitude; (*n*) decorum, fitness, etiquette, civility, grace, politeness, manners. ANTONYMS: (*n*) impropriety, rudeness, unsuitableness, indecorum, decadence, tactlessness, corruption, vulgarity, indecency.
rapport: (*n*) accord, affinity,

compatibility, relationship, sympathy, concord, association, conformity, accordance, companionship; (*n, v*) connection.
unwarranted: (*adj*) baseless, unfounded, unreasonable, gratuitous, unjustified, groundless, unauthorized, unwarrantable, unjustifiable, wanton, unsupported. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) fair, warranted, justified, rightful, necessary, justifiable, moderate, sound, just.

For the purpose of relieving M. Valdemar from the mesmeric trance, I made use of the customary passes. These, for a time, were unsuccessful. The first indication of revival was afforded by a partial descent of the iris. It was observed, as especially remarkable, that this lowering of the pupil was accompanied by the **profuse** out-flowing of a yellowish **ichor** (from beneath the lids) of a pungent and highly offensive odor.

It was now suggested that I should attempt to influence the patient's arm, as **heretofore**. I made the attempt and failed. Dr. F--- then **intimated** a desire to have me put a question. I did so, as follows:

"M. Valdemar, can you explain to us what are your feelings or wishes now?"

There was an instant return of the hectic circles on the cheeks; the tongue quivered, or rather rolled violently in the mouth (although the jaws and lips remained rigid as before;) and at length the same hideous voice which I have already described, broke forth:

"For God's sake! -- quick! -- quick! -- put me to sleep -- or, quick! -- **waken** me! -- quick! -- I say to you that I am dead!"

I was thoroughly **unnerved**, and for an instant remained undecided what to do. At first I made an endeavor to re-compose the patient; but, failing in this through total abeyance of the will, I retraced my steps and as earnestly struggled to awaken him. In this attempt I soon saw that I should be successful -- or at least I soon fancied that my success would be complete -- and I am sure that all in the room were prepared to see the patient awaken.

For what really occurred, however, it is quite impossible that any human being could have been prepared.

As I rapidly made the mesmeric passes, amid ejaculations of "dead! dead!" absolutely bursting from the tongue and not from the lips of the sufferer, his whole frame at once -- within the space of a single minute, or even less, shrunk -- **crumbled** -- absolutely **rotted** away beneath my hands. Upon the bed, before that whole company, there lay a nearly liquid mass of **loathsome** -- of detestable **putridity**.

Thesaurus

crumbled: (*adj*) rotten, fragmented.

heretofore: (*adv*) formerly, as yet, before, so far, yet, already, until now, previously, once, hereunto; (*adv, n*) hitherto.

ichor: (*adj*) humor, gravy, blood, serum, sap, rheum; (*n*) pus, festering, sanies, suppuration, bodily fluid.

intimated: (*adj*) tacit, furtive, dejected.

loathsome: (*adj*) foul, hideous, distasteful, disgusting, hateful, abominable, revolting, execrable,

loathly, nauseous, horrible.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) delightful, nice, noble, inoffensive, pleasant, admirable, good, attractive.

profuse: (*adj, n*) generous, liberal; (*adj*) plentiful, ample, copious, lavish, bounteous, exuberant, excessive, full, prodigal. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sparse, meager, thin, scanty, restrained, unhealthy, small.

putridity: (*n*) decomposition, putridness, putrescence, filth, rot,

putrefaction, depravity, rottenness, corruption, impureness, impurity.

rotted: (*adj*) roted, crappy, icky, lousy, rotten, unsound.

unnerved: (*v*) relaxed; (*adj*) enervated, afraid, alarmed, anxious, fearful, hysterical, scared, tense, terrified, timid. ANTONYM: (*adj*) confident.

waken: (*v*) stir, awaken, wake, wake up, arouse, awake, excite, call, kindle, evoke, provoke.

THE BLACK CAT

For the most wild, yet most homely narrative which I am about to pen, I neither expect nor **solicit** belief. Mad indeed would I be to expect it, in a case where my very senses reject their own evidence. Yet, mad am I not -- and very surely do I not dream. But to-morrow I die, and to-day I would unburthen my soul. My immediate purpose is to place before the world, plainly, succinctly, and without comment, a series of mere household events. In their consequences, these events have terrified -- have tortured -- have destroyed me. Yet I will not attempt to **expound** them. To me, they have presented little but Horror -- to many they will seem less terrible than *barroques*. **Hereafter**, perhaps, some intellect may be found which will reduce my **phantasm** to the common-place -- some intellect more calm, more logical, and far less **excitable** than my own, which will perceive, in the circumstances I detail with awe, nothing more than an ordinary succession of very natural causes and effects.

From my infancy I was noted for the **docility** and humanity of my disposition. My tenderness of heart was even so conspicuous as to make me the **jest** of my companions. I was especially fond of animals, and was indulged by my parents with a great variety of pets. With these I spent most of my time, and never was so happy as when feeding and caressing them. This **peculiarity** of character grew with my growth, and in my manhood, I derived from it one of my principal sources of pleasure. To those who have cherished an affection for a

Thesaurus

docility: (*n*) obedience, tractability, meekness, flexibility, docibleness, submission, deference, humility, gentleness, willingness, tractableness.

excitable: (*adj*) nervous, irritable, combustible, hasty, edgy, fiery, sensitive, volatile, passionate, warm, quick. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) unexcitable, calm, unflappable, easygoing, easy, tranquil, reliable, mild.

expound: (*v*) explicate, elucidate,

annotate, elaborate, define, read, clarify, illustrate, interpret; (*adj, v*) explain, expand.

hereafter: (*adv*) thereafter, from now on, hence, henceforth, hereinafter, afterwards; (*n*) afterlife, futurity, time to come, great beyond, future life.

jest: (*n*) gag, gibe, quip, game; (*n, v*) jape; (*v*) banter, jeer, deride, gird, sneer, clown.

peculiarity: (*n*) idiosyncrasy, distinction, particularity, oddness,

eccentricity, distinctiveness, abnormality, characteristic, attribute, difference, individuality.

ANTONYM: (*n*) similarity.

phantasm: (*n*) apparition, ghost, illusion, phantom, spirit, vision, delusion, hallucination, eidolon, specter, fancy.

solicit: (*v*) crave, request, petition, ask, pray, importune, require, apply, implore, demand; (*adj, v*) court.

faithful and sagacious dog, I need hardly be at the trouble of explaining the nature or the intensity of the gratification thus **derivable**. There is something in the unselfish and **self**-sacrificing love of a brute, which goes directly to the heart of him who has had frequent occasion to test the paltry friendship and gossamer fidelity of mere *Man*.

I married early, and was happy to find in my wife a disposition not **uncongenial** with my own. Observing my partiality for domestic pets, she lost no opportunity of **procuring** those of the most agreeable kind. We had birds, gold-fish, a fine dog, rabbits, a small monkey, and *a cat*.

This latter was a remarkably large and beautiful animal, entirely black, and sagacious to an astonishing degree. In speaking of his intelligence, my wife, who at heart was not a little tinctured with superstition, made frequent allusion to the ancient popular notion, which regarded all black cats as witches in disguise. Not that she was ever *serious* upon this point -- and I mention the matter at all for no better reason than that it happens, just now, to be remembered.

Pluto -- this was the cat's name -- was my **favorite** pet and **playmate**. I alone fed him, and he attended me wherever I went about the house. It was even with difficulty that I could prevent him from following me through the streets.

Our friendship lasted, in this manner, for several years, during which my general temperament and character -- through the **instrumentality** of the Fiend Intemperance -- had (I blush to confess it) experienced a radical alteration for the worse. I grew, day by day, more moody, more irritable, more regardless of the feelings of others. I **suffered** myself to use **intemperate** language to my wife. At length, I even offered her personal violence. My pets, of course, were made to feel the change in my disposition. I not only neglected, but ill-used them. For Pluto, however, I still retained sufficient regard to restrain me from **maltreating** him, as I made no scruple of maltreating the rabbits, the monkey, or even the dog, when by accident, or through affection, they came in my way. But my disease grew upon me -- for what disease is like Alcohol! -- and at length even Pluto, who was now becoming old, and consequently somewhat **peevish** -- even Pluto began to experience the effects of my ill temper.

Thesaurus

derivable: (*adj*) inferable, dogmatic, inducible, obtainable, traductive.
favorite: (*adj, n*) darling, favourite, dear, number one; (*adj*) favored, beloved, popular; (*n*) pet, choice, pick, preference. ANTONYMS: (*n*) indifference, superior, underdog; (*adj*) unwanted, despised, disliked, hated, unusual.
instrumentality: (*n*) agency, device, instrument, medium, method, ceramic, arms, hardware, implement,

usefulness, expedient.
intemperate: (*adj*) inordinate, immoderate, dissipated, unbridled, extreme, disorderly, inclement, unruly, wild, undue, violent. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) calm, temperate, moderate.
maltreating: (*v*) maltreat.
peevish: (*adj*) fretful, fractious, morose, testy, irascible, moody, captious, petulant, cross, cantankerous, touchy.

playmate: (*n*) friend, chum, companion, associate, fellow, partner, comrade, pal, buddy, mate, familiar.
procuring: (*v*) procure.
self-sacrificing: (*adj*) angelic, unselfish.
suffered: (*adj*) permitted, permissive.
uncongenial: (*adj*) unfriendly, hostile, incongenial, cold, unfit, unsuited, contrastive, chilly, cool, unsociable, distant. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) friendly, hospitable.

One night, returning home, much **intoxicated**, from one of my haunts about town, I fancied that the cat avoided my presence. I seized him; when, in his fright at my violence, he inflicted a slight wound upon my hand with his teeth. The fury of a demon instantly possessed me. I knew myself no longer. My original soul seemed, at once, to take its flight from my body and a more than **fiendish malevolence**, gin-nurtured, thrilled every fibre of my frame. I took from my waistcoat-pocket a pen-knife, opened it, grasped the poor beast by the throat, and deliberately cut one of its eyes from the socket! I blush, I burn, I shudder, while I pen the **damnable** atrocity.

When reason returned with the morning -- when I had slept off the fumes of the night's **debauch** -- I experienced a sentiment half of horror, half of remorse, for the crime of which I had been guilty; but it was, at best, a feeble and equivocal feeling, and the soul remained untouched. I again plunged into excess, and soon drowned in wine all memory of the deed.

In the meantime the cat slowly recovered. The socket of the lost eye presented, it is true, a frightful appearance, but he no longer appeared to suffer any pain. He went about the house as usual, but, as might be expected, fled in extreme terror at my approach. I had so much of my old heart left, as to be at first grieved by this evident dislike on the part of a creature which had once so loved me. But this feeling soon gave place to irritation. And then came, as if to my final and irrevocable overthrow, the spirit of PERVERSENESS. Of this spirit philosophy takes no account. Yet I am not more sure that my soul lives, than I am that **perverseness** is one of the primitive impulses of the human heart -- one of the **indivisible** primary faculties, or **sentiments**, which give direction to the character of Man. Who has not, a hundred times, found himself committing a vile or a silly action, for no other reason than because he knows he should not? Have we not a perpetual inclination, in the teeth of our best judgment, to violate that which is *Law*, merely because we understand it to be such? This spirit of perverseness, I say, came to my final overthrow. It was this unfathomable longing of the soul *to vex itself* -- to offer violence to its own nature -- to do wrong for the wrong's sake only -- that urged me to continue and finally to consummate

Thesaurus

damnable: (*adj*) cursed, damned, abominable, hateful, accursed, devilish, infernal, disgusting, sinful, deplorable, offensive. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) commendable, laudable, praiseworthy.
debauch: (*v*) corrupt, debase, deprave, demoralize, vitiate, violate, whore, pollute; (*n*) Saturnalia, orgy; (*n, v*) riot. ANTONYMS: (*v*) upgrade, praise, laud, elevate, honor.
fiendish: (*adj, v*) infernal, diabolic,

satanic, hellish; (*adj*) demonic, diabolical, cruel, atrocious, inhuman, wicked, brutal.
indivisible: (*adj*) inseparable, indivisibility, undividable, integral, atomic, indissoluble, indiscernible, undivisible, undivided, unbreakable, individual.
intoxicated: (*adj*) drunken, drunk, inebriate, tipsy, elated, stimulated, intoxicate, infatuated, fuddled, loaded, plastered. ANTONYM: (*adj*)

sober.
malevolence: (*n*) malice, hatred, spite, hate, ill will, bitterness, hostility, rancor, venom, grudge, enmity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) benevolence, good, affection, goodwill.
perverseness: (*n*) perversity, cussedness, unruliness, wilfulness, willfulness, contumacy, obliquity, degeneracy, depravity, deliberate unruliness, crotchetyness.
sentiments: (*n*) breast.

the injury I had inflicted upon the **unoffending** brute. One morning, in cool blood, I slipped a **noose** about its neck and hung it to the limb of a tree; -- hung it with the tears streaming from my eyes, and with the bitterest remorse at my heart; -- hung it *because* I knew that it had loved me, and *because* I felt it had given me no reason of offence; -- hung it *because* I knew that in so doing I was committing a sin -- a deadly sin that would so **jeopardize** my immortal soul as to place it -- if such a thing wore possible -- even beyond the reach of the infinite mercy of the Most Merciful and Most Terrible God.

On the night of the day on which this cruel deed was done, I was aroused from sleep by the cry of fire. The curtains of my bed were in flames. The whole house was blazing. It was with great difficulty that my wife, a servant, and myself, made our escape from the **conflagration**. The destruction was complete. My entire worldly wealth was swallowed up, and I resigned myself **thenceforward** to despair.

I am above the weakness of seeking to establish a sequence of cause and effect, between the disaster and the **atrocit**y. But I am detailing a chain of facts -- and wish not to leave even a possible link imperfect. On the day succeeding the fire, I visited the ruins. The walls, with one exception, had fallen in. This exception was found in a compartment wall, not very thick, which stood about the middle of the house, and against which had rested the head of my bed. The **plastering** had here, in great measure, resisted the action of the fire -- a fact which I attributed to its having been recently spread. About this wall a dense crowd were collected, and many persons seemed to be examining a particular portion of it with very minute and eager attention. The words "strange!" "singular!" and other similar expressions, excited my curiosity. I approached and saw, as if **graven** in *bas relief* upon the white surface, the figure of a gigantic *cat*. The impression was given with an accuracy truly marvellous. There was a rope about the animal's neck.

When I first beheld this **apparition** -- for I could scarcely regard it as less -- my wonder and my terror were extreme. But at length reflection came to my aid. The cat, I remembered, had been hung in a garden adjacent to the house. Upon

Thesaurus

apparition: (*n*) ghost, phantom, spirit, spectre, hallucination, spook, shade, eidolon, wraith, advent; (*n, v*) vision.
atrocity: (*adj, n*) outrage, flagrancy; (*n*) brutality, abomination, barbarity, barbarism, violence, atrociousness, inhumaneness, crime, horror.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) kindness, humanity.
conflagration: (*n*) blaze, inferno, flame, wildfire, combustion, holocaust, burning, bonfire,

empyrosis, flagration; (*n, v*) deflagration.
graven: (*adj*) carved, engraved, etched, sculptured, sculptile, sculpted, inscribed, carven.
jeopardize: (*v*) chance, hazard, venture, endanger, gamble, threaten, menace, stake, adventure, risk; (*n*) jeopard. ANTONYMS: (*v*) protect, guard.
noose: (*n*) loop, trap, gin, lasso, net, gibbet, gallows, bowstring, snare,

girdle; (*v*) hang.
plastering: (*n*) daubing, coating, pargeting, rendering, stucco, coat, plasterwork, application, covering, pargetting.
thenceforward: (*adv*) thereafter.
unoffending: (*adj*) innocent, harmless, innocuous, offenseless, blameless, innoxious, unharmed, unhurt, uninjured, uncontroversial, savoury.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) offending, offensive.

the alarm of fire, this garden had been immediately filled by the crowd -- by some one of whom the animal must have been cut from the tree and thrown, through an open window, into my chamber. This had probably been done with the view of **arousing** me from sleep. The falling of other walls had compressed the victim of my cruelty into the substance of the freshly-spread plaster; the lime of which, with the **flames**, and the *ammonia* from the **carcass**, had then accomplished the **portraiture** as I saw it.

Although I thus readily accounted to my reason, if not altogether to my conscience, for the startling fact just detailed, it did not the less fail to make a deep impression upon my fancy. For months I could not rid myself of the phantasm of the cat; and, during this period, there came back into my spirit a half-sentiment that seemed, but was not, **remorse**. I went so far as to regret the loss of the animal, and to look about me, among the vile haunts which I now habitually frequented, for another pet of the same species, and of somewhat similar appearance, with which to supply its place.

One night as I sat, half stupified, in a den of more than **infamy**, my attention was suddenly drawn to some black object, **reposing** upon the head of one of the immense **hogsheads** of Gin, or of Rum, which constituted the chief furniture of the apartment. I had been looking steadily at the top of this hogshead for some minutes, and what now caused me surprise was the fact that I had not sooner perceived the object **thereupon**. I approached it, and touched it with my hand. It was a black cat -- a very large one -- fully as large as **Pluto**, and closely resembling him in every respect but one. Pluto had not a white hair upon any portion of his body; but this cat had a large, although indefinite **splotch** of white, covering nearly the whole region of the breast. Upon my touching him, he immediately arose, purred loudly, rubbed against my hand, and appeared delighted with my notice. This, then, was the very creature of which I was in search. I at once offered to purchase it of the landlord; but this person made no claim to it -- knew nothing of it -- had never seen it before.

I continued my caresses, and, when I prepared to go home, the animal evinced a disposition to accompany me. I permitted it to do so; occasionally

Thesaurus

arousing: (*adj, n*) stirring; (*adj*) moving, stimulating, affecting, animating, hopeful, pitiful, poignant; (*n*) awakening, start, beginning.
carcass: (*n*) body, frame, corpse, cadaver, framework, shell, carrion, remains, dead body, skeleton, bomb.
flames: (*n*) fire, blaze, firestorm, hellhole.
hogshead: (*n*) cask, barrel, vat.
infamy: (*n*) dishonor, disrepute, ignominy, notoriety, shame,

opprobrium, reproach, stain, discredited, baseness; (*adj, n*) pollution.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) fame, virtue, honor, obscurity, pride.
pluto: (*n*) netherworld, infernal region, hell, Hel, solar system, Hades, aides, Aidoneus, Erebus.
portraiture: (*n*) depiction, description, delineation, picture, characterization, likeness, portrayal, imagery, representation; (*v*) genre, high art.
remorse: (*n*) penitence, contrition,

repentance, regret, guilt, penance, sorrow, grief, qualm, ruefulness, compassion. **ANTONYM:** (*n*) shamelessness.
reposing: (*adj*) calm, asleep.
splotch: (*n, v*) mark, spot; (*n*) blot, splodge, stain, smear, blob, smudge, speck, stigma, discoloration.
thereupon: (*adv*) hereupon, next, then, immediately, therefore, therewith, in the sequel, close upon, upon which, whereupon, accordingly.

stooping and patting it as I proceeded. When it reached the house it domesticated itself at once, and became immediately a great favorite with my wife.

For my own part, I soon found a dislike to it arising within me. This was just the reverse of what I had anticipated; but -- I know not how or why it was -- its evident fondness for myself rather disgusted and annoyed. By slow degrees, these feelings of disgust and annoyance rose into the bitterness of hatred. I avoided the creature; a certain sense of shame, and the remembrance of my former deed of cruelty, preventing me from physically abusing it. I did not, for some weeks, strike, or otherwise violently ill use it; but gradually -- very gradually -- I came to look upon it with unutterable **loathing**, and to flee silently from its odious presence, as from the breath of a **pestilence**.

What added, no doubt, to my hatred of the beast, was the discovery, on the morning after I brought it home, that, like Pluto, it also had been deprived of one of its eyes. This circumstance, however, only **endeared** it to my wife, who, as I have already said, possessed, in a high degree, that humanity of feeling which had once been my distinguishing trait, and the source of many of my simplest and purest pleasures.

With my aversion to this cat, however, its **partiality** for myself seemed to increase. It followed my footsteps with a **pertinacity** which it would be difficult to make the reader comprehend. Whenever I sat, it would **crouch** beneath my chair, or spring upon my knees, covering me with its loathsome caresses. If I arose to walk it would get between my feet and thus nearly throw me down, or, **fastening** its long and sharp claws in my dress, **clamber**, in this manner, to my breast. At such times, although I longed to destroy it with a blow, I was yet **withheld** from so doing, partly by a memory of my former crime, but chiefly -- let me confess it at once -- by absolute dread of the beast.

This dread was not exactly a dread of physical evil -- and yet I should be at a loss how otherwise to define it. I am almost ashamed to own -- yes, even in this felon's cell, I am almost ashamed to own -- that the terror and horror with which the animal inspired me, had been heightened by one of the merest chimaeras it

Thesaurus

clamber: (*v*) scramble, crawl, scale, ascend, mount, shinny, shin, struggle, surmount, ramp, climber.
crouch: (*v*) bend, couch, cringe, squat, sneak, bow, huddle, stoop, lie down, crawl, hunch.
endeared: (*adj*) dear.
fastening: (*n*) clasp, clip, buckle, attachment, lock, catch, link, bonding; (*n, v*) bond; (*v*) tie, bind.
loathing: (*n, v*) abomination, aversion, dislike, distaste; (*n*) hate, hatred,

abhorrence, detestation, nausea, antipathy, execration. ANTONYMS: (*n*) love, adoration, liking, delight, goodwill.
partiality: (*n*) favor, fondness, leaning, fancy, favour, predilection, liking, prejudice, favoritism, bias, affection. ANTONYMS: (*n*) impartiality, fairness, indifference, horror, antipathy.
pertinacity: (*n*) persistence, persistency, doggedness, obstinacy,

tenacity, contumacy, pertinacy, purpose, endurance, firmness, constancy.
pestilence: (*n*) pest, epidemic, blight, disease, curse, infectious disease, contagion, infection, virus; (*adj*) murrain, pox.
stooping: (*adj*) hunched, crooked, asymmetrical, not erect, not straight, corrupt; (*n*) patronage.
withheld: (*adj*) hidden, uncommitted. ANTONYM: (*adj*) ongoing.

would be possible to conceive. My wife had called my attention, more than once, to the character of the mark of white hair, of which I have spoken, and which constituted the sole visible difference between the strange beast and the one I had destroyed. The reader will remember that this mark, although large, had been originally very indefinite; but, by slow degrees -- degrees nearly imperceptible, and which for a long time my Reason struggled to reject as fanciful -- it had, at length, assumed a rigorous distinctness of outline. It was now the representation of an object that I shudder to name -- and for this, above all, I loathed, and dreaded, and would have rid myself of the monster *had I dared* -- it was now, I say, the image of a hideous -- of a ghastly thing -- of the GALLOWS! -- oh, mournful and terrible engine of Horror and of Crime -- of Agony and of Death!

And now was I indeed wretched beyond the **wretchedness** of mere Humanity. And *a brute beast* -- whose fellow I had contemptuously destroyed -- *a brute beast* to work out for me -- for me a man, fashioned in the image of the High God -- so much of **insufferable** wo! Alas! neither by day nor by night knew I the blessing of Rest any more! During the former the creature left me no moment alone; and, in the latter, I started, hourly, from dreams of unutterable fear, to find the hot breath of *the thing* upon my face, and its vast weight -- an incarnate Night-Mare that I had no power to shake off -- incumbent **eternally** upon my heart!

Beneath the pressure of torments such as these, the feeble remnant of the good within me succumbed. Evil thoughts became my sole intimates -- the darkest and most evil of thoughts. The **moodiness** of my usual temper increased to hatred of all things and of all mankind; while, from the sudden, frequent, and ungovernable outbursts of a fury to which I now blindly abandoned myself, my **uncomplaining** wife, alas! was the most usual and the most patient of sufferers.

One day she accompanied me, upon some household errand, into the cellar of the old building which our poverty compelled us to inhabit. The cat followed me down the steep stairs, and, nearly throwing me headlong, exasperated me to madness. **Uplifting** an axe, and forgetting, in my wrath, the childish dread

Thesaurus

eternally: (*adv*) always, permanently, incessantly, perpetually, constantly, ceaselessly, endlessly, unendingly, unceasingly, lastingly; (*adj, adv*) forever. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) briefly, sporadically.

insufferable: (*adj, v*) intolerable, abhorrent; (*adj*) excruciating, impossible, unbearable, insupportable, unendurable, unsufferable, hateful, painful; (*v*) nauseous. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

manageable, nice, lovable.

moodiness: (*n*) temperament, depression, capriciousness, grumpiness, petulance, sullenness, humorousness, ill humor, ill humour, jocularly, unhappiness. ANTONYM: (*n*) cheeriness.

uncomplaining: (*adj*) patient, enduring, tolerant, uncomplaining, submissive, unwearied, compliant, acquiescent, resigned, forbearing. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) impatient,

intolerant.

uplifting: (*n*) ascent, exaltation, edification, upbuoyance; (*adj*) heartening, healing, gratifying, exhilarating, exalted, curative, cheering. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) deadly, ridiculous, heartbreaking.

wretchedness: (*n*) unhappiness, grief, distress, desolation, woe, sorrow, anguish, infelicity, tribulation, affliction, misfortune.

which had hitherto stayed my hand, I aimed a blow at the animal which, of course, would have proved instantly fatal had it descended as I wished. But this blow was arrested by the hand of my wife. Goaded, by the interference, into a rage more than **demoniacal**, I withdrew my arm from her grasp and buried the axe in her brain. She fell dead upon the spot, without a groan.

This hideous murder accomplished, I set myself **forthwith**, and with entire deliberation, to the task of **concealing** the body. I knew that I could not remove it from the house, either by day or by night, without the risk of being observed by the **neighbors**. Many projects entered my mind. At one period I thought of cutting the corpse into minute fragments, and destroying them by fire. At another, I resolved to dig a grave for it in the floor of the cellar. Again, I deliberated about casting it in the well in the yard -- about packing it in a box, as if merchandize, with the usual arrangements, and so getting a porter to take it from the house. Finally I hit upon what I considered a far better expedient than either of these. I determined to wall it up in the cellar -- as the monks of the middle ages are recorded to have walled up their victims.

For a purpose such as this the cellar was well adapted. Its walls were loosely constructed, and had lately been **plastered** throughout with a rough plaster, which the **dampness** of the atmosphere had prevented from **hardening**. Moreover, in one of the walls was a projection, caused by a false chimney, or fireplace, that had been filled up, and made to resemble the red of the cellar. I made no doubt that I could readily **displace** the bricks at this point, insert the corpse, and wall the whole up as before, so that no eye could detect any thing suspicious. And in this calculation I was not deceived. By means of a crow-bar I easily dislodged the bricks, and, having carefully deposited the body against the inner wall, I **propped** it in that position, while, with little trouble, I re-laid the whole structure as it originally stood. Having procured mortar, sand, and hair, with every possible precaution, I prepared a plaster which could not be distinguished from the old, and with this I very carefully went over the new brickwork. When I had finished, I felt satisfied that all was right. The wall did not present the slightest appearance of having been disturbed. The rubbish on

Thesaurus

concealing: (*n*) covering, concealment, burial, stealing, stealth, screening, burying, screenings, activity; (*adj*) suppressive.
dampness: (*n*) clamminess, humidity, moistness, moisture, wet, wetness, vapor, dankness, drizzle, heat, mugginess. ANTONYMS: (*n*) dryness, smoothness, freshness.
demoniacal: (*adj*) demonic, amuck, berserk, amok, diabolical; (*adj, v*) devilish; (*v*) satanic, diabolic,

mephistophelian, beside oneself, bouleverse.
displace: (*v*) dismiss, dislocate, dislodge, depose, bump, shift, uproot, remove, cashier, evacuate, disturb. ANTONYMS: (*v*) replace, restore, reinstate, wedge, straighten, remain.
forthwith: (*adv*) directly, immediately, at once, now, instantly, straight, presently, straightaway, incontinently; (*adj, adv*) quickly; (*adj*)

immediate.
hardening: (*v*) harden; (*n*) solidification, curing, sclerosis, callosity, calcification, symptom, inurement, hardener; (*adj*) reprobation, perversion.
neighbors: (*n*) neighbourhood.
plastered: (*adj*) drunk, tight, intoxicated, pixilated, loaded, soaked, sloshed, smashed, wet, inebriated, pissed.
propped: (*adj*) fulcrate.

the floor was picked up with the minutest care. I looked around triumphantly, and said to myself -- "Here at least, then, my labor has not been in vain."

My next step was to look for the beast which had been the cause of so much wretchedness; for I had, at length, firmly resolved to put it to death. Had I been able to meet with it, at the moment, there could have been no doubt of its fate; but it appeared that the crafty animal had been alarmed at the violence of my previous anger, and forebore to present itself in my present mood. It is impossible to describe, or to imagine, the deep, the **blissful** sense of relief which the absence of the **detested** creature occasioned in my bosom. It did not make its appearance during the night -- and thus for one night at least, since its introduction into the house, I soundly and **tranquilly** slept; aye, slept even with the burden of murder upon my soul!

The second and the third day passed, and still my **tormentor** came not. Once again I breathed as a **freeman**. The monster, in terror, had fled the premises forever! I should behold it no more! My happiness was supreme! The guilt of my dark deed disturbed me but little. Some few inquiries had been made, but these had been readily answered. Even a search had been instituted -- but of course nothing was to be discovered. I looked upon my future felicity as secured.

Upon the fourth day of the assassination, a party of the police came, very unexpectedly, into the house, and proceeded again to make rigorous investigation of the premises. Secure, however, in the **inscrutability** of my place of concealment, I felt no embarrassment whatever. The officers bade me accompany them in their search. They left no nook or corner **unexplored**. At length, for the third or fourth time, they descended into the cellar. I quivered not in a muscle. My heart beat calmly as that of one who slumbers in innocence. I walked the cellar from end to end. I folded my arms upon my bosom, and roamed easily to and fro. The police were thoroughly satisfied and prepared to depart. The glee at my heart was too strong to be restrained. I burned to say if but one word, by way of triumph, and to render doubly sure their assurance of my **guiltlessness**.

Thesaurus

blissful: (*adj*) happy, heavenly, merry, joyful, delighted, glad, cheerful, delightful, ecstatic, elated, blest.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unhappy, grieving, sad, sorrowful, depressed, unpleasant, down, dreadful.

detested: (*adj*) despised, unpopular, disliked, loathed, not accepted, unloved, scorned, reviled, out of favor, not liked.

freeman: (*n*) freedman, freedwoman, freewoman.

guiltlessness: (*n*) innocence, sinlessness, harmlessness, purity, inculpability, inculpableness.

inscrutability: (*n*) inscrutableness, incomprehensibility, impenetrability, magic, dark, charm, charisma, darkness, obscurity, poker face, secrecy.

tormentor: (*n*) pest, tormenter, torturer, pesterer, annoyer, teaser, tease, tantalizer, persecutor, gadfly, flat.

tranquilly: (*adv*) serenely, calmly, peacefully, quietly, stilly, undisturbedly, untroubledly, restfully, placidly, coolly, unperturbedly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) anxiously, noisily.

unexplored: (*adj*) unexplained, unapprehended, unascertained, undiscovered, unheard of; (*v*) unexamined, uninvented, unsearched, unstudied, unweighed, unsifted.

“Gentlemen,” I said at last, as the party ascended the steps, “I delight to have **allayed** your suspicions. I wish you all health, and a little more courtesy. By the bye, gentlemen, this -- this is a very well constructed house.” [In the **rabid** desire to say something easily, I scarcely knew what I uttered at all.] -- “I may say an **excellently** well constructed house. These walls are you going, gentlemen? -- these walls are solidly put together;” and here, through the mere phrenzy of bravado, I rapped heavily, with a cane which I held in my hand, upon that very portion of the brick-work behind which stood the corpse of the wife of my bosom.

But may God shield and deliver me from the fangs of the Arch-Fiend! No sooner had the **reverberation** of my blows sunk into silence, than I was answered by a voice from within the tomb! -- by a cry, at first muffled and broken, like the sobbing of a child, and then quickly swelling into one long, loud, and continuous scream, utterly anomalous and **inhuman** -- a howl -- a wailing shriek, half of horror and half of triumph, such as might have arisen only out of hell, **conjointly** from the throats of the dammed in their agony and of the demons that **exult** in the damnation.

Of my own thoughts it is folly to speak. Swooning, I staggered to the opposite wall. For one instant the party upon the stairs remained motionless, through extremity of terror and of awe. In the next, a dozen stout arms were **toiling** at the wall. It fell bodily. The corpse, already greatly decayed and **clotted** with gore, stood erect before the eyes of the spectators. Upon its head, with red extended mouth and solitary eye of fire, sat the hideous beast whose craft had seduced me into murder, and whose informing voice had consigned me to the hangman. I had walled the monster up within the tomb!

Thesaurus

allayed: (<i>adj</i>) quenched, slaked.	goodly, worthily, grandly, primely, superbly. ANTONYMS: (<i>adv</i>) poorly, badly, terribly.	(<i>adj</i>) sympathetic, kind, humane.
clotted: (<i>n</i>) clammy, ropy, mastic, glutenous, gelatin; (<i>adj</i>) thick, clogged, grumous, bloody, choked, fleamy.	exult: (<i>v</i>) rejoice, triumph, cheer, glory, chuckle, crow, jubilate, brag, boast, celebrate; (<i>n, v</i>) delight.	rabid: (<i>adj</i>) mad, fanatical, fanatic, enthusiastic, frantic, insane, frenzied, extreme; (<i>v</i>) fierce, fiery; (<i>adj, v</i>) wild.
conjointly: (<i>adv</i>) collectively, unitedly, communally, together, altogether, mutually, conjunctly, conjoinedly, combined, also, completely.	ANTONYMS: (<i>v</i>) grieve, mourn, bemoan.	ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) happy, moderate.
excellently: (<i>adv</i>) splendidly, beautifully, exquisitely, magnificently, finely, marvelously,	inhuman: (<i>adj</i>) heartless, cruel, atrocious, brutal, cold, harsh, ferocious, remorseless, barbarous, relentless, barbaric. ANTONYMS:	reverberation: (<i>n</i>) echo, rebound, noise, peal, replication, reaction, recoil, boom, reflectivity; (<i>n, v</i>) reflection; (<i>v</i>) reflexion. ANTONYM: (<i>n</i>) silence.
		toiling: (<i>adj</i>) labouring, drudging, busy.

THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER

*Son cœur est un luth suspendu;
Sitôt qu'on le touche il résonne.*

--De Béranger

During the whole of a dull, dark, and **soundless** day in the autumn of the year, when the clouds hung **oppressively** low in the heavens, I had been passing alone, on horseback, through a singularly dreary tract of country; and at length found myself, as the shades of the evening drew on, within view of the melancholy House of Usher. I know not how it was -- but, with the first glimpse of the building, a sense of insufferable gloom pervaded my spirit. I say insufferable; for the feeling was **unrelieved** by any of that half-pleasurable, because poetic, sentiment, with which the mind usually receives even the sternest natural images of the desolate or terrible. I looked upon the scene before me -- upon the mere house, and the simple landscape features of the domain -- upon the bleak walls -- upon the vacant eye-like windows -- upon a few rank **sedges** -- and upon a few white trunks of decayed trees -- with an utter depression of soul which I can compare to no earthly sensation more properly than to the after-dream of the **reveller** upon **opium** -- the bitter lapse into everyday life -- the hideous dropping off of the veil. There was an **iciness**, a sinking, a sickening of the heart -- an **unredeemed dreariness** of thought which

Thesaurus

dreariness: (*n*) desolation, tedium, dullness, gloominess, boringness, dulness, depression, boredom, sadness, bleakness, gloom.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) brightness, cheerfulness, splendor.

iciness: (*n*) gelidity, coldness, cold, frostiness, frigidity, frost, coolness, frisson, chilliness, winter.

ANTONYM: (*n*) heat.

opium: (*v*) poppy, balm, anodyne, milk, rose water; (*adj*) anaesthetic

agent; (*n*) tobacco, hashish, ether, Opie, cocaine.

oppressively: (*adv*) severely, overbearingly, heavily, sultrily, stiflingly, stuffily, repressively, weightily, depressingly, overpoweringly, onerously.

reveller: (*n*) merrymaker, roisterer, celebrant, celebrator, celebrator.

sedges: (*n*) grasses.

soundless: (*adj*) silent, dumb, noiseless, still, mute, voiceless,

bottomless, fathomless, unfathomable, hushed, motionless.

unredeemed: (*adj*) cursed, lost, damned, fated, goddam, goddamned, everlasting, infernal, unlucky, unsaved, goddamn.

unrelieved: (*adj*) concentric, undiminished, monotonous, unceasing, constant, unremitting, unrelenting, unending, tiresome, straight; (*v*) worse. ANTONYM: (*adj*) acute.

no **goading** of the imagination could torture into **aght** of the sublime. What was it -- I paused to think -- what was it that so unnerved me in the contemplation of the House of Usher? It was a mystery all insoluble; nor could I grapple with the shadowy fancies that crowded upon me as I pondered. I was forced to fall back upon the unsatisfactory conclusion, that while, beyond doubt, there *are* combinations of very simple natural objects which have the power of thus affecting us, still the analysis of this power lies among considerations beyond our depth. It was possible, I reflected, that a mere different arrangement of the particulars of the scene, of the details of the picture, would be sufficient to modify, or perhaps to **annihilate** its capacity for **sorrowful** impression; and, acting upon this idea, I reined my horse to the precipitous brink of a black and lurid **tarn** that lay in unruffled lustre by the dwelling, and gazed down -- but with a shudder even more thrilling than before -- upon the remodelled and inverted images of the gray **sedge**, and the ghastly tree-stems, and the vacant and eye-like windows.

Nevertheless, in this mansion of gloom I now proposed to myself a sojourn of some weeks. Its proprietor, Roderick Usher, had been one of my boon companions in boyhood; but many years had elapsed since our last meeting. A letter, however, had lately reached me in a distant part of the country -- a letter from him -- which, in its wildly **importunate** nature, had admitted of no other than a personal reply. The MS. gave evidence of nervous agitation. The writer spoke of acute bodily illness -- of a mental disorder which oppressed him -- and of an earnest desire to see me, as his best, and indeed his only personal friend, with a view of attempting, by the cheerfulness of my society, some **alleviation** of his **malady**. It was the manner in which all this, and much more, was said -- it was the apparent *heart* that went with his request -- which allowed me no room for hesitation; and I accordingly obeyed forthwith what I still considered a very singular summons.

Although, as boys, we had been even intimate associates, yet I really knew little of my friend. His reserve had been always excessive and habitual. I was aware, however, that his very ancient family had been noted, time out of mind,

Thesaurus

alleviation: (*n*) remission, abatement, relaxation, easement, solace, assuagement, mitigation, palliation, reprieve, comfort, easing.
annihilate: (*v*) eradicate, exterminate, eliminate, wipe out, extinguish, destroy, quash, crush, demolish, quench, extirpate. ANTONYMS: (*v*) build, help, save, protect, surrender.
aght: (*n*) nil, zero, anything, ought, cypher, nix, cipher, naught, null, zip; (*adj*) any.

goading: (*n*) encouragement, exhortation, gad, branch line, prodding, prod, spur, urging, spurring; (*adj*) provocative.
importunate: (*adj*) annoying, exigent, pressing, insistent, bothersome, pestiferous, pestilent, instant, obdurate, demanding, pleading. ANTONYM: (*adj*) feeble.
malady: (*n, v*) illness, ailment, indisposition, distemper; (*adj, n, v*) disorder; (*adj, n*) complaint, infirmity;

(*n*) sickness, condition, trouble, ill.
sedge: (*n*) rush, nutsedge, papyrus, nutgrass, chufa, galingale, galangal, weed, rush nut, nut sedge, nut grass.
sorrowful: (*adj*) melancholy, doleful, sad, rueful, lugubrious, gloomy, dreary, grievous, piteous, unhappy, mournful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cheerful, content, joyful, successful.
tarn: (*n*) mere, lake, loch, pond, lough, well, pool, puddle, slab, tairn, mountain lake.

for a peculiar sensibility of **temperament**, **displaying** itself, through long ages, in many works of exalted art, and manifested, of late, in repeated deeds of munificent yet unobtrusive charity, as well as in a passionate devotion to the intricacies, perhaps even more than to the orthodox and easily recognisable beauties, of musical science. I had learned, too, the very remarkable fact, that the stem of the Usher race, all **time-honored** as it was, had put forth, at no period, any enduring branch; in other words, that the entire family lay in the direct line of descent, and had always, with very trifling and very temporary variation, so lain. It was this deficiency, I considered, while running over in thought the perfect keeping of the character of the premises with the accredited character of the people, and while speculating upon the possible influence which the one, in the long lapse of centuries, might have exercised upon the other -- it was this deficiency, perhaps, of collateral issue, and the consequent **undeviating** transmission, from **sire** to son, of the **patrimony** with the name, which had, at length, so identified the two as to merge the original title of the estate in the quaint and **equivocal appellation** of the "House of Usher" -- an appellation which seemed to include, in the minds of the **peasantry** who used it, both the family and the family mansion.

I have said that the sole effect of my somewhat childish experiment -- that of looking down within the tarn -- had been to deepen the first singular impression. There can be no doubt that the consciousness of the rapid increase of my superstition -- for why should I not so term it? -- served mainly to accelerate the increase itself. Such, I have long known, is the paradoxical law of all sentiments having terror as a basis. And it might have been for this reason only, that, when I again **uplifted** my eyes to the house itself, from its image in the pool, there grew in my mind a strange fancy -- a fancy so ridiculous, indeed, that I but mention it to show the vivid force of the sensations which oppressed me. I had so worked upon my imagination as really to believe that about the whole mansion and domain there hung an atmosphere peculiar to themselves and their immediate vicinity -- an atmosphere which had no affinity with the air of heaven, but which had reeked up from the decayed trees, and the gray wall, and the

Thesaurus

appellation: (*n*) designation, denomination, title, name, nickname, epithet, moniker, term, appellative, cognomen, degree.

displaying: (*n*) advertising.

equivocal: (*adj*) ambiguous, indefinite, doubtful, dubious, questionable, elusive, cryptic, precarious, problematic, apocryphal, double.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clear, unequivocal, definite, obvious, plain, unquestionable, certain, direct.

patrimony: (*n*) birthright, inheritance, legacy, bequest, entail, estate, dower, heirloom, heredity, hereditament, endowment fund.

peasantry: (*n*) farmers.

sire: (*v*) generate, engender, beget, procreate, mother, get, make; (*n*) forefather, ancestor, patriarch, pater.

temperament: (*n*) character, nature, disposition, constitution, personality, quality, spirit, humor, equanimity, composure, mettle.

time-honored: (*adj*) traditional, classic, glorious, old, accepted, immemorial, regular, proverbial.

undeviating: (*adj*) straight, unswerving, invariable, direct, consistent, stable, unchanged, unvarying; (*adj, n*) fixed, steady, firm. ANTONYM: (*adj*) temporary.

uplifted: (*adj*) high, raised, noble, not inverted, not prone, proud, undismayed, stately, lofty, sublime, animated.

silent tarn -- a **pestilent** and mystic vapor, dull, sluggish, faintly discernible, and leaden-hued.

Shaking off from my spirit what *must* have been a dream, I scanned more narrowly the real aspect of the building. Its principal feature seemed to be that of an excessive antiquity. The **discoloration** of ages had been great. Minute **fungi overspread** the whole exterior, hanging in a fine tangled web-work from the eaves. Yet all this was apart from any extraordinary **dilapidation**. No portion of the masonry had fallen; and there appeared to be a wild inconsistency between its still perfect adaptation of parts, and the crumbling condition of the individual stones. In this there was much that reminded me of the specious totality of old wood-work which has rotted for long years in some neglected vault, with no disturbance from the breath of the external air. Beyond this indication of extensive decay, however, the fabric gave little token of instability. Perhaps the eye of a scrutinizing observer might have discovered a barely perceptible fissure, which, extending from the roof of the building in front, made its way down the wall in a zigzag direction, until it became lost in the sullen waters of the tarn.

Noticing these things, I rode over a short causeway to the house. A servant in waiting took my horse, and I entered the Gothic archway of the hall. A valet, of **stealthy** step, thence conducted me, in silence, through many dark and intricate passages in my progress to the *studio* of his master. Much that I encountered on the way contributed, I know not how, to heighten the vague sentiments of which I have already spoken. While the objects around me -- while the carvings of the ceilings, the sombre tapestries of the walls, the **ebon** blackness of the floors, and the **phantasmagoric armorial** trophies which rattled as I strode, were but matters to which, or to such as which, I had been accustomed from my infancy -- while I hesitated not to acknowledge how familiar was all this -- I still wondered to find how unfamiliar were the fancies which ordinary images were stirring up. On one of the staircases, I met the physician of the family. His countenance, I thought, wore a mingled expression of low cunning and perplexity. He accosted me with trepidation and passed on. The valet now threw open a door and ushered me into the presence of his master.

Thesaurus

armorial: (v) typical, symptomatic, symbolic, representative, pathognomonic, exponential, emblematic, diagnostic, diacritical, demonstrative, characteristic.

dilapidation: (n) disrepair, devastation, desolation, deterioration, ruin, collapse, neglect, decrepitude, waste, destruction, impairment.

discoloration: (n) blot, blemish, blotch, spot, decoloration, discolouration,

fading, mark, splotch, scar, bruise.

ebon: (adj) black, ebony, dark, sable, jetty, swarthy, inky, dusky, atrocious, atramentous, achromatic.

fungi: (n) bacteria, fungus, kingdom fungi, Thallophyta, fungus kingdom.

overspread: (v) cover, spread, disseminate, distribute, scatter, diffuse, disperse, broadcast, overlay, mantle, clothe.

pestilent: (adj) mortal, deathly, pernicious, deadly, baneful, fatal,

harmful, noxious, pestiferous, plaguey, bothersome. ANTONYM: (adj) delightful.

phantasmagoric: (adj) dreamlike, dreamy, phantasmagorial, phantasmagorical, surreal, surrealist.

stealthy: (adj) clandestine, secret, surreptitious, sneaky, covert, private, backstairs, concealed, feline; (adj, v) sly, insidious. ANTONYM: (adj) blatant.

The room in which I found myself was very large and lofty. The windows were long, narrow, and pointed, and at so vast a distance from the black **oaken** floor as to be altogether inaccessible from within. Feeble gleams of encrimsoned light made their way through the trellised panes, and served to render sufficiently distinct the more prominent objects around; the eye, however, struggled in vain to reach the remoter angles of the chamber, or the recesses of the vaulted and fretted ceiling. Dark draperies hung upon the walls. The general furniture was profuse, **comfortless**, antique, and tattered. Many books and musical instruments lay scattered about, but failed to give any vitality to the scene. I felt that I breathed an atmosphere of sorrow. An air of stern, deep, and **irredeemable** gloom hung over and pervaded all.

Upon my entrance, Usher arose from a sofa on which he had been lying at full length, and greeted me with a vivacious warmth which had much in it, I at first thought, of an **overdone cordiality** -- of the constrained effort of the *ennuyé*; man of the world. A glance, however, at his countenance, convinced me of his perfect sincerity. We sat down; and for some moments, while he spoke not, I gazed upon him with a feeling half of pity, half of awe. Surely, man had never before so terribly altered, in so brief a period, as had Roderick Usher! It was with difficulty that I could bring myself to admit the identity of the wan being before me with the companion of my early boyhood. Yet the character of his face had been at all times remarkable. A cadaverousness of complexion; an eye large, liquid, and luminous beyond comparison; lips somewhat thin and very pallid, but of a **surpassingly** beautiful curve; a nose of a delicate Hebrew model, but with a breadth of nostril unusual in similar formations; a finely moulded chin, speaking, in its want of prominence, of a want of moral energy; hair of a more than web-like softness and **tenuity**; these features, with an inordinate expansion above the regions of the temple, made up altogether a countenance not easily to be forgotten. And now in the mere exaggeration of the prevailing character of these features, and of the expression they were wont to convey, lay so much of change that I doubted to whom I spoke. The now ghastly pallor of the skin, and the now miraculous lustre of the eye, above all things startled and even awed me. The silken hair, too, had been suffered to grow all unheeded, and as, in its

Thesaurus

comfortless: (*adj*) dreary, desolate, bleak, uncomfortable, inconsolable, gloomy, lonely; (*adj, v*) disconsolate, forlorn; (*v*) joyless, sick at heart.

cordiality: (*adj, n*) friendliness, geniality, sympathy, sociability; (*n*) hospitality, sincerity, affability, amity, kindness, amiability; (*v*) heartiness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) frostiness, disapproval, disapprobation, disagreement, difference, misunderstanding,

hostility, rudeness.

irredeemable: (*adj*) irretrievable, irreversible, irremediable, irreparable, irrecoverable, hopeless, irrevocable, inveterate, incorrigible, unredeemable, inconvertible.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) superficial.

oaken: (*adj*) woody.

overdone: (*adj*) exaggerated, overstated, overcooked, excessive, immoderate, extravagant, fulsome, overdo, undue, overwrought,

profuse. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) restrained, tender.

surpassingly: (*adv*) surpassing, extremely, surpass, excellently, superiorly, transcendently, greatly, extraordinarily, eminently, finely, preeminently.

tenuity: (*n*) feebleness, rareness, thinness, low density, slenderness, debility, infirmity, weakness, indigence, fineness, frailness.

ANTONYM: (*n*) thickness.

wild gossamer texture, it floated rather than fell about the face, I could not, even with effort, connect its Arabesque expression with any idea of simple humanity.

In the manner of my friend I was at once struck with an incoherence -- an inconsistency; and I soon found this to arise from a series of feeble and futile struggles to overcome an habitual trepidancy -- an excessive nervous agitation. For something of this nature I had indeed been prepared, no less by his letter, than by **reminiscences** of certain boyish traits, and by conclusions deduced from his peculiar physical conformation and temperament. His action was alternately vivacious and sullen. His voice varied rapidly from a tremulous indecision (when the animal spirits seemed utterly in abeyance) to that species of energetic **concision** -- that abrupt, weighty, unhurried, and hollow-sounding **enunciation** - - that leaden, self-balanced and perfectly modulated **guttural** utterance, which may be observed in the lost drunkard, or the **irreclaimable** eater of opium, during the periods of his most intense excitement.

It was thus that he spoke of the object of my visit, of his earnest desire to see me, and of the solace he expected me to afford him. He entered, at some length, into what he conceived to be the nature of his malady. It was, he said, a constitutional and a family evil, and one for which he despaired to find a remedy -- a mere nervous affection, he immediately added, which would undoubtedly soon pass off. It **displayed** itself in a host of unnatural sensations. Some of these, as he detailed them, interested and bewildered me; although, perhaps, the terms, and the general manner of the narration had their weight. He suffered much from a morbid **acuteness** of the senses; the most insipid food was alone **endurable**; he could wear only garments of certain texture; the odors of all flowers were oppressive; his eyes were tortured by even a faint light; and there were but peculiar sounds, and these from stringed instruments, which did not inspire him with horror.

To an anomalous species of terror I found him a **bounden** slave. "I shall perish," said he, "I must perish in this deplorable folly. Thus, thus, and not otherwise, shall I be lost. I dread the events of the future, not in themselves, but in their results. I shudder at the thought of any, even the most trivial, incident,

Thesaurus

acuteness: (<i>n</i>) acuity, sharpness, acumen, discrimination, gravity, insight, sensitivity, perspicacity, penetration, keenness, intensity. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) faintness, insignificance, dullness.	displayed: (<i>adj</i>) extendant, expanded, splay.	guttural: (<i>adj</i>) hoarse, throaty, gruff, croaking, husky, harsh, velar, raucous, grum; (<i>n</i>) dental; (<i>v</i>) nasal. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) soft, smooth, high.
bounden: (<i>adj</i>) bound, indebted, compulsory, binding.	endurable: (<i>adj</i>) bearable, supportable, tolerable, livable, sufferable, acceptable, sustainable, unobjectionable, manageable, patible. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) intolerable, unbearable, unendurable.	irreclaimable: (<i>adj, v</i>) incorrigible; (<i>adj</i>) irrecoverable, irreversible, irretrievable, irreparable, irremediable, irredeemable, irrevocable; (<i>v</i>) past praying for, obdurate, reprobate.
concision: (<i>n</i>) brevity, pithiness, succinctness, briefness, schism, terseness, shortness; (<i>v</i>) abridgment, curtailment, retrenchment.	enunciation: (<i>n</i>) delivery, elocution, articulation, pronunciation, speech, declaration, annunciation, accent, assertion, inflection, expression.	reminiscences: (<i>n</i>) memoirs.

which may operate upon this intolerable agitation of soul. I have, indeed, no **abhorrence** of danger, except in its absolute effect -- in terror. In this unnerved -- in this **pitiable** condition -- I feel that the period will sooner or later arrive when I must abandon life and reason together, in some struggle with the grim phantasm, FEAR."

I learned, moreover, at intervals, and through broken and equivocal hints, another singular feature of his mental condition. He was **enchained** by certain superstitious impressions in regard to the dwelling which he tenanted, and whence, for many years, he had never ventured forth -- in regard to an influence whose **supposititious** force was **conveyed** in terms too shadowy here to be re-stated -- an influence which some peculiarities in the mere form and substance of his family mansion, had, by dint of long **sufferance**, he said, obtained over his spirit -- an effect which the *physique* of the gray walls and turrets, and of the dim tarn into which they all looked down, had, at length, brought about upon the *morale* of his existence.

He admitted, however, although with hesitation, that much of the peculiar gloom which thus afflicted him could be traced to a more natural and far more palpable origin -- to the severe and long-continued illness -- indeed to the evidently approaching dissolution -- of a tenderly beloved sister -- his sole companion for long years -- his last and only relative on earth. "Her decease," he said, with a bitterness which I can never forget, "would leave him (him the hopeless and the frail) the last of the ancient race of the Ushers." While he spoke, the lady Madeline (for so was she called) passed slowly through a remote portion of the apartment, and, without having noticed my presence, disappeared. I regarded her with an utter astonishment not **unmingled** with dread -- and yet I found it impossible to account for such feelings. A sensation of stupor oppressed me, as my eyes followed her retreating steps. When a door, at length, closed upon her, my glance sought instinctively and eagerly the countenance of the brother -- but he had buried his face in his hands, and I could only perceive that a far more than ordinary **wanness** had overspread the **emaciated** fingers through which trickled many passionate tears.

Thesaurus

abhorrence: (*n*) odium, antipathy, detestation, hatred, aversion, disgust, execration, hate, loathing, revulsion, horror. ANTONYMS: (*n*) attraction, adoration, delight, liking, attractiveness.
conveyed: (*v*) borne, sent.
emaciated: (*adj*) bony, lean, thin, gaunt, skinny, meager, wasted, haggard, slender, slim, lanky. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) fat, obese, heavy, bloated, beefy, overweight.

enchained: (*adj*) in chains, bound.
pitiable: (*adj*) forlorn, abject, pathetic, miserable, pitiful, wretched, lamentable, poor, squalid; (*adj, v*) deplorable, mournful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) privileged, strong.
sufferance: (*n*) allowance, patience, permission, forbearance, leave, toleration, suffering, resignation, acceptance; (*n, v*) tolerance; (*adj, v*) supportance.
supposititious: (*adj, v*) spurious,

counterfeit; (*adj*) suppositious, suppositional, supposed, conjectural, bastard, factitious, false, illegitimate; (*v*) fabulous.
unmingled: (*adj*) unmixed, plain, uncompounded, sheer, simple, uncombined, concentrated, homely, artless, bluff, patent.
wanness: (*n*) paleness, pallidness, lividness, luridness, lividity, achromasia, wan, sensationalism, skin color, grimness, ghastliness.

The disease of the lady Madeline had long baffled the skill of her physicians. A settled apathy, a gradual wasting away of the person, and frequent although transient **affections** of a partially cataleptical character, were the unusual diagnosis. Hitherto she had steadily borne up against the pressure of her malady, and had not betaken herself finally to bed; but, on the closing in of the evening of my arrival at the house, she succumbed (as her brother told me at night with **inexpressible** agitation) to the prostrating power of the destroyer; and I learned that the glimpse I had **obtained** of her person would thus probably be the last I should obtain -- that the lady, at least while living, would be seen by me no more.

For several days ensuing, her name was unmentioned by either Usher or myself: and during this period I was busied in earnest endeavors to alleviate the melancholy of my friend. We painted and read together; or I listened, as if in a dream, to the wild improvisations of his speaking guitar. And thus, as a closer and still closer intimacy admitted me more **unreservedly** into the recesses of his spirit, the more bitterly did I perceive the futility of all attempt at cheering a mind from which darkness, as if an inherent positive quality, **poured** forth upon all objects of the moral and physical universe, in one **unceasing** radiation of gloom.

I shall ever bear about me a memory of the many solemn hours I thus spent alone with the master of the House of Usher. Yet I should fail in any attempt to convey an idea of the exact character of the studies, or of the occupations, in which he involved me, or led me the way. An excited and highly **distempered ideality** threw a **sulphureous** lustre over all. His long improvised dirges will ring forever in my ears. Among other things, I hold painfully in mind a certain singular **perversion** and amplification of the wild air of the last waltz of Von Weber. From the paintings over which his elaborate fancy brooded, and which grew, touch by touch, into vaguenesses at which I shuddered the more thrillingly, because I shuddered knowing not why; -- from these paintings (vivid as their images now are before me) I would in vain endeavor to **educe** more than a small portion which should lie within the compass of merely written words. By

Thesaurus

affections: (<i>n</i>) bosom.	beyond description, unexpressible, undefinable. ANTONYM: (<i>adj</i>) definite.	perpetual, continuous, constant, continual, everlasting, eternal, lasting, uninterrupted, endless.
distempered: (<i>adj</i>) sick, diseased, disordered.	obtained: (<i>adj</i>) fulfilled, derivative.	ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) acute, intermittent, sporadic.
educe: (<i>v</i>) derive, draw, draw out, extract, elicit, evoke, evolve, gain, interpret, make, pull. ANTONYMS: (<i>v</i>) Miss, overlook.	perversion: (<i>n</i>) misrepresentation, falsification, corruption, depravity, misuse, casuistry, vice, buggery; (<i>adj</i>) declension, hardening, backsliding.	unreservedly: (<i>adj, adv</i>) freely; (<i>adv</i>) candidly, frankly, absolutely, sincerely, liberally, ingenuously, entirely, categorically, fully, plainly.
ideality: (<i>n</i>) vision, idealism.	poured: (<i>adj</i>) concrete.	ANTONYMS: (<i>adv</i>) hardly, parsimoniously, unenthusiastically, unwillingly.
inexpressible: (<i>adj, v</i>) indescribable; (<i>adj</i>) ineffable, unspeakable, unutterable, indefinable, incommunicable, nameless, untold,	sulphureous: (<i>adj</i>) sulphuric, sulphurous, sulfureous, sulphurate.	
	unceasing: (<i>adj</i>) ceaseless, incessant,	

the utter simplicity, by the **nakedness** of his designs, he arrested and overawed attention. If ever mortal painted an idea, that mortal was Roderick Usher. For me at least -- in the circumstances then surrounding me -- there arose out of the pure abstractions which the **hypochondriac** contrived to throw upon his **canvass**, an intensity of intolerable awe, no shadow of which felt I ever yet in the contemplation of the certainly glowing yet too concrete reveries of Fuseli.

One of the phantasmagoric conceptions of my friend, **partaking** not so rigidly of the spirit of abstraction, may be shadowed forth, although feebly, in words. A small picture presented the interior of an immensely long and rectangular vault or tunnel, with low walls, smooth, white, and without interruption or device. Certain accessory points of the design served well to convey the idea that this excavation lay at an exceeding depth below the surface of the earth. No outlet was observed in any portion of its vast extent, and no torch, or other artificial source of light was discernible; yet a flood of intense rays rolled throughout, and **bathed** the whole in a ghastly and inappropriate **splendor**.

I have just spoken of that morbid condition of the auditory nerve which rendered all music intolerable to the sufferer, with the exception of certain effects of stringed instruments. It was, perhaps, the narrow limits to which he thus confined himself upon the guitar, which gave birth, in great measure, to the fantastic character of his performances. But the **fervid** *facility* of his *impromptus* could not be so accounted for. They must have been, and were, in the notes, as well as in the words of his wild fantasias (for he not **unfrequently** accompanied himself with **rhymed** verbal improvisations), the result of that intense mental collectedness and concentration to which I have previously alluded as observable only in particular moments of the highest artificial excitement. The words of one of these rhapsodies I have easily remembered. I was, perhaps, the more forcibly impressed with it, as he gave it, because, in the under or **mystic** current of its meaning, I fancied that I perceived, and for the first time, a full consciousness on the part of Usher, of the tottering of his lofty reason upon her throne. The verses, which were entitled "The Haunted Palace," ran very nearly, if not accurately, thus:

Thesaurus

bathed: (*adj*) sweaty.

canvass: (*n, v*) campaign, discuss; (*n*) review; (*v*) beg, examine, scrutinize, view, agitate, inspect, survey, study.

ANTONYM: (*v*) neglect.

fervid: (*adj*) ardent, burning, hot, vehement, eager, passionate, impassioned, fiery, enthusiastic; (*adj, v*) warm, glowing.

hypochondriac: (*adj*) malade imaginaire, seek sorrow, afflictive, heavy, gloomy, downhearted,

doleful, dispirited, dismal, disconsolate; (*n*) atrabilarian.

mystic: (*adj, v*) secret, recondite; (*adj*) mysterious, occult, cryptical, cryptic, esoteric, inscrutable, weird, magical; (*adj, n*) psychic.

nakedness: (*n*) nudity, altogether, baldness, nude, nudeness, undress, birthday suit, openness, status, emptiness, frankness.

partaking: (*n*) input, contribution.

rhymed: (*adj*) riming, rimed, frosty,

frosted. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unrhymed.

splendor: (*adj, n, v*) brilliancy; (*n*) magnificence, pomp, sheen, lustre, luster, glory, ostentation, glitter; (*n, v*) brightness; (*adj, n*) radiance.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) dullness, ordinariness, paucity, austerity, understatement, shabbiness, simplicity, unattractiveness.

unfrequently: (*adv*) not much, not often, unoften, rarely.

I.

In the greenest of our valleys,
By good angels tenanted,
Once a fair and stately palace --
Radiant palace -- reared its head.
In the monarch Thought's dominion --
It stood there!
Never **seraph** spread a **pinion**
Over fabric half so fair.

II.

Banners yellow, glorious, **golden**,
On its roof did float and flow;
(This -- all this -- was in the olden
Time long ago)
And every gentle air that dallied,
In that sweet day,
Along the ramparts **plumed** and **pallid**,
A **winged odor** went away.

III.

Wanderers in that happy valley
Through two luminous windows saw
Spirits moving **musically**
To a lute's well-tuned law,
Round about a throne, where sitting
(Porphyrogene!)
In state his glory well **befitting**,

Thesaurus

befitting: (*adj*) apt, becoming, suitable, apropos, decent, condign, fitting, fit; (*adj, v*) proper; (*n*) feat; (*v*) meet.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) improper, unbecoming, unfitting, unsuitable.
musically: (*adv*) harmoniously, melodiously, sweetly, melodically, dulcetly, euphoniously, pleasingly, canorously, pleasantly, rhythmically, metrically. **ANTONYMS:** (*adv*) harshly, unmusically.
odor: (*n*) aroma, scent, odour,

bouquet, flavour, perfume, flavor, savor, stink; (*n, v*) smell, stench.
olden: (*adj*) old, past, former, whilom, archaic, bygone, early, previous, immemorial, outmoded, old-world.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) contemporary, modern.
pallid: (*adj*) ghastly, wan, bloodless, lurid, cadaverous, sickly, ashen, white, pasty, livid, watery.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) healthy, rosy, vivid.

pinion: (*v*) fetter, bind, shackle, restrain, hopple, gag; (*n*) pennon, quill, wing, irons; (*adj*) tie.
plumed: (*adj*) plumate, crested, emplumed, plummy, plumose, decorated, flying, feathery.
seraph: (*n*) angel, hero, demigod, seraphim, cherub, heroine; (*adj*) saintly.
winged: (*adj*) swift, rapid, speedy, quick, flying, alate, sublime, lofty, alated, aligerous, composed.

The ruler of the realm was seen.

IV.

And all with **pearl** and **ruby** glowing
 Was the fair palace door,
 Through which came flowing, flowing, flowing,
 And **sparkling evermore**,
 A **troop** of Echoes whose sweet duty
 Was but to sing,
 In voices of surpassing beauty,
 The wit and wisdom of their king.

V.

But evil things, in **robes** of sorrow,
 Assailed the monarch's high estate;
 (Ah, let us **mourn**, for never morrow
 Shall dawn upon him, desolate!)
 And, round about his home, the glory
 That blushed and bloomed
 Is but a dim-remembered story
 Of the old time entombed.

VI.

And travellers now within that valley,
 Through the red-litten windows, see
 Vast forms that move **fantastically**

Thesaurus

evermore: (*adj, adv*) always, forever, ever; (*adv*) everlastingly, forevermore, perpetually, ever and again, for all time, until the end of time. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) temporarily, suddenly.

fantastically: (*adv*) wonderfully, fabulously, tremendously, marvelously, extraordinarily, strangely, queerly, magnificently, grotesquely, whimsically, peculiarly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) plausibly,

abysmally.

mourn: (*v*) bewail, grieve, deplore, cry, bemoan, regret, distress, sad, wail, mourning, weep. ANTONYMS: (*v*) rejoice, celebrate, applaud.

pearl: (*adj, n*) jewel; (*n*) gem, bead, dewdrop, ivory, bone; (*adj*) brilliant, flower, bijou, satin etched, ruby. ANTONYM: (*n*) dud.

robes: (*n*) garb, fine clothes, costume, best clothes.

ruby: (*adj, n*) red, crimson; (*adj*) jewel,

ruddy, scarlet, diamond, pearl, precious stone, bijou; (*n*) carbuncle, deep red.

sparkling: (*adj, v*) effervescent; (*adj*) bright, brilliant, radiant, glittery, bubbly, glittering, scintillating, shining, scintillant; (*n*) sparkle. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) dull, dirty, lifeless, lethargic.

troop: (*n*) group, corps, gang, crowd, band, brigade, crew, herd, swarm, horde; (*n, v*) flock.

To a **discordant** melody;
While, like a rapid ghastly river,
Through the pale door,
A hideous throng rush out forever,
And laugh -- but smile no more.

I well remember that suggestions arising from this **ballad**, led us into a train of thought **wherein** there became manifest an opinion of Usher's which I mention not so much on account of its novelty, (for other men have thought thus,) as on account of the pertinacity with which he maintained it. This opinion, in its general form, was that of the **sentience** of all vegetable things. But, in his disordered fancy, the idea had assumed a more daring character, and trespassed, under certain conditions, upon the kingdom of inorganization. I lack words to express the full extent, or the earnest *abandon* of his persuasion. The belief, however, was connected (as I have previously hinted) with the gray stones of the home of his **forefathers**. The conditions of the sentience had been here, he imagined, fulfilled in the method of **collocation** of these stones -- in the order of their arrangement, as well as in that of the many *fungi* which overspread them, and of the **decayed** trees which stood around -- above all, in the long undisturbed endurance of this arrangement, and in its **reduplication** in the still waters of the tarn. Its evidence -- the evidence of the sentience -- was to be seen, he said, (and I here started as he spoke,) in the gradual yet certain condensation of an atmosphere of their own about the waters and the walls. The result was **discoverable**, he added, in that silent, yet importunate and terrible influence which for centuries had moulded the destinies of his family, and which made *him* what I now saw him -- what he was. Such opinions need no comment, and I will make none.

Our books -- the books which, for years, had formed no small portion of the mental existence of the invalid -- were, as might be supposed, in strict keeping with this character of phantasm. We pored together over such works as the *Vervet et Chartreuse* of Gresset; the *Belphegor* of Machiavelli; the *Heaven and*

Thesaurus

ballad: (*n*) song, folk song, carol, poem, ballade, recitative, solfeggio, pastoral, recitativo, ditty, bravura.
collocation: (*n*) disposal, configuration, collection, collocate, pair up, put into pairs, junction, classification, arrangement, disposition, apposition.
decayed: (*adj*) spoiled, corrupt, dilapidated, rank, rusty, rotting, decaying, rotted, putrid; (*adj, v*) wasted; (*v*) stale. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

matured, restored, strengthened.
discordant: (*adj*) conflicting, dissonant, jarring, raucous, incompatible, discrepant, inconsistent, disharmonious, harsh, hoarse, incongruous. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) musical, melodic, compatible, pleasant, cooperating, accordant, agreeable, agreeing, soft.
discoverable: (*adj*) determinable, visible, observable, discernible, calculable, findable.

forefathers: (*n*) patriarchs, forefather, ancestor, colony, lineage, family.
reduplication: (*n*) iteration, doubling, tautology, gemination, replica, repeating, reiteration, artifice, reproduction, biplicity; (*v*) repetition.
sentience: (*n*) sense, sensation, awareness, sensibility, sensitivity, sentiency, modality, sensory faculty, consciousness, sensitiveness, faculty.
wherein: (*adv*) in what, in which, where.

Hell of Swedenborg; the Subterranean Voyage of Nicholas Klimm by Holberg; the Chiromancy of Robert Flud, of Jean D'Indaginé, and of De la Chambre; the Journey into the Blue Distance of Tieck; and the City of the Sun of Campanella. One favorite volume was a small **octavo** edition of the *Directorium Inquisitorium*, by the Dominican Eymeric de Gironne; and there were passages in Pomponius Mela, about the old African Satyrs and Cēgipans, over which Usher would sit dreaming for hours. His chief delight, however, was found in the perusal of an exceedingly rare and curious book in **quarto** Gothic -- the manual of a forgotten church -- the *Vigiliae Mortuorum secundum Chorum Ecclesiae Maguntinae*.

I could not help thinking of the wild ritual of this work, and of its probable influence upon the hypochondriac, when, one evening, having informed me abruptly that the lady Madeline was no more, he stated his intention of preserving her corpse for a fortnight, (previously to its final interment,) in one of the numerous **vaults** within the main walls of the building. The **worldly** reason, however, assigned for this singular proceeding, was one which I did not feel at liberty to dispute. The brother had been led to his resolution (so he told me) by consideration of the unusual character of the malady of the deceased, of certain **obtrusive** and eager inquiries on the part of her medical men, and of the remote and exposed situation of the burial-ground of the family. I will not deny that when I called to mind the sinister countenance of the person whom I met upon the staircase, on the day of my arrival at the house, I had no desire to oppose what I **regarded** as at best but a harmless, and by no means an unnatural, **precaution**.

At the request of Usher, I personally **aided** him in the arrangements for the temporary **entombment**. The body having been encoffined, we two alone bore it to its rest. The vault in which we placed it (and which had been so long unopened that our torches, half **smothered** in its oppressive atmosphere, gave us little opportunity for investigation) was small, damp, and entirely without means of admission for light; lying, at great depth, immediately beneath that portion of the building in which was my own sleeping apartment. It had been used, apparently, in remote **feudal** times, for the worst purposes of a donjon-keep,

Thesaurus

aided: (*adj*) power, favored.

entombment: (*n*) interment, sepulture, inhumation, coarctation, captivity, mancipation, limbo, burying, funeral, burial chamber, intombment.

feudal: (*adj*) feudatory, medieval, feudal.

obtrusive: (*adj*) blatant, conspicuous, officious, impudent, intrusive, pushy, saucy, prominent, forward, protrusive, rude. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unobtrusive, helpful.

octavo: (*n*) folio, eightvo, size, quarto, book.

precaution: (*n*) foresight, care, prevention, discretion, anticipation, caution, circumspection, prudence, safeguard, protection; (*adj*) precautionary.

quarto: (*n*) folio, size, quart, book, octavo.

regarded: (*adj*) reputed.

smothered: (*adj*) strangled, stifled, smothers, pent-up, covered.

vault: (*n, v*) leap, bound, spring, jump, arch, hop, hurdle; (*n*) grave, tomb, cellar, crypt.

worldly: (*adj, adv*) earthly; (*adj*) mundane, secular, terrestrial, temporal, carnal, sophisticated, lay, profane; (*adv*) mundanely, temporally. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) spiritual, naive, cloistered, religious, unsophisticated, unworldly, unrefined, otherworldly, low, heavenly, immaterial.

and, in later days, as a place of deposit for powder, or some other highly combustible substance, as a portion of its floor, and the whole interior of a long archway through which we reached it, were carefully sheathed with copper. The door, of massive iron, had been, also, similarly protected. Its immense weight caused an unusually sharp grating sound, as it moved upon its hinges.

Having deposited our mournful burden upon tressels within this region of horror, we partially turned aside the yet **unscrewed** lid of the coffin, and looked upon the face of the tenant. A striking **similitude** between the brother and sister now first arrested my attention; and Usher, **divining**, perhaps, my thoughts, murmured out some few words from which I learned that the deceased and himself had been twins, and that sympathies of a scarcely intelligible nature had always existed between them. Our glances, however, rested not long upon the dead -- for we could not regard her **unawed**. The disease which had thus entombed the lady in the maturity of youth, had left, as usual in all maladies of a strictly cataleptical character, the mockery of a faint blush upon the bosom and the face, and that suspiciously lingering smile upon the lip which is so terrible in death. We replaced and screwed down the lid, and, having secured the door of iron, made our way, with toil, into the scarcely less gloomy apartments of the upper portion of the house.

And now, some days of bitter grief having elapsed, an observable change came over the features of the mental disorder of my friend. His ordinary manner had vanished. His ordinary occupations were neglected or forgotten. He roamed from chamber to chamber with hurried, unequal, and **objectless** step. The pallor of his countenance had assumed, if possible, a more ghastly hue -- but the **luminousness** of his eye had utterly gone out. The once occasional **huskiness** of his tone was heard no more; and a tremulous quaver, as if of extreme terror, habitually characterized his utterance. There were times, indeed, when I thought his **unceasingly** agitated mind was laboring with some oppressive secret, to divulge which he struggled for the necessary courage. At times, again, I was obliged to resolve all into the mere inexplicable vagaries of madness, for I beheld him gazing upon vacancy for long hours, in an attitude of

Thesaurus

divining: (*adj*) oracular; (*n*) dowsing.
huskiness: (*n*) gruffness, harshness, strength, croakiness, toughness, stridency, ruggedness, roughness, brusqueness, curtness, formidability.
 ANTONYM: (*n*) smoothness.
luminousness: (*n*) illumination, luminescence, glow, light, brightness, incandescence, luminance, light source, clearness, flawlessness, Christ Within. ANTONYM: (*n*) dirtiness.
objectless: (*adj*) purposeless, endless,

endless bliss, endless clamor, endless praise, endless time, excessive, fruitless, interminable, random, infinite.
similitude: (*n*) resemblance, similarity, comparison, image, picture, simile, likeness, equivalence, kinship, analogy; (*adj, n*) semblance.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) difference, unlikeness.
unawed: (*adj*) unflinching, unshrinking, unblanched,

unabashed, unapprehensive, undaunted, undismayed, final, firmly determined, peremptory, positive.
unceasingly: (*adv*) incessantly, endlessly, ceaselessly, continually, unremittingly, unendingly, constantly, always, perpetually, uninterruptedly, eternally.
 ANTONYM: (*adv*) acutely.
unscrewed: (*adj*) confused, distraught, frantic, frenetic, puzzled, unbalanced, disorganized.

the profoundest attention, as if listening to some imaginary sound. It was no wonder that his condition terrified -- that it infected me. I felt creeping upon me, by slow yet certain degrees, the wild influences of his own fantastic yet impressive superstitions.

It was, especially, upon retiring to bed late in the night of the seventh or eighth day after the placing of the lady Madeline within the **donjon**, that I experienced the full power of such feelings. Sleep came not near my couch -- while the hours waned and waned away. I struggled to reason off the nervousness which had dominion over me. I endeavored to believe that much, if not all of what I felt, was due to the bewildering influence of the gloomy furniture of the room -- of the dark and tattered draperies, which, tortured into motion by the breath of a rising tempest, swayed **fitfully** to and fro upon the walls, and rustled uneasily about the decorations of the bed. But my efforts were fruitless. An irrepressible tremor gradually pervaded my frame; and, at length, there sat upon my very heart an **incubus** of utterly **causeless** alarm. Shaking this off with a gasp and a struggle, I uplifted myself upon the pillows, and, peering earnestly within the intense darkness of the chamber, harkened -- I know not why, except that an instinctive spirit prompted me -- to certain low and indefinite sounds which came, through the pauses of the storm, at long intervals, I knew not whence. Overpowered by an intense sentiment of horror, unaccountable yet **unendurable**, I threw on my clothes with haste (for I felt that I should sleep no more during the night), and endeavored to arouse myself from the pitiable condition into which I had fallen, by pacing rapidly to and fro through the apartment.

I had taken but few turns in this manner, when a light step on an adjoining staircase arrested my attention. I presently recognised it as that of Usher. In an instant afterward he rapped, with a gentle touch, at my door, and entered, bearing a lamp. His countenance was, as usual, **cadaverously** wan -- but, moreover, there was a species of mad **hilarity** in his eyes -- an evidently restrained *hysteria* in his whole **demeanor**. His air appalled me -- but anything

Thesaurus

cadaverously: (*adv*) gauntly, ghastly, haggardly, wanly, skeletally, pallidly, palely, ashenly, pinchedly, drawnly, spectrally.

causeless: (*adj*) adventitious, accidental, groundless, uncaused, reasonless, casual, aimless, fortuitous, gratuitous, indeterminate, undetermined.

demeanor: (*n, v*) bearing, conduct; (*n*) carriage, air, deportment, attitude, manner, behaviour, guise, mien, port.

donjon: (*n*) castle, dungeon, fastness, hold, oubliette, citadel, capitol, bread and butter, stronghold, fortress.

fitfully: (*adv*) intermittently, spasmodically, inconstantly, sporadically, unsteadily, unevenly, uncertainly, randomly, interruptedly, flickeringly, occasionally.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) recurrently, peacefully.

hilarity: (*adj, n*) mirth, merriment; (*n*) delight, exhilaration, cheerfulness,

joy, jollity, gaiety, happiness, laughter, fun. ANTONYMS: (*n*) boredom, despondency, misery.

incubus: (*n*) demon, load, weight, devil, fiend, daemon, Ephialtes, onus, situation, cacodemon, responsibility.

unendurable: (*adj*) intolerable, insufferable, insupportable, excruciating, impossible, unsupportable, uneasy, teasing, passionate, not patient, intolerant. ANTONYM: (*adj*) bearable.

was preferable to the solitude which I had so long endured, and I even welcomed his presence as a relief.

“And you have not seen it?” he said abruptly, after having stared about him for some moments in silence -- “you have not then seen it? -- but, stay! you shall.” Thus speaking, and having carefully shaded his lamp, he hurried to one of the casements, and threw it freely open to the storm.

The impetuous fury of the entering gust nearly lifted us from our feet. It was, indeed, a **tempestuous** yet sternly beautiful night, and one wildly singular in its terror and its beauty. A whirlwind had apparently collected its force in our vicinity; for there were frequent and violent alterations in the direction of the wind; and the exceeding density of the clouds (which hung so low as to press upon the turrets of the house) did not prevent our perceiving the life-like velocity with which they flew careering from all points against each other, without passing away into the distance. I say that even their exceeding density did not prevent our perceiving this -- yet we had no glimpse of the moon or stars -- nor was there any flashing forth of the lightning. But the under surfaces of the huge masses of agitated vapor, as well as all terrestrial objects immediately around us, were glowing in the unnatural light of a faintly luminous and distinctly visible **gaseous exhalation** which hung about and enshrouded the mansion.

“You must not -- you shall not behold this!” said I, **shudderingly**, to Usher, as I led him, with a gentle violence, from the window to a seat. “These appearances, which **bewilder** you, are merely electrical phenomena not uncommon -- or it may be that they have their ghastly origin in the rank **miasma** of the tarn. Let us close this casement; -- the air is chilling and dangerous to your frame. Here is one of your favorite romances. I will read, and you shall listen; -- and so we will pass away this terrible night together.”

The antique volume which I had taken up was the “Mad Trist” of Sir Launcelot Canning; but I had called it a favorite of Usher’s more in sad jest than in earnest; for, in truth, there is little in its **uncouth** and unimaginative **prolixity** which could have had interest for the lofty and spiritual ideality of my friend. It

Thesaurus

bewilder: (*v*) astound, amaze, puzzle, bemuse, baffle, nonplus, befuddle, stump; (*adj*, *v*) perplex, confound, stun. ANTONYMS: (*v*) explain, enlighten, inform, sharpen.
exhalation: (*n*) emanation, expiration, breathing out, steam, vapour, emission, fumes, vapor, puff, effusion, wind.
gaseous: (*adj*) volatile, airy, gasiform, aerial, gassy, vaporous, tenuous, evaporable, flatulent, invisible,

ethereal. ANTONYM: (*adj*) solid.
miasma: (*n*) malaria, atmosphere, Aerial poison, fog, miasm, haze, gas, mephitic, ambiance, ambience, contagion.
prolixity: (*n*) verbosity, verbiage, flatulence, prolixness, verbalization, lengthiness, verbosity, diffuseness, copiousness, length, circumlocution. ANTONYM: (*n*) conciseness.
shudderingly: (*adv*) quiveringly, shiveringly, shakingly, shuddering.

tempestuous: (*adj*, *n*) rough, boisterous, severe; (*adj*) raging, furious, wild, angry, windy, fierce, gusty; (*adj*, *v*) turbulent. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) mild, moderate, relaxed.
uncouth: (*adj*) rough, rude, barbarous, vulgar, crude, awkward, clumsy, gross, unrefined, ungainly, common. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) refined, couth, polite, sophisticated, pleasant, proper, genteel.

was, however, the only book immediately at hand; and I indulged a vague hope that the excitement which now agitated the hypochondriac, might find relief (for the history of mental disorder is full of similar anomalies) even in the extremeness of the folly which I should read. Could I have judged, indeed, by the wild overstrained air of **vivacity** with which he harkened, or apparently harkened, to the words of the tale, I might well have congratulated myself upon the success of my design.

I had arrived at that well-known portion of the story where Ethelred, the hero of the Trist, having sought in vain for peaceable admission into the dwelling of the hermit, proceeds to make good an entrance by force. Here, it will be remembered, the words of the narrative run thus:

“And Ethelred, who was by nature of a doughty heart, and who was now mighty **withal**, on account of the **powerfulness** of the wine which he had drunken, waited no longer to hold **parley** with the hermit, who, in **sooth**, was of an obstinate and malicious turn, but, feeling the rain upon his shoulders, and fearing the rising of the tempest, uplifted his mace outright, and, with blows, made quickly room in the plankings of the door for his gauntleted hand; and now pulling **therewith sturdily**, he so cracked, and ripped, and tore all **asunder**, that the noise of the dry and hollow-sounding wood alarummed and **reverberated** throughout the forest.”

At the termination of this sentence I started, and for a moment, paused; for it appeared to me (although I at once concluded that my excited fancy had deceived me) -- it appeared to me that, from some very remote portion of the mansion, there came, indistinctly, to my ears, what might have been, in its exact similarity of character, the echo (but a stifled and dull one certainly) of the very cracking and ripping sound which Sir Launcelot had so particularly described. It was, beyond doubt, the coincidence alone which had arrested my attention; for, amid the rattling of the sashes of the casements, and the ordinary commingled noises of the still increasing storm, the sound, in itself, had nothing, surely, which should have interested or disturbed me. I continued the story:

Thesaurus

asunder: (*adj, v*) separate; (*adv*) aside, in two; (*adj, adv*) in Twain; (*adj*) loose, distant, adrift, aloof; (*v*) discrete, far between, free. ANTONYM: (*adv*) together.

parley: (*v*) negotiate, converse, confer, consult; (*n, v*) talk, treat; (*n*) conversation, interview, colloquy, meeting, consultation.

powerfulness: (*n*) effectiveness, interestingness, jurisdiction, effectuality, effectualness, power,

might, mightiness, efficacy, effectivity, alchemy.

reverberated: (*adj*) rebounding, repellent, driven back.

sooth: (*n*) verity, soothsaying, fact, truth, reality.

sturdily: (*adv*) strongly, firmly, stoutly, solidly, robustly, hardily, powerfully, soundly, hardly, substantially, stalwartly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) lightly, flimsily, slightly.

therewith: (*adv*) herewith, moreover,

therewithal, forthwith, with that, besides, wherewith.

vivacity: (*adj, n*) life, liveliness; (*n*) energy, vitality, enthusiasm, dash, spirit, vigor, happiness, sparkle, effervescence. ANTONYMS: (*n*) apathy, dullness, sluggishness.

withal: (*adv*) nevertheless, notwithstanding, however, even so, all the same, nonetheless, with; (*adj*) likewise; (*n*) sufficiency, adequacy, enough.

"But the good champion Ethelred, now entering within the door, was sore enraged and amazed to perceive no signal of the malicious **hermit**; but, in the stead thereof, a dragon of a **scaly** and prodigious demeanor, and of a fiery tongue, which **sate** in guard before a palace of gold, with a floor of silver; and upon the wall there hung a shield of shining brass with this legend enwritten -

Who entereth **herein**, a **conqueror** hath bin;

Who slayeth the dragon, the shield he shall win;

And Ethelred uplifted his **mace**, and struck upon the head of the dragon, which fell before him, and gave up his pesty breath, with a shriek so horrid and harsh, and withal so piercing, that Ethelred had **fain** to close his ears with his hands against the dreadful noise of it, the like whereof was never before heard."

Here again I paused abruptly, and now with a feeling of wild amazement -- for there could be no doubt whatever that, in this instance, I did actually hear (although from what direction it proceeded I found it impossible to say) a low and apparently distant, but harsh, protracted, and most unusual screaming or **grating** sound -- the exact counterpart of what my fancy had already conjured up for the dragon's unnatural shriek as described by the romancer.

Oppressed, as I certainly was, upon the occurrence of this second and most extraordinary coincidence, by a thousand conflicting sensations, in which wonder and extreme terror were predominant, I still retained sufficient presence of mind to avoid exciting, by any observation, the sensitive nervousness of my companion. I was by no means certain that he had noticed the sounds in question; although, assuredly, a strange alteration had, during the last few minutes, taken place in his demeanor. From a position **fronting** my own, he had gradually brought round his chair, so as to sit with his face to the door of the chamber; and thus I could but partially perceive his features, although I saw that his lips trembled as if he were **murmuring** inaudibly. His head had dropped upon his breast -- yet I knew that he was not asleep, from the wide and rigid opening of the eye as I caught a glance of it in profile. The motion of his body, too, was at variance with this idea -- for he rocked from side to side with a gentle

Thesaurus

conqueror: (*n*) champion, winner, subjugator, vanquisher, hero, superior, defeater, subduer, invader, colonist, Alexander. ANTONYM: (*n*) loser.
fain: (*adj*) willing, prepared, ready, favorable, heart and soul, prone; (*adv*) gladly, lief, readily, willingly; (*v*) optative.
fronting: (*n*) facing; (*adj*) apparent, evident, exposed, obvious; (*prep*) against, toward.

grating: (*adj*) hoarse, strident, harsh, discordant, gravelly, raspy, gruff, raucous; (*n, v*) lattice; (*n*) grate, grid. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pleasing, soothing, smooth, harmonious.
herein: (*adv*) here, therein.
hermit: (*n*) anchorite, ascetic, solitary, anchoret, eremite, monk, troglodyte, solitaire, loner, caveman, cave man.
mace: (*n*) cudgel, bludgeon, hammer, official, shillelah, spice, sprig, stick, nutmeg, rod, scepter.

murmuring: (*n*) murmuration, murmur, complaint, grumble, muttering, mutter, murmur vowel; (*adj*) whispering, humming, droning, murmurous.
sate: (*v*) fill, satisfy, glut, satiate, pall, saturate, gorge, take, surfeit, content, replete.
scaly: (*adj*) scaled, scabby, rough, flaky, scurfy, lepidote, scaley; (*v*) cortical, cutaneous, cuticular, dermal. ANTONYM: (*adj*) smooth.

yet constant and uniform sway. Having rapidly taken notice of all this, I resumed the narrative of Sir Launcelot, which thus proceeded:

"And now, the champion, having escaped from the terrible fury of the dragon, bethinking himself of the **brazen** shield, and of the breaking up of the enchantment which was upon it, removed the carcass from out of the way before him, and approached **valorously** over the silver pavement of the castle to where the shield was upon the wall; which in sooth tarried not for his full coming, but fell down at his feet upon the silver floor, with a mighty great and terrible ringing sound."

No sooner had these syllables passed my lips, than -- as if a shield of brass had indeed, at the moment, fallen heavily upon a floor of silver -- I became aware of a distinct, hollow, metallic, and **clangorous**, yet apparently muffled reverberation. Completely unnerved, I leaped to my feet; but the measured rocking movement of Usher was undisturbed. I rushed to the chair in which he sat. His eyes were bent **fixedly** before him, and throughout his whole countenance there reigned a stony rigidity. But, as I placed my hand upon his shoulder, there came a strong shudder over his whole person; a sickly smile quivered about his lips; and I saw that he spoke in a low, hurried, and **gibbering** murmur, as if unconscious of my presence. Bending closely over him, I at length **drank** in the hideous import of his words.

"Not hear it? -- yes, I hear it, and *have* heard it. Long -- long -- long -- many minutes, many hours, many days, have I heard it -- yet I dared not -- oh, pity me, miserable **wretch** that I am! -- I dared not -- I *dared* not speak! *We have put her living in the tomb!* Said I not that my senses were acute? I *now* tell you that I heard her first feeble movements in the hollow coffin. I heard them -- many, many days ago -- yet I dared not -- I *dared not speak!* And now -- to-night -- Ethelred -- ha! ha! -- the breaking of the hermit's door, and the death-cry of the dragon, and the clangor of the shield! -- say, rather, the **rending** of her coffin, and the grating of the iron hinges of her prison, and her struggles within the coppered archway of the vault! Oh whither shall I fly? Will she not be here **anon**? Is she not hurrying to **upbraid** me for my haste? Have I not heard her

Thesaurus

anon: (*adv*) directly, immediately, early, readily, soon, instantly, again, forthwith, promptly, shortly, rath.
brazen: (*adj*) audacious, impudent, brassy, insolent, bold, brash, impertinent, blatant, flagrant, forward, saucy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) shy, abashed, prudish, reserved, quiet, discreet, respectful, ashamed, veiled, modest.
clangor: (*n, v*) clang, clangour; (*n*) din, crash, clash, clank, clatter, uproar,

racket, roll, ring.
clangorous: (*adj*) blatant, clanging, multisonous, powerful, shrill, resonant, hollow, full, deep.
drank: (*v*) absorb.
fixedly: (*adv*) steadily, steadfastly, regularly, intently, stably, setly, permanently, rigidly, unwaveringly, surely, resolutely.
gibbering: (*adj*) wild.
rending: (*adj*) ripping, excruciating, cacophonous, cacophonic; (*v*)

harrowing; (*n*) division, outbreak.
upbraid: (*v*) rebuke, censure, blame, scold, chide, reprimand, condemn, berate, objugate, rate; (*n, v*) revile.
valorously: (*adv*) gallantly, fearlessly, courageously, boldly, stoutly, bravely, intrepidly, gamely, heroically, heroically, undauntedly.
wretch: (*n*) victim, villain, scoundrel, reprobate, reptile, miscreant, martyr, object of compassion, poor devil, prey, wreck.

footstep on the stair? Do I not distinguish that heavy and horrible beating of her heart? Madman!" -- here he sprang furiously to his feet, and shrieked out his syllables, as if in the effort he were giving up his soul -- "*Madman! I tell you that she now stands without the door!*"

As if in the **superhuman** energy of his utterance there had been found the potency of a spell -- the huge antique pannels to which the speaker pointed, threw slowly back, upon the instant, their **ponderous** and ebony jaws. It was the work of the rushing gust -- but then without those doors there *did* stand the lofty and enshrouded figure of the lady Madeline of Usher. There was blood upon her white robes, and the evidence of some bitter struggle upon every portion of her emaciated frame. For a moment she remained trembling and reeling to and fro upon the threshold -- then, with a low moaning cry, fell heavily inward upon the person of her brother, and in her violent and now final death-agonies, bore him to the floor a corpse, and a victim to the terrors he had anticipated.

From that chamber, and from that mansion, I fled aghast. The storm was still abroad in all its wrath as I found myself crossing the old causeway. Suddenly there shot along the path a wild light, and I turned to see whence a gleam so unusual could have **issued**; for the vast house and its shadows were alone behind me. The radiance was that of the full, setting, and blood-red moon, which now shone vividly through that once barely-discernible **fissure**, of which I have before spoken as **extending** from the roof of the building, in a **zigzag** direction, to the base. While I gazed, this fissure rapidly widened -- there came a fierce breath of the whirlwind -- the entire orb of the satellite burst at once upon my sight -- my brain reeled as I saw the mighty walls rushing asunder -- there was a long **tumultuous** shouting sound like the voice of a thousand waters -- and the deep and dank tarn at my feet closed **sullenly** and silently over the fragments of the "*House of Usher.*"

Thesaurus

extending: (*adj*) expanding.

fissure: (*n*) crevice, chasm, cranny, break, cleft, breach, rift, chap, chink, cleavage, aperture. ANTONYMS: (*n*) repair, mend.

footstep: (*n*) pace, footfall, track, footmark, vestige, tread, trail, stride, degree; (*n, v*) step, action.

issued: (*adj*) executed, done.

ponderous: (*adj*) heavy, grave, onerous, burdensome, massive, unwieldy, bulky, stodgy, hard,

tedious, dull. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) elegant, graceful, lively, brisk, manageable.

sullenly: (*adv*) sulkily, sourly, grumpily, morosely, moodily, dourly, somberly, peevishly, surly, crossly, petulantly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) graciously, contentedly, gladly, cheerily.

superhuman: (*adj*) supernatural, heavenly, preterhuman, superman, epic, daring, godlike, gallant, brave,

celestial, incredible. ANTONYM: (*adj*) normal.

tumultuous: (*adj, n*) boisterous, tempestuous; (*adj*) disorderly, riotous, turbulent, noisy, furious, loud, troubled, disturbed; (*adj, v*) tumultuary. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) peaceful, calm.

zigzag: (*v*) wind, meander, twist; (*n, v*) bend; (*adj*) furcated, winding, meandering, bifurcate; (*adj, v*) indirect; (*n*) groin, crane.

SILENCE -- A FABLE

Ἐνδοῦσι πορέων κοδ' ὕφαι τε καὶ φαράγγες
 Πρῶνες τε καὶ χαράδραι.

--Alcman

*"The mountain pinnacles **slumber**; valleys, crags and caves are silent."*

"Listen to me," said the Demon as he placed his hand upon my head. "The region of which I speak is a dreary region in Libya, by the borders of the river Zaire. And there is no quiet there, nor silence.

"The waters of the river have a **saffron** and sickly hue; and they flow not onwards to the sea, but **palpitate** forever and forever beneath the red eye of the sun with a tumultuous and **convulsive** motion. For many **miles** on either side of the river's **oozy** bed is a pale desert of gigantic water-lilies. They sigh one unto the other in that solitude, and stretch towards the heaven their long and ghastly necks, and nod to and fro their **everlasting** heads. And there is an **indistinct murmur** which cometh out from among them like the rushing of **subterranean** water. And they sigh one unto the other.

Thesaurus

convulsive: (*adj*) spastic, galvanic, fitful, paroxysmal, violent, choreic, unsteady, hysterical; (*v*) unquiet, restless, saltatory.
everlasting: (*adj*) eternal, ceaseless, endless, constant, continual, perpetual, immortal, deathless, ageless, aeonian; (*adj, n*) lasting.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) finite, ephemeral, fleeting, mortal, ending, terminating, inconstant, fragile, perishable.
indistinct: (*adj*) indefinite, inarticulate,

faint, dull, fuzzy, indeterminate, hazy, neutral; (*adj, n*) confused, cloudy, dark. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clear, slight, separate, certain, precise, audible, strong, definite.
miles: (*adj*) far.
murmur: (*n, v*) grumble, mumble, hum, whisper, mutter, whine, babble, drone; (*v*) complain, bubble, breathe.
oozy: (*adj*) damp, moist, muddy, humid, wet, miry, slimy, boggy, juicy, leaky, seeping.

palpitate: (*n, v*) throb, pant, thrill, heave; (*v*) flutter, pulsate, shiver, shake, quiver, pound, flicker.
saffron: (*n*) yellow, crocus sativus, orange yellow, yellowness, seasoner, seasoning, flavouring, flavourer, saffron crocus, flavorer; (*adj*) topaz.
slumber: (*n, v*) rest, doze, snooze, nap, drowse, repose, catnap; (*v*) be asleep, kip, take a nap; (*n*) siesta.
subterranean: (*adj*) subaqueous, subterranean, subterraneous.

“But there is a boundary to their realm -- the boundary of the dark, horrible, lofty forest. There, like the waves about the Hebrides, the low underwood is agitated continually. But there is no wind throughout the heaven. And the tall **primeval** trees rock eternally **hither** and **thither** with a crashing and mighty sound. And from their high summits, one by one, drop everlasting dew. And at the roots strange poisonous flowers lie writhing in **perturbed** slumber. And overhead, with a **rustling** and loud noise, the gray clouds rush westwardly forever, until they roll, a cataract, over the fiery wall of the horizon. But there is no wind throughout the heaven. And by the shores of the river Zaire there is neither quiet nor silence.

“It was night, and the rain fell; and falling, it was rain, but, having fallen, it was blood. And I stood in the **morass** among the tall and the rain fell upon my head -- and the lilies sighed one unto the other in the **solemnity** of their desolation.

“And, all at once, the moon arose through the thin ghastly mist, and was **crimson** in color. And mine eyes fell upon a huge gray rock which stood by the shore of the river, and was lighted by the light of the moon. And the rock was gray, and ghastly, and tall, -- and the rock was gray. Upon its front were characters engraven in the stone; and I walked through the morass of water-lilies, until I came close unto the shore, that I might read the characters upon the stone. But I could not decypher them. And I was going back into the morass, when the moon shone with a fuller red, and I turned and looked again upon the rock, and upon the characters; -- and the characters were DESOLATION.

“And I looked upwards, and there stood a man upon the summit of the rock; and I hid myself among the water-lilies that I might discover the actions of the man. And the man was tall and stately in form, and was wrapped up from his shoulders to his feet in the **toga** of old Rome. And the outlines of his figure were indistinct -- but his features were the features of a deity; for the mantle of the night, and of the mist, and of the moon, and of the dew, had left uncovered the features of his face. And his brow was lofty with thought, and his eye wild with

Thesaurus

crimson: (<i>adj, n</i>) carmine, ruby, scarlet, maroon; (<i>v</i>) blush, flush, redden; (<i>adj</i>) bloody, ruddy, cherry; (<i>n</i>) deep red.	ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) untroubled, relaxed.	earnestness, formality, ceremony, impressiveness, austerity, sedateness, display, pomp, grandeur.
hither: (<i>adv</i>) here, whither, hitherward, thither.	primeval: (<i>adj</i>) primitive, ancient, primordial, aboriginal, primal, original, primary, first, primeval, prehistoric, antediluvian.	ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) humor, levity, cheerfulness, understatement.
morass: (<i>n</i>) bog, swamp, quagmire, mire, fen, marish, moss, sump, sludge, tangle, mud.	ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) modern, contemporary, factual.	thither: (<i>adv</i>) hither, whither, on that point, in that respect, at that place, in that location; (<i>adj</i>) further, ulterior, remoter, succeeding, more distant.
perturbed: (<i>adj</i>) disturbed, agitated, hot and bothered, confused, uneasy, concerned, worried, unsettled, troubled, upset, distraught.	rustling: (<i>n</i>) rustle, whispering, whisper, larceny; (<i>adj</i>) murmurous, susurrous, active, sighing.	toga: (<i>n</i>) robe, cloak, coat, dress, ermine, frock, blouse, robes of state, tunic, purple, pall.
	solemnity: (<i>n</i>) seriousness, sobriety,	

care; and, in the few furrows upon his cheek I read the fables of sorrow, and weariness, and disgust with mankind, and a longing after solitude.

"And the man sat upon the rock, and leaned his head upon his hand, and looked out upon the desolation. He looked down into the low **unquiet shrubbery**, and up into the tall primeval trees, and up higher at the rustling heaven, and into the crimson moon. And I lay close within shelter of the **lilies**, and observed the actions of the man. And the man trembled in the solitude; -- but the night waned, and he sat upon the rock.

"And the man turned his attention from the heaven, and looked out upon the dreary river Zaire, and upon the yellow ghastly waters, and upon the pale legions of the water-lilies. And the man listened to the sighs of the water-lilies, and to the murmur that came up from among them. And I lay close within my covert and observed the actions of the man. And the man trembled in the solitude; -- but the night waned and he sat upon the rock.

"Then I went down into the recesses of the morass, and waded afar in among the wilderness of the lilies, and called **unto** the **hippopotami** which **dwelt** among the fens in the recesses of the morass. And the hippopotami heard my call, and came, with the **behemoth**, unto the foot of the rock, and roared loudly and **fearfully** beneath the moon. And I lay close within my covert and observed the actions of the man. And the man trembled in the solitude; -- but the night waned and he sat upon the rock.

"Then I cursed the elements with the curse of **tumult**; and a frightful tempest gathered in the heaven where, before, there had been no wind. And the heaven became **livid** with the violence of the tempest -- and the rain beat upon the head of the man -- and the floods of the river came down -- and the river was tormented into foam -- and the water-lilies shrieked within their beds -- and the forest crumbled before the wind -- and the thunder rolled -- and the lightning fell -- and the rock rocked to its foundation. And I lay close within my covert and observed the actions of the man. And the man trembled in the solitude; -- but the night waned and he sat upon the rock.

Thesaurus

behemoth: (*n*) giant, titan, colossus, personage, monstrosity, hippopotamus, Goliath, anomaly, heavyweight; (*adj*) leviathan, elephant.

dwelt: (*v*) dwell, inhabit.

fearfully: (*adv*) timidly, timorously, awfully, apprehensively, horrendously, hideously, anxiously, appallingly, terribly; (*adj, adv*) shockingly, dreadfully. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) bravely, calmly, confidently,

wonderfully, rationally, unconcernedly.

hippopotami: (*n*) family Hippopotamidae, Hippopotamidae.

lilies: (*n*) lily.

livid: (*adj*) furious, irate, ashen, mad, blue, gray, ghastly, leaden, colorless, angry, enraged. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) flushed, happy, pleased.

shrubbery: (*n*) brush, plantation, flora, parterre, shrub, scrub, brushwood, hedge, thicket, bushes, area.

tumult: (*adj, n, v*) hubbub, disturbance; (*n*) stir, commotion, bustle, din, fuss, excitement; (*n, v*) clamor, disorder, brawl. ANTONYMS: (*n*) peace, push, serenity, order, calm.

unquiet: (*adj*) restless, anxious, nervous, turbulent, unsettled, disturbed, fussy, tumultuous; (*v*) movable, saltatory, shifting. ANTONYM: (*adj*) quiet.

unto: (*prep, v*) to, till, up to; (*prep*) towards, before.

“Then I grew angry and cursed, with the curse of silence, the river, and the lilies, and the wind, and the forest, and the heaven, and the thunder, and the sighs of the water-lilies. And they became **accursed**, and were still. And the moon **ceased** to **totter** up its pathway to heaven -- and the thunder died away -- and the lightning did not flash -- and the clouds hung motionless -- and the waters sunk to their level and remained -- and the **trees** ceased to rock -- and the water-lilies sighed no more -- and the murmur was heard no longer from among them, nor any shadow of sound throughout the vast **illimitable** desert. And I looked upon the characters of the rock, and they were changed; -- and the characters were SILENCE.

“And mine eyes fell upon the countenance of the man, and his countenance was wan with terror. And, hurriedly, he raised his head from his hand, and stood forth upon the rock and listened. But there was no voice throughout the vast illimitable desert, and the characters upon the rock were SILENCE. And the man shuddered, and turned his face away, and fled **afar** off, in haste, so that I beheld him no more.”

* * * * *

Now there are fine tales in the volumes of the Magi -- in the iron-bound, **melancholy** volumes of the Magi. **Therein**, I say, are glorious histories of the Heaven, and of the Earth, and of the mighty sea -- and of the Genii that overruled the sea, and the earth, and the lofty heaven. There was much **lore** too in the sayings which were said by the Sybils; and holy, holy things were heard of old by the dim leaves that trembled around Dodona -- but, as Allah liveth, that **fable** which the Demon told me as he sat by my side in the shadow of the tomb, I hold to be the most wonderful of all! And as the Demon made an end of his story, he fell back within the cavity of the tomb and laughed. And I could not laugh with the Demon, and he cursed me because I could not laugh. And the lynx which

Thesaurus

accursed: (<i>adj</i>) execrable, abominable, detestable, accurst, hateful, damned, damnable, maledict, blasted; (<i>v</i>) atrocious, stranded.	anecdote; (<i>adj, n</i>) apologue, parable. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) fact, history.	gloom, melancholic; (<i>adj</i>) depressed, dejected, dismal, gloomy, doleful; (<i>n, v</i>) low spirits; (<i>n</i>) gloominess, depression. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) happiness, cheerfulness, hopefulness, optimism; (<i>adj</i>) happy, bright, cheery, satisfied.
afar: (<i>adv</i>) off, away, far away, distantly, beyond, Afar off, in the distance, by far, apart; (<i>adj</i>) outlying, far. ANTONYMS: (<i>adv</i>) close, nearby, near; (<i>prep</i>) within.	illimitable: (<i>adj</i>) endless, infinite, boundless, limitless, unlimited, immense, eternal, measureless, interminable, unmeasurable, unmeasured.	therein: (<i>adv</i>) in this, in there.
ceased: (<i>adj</i>) finished.	lore: (<i>n</i>) erudition, folklore, letters, literature, tradition, science, acquired knowledge, knowledge, wide information, lesson, legend.	totter: (<i>v</i>) stumble, shake, falter, lurch, rock, teeter, waver, waddle, toddle, stagger, shamble.
fable: (<i>n</i>) legend, fiction, tale, story, fabrication, fairy tale, lie, myth,	melancholy: (<i>adj, v</i>) dreary; (<i>adj, n</i>)	trees: (<i>n</i>) foliage.

dwelleth **forever** in the **tomb**, **came** out **therefrom**, and lay down at the **feet** of the Demon, and looked at him **steadily** in the face.

Thesaurus

came: (*v*) arrive, come.

feet: (*v*) legs, pegs, pins, trotters; (*n*) foots, ft, fete, meter, rescue.

forever: (*adv*) always, eternally, evermore, everlastingly, continually, permanently; (*adj*) eternal, permanent; (*n*) eternity; (*adj, adv*) interminably, ad infinitum.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) occasionally, never, sporadically; (*adv*) briefly, intermittently.

steadily: (*adv*) constantly, stably,

regularly, fixedly, strongly, continually, steadfastly, uniformly, tightly, calmly, determinedly.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) unsteadily, nervously, loosely, weakly, rapidly, suddenly, excitedly, haphazardly, inconsistently, unevenly.

therefrom: (*adv*) therefore, thereof, hence; (*adj*) redundancy, strictly, exact, expected, likeness, deportment, coincidence, accurate.

tomb: (*n*) sepulchre, sepulcher, crypt,

pit, sepulture, vault, monument, entomb, mausoleum; (*n, v*) bury; (*v*) inter.

THE MASQUE OF THE RED DEATH

The “Red Death” had long devastated the country. No pestilence had ever been so fatal, or so hideous. Blood was its Avatar and its seal -- the **redness** and the horror of blood. There were sharp pains, and sudden **dizziness**, and then profuse bleeding at the pores, with dissolution. The scarlet stains upon the body and especially upon the face of the victim, were the pest ban which shut him out from the aid and from the sympathy of his fellow-men. And the whole seizure, progress and termination of the disease, were the incidents of half an hour.

But the Prince Prospero was happy and dauntless and sagacious. When his dominions were half **depopulated**, he summoned to his presence a thousand hale and light-hearted friends from among the knights and dames of his court, and with these retired to the deep seclusion of one of his **castellated** abbeys. This was an extensive and magnificent structure, the creation of the prince’s own eccentric yet august taste. A strong and lofty wall girdled it in. This wall had gates of iron. The courtiers, having entered, brought furnaces and **massy** hammers and welded the bolts. They resolved to leave means neither of **ingress** or **egress** to the sudden impulses of despair or of frenzy from within. The abbey was amply provisioned. With such precautions the courtiers might bid defiance to **contagion**. The external world could take care of itself. In the meantime it was folly to **grieve**, or to think. The prince had provided all the appliances of pleasure. There were buffoons, there were improvisatori, there were ballet-

Thesaurus

castellated: (*adj*) castled, crenelated, battlemented, casemated, crenellated; (*v*) machicolated, loopholed; (*n*) fancier.

contagion: (*n*) plague, contagious disease, taint, transmission, contamination, disease, conduction, pest, corruption, pollution, grippé.

depopulated: (*adj*) abandoned, deserted, uninhabited.

dizziness: (*n*) giddiness, swimming, faint, symptom, nausea, perkiness,

playfulness, flightiness, lightheartedness, laughing and joking; (*v*) scotomy.

egress: (*n*) exit, egression, outlet, door, emergence, departure, emersion, emission, way out, dissilience; (*v*) emerge. ANTONYMS: (*n*) entry, ingress.

grieve: (*n, v*) distress, aggrieve, afflict, sorrow, annoy; (*v*) trouble, lament, deplore, bemoan, fret, bewail.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) rejoice, celebrate,

encourage.

ingress: (*n*) access, entrance, entry, entree, admission, entering, admittance, incoming, door, arrival, gateway. ANTONYM: (*n*) exit.

massy: (*adj*) bulky, ample, voluminous, heavy, considerable, weighty, ponderous, compacted, in mass, beamy.

redness: (*n*) red, blush, glow, crimson, carmine, catarrh, cellulitis, cerise, mastoiditis, colitis, enteritis.

dancers, there were musicians, there was Beauty, there was wine. All these and security were within. Without was the "Red Death."

It was toward the close of the fifth or sixth month of his seclusion, and while the pestilence raged most furiously abroad, that the Prince Prospero entertained his thousand friends at a masked ball of the most unusual magnificence.

It was a **voluptuous** scene, that **masquerade**. But first let me tell of the rooms in which it was held. There were seven -- an imperial suite. In many palaces, however, such suites form a long and straight **vista**, while the folding doors slide back nearly to the walls on either hand, so that the view of the whole extent is scarcely **impeded**. Here the case was very different; as might have been expected from the duke's love of the bizarre. The apartments were so **irregularly** disposed that the vision embraced but little more than one at a time. There was a sharp turn at every twenty or thirty yards, and at each turn a novel effect. To the right and left, in the middle of each wall, a tall and narrow Gothic window looked out upon a closed corridor which pursued the windings of the suite. These windows were of stained glass whose color varied in accordance with the prevailing hue of the decorations of the chamber into which it opened. That at the eastern extremity was hung, for example, in blue -- and vividly blue were its windows. The second chamber was purple in its ornaments and tapestries, and here the **panes** were purple. The third was green throughout, and so were the casements. The fourth was furnished and lighted with orange -- the fifth with white -- the sixth with violet. The seventh apartment was closely shrouded in black velvet tapestries that hung all over the ceiling and down the walls, falling in heavy folds upon a carpet of the same material and hue. But in this chamber only, the color of the windows failed to correspond with the decorations. The panes here were scarlet -- a deep blood color. Now in no one of the seven apartments was there any lamp or **candelabrum**, amid the profusion of golden ornaments that lay scattered to and fro or depended from the roof. There was no light of any kind emanating from lamp or candle within the suite of chambers. But in the corridors that followed the suite, there stood, opposite to each window, a heavy **tripod**, bearing a **brazier** of fire that protected its rays through the **tinted** glass

Thesaurus

brazier: (*n*) warmer, heater, bucket, barbecue.

candelabrum: (*n*) chandelier, candlestick, girandole, luster, sconce, gaselier, branched candlestick, electrolier.

impeded: (*adj*) blocked, disabled, hampered, crippled, slow.

irregularly: (*adv*) erratically, occasionally, abnormally, sporadically, crookedly, unequally, randomly, atypically, roughly,

eccentrically, fitfully. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) evenly, systematically, constantly, frequently, honestly, peacefully, recurrently.

masquerade: (*n, v*) disguise, pose, revel; (*n*) camouflage, masque, fancy dress, pretense, fake, cover; (*v*) impersonate, pretend.

panes: (*n*) Fauni.

tinted: (*adj*) dyed, coloured, not natural, bleached, bright, colorful, scummy, soft; (*adv*) faster.

tripod: (*n*) triplopia, triangle, trionym, easel, trident, triennium, trigon, trisula, triskelion, triseme, trirame.

vista: (*n*) outlook, panorama, horizon, aspect, scene, landscape, scenery, picture, alley; (*adj, n*) view, perspective.

voluptuous: (*adj*) luscious, voluptuary, sensual, carnal, sybaritic, epicurean, buxom, sexy, sensuous, lascivious, erotic. ANTONYM: (*adj*) underdeveloped.

and so **glaringly** illumined the room. And thus were produced a multitude of gaudy and fantastic **appearances**. But in the western or black chamber the effect of the fire-light that streamed upon the dark **hangings** through the blood-tinted panes, was ghastly in the extreme, and produced so wild a look upon the countenances of those who entered, that there were few of the company bold enough to set foot within its **precincts** at all.

It was in this apartment, also, that there stood against the western wall, a gigantic clock of ebony. Its pendulum swung to and fro with a dull, heavy, monotonous **clang**; and when the minute-hand made the circuit of the face, and the hour was to be stricken, there came from the brazen lungs of the clock a sound which was clear and loud and deep and exceedingly musical, but of so peculiar a note and emphasis that, at each lapse of an hour, the musicians of the orchestra were constrained to pause, momentarily, in their performance, to **hearken** to the sound; and thus the waltzers **perform** ceased their **evolutions**; and there was a brief **disconcert** of the whole gay company; and, while the **chimes** of the clock yet rang, it was observed that the giddiest grew pale, and the more aged and sedate passed their hands over their **brows** as if in confused reverie or meditation. But when the echoes had fully ceased, a light laughter at once pervaded the assembly; the musicians looked at each other and smiled as if at their own nervousness and folly, and made whispering vows, each to the other, that the next **chiming** of the clock should produce in them no similar emotion; and then, after the lapse of sixty minutes, (which embrace three thousand and six hundred seconds of the Time that flies,) there came yet another chiming of the clock, and then were the same disconcert and tremulousness and meditation as before.

But, in spite of these things, it was a gay and magnificent **revel**. The tastes of the duke were peculiar. He had a fine eye for colors and effects. He disregarded the decora of mere fashion. His plans were bold and fiery, and his conceptions glowed with barbaric lustre. There are some who would have thought him mad. His followers felt that he was not. It was necessary to hear and see and touch him to be sure that he was not.

Thesaurus

appearances: (*n*) show, semblance, outlook, indicia.

brows: (*n*) brow.

chimes: (*n*) bells, echo, refrain, repetend, ritornello, glockenspiel.

chiming: (*v*) mocking.

clang: (*n, v*) chime, clangor, ring, clash, clank, clatter, sound; (*adj, n, v*) peal; (*v*) boom, clink; (*n*) crash.

disconcert: (*n, v*) discompose, disappoint; (*v*) confuse, discomfit, baffle, derange, abash, throw, upset,

unsettle, distract. ANTONYMS: (*v*) comfort, soothe, settle, please, encourage.

evolutions: (*n*) evolution.

glaringly: (*adv*) dazzlingly, blazingly, brilliantly, plainly, obviously, grossly, rankly, flagrantly, flamingly, brightly; (*adj*) famously.

hangings: (*n*) long curtains.

hearken: (*v*) hark, harken, attend, listen, hear, heed, list, listen in, listen to, regard, look out.

perform: (*n*) on compulsion; (*adv*) needs.

precincts: (*n*) entourage, arena, outskirts, neighbourhood, walk, neighborhood, proximity, surroundings, vicinity, limitations, suburbs.

revel: (*n, v*) frolic; (*v*) drink, celebrate, exult, wallow, rejoice, bask, riot; (*n*) carousal, orgy; (*adj*) luxuriate. ANTONYMS: (*v*) mourn; (*n*) mourning.

He had directed, in great part, the **moveable embellishments** of the seven chambers, upon occasion of this great **fete**; and it was his own guiding taste which had given character to the masqueraders. Be sure they were grotesque. There were much glare and glitter and **piquancy** and phantasm -- much of what has been since seen in "Hernani." There were **arabesque** figures with unsuited limbs and appointments. There were delirious fancies such as the madman fashions. There was much of the beautiful, much of the wanton, much of the bizarre, something of the terrible, and not a little of that which might have excited disgust. To and fro in the seven chambers there stalked, in fact, a multitude of dreams. And these -- the dreams -- writhed in and about, taking hue from the rooms, and causing the wild music of the orchestra to seem as the echo of their steps. And, anon, there strikes the ebony clock which stands in the hall of the velvet. And then, for a moment, all is still, and all is silent save the voice of the clock. The dreams are stiff-frozen as they stand. But the echoes of the **chime** die away -- they have endured but an instant -- and a light, half-subdued laughter floats after them as they depart. And now again the music swells, and the dreams live, and writhe to and fro more merrily than ever, taking hue from the many-tinted windows through which stream the rays from the tripods. But to the chamber which lies most westwardly of the seven, there are now none of the maskers who venture; for the night is **waning** away; and there flows a ruddier light through the blood-colored panes; and the blackness of the **sable drapery** appeals; and to him whose foot falls upon the sable carpet, there comes from the near clock of ebony a muffled **peal** more solemnly emphatic than any which reaches their ears who indulge in the more remote gaieties of the other apartments.

But these other apartments were densely crowded, and in them beat feverishly the heart of life. And the revel went **whirlingly** on, until at length there commenced the sounding of midnight upon the clock. And then the music ceased, as I have told; and the evolutions of the waltzers were **quieted**; and there was an uneasy cessation of all things as before. But now there were twelve strokes to be sounded by the bell of the clock; and thus it happened, perhaps, that more of thought crept, with more of time, into the meditations of the

Thesaurus

arabesque: (*n*) fret, molding, flourish, tracery, strapwork, listel, embroidery, decoration, coquillage, fillet.

chime: (*n*) carillon, melody; (*adj*) harmonize; (*v*) go, jingle, clang, peal, tinkle, buzz, ring, chimb.

drapery: (*n*) drape, clothing, dress, blind, raiment, costume, toilette, furnishings, trim, guise, toilet.

embellishments: (*n*) trimmings, arrangements, added extras, fixing, trappings.

fete: (*n*) feast, festival, carnival, party, banquet, celebration, gala, festivity, fiesta, eisteddfod; (*v*) celebrate.

moveable: (*adj*) movable, transportable, moving, transferable, transferrable, assignable, conveyable.

peal: (*n*) ding, noise, clang, dingdong, blast; (*v*) chime, knell, toll, echo; (*adj, n*) swell; (*n, v*) bang.

piquancy: (*n*) pungency, zest, tang, flavour, spice, nip, taste, galvanism, flavor, bite; (*adj*) antithesis.

quieted: (*adj*) composed.

sable: (*adj*) black, dark, dusky, sombre, murky, mournful; (*n*) ebony, fur, blackness, marten, pitch black.

waning: (*n*) decrease, decline, lessening, ebb, failure; (*adj*) run to seed, ripe, mellow, diminishing, abating, moribund. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) growing, thriving, waxing, increasing; (*n*) improvement.

whirlingly: (*adv*) revolvingly, spinningly.

thoughtful among those who revelled. And thus, too, it happened, perhaps, that before the last echoes of the last chime had utterly sunk into silence, there were many **individuals** in the crowd who had found leisure to become aware of the presence of a masked figure which had arrested the attention of no single individual before. And the **rumor** of this new presence having spread itself **whisperingly** around, there arose at length from the whole company a buzz, or murmur, expressive of **disapprobation** and surprise -- then, finally, of terror, of horror, and of disgust.

In an assembly of phantasms such as I have painted, it may well be supposed that no ordinary appearance could have excited such sensation. In truth the masquerade license of the night was nearly unlimited; but the figure in question had out-Heroded Herod, and gone beyond the bounds of even the prince's indefinite decorum. There are **chords** in the **hearts** of the most reckless which cannot be touched without emotion. Even with the utterly lost, to whom life and death are equally jests, there are matters of which no jest can be made. The whole company, indeed, seemed now deeply to feel that in the costume and bearing of the stranger **neither** wit nor propriety existed. The figure was tall and gaunt, and shrouded from head to foot in the **habiliments** of the grave. The mask which concealed the **visage** was made so nearly to resemble the countenance of a stiffened corpse that the closest scrutiny must have had difficulty in detecting the cheat. And yet all this might have been endured, if not approved, by the mad revellers around. But the **mummer** had gone so far as to assume the type of the Red Death. His **vesture** was **dabbled** in blood -- and his broad brow, with all the features of the face, was besprinkled with the scarlet horror.

When the **eyes** of Prince Prospero fell upon this spectral image (which with a slow and solemn movement, as if more fully to sustain its role, stalked to and fro among the waltzers) he was seen to be convulsed, in the first moment with a strong shudder either of terror or distaste; but, in the next, his brow reddened with rage.

"Who dares?" he demanded hoarsely of the courtiers who stood near him -- "who dares insult us with this blasphemous mockery? Seize him and unmask

Thesaurus

chords: (*n*) key, clef.

dabbled: (*adj*) bespattered, besplashed, covered, covered patchily, spattered, splashed, splattered, splashy; (*v*) soggy.

disapprobation: (*n*) condemnation, animadversion, displeasure, discountenance, disapproval, blame, objection, dissatisfaction, disfavor, anger, dislike.

eyes: (*n*) sight, eye, vision, view, baby blues, guard, propensity, eyen.

habiliments: (*n*) clothes, garb, apparel, clothing, costume, dress, equipage, material, tackle, thing, apparatus.

hearts: (*n*) Black Maria, spades.

individuals: (*n*) people, persons.

mummer: (*n*) mime, pantomimist, mimier, guiser, thespian, player, pantomime, masque, clown, dumb show, guisard.

neither: (*conj*) either, no-one, not either, nor, nother.

rumor: (*n*) hearsay, talk, news; (*n, v*)

gossip, fame, buzz, bruit, noise, rumour; (*v*) repute, reputation. ANTONYM: (*n*) truth.

vesture: (*n*) clothing, raiment, dress, clothes, apparel, garment, vestment, garb, attire, array, togs.

visage: (*n*) face, look, mug, physiognomy, expression, kisser, appearance, aspect, brow, smiler, forehead.

whisperingly: (*adv*) murmuringly, whisperously.

him -- that we may know whom we have to hang at sunrise, from the battlements!"

It was in the eastern or blue chamber in which stood the Prince Prospero as he uttered these words. They rang throughout the seven rooms loudly and clearly -- for the prince was a bold and robust man, and the music had become hushed at the waving of his hand.

It was in the blue room where stood the prince, with a group of pale courtiers by his side. At first, as he spoke, there was a slight rushing movement of this group in the direction of the intruder, who at the moment was also near at hand, and now, with deliberate and stately step, made closer approach to the speaker. But from a certain nameless awe with which the mad assumptions of the mummer had inspired the whole party, there were found none who put forth hand to seize him; so that, **unimpeded**, he passed within a yard of the prince's person; and, while the vast assembly, as if with one impulse, shrank from the centres of the rooms to the walls, he made his way **uninterruptedly**, but with the same solemn and measured step which had distinguished him from the first, through the blue chamber to the purple -- through the purple to the green -- through the green to the orange -- through this again to the white -- and even thence to the violet, ere a decided movement had been made to arrest him. It was then, however, that the Prince Prospero, **maddening** with rage and the shame of his own momentary **cowardice**, rushed hurriedly through the six chambers, while none followed him on account of a deadly terror that had seized upon all. He bore aloft a drawn dagger, and had approached, in rapid impetuosity, to within three or four feet of the retreating figure, when the latter, having attained the extremity of the velvet apartment, turned suddenly and confronted his **pursuer**. There was a sharp cry -- and the dagger dropped gleaming upon the sable carpet, upon which, instantly afterwards, fell **prostrate** in death the Prince Prospero. Then, **summoning** the wild courage of despair, a throng of the revellers at once threw themselves into the black apartment, and, seizing the mummer, whose tall figure stood erect and motionless within the shadow of the ebony clock, gasped in unutterable horror at finding the grave-cerements and

Thesaurus

cowardice: (*n*) dastardliness, poltroonery, pusillanimity, fear, spirit, cravenness, timidity, fearfulness, base fear, cowardship. ANTONYMS: (*n*) nerve, bravery, daring, determination.
maddening: (*adj*) exasperating, annoying, aggravating, irritating, galling, trying, vexing, madden, bothersome, crazy, vexatious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pleasing, soothing, satisfying.

prostrate: (*adj, v*) prone, exhaust, level, fatigue; (*v*) fell, overwhelm, overcome, floor, overthrow; (*adj*) deject, knock down. ANTONYM: (*adj*) upright.
pursuer: (*n*) follower, plaintiff, petitioner, persecutor, hunter, disciple, accuser, prosecutor, attendant, beau, driver.
summoning: (*n*) induction, conjuration, conjuring, conjury, demand, elicitation, adjuration,

exhortation.
unimpeded: (*adj*) free, unrestrained, free-flowing, unhampered, move without being impeded, expedite, unchecked, speedily, quick, prompt, unrestricted. ANTONYM: (*adj*) restricted.
uninterruptedly: (*adv*) constantly, ceaselessly, continually, endlessly, unremittingly, unceasingly, successively, consecutively, continuedly, sustainedly, straightly.

corpse-like mask which they handled with so violent a **rudeness**, **untenanted** by any **tangible** form.

And now was acknowledged the presence of the Red Death. He had come like a thief in the night. And one by one dropped the revellers in the blood-bedewed halls of their revel, and died each in the **despairing posture** of his fall. And the life of the ebony clock **went** out with that of the last of the gay. And the flames of the tripods expired. And Darkness and Decay and the Red Death held illimitable **dominion** over all.

Thesaurus

despairing: (*adj*) hopeless, desperate, despondent, forlorn, desolate, dejected, pessimistic, sad, brokenhearted, miserable, inconsolable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) hopeful, optimistic, rosy, happy, confident, cheerful.
dominion: (*n*) authority, control, domain, command, reign, rule, sway, power, kingdom, mastery, supremacy. ANTONYM: (*n*) subjugation.

posture: (*n*) attitude, condition, stance, deportment, aspect, circumstance, manner, figure, mien; (*n, v*) pose, place.
rudeness: (*n*) disrespect, audacity, insolence, impudence, discourtesy, incivility, effrontery, bad manners, impoliteness, impropriety, primitiveness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) civility, refinement, propriety, courteousness, courtesy, decency, respect, diplomacy, praise,

thoughtfulness, gentleness.
tangible: (*adj*) substantial, concrete, actual, real, perceptible, physical, palpable, evident, corporeal, definite, sensible. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) intangible, impalpable, incorporeal, disembodied, conceptual, abstract, ethereal, insubstantial.
untenanted: (*adj*) vacant, uninhabited. ANTONYM: (*adj*) occupied.
went: (*v*) walked, proceeded.

THE CASK OF AMONTILLADO

The thousand injuries of Fortunato I had borne as I best could; but when he ventured upon insult, I vowed revenge. You, who so well know the nature of my soul, will not suppose, however, that I gave utterance to a threat. *At length* I would be avenged; this was a point **definitively** settled -- but the very **definitiveness** with which it was resolved, **precluded** the idea of risk. I must not only punish, but punish with **impunity**. A wrong is unredressed when retribution overtakes its **redresser**. It is equally unredressed when the **avenger** fails to make himself felt as such to him who has done the wrong.

It must be understood, that neither by word nor deed had I given Fortunato cause to doubt my good will. I continued, as was my wont, to smile in his face, and he did not perceive that my smile *now* was at the thought of his **immolation**.

He had a weak point -- this Fortunato -- although in other regards he was a man to be respected and even feared. He prided himself on his **connoisseurship** in wine. Few Italians have the true **virtuoso** spirit. For the most part their enthusiasm is adopted to suit the time and opportunity -- to practise **imposture** upon the British and Austrian *millionaires*. In painting and **gemmary**, Fortunato, like his countrymen, was a quack -- but in the matter of old wines he was sincere. In this respect I did not differ from him materially: I was skilful in the Italian vintages myself, and **bought** largely whenever I could.

Thesaurus

avenger: (*n*) vindicator, revenger, wrecker, venger, Eumenides, aggressor, assailant, attacker, retaliator.

bought: (*n*) crook, hook.

connoisseurship: (*n*) discernment, taste, artistic quality, vertu, appreciation, virtu.

definitively: (*adv*) decisively, conclusively, definitely, categorically, determinately, eventually, ultimately, explicitly, unequivocally, terminally,

crucially.

definitiveness: (*n*) correctness, exactness, precision.

gemmary: (*n*) gemmology.

immolation: (*n*) holocaust, human sacrifices, suttee; (*v*) oblation, offering, sacrifice, favor, free gift, boon, benefaction, grant.

imposture: (*n*) fraud, deceit, deception, counterfeit, cheating, trickery, trick, cheat, hoax, guile, dissimulation.

impunity: (*n*) impune, come off, freedom, immunity, permission, forgiveness. ANTONYM: (*n*) liability.

precluded: (*adj*) not allowed.

redresser: (*n*) correction, indemnification, amendment.

virtuoso: (*adj, n*) expert; (*n*) genius, master, adept, mastermind, critic, connoisseur, wizard, magician, whiz; (*adj*) masterly. ANTONYMS: (*n*) rookie, amateur, greenhorn; (*adj*) unexceptional, mediocre, uninspired.

It was about **dusk**, one evening during the supreme **madness** of the **carnival** season, that I encountered my friend. He accosted me with excessive warmth, for he had been drinking much. The man wore **motley**. He had on a tight-fitting parti-striped dress, and his head was **surmounted** by the **conical** cap and bells. I was so pleased to see him, that I thought I should never have done **wringing** his hand.

I said to him -- "My dear Fortunato, you are luckily met. How remarkably well you are looking to-day! But I have received a pipe of what passes for Amontillado, and I have my doubts."

"How?" said he. "Amontillado? A pipe? Impossible! And in the middle of the carnival!"

"I have my doubts," I replied; "and I was silly enough to pay the full Amontillado price without **consulting** you in the matter. You were not to be found, and I was fearful of losing a bargain."

"Amontillado!"

"I have my doubts."

"Amontillado!"

"And I must satisfy them."

"Amontillado!"

"As you are engaged, I am on my way to Luchesi. If any one has a critical turn, it is he. He will tell me --"

"Luchesi cannot tell Amontillado from Sherry."

"And yet some fools will have it that his taste is a match for your own."

"Come, let us go."

"Whither?"

"To your vaults."

"My friend, no; I will not impose upon your good nature. I **perceive** you have an engagement. Luchesi --"

Thesaurus

carnival: (*n*) fair, feast, festival, amusement park, funfair, show, fiesta, bazaar, gala, jamboree, Saturnalia.
conical: (*adj*) pyramidal, tapering, copped, conelike, coniform, taper, cone, tapered, copped, pointed.
consulting: (*adj*) consultative; (*n*) consultation; (*v*) consult.
dusk: (*n*) nightfall, twilight, darkness, gloaming, sunset, gloom, night, shade, shadow, sundown; (*adj*)

dusky. ANTONYMS: (*n*) dawn, light, daybreak, morning, afternoon.
madness: (*n*) frenzy, insanity, lunacy, idiocy, folly, delirium, insaneness; (*adj, n*) furor, rage, desperation, furore. ANTONYMS: (*n*) sense, calmness, order.
motley: (*adj*) miscellaneous, mottled, assorted, colorful, heterogeneous, multicolored, checkered; (*n*) medley, miscellany, mixture, assortment. ANTONYM: (*adj*) homogeneous.

perceive: (*v*) comprehend, apprehend, discover, see, grasp, find, know, observe, sense, appreciate; (*adj, v*) discern. ANTONYMS: (*v*) Miss, observe, ignore.
surmounted: (*adj*) beaten.
wringing: (*adj*) saturated, soaked, soaked to the skin, soaking wet, sodden, sopping, sopping wet, wet, wet through, wringing wet, soaking. ANTONYM: (*adj*) dry.

"I have no engagement; -- come."

"My friend, no. It is not the engagement, but the severe cold with which I perceive you are afflicted. The vaults are **insufferably** damp. They are **encrusted** with nitre."

"Let us go, nevertheless. The cold is merely nothing. Amontillado! You have been **imposed** upon. And as for Luchesi, he cannot distinguish Sherry from Amontillado."

Thus speaking, Fortunato possessed himself of my arm. Putting on a mask of black silk, and drawing a *roquelaire* closely about my person, I suffered him to hurry me to my palazzo.

There were no attendants at home; they had absconded to make merry in honor of the time. I had told them that I should not return until the morning, and had given them explicit orders not to stir from the house. These orders were sufficient, I well knew, to insure their immediate disappearance, one and all, as soon as my back was turned.

I took from their sconces two flambeaux, and giving one to Fortunato, bowed him through several suites of rooms to the archway that led into the vaults. I passed down a long and winding staircase, requesting him to be cautious as he followed. We came at length to the foot of the descent, and stood together on the damp ground of the catacombs of the Montresors.

The **gait** of my friend was **unsteady**, and the bells upon his cap jingled as he strode.

"The pipe," said he.

"It is farther on," said I; "but observe the white web-work which gleams from these **cavern** walls."

He turned towards me, and looked into my eyes with two **filmy** orbs that **distilled** the **rheum** of **intoxication** .

"Nitre?" he asked, at length.

"Nitre," I replied. "How long have you had that cough?"

Thesaurus

cavern: (*n*) hollow, cove, vault, hole, enclosure, antrum, lair, antre, socket, den; (*v*) cavern out.

distilled: (*adj*) alcoholic.

encrusted: (*adj*) crusted, crustlike, covered, smudged, dirty, filthy, peeling, grubby, soiled, flaking, curmudgeonly. ANTONYM: (*adj*) smooth.

filmy: (*adj*) diaphanous, delicate, sheer, transparent, gauzy, fine, thin, vaporous, limpid, light, ethereal.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) opaque, clear, thick, coarse, robust, heavy.

gait: (*n, v*) pace, step, tread, footstep, rate, stride, action; (*n*) walk, carriage, movement, velocity.

imposed: (*adj*) compulsory, obligatory.

insufferably: (*adv*) hatefully, hopelessly, agonizingly, disagreeably, dreadfully, unfeasibly, trip, ridiculously, intolerably, impossibly, horrendously.

intoxication: (*n*) inebriation, inebriety,

poisoning, tipsiness, fascination, grogginess, ecstasy, daze, excitement, euphoria, wine.

rheum: (*adj*) juice, humor, gravy, lymph, blood, sanies, serosity, serum, sap; (*n*) genus rheum, saliva.

unsteady: (*adj*) insecure, changeable, dizzy, unbalanced, rickety, unsettled, shaky, unsound, precarious, uneven; (*adj, n*) uncertain. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) steady, stable, alert, firm, secure, constant.

“Ugh! ugh! ugh! -- ugh! ugh! ugh! -- ugh! ugh! ugh! -- ugh! ugh! ugh! -- ugh! ugh! ugh!”

My poor friend found it impossible to reply for many minutes.

“It is nothing,” he said, at last.

“Come,” I said, with decision, “we will go back; your health is precious. You are rich, respected, admired, beloved; you are happy, as once I was. You are a man to be missed. For me it is no matter. We will go back; you will be ill, and I cannot be responsible. Besides, there is Luchesi --”

“Enough,” he said; “the cough is a mere nothing; it will not kill me. I shall not die of a cough.”

“True -- true,” I replied; “and, indeed, I had no intention of alarming you unnecessarily -- but you should use all proper caution. A **draught** of this Medoc will defend us from the damp.”

Here I knocked off the neck of a bottle which I drew from a long row of its fellows that lay upon the mould.

“Drink,” I said, **presenting** him the wine.

He raised it to his lips with a **leer**. He paused and nodded to me **familiarly**, while his bells jingled.

“I drink,” he said, “to the buried that **repose** around us.”

“And I to your long life.”

He again took my arm, and we proceeded.

“These vaults,” he said, “are extensive.”

“The Montresors,” I replied, “were a great and numerous family.”

“I forget your arms.”

“A huge human foot d’or, in a field **azure**; the foot crushes a **serpent rampant** whose **fangs** are **imbedded** in the heel.”

“And the motto?”

“*Nemo me impune lacessit.*”

Thesaurus

azure: (*adj, n*) cerulean, blue; (*n*) sapphire, blueness, indigo, lazuline, heaven; (*adj*) chromatic, bright blue, azurn, azureous.
draught: (*n, v*) draft, sketch, design, potation, plan; (*n*) dose, air current, wind, gulp, outline; (*v*) blueprint.
familiarly: (*adv*) intimately, usually, ordinarily, nearly, frequently, commonly, regularly, informally, closely, acquaintedly, conventionally.
ANTONYM: (*adv*) distantly.

fangs: (*v*) tentacle, tenaculum, nail, hook, unguis, teeth; (*n*) clutches.
imbedded: (*v*) embosomed, rooted, mewed up, in the bosom of, posited, situate; (*adj*) encysted.
leer: (*n, v*) glance; (*n*) grin, wink, smirk, look, gaze, nudge, shrug, tip the wink; (*v*) simper, ogle.
presenting: (*adj*) featuring.
rampant: (*adj, v*) rife; (*adj*) wild, raging, luxuriant, unchecked, prevailing, rank, boisterous,

exuberant, furious, irrepressible.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) contained, controlled, mild, rare, sparse.
repose: (*n, v*) recline, peace, lie, calm; (*n*) composure, ease, quiet, leisure, recreation, relaxation; (*v*) lay.
ANTONYMS: (*n, v*) work; (*n*) activity, panic, agitation.
serpent: (*n*) snake, ophidian, viper, snake in the grass, reptile, rattlesnake, colubrid, contrafagotto, cor anglais, hautboy; (*v*) goose.

"Good!" he said.

The wine sparkled in his eyes and the bells jingled. My own fancy grew warm with the Medoc. We had passed through walls of **piled** bones, with casks and puncheons **intermingling**, into the inmost recesses of the catacombs. I paused again, and this time I made bold to seize Fortunato by an arm above the elbow.

"The nitre!" I said: "see, it increases. It hangs like moss upon the vaults. We are below the river's bed. The drops of **moisture** **trickle** among the bones. Come, we will go back ere it is too late. Your **cough** --"

"It is nothing," he said; "let us go on. But first, another draught of the Medoc."

I broke and reached him a flacon of De Grève. He **emptied** it at a breath. His eyes flashed with a fierce light. He laughed and threw the bottle upwards with a **gesticulation** I did not understand.

I looked at him in surprise. He repeated the movement -- a **grotesque** one.

"You do not comprehend?" he said.

"Not I," I replied.

"Then you are not of the brotherhood."

"How?"

"You are not of the masons."

"Yes, yes," I said, "yes, yes."

"You? Impossible! A mason?"

"A mason," I replied.

"A sign," he said.

"It is this," I answered, producing a **trowel** from beneath the **folds** of my *roquelaire*.

"You jest," he exclaimed, **recoiling** a few paces. "But let us proceed to the Amontillado."

Thesaurus

cough: (*v*) clear the throat, to cough, spit up, cough up, expectorate; (*n*) expiration, exhalation, symptom, sneeze, breathing out.

emptied: (*adj*) empty, void, depleted, emptier, annulled, open, vacuous.

folds: (*n*) laps.

gesticulation: (*n*) sign, motion, signal, bow, flourish, bowing, beck, wave, movement, act, agency.

grotesque: (*adj*) fantastic, bizarre, funny, antic, absurd, droll, strange,

baroque, weird, ugly, hideous.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) lovely, normal, commonplace, attractive.

intermingling: (*n*) entangling, mlang, merger, combination.

moisture: (*n*) damp, dampness, wet, humid, moist, moistness, vapor, moisture content, moisten, dank, dampen.

piled: (*adj*) heaped, dense, aggregate, collective, concentrated, cumulous.

recoiling: (*adv*) recoilingly; (*adj*)

resilient, bashful, leaping back, rebounding; (*n*) return.

trickle: (*n, v*) dribble, drip, distill, drool; (*v*) percolate, ooze, seep, flow, leak, filter, leach. ANTONYMS: (*n*) throng, deluge, onslaught; (*v*) gush, flow, flood.

trowel: (*n*) spatula, watch glass, dipper, transplanter, thimble, tablespoon, pointing trowel, plastering trowel, brick trowel, garden trowel; (*v*) delve.

"Be it so," I said, replacing the tool beneath the cloak, and again offering him my arm. He leaned upon it heavily. We continued our route in search of the Amontillado. We passed through a range of low arches, descended, passed on, and descending again, arrived at a deep **crypt**, in which the **foulness** of the air caused our flambeaux rather to glow than flame.

At the most remote end of the crypt there appeared another less spacious. Its walls had been lined with human remains, piled to the vault overhead, in the fashion of the great catacombs of Paris. Three sides of this interior crypt were still **ornamented** in this manner. From the fourth the bones had been thrown down, and lay **promiscuously** upon the earth, forming at one point a mound of some size. Within the wall thus exposed by the displacing of the bones, we perceived a still interior recess, in depth about four feet, in width three, in height six or seven. It seemed to have been constructed for no especial use in itself, but formed merely the interval between two of the colossal supports of the roof of the catacombs, and was backed by one of their circumscribing walls of solid granite.

It was in vain that Fortunato, uplifting his dull torch, endeavored to pry into the depths of the recess. Its termination the feeble light did not enable us to see.

"Proceed," I said; "herein is the Amontillado. As for Luchesi --"

"He is an ignoramus," interrupted my friend, as he stepped **unsteadily** forward, while I followed immediately at his heels. In an instant he had reached the extremity of the niche, and finding his progress arrested by the rock, stood stupidly bewildered. A moment more and I had **fettered** him to the granite. In its surface were two iron staples, distant from each other about two feet, horizontally. From one of these depended a short chain, from the other a **padlock**. Throwing the links about his waist, it was but the work of a few seconds to secure it. He was too much astounded to resist. Withdrawing the key I stepped back from the recess.

"Pass your hand," I said, "over the wall; you cannot help feeling the **nitre**. Indeed it is *very* damp. Once more let me **implore** you to return. No? Then I

Thesaurus

crypt: (*n*) tomb, mausoleum, cellar, sepulcher, catacomb, closet, grave, choir, chancel, aisle, krypton.
fettered: (*adj*) bound, in fetters, in bonds, responsible.
foulness: (*n*) filthiness, dirtiness, corruption, contamination, dirt, squalor, squalidity, impurity, pollution, nastiness, indecency.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) cleanness, luxury, cleanliness, purity, attractiveness.
implore: (*v*) beg, beseech, supplicate,

ask, conjure, crave, pray, importune, appeal, plead, solicit. ANTONYMS: (*v*) demand, grant, reject.
nitre: (*n*) niter, potassium nitrate, saltpetre, saltpeter, nitrate.
ornamented: (*adj*) embellished, beautified, fancy, flowery, ornate, adorned, bedecked, decked, festooned, feathered, florid.
padlock: (*n*) bolt, bar, holdfast, rail, rivet, wall, security device, deadbolt, combination lock, closure; (*v*) secure.

promiscuously: (*adv*) licentiously, miscellaneously, randomly, wantonly, mixedly, loosely, indiscriminatingly, confusedly, sluttishly, every which way, arbitrarily.
unsteadily: (*adv*) precariously, unevenly, irregularly, insecurely, erratically, falteringly, dizzily, shakily, volatily, giddily, waveringly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) firmly, alertly, securely.

must positively leave you. But I must first render you all the little attentions in my power."

"The Amontillado!" ejaculated my friend, not yet recovered from his astonishment.

"True," I replied; "the Amontillado."

As I said these words I busied myself among the pile of bones of which I have before spoken. Throwing them aside, I soon uncovered a quantity of building stone and mortar. With these materials and with the aid of my trowel, I began vigorously to wall up the entrance of the niche.

I had scarcely laid the first tier of my **masonry** when I discovered that the intoxication of Fortunato had in a great measure worn off. The earliest indication I had of this was a low **moaning** cry from the depth of the **recess**. It was *not* the cry of a drunken man. There was then a long and **obstinate** silence. I laid the second tier, and the third, and the fourth; and then I heard the furious vibrations of the chain. The noise lasted for several minutes, during which, that I might hearken to it with the more satisfaction, I ceased my labors and sat down upon the bones. When at last the clanking subsided, I resumed the trowel, and finished without interruption the fifth, the sixth, and the seventh tier. The wall was now nearly upon a level with my breast. I again paused, and holding the flambeaux over the mason-work, threw a few feeble rays upon the figure within.

A succession of loud and **shrill** screams, bursting suddenly from the throat of the **chained** form, seemed to thrust me violently back. For a brief moment I hesitated -- I trembled. Unsheathing my **rapier**, I began to **grope** with it about the recess: but the thought of an instant reassured me. I placed my hand upon the solid fabric of the catacombs, and felt satisfied. I reapproached the wall. I replied to the yells of him who clamored. I re-echoed -- I aided -- I surpassed them in volume and in strength. I did this, and the clamorer grew still.

It was now **midnight**, and my task was drawing to a close. I had completed the eighth, the ninth, and the tenth tier. I had finished a portion of the last and the eleventh; there remained but a single stone to be fitted and plastered in. I struggled with its weight; I placed it partially in its destined position. But now

Thesaurus

chained: (*adj*) in chains, enchained, bound.

grope: (*v*) fumble, finger, grabble, search, handle, scrabble, paw, mishandle; (*n, v*) touch; (*adj*) groping; (*adv*) gropingly.

masonry: (*n*) brickwork, stonework, construction, bricklaying, structure, trade, dry masonry, craft, freemasons collectively.

midnight: (*n*) dark, noon, hour.

moaning: (*n, v*) lamentation; (*adj*)

groaning, whining, funereal, inarticulate, dirgeful; (*n*) complaining, mourning.

obstinate: (*adj*) obdurate, inflexible, intractable, determined, inveterate, disobedient, willful, stubborn, contrary, wayward, dogged. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) flexible, amenable, irresolute, cooperative, easygoing, docile, biddable, agreeable, accommodating, malleable, gentle.

rapier: (*n*) bilbo, brand, blade, foil, glaive, whinyard, saber, Glave, steel, cimeter, broadsword.

recess: (*n*) niche, pause, intermission, holiday, nook, vacation, hollow, alcove, interval, interruption; (*n, v*) break. ANTONYM: (*n*) continuation.

shrill: (*adj*) piercing, penetrating, strident, keen, shrewd; (*v*) shriek, screech, scream, yell; (*adj, v*) high, sharp. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) low, quiet, resonant.

there came from out the **niche** a low laugh that erected the **hairs** upon my head. It was succeeded by a sad voice, which I had difficulty in **recognising** as that of the noble Fortunato. The voice said -

“Ha! ha! ha! -- he! he! -- a very good joke indeed -- an excellent jest. We will have many a rich laugh about it at the **palazzo** -- he! he! he! -- over our wine -- he! he! he!”

“The Amontillado!” I said.

“He! he! he! -- he! he! he! -- yes, the Amontillado. But is it not getting late? Will not they be **awaiting** us at the palazzo, the Lady Fortunato and the rest? Let us be gone.”

“Yes,” I said, “let us be gone.”

“For the love of God, Montressor!”

“Yes,” I said, “for the love of God!”

But to these words I hearkened in **vain** for a reply. I grew impatient. I called aloud -

“Fortunato!”

No answer. I called again -

“Fortunato!”

No answer still. I thrust a torch through the remaining **aperture** and let it fall within. There came forth in return only a **jingling** of the bells. My heart grew sick -- on account of the dampness of the catacombs. I **hastened** to make an end of my labor. I forced the last stone into its position; I plastered it up. Against the new masonry I re-erected the old **rampart** of bones. For the half of a century no **mortal** has disturbed them. *In pace requiescat!*

Thesaurus

aperture: (n) breach, slit, puncture, opening, gap, cleft, perforation, loophole, mouth, hiatus, outlet. ANTONYM: (n) closure.	creature, person, human being, body. ANTONYMS: (adj, n) immortal; (adj) eternal, heavenly, mild, perfect, spiritual.	battlement, circumvallation; (n, v) vallum.
awaiting: (adj) looming, imminent, in the near future, pending, expectant.	niche: (n) alcove, hole, bay, recess, nook, compartment, recession, opening, place, ecological niche, fireplace.	recognising: (v) recognize, recognise.
hairs: (n) hair.	palazzo: (n) palace.	requiescat: (n) orison, communion.
hastened: (adj) careless.	rampart: (n) wall, fortification, earthwork, guard, embankment, barricade, defense, barrier; (v)	vain: (adj) proud, arrogant, conceited, fruitless, idle, empty, abortive, ineffectual, unproductive, narcissistic; (adj, v) useless.
jingling: (adj) reverberant, clinking, jingly.		ANTONYMS: (adj) shy, successful, possible, persuasive, selfless, fruitful, humble, useful, responsible, worthwhile, effective.
mortal: (adj) deadly, fatal, lethal, deathly, earthly; (n) man, individual,		

THE IMP OF THE PERVERSE

In the consideration of the faculties and impulses -- of the *prima mobilia* of the human soul, the phrenologists have failed to make room for a **propensity** which, although obviously existing as a radical, primitive, **irreducible** sentiment, has been equally overlooked by all the moralists who have preceded them. In the pure arrogance of the reason, we have all overlooked it. We have suffered its existence to escape our senses, solely through want of belief -- of faith; -- whether it be faith in Revelation, or faith in the Kabbala. The idea of it has never occurred to us, simply because of its supererogation. We saw no need of the impulse -- for the propensity. We could not perceive its necessity. We could not understand, that is to say, we could not have understood, had the notion of this *primum mobile* ever obtruded itself; -- we could not have understood in what manner it might be made to further the objects of humanity, either temporal or eternal. It cannot be denied that **phrenology** and, in great measure, all metaphysicianism have been **concocted** *a priori*. The intellectual or logical man, rather than the understanding or **observant** man, set himself to imagine designs -- to **dictate** purposes to God. Having thus fathomed, to his satisfaction, the intentions of Jehovah, out of these intentions he built his **innumerable** systems of mind. In the matter of phrenology, for example, we first determined, naturally enough, that it was the design of the Deity that man should eat. We then assigned to man an organ of alimentiveness, and this organ is the **scourge** with which the Deity

Thesaurus

concocted: (*adj*) unnatural, trumped up, hypothetical, fake, false.
dictate: (*n, v*) command, charge, order, decree; (*n*) bidding, behest, edict; (*v*) bid, prescribe, rule, ordain.
 ANTONYMS: (*v*) request, ask, record; (*n, v*) obey.
innumerable: (*adj*) countless, numberless, incalculable, multitudinous, infinite, innumerous, unnumbered, uncounted, myriad, immeasurable, untold. ANTONYM:

(*adj*) finite.
irreducible: (*v*) intransmutable, infeasible, inextinguishable, uncommensurable, irretrievable, unaccommodating, reverseless, irreversible, irresoluble, irrevocable; (*adj*) net. ANTONYM: (*adj*) reducible.
observant: (*adj*) mindful, watchful, alert, cautious, circumspect, careful, aware, heedful, vigilant, awake, keen. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unobservant, dreaming, insensitive, unprepared,

oblivious.
phrenology: (*n*) organoscopy, life science, pneumatology.
propensity: (*n*) proclivity, leaning, disposition, bias, bent, aptitude, aptness, proneness, predisposition, predilection, penchant. ANTONYM: (*n*) inability.
scourge: (*n*) curse, blight, affliction, plague, bane, calamity; (*v*) lash, flagellate, castigate, punish; (*n, v*) whip.

compels man, will-I nill-I, into eating. Secondly, having settled it to be God’s will that man should continue his species, we discovered an organ of **amativeness**, forthwith. And so with **combativeness**, with ideality, with **causality**, with **constructiveness**, -- so, in short, with every organ, whether representing a propensity, a moral sentiment, or a faculty of the pure intellect. And in these arrangements of the Principia of human action, the Spurzheimites, whether right or wrong, in part, or upon the whole, have but followed, in principle, the **footsteps** of their predecessors: **deducing** and establishing every thing from the **preconceived** destiny of man, and upon the ground of the objects of his Creator.

It would have been wiser, it would have been safer, to classify (if classify we must) upon the basis of what man usually or occasionally did, and was always occasionally doing, rather than upon the basis of what we took it for granted the Deity intended him to do. If we cannot comprehend God in his visible works, how then in his inconceivable thoughts, that call the works into being? If we cannot understand him in his objective creatures, how then in his substantive moods and phases of creation?

Induction, a posteriori, would have brought phrenology to admit, as an innate and primitive principle of human action, a paradoxical something, which we may call perverseness, for want of a more characteristic term. In the sense I intend, it is, in fact, a mobile without motive, a motive not motivirt. Through its promptings we act without **comprehensible** object; or, if this shall be understood as a contradiction in terms, we may so far modify the proposition as to say, that through its promptings we act, for the reason that we should not. In theory, no reason can be more unreasonable, but, in fact, there is none more strong. With certain minds, under certain conditions, it becomes absolutely irresistible. I am not more certain that I breathe, than that the assurance of the wrong or error of any action is often the one **unconquerable** force which impels us, and alone impels us to its prosecution. Nor will this overwhelming tendency to do wrong for the wrong’s sake, admit of analysis, or resolution into **ulterior** elements. It is a radical, a primitive impulse-elementary. It will be said, I am aware, that when we persist in acts because we feel we should not persist in them, our conduct is but a

Thesaurus

amativeness: (*n*) lasciviousness, amorousness, carnality, eroticism, erotism, prurience, sexiness, pruriency.
causality: (*n*) causal relationship, causation, origin.
combativeness: (*n*) aggression, aggressiveness, attack, fight, militance.
comprehensible: (*adj*) intelligible, coherent, understandable, lucid, perspicuous, accessible, plain,

apprehensible, comprehendible, readable, incomprehensible.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unintelligible, illegible, unfathomable, obscure, doubtful, incomplete, difficult, unclear.
constructiveness: (*n*) usefulness.
deducing: (*n*) thought; (*adj*) observant.
footsteps: (*n*) road, footprints, way, trail, path, track, footpath.
preconceived: (*v*) prepenze, aforethought.

ulterior: (*adj*) later, eventual, subterranean, covert, extraneous, foreign, alien, subsequent, privy, distant, hidden. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) known, overt, public, transparent.
unconquerable: (*adj*) insurmountable, impregnable, insuperable, irresistible, unbeatable, proof against, resistless, indomitable, unquenchable, impassable, inextinguishable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) conquerable, feeble.

modification of that which ordinarily springs from the combativeness of phrenology. But a glance will show the fallacy of this idea. The phrenological combativeness has for its essence, the necessity of **self-defence**. It is our safeguard against injury. Its principle regards our well-being; and thus the desire to be well is excited simultaneously with its development. It follows, that the desire to be well must be excited simultaneously with any principle which shall be merely a modification of combativeness, but in the case of that something which I term perverseness, the desire to be well is not only not aroused, but a strongly antagonistical sentiment exists.

An appeal to one's own heart is, after all, the best reply to the **sophistry** just noticed. No one who **trustingly** consults and thoroughly questions his own soul, will be disposed to deny the entire radicalness of the propensity in question. It is not more incomprehensible than distinctive. There lives no man who at some period has not been tormented, for example, by an earnest desire to **tantalize** a listener by **circumlocution**. The speaker is aware that he displeases; he has every intention to please, he is usually curt, precise, and clear, the most **laconic** and luminous language is struggling for utterance upon his tongue, it is only with difficulty that he restrains himself from giving it flow; he dreads and deprecates the anger of him whom he **addresses**; yet, the thought strikes him, that by certain involutions and **parentheses** this anger may be engendered. That single thought is enough. The impulse increases to a wish, the wish to a desire, the desire to an uncontrollable longing, and the longing (to the deep regret and **mortification** of the speaker, and in defiance of all consequences) is **indulged**.

We have a task before us which must be speedily performed. We know that it will be ruinous to make delay. The most important crisis of our life calls, trumpet-tongued, for immediate energy and action. We glow, we are consumed with eagerness to commence the work, with the anticipation of whose glorious result our whole souls are on fire. It must, it shall be undertaken to-day, and yet we put it off until to-morrow, and why? There is no answer, except that we feel perverse, using the word with no comprehension of the principle. To-morrow arrives, and with it a more impatient anxiety to do our duty, but with this very

Thesaurus

addresses: (*n*) wooing, suit, courtship.

circumlocution: (*n*) verbiage, ambages, equivocation, evasion, verboseness, verbosity, quibble, indirect expression, circumstance, annulling, cancellation.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) straightforwardness, conciseness, brevity.

indulged: (*adj*) pet, privileged, cherished, admired.

laconic: (*adj*) curt, brief, terse,

compendious, succinct, pithy, compact, taciturn, laconical, summary, short. **ANTONYM:** (*adj*) voluble.

mortification: (*n*) chagrin, embarrassment, shame, gangrene, disappointment, disgrace, corruption, necrosis, degradation; (*adj, n*) vexation; (*adj*) grievance.

parentheses: (*n*) bracket, brackets.

self-defence: (*n*) self-defense.

sophistry: (*n*) chicanery,

sophistication, casuistry, sophism, fallacy, evasion, equivocation, quibble, chicane, sophistries, lack of imagination.

tantalize: (*v*) tease, irritate, rally, frustrate, pester, taunt, jeer, badger, harass, tantalise, twit.

trustingly: (*adv*) confidently, unsuspectingly, naively, credulously, innocently, confidently, showing trust. **ANTONYMS:** (*adv*) doubtfully, distrustfully.

increase of anxiety arrives, also, a nameless, a positively fearful, because unfathomable, craving for delay. This craving gathers strength as the moments fly. The last hour for action is at hand. We tremble with the violence of the conflict within us, -- of the definite with the indefinite -- of the substance with the shadow. But, if the contest have proceeded thus far, it is the shadow which prevails, -- we struggle in vain. The clock strikes, and is the **knell** of our welfare. At the same time, it is the **chanticleer** -- note to the ghost that has so long overawed us. It flies -- it disappears -- we are free. The old energy returns. We will labor now. Alas, it is too late!

We stand upon the brink of a **precipice**. We peer into the abyss -- we grow sick and dizzy. Our first impulse is to shrink from the danger. Unaccountably we remain. By slow degrees our sickness and dizziness and horror become merged in a cloud of **unnamable** feeling. By gradations, still more imperceptible, this cloud assumes shape, as did the vapor from the bottle out of which arose the genius in the Arabian Nights. But out of this our cloud upon the precipice's edge, there grows into palpability, a shape, far more terrible than any genius or any demon of a tale, and yet it is but a thought, although a fearful one, and one which chills the very marrow of our bones with the **fierceness** of the delight of its horror. It is merely the idea of what would be our sensations during the sweeping **precipitancy** of a fall from such a height. And this fall -- this rushing annihilation -- for the very reason that it involves that one most ghastly and loathsome of all the most ghastly and loathsome images of death and suffering which have ever presented themselves to our imagination -- for this very cause do we now the most vividly desire it. And because our reason violently deters us from the brink, therefore do we the most **impetuously** approach it. There is no passion in nature so **demoniacally** impatient, as that of him who, shuddering upon the edge of a precipice, thus meditates a Plunge. To indulge, for a moment, in any attempt at thought, is to be inevitably lost; for reflection but urges us to **forbear**, and therefore it is, I say, that we cannot. If there be no friendly arm to check us, or if we fail in a sudden effort to prostrate ourselves backward from the abyss, we plunge, and are destroyed.

Thesaurus

chanticleer: (*n*) dunghill cock, partlet, rooster, barn door fowl, hen, poultry, chicken, fowl.

demoniacally: (*adv*) demonically, possessedly, brutally, frenetically.

fierceness: (*n*) ferocity, violence, cruelty, force, brutality, rage, intensity, strength, vehemence, wildness, ferociousness.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) friendliness, calmness, meekness.

forbear: (*v*) refrain, desist, help,

tolerate, abide, eschew, endure, relinquish; (*n*) predecessor, progenitor, forbear.

impetuously: (*adv*) rashly, impulsively, vehemently, precipitately, fiercely, headily, passionately, intensely, fierily, spontaneously, thoughtlessly.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) deliberately, sensibly, patiently.

knell: (*n, v*) knoll; (*v*) chime, call, resound, circle, environ, call up, echo,

band, encircle, be around.

precipice: (*n*) abyss, chasm, escarpment, gulf, steep, crag, verge, brink, abysm, ravine, drop.

precipitancy: (*n*) haste, temerity, hastiness, rashness, hurriedness, abruptness, indiscretion, inconsideration, precipitation, brusqueness; (*adj, n*) precipitousness.

unnamable: (*adj*) nameless, indescribable, anonymous, inexpressible.

Examine these similar actions as we will, we shall find them resulting solely from the spirit of the Perverse. We **perpetrate** them because we feel that we should not. Beyond or behind this there is no intelligible principle; and we might, indeed, deem this perverseness a direct instigation of the Arch-Fiend, were it not occasionally known to operate in furtherance of good.

I have said thus much, that in some measure I may answer your question, that I may explain to you why I am here, that I may assign to you something that shall have at least the faint aspect of a cause for my wearing these **fetters**, and for my tenanting this cell of the condemned. Had I not been thus **prolix**, you might either have misunderstood me altogether, or, with the **rabble**, have fancied me mad. As it is, you will easily perceive that I am one of the many **uncounted** victims of the Imp of the Perverse.

It is impossible that any deed could have been wrought with a more thorough deliberation. For weeks, for months, I pondered upon the means of the murder. I rejected a thousand schemes, because their accomplishment involved a chance of detection. At length, in reading some French Memoirs, I found an account of a nearly fatal illness that occurred to Madame Pilau, through the agency of a candle accidentally poisoned. The idea struck my fancy at once. I knew my victim's habit of reading in bed. I knew, too, that his apartment was narrow and ill-ventilated. But I need not vex you with **impertinent** details. I need not describe the easy artifices by which I substituted, in his bed-room candle-stand, a wax-light of my own making for the one which I there found. The next morning he was discovered dead in his bed, and the Coroner's verdict was -- "Death by the **visitation** of God."

Having inherited his estate, all went well with me for years. The idea of detection never once entered my brain. Of the remains of the fatal **taper** I had myself carefully disposed. I had left no shadow of a **clue** by which it would be possible to convict, or even to suspect me of the crime. It is inconceivable how rich a sentiment of satisfaction arose in my bosom as I reflected upon my absolute security. For a very long period of time I was accustomed to revel in this sentiment. It afforded me more real delight than all the mere worldly advantages

Thesaurus

clue: (n) cue, clod, glob, knob, footmark, footprint, vestige; (v) point out; (adj) pellet, globule, Pelote.
fetters: (n) chains, captivity, bond, restraint, irons, handcuffs, iron, enduring; (v) confine, fee, embellish. ANTONYM: (n) liberation.
impertinent: (adj) fresh, pert, saucy, forward, audacious, brash, brazen, extraneous, discourteous, disrespectful, flippant. ANTONYMS: (adj) respectful, polite, courteous.

perpetrate: (v) do, act, perform, make, execute, carry out, draw, give, enact, put, institutionalize.
prolix: (adj) diffuse, lengthy, wordy, garrulous, copious, protracted, windy, talkative, redundant, long, ponderous.
rabble: (n) crowd, masses, trash, herd, canaille, people, rout, ragtag, horde, gang, riffraff.
taper: (n) candle, taper hole, bougie, rushlight, taper ratio; (v) sharpen,

point, acuminate, diminish, lessen, reduce. ANTONYMS: (v) rise, widen.
uncounted: (adj) countless, numberless, myriad, innumerable, multitudinous, unnumbered, innumeros, incalculable, many; (adj, v) untold; (n) legion.
visitation: (v) visit, examination; (n) tribulation, calamity, annoyance, misfortune, irritation, infliction, inspection, test, ordeal.

accruing from my sin. But there arrived at length an epoch, from which the pleasurable feeling grew, by scarcely perceptible gradations, into a haunting and **harassing** thought. It harassed because it haunted. I could scarcely get rid of it for an instant. It is quite a common thing to be thus annoyed with the ringing in our ears, or rather in our memories, of the burthen of some ordinary song, or some **unimpressive snatches** from an opera. Nor will we be the less tormented if the song in itself be good, or the opera air **meritorious**. In this manner, at last, I would perpetually catch myself pondering upon my security, and repeating, in a low undertone, the phrase, "I am safe."

One day, whilst sauntering along the streets, I arrested myself in the act of murmuring, half aloud, these customary syllables. In a fit of petulance, I remodelled them thus; "I am safe -- I am safe -- yes -- if I be not fool enough to make open confession!"

No sooner had I spoken these words, than I felt an icy chill creep to my heart. I had had some experience in these fits of **perversity**, (whose nature I have been at some trouble to explain), and I remembered well that in no instance I had successfully resisted their attacks. And now my own casual self-suggestion that I might possibly be fool enough to confess the murder of which I had been guilty, confronted me, as if the very ghost of him whom I had murdered -- and beckoned me on to death.

At first, I made an effort to shake off this nightmare of the soul. I walked vigorously -- faster -- still faster -- at length I ran. I felt a maddening desire to shriek aloud. Every succeeding wave of thought overwhelmed me with new terror, for, alas! I well, too well understood that to think, in my situation, was to be lost. I still quickened my pace. I bounded like a madman through the crowded thoroughfares. At length, the populace took the alarm, and **pursued** me. I felt then the **consummation** of my fate. Could I have torn out my tongue, I would have done it, but a rough voice resounded in my ears -- a rougher grasp seized me by the shoulder. I turned -- I gasped for breath. For a moment I experienced all the **pangs** of **suffocation**; I became blind, and deaf, and giddy; and then some

Thesaurus

accruing: (*adj*) incoming.

consummation: (*n*) accomplishment, completion, fulfillment, fruition, performance, execution, climax, attainment, perfection, end, realization.

harassing: (*adj*) troublesome, carking, galling, thorny, vexatious; (*v*) bothering, pestering, tormenting, worrying, annoy, harass.

meritorious: (*adj*) commendable, laudable, deserving, estimable,

creditable, worthy, admirable, excellent, praiseworthy, desertful, meritable. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) discreditable, worthless.

pangs: (*n*) anguish, compunction, contrition, distress.

perversity: (*n*) perverseness, cussedness, evil, perversion, willfulness, unruliness, corruption, wilfulness, depravity; (*adj*) contumacy, spinosity.

pursued: (*n*) hunted person.

snatches: (*n*) grasp, gain, catch.

suffocation: (*n*) asphyxiation, asphyxia, choking, killing, garrote, strangling, putting to death, apnoea, kill.

unimpressive: (*adj*) not noteworthy, ridiculous, preposterous, pitiful, undistinguished, pathetic, unconvincing, mediocre, ludicrous, incompetent, feeble. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) grand, fine, admirable, persuasive, imposing, competent.

invisible **fiend**, I thought, struck me with his broad palm upon the back. The long **imprisoned** secret burst forth from my soul.

They say that I spoke with a distinct enunciation, but with marked emphasis and passionate hurry, as if in **dread** of **interruption** before **concluding** the brief, but pregnant sentences that **consigned** me to the **hangman** and to hell.

Having related all that was necessary for the fullest judicial conviction, I fell prostrate in a **swoon**.

But why shall I say more? To-day I wear these chains, and am here! Tomorrow I shall be fetterless! -- but where?

Thesaurus

concluding: (*adj*) last, terminal, ultimate, closing, definitive, conclusive, latest; (*n*) ending, dying, finishing, reasoning. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) opening, former, first.
consigned: (*adj*) destined, aboard.
dread: (*n, v*) apprehension, fear, panic; (*n*) anxiety, awe, consternation, alarm, trepidation, dismay, foreboding, terror. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pleasing, welcomed, pleasant; (*v*) welcome, want; (*n*) reassurance,

fearlessness, confidence, security, ease, calm.
fiend: (*n*) monster, devil, fanatic, brute, deuce, incubus, goblin, ogre, enthusiast, daemon, addict. ANTONYM: (*n*) angel.
hangman: (*n*) executioner, headsman, hanger, tormentor, tiger, boggle, crossword puzzle, scrabble, wild beast, hyena.
imprisoned: (*adj*) confined, jailed, fenced in, unfree, locked up,

incarcerate, deeply moved, enraptured; (*v*) behind bars.
interruption: (*n*) disruption, intermission, halt, pause, suspension, discontinuance, hiatus; (*n, v*) break, hindrance, impediment; (*v*) interrupt. ANTONYMS: (*n*) permanence, help, respect.
swoon: (*adj, n, v*) faint; (*adj, n*) collapse; (*n*) fainting, syncope, prostration, deliquium; (*v*) conk, black out, pass out, die; (*adj*) puff.

THE ISLAND OF THE FAY

*Nullus enim locus **sine** genio est.*

--Servius

"*La musique*," says Marmontel, in those "Contes Moraux" which in all our translations, we have insisted upon calling "Moral Tales," as if in **mockery** of their spirit -- "*la musique est le seul des talents qui jouissent de lui-meme; tous les autres veulent des temoins.*" He here confounds the pleasure derivable from sweet sounds with the capacity for **creating** them. No more than any other talent, is that for music susceptible of complete enjoyment, where there is no second party to appreciate its exercise. And it is only in common with other talents that it produces effects which may be fully enjoyed in **solitude**. The idea which the **raconteur** has either failed to entertain clearly, or has sacrificed in its expression to his national love of point, is, doubtless, the very **tenable** one that the higher order of music is the most thoroughly estimated when we are exclusively alone. The proposition, in this form, will be admitted at once by those who love the **lyre** for its own sake, and for its spiritual uses. But there is one pleasure still within the reach of fallen mortality and perhaps only one -- which owes even more than does music to the **accessory** sentiment of **seclusion**. I mean the happiness experienced in the contemplation of natural scenery. In truth, the man who

Thesaurus

accessory: (*n*) accomplice, abettor, abetter, confederate, attachment; (*adj*, *v*) ancillary, subservient; (*adj*, *n*) auxiliary, adjunct; (*adj*) appurtenant, subsidiary. ANTONYMS: (*n*) instigator, leader, principal.
creating: (*v*) create; (*n*) making.
lyre: (*n*) lira, archlute, lute.
mockery: (*n*) gibe, jeer, irony, farce, charade, derision, parody, mock, scorn, imitation, burlesque.
 ANTONYM: (*n*) approval.

raconteur: (*n*) conversationalist, storyteller, anecdotist, talker, teller, relator, chatterbox, communicator, gossip, historian, orator.
seclusion: (*n*) retreat, segregation, retirement, isolation, secrecy, concealment, insulation, separation, hermitage; (*adj*, *n*) solitude, loneliness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) company, closeness, inclusion.
sine: (*n*) without, circular function, hell, cotangent, angle, cosine,

hypothenuse.
solitude: (*n*) desolation, loneliness, seclusion, privacy, aloneness, isolation, retirement, lonesomeness, retreat, desert, solitariness.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) companionship, closeness.
tenable: (*adj*) reasonable, justifiable, maintainable, plausible, invulnerable, excusable, believable, credible, defensible, sensible. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unbelievable, untenable.

would behold aright the glory of God upon earth must in solitude behold that glory. To me, at least, the presence -- not of human life only, but of life in any other form than that of the green things which grow upon the soil and are **voiceless** -- is a stain upon the landscape -- is at war with the genius of the scene. I love, indeed, to regard the dark valleys, and the gray rocks, and the waters that silently smile, and the forests that sigh in uneasy slumbers, and the proud watchful mountains that look down upon all, -- I love to regard these as themselves but the colossal members of one vast **animate** and **sentient** whole -- a whole whose form (that of the sphere) is the most perfect and most inclusive of all; whose path is among associate planets; whose meek **handmaiden** is the moon, whose mediate sovereign is the sun; whose life is eternity, whose thought is that of a God; whose enjoyment is knowledge; whose destinies are lost in **immensity**, whose cognizance of ourselves is akin with our own cognizance of the animalculae which infest the brain -- a being which we, in consequence, regard as purely **inanimate** and material much in the same manner as these animalculae must thus regard us.

Our telescopes and our mathematical investigations assure us on every hand -- notwithstanding the cant of the more ignorant of the priesthood -- that space, and therefore that bulk, is an important consideration in the eyes of the Almighty. The cycles in which the stars move are those best adapted for the evolution, without collision, of the greatest possible number of bodies. The forms of those bodies are accurately such as, within a given surface, to include the greatest possible amount of matter; -- while the surfaces themselves are so disposed as to accommodate a denser population than could be accommodated on the same surfaces otherwise arranged. Nor is it any argument against bulk being an object with God, that space itself is infinite; for there may be an infinity of matter to fill it. And since we see clearly that the endowment of matter with vitality is a principle -- indeed, as far as our judgments extend, the leading principle in the operations of Deity, -- it is scarcely logical to imagine it confined to the regions of the minute, where we daily trace it, and not extending to those of the august. As we find cycle within cycle without end, -- yet all **revolving** around one far-distant centre which is the God-head, may we not analogically

Thesaurus

animate: (*v*) inspire, encourage, quicken, invigorate, stimulate, revive, hearten; (*adj*, *v*) cheer, inspirit, exhilarate; (*adj*) live. ANTONYMS: (*v*) deaden, inhibit, kill, discourage; (*adj*) inanimate, dead, dull, dispirited, insentient, sluggish, spiritless.
handmaiden: (*n*) maid, amah, subordination, subsidiarity, housemaid, maidservant, servant, biddy.
immensity: (*n*) greatness,

enormousness, immenseness, infinity, bulk, largeness, infiniteness, infinitude, vastness, grandeur, grandness. ANTONYM: (*n*) lightness.
inanimate: (*adj*) defunct, dull, breathless, inorganic, inactive, lifeless, exanimate, deceased, extinct, unconscious, spiritless. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) living, animate, spirited.
revolving: (*adj*) turning, rotating, vertiginous, rotary, gyrotory, wheeling, rotative, rotatory,

rotational; (*n*) revolution; (*v*) revolve.
sentient: (*adj*) sensitive, animate, aware, responsive, susceptible, perceptive, aesthetic, sensible, tender, impressionable, alive. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) inanimate, insentient, unconscious, dead.
voiceless: (*adj*) silent, unvoiced, surd, breathed, mute, speechless, inarticulate, tacit, dumb, tongueless, unspoken. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sonant, voiced.

suppose in the same manner, life within life, the less within the greater, and all within the Spirit Divine? In short, we are madly **erring**, through self-esteem, in believing man, in either his temporal or future destinies, to be of more moment in the universe than that vast “clod of the valley” which he tills and contemns, and to which he denies a soul for no more profound reason than that he does not behold it in operation.

These fancies, and such as these, have always given to my meditations among the mountains and the forests, by the rivers and the ocean, a tinge of what the everyday world would not fail to term fantastic. My **wanderings** amid such scenes have been many, and far-searching, and often solitary; and the interest with which I have strayed through many a dim, deep valley, or gazed into the reflected Heaven of many a bright lake, has been an interest greatly deepened by the thought that I have strayed and gazed alone. What **flippant** Frenchman was it who said in allusion to the well-known work of Zimmerman, that, “*la solitude est une belle chose; mais il faut quelqu’un pour vous dire que la solitude est une belle chose?*” The **epigram** cannot be gainsayed; but the necessity is a thing that does not exist.

It was during one of my lonely journeyings, amid a far distant region of mountain locked within mountain, and sad rivers and melancholy tarn writhing or sleeping within all -- that I chanced upon a certain **rivulet** and island. I came upon them suddenly in the leafy June, and threw myself upon the turf, beneath the branches of an unknown **odororous** shrub, that I might **doze** as I contemplated the scene. I felt that thus only should I look upon it -- such was the character of phantasm which it wore.

On all sides -- save to the west, where the sun was about sinking -- arose the **verdant** walls of the forest. The little river which turned sharply in its course, and was thus immediately lost to sight, seemed to have no exit from its prison, but to be absorbed by the deep green foliage of the trees to the east -- while in the opposite quarter (so it appeared to me as I lay at length and glanced upward) there poured down **noiselessly** and continuously into the valley, a rich golden and crimson waterfall from the sunset fountains of the sky.

Thesaurus

doze: (*n, v*) snooze, sleep, slumber, drowse, siesta, forty winks, rest; (*v*) catnap, nod, coma, nod off.

ANTONYM: (*v*) wake.

epigram: (*n*) aphorism, joke, witticism, expression, locution, saying, crack, wisecrack, moral, jeu d'esprit, smart saying.

erring: (*adj*) devious, sinful, fallible, wrong, amiss, at fault, guilty, perverse, reprehensible; (*n*) transgression.

flippant: (*adj*) frivolous, airy, saucy, giddy, impertinent, impudent, rude, lightheaded, pert; (*adj, v*) glib; (*v*) voluble. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) earnest, caring, respectful.

noiselessly: (*adv*) silently, soundlessly, stillly, softly, mutely, delicately, wordlessly, gently, speechlessly; (*adj, adv*) stealthily; (*adj*) noiseless.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) heavily, audibly.

odororous: (*adj*) fragrant, odoriferous, aromatic, balmy, scented, sweet,

redolent, perfumed, odorant, malodorous, fragrance. ANTONYM: (*adj*) smelly.

rivulet: (*n*) stream, creek, streamlet, brook, arroyo, brooklet, rillet, runnel, watercourse, gill, river.

verdant: (*adj*) lush, leafy, flourishing, fresh, raw, verdurous, blooming, immature, inexperienced, emerald, young. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) dying, urban, withering.

wanderings: (*n*) peregrination.

About midway in the short vista which my dreamy vision took in, one small circular island, profusely **verdured**, reposed upon the bosom of the stream.

So blended bank and shadow there
That each seemed **pendulous** in air —

so mirror-like was the glassy water, that it was scarcely possible to say at what point upon the slope of the emerald turf its crystal dominion began.

My position enabled me to include in a single view both the eastern and western extremities of the **islet**; and I observed a singularly-marked difference in their aspects. The latter was all one radiant **harem** of garden beauties. It glowed and blushed beneath the eyes of the slant sunlight, and fairly laughed with flowers. The grass was short, **springy**, sweet-scented, and Asphodel-interspersed. The trees were lithe, **mirthful**, erect -- bright, slender, and graceful, -- of eastern figure and foliage, with bark smooth, glossy, and **parti-colored**. There seemed a deep sense of life and joy about all; and although no airs blew from out the heavens, yet every thing had motion through the gentle **sweepings** to and fro of innumerable butterflies, that might have been mistaken for tulips with wings.

The other or eastern end of the isle was whelmed in the blackest shade. A sombre, yet beautiful and peaceful gloom here pervaded all things. The trees were dark in color, and mournful in form and attitude, wreathing themselves into sad, solemn, and spectral shapes that conveyed ideas of mortal sorrow and untimely death. The grass wore the deep **tint** of the cypress, and the heads of its blades hung **droopingly**, and hither and thither among it were many small **unsightly** hillocks, low and narrow, and not very long, that had the aspect of graves, but were not; although over and all about them the rue and the rosemary clambered. The shade of the trees fell heavily upon the water, and seemed to bury itself therein, impregnating the depths of the element with darkness. I fancied that each shadow, as the sun descended lower and lower, separated itself sullenly from the trunk that gave it birth, and thus became absorbed by the

Thesaurus

droopingly: (*adv*) pendulously, droopily, flabbily, limply, piningly, flaccidly, floppily, laxly, noddingly.
harem: (*n*) hareem, quarters, zenana, serail.
islet: (*n*) island, ait, reef, holm, atoll, eyot, breaker, coral reef, coral Island, wight.
mirthful: (*adj*) gay, jolly, merry, festive, gleeful, glad, blithe, amusing, jocund, laughable, comical.
parti-colored: (*adj*) varicolored,

multicolored, dappled, speckled.
pendulous: (*adj*) drooping, hanging, cernuous, droopy, nodding, flagging, swinging, pensile, flabby, wavering, unstable.
springy: (*adj*) flexible, elastic, resilient, bouncy, yielding, whippy, pliable, spongy, lively, live, supple.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) unyielding.
sweepings: (*adj, n*) trash; (*n*) waste, rubbish, garbage, debris, riffraff, markings, rubble, detritus; (*adj*) rags,

orts.
tint: (*n, v*) color, tinge, hue, stain, dye, tinct; (*n*) shade, tincture, tone, cast; (*v*) paint. ANTONYMS: (*n*) white, pallor; (*v*) whiten, pale.
unsightly: (*adj*) repulsive, hideous, unpleasant, unattractive, uncomely, unlovely, unseemly, disagreeable, nasty, homely, plain. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) beautiful, nice, pleasing, pretty, appealing, attractive.
verdured: (*adj*) verdant.

stream; while other shadows issued momentarily from the trees, taking the place of their predecessors thus entombed.

This idea, having once seized upon my fancy, greatly excited it, and I lost myself forthwith in **revery**. "If ever island were enchanted," said I to myself, "this is it. This is the haunt of the few gentle Fays who remain from the wreck of the race. Are these green tombs theirs? -- or do they yield up their sweet lives as mankind yield up their own? In dying, do they not rather waste away **mournfully**, rendering unto God, little by little, their existence, as these trees render up shadow after shadow, exhausting their substance unto dissolution? What the wasting tree is to the water that imbibes its shade, growing thus blacker by what it preys upon, may not the life of the Fay be to the death which engulfs it?"

As I thus mused, with half-shut eyes, while the sun sank rapidly to rest, and eddying currents careered round and round the island, bearing upon their bosom large, dazzling, white **flakes** of the bark of the sycamore-flakes which, in their **multiform** positions upon the water, a quick imagination might have converted into any thing it pleased, while I thus mused, it appeared to me that the form of one of those very Fays about whom I had been **pondering** made its way slowly into the darkness from out the light at the western end of the island. She stood erect in a singularly fragile canoe, and urged it with the mere phantom of an oar. While within the influence of the lingering **sunbeams**, her attitude seemed indicative of joy -- but sorrow **deformed** it as she passed within the shade. Slowly she glided along, and at length rounded the islet and re-entered the region of light. "The revolution which has just been made by the Fay," continued I, **musingly**, "is the cycle of the brief year of her life. She has floated through her winter and through her summer. She is a year nearer unto Death; for I did not fail to see that, as she came into the shade, her shadow fell from her, and was swallowed up in the dark water, making its blackness more black."

And again the boat appeared and the Fay, but about the attitude of the latter there was more of care and uncertainty and less of elastic joy. She floated again from out the light and into the gloom (which deepened momentarily) and again her

Thesaurus

deformed: (*adj*) distorted, misshapen, bent, malformed, ugly, crippled, contorted, warped, shapeless, twisted, deform. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) beautiful, flawless, unflawed, perfect, straight.

flakes: (*n*) dust.

mournfully: (*adv*) sadly, sorrowfully, glumly, woefully, unhappily, plaintively, grievously, funereally, dejectedly, dolorously, poignantly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) cheerfully,

joyfully.

multiform: (*adj*) different, multifarious, polymorphous, multigenerous, manifold, miscellaneous, multiple, polymorphic, multiplex, polyschematist, multifold.

musingly: (*adv*) thoughtfully, ponderingly, meditatively, contemplatively, reflectively, ruminatively, broodingly, deep in thought. ANTONYM: (*adv*)

unthinkingly.

pondering: (*adj*) pensive, musing, meditative, contemplative, thoughtful, reflective; (*n*) consideration, deliberation, cogitation, reflection, lucubration. **revery:** (*n*) dream, daydream, castle in Spain, air castle, castle in the air, imagine, dreaming; (*v*) low spirits, melancholy, ill humor, despondency. **sunbeams:** (*n*) sunshine, light, daylight, rays.

shadow fell from her into the ebony water, and became absorbed into its **blackness**. And again and again she made the circuit of the island, (while the sun rushed down to his slumbers), and at each **issuing** into the light there was more **sorrow** about her person, while it **grew** feebler and far fainter and more indistinct, and at each passage into the **gloom** there fell from her a darker shade, which became whelmed in a shadow more black. But at length when the sun had utterly **departed**, the Fay, now the mere ghost of her former self, went **disconsolately** with her boat into the region of the ebony flood, and that she issued **thence** at all I cannot say, for darkness fell over an things and I beheld her magical figure no more.

Thesaurus

<p>blackness: (<i>n</i>) black, darkness, sable, gloom, nigritude, night, inkiness, dark, murk, murkiness, obscurity.</p> <p>departed: (<i>adj</i>) dead, bygone, late, former, bypast, defunct, past, left; (<i>adj, v</i>) gone, extinct; (<i>n</i>) decedent.</p> <p>ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) remaining, alive.</p> <p>disconsolately: (<i>adv</i>) unhappily, gloomily, sadly, dismally, dolefully, melancholy, forlornly, dispiritedly, downcastly, glumly, downheartedly.</p> <p>ANTONYM: (<i>adv</i>) contentedly.</p>	<p>gloom: (<i>n</i>) desolation, dark, darkness, blackness, depression, dimness, dusk, dreariness, despair, dejection; (<i>n, v</i>) cloud. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) brightness, happiness, cheerfulness, glee, ecstasy, joy, optimism, cheer.</p> <p>grew: (<i>v</i>) become, develop; (<i>adj</i>) grown.</p> <p>issuing: (<i>n</i>) issuance, supplying, emanation, consequence, publication, effect, egress, emergence, exit; (<i>adj</i>) flowing, emergent.</p>	<p>sorrow: (<i>n, v</i>) regret, lament, grieve; (<i>v</i>) mourn; (<i>n</i>) mourning, heartache, repentance, remorse; (<i>adj, n</i>) sadness, misery; (<i>adj, n, v</i>) distress.</p> <p>ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) joy, delight, happiness, peace, hopefulness, cheerfulness, shamelessness, calm, content; (<i>v</i>) rejoice.</p> <p>thence: (<i>adv</i>) therefore, thus, therefrom, thereof, consequently, then, so, thereafter, thenceforth, since, on account of.</p>
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THE ASSIGNATION

Stay for me there! I will not fail.

To meet thee in that hollow vale.

[Exequy on the death of his wife, by Henry King, Bishop of Chichester.]

Ill-fated and mysterious man! -- bewildered in the **brilliancy** of thine own imagination, and fallen in the flames of thine own youth! Again in fancy I **behold** thee! Once more thy form hath **risen** before me! -- not -- oh not as thou art -- in the cold valley and shadow -- but as thou *shouldst be* -- **squandering** away a life of magnificent meditation in that city of dim visions, thine own Venice -- which is a star-beloved Elysium of the sea, and the wide windows of whose Palladian palaces look down with a deep and bitter meaning upon the secrets of her silent waters. Yes! I repeat it -- as thou *shouldst be*. There are surely other worlds than this -- other thoughts than the thoughts of the multitude -- other speculations than the speculations of the **sophist**. Who then shall call thy conduct into question? who blame thee for thy **visionary** hours, or **denounce** those occupations as a wasting away of life, which were but the overflowings of thine everlasting energies?

It was at Venice, beneath the covered **archway** there called the *Ponte di Sospiri*, that I met for the third or fourth time the person of whom I speak. It is with a confused recollection that I bring to mind the circumstances of that

Thesaurus

archway: (*n*) arcade, entry, entranceway, entryway, entree, doorway, entrance.
behold: (*v*) see, view, contemplate, regard, perceive, observe, look, consider, discern, decry, watch.
 ANTONYMS: (*v*) Miss, disregard, ignore, overlook.
brilliancy: (*n, v*) brightness; (*n*) brilliance, lustre, luster, splendor, glitter, glory, radiance, splendour; (*adj, n*) gorgeousness; (*v*) gloss.

denounce: (*v*) censure, decry, accuse, brand, criticize, damn, reproach, excoriate, betray, arraign, scold.
 ANTONYMS: (*v*) commend, compliment, honor, laud, approve, support.
risen: (*v*) uprise.
sophist: (*n*) sophister, ratiocinator, scholar, reasoner, Tartfufe, pedant, Pecksniff, obscurantist, obfuscator, Pharisee, Jesuit. ANTONYM: (*n*) dilettante.

squandering: (*n, v*) waste; (*adj*) prodigal, profligate, extravagant, lavish; (*n*) extravagance, dissipation, prodigality, damage, lavishness; (*v*) squander. ANTONYMS: (*n*) economy; (*adj*) parsimonious.
visionary: (*adj, n*) utopian; (*adj, v*) imaginary; (*adj*) airy, fanciful, unreal, dreamy, ideal, romantic; (*n*) seer, dreamer, prophet. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) foolish, unromantic, practical, real, realistic, unimaginative.

meeting. Yet I remember -- ah! how should I forget? -- the deep midnight, the Bridge of Sighs, the beauty of woman, and the Genius of Romance that stalked up and down the narrow canal.

It was a night of unusual gloom. The great clock of the Piazza had sounded the fifth hour of the Italian evening. The square of the Campanile lay silent and deserted, and the lights in the old Ducal Palace were dying fast away. I was returning home from the Piazzetta, by way of the Grand Canal. But as my **gondola** arrived opposite the mouth of the canal San Marco, a female voice from its recesses broke suddenly upon the night, in one wild, hysterical, and long continued shriek. Startled at the sound, I sprang upon my feet: while the **gondolier**, letting slip his single oar, lost it in the **pitchy** darkness beyond a chance of recovery, and we were consequently left to the guidance of the current which here sets from the greater into the smaller channel. Like some huge and sable-feathered condor, we were slowly drifting down towards the Bridge of Sighs, when a thousand flambeaux flashing from the windows, and down the staircases of the Ducal Palace, turned all at once that deep gloom into a livid and **preternatural** day.

A child, slipping from the arms of its own mother, had fallen from an upper window of the lofty structure into the deep and dim canal. The quiet waters had closed **placidly** over their victim; and, although my own gondola was the only one in sight, many a stout **swimmer**, already in the stream, was seeking in vain upon the surface, the treasure which was to be found, alas! only within the abyss. Upon the broad black marble flagstones at the entrance of the palace, and a few steps above the water, stood a figure which none who then saw can have ever since forgotten. It was the Marchesa Aphrodite -- the **adoration** of all Venice -- the gayest of the gay -- the most lovely where all were beautiful -- but still the young wife of the old and intriguing Mentoni, and the mother of that fair child, her first and only one, who now, deep beneath the murky water, was thinking in bitterness of heart upon her sweet caresses, and **exhausting** its little life in struggles to call upon her name.

Thesaurus

adoration: (*n*) admiration, adulation, cult, appreciation, reverence, glorification, idolization, homage, praise; (*adj, n*) devotion, passion.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) hatred, detestation, despising, disparagement, revulsion, repulsion, disgust, disdain.
exhausting: (*adj*) difficult, grueling, tiring, tiresome, exhaustingly, strenuous, draining, wearing, wearisome, wearying, hard.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) undemanding,

refreshing, easy, light.
gondola: (*n*) boat, coracle, catamaran, basket, hydroplane, compartment, auto, hovercraft, gundelet, gondola lift, elevator car.
gondolier: (*n*) bargee, waterman, boater, gondoliere.
pitchy: (*adj*) tarry, dusky, dark, fuliginous, jet, murky, obscure, pitch dark, inky, black, achromatic.
placidly: (*adv*) coolly, calmly, tranquilly, peacefully, stilly, quietly,

composedly, silently, meekly, impassively, collectedly.
ANTONYMS: (*adv*) agitatedly, boisterously.
preternatural: (*adj*) unearthly, occult, outlandish, miraculous, uncanny, transcendental, extraordinary, abnormal, weird, nonnatural, otherworldly.
swimmer: (*n*) bather, natator, surfer, diver, traveller, traveler, aquanaut, athlete, surfboarder, divers, plunger.

She stood alone. Her small, bare, and silvery feet gleamed in the black mirror of marble beneath her. Her hair, not as yet more than half **loosened** for the night from its ball-room array, clustered, amid a shower of diamonds, round and round her classical head, in curls like those of the young **hyacinth**. A snowy-white and gauze-like drapery seemed to be nearly the sole covering to her delicate form; but the mid-summer and midnight air was hot, sullen, and still, and no motion in the statue-like form itself, stirred even the folds of that **raiment** of very vapor which hung around it as the heavy marble hangs around the Niobe. Yet -- strange to say! -- her large **lustrous** eyes were not turned downwards upon that grave wherein her brightest hope lay buried -- but riveted in a widely different direction! The prison of the Old Republic is, I think, the stateliest building in all Venice -- but how could that lady gaze so fixedly upon it, when beneath her lay **stifling** her only child? Yon dark, gloomy niche, too, yawns right opposite her chamber window -- what, then, *could* there be in its shadows -- in its architecture -- in its ivy-wreathed and solemn cornices -- that the Marchesa di Mentoni had not wondered at a thousand times before? Nonsense! -- Who does not remember that, at such a time as this, the eye, like a shattered mirror, multiplies the images of its sorrow, and sees in innumerable **far-off** places, the two which is close at hand?

Many steps above the Marchesa, and within the arch of the water-gate, stood, in full dress, the Satyr-like figure of Mentoni himself. He was occasionally occupied in thrumming a guitar, and seemed *ennuye* to the very death, as at intervals he gave directions for the recovery of his child. Stupified and **aghast**, I had myself no power to move from the upright position I had assumed upon first hearing the shriek, and must have presented to the eyes of the agitated group a **spectral** and ominous appearance, as with pale countenance and rigid limbs, I floated down among them in that **funereal** gondola.

All efforts proved in vain. Many of the most energetic in the search were relaxing their exertions, and yielding to a gloomy sorrow. There seemed but little hope for the child; (how much less than for the mother!) but now, from the interior of that dark niche which has been already mentioned as forming a part

Thesaurus

aghast: (*adj*) dismayed, appalled, horrified, frightened, scared, terrified, confounded, astonished; (*n*) agape; (*v*) all agog, breathless. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) undisturbed, unperturbed, unsurprised.

far-off: (*adj*) distant, far, faraway, outlying, extreme, inaccessible, last, long, obscure, unknown, wide.

funereal: (*adj*) doleful, dismal, dreary, somber, gloomy, melancholy, dolorous, dark, depressing,

lugubrious; (*v*) burial. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cheery, lively, cheerful.

hyacinth: (*n*) zircon, amethyst, cape hyacinth, carbuncle, common hyacinth, hyacine.

loosened: (*adj*) disentangled, loose, freed, disengaged, extricated, unsnarled.

lustrous: (*adj, v*) bright, splendid; (*adj*) glossy, brilliant, lucid, shiny, shining, light, luminous, sleek, radiant. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unhealthy.

raiment: (*n, v*) dress, garb, apparel, garment, clothes; (*n*) costume, attire, clothing, array, habit; (*v*) clothe.

spectral: (*adj*) ghostly, phantasmal, apparitional, unearthly, ghostlike, supernatural, ghastly, shadowy, insubstantial, eerie, cadaverous.

stifling: (*adj*) close, oppressive, sweltering, stuffy, heavy, hot, torrid, sticky; (*n*) crushing, quelling, suppression. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) fresh, airy, cool, temperate.

of the Old Republican prison, and as fronting the lattice of the Marchesa, a figure muffled in a cloak, stepped out within reach of the light, and, pausing a moment upon the verge of the **giddy** descent, plunged headlong into the canal. As, in an instant afterwards, he stood with the still living and breathing child within his grasp, upon the marble flagstones by the side of the Marchesa, his cloak, heavy with the **drenching** water, became **unfastened**, and, falling in folds about his feet, discovered to the wonder-stricken spectators the graceful person of a very young man, with the sound of whose name the greater part of Europe was then ringing.

No word spoke the **deliverer**. But the Marchesa! She will now receive her child -- she will press it to her heart -- she will cling to its little form, and **smother** it with her caresses. Alas! *another's* arms have taken it from the stranger -- *another's* arms have taken it away, and borne it afar off, unnoticed, into the palace! And the Marchesa! Her lip -- her beautiful lip **trembles**: tears are gathering in her eyes -- those eyes which, like Pliny's **acanthus**, are "soft and almost liquid." Yes! tears are gathering in those eyes -- and see! the entire woman thrills throughout the soul, and the statue has started into life! The pallor of the marble countenance, the swelling of the marble bosom, the very purity of the marble feet, we behold suddenly flushed over with a tide of ungovernable crimson; and a slight shudder quivers about her delicate frame, as a gentle air at Napoli about the rich silver lilies in the grass.

Why *should* that lady blush! To this demand there is no answer -- except that, having left, in the eager haste and terror of a mother's heart, the privacy of her own *boudoir*, she has neglected to **enthral** her tiny feet in their slippers, and utterly forgotten to throw over her Venetian shoulders that drapery which is their due. What other possible reason could there have been for her so blushing? -- for the glance of those wild appealing eyes? for the unusual tumult of that throbbing bosom? -- for the convulsive pressure of that trembling hand? -- that hand which fell, as Mentoni turned into the palace, accidentally, upon the hand of the stranger. What reason could there have been for the low -- the singularly low tone of those **unmeaning** words which the lady uttered hurriedly in bidding

Thesaurus

acanthus: (n) cartouche, zigzag, astragal.

deliverer: (n) saviour, deliveryman, redeemer, rescuer, bailor, Christ, individual, human, somebody, person, helper.

drenching: (adj, n) soaking; (n) wetting, dipsomaniac, sousing, dip, boozier, alcoholic.

enthral: (v) charm, enslave, attract, captivate, enrapture, ravish, transport, delight, engross, please,

inthal.

giddy: (adj, v) flighty; (adj) dizzy, faint, silly, changeable, vertiginous, featherbrained, light, fickle, capricious; (adv) careless.

ANTONYMS: (adj) serious, dull.

smother: (v) stifle, suffocate, choke, muffle, extinguish, put out, suppress, asphyxiate, hush up, gag, repress.

ANTONYMS: (v) express, light, encourage.

trembles: (n) animal disease,

nervousness.

unfastened: (adj) open, movable, loose, unbuttoned, overt, opened, opened out, slack, undecided, undetermined, assailable.

ANTONYMS: (adj) buttoned, fixed, shut, tied.

unmeaning: (adj) insignificant, meaningless, senseless, nonsensical, irrational, expressionless, gibberish, foolish, peanut, weetless, undistinguished.

him **adieu**? "Thou hast conquered," she said, or the murmurs of the water deceived me; "thou hast conquered -- one hour after sunrise -- we shall meet -- so let it be!"

* * * * *

The tumult had subsided, the lights had died away within the palace, and the stranger, whom I now recognized, stood alone upon the flags. He shook with **inconceivable** agitation, and his eye glanced around in search of a gondola. I could not do less than offer him the service of my own; and he accepted the **civility**. Having obtained an oar at the water-gate, we proceeded together to his residence, while he rapidly recovered his self-possession, and spoke of our former slight acquaintance in terms of great apparent cordiality.

There are some subjects upon which I take pleasure in being minute. The person of the stranger -- let me call him by this title, who to all the world was still a stranger -- the person of the stranger is one of these subjects. In height he might have been below rather than above the medium size: although there were moments of intense passion when his frame actually *expanded* and belied the assertion. The light, almost slender symmetry of his figure, promised more of that ready activity which he evinced at the Bridge of Sighs, than of that Herculean strength which he has been known to **wield** without an effort, upon occasions of more dangerous emergency. With the mouth and chin of a **deity** -- singular, wild, full, liquid eyes, whose shadows varied from pure hazel to intense and brilliant jet -- and a **profusion** of curling, black hair, from which a forehead of unusual breadth gleamed forth at intervals all light and ivory -- his were features than which I have seen none more **classically** regular, except, perhaps, the marble ones of the Emperor Commodus. Yet his countenance was, nevertheless, one of those which all men have seen at some period of their lives, and have never afterwards seen again. It had no peculiar -- it had no settled predominant expression to be fastened upon the memory; a countenance seen

Thesaurus

adieu: (*int, n*) farewell; (*n*) valediction, goodbye, leave, cheerio, adios, bye, so long, parting; (*int*) bon voyage. ANTONYM: (*n*) greeting.

civility: (*n*) politeness, courtesy, comity, attention, propriety, affability, amenity, cultivation, complaisance, courteousness, civilization. ANTONYMS: (*n*) rudeness, incivility, coarseness.

classically: (*adv*) typically, refinedly, ideally, modelly, exemplarily,

archetypally, purely, correctly, primely, excellently, conventionally.

deity: (*n*) God, godhead, godhood, godship, idol, immortal, goddess, Jupiter; (*adj, n*) divinity, the Deity, theology. ANTONYMS: (*n*) human, mortal, person.

inconceivable: (*adj, v*) unbelievable, hard to believe; (*adj*) impossible, implausible, incomprehensible, unimaginable, unthinkable, improbable, unintelligible,

inscrutable, fabulous. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) conceivable, believable, likely, understandable, credible.

profusion: (*n*) opulence, abundance, prodigality, plenty, excess, cornucopia, plenitude, profuseness, copiousness, exuberance; (*adj*) amplitude. ANTONYMS: (*n*) insufficiency, scarcity.

wield: (*v*) ply, wave, exercise, brandish, hold, manipulate, flourish, exert, manage, use, swing.

and instantly forgotten -- but forgotten with a vague and **never**-ceasing desire of recalling it to mind. Not that the spirit of each rapid passion failed, at any time, to throw its own distinct image upon the mirror of that face -- but that the mirror, mirror-like, retained no **vestige** of the passion, when the passion had departed.

Upon leaving him on the night of our adventure, he **solicited** me, in what I thought an urgent manner, to call upon him *very* early the next morning. Shortly after sunrise, I found myself accordingly at his Palazzo, one of those huge structures of gloomy, yet fantastic **pomp**, which tower above the waters of the Grand Canal in the vicinity of the Rialto. I was shown up a broad winding staircase of mosaics, into an apartment whose unparalleled splendor burst through the opening door with an actual glare, making me blind and dizzy with **luxuriousness**.

I knew my acquaintance to be wealthy. Report had spoken of his possessions in terms which I had even ventured to call terms of ridiculous exaggeration. But as I gazed about me, I could not bring myself to believe that the wealth of any subject in Europe could have supplied the princely magnificence which burned and blazed around.

Although, as I say, the sun had arisen, yet the room was still brilliantly lighted up. I judge from this circumstance, as well as from an air of exhaustion in the countenance of my friend, that he had not retired to bed during the whole of the preceding night. In the architecture and embellishments of the chamber, the evident design had been to dazzle and **astound**. Little attention had been paid to the *decora* of what is technically called *keeping*, or to the **proprieties** of nationality. The eye wandered from object to object, and rested upon none -- neither the *grotesques* of the Greek painters, nor the sculptures of the best Italian days, nor the huge carvings of **untutored** Egypt. Rich draperies in every part of the room trembled to the vibration of low, melancholy music, whose origin was not to be discovered. The senses were oppressed by mingled and conflicting perfumes, **reeking** up from strange **convolute** censers, together with multitudinous **flaring** and flickering tongues of emerald and violet fire. The rays of the newly risen sun poured in upon the whole, through windows, formed

Thesaurus

astound: (*adj, v*) amaze, surprise; (*v*) daze, shock, stun, frighten, flabbergast, confound, perplex, petrify, startle. ANTONYM: (*v*) dull.

convolute: (*v*) deform, twist, sophisticate, pervert, convolve, curl, bend, wind, turn, refer, denote.

flaring: (*adj*) flared, flaming, burning, blazing, tawdry, ablaze, garish, fiery; (*v*) glaring; (*n*) flare; (*adv*) flaringly.

luxuriousness: (*n*) sumptuousness, opulence, sybaritism, extravagance,

grandeur, lavishness, lewdness, lushness, effeminacy, splendor, sensuality. ANTONYMS: (*n*) shabbiness, bareness.

never-ceasing: (*adj*) immortal.

pomp: (*n*) grandeur, parade, ostentation, show, ceremony, glory, luxury, pageantry, magnificence, state, splendor. ANTONYMS: (*n*) understatement, modesty.

proprieties: (*n*) custom.

reeking: (*adj*) dripping, overly diluted,

odorous, noisome, high, fetid, stale; (*v*) sloppy, soft, soaking, sodden.

solicited: (*adj*) requested.

untutored: (*adj*) unschooled, uneducated, illiterate, uncultivated, artless, simple, naive, unaffected, rude, rough, pure. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) trained, educated.

vestige: (*n, v*) trace, remains, track, token, footprint; (*n*) relic, shadow, remnant, indication, evidence, remainder.

each of a single **pane** of crimson-tinted glass. Glancing to and fro, in a thousand reflections, from curtains which rolled from their cornices like cataracts of molten silver, the beams of natural glory **mingled** at length fitfully with the artificial light, and lay weltering in subdued masses upon a carpet of rich, liquid-looking cloth of Chili gold.

"Ha! ha! ha! -- ha! ha! ha! " -- laughed the proprietor, motioning me to a seat as I entered the room, and throwing himself back at full-length upon an ottoman. "I see," said he, perceiving that I could not immediately reconcile myself to the *bienseance* of so singular a welcome -- "I see you are astonished at my apartment -- at my statues -- my pictures -- my originality of conception in architecture and upholstery! absolutely drunk, eh, with my magnificence? But pardon me, my dear sir, (here his tone of voice dropped to the very spirit of cordiality,) pardon me for my **uncharitable** laughter. You appeared so *utterly* astonished. Besides, some things are so completely ludicrous, that a man *must* laugh or die. To die laughing, must be the most glorious of all glorious deaths! Sir Thomas More -- a very fine man was Sir Thomas More -- Sir Thomas More died laughing, you remember. Also in the *Absurdities* of Ravisius Textor, there is a long list of characters who came to the same magnificent end. Do you know, however," continued he musingly, "that at Sparta (which is now Palæ; ochori,) at Sparta, I say, to the west of the **citadel**, among a chaos of scarcely visible ruins, is a kind of *socle*, upon which are still **legible** the letters Λ Α Σ Μ. They are undoubtedly part of Τ Λ Σ Λ. Now, at Sparta were a thousand temples and shrines to a thousand different divinities. How exceedingly strange that the altar of Laughter should have survived all the others! But in the present instance," he resumed, with a singular alteration of voice and manner, "I have no right to be merry at your expense. You might well have been amazed. Europe cannot produce anything so fine as this, my little regal cabinet. My other apartments are by no means of the same order -- mere *ultras* of fashionable **insipidity**. This is better than fashion -- is it not? Yet this has but to be seen to become the rage -- that is, with those who could afford it at the cost of their entire patrimony. I have guarded, however, against any such **profanation**. With one exception, you are the only human being besides myself and my *valet*, who has been admitted

Thesaurus

citadel: (*n*) castle, bastion, fortification, bulwark, Acropolis, fort, stronghold, tower, chateau; (*n, v*) fortress; (*v*) keep.

insipidity: (*n*) flatness, insipidness, blandness, insulsity, jargon, platitude, depression, dejection, boredom, idiocy.

legible: (*adj*) readable, distinct, fair, plain, clean, definite, explicit, understandable, direct, cloudless, light. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unreadable.

mingled: (*adj*) miscellaneous, complex, indiscriminate, heterogeneous, medley, confused, eclectic, motley, different; (*v*) blended, blent.

pane: (*n*) window pane, paneling, pane of glass, panelling, windowpane, window-pane, board, square, sheet of glass, leaf, box.

profanation: (*n*) blasphemy, sacrilege, violation, outrage, abuse, prostitution, curse, pollution, violence, dissent; (*adj*) profanity.

socle: (*n*) plinth, shank, leg, pedestal, zocle, footstall.

uncharitable: (*adj*) stingy, unkind, ungenerous, unforgiving, unamiable, relentless, grim, cruel, inexorable, stern, hardhearted. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) charitable, generous, considerate.

valet: (*n*) man, attendant, lackey, butler, flunkie, manservant, waiter, gentleman, livery servant, servant, retainer.

within the mysteries of these imperial precincts, since they have been bedizzened as you see!"

I bowed in **acknowledgment** -- for the overpowering sense of splendor and perfume, and music, together with the unexpected eccentricity of his address and manner, prevented me from expressing, in words, my appreciation of what I might have construed into a compliment.

"Here," he resumed, **arising** and leaning on my arm as he sauntered around the apartment, "here are paintings from the Greeks to Cimabue, and from Cimabue to the present hour. Many are chosen, as you see, with little deference to the opinions of Virtu. They are all, however, fitting tapestry for a chamber such as this. Here, too, are some *chefs d'œuvre* of the unknown great; and here, unfinished designs by men, celebrated in their day, whose very names the **perspicacity** of the academies has left to silence and to me. What think you," said he, turning abruptly as he spoke -- "what think you of this Madonna della Pieta?"

"It is Guido's own! " I said, with all the enthusiasm of my nature, for I had been poring intently over its surpassing loveliness. "It is Guido's own! -- how *could* you have obtained it? -- she is undoubtedly in painting what the Venus is in sculpture."

"Ha! " said he thoughtfully, "the Venus -- the beautiful Venus? -- the Venus of the Medici? -- she of the diminutive head and the gilded hair? Part of the left arm (here his voice dropped so as to be heard with difficulty,) and all the right, are restorations; and in the **coquetry** of that right arm lies, I think, the **quintessence** of all **affectation**. Give *me* the Canova! The Apollo, too, is a copy - - there can be no doubt of it -- blind fool that I am, who cannot behold the boasted inspiration of the Apollo! I cannot help -- pity me! -- I cannot help preferring the Antinous. Was it not Socrates who said that the **statuary** found his statue in the block of marble? Then Michael Angelo was by no means original in his couplet -

*'Non ha l'ottimo artista alcun **concetto***

Thesaurus

acknowledgment: (n) admission, acknowledgement, acceptance, confession, greeting, credit, allowance, declaration, agreement, thanks, gratitude. ANTONYMS: (n) rejection, ungratefulness, oversight, snub, ignoring, invoice, blame, defiance.
affectation: (n) pretension, feint, pose, display, airs, affectedness, ostentation, show, pretense, mannerism, sham. ANTONYMS: (n)

artlessness, honesty, modesty.
arising: (n) emanation.
concetto: (n) plaisanterie, quip, brilliant idea, crank, private joke, quiddity, quirk, standing jest, standing joke.
coquetry: (v) captation, obsequiousness, sentimentalism, sycophancy, mock modesty, minauderie, toadeating, flunkeyism, prudery; (n) dalliance, invitation.
perspicacity: (n) intelligence,

judgment, insight, discrimination, astuteness, judgement, discernment, shrewdness, perception, wisdom; (adj) penetration. ANTONYMS: (n) stupidity, dullness.
quintessence: (n) heart, epitome, marrow, gist, core, model, paragon, archetype, nub, substance, soul.
statuary: (n) sculptor, carver, figuriste, modeler, chaser, statue, sculptress, assemblage, accumulation, aggregation, collection.

Che un marmo solo in se non circunscriva." "

It has been, or should be remarked, that, in the manner of the true gentleman, we are always aware of a difference from the bearing of the vulgar, without being at once precisely able to determine in what such difference consists. Allowing the remark to have applied in its full force to the outward demeanor of my acquaintance, I felt it, on that eventful morning, still more fully applicable to his moral temperament and character. Nor can I better define that peculiarity of spirit which seemed to place him so essentially apart from all other human beings, than by calling it a *habit* of intense and continual thought, **pervading** even his most trivial actions -- **intruding** upon his moments of **dalliance** -- and **interweaving** itself with his very flashes of merriment -- like adders which writhe from out the eyes of the grinning masks in the cornices around the temples of Persepolis.

I could not help, however, repeatedly observing, through the mingled tone of **levity** and solemnity with which he rapidly descanted upon matters of little importance, a certain air of trepidation -- a degree of nervous *unction* in action and in speech -- an unquiet **excitability** of manner which appeared to me at all times unaccountable, and upon some occasions even filled me with alarm. Frequently, too, pausing in the middle of a sentence whose commencement he had apparently forgotten, he seemed to be listening in the deepest attention, as if either in momentary expectation of a visiter, or to sounds which must have had existence in his imagination alone.

It was during one of these reveries or pauses of apparent abstraction, that, in turning over a page of the poet and scholar Politian's beautiful tragedy "The Orfeo," (the first native Italian tragedy,) which lay near me upon an ottoman, I discovered a passage underlined in pencil. It was a passage towards the end of the third act -- a passage of the most heart-stirring excitement -- a passage which, although **tainted** with **impurity**, no man shall read without a thrill of novel emotion -- no woman without a sigh. The whole page was blotted with fresh tears; and, upon the opposite interleaf, were the following English lines, written

Thesaurus

dalliance: (*n*) delay, play, flirt, flirting, billing and cooing, coquetry, petting, holdup, hanky-panky, necking, love affair.

excitability: (*n*) irritability, impetuosity, responsiveness, vehemence, petulance, choler, indiscretion, feeling, crossness, excitableness, nervousness.

impurity: (*n*) impureness, pollution, filth, dirtiness, admixture, defilement, dirt, dross, adulteration,

foulness, corruption. ANTONYM: (*n*) cleanliness.

interweaving: (*n*) braiding.

intruding: (*adj*) aggressive, interfering, intrusive.

levity: (*n*) flightiness, frivolity, flippancy, buoyancy, lightness, giddiness, inconstancy, frivolousness, humorousness, jocosity; (*n, v*) fickleness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) gravity, seriousness.

pervading: (*adj*) penetrating, general,

profound, permeating, permeant, overmastering, lowly, deeply felt, intellectually deep, deep, almighty.

tainted: (*adj, v*) rotten, rancid, bad, musty, reasty, vitiated; (*adj*) rank, contaminated, faulty, putrid, dirty. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unadulterated, unchanged, untarnished, clean.

unction: (*n*) salve, ointment, balm, unguent, gusto, anointment, inspiration, smarm, cream, oleaginousness, smarminess.

in a hand so very different from the peculiar characters of my acquaintance, that I had some difficulty in recognising it as his own: -

Thou wast that all to me, love,
 For which my soul did pine --
 A green isle in the sea, love,
 A fountain and a shrine,
 All **wreathed** with fairy **fruits** and flowers;
 And all the flowers were mine.

Ah, dream too bright to last!
 Ah, **starry** Hope, that didst arise
 But to be overcast!
 A voice from out the Future cries,
 "Onward! " -- but o'er the Past
 (Dim gulf!) my spirit **hovering** lies,
 Mute -- **motionless** -- aghast!

For alas! alas! with me
 The light of life is o'er.
 "No more -- no more -- no more,"
 (Such language holds the solemn sea
 To the sands upon the shore,)
 Shall bloom the thunder-blasted tree,
 Or the **stricken** eagle **soar**!
 Now all my hours are trances;
 And all my **nightly** dreams
 Are where the dark eye glances,
 And where thy footstep gleams,
 In what **ethereal** dances,
 By what Italian streams.

Thesaurus

ethereal: (*adj*) airy, celestial, unworldly, delicate, intangible, aeriform, spiritual, aery, vaporous, incorporeal, diaphanous.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) earthly, heavy, indelicate, worldly, tangible, thick, robust, concrete.
fruits: (*n*) revenue.
hovering: (*adj*) suspended, poised, impending, flying, high.
motionless: (*adj*) inactive, inert, immobile, stationary, fixed,

unmoving, quiescent, dead, torpid; (*adj, adv*) calm, at rest. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) mobile, active, alive, flowing.
nightly: (*adv*) every night, by night; (*n*) night; (*adj*) nocturnal. **ANTONYM:** (*adj*) daily.
soar: (*v*) climb, hover, fly, mount, glide, leap, jump, lift, billow; (*n, v*) rise, increase. **ANTONYMS:** (*v*) decrease, drop, descend, collapse, sink.
starry: (*adj*) sidereal, starlike, radiant,

showy, gleaming, bright, lustrous, shiny, lucid, stellar, fulgent. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) starless, dull.
stricken: (*adj*) smitten, struck, beaten, laid low, affected, hurt, low, impaired, dotty; (*v*) heavy laden, victimized.
wreathed: (*adj*) ringed, serpentine, coiled, circular, circinate, bent, annulate, tortile, torqued, surrounded, curled.

Alas! for that accursed time
 They bore thee o'er the **billow**,
 From Love to **titled** age and crime,
 And an **unholy** pillow! --
 From me, and from our **misty clime**,
 Where weeps the silver **willow**!

That these lines were written in English -- a language with which I had not believed their author acquainted -- afforded me little matter for surprise. I was too well aware of the extent of his acquirements, and of the singular pleasure he took in concealing them from observation, to be astonished at any similar discovery; but the place of date, I must confess, occasioned me no little amazement. It had been originally written *London*, and afterwards carefully overscored -- not, however, so **effectually** as to conceal the word from a scrutinizing eye. I say, this occasioned me no little amazement; for I well remember that, in a former conversation with a friend, I particularly inquired if he had at any time met in London the Marchesa di Mentoni, (who for some years previous to her marriage had resided in that city,) when his answer, if I mistake not, gave me to understand that he had never visited the **metropolis** of Great Britain. I might as well here mention, that I have more than once **heard**, (without, of course, giving credit to a report involving so many improbabilities,) that the person of whom I speak, was not only by birth, but in education, an *Englishman*.

* * * * *

"There is one painting," said he, without being aware of my notice of the tragedy -- "there is still one painting which you have not seen." And throwing aside a drapery, he discovered a full-length portrait of the Marchesa Aphrodite.

Thesaurus

billow: (*n, v*) wave, surge, swell; (*n*) sea, cloud; (*v*) balloon, heave, zoom, roll, inflate, bloat. ANTONYMS: (*n*) trough; (*v*) flatten, collapse, deflate.
clime: (*n*) land, territory, region, meridian, zone, soil, sky, latitude.
effectually: (*adv*) efficaciously, effectively, validly, adequately, potently, tellingly, strongly, decisively; (*adj*) nicely, fully, head and shoulders. ANTONYM: (*adv*) ineffectually.

heard: (*n*) hearing.
metropolis: (*n*) city, capital, town, municipality, buffalo, meshed, borough, burgh, independence, hull, bale.
misty: (*adj*) hazy, foggy, cloudy, brumous, dim, indistinct, nebulous, fuzzy, dark, dull, blurred.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clear, distinct.
titled: (*adj*) highborn, patrician, coroneted, aristocratic, named, generous, posh, upright, worthy, fair;

(*n*) princely. ANTONYM: (*adj*) petty.
unholy: (*adj*) wicked, sinful, unhallowed, profane, fiendish, impious, diabolic, infernal, unsanctified, evil; (*adv*) wickedly. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) reasonable, pious, godly, sensible, religious.
willow: (*n*) willow tree, black willow, arctic willow, arroyo willow, balsam willow, bay willow, bearberry willow, white willow, silver willow; (*adj*) mourning, weeds.

Human art could have done no more in the **delineation** of her superhuman beauty. The same ethereal figure which stood before me the preceding night upon the steps of the Ducal Palace, stood before me once again. But in the expression of the countenance, which was beaming all over with smiles, there still lurked (incomprehensible anomaly!) that **fitful** stain of melancholy which will ever be found inseparable from the perfection of the beautiful. Her right arm lay folded over her bosom. With her left she pointed downward to a curiously **fashioned vase**. One small, fairy foot, alone visible, barely touched the earth; and, scarcely discernible in the brilliant atmosphere which seemed to **encircle** and **enshrine** her loveliness, floated a pair of the most delicately imagined wings. My glance fell from the painting to the figure of my friend, and the vigorous words of Chapman's *Bussy D'Ambois*, quivered instinctively upon my lips:

"He is up
There like a Roman statue! He will stand
Till Death hath made him marble!"

"Come," he said at length, turning towards a table of richly enamelled and massive silver, upon which were a few goblets fantastically stained, together with two large Etruscan vases, fashioned in the same extraordinary model as that in the foreground of the portrait, and filled with what I supposed to be Johannisberger. "Come," he said, abruptly, "let us drink! It is early -- but let us drink. It is *indeed* early," he continued, musingly, as a **cherub** with a heavy golden hammer made the apartment ring with the first hour after sunrise: "It is *indeed* early -- but what matters it? let us drink! Let us pour out an offering to yon solemn sun which these **gaudy** lamps and **censers** are so eager to subdue!" And, having made me pledge him in a bumper, he swallowed in rapid succession several goblets of the wine.

"To dream," he continued, resuming the tone of his desultory conversation, as he held up to the rich light of a censer one of the magnificent vases -- "to

Thesaurus

censer: (*n*) incensory, incense burner, Agnus Dei, beads, vessel, patera, rood, rosary, reliquary, relics, pyx.
cherub: (*n*) baby, seraph, infant, cherubim, guardian angel, child, babe, archangel, cherubin.
delineation: (*n*) portrayal, description, picture, definition, drawing, design, outline, diagram, plan, sketch, illustration. ANTONYM: (*n*) unity.
encircle: (*adv, n, v*) compass; (*adv, v*) beset, surround, enclose, encompass,

environ; (*v*) besiege, circumvent, bound; (*n, v*) circle, embrace. ANTONYM: (*v*) expose.
enshrine: (*v*) bury, shrine, revere, enfold, venerate, inclose; (*n, v*) sanctify; (*n*) edify, convert, beatify, inscribe. ANTONYMS: (*v*) taint, disrespect, desecrate, defile, corrupt.
fashioned: (*adj*) formed, featured, fictitious, intentional, bent, wrought.
fitful: (*adj*) erratic, fickle, changeable, spasmodic, uncertain, intermittent,

irregular, variable, sporadic, desultory, flickering. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) regular, unbroken.
gaudy: (*adj*) flashy, loud, showy, garish, flamboyant, tasteless, colorful, tacky, brassy, tawdry, florid. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) tasteful, restrained, muted, drab, modest, dull, quality.
vase: (*n*) jar, urn, barrel, vessel, container, jug, pitcher, pot, bouquet, bushel.

dream has been the business of my life. I have therefore framed for myself, as you see, a bower of dreams. In the heart of Venice could I have erected a better? You behold around you, it is true, a medley of architectural embellishments. The chastity of Ionia is offended by **antediluvian** devices, and the sphynxes of Egypt are outstretched upon carpets of gold. Yet the effect is incongruous to the timid alone. Proprieties of place, and especially of time, are the bugbears which **terrify** mankind from the contemplation of the magnificent. Once I was myself a decorator; but that **sublimation** of folly has palled upon my soul. All this is now the fitter for my purpose. Like these arabesque censers, my spirit is writhing in fire, and the **delirium** of this scene is **fashioning** me for the wilder visions of that land of real dreams whither I am now rapidly departing." He here paused abruptly, bent his head to his bosom, and seemed to listen to a sound which I could not hear. At length, **erecting** his frame, he looked upwards, and ejaculated the lines of the Bishop of Chichester:

*"Stay for me there! I will not fail
To meet thee in that hollow vale."*

In the next instant, **confessing** the power of the wine, he threw himself at full-length upon an ottoman.

A quick step was now heard upon the staircase, and a loud knock at the door rapidly succeeded. I was **hastening** to anticipate a second disturbance, when a page of Mentoni's household burst into the room, and faltered out, in a voice choking with emotion, the **incoherent** words, "My mistress! -- my mistress! -- Poisoned! -- poisoned! Oh, beautiful -- oh, beautiful Aphrodite!"

Bewildered, I flew to the ottoman, and endeavored to arouse the sleeper to a sense of the startling intelligence. But his limbs were rigid -- his lips were livid -- his lately beaming eyes were riveted in *death*. I staggered back towards the table -- my hand fell upon a cracked and blackened goblet -- and a consciousness of the entire and terrible truth flashed suddenly over my soul.

Thesaurus

antediluvian: (*adj*) ancient, outmoded, archaic, old, obsolete, dated, antique, musty, outdated, prehistoric, primeval. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) new, late, young, contemporary.
confessing: (*v*) confess.
delirium: (*n*) craze, insanity, mania, disturbance, fever, ecstasy, derangement; (*adj, n*) fury; (*adj*) furor, rage, distraction. ANTONYMS: (*n*) indifference, dejection.
erecting: (*n*) construction, building,

erection.
fashioning: (*n*) devising, cartography, making, cartographic, cartographical, mapmaking.
hastening: (*n*) quickening, speed, hurrying, speeding up, faster, fast, stepping up.
incoherent: (*adj*) disjointed, disconnected, delirious, rambling, confused, disordered, incompatible, wandering, muddled, inconsistent, contradictory. ANTONYMS: (*adj*)

clear, articulate, eloquent, intelligible, lucid, sound, concise, consistent.
sublimation: (*n*) exaltation, transmutation, transformation, purification, elevation, paragon, alteration, change, condensation, modification, shift.
terrify: (*n, v*) frighten, alarm, fright, affright; (*v*) panic, dismay, startle, horrify, intimidate, terrorize, daunt. ANTONYMS: (*v*) please, delight, calm, soothe, comfort.

THE PIT AND THE PENDULUM

*Impia tortorum longos hic turba furores
Sanguinis innocui, non satiata, aluit.
Sospite nunc patria, fracto nunc funeris antro,
Mors ubi dira fuit vita salusque patent.*

[**Quatrain** composed for the gates of a market to be erected upon the site of the Jacobin Club House at Paris.]

I was sick -- sick unto death with that long agony; and when they at length **unbound** me, and I was permitted to sit, I felt that my senses were leaving me. The sentence -- the dread sentence of death -- was the last of distinct **accentuation** which reached my ears. After that, the sound of the **inquisitorial** voices seemed merged in one **dreamy** indeterminate hum. It conveyed to my soul the idea of revolution -- perhaps from its association in fancy with the **burr** of a mill wheel. This only for a brief period; for presently I heard no more. Yet, for a while, I saw; but with how terrible an exaggeration! I saw the lips of the black-robed judges. They appeared to me white -- whiter than the sheet upon which I trace these words -- and thin even to **grotesqueness**; thin with the intensity of their expression of firmness -- of **immoveable** resolution -- of stern contempt of human torture. I saw that the decrees of what to me was Fate, were still issuing from those lips. I saw them writhe with a deadly **locution**. I saw

Thesaurus

accentuation: (*n*) stress, emphasis, inflection, emphasizing, prosody, accenting, stressing, intonation, beat, accent mark.
burr: (*n*) bit, birrus, bureau, burrel, borel, flash, pericarp; (*v*) pipe, jangle, clink, clank.
dreamy: (*adj*) faraway, romantic, impractical, somnolent, visionary, sleepy, pensive, moony, idealistic, drowsy; (*v*) balmy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cynical, vigorous, pragmatic,

practical, awake, alert, ordinary, prosaic.
grotesqueness: (*n*) grotesquery, grotesquerie.
immoveable: (*adj*) fast, immobile, stabile, unmovable.
inquisitorial: (*adj*) extortionate, inquisitional, nosy, inquisitive, inquisitorial, inquisitorial, oppressive, withering, caustical, analytic; (*v*) catechetical. ANTONYM: (*adj*) accusatorial.

locution: (*n*) idiom, byword, talk, speech, saying, phrase, adage, epigram, calque, beatitude, axiom.
quatrain: (*n*) distich, couplet, canto, line, heroic stanza, elegiac stanza, verse, triplet.
unbound: (*adj*) uncontrolled, unconstrained, open, untied, untrammelled, exempt, unchained, released, unfettered, unobstructed; (*v*) unencumbered. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) bound, restricted.

them fashion the syllables of my name; and I shuddered because no sound succeeded. I saw, too, for a few moments of delirious horror, the soft and nearly imperceptible waving of the sable draperies which **enwrapped** the walls of the apartment. And then my vision fell upon the seven tall candles upon the table. At first they wore the aspect of charity, and seemed white and slender angels who would save me; but then, all at once, there came a most deadly nausea over my spirit, and I felt every fibre in my frame thrill as if I had touched the wire of a **galvanic** battery, while the angel forms became meaningless spectres, with heads of flame, and I saw that from them there would be no help. And then there stole into my fancy, like a rich musical note, the thought of what sweet rest there must be in the grave. The thought came gently and **stealthily**, and it seemed long before it attained full appreciation; but just as my spirit came at length properly to feel and entertain it, the figures of the judges vanished, as if **magically**, from before me; the tall candles sank into **nothingness**; their flames went out utterly; the blackness of darkness supervened; all sensations appeared swallowed up in a mad rushing descent as of the soul into Hades. Then silence, and stillness, night were the universe.

I had swooned; but still will not say that all of consciousness was lost. What of it there remained I will not attempt to define, or even to describe; yet all was not lost. In the deepest slumber -- no! In delirium -- no! In a swoon -- no! In death -- no! even in the grave all is not lost. Else there is no immortality for man. Arousing from the most profound of slumbers, we break the **gossamer** web of some dream. Yet in a second afterward, (so frail may that web have been) we remember not that we have dreamed. In the return to life from the swoon there are two stages; first, that of the sense of mental or spiritual; secondly, that of the sense of physical, existence. It seems probable that if, upon reaching the second stage, we could recall the **impressions** of the first, we should find these impressions eloquent in memories of the gulf beyond. And that gulf is -- what? How at least shall we distinguish its shadows from those of the tomb? But if the impressions of what I have termed the first stage, are not, at will, recalled, yet, after long interval, do they not come **unbidden**, while we marvel whence they come? He who has never swooned, is not he who finds strange palaces and

Thesaurus

enwrapped: (<i>adj</i>) absorbed, engrossed, cloaked, captive, clothed, deeply moved, draped, enclosed, enraptured, intent, rapt.	robust, thick, heavy.	vacuum, cipher; (<i>adj</i>) nonbeing.
galvanic: (<i>adj</i>) Voltaic, hasty, hurried, restless, electrical, mercurial, unquiet, galvanizing, galvanising, fussy, fidgety.	impressions: (<i>n</i>) impersonation, imitation.	ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) being, importance, significance.
gossamer: (<i>adj</i>) thin, sheer, filmy, diaphanous, delicate, fine, cobwebby, gauzy, down; (<i>adj, n</i>) cobweb; (<i>n</i>) gauze. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) opaque,	magically: (<i>adv</i>) as if by magic, occultly, marvelously, charmingly, enchantingly, witchingly, wonderfully, mysteriously, miraculously, supernaturally, mysticly.	stealthily: (<i>adv</i>) furtively, sneakily, surreptitiously, covertly, clandestinely, underhandly, underhandedly, in secret, privately, sneakingly; (<i>adj, adv</i>) noiselessly.
	nothingness: (<i>n</i>) nothing, void, nullity, nihility, emptiness, insignificance, nonentity, blankness,	ANTONYM: (<i>adv</i>) brazenly.
		unbidden: (<i>adj</i>) unbid, uninvited, spontaneous, voluntary, willing, unwanted.

wildly familiar faces in coals that glow; is not he who beholds floating in mid-air the sad visions that the many may not view; is not he who ponders over the perfume of some novel flower -- is not he whose brain grows bewildered with the meaning of some musical **cadence** which has never before arrested his attention.

Amid frequent and thoughtful endeavors to remember; amid earnest struggles to regather some token of the state of seeming nothingness into which my soul had lapsed, there have been moments when I have dreamed of success; there have been brief, very brief periods when I have conjured up **remembrances** which the lucid reason of a later epoch assures me could have had reference only to that condition of seeming unconsciousness. These shadows of memory tell, indistinctly, of tall figures that lifted and bore me in silence down -- down -- still down -- till a hideous dizziness oppressed me at the mere idea of the interminableness of the descent. They tell also of a vague horror at my heart, on account of that heart's unnatural stillness. Then comes a sense of sudden **motionlessness** throughout all things; as if those who bore me (a ghastly train!) had **outrun**, in their descent, the limits of the limitless, and paused from the **wearisomeness** of their toil. After this I call to mind **flatness** and dampness; and then all is madness -- the madness of a memory which busies itself among forbidden things.

Very suddenly there came back to my soul motion and sound -- the tumultuous motion of the heart, and, in my ears, the sound of its beating. Then a pause in which all is blank. Then again sound, and motion, and touch -- a **tingling** sensation pervading my frame. Then the mere consciousness of existence, without thought -- a condition which lasted long. Then, very suddenly, thought, and shuddering terror, and earnest endeavor to comprehend my true state. Then a strong desire to lapse into **insensibility**. Then a rushing revival of soul and a successful effort to move. And now a full memory of the trial, of the judges, of the sable draperies, of the sentence, of the sickness, of the swoon. Then entire forgetfulness of all that followed; of all that a later day and much **earnestness** of endeavor have enabled me vaguely to recall.

Thesaurus

cadence: (*n*) beat, tempo, measure, rhythm, cadency, descent, time; (*n, v*) pace; (*v*) gait, step, rate.

earnestness: (*n*) seriousness, sincerity, gravity, fervor, devotion, graveness, staidness, honesty; (*adj, n*) ardor, zeal, intentness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) slackness, lightness, carelessness, frivolousness, cheerfulness, insincerity, flippancy.

flatness: (*n*) dullness, monotony, plain, flat, tedium, sameness,

insipidness, tediousness, platitude, smoothing, smooth. ANTONYM: (*n*) unevenness.

insensibility: (*n*) callousness, hardness, indifference, dullness, stupidity, stupor, impassiveness, coma, physical insensibility, impassivity, trance.

motionlessness: (*n*) stationariness, fixedness, inaction, inertness, stillness, rest, lifelessness, inactiveness, hush. ANTONYMS: (*n*)

movement, motion, animation.

outrun: (*v*) surpass, outdo, exceed, outride, outstep, outleap, outjump, outgo, outdistance, beat, distance.

remembrances: (*adj*) aboard, devoir, respects, welcome; (*n*) remembrance.

tingling: (*n*) tingle, itch, thrill, pins and needles, tickle, somesthesia, somatic sensation; (*adj*) stinging, tickling, tickly; (*v*) turn.

wearisomeness: (*n*) tedium, irksomeness, monotony.

So far, I had not opened my eyes. I felt that I lay upon my back, unbound. I reached out my hand, and it fell heavily upon something damp and hard. There I suffered it to remain for many minutes, while I **strove** to imagine where and what I could be. I longed, yet dared not to employ my vision. I dreaded the first glance at objects around me. It was not that I feared to look upon things horrible, but that I grew aghast lest there should be nothing to see. At length, with a wild desperation at heart, I quickly unclosed my eyes. My worst thoughts, then, were confirmed. The blackness of eternal night encompassed me. I struggled for breath. The intensity of the darkness seemed to **oppress** and stifle me. The atmosphere was **intolerably** close. I still lay quietly, and made effort to exercise my reason. I brought to mind the inquisitorial proceedings, and attempted from that point to deduce my real condition. The sentence had passed; and it appeared to me that a very long interval of time had since elapsed. Yet not for a moment did I suppose myself actually dead. Such a **supposition**, notwithstanding what we read in fiction, is altogether inconsistent with real existence; -- but where and in what state was I? The condemned to death, I knew, **perished** usually at the autos-da-fe, and one of these had been held on the very night of the day of my trial. Had I been remanded to my **dungeon**, to await the next sacrifice, which would not take place for many months? This I at once saw could not be. Victims had been in immediate demand. Moreover, my dungeon, as well as all the condemned cells at Toledo, had stone floors, and light was not altogether excluded.

A fearful idea now suddenly drove the blood in torrents upon my heart, and for a brief period, I once more relapsed into insensibility. Upon recovering, I at once started to my feet, trembling **convulsively** in every fibre. I thrust my arms wildly above and around me in all directions. I felt nothing; yet dreaded to move a step, lest I should be impeded by the walls of a tomb. **Perspiration** burst from every pore, and stood in cold big beads upon my forehead. The agony of suspense grew at length intolerable, and I cautiously moved forward, with my arms extended, and my eyes straining from their sockets, in the hope of catching some faint ray of light. I proceeded for many paces; but still all was blackness

Thesaurus

convulsively: (<i>adv</i>) spasmodically, paroxysmally, spastically, with convulsions. dungeon: (<i>n, v</i>) keep; (<i>n</i>) prison, cell, jail, penitentiary, fastness, oubliette, Bastille, bridewell, detention, house of correction. intolerably: (<i>adv</i>) excruciatingly, unbearably, insufferably, unendurably, insupportably, unfeasibly, impossibly, horribly, unpardonably, inexcusably,	unforgivably. ANTONYMS: (<i>adv</i>) tolerably, excusably, bearably, acceptably, pleasantly, understandably. oppress: (<i>v</i>) press, harass, afflict, burden, pinch, depress, encumber, repress, crush; (<i>adj, v</i>) wrong; (<i>adj</i>) aggrieve. ANTONYMS: (<i>v</i>) alleviate, liberate. perished: (<i>adj</i>) decayed, emperished, rotting, annihilated, fallen, lost, moldy, nonexistent, putrefied, dead,	decomposed. perspiration: (<i>n</i>) diaphoresis, hidrosis, sudor, sweating, extravasation, secretion, exertion, exudation, effort, lather, water. strove: (<i>v</i>) strive. supposition: (<i>n, v</i>) conjecture; (<i>n</i>) assumption, hypothesis, presumption, premise, speculation, surmise, guess, supposal, thought, imagination. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) fact, knowledge, proof, reality, practice.
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and vacancy. I breathed more freely. It seemed evident that mine was not, at least, the most hideous of fates.

And now, as I still continued to step cautiously onward, there came thronging upon my recollection a thousand vague rumors of the horrors of Toledo. Of the dungeons there had been strange things **narrated** -- fables I had always deemed them -- but yet strange, and too ghastly to repeat, save in a whisper. Was I left to perish of starvation in this **subterranean** world of darkness; or what fate, perhaps even more fearful, **awaited** me? That the result would be death, and a death of more than customary bitterness, I knew too well the character of my judges to doubt. The mode and the hour were all that occupied or distracted me.

My outstretched hands at length encountered some solid obstruction. It was a wall, seemingly of stone masonry -- very smooth, **slimy**, and cold. I followed it up; stepping with all the careful distrust with which certain antique narratives had inspired me. This process, however, afforded me no means of ascertaining the dimensions of my dungeon; as I might make its circuit, and return to the point whence I set out, without being aware of the fact; so perfectly uniform seemed the wall. I therefore sought the knife which had been in my pocket, when led into the inquisitorial chamber; but it was gone; my clothes had been exchanged for a **wrapper** of coarse **serge**. I had thought of forcing the blade in some minute **crevice** of the masonry, so as to identify my point of departure. The difficulty, nevertheless, was but trivial; although, in the disorder of my fancy, it seemed at first **insuperable**. I **tore** a part of the hem from the robe and placed the fragment at full length, and at right angles to the wall. In **groping** my way around the prison, I could not fail to encounter this rag upon completing the circuit. So, at least I thought: but I had not counted upon the extent of the dungeon, or upon my own weakness. The ground was moist and slippery. I staggered onward for some time, when I stumbled and fell. My excessive fatigue induced me to remain prostrate; and sleep soon overtook me as I lay.

Upon **awaking**, and stretching forth an arm, I found beside me a loaf and a **pitcher** with water. I was too much exhausted to reflect upon this circumstance,

Thesaurus

awaited: (*adj*) expected, appointed,

scheduled, forthcoming, prospective.

awaking: (*n*) waking, awakening.

crevice: (*n*) cleft, break, chink, cranny, chap, fissure, interstice, rift, gap, hole, fracture.

groping: (*adj*) fumbling, gropingly, investigative, uncertain, blind, probing, tentative, uncertain, unsure, hesitant, exploratory.

insuperable: (*adj*) unconquerable, indomitable, impassable, invincible,

unsurmountable, unbeatable,

impregnable, overwhelming,

formidable, inexpressible,

unassailable. ANTONYM: (*adj*) vulnerable.

narrated: (*adj*) oral, narrative.

pitcher: (*n*) jar, ewer, mug, pot, hurler, creamer, container, pail, bucket, flagon, tankard.

serge: (*n*) cloth, fabric, material.

slimy: (*adj*) greasy, slippery, muddy, sludgy, squalid, oily, oozy, ropy,

viscous, slimed, sordid. ANTONYM: (*adj*) reputable.

subterranean: (*adj*) underground, backdoor, profound, subaqueous, submarine, subterrene, subterrestrial, deep, hole-and-corner, subterranean, subterrany.

tore: (*v*) tare; (*n*) moulding, molding.

wrapper: (*n*) cover, wrap, cloak, peignoir, housecoat, negligee, envelope, wrapping, covering, dust cover, mantle.

but ate and drank with **avidity**. Shortly afterward, I resumed my tour around the prison, and with much **toil** came at last upon the fragment of the serge. Up to the period when I fell I had counted fifty-two paces, and upon resuming my walk, I had counted forty-eight more; -- when I arrived at the rag. There were in all, then, a hundred paces; and, admitting two paces to the yard, I presumed the dungeon to be fifty yards in circuit. I had met, however, with many angles in the wall, and thus I could form no guess at the shape of the vault; for vault I could not help supposing it to be.

I had little object -- certainly no hope these researches; but a vague curiosity prompted me to continue them. Quitting the wall, I resolved to cross the area of the enclosure. At first I proceeded with extreme caution, for the floor, although seemingly of solid material, was treacherous with **slime**. At length, however, I **took** courage, and did not hesitate to step firmly; **endeavoring** to cross in as direct a line as possible. I had advanced some ten or twelve paces in this manner, when the **remnant** of the torn hem of my robe became **entangled** between my legs. I stepped on it, and fell violently on my face.

In the confusion attending my fall, I did not immediately apprehend a somewhat startling circumstance, which yet, in a few seconds afterward, and while I still lay prostrate, **arrested** my attention. It was this -- my chin rested upon the floor of the prison, but my lips and the upper portion of my head, although seemingly at a less elevation than the chin, touched nothing. At the same time my forehead seemed bathed in a **clammy** vapor, and the peculiar smell of decayed fungus arose to my nostrils. I put forward my arm, and shuddered to find that I had fallen at the very brink of a circular pit, whose extent, of course, I had no means of ascertaining at the moment. Groping about the masonry just below the margin, I succeeded in dislodging a small fragment, and let it fall into the abyss. For many seconds I hearkened to its reverberations as it dashed against the sides of the **chasm** in its descent; at length there was a **sullen** plunge into water, succeeded by loud echoes. At the same moment there came a sound resembling the quick opening, and as rapid closing of a door

Thesaurus

avidity: (*adj*, *n*) greed, greediness; (*n*) eagerness, ardor, covetousness, lust, desire, enthusiasm, rapacity, cupidity, avidness.
chasm: (*n*) breach, gap, hiatus, gulf, ravine, hole, abysm, vacancy, canyon, aperture, emptiness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) junction, closure.
clammy: (*adj*) viscous, sweaty, sticky, muggy, moist, humid, damp, viscid, sultry, dank; (*n*) ropy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) arid, dried, fresh.

endeavoring: (*n*) effort; (*adj*) aspiring.
entangled: (*adj*) complicated, intricate, embroiled, complex, foul, confused, matted, tangled, inextricable, knotty; (*v*) entangle.
remnant: (*n*) end, relic, remains, residue, fragment, leftover, survival, trace, oddment, balance, stub.
rested: (*adj*) comfortable.
slime: (*adj*) mud, silt; (*n*) mucus, ooze, phlegm, gook, muck, gunk, goo, filth; (*adj*, *n*) sludge.

sullen: (*adj*, *n*) morose, sulky, sour; (*adj*) gloomy, gruff, glum, moody, dark, cross, surly; (*adj*, *v*) grim.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) bright, cheery; (*n*) cheeriness.
toil: (*n*, *v*) labor, work, drudge, sweat, drudgery, grind, labour, travail; (*v*) plod; (*n*) effort, exertion.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) pastime, entertainment, fun, relaxation; (*v*) laze, neglect.
took: (*adj*) taken; (*v*) receive.

overhead, while a faint gleam of light flashed suddenly through the gloom, and as suddenly faded away.

I saw clearly the doom which had been prepared for me, and congratulated myself upon the timely accident by which I had escaped. Another step before my fall, and the world had seen me no more. And the death just avoided, was of that very character which I had regarded as fabulous and **frivolous** in the tales respecting the Inquisition. To the victims of its tyranny, there was the choice of death with its direst physical agonies, or death with its most hideous moral horrors. I had been reserved for the latter. By long suffering my nerves had been **unstrung**, until I trembled at the sound of my own voice, and had become in every respect a fitting subject for the species of torture which awaited me.

Shaking in every limb, I groped my way back to the wall; resolving there to perish rather than risk the terrors of the **wells**, of which my imagination now pictured many in various positions about the dungeon. In other conditions of mind I might have had courage to end my misery at once by a plunge into one of these abysses; but now I was the **veriest** of cowards. Neither could I forget what I had read of these pits -- that the sudden extinction of life formed no part of their most horrible plan.

Agitation of spirit kept me awake for many long hours; but at length I again slumbered. Upon arousing, I found by my side, as before, a loaf and a pitcher of water. A burning **thirst** consumed me, and I emptied the vessel at a draught. It must have been **drugged**; for scarcely had I drunk, before I became **irresistibly drowsy**. A deep sleep fell upon me -- a sleep like that of death. How long it lasted of course, I know not; but when, once again, I unclosed my eyes, the objects around me were visible. By a wild **sulphurous** lustre, the origin of which I could not at first determine, I was enabled to see the extent and aspect of the prison.

In its size I had been greatly mistaken. The whole circuit of its walls did not exceed twenty-five yards. For some minutes this fact occasioned me a world of vain trouble; vain indeed! for what could be of less importance, under the terrible circumstances which environed me, then the mere dimensions of my

Thesaurus

drowsy: (*adj, n*) sleepy; (*adj*) lazy, comatose, somnolent, slow, lethargic, sluggish, dull, indolent, soporific, listless. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) energetic, awake, lively, vigorous, vivacious, refreshed.
drugged: (*adj*) stoned, drowsy, narcotised, comatose, drunk, high, chloroformed, narcotized, stupefied. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clean, straight.
frivolous: (*adj*) empty, foolish, dizzy, petty, idle, light, flighty,

unimportant, flippant, trivial, superficial. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) important, solemn, worthwhile, vital, weighty, staid, significant, sensible, responsible, crucial, heavy.
irresistibly: (*adv*) charmingly, necessarily, overwhelmingly, charismatically, fiercely, temptingly, overpoweringly, appealingly, beguilingly.
sulphurous: (*adj*) stifling, acerb, hot, sulphureous, infernal, brimstony,

virulent, caustic, containing acid, sultry, burning hot.
thirst: (*n, v*) hunger, lust, wish; (*n*) longing, yen, craving, hankering, dryness, appetite; (*v*) starve, crave. ANTONYM: (*n*) dislike.
unstrung: (*adj*) nervous, asthenic, discomposed, overwrought, adynamic; (*v*) weakly.
veriest: (*adj*) of mark, pointed, remarkable.
wells: (*n*) spring.

dungeon? But my soul took a wild interest in **trifles**, and I busied myself in endeavors to account for the error I had committed in my measurement. The truth at length flashed upon me. In my first attempt at exploration I had counted fifty-two paces, up to the period when I fell; I must then have been within a pace or two of the fragment of serge; in fact, I had nearly performed the circuit of the vault. I then slept, and upon awaking, I must have returned upon my steps -- thus supposing the circuit nearly double what it actually was. My confusion of mind prevented me from observing that I began my tour with the wall to the left, and ended it with the wall to the right.

I had been deceived, too, in respect to the shape of the enclosure. In feeling my way I had found many angles, and thus deduced an idea of great **irregularity**; so potent is the effect of total darkness upon one arousing from **lethargy** or sleep! The angles were simply those of a few slight depressions, or niches, at odd intervals. The general shape of the prison was square. What I had taken for masonry seemed now to be iron, or some other metal, in huge plates, whose sutures or joints occasioned the depression. The entire surface of this metallic enclosure was rudely **daubed** in all the hideous and **repulsive** devices to which the **charnel** superstition of the monks has given rise. The figures of fiends in aspects of menace, with skeleton forms, and other more really fearful images, overspread and disfigured the walls. I observed that the outlines of these monstrosities were sufficiently distinct, but that the colors seemed faded and blurred, as if from the effects of a damp atmosphere. I now noticed the floor, too, which was of stone. In the centre yawned the circular pit from whose jaws I had escaped; but it was the only one in the dungeon.

All this I saw indistinctly and by much effort: for my personal condition had been greatly changed during slumber. I now lay upon my back, and at full length, on a species of low framework of wood. To this I was securely bound by a long strap resembling a **surcingle**. It passed in many convolutions about my limbs and body, leaving at liberty only my head, and my left arm to such extent that I could, by dint of much exertion, supply myself with food from an **earthen** dish which lay by my side on the floor. I saw, to my horror, that the pitcher had

Thesaurus

charnel: (*adj*) carnal, sepulchral, ghastly; (*n*) burial vault, cemetery, charnel house.

daubed: (*adj*) beplastered, covered, greasy.

earthen: (*adj*) clay, ceramic, earthenware.

irregularity: (*n*) abnormality, anomaly, eccentricity, inequality, deviation, aberration, constipation, exception, unevenness, variation; (*adj, n*) deformity. ANTONYMS: (*n*)

symmetry, normality, regularity, dependability, equality, frequency, evenness, consistency, predictability, smoothness.

lethargy: (*n*) drowsiness, indifference, apathy, inactivity, fatigue, inertia, stupor, laziness, sluggishness, idleness, languor. ANTONYMS: (*n*) verve, vitality, liveliness, nimbleness, animation, alertness, vigor, activity, wakefulness, interest, speediness.

repulsive: (*adj*) offensive, detestable,

ugly, disagreeable, nauseous, hideous, loathsome, abhorrent; (*adj, v*) abominable, hateful, obnoxious.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pleasant, delightful, desirable, reputable, lovely, lovable, humane, appealing, laudable.

surcingle: (*n*) girth, girdle, bellyband, lasso, halter, cestus, noose, garter, running knot, knot.

trifles: (*n*) jests, nonsense, nugae, trivia.

been removed. I say to my horror; for I was consumed with intolerable thirst. This thirst it appeared to be the design of my persecutors to stimulate: for the food in the dish was meat **pungently** seasoned.

Looking upward, I surveyed the ceiling of my prison. It was some thirty or forty feet overhead, and constructed much as the side walls. In one of its panels a very singular figure riveted my whole attention. It was the painted figure of Time as he is commonly represented, save that, in **lieu** of a **scythe**, he held what, at a casual glance, I supposed to be the pictured image of a huge pendulum such as we see on antique clocks. There was something, however, in the appearance of this machine which caused me to regard it more **attentively**. While I gazed directly upward at it (for its position was immediately over my own) I fancied that I saw it in motion. In an instant afterward the fancy was confirmed. Its sweep was brief, and of course slow. I watched it for some minutes, somewhat in fear, but more in wonder. **Wearied** at length with observing its dull movement, I turned my eyes upon the other objects in the cell.

A slight noise attracted my notice, and, looking to the floor, I saw several enormous rats **traversing** it. They had issued from the well, which lay just within view to my right. Even then, while I gazed, they came up in troops, hurriedly, with **ravenous** eyes, allured by the scent of the meat. From this it required much effort and attention to scare them away.

It might have been half an hour, perhaps even an hour, (for in cast my I could take but imperfect note of time) before I again cast my eyes upward. What I then saw confounded and amazed me. The sweep of the pendulum had increased in extent by nearly a yard. As a natural consequence, its velocity was also much greater. But what mainly disturbed me was the idea that had **perceptibly** descended. I now observed -- with what horror it is needless to say -- that its nether extremity was formed of a crescent of glittering steel, about a foot in length from horn to horn; the horns upward, and the under edge evidently as keen as that of a razor. Like a razor also, it seemed massy and heavy, tapering from the edge into a solid and broad structure above. It was **appended** to a weighty rod of brass, and the whole hissed as it swung through the air.

Thesaurus

appended: (*adj*) added, affixed, additional.

attentively: (*adv*) carefully, mindfully, watchfully, observantly, heedfully, vigilantly, cautiously, considerably, diligently, alertly, obligingly.
ANTONYMS: (*adv*) unhelpfully, neglectfully, abruptly, carelessly, hastily, casually.

lieu: (*n*) office, position, locality, stead, behalf, part, role, berth, station, site, seat.

perceptibly: (*adv*) discernibly, apparently, appreciably, manifestly, clearly, sensibly, markedly, conspicuously, recognizably, really, patently. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) inaudibly, invisibly.

pungently: (*adv*) spicily, piquantly, strongly, bitingly, tartly, acridly, racily, poignantly, incisively, stingingly, sourly.

ravenous: (*adj*) hungry, greedy, avid, famished, gluttonous, voracious,

rapacious, insatiable, edacious, covetous, predatory. ANTONYM: (*adj*) moderate.

scythe: (*n*) crotch, crutch, crane, elbow, ankle, fluke, groin, knee, zigzag; (*n, v*) sith; (*v*) reap.

traversing: (*n*) traverse, perambulation, crossing; (*adj*) moving.

wearied: (*adj*) jaded, tired, spent, fatigued, weary, prostrate, limp, haggard, shattered, worn, fatigate.

I could no longer doubt the doom prepared for me by **monkish** ingenuity in torture. My cognizance of the pit had become known to the inquisitorial agents -- the pit whose horrors had been destined for so bold a **recusant** as myself -- the pit, typical of hell, and regarded by rumor as the Ultima Thule of all their punishments. The plunge into this pit I had avoided by the merest of accidents, I knew that surprise, or **entrapment** into torment, formed an important portion of all the **grotesquerie** of these dungeon deaths. Having failed to fall, it was no part of the demon plan to **hurl** me into the abyss; and thus (there being no alternative) a different and a milder destruction awaited me. Milder! I half smiled in my agony as I thought of such application of such a term.

What boots it to tell of the long, long hours of horror more than mortal, during which I counted the rushing vibrations of the steel! Inch by inch -- line by line -- with a descent only appreciable at intervals that seemed ages -- down and still down it came! Days passed -- it might have been that many days passed -- ere it swept so closely over me as to fan me with its **acrid** breath. The odor of the sharp steel forced itself into my nostrils. I prayed -- I wearied heaven with my prayer for its more speedy descent. I grew frantically mad, and struggled to force myself upward against the sweep of the fearful **scimitar**. And then I fell suddenly calm, and lay smiling at the glittering death, as a child at some rare **bauble**.

There was another interval of utter insensibility; it was brief; for, upon again **lapsing** into life there had been no perceptible descent in the pendulum. But it might have been long; for I knew there were demons who took note of my swoon, and who could have arrested the vibration at pleasure. Upon my recovery, too, I felt very -- oh, **inexpressibly** sick and weak, as if through long **inanition**. Even amid the agonies of that period, the human nature **craved** food. With painful effort I outstretched my left arm as far as my bonds permitted, and took possession of the small remnant which had been spared me by the rats. As I put a portion of it within my lips, there rushed to my mind a half formed thought of joy -- of hope. Yet what business had I with hope? It was, as I say, a half formed thought -- man has many such which are never completed. I felt that

Thesaurus

acrid: (*adj, v*) pungent; (*adj*) bitter, acerbic, caustic, sour, sharp, acerb, corrosive, hot, harsh, tart.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) mild, savory, palatable, nice, flattering, delicious, kind, complimentary, amicable.
bauble: (*adj*) gimcrack; (*n*) trinket, ornament, trifle, bagatelle, gaud, bangle, novelty; (*adj, n*) toy, gewgaw, plaything.
craved: (*adj*) coveted.
entrapment: (*n*) entanglement, setup,

trap.
grotesquerie: (*n*) grotesquery.
hurl: (*v*) chuck, dash, pitch, throw, dart, pelt, toss, heave, send; (*n, v*) fling; (*n*) casting. **ANTONYM:** (*v*) hold.
inanition: (*n*) lethargy, emptiness, starvation, lassitude, inanity, vacancy, airiness; (*adj*) collapse, prostration, deliquium, apoplexy.
inexpressibly: (*adv*) unspeakably, indescribably, beyond words.

lapsing: (*n*) backsliding, lapse, atavism, relapse, relapsing, reversion, reverting, recidivism, failure.
monkish: (*adj*) clerical, nonindulgent.
recusant: (*n*) heretic, nonconformist, beatnik, contestant; (*v*) Protestant; (*adj*) dissentient, negative, contrary, contumacious, disobedient, unorthodox.
scimitar: (*n*) sabre, cutlass, falchion, sword, broadsword, cavalry sword, knife, scimiter.

it was of joy -- of hope; but felt also that it had perished in its formation. In vain I struggled to perfect -- to regain it. Long suffering had nearly **annihilated** all my ordinary powers of mind. I was an **imbecile** -- an idiot.

The vibration of the pendulum was at right angles to my length. I saw that the crescent was designed to cross the region of the heart. It would fray the serge of my robe -- it would return and repeat its operations -- again -- and again. Notwithstanding **terrifically** wide sweep (some thirty feet or more) and the its hissing **vigor** of its descent, sufficient to **sunder** these very walls of iron, still the fraying of my robe would be all that, for several minutes, it would accomplish. And at this thought I paused. I dared not go farther than this reflection. I dwelt upon it with a pertinacity of attention -- as if, in so dwelling, I could arrest here the descent of the steel. I forced myself to ponder upon the sound of the crescent as it should pass across the garment -- upon the peculiar thrilling sensation which the friction of cloth produces on the nerves. I pondered upon all this **frivolity** until my teeth were on edge.

Down -- steadily down it crept. I took a frenzied pleasure in contrasting its downward with its lateral velocity. To the right -- to the left -- far and wide -- with the shriek of a damned spirit; to my heart with the stealthy pace of the tiger! I alternately laughed and howled as the one or the other idea grew predominant.

Down -- certainly, relentlessly down! It vibrated within three inches of my bosom! I struggled violently, furiously, to free my left arm. This was free only from the elbow to the hand. I could reach the latter, from the platter beside me, to my mouth, with great effort, but no farther. Could I have broken the fastenings above the elbow, I would have seized and **attempted** to arrest the pendulum. I might as well have attempted to arrest an avalanche!

Down -- still unceasingly -- still inevitably down! I gasped and struggled at each vibration. I shrunk convulsively at its every sweep. My eyes followed its outward or upward whirls with the eagerness of the most unmeaning despair; they closed themselves **spasmodically** at the descent, although death would have been a relief, oh! how unspeakable! Still I quivered in every nerve to think how slight a sinking of the machinery would precipitate that keen, glistening axe

Thesaurus

annihilated: (*adj*) exterminated, lost, uncreated, wiped out, annihilate; (*v*) perished.

attempted: (*adj*) unsuccessful.

frivolity: (*n*) flippancy, giddiness, flightiness, frivolousness, silliness, triviality, frippery, prank; (*adj, n*) trifling, inconsistency; (*adj*) folly.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) solemnity, substance, importance, reliability, responsibility.

imbecile: (*adj*) foolish, idiotic, fatuous,

dumb, imbecilic, simple; (*n*) idiot, moron, cretin, ass, oaf. ANTONYM: (*adj*) genius.

spasmodically: (*adv*) convulsively, fitfully, intermittently, irregularly, desultorily, brokenly, frequently, spastically, startlingly. ANTONYM: (*adv*) recurrently.

sunder: (*n, v*) divide, sever, part, share, divorce; (*v*) separate, dis sever, tear, detach, cleave; (*n*) fragment.

terrifically: (*adv*) wonderfully,

marvelously, greatly, excellently, superbly, stupendously, extremely, marvellously, enormously, terribly, exceptionally. ANTONYM: (*adv*) abysmally.

vigor: (*n, v*) energy; (*adj, n*) intensity; (*n*) spirit, vitality, force, life, strength, power, might, vim, stamina.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) weakness, apathy, frailty, laziness, enervation, inactivity, indifference, illness, lifelessness, sluggishness, tardiness.

upon my bosom. It was hope that prompted the nerve to **quiver** -- the frame to shrink. It was hope -- the hope that triumphs on the rack -- that whispers to the death-condemned even in the dungeons of the Inquisition.

I saw that some ten or twelve vibrations would bring the steel in actual contact with my **robe**, and with this observation there suddenly came over my spirit all the keen, collected **calmness** of despair. For the first time during many hours -- or perhaps days -- I thought. It now occurred to me that the bandage, or surcingle, which enveloped me, was unique. I was tied by no separate cord. The first stroke of the razorlike crescent **athwart** any portion of the band, would so detach it that it might be unwound from my person by means of my left hand. But how fearful, in that case, the proximity of the steel! The result of the slightest struggle how deadly! Was it likely, moreover, that the minions of the **torturer** had not foreseen and provided for this possibility! Was it probable that the bandage crossed my bosom in the track of the pendulum? **Dreading** to find my faint, and, as it seemed, in last hope frustrated, I so far elevated my head as to obtain a distinct view of my breast. The surcingle enveloped my limbs and body close in all directions -- save in the path of the destroying crescent.

Scarcely had I dropped my head back into its original position, when there flashed upon my mind what I cannot better describe than as the **unformed** half of that idea of deliverance to which I have previously alluded, and of which a **moiety** only floated **indeterminately** through my brain when I raised food to my burning lips. The whole thought was now present -- feeble, scarcely sane, scarcely definite, -- but still entire. I proceeded at once, with the nervous energy of despair, to attempt its execution.

For many hours the immediate vicinity of the low framework upon which I lay, had been literally swarming with rats. They were wild, bold, ravenous; their red eyes glaring upon me as if they waited but for motionlessness on my part to make me their prey. "To what food," I thought, "have they been accustomed in the well?"

They had **devoured**, in spite of all my efforts to prevent them, all but a small remnant of the contents of the dish. I had fallen into an habitual see-saw, or wave

Thesaurus

athwart: (*adj, adv, n, prep*) across; (*adv, prep*) aslant, cross; (*adj, adv, prep*) thwart; (*adj, adv*) crosswise; (*adv*) sideways, obliquely, transversely, traverse, overthwart, crossways.
calmness: (*n*) calm, composure, quietness, poise, serenity, stillness, quiet, silence, placidity, peace; (*adj, n*) coolness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) anxiety, nervousness, restlessness, panic, fury, unrest, intensity, discomposure, bustle, annoyance, noise.

devoured: (*adj*) eaten up.
dreading: (*adj*) anxious.
indeterminately: (*adv*) indefinitely, indistinctly, undeterminedly, equivocally, faintly, undefinedly, inexactly, uncertainly, ambiguously, obscurely, indecisively.
moiety: (*n*) mediety, portion, part, parcel, section, piece, bit, division, cut, class.
quiver: (*adj, n, v*) shudder, shiver, tremble, shake; (*v*) flicker, flutter,

vibrate; (*n, v*) palpitate, quaver; (*n*) vibration, tremor.
robe: (*n, v*) dress, array, vest, garb, apparel; (*v*) clothe, attire, rig; (*n*) gown, cloak, garment.
torturer: (*n*) flogger, oppressor, scourger.
unformed: (*adj*) shapeless, amorphous, unfashioned, formless, crude, unlabored, unpolished, unwrought, unfledged, inchoate, embryonic.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) distinct, mature.

of the hand about the **platter**: and, at length, the unconscious uniformity of the movement deprived it of effect. In their **voracity** the vermin frequently fastened their sharp fangs in my fingers. With the particles of the oily and spicy **viand** which now remained, I thoroughly rubbed the bandage wherever I could reach it; then, raising my hand from the floor, I lay breathlessly still.

At first the ravenous animals were startled and terrified at the change -- at the cessation of movement. They **shrank alarmedly** back; many sought the well. But this was only for a moment. I had not counted in vain upon their voracity. Observing that I remained without motion, one or two of the boldest leaped upon the frame-work, and smelt at the surcingle. This seemed the signal for a general rush. Forth from the well they hurried in fresh troops. They clung to the wood -- they overran it, and leaped in hundreds upon my person. The measured movement of the pendulum disturbed them not at all. **Avoiding** its strokes they busied themselves with the **anointed** bandage. They pressed -- they swarmed upon me in ever accumulating heaps. They writhed upon my throat; their cold lips sought my own; I was half stifled by their thronging pressure; disgust, for which the world has no name, **swelled** my bosom, and chilled, with a heavy **clamminess**, my heart. Yet one minute, and I felt that the struggle would be over. Plainly I perceived the **loosening** of the bandage. I knew that in more than one place it must be already severed. With a more than human resolution I lay still.

Nor had I erred in my calculations -- nor had I endured in vain. I at length felt that I was free. The surcingle hung in ribands from my body. But the stroke of the pendulum already pressed upon my bosom. It had divided the serge of the robe. It had cut through the linen beneath. Twice again it swung, and a sharp sense of pain shot through every nerve. But the moment of escape had arrived. At a wave of my hand my deliverers hurried **tumultuously** away. With a steady movement -- cautious, sidelong, shrinking, and slow -- I slid from the embrace of the bandage and beyond the reach of the scimitar. For the moment, at least, I was free.

Free! -- and in the grasp of the Inquisition! I had scarcely stepped from my wooden bed of horror upon the stone floor of the prison, when the motion of the

Thesaurus

alarmedly: (*adv*) anxiously, scaredly, apprehensively, frightenedly, fearfully, horrifiedly, agitatedly, uneasily, worriedly.

anointed: (*adj*) hallowed, divine, greasy; (*v*) anoint.

avoiding: (*n*) shunning; (*adj*) fugitive, antisocial.

clamminess: (*n*) damp, humidity, dampness, closeness, dankness, moisture, mugginess, wetness, wet, succulence. ANTONYMS: (*n*)

dryness, freshness, smoothness.

loosening: (*n*) relaxation, unfastening, ease, undoing, liberalization, adjustment, alteration, liberalisation, easiness; (*adj*) solutive, laxative.

platter: (*n*) disk, record, disc, tray, trencher, phonograph record, phonograph recording, porringer, potager; (*adj*) table, tablet.

shrank: (*v*) minify.

swelled: (*adj*) big, inflated, bloated, swollen, adult, boastful, bighearted,

bad, fully grown, crowing, elder.

tumultuously: (*adv*) turbulently, tempestuously, violently, uproariously, boisterously, tumultuarly, noisily, furiously, loudly, agitatedly; (*adj, adv*) madly.

viand: (*n*) dish.

voracity: (*n*) rapacity, greed, gluttony, ravenousness, rapaciousness, esurience, greediness, eagerness, hunger, voraciousness, covetousness. ANTONYM: (*n*) moderation.

hellish machine ceased and I beheld it drawn up, by some invisible force, through the ceiling. This was a lesson which I took desperately to heart. My every motion was undoubtedly watched. Free! -- I had but escaped death in one form of agony, to be delivered unto worse than death in some other. With that thought I rolled my eyes nervously around on the barriers of iron that hemmed me in. Something unusual -- some change which, at first, I could not appreciate distinctly -- it was obvious, had taken place in the apartment. For many minutes of a dreamy and trembling abstraction, I busied myself in vain, unconnected conjecture. During this period, I became aware, for the first time, of the origin of the sulphurous light which illumined the cell. It proceeded from a fissure, about half an inch in width, extending entirely around the prison at the base of the walls, which thus appeared, and were, completely separated from the floor. I endeavored, but of course in vain, to look through the aperture.

As I arose from the attempt, the mystery of the alteration in the chamber broke at once upon my understanding. I have observed that, although the outlines of the figures upon the walls were sufficiently distinct, yet the colors seemed blurred and indefinite. These colors had now assumed, and were momentarily assuming, a startling and most intense brilliancy, that gave to the spectral and fiendish portraitures an aspect that might have thrilled even firmer nerves than my own. Demon eyes, of a wild and ghastly vivacity, glared upon me in a thousand directions, where none had been visible before, and gleamed with the **lurid** lustre of a fire that I could not force my imagination to regard as unreal.

Unreal! -- Even while I breathed there came to my nostrils the breath of the vapour of heated iron! A **suffocating** odour pervaded the prison! A deeper glow settled each moment in the eyes that glared at my agonies! A richer tint of crimson **diffused** itself over the pictured horrors of blood. I panted! I gasped for breath! There could be no doubt of the design of my tormentors -- oh! most **unrelenting**! oh! most **demoniac** of men! I shrank from the glowing metal to the centre of the cell. Amid the thought of the fiery destruction that impended, the idea of the **coolness** of the well came over my soul like **balm**. I rushed to its

Thesaurus

balm: (*n*) salve, unguent, incense, perfume, aroma, unction, liniment, balsam, arnica, lotion, fragrance.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) irritant, nuisance.

coolness: (*n*) chill, cool, composure, assurance, cold, calmness, alienation, frigidity, equanimity, chilliness, poise. ANTONYMS: (*n*) friendliness, panic, approachability, mustiness, turbulence, agitation.

demoniac: (*adj*) diabolic, devilish, possessed, demoniacal, amuck,

amok, berserk, violent; (*n*) fiend, monster, ogre.

diffused: (*adj*) spread, dispersed, dim, distributed, softened.

hellish: (*adj, v*) diabolic, satanic; (*adj*) infernal, diabolical, fiendish, demonic, beastly, wicked, unholy, detestable; (*v*) mephistophelian.

lurid: (*adj*) ghastly, grisly, gruesome, loud, frightful, sharp, shocking, gaudy, sensational, hideous, horrific. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) subtle, muted,

bland, dull, modest.

suffocating: (*adj*) choking, oppressive, smothering, close, stifling, suffocative, suffocatingly, suffocate, sultry, stifling, overpowering.

unrelenting: (*adj, n*) harsh, hard, severe; (*adj*) stern, relentless, implacable, austere, cruel, grim, unforgiving, persistent. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) feeble, inexorable, sympathetic, temporary, merciful, compassionate, finite, gentle.

deadly brink. I threw my straining vision below. The glare from the **enkindled** roof illumined its inmost recesses. Yet, for a wild moment, did my spirit refuse to comprehend the meaning of what I saw. At length it forced -- it wrestled its way into my soul -- it burned itself in upon my **shuddering** reason. -- Oh! for a voice to speak! -- oh! horror! -- oh! any horror but this! With a shriek, I rushed from the margin, and buried my face in my hands -- weeping bitterly.

The heat rapidly increased, and once again I looked up, shuddering as with a fit of the ague. There had been a second change in the cell -- and now the change was obviously in the form. As before, it was in vain that I, at first, endeavoured to appreciate or understand what was taking place. But not long was I left in doubt. The Inquisitorial vengeance had been hurried by my two-fold escape, and there was to be no more **dallying** with the King of Terrors. The room had been square. I saw that two of its iron angles were now acute -- two, consequently, **obtuse**. The fearful difference quickly increased with a low **rumbling** or moaning sound. In an instant the apartment had **shifted** its form into that of a **lozenge**. But the alteration stopped not here-I neither hoped nor desired it to stop. I could have clasped the red walls to my bosom as a garment of eternal peace. "Death," I said, "any death but that of the pit!" Fool! might I have not known that into the pit it was the object of the burning iron to urge me? Could I resist its glow? or, if even that, could I withstand its pressure And now, flatter and flatter grew the lozenge, with a rapidity that left me no time for contemplation. Its centre, and of course, its greatest width, came just over the yawning gulf. I shrank back -- but the closing walls pressed me **resistlessly** onward. At length for my **seared** and writhing body there was no longer an inch of foothold on the firm floor of the prison. I struggled no more, but the agony of my soul found vent in one loud, long, and final scream of despair. I felt that I tottered upon the brink -- I averted my eyes --

There was a discordant hum of human **voices**! There was a loud blast as of many **trumpets**! There was a harsh grating as of a thousand thunders! The fiery walls rushed back! An outstretched arm caught my own as I fell, **fainting**, into

Thesaurus

dallying: (*n*) frivolity; (*adj*) flirtatious, dilatory.

enkindled: (*adj*) ignited, lighted, kindled, burning; (*prep*) inflamed.

fainting: (*n*) swoon, syncope, deliquium, lipothymy, prostration, stupor; (*adj*) lipothymic.

lozenge: (*n*) diamond, pastille, capsule, candy, troche, pastil, rhombus, tablet, bolus, cough drop, dose.

obtuse: (*adj*) dim, stupid, dense, blunt,

heavy, slow, insensitive, doltish, thick, dumb, simple. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) bright, clever, perceptive, sensitive, intelligent, astute, acute, shrewd.

resistlessly: (*adv*) supinely, unresistingly.

rumbling: (*adj, n*) grumbling; (*n*) grumble, noise, boom, thunder, roll, roar; (*adj*) hollow, low; (*v*) bombination, berloque.

seared: (*adj*) arid, dry as a bone,

recusant, parched. ANTONYM: (*adj*) wet.

shifted: (*adj*) disordered, gone.

shuddering: (*adj, n*) quivering, shaking; (*adv*) shudderingly; (*n*) cold sweat, tremor; (*adj*) rough, shaky, jumpy, quaking, shivery, bumpy. ANTONYM: (*adj*) smooth.

trumpets: (*n*) *Sarracenia flava*, yellow pitcher plant, pitcher plant, yellow trumpet.

voices: (*n*) chorus.

the **abyss**. It was that of General Lasalle. The French **army** had entered Toledo. The Inquisition was in the **hands** of its enemies.

Thesaurus

abyss: (*n*) gorge, ravine, chasm, gulf, deep, purgatory, depth, hell, gap, Gehenna, pit. ANTONYMS: (*n*) junction, juncture.
army: (*n*) troop, host, armed forces, battery, swarm, navy, multitude, force, flock; (*adj*, *n*) military; (*adj*) array.
hands: (*n*) custody, keeping, personnel, safekeeping, hold, shift, workforce, men, manpower,

guardianship, full complement.

THE PREMATURE BURIAL

There are certain themes of which the interest is all-absorbing, but which are too entirely horrible for the purposes of legitimate fiction. These the mere **romanticist** must **eschew**, if he do not wish to offend or to disgust. They are with propriety handled only when the severity and majesty of Truth **sanctify** and sustain them. We thrill, for example, with the most intense of "pleasurable pain" over the accounts of the Passage of the Beresina, of the Earthquake at Lisbon, of the Plague at London, of the Massacre of St. Bartholomew, or of the stifling of the hundred and twenty-three prisoners in the Black Hole at Calcutta. But in these accounts it is the fact -- it is the reality -- it is the history which excites. As inventions, we should regard them with simple abhorrence.

I have **mentioned** some few of the more prominent and august calamities on record; but in these it is the extent, not less than the character of the **calamity**, which so vividly impresses the fancy. I need not remind the reader that, from the long and weird catalogue of human miseries, I might have selected many individual instances more **replete** with essential suffering than any of these vast **generalities** of disaster. The true wretchedness, indeed -- the ultimate woe -- is particular, not diffuse. That the ghastly **extremes** of agony are endured by man the unit, and never by man the mass -- for this let us thank a **merciful** God!

Thesaurus

calamity: (*n*) disaster, adversity, affliction, misfortune, plague, catastrophe, tragedy, blow, bale, distress; (*n, v*) trouble. ANTONYMS: (*n*) blessing, boon, luck, joy, opportunity.
eschew: (*v*) abstain, shun, elude, forbear, evade, shirk, refrain, keep from, let alone, duck, flinch. ANTONYMS: (*v*) like, choose, embrace, participate, court.
extremes: (*n*) excess; (*adv*) overboard.

generalities: (*n*) general points, general terms, generalia.
mentioned: (*adj*) spoken.
merciful: (*adj*) humane, gracious, lenient, compassionate, kind, clement, benign, kindly, gentle, beneficent, forgiving. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pitiless, merciless, unforgiving, spiteful, harsh, impatient, severe, hardhearted.
replete: (*adj*) fraught, profuse, excessive, inordinate, exuberant,

overmuch, satisfied; (*v*) fill, take, satiate, cloy. ANTONYM: (*adj*) hungry.
romanticist: (*n*) idealist, visionary, somebody, someone, soul, sentimentalist, artist, creative person, person; (*adj*) amorous, quixotic.
sanctify: (*v*) purify, hallow, enshrine, anoint, honor, reconsecrate, lustrate; (*adj, v*) ordain, bless; (*n*) edify, convert.

To be buried while alive is, beyond question, the most terrific of these extremes which has ever fallen to the lot of mere mortality. That it has frequently, very frequently, so fallen will scarcely be denied by those who think. The boundaries which divide Life from Death are at best shadowy and vague. Who shall say where the one ends, and where the other begins? We know that there are diseases in which occur total cessations of all the apparent functions of vitality, and yet in which these cessations are merely suspensions, properly so called. They are only temporary pauses in the incomprehensible mechanism. A certain period elapses, and some unseen mysterious principle again sets in motion the magic **pinions** and the wizard **wheels**. The silver cord was not for ever loosed, nor the golden bowl **irreparably** broken. But where, meantime, was the soul?

Apart, however, from the inevitable conclusion, a priori that such causes must produce such effects, -- that the well-known occurrence of such cases of suspended animation must naturally give rise, now and then, to premature interments -- apart from this consideration, we have the direct testimony of medical and ordinary experience to prove that a vast number of such interments have actually taken place. I might refer at once, if necessary to a hundred well authenticated instances. One of very remarkable character, and of which the circumstances may be fresh in the memory of some of my readers, occurred, not very long ago, in the **neighboring** city of Baltimore, where it occasioned a painful, intense, and widely-extended excitement. The wife of one of the most respectable citizens--a lawyer of **eminence** and a member of Congress -- was seized with a sudden and unaccountable illness, which completely baffled the skill of her physicians. After much suffering she died, or was supposed to die. No one suspected, indeed, or had reason to suspect, that she was not actually dead. She presented all the ordinary appearances of death. The face assumed the usual pinched and **sunken** outline. The lips were of the usual marble **pallor**. The eyes were lustreless. There was no warmth. **Pulsation** had ceased. For three days the body was preserved unburied, during which it had acquired a stony rigidity. The funeral, in short, was hastened, on account of the rapid advance of what was supposed to be **decomposition**.

Thesaurus

decomposition: (*n*) decay, rot, putrefaction, dissolution, disintegration, rotting, deterioration, analysis, rust, corruption, degradation.
eminence: (*n*) distinction, elevation, altitude, celebrity, superiority, rank, excellence, fame, glory, prominence, status. ANTONYMS: (*n*) insignificance, cavity, depression, unimportance, dip, commonness, inferiority.

irreparably: (*adv*) irretrievably, irremediably.
neighboring: (*adj, adv*) adjacent, near; (*adj*) adjoining, nearby, contiguous, neighbor, abutting, next, neighborly, nigh, next to. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) distant, remote, far, national.
pallor: (*n*) pallidness, wanness, complexion, achromasia, lividity, lividness, luridness, pale, skin color, whiteness, sallowness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) rosiness, coloration, bloom.

pinions: (*n*) restraint.
pulsation: (*n*) pulse, beat, pounding, impulse, heartbeat, throb, tremor, pulsing, palpitation, throbbing, beating.
sunken: (*adj*) concave, depressed, submerged, empty, underwater, cavernous, recessed, gaunt, low, depression, submarine. ANTONYM: (*adj*) convex.
wheels: (*n*) vehicle, truck, car, brush, force.

The lady was deposited in her family vault, which, for three subsequent years, was undisturbed. At the expiration of this term it was opened for the reception of a **sarcophagus**; -- but, alas! how fearful a shock awaited the husband, who, personally, threw open the door! As its portals swung outwardly back, some white-apparelled object fell rattling within his arms. It was the skeleton of his wife in her yet unmoulded shroud.

A careful investigation rendered it evident that she had revived within two days after her entombment; that her struggles within the coffin had caused it to fall from a ledge, or shelf to the floor, where it was so broken as to permit her escape. A lamp which had been accidentally left, full of oil, within the tomb, was found empty; it might have been exhausted, however, by evaporation. On the **uttermost** of the steps which led down into the dread chamber was a large fragment of the coffin, with which, it seemed, that she had endeavored to arrest attention by striking the iron door. While thus occupied, she probably swooned, or possibly died, through sheer terror; and, in failing, her shroud became entangled in some iron -- work which projected **interiorly**. Thus she remained, and thus she rotted, erect.

In the year 1810, a case of living **inhumation** happened in France, attended with circumstances which go far to warrant the assertion that truth is, indeed, stranger than fiction. The heroine of the story was a Mademoiselle Victorine Lafourcade, a young girl of illustrious family, of wealth, and of great personal beauty. Among her numerous suitors was Julien Bossuet, a poor **litterateur**, or journalist of Paris. His talents and general **amiability** had recommended him to the notice of the **heiress**, by whom he seems to have been truly beloved; but her pride of birth decided her, finally, to reject him, and to wed a Monsieur Renelle, a banker and a **diplomatist** of some eminence. After marriage, however, this gentleman neglected, and, perhaps, even more positively ill-treated her. Having passed with him some wretched years, she died, -- at least her condition so closely resembled death as to deceive every one who saw her. She was buried -- not in a vault, but in an ordinary grave in the village of her **nativity**. Filled with despair, and still inflamed by the memory of a profound attachment, the lover

Thesaurus

amiability: (*n*) geniality, affableness, kindness, friendliness, courtesy, cordiality, amiableness, affability, kindness, joviality, hospitality.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) unfriendliness, hostility, unkindness.
diplomatist: (*n*) consul, ambassador, official, functionary, embassy, diplomatic minister, nuncio, minister, plenipotentiary, jay, page.
heiress: (*n*) inheritress, inheritrix, inheritor, heritor, owner, beneficiary.

inhumation: (*n, v*) interment; (*n*) entombment, sepulture, funeral, burying, humation, burial chamber.
interiorly: (*adv*) innerly, inwardly, insidely, intimately, nationally, privately, secretly, inlandly, centerly, intrinsically, inside.
litterateur: (*n*) essayist, author, scholar, man of letters, literator, bookman, dilettanti, journalism, lamb, writer, illuminati.
nativity: (*n*) birth, horoscope,

nascency, delivery, genesis, cradle, nascence, birthing, origin, childbirth, births. **ANTONYM:** (*n*) death.
sarcophagus: (*n*) casket, urn, tomb, shell, pall, cinerary urn, bier, hearse, catafalque.
uttermost: (*adj, n*) extreme; (*adj, adv*) farthest; (*n*) maximum, level best; (*adj*) furthest, utter, last, farthestmost, furthestmost, ultimate, most.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) moderate.

journeys from the capital to the remote province in which the village lies, with the romantic purpose of **disinterring** the corpse, and possessing himself of its luxuriant **tresses**. He reaches the grave. At midnight he unearths the coffin, opens it, and is in the act of **detaching** the hair, when he is arrested by the unclosing of the beloved eyes. In fact, the lady had been buried alive. Vitality had not altogether departed, and she was aroused by the caresses of her lover from the lethargy which had been mistaken for death. He bore her frantically to his lodgings in the village. He employed certain powerful restoratives suggested by no little medical learning. In fine, she revived. She recognized her **preserver**. She remained with him until, by slow degrees, she fully recovered her original health. Her woman's heart was not adamant, and this last lesson of love sufficed to soften it. She **bestowed** it upon Bossuet. She returned no more to her husband, but, concealing from him her resurrection, fled with her lover to America. Twenty years afterward, the two returned to France, in the persuasion that time had so greatly altered the lady's appearance that her friends would be unable to recognize her. They were mistaken, however, for, at the first meeting, Monsieur Renelle did actually recognize and make claim to his wife. This claim she resisted, and a judicial tribunal sustained her in her resistance, deciding that the peculiar circumstances, with the long lapse of years, had **extinguished**, not only **equitably**, but legally, the authority of the husband.

The "Chirurgical Journal" of Leipsic -- a **periodical** of high authority and merit, which some American bookseller would do well to translate and republish, records in a late number a very distressing event of the character in question.

An officer of artillery, a man of gigantic stature and of robust health, being thrown from an unmanageable horse, received a very severe **contusion** upon the head, which rendered him insensible at once; the skull was slightly fractured, but no immediate danger was **apprehended**. **Trepanning** was accomplished successfully. He was **bled**, and many other of the ordinary means of relief were adopted. Gradually, however, he fell into a more and more hopeless state of stupor, and, finally, it was thought that he died.

Thesaurus

apprehended: (<i>adj</i>) arrested, seized, understood, under arrest, in custody, detained, appreciated, comprehended.	detaching: (<i>adj</i>) peeling, disengaging, shedding; (<i>n</i>) division.	extermination, extinction.
bestowed: (<i>adj</i>) presented, conferred, awarded, accurate.	disinterring: (<i>n</i>) excavation.	periodical: (<i>n</i>) journal, magazine, newspaper, review, organ,
bled: (<i>v</i>) bleed; (<i>n</i>) bulla.	equitably: (<i>adv</i>) justly, impartially, right, rightly, honestly, honorably, equally, fair and square, objectively, without favoritism. ANTONYM: (<i>adv</i>) unfairly.	publication, book; (<i>adj</i>) intermittent, cyclic, recurrent, annual.
contusion: (<i>adj</i>) attenuation, comminution, detrition, levigation, multure, trituration; (<i>n</i>) swelling, concussion, discoloration, trauma, bump.	extinguished: (<i>adj</i>) extinct, out, dead, quenched, allayed, destroyed; (<i>n</i>) defunctness, complete annihilation, experimental extinction,	preserver: (<i>n</i>) defender, protector, custodian, conservative, keeper, conservator, savior, patron, restorer, flotation device; (<i>adj</i>) third person.
		trepanning: (<i>n</i>) circular grooving.
		tresses: (<i>n</i>) locks, mop, head of hair.

The weather was warm, and he was buried with indecent haste in one of the public cemeteries. His funeral took place on Thursday. On the Sunday following, the grounds of the cemetery were, as usual, much **thronged** with visitors, and about noon an intense excitement was created by the declaration of a peasant that, while sitting upon the grave of the officer, he had distinctly felt a **commotion** of the earth, as if occasioned by some one struggling beneath. At first little attention was paid to the man's **asseveration**; but his evident terror, and the dogged **obstinacy** with which he persisted in his story, had at length their natural effect upon the crowd. Spades were hurriedly procured, and the grave, which was **shamefully** shallow, was in a few minutes so far thrown open that the head of its occupant appeared. He was then seemingly dead; but he sat nearly erect within his coffin, the lid of which, in his furious struggles, he had partially uplifted.

He was forthwith conveyed to the nearest hospital, and there pronounced to be still living, although in an asphytic condition. After some **hours** he revived, recognized individuals of his acquaintance, and, in broken sentences spoke of his agonies in the grave.

From what he related, it was clear that he must have been conscious of life for more than an hour, while **inhumed**, before lapsing into insensibility. The grave was carelessly and loosely filled with an exceedingly **porous** soil; and thus some air was necessarily admitted. He heard the footsteps of the crowd overhead, and endeavored to make himself heard in turn. It was the tumult within the grounds of the cemetery, he said, which appeared to awaken him from a deep sleep, but no sooner was he awake than he became fully aware of the awful horrors of his position.

This patient, it is recorded, was doing well and seemed to be in a fair way of ultimate recovery, but fell a victim to the quackeries of medical experiment. The galvanic battery was applied, and he suddenly expired in one of those ecstatic paroxysms which, occasionally, it superinduces.

The mention of the galvanic battery, nevertheless, recalls to my memory a well known and very extraordinary case in point, where its action proved the

Thesaurus

asseveration: (*n*) contention, assertion, averment, avowal, claim, affidavit, statement, allegation, accusation, swearing, promise.

commotion: (*n*) tumult, ado, disturbance, turmoil, stir, din, flurry, fuss, bedlam, tempest; (*n, v*) agitation. ANTONYMS: (*n*) peace, order, calm, serenity, calmness, stillness, quiet, tranquility, inactivity.

hours: (*n*) period, duty period; (*adv*) o'clock.

inhumed: (*adj*) hidden, interred.

obstinacy: (*n*) stubbornness, firmness, bullheadedness, determination, contumacy, mulishness, impenitence, resolve, resoluteness, impenitency, pertinacity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) cooperation, compliance.

porous: (*adj*) leaky, poriferous, holey, pervious, open, spongy, honeycombed, absorbent, cellular, perforated; (*v*) riddled. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) impermeable, watertight,

nonporous.

shamefully: (*adv*) ignominiously, ingloriously, scandalously, infamously, shockingly, discredibly, basely, outrageously; (*adv, v*) dishonorably, foully, nastily. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) commendably, compassionately, nobly.

thronged: (*adj*) throng, busy, populous, brisk, teeming, swarming, sprightly, sensitive, replete, overflowing; (*n*) persistent.

means of restoring to animation a young attorney of London, who had been **interred** for two days. This occurred in 1831, and created, at the time, a very profound sensation wherever it was made the subject of converse.

The patient, Mr. Edward Stapleton, had died, apparently of **typhus** fever, accompanied with some anomalous symptoms which had excited the curiosity of his medical attendants. Upon his seeming decease, his friends were requested to sanction a post-mortem examination, but **declined** to permit it. As often happens, when such refusals are made, the practitioners resolved to **disinter** the body and **dissect** it at leisure, in private. Arrangements were easily effected with some of the numerous corps of body-snatchers, with which London abounds; and, upon the third night after the funeral, the supposed corpse was unearthed from a grave eight feet deep, and deposited in the opening chamber of one of the private hospitals.

An **incision** of some extent had been actually made in the abdomen, when the fresh and **undecayed** appearance of the subject suggested an application of the battery. One experiment succeeded another, and the customary effects supervened, with nothing to characterize them in any respect, except, upon one or two occasions, a more than ordinary degree of life-likeness in the convulsive action.

It grew late. The day was about to dawn; and it was thought expedient, at length, to proceed at once to the **dissection**. A student, however, was especially desirous of testing a theory of his own, and insisted upon applying the battery to one of the **pectoral** muscles. A rough **gash** was made, and a wire hastily brought in contact, when the patient, with a hurried but quite unconvulsive movement, arose from the table, stepped into the middle of the floor, gazed about him uneasily for a few seconds, and then -- spoke. What he said was unintelligible, but words were uttered; the syllabification was distinct. Having spoken, he fell heavily to the floor.

For some moments all were **paralyzed** with awe -- but the urgency of the case soon restored them their presence of mind. It was seen that Mr. Stapleton was alive, although in a swoon. Upon exhibition of ether he revived and was rapidly

Thesaurus

declined: (<i>adj</i>) less.	decomposition, resolution, cutting, examination, calculation, section.	prostrate, enervated, dead, impotent, inert.
disinter: (<i>v</i>) exhume, unearth, dig up, disentomb, unveil, dig, expose, excavate, unbury, untomb, ungrave. ANTONYM: (<i>v</i>) bury.	gash: (<i>n, v</i>) slash, scratch, tear, wound, slit, break, rip, slice, crack, score; (<i>n</i>) fissure.	pectoral: (<i>adj</i>) thoracic; (<i>n</i>) musculus pectoralis, pecs, petto, pectoral medallion, adornment, pectoral muscle, musculus pectoralis minor, musculus pectoralis major, greater pectoral muscle, pectoralis.
dissect: (<i>n, v</i>) anatomize, scrutinize; (<i>v</i>) carve, dismember, cut, decompose, analyse, cut up, separate, parse, resolve. ANTONYMS: (<i>v</i>) mend, synthesize, join.	incision: (<i>n</i>) dent, cut, gash, groove, score, scratch, furrow, slice; (<i>n, v</i>) crack, split; (<i>v</i>) fissure.	typhus: (<i>n</i>) typhina, typhomania, typhus fever, rickettsial disease, spotted fever.
dissection: (<i>n</i>) analysis, anatomy, autopsy, breakdown, cut,	interred: (<i>adj</i>) buried, inhumed, hidden. ANTONYM: (<i>adj</i>) unburied.	undecayed: (<i>adj</i>) sound, green.
	paralyzed: (<i>adj</i>) palsied, crippled, disabled, helpless, torpid, powerless,	

restored to health, and to the society of his friends -- from whom, however, all knowledge of his **resuscitation** was withheld, until a relapse was no longer to be apprehended. Their wonder -- their **rapturous** astonishment -- may be conceived.

The most thrilling peculiarity of this incident, nevertheless, is involved in what Mr. S. himself asserts. He declares that at no period was he altogether insensible -- that, **dully** and confusedly, he was aware of everything which happened to him, from the moment in which he was pronounced dead by his physicians, to that in which he fell swooning to the floor of the hospital. "I am alive," were the uncomprehended words which, upon recognizing the locality of the dissecting-room, he had endeavored, in his extremity, to utter.

It were an easy matter to multiply such histories as these -- but I forbear -- for, indeed, we have no need of such to establish the fact that premature interments occur. When we reflect how very rarely, from the nature of the case, we have it in our power to detect them, we must admit that they may frequently occur without our cognizance. Scarcely, in truth, is a graveyard ever encroached upon, for any purpose, to any great extent, that skeletons are not found in postures which suggest the most fearful of suspicions.

Fearful indeed the suspicion -- but more fearful the doom! It may be asserted, without hesitation, that no event is so terribly well adapted to inspire the supremeness of bodily and of mental distress, as is burial before death. The unendurable oppression of the lungs -- the stifling fumes from the damp earth -- the clinging to the death garments -- the rigid embrace of the narrow house -- the blackness of the absolute Night -- the silence like a sea that overwhelms -- the unseen but **palpable** presence of the Conqueror Worm -- these things, with the thoughts of the air and grass above, with memory of dear friends who would fly to save us if but informed of our fate, and with consciousness that of this fate they can never be informed -- that our hopeless portion is that of the really dead -- these considerations, I say, carry into the heart, which still palpitates, a degree of appalling and intolerable horror from which the most daring imagination must **recoil**. We know of nothing so **agonizing** upon Earth -- we can dream of

Thesaurus

agonizing: (*adj, v*) excruciating; (*adj*) painful, harrowing, poignant, grievous, agonising, torturous, heartbreaking, sore, anguished, aching. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) restful, painless, enjoyable, easy, bearable, wonderful, unemotional.
dully: (*adv*) slowly, sluggishly, stupidly, tediously, drearily, heavily, tamely, boringly, monotonously, tiresomely, bluntly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) animatedly, luminously,

brightly, brilliantly.
palpable: (*adj*) tangible, obvious, evident, apparent, clear, transparent, indubitable, noticeable, lucid, patent, perceptible. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) imaginary, intangible, impalpable, doubtful, furtive, imperceptible, insignificant, obscure, unclear.
rapturous: (*adj*) overjoyed, enraptured, rapt, delighted, rhapsodic, blissful; (*adj, v*) ravishing; (*v*) ardent, passionate, fond, erotic. ANTONYM:

(*adj*) down.

recoil: (*n, v*) rebound, kick, bounce, shrink; (*n*) reaction, repercussion, backlash; (*v*) bound, cringe, flinch, quail.

restored: (*adj*) new, healthy, comfortable, convalescent.

resuscitation: (*n*) revival, resurrection, resurgence, reanimation, revitalisation, revitalization, reviction, revivification, recovery, reappearance.

nothing half so hideous in the realms of the **nethermost** Hell. And thus all narratives upon this topic have an interest profound; an interest, nevertheless, which, through the sacred awe of the topic itself, very properly and very peculiarly depends upon our conviction of the truth of the matter narrated. What I have now to tell is of my own actual knowledge -- of my own positive and personal experience.

For several years I had been subject to attacks of the singular disorder which physicians have agreed to term **cataplexy**, in default of a more definitive title. Although both the immediate and the **predisposing** causes, and even the actual diagnosis, of this disease are still mysterious, its obvious and apparent character is sufficiently well understood. Its variations seem to be chiefly of degree. Sometimes the patient lies, for a day only, or even for a shorter period, in a species of exaggerated lethargy. He is **senseless** and externally motionless; but the pulsation of the heart is still faintly perceptible; some traces of warmth remain; a slight color lingers within the centre of the cheek; and, upon application of a mirror to the lips, we can detect a **torpid**, unequal, and **vacillating** action of the lungs. Then again the duration of the trance is for weeks -- even for months; while the closest scrutiny, and the most rigorous medical tests, fail to establish any material distinction between the state of the sufferer and what we conceive of absolute death. Very usually he is saved from premature **interment** solely by the knowledge of his friends that he has been previously subject to cataplexy, by the consequent suspicion excited, and, above all, by the non-appearance of decay. The **advances** of the malady are, luckily, gradual. The first manifestations, although marked, are unequivocal. The fits grow **successively** more and more distinctive, and endure each for a longer term than the preceding. In this lies the principal security from inhumation. The unfortunate whose first attack should be of the extreme character which is occasionally seen, would almost inevitably be consigned alive to the tomb.

My own case differed in no important particular from those mentioned in medical books. Sometimes, without any apparent cause, I sank, little by little, into a condition of hemi-syncope, or half swoon; and, in this condition, without

Thesaurus

advances: (<i>v</i>) access, approach.	predisponent.	another.
cataplexy: (<i>adj</i>) trance, catalepsis, fixity, immobility.	senseless: (<i>adj</i>) foolish, mindless, preposterous, pointless, irrational, absurd, stupid, insensible, idiotic, fatuous, purposeless. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) meaningful, wise, conscious, provoked, prudent, useful, worthwhile.	torpid: (<i>adj</i>) inactive, sluggish, indolent, dull, slow, dormant, lazy, dead, lifeless, flat, supine.
interment: (<i>n</i>) burial, sepulture, entombment, funeral, sepulcher, committal, obsequies, arenation, burying, grave, humation.	successively: (<i>adv</i>) in turn, one after the other, in succession, sequentially, serially, running, in order, gradually, subsequently, repeatedly, one after	ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) energetic, lively.
nethermost: (<i>adj</i>) bottommost, lowermost, undermost, lowest, farthest down.		vacillating: (<i>adj, v</i>) indecisive, changeable, undecided, wavering, giddy, vacillant, hesitating, hesitant; (<i>adj, v</i>) infirm, debilitated, enfeebled.
predisposing: (<i>adj</i>) procatactic, initial, disposing beforehand, beginning,		ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) stable, strong, consistent, decisive, determined, resolute.

pain, without ability to stir, or, strictly speaking, to think, but with a dull lethargic consciousness of life and of the presence of those who surrounded my bed, I remained, until the crisis of the disease restored me, suddenly, to perfect sensation. At other times I was quickly and impetuously smitten. I grew sick, and numb, and chilly, and dizzy, and so fell prostrate at once. Then, for weeks, all was void, and black, and silent, and Nothing became the universe. Total annihilation could be no more. From these latter attacks I **awoke**, however, with a gradation slow in proportion to the suddenness of the seizure. Just as the day dawns to the **friendless** and **houseless** beggar who roams the streets throughout the long desolate winter night -- just so **tardily** -- just so wearily -- just so **cheerily** came back the light of the Soul to me.

Apart from the tendency to trance, however, my general health appeared to be good; nor could I perceive that it was at all affected by the one prevalent malady -- unless, indeed, an idiosyncrasy in my ordinary sleep may be looked upon as superinduced. Upon awaking from slumber, I could never gain, at once, thorough possession of my senses, and always remained, for many minutes, in much bewilderment and **perplexity**; -- the mental faculties in general, but the memory in especial, being in a condition of absolute abeyance.

In all that I endured there was no physical suffering but of moral distress an infinitude. My fancy grew charnel, I talked "of worms, of tombs, and epitaphs." I was lost in reveries of death, and the idea of premature burial held continual possession of my brain. The ghastly Danger to which I was subjected haunted me day and night. In the former, the torture of meditation was excessive -- in the latter, supreme. When the grim Darkness overspread the Earth, then, with every horror of thought, I shook -- shook as the quivering plumes upon the hearse. When Nature could endure **wakefulness** no longer, it was with a struggle that I consented to sleep -- for I shuddered to reflect that, upon awaking, I might find myself the tenant of a grave. And when, finally, I sank into slumber, it was only to rush at once into a world of phantasms, above which, with vast, sable, **overshadowing** wing, hovered, predominant, the one **sepulchral** Idea.

Thesaurus

awoke: (*adj*) awakened.

cheerily: (*adv*) merrily, pleasantly, cheerfully, joyfully, gaily, brightly, happily, mirthfully, jovially, sunnily, blithely. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) nastily, sulkily, seriously, miserably, sadly.

friendless: (*adj*) alone, lonely, abandoned, solitary, helpless, lonesome, forsaken, unfriended, deserted, introverted, unwanted. ANTONYM: (*adj*) sociable.

houseless: (*adj*) unhoused.

overshadowing: (*adj*) consuming, major, overwhelming, uncontrollable, unbearable, intense.

perplexity: (*n*) confusion, dilemma, bewilderment, maze, labyrinth, embarrassment, quandary, complication, enigma; (*adj, n*) difficulty, distress. ANTONYM: (*n*) understanding.

sepulchral: (*adj, v*) hollow, hoarse; (*v*) mortuary, harsh, rough, horridous, grum; (*adj*) ghastly, raucous, husky;

(*n*) funeral.

tardily: (*adv*) belatedly, late, dilatorily, latently, slackly, sluggishly, recently, backwardly, behindhandly; (*adv, v*) slow, easy. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) quickly, punctually.

wakefulness: (*n*) insomnia, arousal, vigilance, guard, temporary state, alertness, consciousness, circumspection, caution; (*v*) vigil; (*n, v*) watch. ANTONYMS: (*n*) inattentiveness, unconsciousness.

From the innumerable images of gloom which thus oppressed me in dreams, I select for record but a solitary vision. Methought I was immersed in a **cataleptic** trance of more than usual duration and profundity. Suddenly there came an icy hand upon my forehead, and an impatient, gibbering voice whispered the word "Arise!" within my ear.

I sat erect. The darkness was total. I could not see the figure of him who had aroused me. I could call to mind neither the period at which I had fallen into the trance, nor the locality in which I then lay. While I remained motionless, and busied in endeavors to collect my thought, the cold hand grasped me fiercely by the wrist, shaking it **petulantly**, while the gibbering voice said again:

"Arise! did I not bid thee arise?"

"And who," I demanded, "art thou?"

"I have no name in the **regions** which I inhabit," replied the voice, mournfully; "I was mortal, but am fiend. I was **merciless**, but am pitiful. Thou dost feel that I shudder. -- My teeth chatter as I speak, yet it is not with the **chilliness** of the night -- of the night without end. But this **hideousness** is insufferable. How canst thou tranquilly sleep? I cannot rest for the cry of these great agonies. These sights are more than I can bear. Get thee up! Come with me into the outer Night, and let me unfold to thee the graves. Is not this a spectacle of woe? -- Behold!"

I looked; and the unseen figure, which still grasped me by the wrist, had caused to be thrown open the graves of all mankind, and from each issued the faint **phosphoric** radiance of decay, so that I could see into the **innermost** recesses, and there view the **shrouded** bodies in their sad and solemn slumbers with the worm. But alas! the real sleepers were fewer, by many millions, than those who slumbered not at all; and there was a feeble struggling; and there was a general sad unrest; and from out the depths of the countless pits there came a melancholy rustling from the garments of the buried. And of those who seemed tranquilly to repose, I saw that a vast number had changed, in a greater or less degree, the rigid and uneasy position in which they had originally been entombed. And the voice again said to me as I gazed:

Thesaurus

cataleptic: (*adj*) out cold, comatose, insensible.
chilliness: (*n*) coldness, cold, frigidity, chill, low temperature, cool, wintriness, frostiness, algor, iciness, algidity. ANTONYMS: (*n*) warmth, friendliness.
hideousness: (*adj*) ugliness; (*n*) awfulness, eyesore, vileness, ghastliness, deformity, horribleness, misery, repulsiveness, gruesomeness, unattractiveness. ANTONYM: (*n*)

attractiveness.
innermost: (*adj*) inward, intimate, inner, interior, close, internal, middle, center, hint, hearty; (*adj, n*) inside. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) external, outermost, outer.
merciless: (*adj*) brutal, pitiless, unmerciful, remorseless, heartless, implacable, inhuman, hard, grim, barbarous, unfeeling. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) charitable, kind, humane, soft, caring, tolerant.

petulantly: (*adv*) testily, impatiently, sulkily, querulously, pettishly, irritably, snappishly, morosely, tetchily, crossly, sullenly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) calmly, lightly.
phosphoric: (*adj*) phosphorous, phosphorical.
regions: (*n*) area, region, parts.
shrouded: (*adj*) hidden, covered, veiled, cloaked, secret, wearing a veil, unseen, ulterior, masked, enclosed, misty.

"Is it not -- oh! is it not a **pitiful** sight?" -- but, before I could find words to reply, the figure had ceased to grasp my wrist, the phosphoric lights expired, and the graves were closed with a sudden violence, while from out them arose a tumult of despairing cries, saying again: "Is it not -- O, God, is it not a very pitiful sight?"

Phantasies such as these, presenting themselves at night, extended their terrific influence far into my waking hours. My nerves became thoroughly unstrung, and I fell a prey to perpetual horror. I hesitated to ride, or to walk, or to indulge in any exercise that would carry me from home. In fact, I no longer dared trust myself out of the immediate presence of those who were aware of my **proneness** to catalepsy, lest, falling into one of my usual fits, I should be buried before my real condition could be ascertained. I doubted the care, the **fidelity** of my dearest friends. I dreaded that, in some **trance** of more than customary duration, they might be prevailed upon to regard me as **irrecoverable**. I even went so far as to fear that, as I occasioned much trouble, they might be glad to consider any very protracted attack as sufficient excuse for getting rid of me altogether. It was in vain they endeavored to reassure me by the most solemn promises. I exacted the most sacred oaths, that under no circumstances they would bury me until decomposition had so materially advanced as to render farther preservation impossible. And, even then, my mortal terrors would listen to no reason -- would accept no consolation. I entered into a series of elaborate precautions. Among other things, I had the family vault so remodelled as to admit of being readily opened from within. The slightest pressure upon a long lever that extended far into the tomb would cause the iron portal to fly back. There were arrangements also for the free admission of air and light, and convenient receptacles for food and water, within immediate reach of the coffin intended for my reception. This coffin was warmly and softly padded, and was provided with a lid, fashioned upon the principle of the vault-door, with the addition of springs so **contrived** that the **feeblest** movement of the body would be sufficient to set it at liberty. Besides all this, there was suspended from the roof of the tomb, a large bell, the rope of which, it was designed, should extend through a hole in the coffin, and so be fastened to one of the hands of the corpse.

Thesaurus

contrived: (*adj*) affected, unnatural, false, forced, labored, spurious, feigned, unreal, strained, built, artificially formal. ANTONYM: (*adj*) sincere.
feeblest: (*adj*) least.
fidelity: (*n*) constancy, devotion, faithfulness, adherence, allegiance, loyalty, faith, dedication, exactness; (*adj, n*) honesty, truth. ANTONYMS: (*n*) infidelity, unfaithfulness, disloyalty, inaccuracy, faithlessness,

dishonesty, unreliability.
irrecoverable: (*adj*) incurable, irreparable, remediless, irreclaimable, irremediable, unrecoverable, forgotten, desperate, lost, irrevocable, irreversible.
pitiful: (*adj, n*) abject; (*adj*) pathetic, lamentable, piteous, contemptible, miserable, distressing, mean, wretched, poor, sad. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) generous, heartwarming, admirable, cheerful, fine, happy,

impressive.
proneness: (*n*) predisposition, proclivity, inclination, disposition, bent, tendency, propensity, propension, predilection, aptitude, propensity.
trance: (*adj, n*) ecstasy; (*n, v*) coma, charm; (*n*) fascination, daze, dream, captivation, spell, stupor, obtusefaction; (*v*) capture. ANTONYMS: (*n*) loyalist, reality, alertness.

But, alas? what **avails** the vigilance against the Destiny of man? Not even these well-contrived securities sufficed to save from the uttermost agonies of living inhumation, a wretch to these agonies foredoomed!

There arrived an epoch -- as often before there had arrived -- in which I found myself emerging from total **unconsciousness** into the first feeble and indefinite sense of existence. Slowly -- with a tortoise gradation -- approached the faint gray dawn of the psychal day. A torpid uneasiness. An **apathetic** endurance of dull pain. No care -- no hope -- no effort. Then, after a long interval, a ringing in the ears; then, after a lapse still longer, a **prickling** or tingling sensation in the extremities; then a seemingly eternal period of pleasurable quiescence, during which the awakening feelings are struggling into thought; then a brief re-sinking into non-entity; then a sudden recovery. At length the slight quivering of an **eyelid**, and immediately thereupon, an electric shock of a terror, deadly and indefinite, which sends the blood in torrents from the temples to the heart. And now the first positive effort to think. And now the first endeavor to remember. And now a partial and **evanescent** success. And now the memory has so far regained its dominion, that, in some measure, I am cognizant of my state. I feel that I am not awaking from ordinary sleep. I **recollect** that I have been subject to catalepsy. And now, at last, as if by the rush of an ocean, my shuddering spirit is overwhelmed by the one grim Danger -- by the one spectral and ever-prevalent idea.

For some minutes after this fancy possessed me, I remained without motion. And why? I could not summon courage to move. I dared not make the effort which was to satisfy me of my fate -- and yet there was something at my heart which whispered me it was sure. Despair -- such as no other species of wretchedness ever calls into being -- despair alone urged me, after long **irresolution**, to uplift the heavy lids of my eyes. I uplifted them. It was dark -- all dark. I knew that the fit was over. I knew that the crisis of my disorder had long passed. I knew that I had now fully recovered the use of my visual faculties -- and yet it was dark -- all dark -- the intense and utter raylessness of the Night that endureth for evermore.

Thesaurus

apathetic: (*adj*) indifferent, uninterested, cool, impassive, perfunctory, dull, spiritless, nonchalant, casual, lukewarm, lazy. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) enthusiastic, inquisitive, fervent, energetic, concerned, interested, keen, excited, passionate, ambitious, caring. **avails:** (*n*) Vail. **evanescent:** (*adj*) passing, temporary, fleeting, transitory, fugitive, momentary, transient, cursory,

temporal, intangible, short-lived. **eyelid:** (*n*) lid, palpebra, chapeau. **irresolution:** (*n*) indecisiveness, hesitation, doubt, irresoluteness, indetermination, shilly-shally, uncertainty, hesitancy, incertitude, dubiety, suspense. **ANTONYMS:** (*n*) resolution, decisiveness, determination. **prickling:** (*n*) itch, somaesthesia, somatesthesia, somesthesia, pins and needles, itching, itchiness, feeling,

frisson; (*adj, n*) tingling; (*adj*) painful. **recollect:** (*v*) recall, remember, recognize, call to mind, remind, mind, think, call up, reminisce, refresh, retrieve. **ANTONYM:** (*v*) forget. **unconsciousness:** (*n*) blackout, insensibility, grogginess, loss of consciousness, coma, trance, stupefaction, faint, unawareness, ignorance, torpor. **ANTONYM:** (*n*) awareness.

I endeavored to shriek-, and my lips and my **parched** tongue moved convulsively together in the attempt -- but no voice issued from the **cavernous** lungs, which oppressed as if by the weight of some incumbent mountain, gasped and palpitated, with the heart, at every elaborate and struggling inspiration.

The movement of the jaws, in this effort to cry aloud, showed me that they were bound up, as is usual with the dead. I felt, too, that I lay upon some hard substance, and by something similar my sides were, also, closely compressed. So far, I had not ventured to stir any of my limbs -- but now I violently threw up my arms, which had been lying at length, with the wrists crossed. They struck a solid wooden substance, which extended above my person at an elevation of not more than six inches from my face. I could no longer doubt that I reposed within a coffin at last.

And now, amid all my infinite miseries, came sweetly the cherub Hope -- for I thought of my precautions. I writhed, and made **spasmodic** exertions to force open the lid: it would not move. I felt my wrists for the bell-rope: it was not to be found. And now the Comforter fled for ever, and a still sterner Despair reigned triumphant; for I could not help perceiving the absence of the paddings which I had so carefully prepared -- and then, too, there came suddenly to my nostrils the strong peculiar odor of moist earth. The conclusion was irresistible. I was not within the vault. I had fallen into a trance while absent from home-while among strangers -- when, or how, I could not remember -- and it was they who had buried me as a dog -- **nailed** up in some common coffin -- and thrust deep, deep, and for ever, into some ordinary and **nameless** grave.

As this awful conviction forced itself, thus, into the innermost chambers of my soul, I once again struggled to cry aloud. And in this second endeavor I succeeded. A long, wild, and continuous shriek, or **yell** of agony, resounded through the realms of the subterranean Night.

"Hillo! hillo, there!" said a **gruff** voice, in reply.

"What the devil's the matter now!" said a second.

"Get out o' that!" said a third.

Thesaurus

cavernous: (*adj*) profound, concave, echoing, resonant, sepulchral, yawning, huge, deep, depressed, sunken, vast. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cramped, claustrophobic, convex, crowded, shallow, small, tiny, confined, narrow.

gruff: (*adj*) bluff, abrupt, curt, crusty, brusque, brutal, husky; (*adj, v*) coarse, rough, hoarse, harsh. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) courteous, friendly, high, velvety, smooth, mellow, gentle,

civil, polite.

nailed: (*adj*) fixed, tight, stationary, stable, secure, decided, firm, immobile.

nameless: (*adj*) unknown, unnamed, unidentified, unsung, undistinguished, unspecified, inexpressible, strange, indescribable, obscure, unspeakable. ANTONYM: (*adj*) famous.

parched: (*adj, n*) thirsty; (*adj*) arid, adust, torrid, barren, desiccated,

dehydrated, scorched, baked, withered, shriveled. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) quenched, humid.

spasmodic: (*adj*) spastic, convulsive, intermittent, erratic, broken, irregular, sporadic, desultory, sudden, discontinuous; (*v*) inconsonant. ANTONYM: (*adj*) continuous.

yell: (*n, v*) cry, roar, scream, howl, call, bellow, whoop, shriek, outcry; (*v*) bawl, holler.

"What do you mean by **yowling** in that ere kind of style, like a cattymount?" said a fourth; and hereupon I was seized and shaken without ceremony, for several minutes, by a **junto** of very rough-looking individuals. They did not arouse me from my slumber -- for I was wide awake when I screamed -- but they restored me to the full possession of my memory.

This adventure occurred near Richmond, in Virginia. Accompanied by a friend, I had proceeded, upon a gunning expedition, some miles down the banks of the James River. Night approached, and we were overtaken by a storm. The cabin of a small **sloop** lying at anchor in the stream, and laden with garden mould, afforded us the only available shelter. We made the best of it, and passed the night on board. I slept in one of the only two berths in the vessel -- and the berths of a sloop of sixty or twenty tons need scarcely be described. That which I occupied had no bedding of any kind. Its extreme width was eighteen inches. The distance of its bottom from the deck overhead was precisely the same. I found it a matter of exceeding difficulty to squeeze myself in. Nevertheless, I slept soundly, and the whole of my vision -- for it was no dream, and no nightmare -- arose naturally from the circumstances of my position -- from my ordinary bias of thought -- and from the difficulty, to which I have alluded, of collecting my senses, and especially of regaining my memory, for a long time after awaking from slumber. The men who shook me were the crew of the sloop, and some laborers engaged to unload it. From the load itself came the earthly smell. The bandage about the jaws was a silk handkerchief in which I had bound up my head, in default of my customary **nightcap**.

The tortures endured, however, were **indubitably** quite equal for the time, to those of actual **sepulture**. They were fearfully -- they were **inconceivably** hideous; but out of Evil proceeded Good; for their very excess wrought in my spirit an inevitable revulsion. My soul acquired tone -- acquired temper. I went abroad. I took vigorous exercise. I breathed the free air of Heaven. I thought upon other subjects than Death. I discarded my medical books. "Buchan" I burned. I read no "Night Thoughts" -- no **fustian** about churchyards -- no **bugaboo** tales -- such as this. In short, I became a new man, and lived a man's

Thesaurus

bugaboo: (*n*) bugbear, hobgoblin, boogeyman, booger, spectre, headache, vexation, monster, scarecrow, specter; (*adj*) bug bear.

fustian: (*adj, n*) rant, jargon; (*adj*) bombastic, inflated, pompous, grandiloquent, highfalutin, prose run mad; (*n*) claptrap, blah, grandiosity.

inconceivably: (*adv*) unthinkable, amazingly, astoundingly, beyond belief, impenetrably, implausibly, unintelligibly, unfathomably,

unbelievably, inexplicably.

ANTONYM: (*adv*) conceivably.

indubitably: (*adv*) certainly, surely, positively, incontrovertibly, unquestionably, clearly, undoubtedly, of course, absolutely, indisputably, decidedly.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) possibly, arguably, doubtfully.

junto: (*n*) faction, junta, clique, conspiracy, coterie, camarilla, pack, ring, Camorra, combination, ingroup.

nightcap: (*n*) drink, dram, game, cap, mobcap, drop.

sepulture: (*n, v*) interment, inhumation; (*n*) sepulchre, entombment, grave, mausoleum, funeral, sepulcher, burial chamber, repository, monument.

sloop: (*n*) raceabout, knockabout, smack, boat, yawl, hoy, buss, cat, clipper, corvette, cutter.

yowling: (*n*) holla, holloa, vociferation, bellowing.

life. From that memorable night, I dismissed forever my chancel apprehensions, and with them **vanished** the cataleptic disorder, of which, perhaps, they had been less the consequence than the cause.

There are moments when, even to the **sober** eye of Reason, the world of our sad Humanity may assume the **semblance** of a Hell -- but the imagination of man is no Carathis, to explore with impunity its every cavern. **Alas!** the grim legion of sepulchral terrors cannot be regarded as altogether **fanciful** -- but, like the Demons in whose company Afrasiab made his **voyage** down the Oxus, they must sleep, or they will **devour** us -- they must be suffered to slumber, or we perish.

Thesaurus

alas: (*adv*) unluckily, regrettably, sadly, unhappily, sorry to say; (*n*) oh; (*int*) lackaday. ANTONYM: (*adv*) luckily.

devour: (*v*) eat, bolt, gulp, demolish, guzzle, swallow, gorge, ingurgitate, gobble, use up, absorb. ANTONYMS: (*v*) avoid, abstain, regurgitate, nibble, fast, sip.

fanciful: (*adj*) mythical, fantastic, capricious, unreal, arbitrary, romantic, ideal, chimerical, notional,

visionary; (*adj, v*) fancy.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) prosaic, real, realistic, plausible, normal.

semblance: (*adj, n*) color; (*n*) resemblance, appearance, look, aspect, air, image, similarity, pretense, guise, pretext. ANTONYM: (*n*) difference.

sober: (*adj, v*) grave, sedate; (*adj*) sane, earnest, quiet, solemn, moderate, modest, serene, dull, somber. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) intoxicated,

unrestrained, drunk, playful, sensational, emotional, cheerful, frivolous, funny, muddled, delirious.

vanished: (*adj, v*) extinct, lost; (*adj*) disappeared, departed, missing, died out, absent, dead, wiped out, bygone; (*v*) exhausted. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) found, living.

voyage: (*n, v*) travel, cruise, tour; (*n*) trip, passage, expedition, flight, crossing, quest; (*v*) sail, navigate.

THE DOMAIN OF ARNHEIM

*The garden like a lady fair was cut,
 That lay as if she slumbered in delight,
 And to the open skies her eyes did shut.
 The azure fields of Heaven were 'sembled right
 In a large round, set with the flowers of light.
 The flowers de luce, and the round **sparks** of dew.
 That hung upon their azure leaves did **shew**
 Like **twinkling** stars that **sparkle** in the evening blue.*

--Giles Fletcher

From his cradle to his grave a gale of prosperity bore my friend Ellison along. Nor do I use the word prosperity in its mere worldly sense. I mean it as synonymous with happiness. The person of whom I speak seemed born for the purpose of **foreshadowing** the doctrines of Turgot, Price, Priestley, and Condorcet -- of **exemplifying** by individual instance what has been deemed the **chimera** of the perfectionists. In the brief existence of Ellison I fancy that I have seen refuted the **dogma**, that in man's very nature lies some hidden principle, the **antagonist** of bliss. An anxious examination of his career has given me to understand that in general, from the violation of a few simple **laws** of humanity arises the wretchedness of mankind -- that as a species we have in our possession

Thesaurus

antagonist: (*n*) opponent, adversary, enemy, foe, rival, match, opposition, opposer, assailant, opposite, competitor. ANTONYMS: (*n*) supporter, advocate, colleague, synergist, ally, defender.
chimera: (*n*) fantasy, dream, illusion, vision, chimaera, maggot, imagination, phantom, fancy, daydream; (*adj*) Minotaur. ANTONYM: (*n*) truth.
dogma: (*n*) tenet, creed, belief,

doctrine, principle, faith, gospel, theory, canon, way of thinking, opinion.
exemplifying: (*adj*) illustrative, demonstrative.
foreshadowing: (*adj*) prefigurative, adumbrative, prophetic; (*n*) prefiguration, omen, adumbration, revelation, portent, sign, prediction, harbinger.
laws: (*n*) Pentateuch, Torah.
shew: (*v*) demonstrate, prove, show,

contradict, establish, substantiate, support, sustain, indicate, exhibit, display. ANTONYM: (*v*) disprove.
sparkle: (*n, v*) flicker, flash, shimmer, spark, shine, blaze, fizz, gleam, glitter; (*v*) blink, glare. ANTONYMS: (*n*) apathy, dullness, lifelessness.
sparks: (*n*) fire.
twinkling: (*n*) moment, jiffy, minute, second, flash, trice, twinkle, wink, split second, breath; (*adj*) sparkling. ANTONYM: (*adj*) dull.

the as yet **unwrought** elements of content -- and that, even now, in the present darkness and madness of all thought on the great question of the social condition, it is not impossible that man, the individual, under certain unusual and highly **fortuitous** conditions, may be happy.

With opinions such as these my young friend, too, was fully **imbued**, and thus it is worthy of observation that the **uninterrupted** enjoyment which distinguished his life was, in great measure, the result of **preconcert**. It is indeed evident that with less of the instinctive philosophy which, now and then, stands so well in the stead of experience, Mr. Ellison would have found himself precipitated, by the very extraordinary success of his life, into the common vortex of unhappiness which yawns for those of pre-eminent **endowments**. But it is by no means my object to pen an essay on happiness. The ideas of my friend may be summed up in a few words. He admitted but four elementary principles, or more strictly, conditions of bliss. That which he considered chief was (strange to say!) the simple and purely physical one of free exercise in the open air. "The health," he said, "**attainable** by other means is scarcely worth the name." He instanced the ecstasies of the fox-hunter, and pointed to the tillers of the earth, the only people who, as a class, can be fairly considered happier than others. His second condition was the love of woman. His third, and most difficult of realization, was the contempt of ambition. His fourth was an object of unceasing pursuit; and he held that, other things being equal, the extent of attainable happiness was in proportion to the spirituality of this object.

Ellison was remarkable in the continuous profusion of good gifts lavished upon him by fortune. In personal grace and beauty he exceeded all men. His intellect was of that order to which the acquisition of knowledge is less a labor than an intuition and a necessity. His family was one of the most illustrious of the empire. His bride was the loveliest and most devoted of women. His possessions had been always ample; but on the attainment of his majority, it was discovered that one of those extraordinary **freaks** of fate had been played in his behalf which **startle** the whole social world amid which they occur, and seldom fail radically to alter the moral constitution of those who are their objects.

Thesaurus

attainable: (*adj*) possible, obtainable, gettable, available, feasible, approachable, accessible, viable, doable, realistic, open. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unattainable, unachievable, impossible.
endowments: (*n*) beneficence, accomplishments, advantage.
fortuitous: (*adj*) contingent, accidental, chance, adventitious, fortunate, coincidental, lucky, unintentional, haphazard, incidental, odd.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unlucky, deliberate.
freaks: (*n*) caprices, facetiousness, humor.
imbued: (*adj*) addicted, alive, instinct, full.
preconcert: (*v*) preestablish; (*n*) preconception.
startle: (*n, v*) start, jump; (*v*) frighten, scare, astonish, shock, astound, amaze, shake, threaten, electrify.
 ANTONYM: (*v*) soothe.

uninterrupted: (*adj*) ceaseless, continuous, continual, unbroken, incessant, perpetual, constant, unceasing, endless; (*adj, adv*) straight, nonstop. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) intermittent, temporary, broken, alternate, noisy, sporadic; (*adv*) indirectly.
unwrought: (*adj*) unfashioned, unformed, unhewn, raw, crude, unpolished, unlabored, bald, bare, bleak, uncooked.

It appears that about a hundred years before Mr. Ellison's coming of age, there had died, in a remote province, one Mr. Seabright Ellison. This gentleman had **amassed** a princely fortune, and, having no immediate connections, conceived the whim of suffering his wealth to accumulate for a century after his decease. **Minutely** and **sagaciously** directing the various modes of investment, he **bequeathed** the aggregate amount to the nearest of blood, bearing the name of Ellison, who should be alive at the end of the hundred years. Many attempts had been made to set aside this singular bequest; their ex post facto character rendered them abortive; but the attention of a jealous government was aroused, and a legislative act finally obtained, forbidding all similar accumulations. This act, however, did not prevent young Ellison from entering into possession, on his twenty-first birthday, as the heir of his ancestor Seabright, of a fortune of four hundred and fifty millions of **dollars**.

When it had become known that such was the enormous wealth inherited, there were, of course, many speculations as to the mode of its disposal. The magnitude and the immediate availability of the sum bewildered all who thought on the topic. The **possessor** of any appreciable amount of money might have been imagined to perform any one of a thousand things. With riches merely surpassing those of any citizen, it would have been easy to suppose him engaging to supreme excess in the fashionable extravagances of his time -- or busying himself with political intrigue -- or aiming at ministerial power -- or purchasing increase of nobility -- or collecting large museums of **virtu** -- or playing the munificent patron of letters, of science, of art -- or **endowing**, and bestowing his name upon extensive institutions of charity. But for the inconceivable wealth in the actual possession of the heir, these objects and all ordinary objects were felt to afford too limited a field. Recourse was had to figures, and these but sufficed to **confound**. It was seen that, even at three per cent., the annual income of the inheritance amounted to no less than **thirteen** millions and five hundred thousand dollars; which was one million and one hundred and twenty-five thousand per month; or thirty-six thousand nine hundred and **eighty**-six per day; or one thousand five hundred and forty-one per hour; or six and twenty dollars for every minute that flew. Thus the usual track

Thesaurus

amassed: (*adj*) collected, assembled, cumulative, aggregate, gathered, conglomerate, combined, concentrated, collective, total, congregate.
bequeathed: (*adj*) hereditary.
confound: (*v*) bewilder, baffle, nonplus, perplex, astonish, puzzle, amaze, astound, mistake; (*adj, v*) confuse, stupefy. ANTONYMS: (*v*) explain, clarify, comfort, lose, distinguish; (*n*) understanding.

dollars: (*n*) bread.
eighty-six: (*v*) rid, veto, lack, disqualify, get rid of, drop, reject, divest, dispose of, eradicate.
endowing: (*v*) endow; (*n*) appropriation.
minutely: (*adv*) precisely, in detail, closely, tinily, smally, insignificantly, infinitesimally, diminutively, nicely, exactly, microscopically.
possessor: (*n*) owner, holder, proprietor, householder, occupant,

landowner, landholder, proprietary, somebody, someone, soul.
sagaciously: (*adv*) wisely, astutely, sapiently, judiciously, politically, prudently, cleverly, sharply, perceptively, sagely, discreetly.
thirteen: (*n*) long dozen, large integer.
virtu: (*n*) connoisseurship, perceptiveness, taste, quality, objet d'art, appreciation, artistic quality, discernment.

of supposition was thoroughly broken up. Men knew not what to imagine. There were some who even conceived that Mr. Ellison would divest **himself** of at least one-half of his fortune, as of utterly superfluous **opulence** -- **enriching** whole troops of his relatives by division of his **superabundance**. To the nearest of these he did, in fact, abandon the very unusual wealth which was his own before the inheritance.

I was not surprised, however, to perceive that he had long made up his mind on a point which had occasioned so much discussion to his friends. Nor was I greatly astonished at the nature of his decision. In regard to individual charities he had satisfied his conscience. In the possibility of any improvement, properly so called, being effected by man himself in the general condition of man, he had (I am sorry to confess it) little faith. Upon the whole, whether happily or unhappily, he was thrown back, in very great measure, upon self.

In the widest and noblest sense he was a poet. He comprehended, moreover, the true character, the august aims, the supreme majesty and dignity of the poetic sentiment. The fullest, if not the sole proper satisfaction of this sentiment he instinctively felt to lie in the creation of novel forms of beauty. Some peculiarities, either in his early education, or in the nature of his intellect, had **tinged** with what is termed materialism all his ethical speculations; and it was this bias, perhaps, which led him to believe that the most advantageous at least, if not the sole legitimate field for the poetic exercise, lies in the creation of novel moods of purely physical loveliness. Thus it happened he became neither musician nor poet -- if we use this latter term in its every-day **acceptation**. Or it might have been that he neglected to become either, merely in **pursuance** of his idea that in contempt of ambition is to be found one of the essential principles of happiness on earth. Is it not indeed, possible that, while a high order of genius is necessarily ambitious, the highest is above that which is termed ambition? And may it not thus happen that many far greater than Milton have **contentedly** remained "mute and inglorious?" I believe that the world has never seen -- and that, unless through some series of accidents goading the noblest order of mind into distasteful exertion, the world will never see -- that full extent of triumphant

Thesaurus

acceptation: (*n*) meaning, sense, adoption, purport, significance, intent, import, approval, assumption, espousal, reception.
contentedly: (*adv*) gladly, satisfiedly, contently, gratifiedly, pleasedly, cheerfully, joyfully, smugly, easily, complacently, placidly.
ANTONYMS: (*adv*) crossly, awkwardly, unhappily, discontentedly, sadly.
enriching: (*n*) enrichment; (*v*) enrich;

(*adj*) uplifting, educational, inspiring, elevating, edifying, artistic, enlightening.
opulence: (*n*) fortune, wealth, luxury, exuberance, comfort, luxuriousness, prosperity, wealthiness, plenty; (*adj*, *n*) riches, affluence. **ANTONYMS:** (*n*) poverty, paucity, shabbiness, austerity.
pursuance: (*n*) prosecution, execution, pursuit, implementation, fulfillment, achievement, search, quest,

fulfilment, exercise, chase.
self: (*n*) ego, person, me, individual, being; (*pron*) myself, herself, itself; (*adj*) same; (*v*) own; (*adv*) personally.
superabundance: (*n*) overabundance, glut, surplus, surfeit, abundance, overmuchness, copiousness, plethora, redundancy, superfluity, surplusage.
tinged: (*adj*) plausible, bright, painted, fey, touched, specious, colorful, stained, tinted, dyed, tinct.

execution, in the richer domains of art, of which the human nature is absolutely capable.

Ellison became neither musician nor poet; although no man lived more profoundly **enamored** of music and poetry. Under other circumstances than those which invested him, it is not impossible that he would have become a painter. Sculpture, although in its nature rigorously **poetical** was too limited in its extent and consequences, to have occupied, at any time, much of his attention. And I have now mentioned all the provinces in which the common understanding of the poetic sentiment has declared it capable of expatiating. But Ellison maintained that the richest, the truest, and most natural, if not altogether the most extensive province, had been **unaccountably** neglected. No definition had spoken of the landscape-gardener as of the poet; yet it seemed to my friend that the creation of the landscape-garden offered to the proper Muse the most magnificent of opportunities. Here, indeed, was the fairest field for the display of imagination in the endless combining of forms of novel beauty; the elements to enter into combination being, by a vast superiority, the most glorious which the earth could afford. In the multiform and **multicolor** of the flowers and the trees, he recognised the most direct and energetic efforts of Nature at physical loveliness. And in the direction or concentration of this effort -- or, more properly, in its adaptation to the eyes which were to behold it on earth -- he perceived that he should be employing the best means -- laboring to the greatest advantage -- in the fulfilment, not only of his own destiny as poet, but of the august purposes for which the Deity had **implanted** the poetic sentiment in man.

"Its adaptation to the eyes which were to behold it on earth." In his explanation of this **phraseology**, Mr. Ellison did much toward solving what has always seemed to me an enigma: -- I mean the fact (which none but the ignorant dispute) that no such combination of scenery exists in nature as the painter of genius may produce. No such **paradises** are to be found in reality as have glowed on the canvas of Claude. In the most **enchanting** of natural landscapes, there will always be found a defect or an excess -- many excesses and defects. While the component parts may **defy**, individually, the highest skill of the artist,

Thesaurus

defy: (*n, v*) dare; (*v*) brave, resist, ignore, confront, revolt, oppose, withstand, disobey, contradict; (*n*) defiance. ANTONYMS: (*v*) obey, acquiesce, surrender, yield, comply, accept.
enamored: (*adj*) loving, smitten, crazy, taken with, dotty, amorous, besotted, captivated, hooked, mad, enamoured. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sickened, repelled.
enchanting: (*adj*) captivating,

delightful, fascinating, bewitching, lovely, alluring, magical, glamorous, adorable; (*adj, v*) charming, engaging. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unhappy, revolting, repulsive, repellent, foul, everyday, dull, disenchanting, annoying, uninteresting, despicable.
implanted: (*adj*) ingrained, inherent, ingrafted, entrenched, surrounded, native, established, fixed, set in, rooted.
multicolor: (*adj*) multicolored, motley,

varicolored, piebald, multicoloured, varicoloured, multicolour, variegated, colored, calico, assorted.
paradises: (*n*) paradise.
phraseology: (*n*) language, expression, phrasing, wording, idiom, vernacular, dialect, choice of words, terminology, locution; (*n, v*) style.
poetical: (*adj*) imaginative, rhetorical, poetic, figurative, inventive.
unaccountably: (*adv*) mysteriously, especially, curiously, bizarrely.

the arrangement of these parts will always be susceptible of improvement. In short, no position can be attained on the wide surface of the natural earth, from which an artistical eye, looking steadily, will not find matter of offence in what is termed the “composition” of the landscape. And yet how unintelligible is this! In all other matters we are justly instructed to regard nature as supreme. With her details we shrink from competition. Who shall presume to imitate the colors of the **tulip**, or to improve the proportions of the lily of the valley? The criticism which says, of sculpture or portraiture, that here nature is to be exalted or **idealized** rather than **imitated**, is in error. No pictorial or **sculptural** combinations of points of human **liveliness** do more than approach the living and breathing beauty. In landscape alone is the principle of the critic true; and, having felt its truth here, it is but the headlong spirit of generalization which has led him to pronounce it true throughout all the domains of art. Having, I say, felt its truth here; for the feeling is no affectation or chimera. The mathematics afford no more absolute demonstrations than the sentiments of his art yields the artist. He not only believes, but positively knows, that such and such apparently arbitrary arrangements of matter constitute and alone constitute the true beauty. His reasons, however, have not yet been **matured** into expression. It remains for a more profound analysis than the world has yet seen, fully to investigate and express them. Nevertheless he is confirmed in his instinctive opinions by the voice of all his **brethren**. Let a “composition” be defective; let an **emendation** be wrought in its mere arrangement of form; let this emendation be submitted to every artist in the world; by each will its necessity be admitted. And even far more than this: -- in remedy of the defective composition, each **insulated** member of the **fraternity** would have suggested the identical emendation.

I repeat that in landscape arrangements alone is the physical nature susceptible of exaltation, and that, therefore, her susceptibility of improvement at this one point, was a mystery I had been unable to solve. My own thoughts on the subject had rested in the idea that the primitive intention of nature would have so arranged the earth’s surface as to have fulfilled at all points man’s sense of perfection in the beautiful, the sublime, or the picturesque; but that this primitive intention had been frustrated by the known geological disturbances --

Thesaurus

brethren: (<i>n</i>) congregation, assembly, brother, people, laity, family, flock, fold.	idealized: (<i>adj</i>) idyllic, perfect, perfecter, theoretical.	developed, old, adult, mellow, maturer, ripened, ready, payable, owing. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) unripe, young.
emendation: (<i>n</i>) amendment, correction, betterment, repair, revision, castigation, reform, rectification, improvement, reformation, discipline.	imitated: (<i>adj</i>) mimical.	sculptural: (<i>adj</i>) modeled, sculpted, resembling sculpture, sculptured, shapely, graven.
fraternity: (<i>adj, n</i>) brotherhood; (<i>n</i>) association, company, club, fellowship, society, companionship, clan, circle, community, organization.	insulated: (<i>adj</i>) cloistered.	tulip: (<i>n</i>) iris, rainbow, cottage tulip, candlestick tulip, chameleon, dwarf tulip; (<i>adj</i>) lily, asphodel, anemone, buttercup, daffodil.
	liveliness: (<i>adj, n</i>) animation, briskness; (<i>n</i>) life, effervescence, buoyancy, exuberance, vigor, activity, agility, cheerfulness, enthusiasm. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) lethargy, awkwardness, lifelessness, laziness, sadness, apathy.	
	matured: (<i>adj</i>) ripe, experienced,	

disturbances of form and color -- grouping, in the correction or **allaying** of which lies the soul of art. The force of this idea was much weakened, however, by the necessity which it involved of considering the disturbances abnormal and **unadapted** to any purpose. It was Ellison who suggested that they were **prognostic** of death. He thus explained: -- Admit the earthly **immortality** of man to have been the first intention. We have then the primitive arrangement of the earth's surface adapted to his blissful estate, as not **existent** but designed. The disturbances were the preparations for his subsequently conceived **deathful** condition.

"Now," said my friend, "what we regard as exaltation of the landscape may be really such, as respects only the moral or human point of view. Each alteration of the natural scenery may possibly effect a **blemish** in the picture, if we can suppose this picture viewed at large -- in mass -- from some point distant from the earth's surface, although not beyond the limits of its atmosphere. It is easily understood that what might improve a closely scrutinized detail, may at the same time injure a general or more **distantly** observed effect. There may be a class of beings, human once, but now invisible to humanity, to whom, from afar, our disorder may seem order -- our unpicturesqueness picturesque, in a word, the earth-angels, for whose scrutiny more especially than our own, and for whose death -- refined appreciation of the beautiful, may have been set in array by God the wide landscape-gardens of the hemispheres."

In the course of discussion, my friend quoted some passages from a writer on landscape-gardening who has been supposed to have well treated his theme:

"There are properly but two styles of landscape-gardening, the natural and the artificial. One seeks to recall the original beauty of the country, by adapting its means to the surrounding scenery, **cultivating** trees in harmony with the hills or plain of the neighboring land; detecting and bringing into practice those nice relations of size, proportion, and color which, hid from the common observer, are revealed everywhere to the experienced student of nature. The result of the natural style of gardening, is seen rather in the absence of all defects and incongruities -- in the prevalence of a healthy harmony and order -- than in the

Thesaurus

allaying: (*adj*) sedative; (*n*) allayment.

blemish: (*n, v*) stain, scar, flaw, blot, slur; (*n*) defect, stigma, fault; (*v*) deface; (*adj, n*) imperfection; (*adj, v*) disfigure. ANTONYMS: (*v*) enhance, beautify, embellish, improve; (*n*) perfection, enhancement.

cultivating: (*adj*) educating, taming, humanizing, calming.

deathful: (*adj*) mortal.

distantly: (*adv*) reservedly, aloofly, coldly, formally, coolly, frigidly,

standoffishly, farly, removedly,

vaguely, detachedly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) intimately, passionately, clearly, warmly, nearby, alertly.

disturbances: (*n*) turbulence, strife, conflict.

existent: (*adj*) current, real, factual, instant, alive, existing, present, substantial, living, extant, effective. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) potential, unreal, false.

immortality: (*n*) sempiternity,

perpetuity, athanasia, glory, aye,

fame, everness, immortal, permanency, deathlessness, undying. ANTONYM: (*n*) mortality.

prognostic: (*n, v*) omen; (*n*) portent, foreboding, auspice, indication, sign, forerunner, bodement, auspices; (*adj*) predictive; (*v*) augury.

unadapted: (*adj*) unadjusted, unsuited, inapplicable, unmodified, irrelevant, incompetent, incompatible, inapposite, inappropriate.

creation of any special wonders or miracles. The artificial style has as many varieties as there are different tastes to **gratify**. It has a certain general relation to the various styles of building. There are the stately avenues and retirements of Versailles; Italian terraces; and a various mixed old English style, which bears some relation to the domestic Gothic or English Elizabethan architecture. Whatever may be said against the abuses of the artificial landscape -- gardening, a mixture of pure art in a garden scene adds to it a great beauty. This is partly pleasing to the eye, by the show of order and design, and partly moral. A terrace, with an old moss -- covered **balustrade**, calls up at once to the eye the fair forms that have passed there in other days. The slightest exhibition of art is an evidence of care and human interest."

"From what I have already observed," said Ellison, "you will understand that I reject the idea, here expressed, of **recalling** the original beauty of the country. The original beauty is never so great as that which may be introduced. Of course, every thing depends on the selection of a spot with capabilities. What is said about detecting and bringing into practice nice relations of size, proportion, and color, is one of those mere vaguenesses of speech which serve to veil **inaccuracy** of thought. The phrase quoted may mean any thing, or nothing, and guides in no degree. That the true result of the natural style of gardening is seen rather in the absence of all defects and incongruities than in the creation of any special wonders or miracles, is a proposition better suited to the **grovelling** apprehension of the herd than to the fervid dreams of the man of genius. The negative merit suggested appertains to that **hobbling** criticism which, in letters, would **elevate** Addison into **apothoeosis**. In truth, while that virtue which consists in the mere avoidance of vice appeals directly to the understanding, and can thus be **circumscribed** in rule, the loftier virtue, which flames in creation, can be apprehended in its results alone. Rule applies but to the merits of denial -- to the excellencies which refrain. Beyond these, the critical art can but suggest. We may be instructed to build a "Cato," but we are in vain told how to conceive a Parthenon or an "Inferno." The thing done, however; the wonder accomplished; and the capacity for apprehension becomes universal. The sophists of the negative school who, through inability to create, have scoffed at creation, are

Thesaurus

apothoeosis: (*n*) deification, exaltation, ideal, paragon, canonization, worship, glorification, embodiment, epitome, angel, crackerjack.

balustrade: (*n*) fence, banisters, banister, bannister, barrier, handrail, pale, balusters, guardrail, circumvallation, ring fence.

circumscribed: (*adj*) bounded, finite, confined, delimited, restricted, insular, narrow, bigoted, qualified, close, accurate.

elevate: (*v*) advance, lift, hoist, erect, exalt, boost, rear, cheer, promote, dignify, uphold. ANTONYMS: (*v*) demote, drop, downgrade, depress, decrease, reduce.

gratify: (*v*) delight, please, appease, accommodate, satisfy, amuse, suit, indulge, cater; (*n, v*) humor; (*adj*) contented. ANTONYMS: (*v*) dissatisfy, displease, disappoint.

grovelling: (*adj*) groveling, base, abject, menial, vulgar, slavish, servile,

obsequious, low, wormlike, earthbred.

hobbling: (*n*) limping; (*adj*) crippled.

inaccuracy: (*n*) fault, blunder, falsity, mistake, slip, falseness, incorrectness, miscalculation, quality, impreciseness, deviation.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) accuracy, correctness, exactitude, realism, validity, care.

recalling: (*adj*) revocatory; (*n*) recognition.

now found the loudest in applause. What, in its **chrysalis** condition of principle, **affronted** their demure reason, never fails, in its maturity of accomplishment, to **extort** admiration from their instinct of beauty.

"The author's observations on the artificial style," continued Ellison, "are less objectionable. A mixture of pure art in a garden scene adds to it a great beauty. This is just; as also is the reference to the sense of human interest. The principle expressed is **incontrovertible** -- but there may be something beyond it. There may be an object in keeping with the principle -- an object unattainable by the means ordinarily possessed by individuals, yet which, if attained, would lend a charm to the landscape-garden far surpassing that which a sense of merely human interest could bestow. A poet, having very unusual pecuniary resources, might, while retaining the necessary idea of art or culture, or, as our author expresses it, of interest, so **imbue** his designs at once with extent and novelty of beauty, as to convey the sentiment of spiritual interference. It will be seen that, in bringing about such result, he secures all the advantages of interest or design, while relieving his work of the harshness or technicality of the worldly art. In the most rugged of wildernesses -- in the most savage of the scenes of pure nature -- there is apparent the art of a creator; yet this art is apparent to reflection only; in no respect has it the obvious force of a feeling. Now let us suppose this sense of the Almighty design to be one step depressed -- to be brought into something like harmony or consistency with the sense of human art -- to form an **intermedium** between the two: -- let us imagine, for example, a landscape whose combined vastness and definitiveness -- whose united beauty, magnificence, and strangeness, shall convey the idea of care, or culture, or **superintendence**, on the part of beings superior, yet akin to humanity -- then the sentiment of interest is preserved, while the art **intervolved** is made to assume the air of an intermediate or secondary nature -- a nature which is not God, nor an **emanation** from God, but which still is nature in the sense of the handiwork of the angels that hover between man and God."

It was in devoting his enormous wealth to the embodiment of a vision such as this -- in the free exercise in the open air ensured by the personal

Thesaurus

affronted: (*adj*) insulted, hurt, slighted, embarrassed, angry, ashamed, horrified, humiliated, piqued, annoyed. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unconcerned.
chrysalis: (*n*) larva, chicken, whelp, tadpole, pullet, fry, cub, cocoon, pupa, chrysalid, nestling.
emanation: (*n*) emission, effluvium, effusion, effluence, efflux, radiation, excretion, exhalation, flow, egress, ectoplasm.

extort: (*v*) exact, soak, compel, take, wring, force, extract, pry; (*adj*) bleed, fleece, overcharge.
imbue: (*v*) infuse, saturate, permeate, tinge, steep, dye, fill, impregnate, pervade, instill, inoculate.
incontrovertible: (*adj, v*) indisputable; (*adj*) undeniable, irrefutable, certain, indubitable, unquestionable, positive, demonstrable, conclusive, irrefragable, sure. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) dubious, weak, arguable, tenuous,

disputable, debatable.
intermedium: (*n*) intermediary, medium, copula, bond of union, hyphen, vehicle, hand, balance, average, generality, negotiator.
intervolved: (*v*) fast, firm, tight, taut, set, secure, taught.
superintendence: (*n*) oversight, direction, management, inspection, control, government, surveillance, supervising, care, guidance, invigilation.

superintendence of his plans -- in the unceasing object which these plans afforded -- in the high spirituality of the object -- in the contempt of ambition which it enabled him truly to feel -- in the perennial springs with which it **gratified**, without possibility of satiating, that one master passion of his soul, the thirst for beauty, above all, it was in the sympathy of a woman, not unwomanly, whose loveliness and love enveloped his existence in the purple atmosphere of Paradise, that Ellison thought to find, and found, exemption from the ordinary cares of humanity, with a far greater amount of positive happiness than ever glowed in the **rapt** day-dreams of De Stael.

I despair of conveying to the reader any distinct conception of the marvels which my friend did actually accomplish. I wish to describe, but am **disheartened** by the difficulty of description, and hesitate between detail and generality. Perhaps the better course will be to unite the two in their extremes.

Mr. Ellison's first step regarded, of course, the choice of a locality, and scarcely had he commenced thinking on this point, when the luxuriant nature of the Pacific Islands arrested his attention. In fact, he had made up his mind for a voyage to the South Seas, when a night's reflection induced him to abandon the idea. "Were I misanthropic," he said, "such a **locale** would suit me. The **thoroughness** of its insulation and seclusion, and the difficulty of ingress and egress, would in such case be the charm of charms; but as yet I am not Timon. I wish the composure but not the depression of solitude. There must remain with me a certain control over the extent and duration of my repose. There will be frequent hours in which I shall need, too, the sympathy of the poetic in what I have done. Let me seek, then, a spot not far from a **populous** city -- whose vicinity, also, will best enable me to execute my plans."

In search of a suitable place so situated, Ellison travelled for several years, and I was permitted to accompany him. A thousand spots with which I was **enraptured** he rejected without hesitation, for reasons which satisfied me, in the end, that he was right. We came at length to an elevated table-land of wonderful fertility and beauty, affording a panoramic prospect very little less in extent than

Thesaurus

disheartened: (*adj*) dejected, depressed, despondent, dispirited, demoralized, disappointed, sad, downcast, down, low, daunted.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cheerful, enthusiastic, happy, positive, hopeful.
enraptured: (*adj*) rapt, rapturous, captive, bewitched, rhapsodic, ecstasy, confined, absorbed, jubilant, joyous, enamored.
gratified: (*adj*) glad, satisfied, pleased,

delighted, happy, thankful, grateful, content, complacent, comfortable, cheerful.
locale: (*n*) position, scene, situation, environment, region, district, habitat, locus, venue, location, locality.
populous: (*adj*) multitudinous, crowded, densely populated, multiple, thick, inhabited, numerous, manifold, multiplied; (*adj, v*) teeming; (*v*) closely packed. **ANTONYM:** (*adj*) uninhabited.

rapt: (*adj*) engrossed, intent, ecstatic, preoccupied, spellbound, captive, enthralled, attentive, fixed, enwrapped; (*v*) engrossed in.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) detached, inattentive, uninterested, bored.
thoroughness: (*n*) completeness, resolution, assiduousness, determination, care, caution, comprehensiveness, detail, attention to detail, resolve, meticulousness. **ANTONYM:** (*n*) negligence.

that of Aetna, and, in Ellison's opinion as well as my own, surpassing the far-famed view from that mountain in all the true elements of the picturesque.

"I am aware," said the traveller, as he drew a sigh of deep delight after **gazing** on this scene, entranced, for nearly an hour, "I know that here, in my circumstances, nine-tenths of the most **fastidious** of men would rest content. This panorama is indeed glorious, and I should **rejoice** in it but for the excess of its glory. The taste of all the architects I have ever known leads them, for the sake of 'prospect,' to put up buildings on hill-tops. The error is obvious. Grandeur in any of its moods, but especially in that of extent, startles, excites -- and then fatigues, depresses. For the occasional scene nothing can be better -- for the constant view nothing worse. And, in the constant view, the most objectionable phase of grandeur is that of extent; the worst phase of extent, that of distance. It is at war with the sentiment and with the sense of seclusion -- the sentiment and sense which we seek to **humor** in 'retiring to the country.' In looking from the summit of a mountain we cannot help feeling abroad in the world. The heart-sick avoid distant prospects as a pestilence."

It was not until toward the close of the fourth year of our search that we found a locality with which Ellison professed himself satisfied. It is, of course, needless to say where was the locality. The late death of my friend, in causing his domain to be thrown open to certain classes of visitors, has given to Arnheim a species of secret and subdued if not solemn celebrity, similar in kind, although infinitely superior in degree, to that which so long distinguished Fonthill.

The usual approach to Arnheim was by the river. The visitor left the city in the early morning. During the **forenoon** he passed between shores of a tranquil and domestic beauty, on which **grazed** innumerable sheep, their white fleeces spotting the vivid green of rolling meadows. By degrees the idea of cultivation subsided into that of merely pastoral care. This slowly became merged in a sense of retirement -- this again in a consciousness of solitude. As the evening approached, the channel grew more narrow, the banks more and more **precipitous**; and these latter were **clothed** in rich, more profuse, and more sombre foliage. The water increased in transparency. The stream took a thousand

Thesaurus

clothed: (*adj*) dressed, wrapped, cloaked, robed, covered, attired, vested, absorbed, decent; (*v*) accustomed, arrayed. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unclothed.
fastidious: (*adj, n*) exacting, critical, accurate; (*adj*) delicate, particular, careful, exigent, dainty, discriminating, nice, fussy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sloppy, unfastidious, careless, uncouth, uncritical, easy, indifferent,

undemanding, slapdash, relaxed, easygoing.
forenoon: (*n*) morning, morn, am, period, daybreak, break of the day, morning time, first light, dayspring, a, cockcrow.
gazing: (*adj*) fixed.
grazed: (*adj*) hurt.
humor: (*n, v*) caprice, freak, humour; (*n*) temper, mood, disposition, wit; (*v*) indulge, gratify; (*adj, n*) spirit, frame of mind. ANTONYMS: (*n*)

seriousness, gravity, solemnity; (*v*) displease.
precipitous: (*adj*) abrupt, sharp, precipitate, perpendicular, sheer, headlong, hasty, sudden, precipitant; (*adj, v*) steep, high. ANTONYM: (*adj*) flat.
rejoice: (*v*) cheer, gladden, triumph, revel, jubilate, gratify, gloat, please; (*n, v*) delight, glory, joy. ANTONYMS: (*v*) lament, mourn, complain.

turns, so that at no moment could its gleaming surface be seen for a greater distance than a **furlong**. At every instant the vessel seemed imprisoned within an enchanted circle, having insuperable and impenetrable walls of foliage, a roof of **ultramarine** satin, and no floor -- the keel balancing itself with admirable **nicety** on that of a phantom bark which, by some accident having been turned **upside** down, floated in constant company with the substantial one, for the purpose of sustaining it. The channel now became a gorge -- although the term is somewhat inapplicable, and I employ it merely because the language has no word which better represents the most striking -- not the most distinctive-feature of the scene. The character of gorge was maintained only in the height and parallelism of the shores; it was lost altogether in their other traits. The walls of the **ravine** (through which the clear water still tranquilly flowed) arose to an elevation of a hundred and occasionally of a hundred and fifty feet, and inclined so much toward each other as, in a great measure, to shut out the light of day; while the long plume-like moss which depended densely from the intertwining shrubberies overhead, gave the whole chasm an air of funereal gloom. The windings became more frequent and intricate, and seemed often as if returning in upon themselves, so that the **voyager** had long lost all idea of direction. He was, moreover, enwrapt in an exquisite sense of the strange. The thought of nature still remained, but her character seemed to have undergone modification, there was a weird symmetry, a thrilling uniformity, a wizard propriety in these her works. Not a dead branch - - not a **withered** leaf -- not a stray **pebble** -- not a patch of the brown earth was anywhere visible. The crystal water welled up against the clean granite, or the **unblemished** moss, with a sharpness of outline that delighted while it bewildered the eye.

Having threaded the mazes of this channel for some hours, the gloom deepening every moment, a sharp and unexpected turn of the vessel brought it suddenly, as if dropped from heaven, into a circular basin of very considerable extent when compared with the width of the gorge. It was about two hundred yards in diameter, and **girt** in at all points but one -- that immediately fronting the vessel as it entered -- by hills equal in general height to the walls of the chasm, although of a thoroughly different character. Their sides sloped from the

Thesaurus

furlong: (*v*) yard, rood, pole, palm, nail, line, inch, hand, fathom, cubit, foot.

girt: (*n, v*) girth, girdle; (*v*) gird, begird, encircle, environ; (*n*) band, belt, zone, cingle; (*adj*) braced.

nicety: (*n*) detail, exactness, fastidiousness, nuance, refinement, exactitude, justness, precision, correctness, daintiness, elegance.

pebble: (*n*) boulder, crystal, flint, rock, scree, cobblestone, calculus, crag,

granite, pebblestone; (*adj*) quartz.

ravine: (*n, v*) gap, cleft; (*n*) chasm, canyon, dell, defile, gully, glen, pass, abyss, valley.

ultramarine: (*adj*) chromatic; (*n*) blueness, cobalt, cyanogen, ultramarine blue.

unblemished: (*adj*) clean, perfect, faultless, pure, immaculate, blameless, clear, irreproachable, unspotted, untarnished, flawless.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) blemished,

flawed, marked, imperfect, used, marred, guilty, infirm.

upside: (*n*) crest, crown, poll, top side, upper side, pate, round top, acme, summit, superlative, teetotum.

voyager: (*n*) passenger, traveller, tourist, explorer, itinerant, commuter, wanderer, wayfarer, adventurer.

withered: (*adj*) wizened, sear, shriveled, thin, shrunken, dry, dried up, wilted, faded, wizened; (*v*) lame.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) plump.

water's edge at an angle of some forty-five degrees, and they were clothed from base to summit -- not a perceptible point escaping -- in a drapery of the most gorgeous flower-blossoms; scarcely a green leaf being visible among the sea of odorous and fluctuating color. This basin was of great depth, but so transparent was the water that the bottom, which seemed to consist of a thick mass of small round **alabaster** pebbles, was distinctly visible by glimpses -- that is to say, whenever the eye could permit itself not to see, far down in the inverted heaven, the duplicate blooming of the hills. On these latter there were no trees, nor even shrubs of any size. The impressions wrought on the observer were those of richness, warmth, color, **quietude**, uniformity, softness, delicacy, **daintiness**, **voluptuousness**, and a miraculous extremeness of culture that suggested dreams of a new race of fairies, laborious, tasteful, magnificent, and fastidious; but as the eye traced upward the myriad-tinted slope, from its sharp junction with the water to its vague termination amid the folds of **overhanging** cloud, it became, indeed, difficult not to fancy a panoramic cataract of rubies, sapphires, opals, and golden onyxes, rolling silently out of the sky.

The visiter, shooting suddenly into this bay from out the gloom of the ravine, is delighted but astounded by the full orb of the declining sun, which he had supposed to be already far below the horizon, but which now confronts him, and forms the sole termination of an otherwise limitless vista seen through another chasm -- like rift in the hills.

But here the voyager **quits** the vessel which has borne him so far, and descends into a light canoe of ivory, stained with arabesque devices in vivid scarlet, both within and without. The **poop** and beak of this boat arise high above the water, with sharp points, so that the general form is that of an irregular crescent. It lies on the surface of the bay with the proud grace of a swan. On its ermined floor reposes a single **feathery** paddle of satin-wood; but no oarsmen or attendant is to be seen. The guest is bidden to be of good cheer -- that the **fates** will take care of him. The larger vessel disappears, and he is left alone in the canoe, which lies apparently motionless in the middle of the lake. While he considers what course to pursue, however, he becomes aware of a gentle

Thesaurus

alabaster: (*n*) whiteness, calcite, gypsum, onyx marble, Oriental alabaster; (*adj*) ivory, milk, lily, milky, paper, white.

daintiness: (*adj, n*) frailty, fragility, weakness, dainty; (*n*) fineness, loveliness, niceness, fastidiousness, finesse, refinement, nicety.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) inelegance, sturdiness, ugliness.

fates: (*adj*) book of fate, Parcae, sky; (*n*) fortune, the fates.

feathery: (*adj*) light, fluffy, plummy, soft, downy, featherlike, plumose, plumelike, velvety, creamy, tender. **ANTONYM:** (*adj*) rough.

overhanging: (*adj, v*) projecting; (*v*) beetling; (*adj*) covering, imminent, impending, pendent, obumbrant, hanging over, overspreading, depending, hanging.

poop: (*n*) ninny, stern, nincompoop, feces, quarter, dope, dirt, inside information, after part; (*n, v*) shit; (*v*)

fatigue.

quietude: (*n*) quietness, calmness, peace, composure, placidity, tranquility, repose, serenity, tranquillity, hush, silence.

quits: (*n*) quit, par, even, equal, abandon, leave, quittance, a wash.

voluptuousness: (*n*) shapeliness, lewdness, lasciviousness, curvaceousness, lust, prurience, delicacy, lechery, gratification, luxury, fullness.

movement in the fairy bark. It slowly swings itself around until its prow points toward the sun. It advances with a gentle but gradually accelerated velocity, while the slight ripples it creates seem to break about the ivory side in divinest melody-seem to offer the only possible explanation of the soothing yet melancholy music for whose unseen origin the bewildered voyager looks around him in vain.

The canoe steadily proceeds, and the rocky gate of the vista is approached, so that its depths can be more distinctly seen. To the right arise a chain of lofty hills rudely and **luxuriantly** wooded. It is observed, however, that the trait of exquisite **cleanness** where the bank dips into the water, still prevails. There is not one token of the usual river debris. To the left the character of the scene is softer and more obviously artificial. Here the bank slopes upward from the stream in a very gentle ascent, forming a broad **sward** of grass of a texture resembling nothing so much as velvet, and of a brilliancy of green which would bear comparison with the tint of the purest emerald. This plateau varies in width from ten to three hundred yards; reaching from the river-bank to a wall, fifty feet high, which extends, in an infinity of curves, but following the general direction of the river, until lost in the distance to the westward. This wall is of one continuous rock, and has been formed by cutting **perpendicularly** the once rugged precipice of the stream's southern bank, but no trace of the labor has been suffered to remain. The **chiselled** stone has the hue of ages, and is profusely overhung and overspread with the ivy, the coral **honeysuckle**, the **eglantine**, and the **clematis**. The uniformity of the top and bottom lines of the wall is fully relieved by occasional trees of gigantic height, growing singly or in small groups, both along the plateau and in the domain behind the wall, but in close proximity to it; so that frequent limbs (of the black walnut especially) reach over and dip their **pendent** extremities into the water. Farther back within the domain, the vision is impeded by an impenetrable screen of foliage.

These things are observed during the canoe's gradual approach to what I have called the gate of the vista. On drawing nearer to this, however, its chasm-like appearance vanishes; a new outlet from the bay is discovered to the left -- in

Thesaurus

chiselled: (*adj*) chiseled, clean-cut.
cleanness: (*n*) cleanliness, spotlessness, purity, sinlessness, whiteness, clean, innocence, neatness, tidiness, pureness, minimalism.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) dirtiness, filth, clutter.
clematis: (*n*) blue jasmine.
eglantine: (*n*) briar, sweetbrier, rose, sweetbrier, eglare, catbrier, bullbrier, brierpatch, briar pipe, brier patch.

honeysuckle: (*n*) Aquilegia Canadensis, Australian honeysuckle, coast banksia, banksia integrifolia, sweet wine, shrub, liqueur, bush, bush honeysuckle, coral honeysuckle, fly honeysuckle.
luxuriantly: (*adv*) abundantly, opulently, plentifully, richly, profusely, generously, bountifully, thickly, riotously, exuberantly, copiously.
pendent: (*adj*) pendulous, suspended,

pendant, dangling, pending, unsettled, undecided, pensile, drooping, projecting; (*n*) stipend.
perpendicularly: (*adv*) uprightly, erectly, straightly, upright, orthogonally, sheerly, precipitously, normally, plumb; (*adv, v*) sheer; (*adj, adv*) directly.
sward: (*n*) sod, greensward, lawn, green, divot, turf, grass, meadow, mead, sodomite, grassplat.

which direction the wall is also seen to sweep, still following the general course of the stream. Down this new opening the eye cannot penetrate very far; for the stream, accompanied by the wall, still bends to the left, until both are swallowed up by the leaves.

The boat, nevertheless, glides magically into the winding channel; and here the shore opposite the wall is found to resemble that opposite the wall in the straight vista. Lofty hills, rising occasionally into mountains, and covered with vegetation in wild **luxuriance**, still shut in the scene.

Floating gently onward, but with a velocity slightly augmented, the voyager, after many short turns, finds his progress apparently barred by a gigantic gate or rather door of **burnished** gold, elaborately carved and **fretted**, and reflecting the direct rays of the now fast-sinking sun with an **effulgence** that seems to **wreath** the whole surrounding forest in flames. This gate is inserted in the lofty wall; which here appears to cross the river at right angles. In a few moments, however, it is seen that the main body of the water still sweeps in a gentle and extensive curve to the left, the wall following it as before, while a stream of considerable volume, **diverging** from the principal one, makes its way, with a slight ripple, under the door, and is thus hidden from sight. The canoe falls into the lesser channel and approaches the gate. Its ponderous wings are slowly and musically expanded. The boat glides between them, and commences a rapid descent into a vast **amphitheatre** entirely begirt with purple mountains, whose **bases** are laved by a gleaming river throughout the full extent of their circuit. Meantime the whole Paradise of Arnheim bursts upon the view. There is a **gush** of **entrancing** melody; there is an oppressive sense of strange sweet odor, -- there is a dream -- like intermingling to the eye of tall slender Eastern trees -- **bosky** shrubberies -- flocks of golden and crimson birds -- lily-fringed lakes -- meadows of violets, tulips, poppies, hyacinths, and tuberoses -- long intertangled lines of silver streamlets -- and, upspringing confusedly from amid all, a mass of semi-Gothic, semi-Saracenic architecture sustaining itself by miracle in mid-air, glittering in the red sunlight with a hundred oriels, minarets, and pinnacles; and seeming the

Thesaurus

amphitheatre: (*n*) amphitheater, arena, stadium, gallery, bowl, coliseum, colosseum.

bases: (*n*) basis, foundation.

bosky: (*adj*) green, shady, brushy.

burnished: (*adj*) polished, bright, shiny, lustrous, shimmering, sparkly, glittery, shining; (*adj, v*) sunny; (*v*) meridian, orient.

diverging: (*adj*) branching, divergingly, centrifugal, divaricate, oblique.

effulgence: (*n*) brilliance, brightness, radiancy, glow, radiance, luster, burnish, glory, shine, sheen, refulgence.

entrancing: (*adj*) captivating, enthralling, bewitching, fascinating, charming, attractive, magnetic, glamorous, tempting, engaging, enticing. ANTONYM: (*adj*) boring.

fretted: (*adj*) latticed, haggard, magged, latticelike, reticulated, reticular, interlaced. ANTONYM:

(*adj*) unfretted.

gush: (*n, v*) flood, flow, spurt, jet, discharge, stream, rush, surge; (*n*) burst, effusion; (*v*) course.

luxuriance: (*n*) exuberance, copiousness, abundance, lushness, affluence, wealth, luxury, excess, luxuriance, rampancy; (*adj*) fecundity.

wreath: (*n*) crown, coronal, garland, chaplet, lei, circle, posy, fascia, cincture, girdle, laurels.

phantom handiwork, conjointly, of the Sylphs, of the Fairies, of the Genii and of the Gnomes.

Thesaurus

conjointly: (*adv*) collectively, unitedly, communally, together, altogether, mutually, conjunctly, conjoinedly, combined, also, completely.

handiwork: (*n*) handicraft, creation, production, handcraft, product, handwork, work, produce, design, performance; (*v*) workmanship.

phantom: (*n, v*) apparition, phantasm, vision, phantasma; (*n*) spectre, specter, appearance, shade, shadow, wraith, spirit.

LANDOR'S COTTAGE

A PENDANT TO "THE DOMAIN OF ARNHEIM"

During a pedestrian trip last summer, through one or two of the river counties of New York, I found myself, as the day declined, somewhat embarrassed about the road I was **pursuing**. The land **undulated** very remarkably; and my path, for the last hour, had wound about and about so confusedly, in its effort to keep in the valleys, that I no longer knew in what direction lay the sweet village of B-, where I had determined to stop for the night. The sun had scarcely shone -- strictly speaking -- during the day, which nevertheless, had been **unpleasantly** warm. A **smoky** mist, resembling that of the Indian summer, enveloped all things, and of course, added to my uncertainty. Not that I cared much about the matter. If I did not hit upon the village before sunset, or even before dark, it was more than possible that a little Dutch farmhouse, or something of that kind, would soon make its appearance -- although, in fact, the neighborhood (perhaps on account of being more picturesque than fertile) was very **sparsely** inhabited. At all events, with my **knapsack** for a pillow, and my **hound** as a **sentry**, a **bivouac** in the open air was just the thing which would have amused me. I sauntered on, therefore, quite at ease -- Ponto taking charge of my gun -- until at length, just as I had begun to

Thesaurus

bivouac: (*n, v*) camp; (*v*) tent, encamp, dwell; (*n*) encampment, cantonment, campsite, campground, laager, spial, scout.

hound: (*v*) bloodhound, chase, hunt, follow, badger, course, bait, pursue; (*n*) greyhound, blackguard, cad.
ANTONYM: (*v*) soothe.

knapsack: (*n*) bag, rucksack, haversack, kitbag, packsack, pack, back pack, wallet, pouch, scrip, kit bag.

pursuing: (*n*) pursuit, search, hunt; (*adj*) coming, engaged.

sentry: (*n, v*) guard, watch; (*n*) lookout, guardsman, picket, keeper, warden, watchman, warder, lookout man, scout.

smoky: (*adj*) murky, hazy, fumid, vaporous, opaque, muddy, famish, burnt; (*v*) sooty, smutty, dusty.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clean, fresh, clear.

sparsely: (*adv*) infrequently, lightly, rarely, scatteredly, meagerly,

scantly, poorly, sporadically, slenderly, scarcely, leanly.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) thickly, densely.

undulated: (*adj*) undulatory.

unpleasantly: (*adv*) distastefully, disagreeably, rudely, obnoxiously, bitterly, painfully, awfully, troublesomely, offensively, hardly, displeasingly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) delightfully, agreeably, kindly, politely, graciously, attractively, sweetly, well, humbly.

consider whether the numerous little glades that led hither and thither, were intended to be **paths** at all, I was conducted by one of them into an **unquestionable** carriage track. There could be no **mistaking** it. The traces of light wheels were evident; and although the tall shrubberies and overgrown undergrowth met overhead, there was no obstruction whatever below, even to the passage of a Virginian mountain wagon -- the most **aspiring** vehicle, I take it, of its kind. The road, however, except in being open through the wood -- if wood be not too weighty a name for such an assemblage of light trees -- and except in the particulars of evident wheel-tracks -- bore no resemblance to any road I had before seen. The tracks of which I speak were but faintly perceptible -- having been impressed upon the firm, yet pleasantly moist surface of -- what looked more like green Genoese velvet than any thing else. It was grass, clearly -- but grass such as we seldom see out of England -- so short, so thick, so even, and so vivid in color. Not a single impediment lay in the wheel-route -- not even a chip or dead **twig**. The stones that once **obstructed** the way had been carefully placed -- not thrown-along the sides of the lane, so as to define its boundaries at bottom with a kind of half-precise, half-negligent, and wholly picturesque definition. Clumps of wild flowers grew everywhere, luxuriantly, in the interspaces.

What to make of all this, of course I knew not. Here was art undoubtedly -- that did not surprise me -- all roads, in the ordinary sense, are works of art; nor can I say that there was much to wonder at in the mere excess of art manifested; all that seemed to have been done, might have been done here -- with such natural "capabilities" (as they have it in the books on Landscape Gardening) -- with very little labor and expense. No; it was not the amount but the character of the art which caused me to take a seat on one of the **blossomy** stones and gaze up and down this fairy -- like avenue for half an hour or more in bewildered admiration. One thing became more and more evident the longer I gazed: an artist, and one with a most **scrupulous** eye for form, had superintended all these arrangements. The greatest care had been taken to preserve a due medium between the neat and graceful on the one hand, and the picturesque, in the true sense of the Italian term, on the other. There were few straight, and no long uninterrupted lines. The same effect of curvature or of color appeared twice,

Thesaurus

aspiring: (*adj*) aspirant, wishful, enterprising, envious, desirous, coming; (*v*) aspire, vaulting.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) desperate.
blossomy: (*adj*) flowery, floral, bloomy.
mistaking: (*n*) misunderstanding, mistake, imbroglio, misinterpretation, misconstruction, misapprehension, misconstrual, interpretation, misreading; (*adj*) mistaken, misleading.

obstructed: (*adj*) blind, blocked, congested, impeded, impedit, foiled, tight, thwarted, stymied, frustrated, impassable. **ANTONYM:** (*adj*) unobstructed.
paths: (*n*) path.
scrupulous: (*adj*) careful, punctilious, exact, conscientious, particular, painstaking, accurate, prudent, meticulous, rigorous, cautious. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) sloppy, unscrupulous, slapdash, relaxed,

guilty, deceitful.
twig: (*n*) sprig, bough, limb, shoot, offshoot, spray, branchlet, scion, stalk; (*n, v*) stick; (*v*) grasp.
unquestionable: (*adj*) incontrovertible, indisputable, sure, incontestable, indubitable, certain, unequivocal, irrefutable, undoubted, definite; (*v*) unimpeachable. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) dubious, uncertain, doubtful, indefinite, tenuous, provisional, debatable, disputable.

usually, but not oftener, at any one point of view. Everywhere was variety in uniformity. It was a piece of “composition,” in which the most **fastidiously** critical taste could scarcely have suggested an emendation.

I had turned to the right as I entered this road, and now, arising, I continued in the same direction. The path was so **serpentine**, that at no moment could I trace its course for more than two or three paces in advance. Its character did not undergo any material change.

Presently the murmur of water fell gently upon my ear -- and in a few moments afterward, as I turned with the road somewhat more abruptly than hitherto, I became aware that a building of some kind lay at the foot of a gentle **declivity** just before me. I could see nothing distinctly on account of the mist which occupied all the little valley below. A gentle breeze, however, now arose, as the sun was about descending; and while I remained standing on the brow of the slope, the fog gradually became **dissipated** into wreaths, and so floated over the scene.

As it came fully into view -- thus gradually as I describe it -- piece by piece, here a tree, there a glimpse of water, and here again the summit of a chimney, I could scarcely help **fancying** that the whole was one of the ingenious **illusions** sometimes **exhibited** under the name of “vanishing pictures.”

By the time, however, that the fog had thoroughly disappeared, the sun had made its way down behind the gentle hills, and thence, as it with a slight chassez to the south, had come again fully into sight, **glaring** with a **purplish** lustre through a chasm that entered the valley from the west. Suddenly, therefore -- and as if by the hand of magic -- this whole valley and every thing in it became brilliantly visible.

The first coup d’oeil, as the sun slid into the position described, impressed me very much as I have been impressed, when a boy, by the concluding scene of some well-arranged theatrical spectacle or **melodrama**. Not even the **monstrosity** of color was wanting; for the sunlight came out through the chasm, tinted all orange and purple; while the vivid green of the grass in the valley was reflected

Thesaurus

declivity: (*n*) decline, fall, downhill, downgrade, incline, dip, slope; (*n, v*) gradient; (*v*) acclivity, ascent, bank.
dissipated: (*adj, v*) fast; (*adj*) dissolute, immoral, abandoned, profligate, prodigal, gay, rakish, degenerate, squandered, licentious.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) upright, moral.
exhibited: (*adj*) ostensible, avowed, apparent, declared.
fancying: (*n*) daydream, fantasy.
fastidiously: (*adv*) nicely,

meticulously, finically, finickily, squeamishly, carefully, precisely, daintily, fussily, strictly, accurately.
glaring: (*adj*) conspicuous, bright, blatant, egregious, obvious, plain, flaming, garish, crying, gross, glary.
 ANTONYMS: (*adj*) soft, inconspicuous, dull, minor.
illusions: (*n*) fantasy.
melodrama: (*n*) excitement, melodrame, soap opera, romance.
monstrosity: (*n*) freak, eyesore,

leviathan, abortion, ogre, anamorphosis, malformation, lusus naturae; (*adj, n*) enormity; (*adj*) bizarrerie, immensity.
purplish: (*adj*) majestic, violet, chromatic, imperial, embellished, empurpled.
serpentine: (*adj, v*) snaky; (*adj*) insidious, crooked, snakelike, tortuous, winding, sinuous, curved, cunning; (*v*) circling, meander.

more or less upon all objects from the curtain of vapor that still **hung** overhead, as if **loth** to take its total departure from a scene so **enchantly** beautiful.

The little vale into which I thus peered down from under the fog canopy could not have been more than four hundred yards long; while in breadth it varied from fifty to one hundred and fifty or perhaps two hundred. It was most narrow at its northern extremity, opening out as it tended southwardly, but with no very precise regularity. The widest portion was within eighty yards of the southern extreme. The slopes which encompassed the vale could not fairly be called hills, unless at their northern face. Here a precipitous ledge of granite arose to a height of some ninety feet; and, as I have mentioned, the valley at this point was not more than fifty feet wide; but as the visiter proceeded southwardly from the cliff, he found on his right hand and on his left, declivities at once less high, less precipitous, and less rocky. All, in a word, sloped and softened to the south; and yet the whole vale was engirdled by eminences, more or less high, except at two points. One of these I have already spoken of. It lay considerably to the north of west, and was where the setting sun made its way, as I have before described, into the amphitheatre, through a cleanly cut natural **cleft** in the granite embankment; this fissure might have been ten yards wide at its widest point, so far as the eye could trace it. It seemed to lead up, up like a natural causeway, into the recesses of unexplored mountains and forests. The other opening was directly at the southern end of the vale. Here, generally, the slopes were nothing more than gentle inclinations, extending from east to west about one hundred and fifty yards. In the middle of this extent was a depression, level with the ordinary floor of the valley. As regards vegetation, as well as in respect to every thing else, the scene softened and sloped to the south. To the north -- on the craggy precipice -- a few paces from the verge -- up sprang the magnificent trunks of numerous **hickories**, black **walnuts**, and chestnuts, interspersed with occasional oak, and the strong lateral branches thrown out by the walnuts especially, spread far over the edge of the cliff. Proceeding southwardly, the explorer saw, at first, the same class of trees, but less and less lofty and Salvatorish in character; then he saw the gentler elm, succeeded by the **sassafras** and **locust** -- these again by the softer **linden**, red-bud, **catalpa**, and maple --

Thesaurus

catalpa: (*n*) bonavist, bean tree.

cleft: (*adj, n*) split; (*n*) fissure, cleavage, crevice, rift, fracture, aperture, breach, chap, chink, crack.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) united.

enchantly: (*adv*) fascinatingly, bewitchingly, enthrallingly, charmingly, entrancingly, lovely, attractively, appealingly, beguilingly, pleasantly, delightfully. ANTONYM: (*adv*) unpleasantly.

hickories: (*n*) walnut family,

Juglandaceae.

hung: (*n*) hanging; (*v*) Heng; (*adj*) fatigued, puzzled, decorated.

linden: (*n*) lime, basswood, cottonwood, tree, wood, calx, calcium hydroxide, linden tree, hydrated lime, fluxing lime, citrus auratifolia.

locust: (*n*) courbaril, cicada, wood, carob, clammy locust, Colorado beetle, black locust, acridid, honey locust, locust tree; (*v*) losel.

loth: (*adj*) disinclined, averse, reluctant, unwilling, indisposed, antipathetical, antipathetic, not content, shy of, repugnant; (*v*) averse from.

sassafras: (*n*) seasoner, yarrow, seasoning, flavorer, flavourer, flavouring, laurel, sassafras tree, sassafras wood, flavoring.

walnuts: (*n*) walnut family, family Juglandaceae, hickories, Juglandaceae, pecans.

these yet again by still more graceful and more modest varieties. The whole face of the southern declivity was covered with wild shrubbery alone -- an occasional silver willow or white poplar **excepted**. In the bottom of the valley itself -- (for it must be borne in mind that the vegetation hitherto mentioned grew only on the cliffs or hillsides) -- were to be seen three insulated trees. One was an elm of fine size and exquisite form: it stood guard over the southern gate of the vale. Another was a **hickory**, much larger than the elm, and altogether a much finer tree, although both were exceedingly beautiful: it seemed to have taken charge of the **northwestern** entrance, springing from a group of rocks in the very jaws of the ravine, and throwing its graceful body, at an angle of nearly forty-five degrees, far out into the sunshine of the amphitheatre. About thirty yards east of this tree stood, however, the pride of the valley, and beyond all question the most magnificent tree I have ever seen, unless, perhaps, among the cypresses of the Itchiatuckanee. It was a triple -- stemmed tulip-tree -- the *Liriodendron Tulipiferum* -- one of the natural order of magnolias. Its three trunks separated from the parent at about three feet from the soil, and diverging very slightly and gradually, were not more than four feet apart at the point where the largest stem shot out into foliage: this was at an elevation of about eighty feet. The whole height of the principal division was one hundred and twenty feet. Nothing can **surpass** in beauty the form, or the glossy, vivid green of the leaves of the tulip-tree. In the present instance they were fully eight inches wide; but their glory was altogether eclipsed by the gorgeous splendor of the profuse blossoms. Conceive, closely congregated, a million of the largest and most **resplendent** tulips! Only thus can the reader get any idea of the picture I would convey. And then the stately grace of the clean, delicately -- **granulated columnar** stems, the largest four feet in diameter, at twenty from the ground. The innumerable blossoms, **mingling** with those of other trees scarcely less beautiful, although infinitely less majestic, filled the valley with more than Arabian perfumes.

The general floor of the amphitheatre was grass of the same character as that I had found in the road; if anything, more **deliciously** soft, thick, **velvety**, and miraculously green. It was hard to conceive how all this beauty had been attained.

Thesaurus

columnar: (*adj*) columned, stelene, columnlike, columniform, basaltiform.

deliciously: (*adv*) delightfully, nicely, scrumptiously, tastily, goodly, sweetly, delicately, toothsomely, appetizingly, daintily, juicily.

excepted: (*v*) except; (*adj*) let off, excused.

granulated: (*adj*) granular, coarse.

hickory: (*n*) mockernut hickory, hickory tree, pignut, shellbark,

shagbark, mockernut, club, brown hickory, black hickory, big shellbark, bitter pignut.

mingling: (*adj*) blending, merging, confluent, blended; (*n*) mixture, mixing, commixtion, interchange, exchange, commixture; (*adv*) minglingly.

northwestern: (*adj*) northwesterly, western, westerner, north.

resplendent: (*adj, n*) bright, lucid; (*adj*) radiant, luminous, illustrious,

splendid, flamboyant, glorious, magnificent, gorgeous, effulgent. ANTONYM: (*adj*) dull.

surpass: (*v*) beat, outdo, exceed, surmount, better, excel, outstrip, overcome, overrun, best, go beyond. ANTONYMS: (*v*) fail, lose, follow, trail.

velvety: (*adj*) smooth, soft, velvet, silky, fluffy, woolly, supple, creamy, delicate, furry; (*v*) lanate. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) croaky, watery.

I have spoken of two openings into the vale. From the one to the northwest issued a rivulet, which came, gently murmuring and slightly **foaming**, down the ravine, until it dashed against the group of rocks out of which sprang the insulated hickory. Here, after **encircling** the tree, it passed on a little to the north of east, leaving the tulip tree some twenty feet to the south, and making no decided alteration in its course until it came near the midway between the eastern and western boundaries of the valley. At this point, after a series of sweeps, it turned off at right angles and pursued a generally southern direction **meandering** as it went -- until it became lost in a small lake of irregular figure (although roughly oval), that lay gleaming near the lower extremity of the vale. This **lakelet** was, perhaps, a hundred yards in diameter at its widest part. No crystal could be clearer than its waters. Its bottom, which could be distinctly seen, consisted altogether, of **pebbles** brilliantly white. Its banks, of the emerald grass already described, rounded, rather than sloped, off into the clear heaven below; and so clear was this heaven, so perfectly, at times, did it reflect all objects above it, that where the true bank ended and where the mimic one commenced, it was a point of no little difficulty to determine. The trout, and some other varieties of fish, with which this pond seemed to be almost **inconveniently** crowded, had all the appearance of veritable flying-fish. It was almost impossible to believe that they were not absolutely suspended in the air. A light birch canoe that lay placidly on the water, was reflected in its minutest fibres with a fidelity **unsurpassed** by the most exquisitely polished mirror. A small island, fairly laughing with flowers in full bloom, and affording little more space than just enough for a picturesque little building, seemingly a fowl-house -- arose from the lake not far from its northern shore -- to which it was connected by means of an inconceivably light -- looking and yet very primitive bridge. It was formed of a single, broad and thick plank of the tulip wood. This was forty feet long, and **spanned** the interval between shore and shore with a slight but very perceptible arch, preventing all **oscillation**. From the southern extreme of the lake issued a continuation of the rivulet, which, after meandering for, perhaps, thirty yards, finally passed through the "depression" (already described) in the middle of the

Thesaurus

encircling: (*adj, prep*) surrounding; (*prep*) around; (*adj*) comprehensive, encompassing, roundabout, circuitous, rotary, circumferential, inclusive; (*v*) encircle.
foaming: (*adj*) foamy, effervescent, effervescing, bubbly, bubbling, sparkling, spumy; (*adj, n*) frothing; (*n*) surging, effervescence, scum.
inconveniently: (*adv*) awkwardly, incommodiously, troublesomely, inappropriately, disadvantageously,

difficultly, annoyingly, unsuitably, inexpediently, inaptly, unhandily.
ANTONYMS: (*adv*) handily, expediently.
lakelet: (*n*) lake.
meandering: (*adj*) circuitous, indirect, zigzag, tortuous, winding, serpentine, sinuous, roundabout, snaky, windy; (*v*) twirl.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) straight; (*n*) directness.
oscillation: (*n*) beat, tremor, vibration,

sway, swing, pulse, libration, variation, vacillation, fluctuation, quiver.
pebbles: (*n*) shingle, grit, gravel, stones.
spanned: (*adj*) crossed.
unsurpassed: (*adj*) unequaled, supreme, peerless, unexcelled, unexceeded, matchless, without comparison, unrivaled; (*v*) unequalled, unapproached, unparagoned.

southern declivity, and tumbling down a sheer precipice of a hundred feet, made its devious and unnoticed way to the Hudson.

The lake was deep -- at some points thirty feet -- but the rivulet seldom exceeded three, while its greatest width was about eight. Its bottom and banks were as those of the pond -- if a defect could have been attributed, in point of picturesqueness, it was that of excessive **neatness**.

The expanse of the green turf was relieved, here and there, by an occasional **showy** shrub, such as the **hydrangea**, or the common snowball, or the aromatic seringa; or, more frequently, by a clump of geraniums **blossoming gorgeously** in great varieties. These latter grew in pots which were carefully buried in the soil, so as to give the plants the appearance of being indigenous. Besides all this, the lawn's velvet was exquisitely spotted with sheep -- a considerable flock of which roamed about the vale, in company with three **tamed** deer, and a vast number of brilliantly -- plumed ducks. A very large mastiff seemed to be in vigilant attendance upon these animals, each and all.

Along the eastern and western cliffs -- where, toward the upper portion of the amphitheatre, the boundaries were more or less precipitous -- grew ivy in great profusion -- so that only here and there could even a glimpse of the naked rock be obtained. The northern precipice, in like manner, was almost entirely clothed by grape-vines of rare luxuriance; some springing from the soil at the base of the cliff, and others from ledges on its face.

The slight elevation which formed the lower boundary of this little domain, was crowned by a neat stone wall, of sufficient height to prevent the escape of the deer. Nothing of the fence kind was observable elsewhere; for nowhere else was an artificial enclosure needed: -- any stray sheep, for example, which should attempt to make its way out of the vale by means of the ravine, would find its progress arrested, after a few yards' advance, by the precipitous ledge of rock over which **tumbled** the cascade that had arrested my attention as I first drew near the domain. In short, the only ingress or egress was through a gate occupying a rocky pass in the road, a few paces below the point at which I stopped to **reconnoitre** the scene.

Thesaurus

blossoming: (*n*) bloom, florescence, flowering, anthesis, blossom, efflorescence, inflorescence, ontogeny, ontogenesis; (*adj*) budding, growing. ANTONYM: (*adj*) failing.
gorgeously: (*adv*) splendidly, magnificently, grandly, stunningly, sumptuously, wonderfully, superbly, exquisitely, resplendently, attractively, delightfully.
 ANTONYM: (*adv*) horribly.
hydrangea: (*n*) carpenteria, deutzia,

decumary, hortensia, shrub, climbing hydrangea.

neatness: (*n*) trimness, dexterity, orderliness, tidiness, spruceness, cleanliness, precision, compactness, purity, cleanness, elegance.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) untidiness, largeness, clumsiness, disorder, inelegance, clutter, chaos, messiness.
reconnoitre: (*v*) explore, scout, reconnaissance, investigate, examine, inspect, probe, survey, observe, make

a reconnaissance.

showy: (*adj, v*) pretentious, brilliant; (*adj*) gaudy, garish, flashy, loud, flamboyant, dashing, gay; (*adj, n*) magnificent, fine. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) tasteful, restrained, discreet, plain, dull, quality.
tamed: (*adj*) tame, broken, domesticated, under control, tamer, meek, gentle, domestic, docile, controlled, cultivated.
tumbled: (*adj*) disordered.

I have described the brook as meandering very irregularly through the whole of its course. Its two general directions, as I have said, were first from west to east, and then from north to south. At the turn, the stream, sweeping backward, made an almost circular loop, so as to form a peninsula which was very nearly an island, and which included about the **sixteenth** of an **acre**. On this peninsula stood a dwelling-house -- and when I say that this house, like the **infernal** terrace seen by Vathek, "etait d'une architecture inconnue dans les annales de la terre," I mean, merely, that its **tout ensemble** struck me with the keenest sense of combined novelty and propriety -- in a word, of poetry -- (for, than in the words just employed, I could scarcely give, of poetry in the abstract, a more rigorous definition) -- and I do not mean that merely **outré** was perceptible in any respect.

In fact nothing could well be more simple -- more utterly **unpretending** than this cottage. Its marvellous effect lay altogether in its artistic arrangement as a picture. I could have **fancied**, while I looked at it, that some eminent landscape-painter had built it with his brush.

The point of view from which I first saw the valley, was not altogether, although it was nearly, the best point from which to survey the house. I will therefore describe it as I afterwards saw it -- from a position on the stone wall at the southern extreme of the amphitheatre.

The main building was about twenty-four feet long and sixteen broad -- certainly not more. Its total height, from the ground to the **apex** of the roof, could not have exceeded eighteen feet. To the west end of this structure was attached one about a third smaller in all its proportions: -- the line of its front standing back about two yards from that of the larger house, and the line of its roof, of course, being considerably depressed below that of the roof adjoining. At right angles to these buildings, and from the rear of the main one -- not exactly in the middle -- extended a third compartment, very small -- being, in general, one-third less than the western wing. The roofs of the two larger were very steep -- sweeping down from the ridge-beam with a long **concave** curve, and extending at least four feet beyond the walls in front, so as to form the roofs of two piazzas.

Thesaurus

acre: (*n*) agrimensor, Akka.

apex: (*n*) top, peak, vertex, crown, acme, apices, extremity, height, summit, pinnacle, point.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) base, nadir, trough, bottom, abyss, depth.

concave: (*n*) indentation, depression, concavity; (*adj*) cavernous, biconcave, cupped, dipped, arched, indented; (*adj, n*) crescent; (*v*) stove in.

ANTONYM: (*adj*) curved.

ensemble: (*n*) chorus, outfit, group,

totality, company, whole, collection, band, corps de ballet, dress; (*adj, n*) entirety. ANTONYM: (*n*) single.

fancied: (*adj*) unreal, chimerical, fictional, fanciful, fictitious, fabricated, preferred, assumed, illusory, imagined, ideal.

infernal: (*adj*) devilish, fiendish, diabolical, demonic, damned, cursed, blasted, unholy, wicked; (*adj, v*) diabolic, satanic.

outré: (*adj*) bizarre, freakish, freaky,

outlandish, flaky, remarkable, stilted, bombastic; (*adj, v*) extravagant; (*v*) fabulous, egregious.

sixteen: (*n*) large integer.

tout: (*v*) bluster, brag, advertise, boast, canvass, blow, gas, bespeak, gasconade, swash; (*n*) hotel runner.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) conceal, understate.

unpretending: (*adj*) unassuming, humble, unostentatious, unobtrusive, lowly, unpretentious, restrained; (*n*) plain, homely, familiar, intimate.

These latter roofs, of course, needed no support; but as they had the air of needing it, slight and perfectly plain pillars were **inserted** at the corners alone. The roof of the northern wing was merely an extension of a portion of the main roof. Between the chief building and western wing arose a very tall and rather slender square chimney of hard Dutch bricks, **alternately** black and red: -- a slight **cornice** of **projecting** bricks at the top. Over the **gables** the roofs also projected very much: -- in the main building about four feet to the east and two to the west. The principal door was not exactly in the main division, being a little to the east -- while the two windows were to the west. These latter did not extend to the floor, but were much longer and narrower than usual -- they had single **shutters** like doors -- the panes were of lozenge form, but quite large. The door itself had its upper half of glass, also in lozenge panes -- a **movable** shutter secured it at night. The door to the west wing was in its gable, and quite simple -- a single window looked out to the south. There was no external door to the north wing, and it also had only one window to the east.

The blank wall of the eastern gable was relieved by stairs (with a balustrade) running **diagonally** across it -- the ascent being from the south. Under cover of the widely projecting eave these steps gave access to a door leading to the garret, or rather loft -- for it was **lighted** only by a single window to the north, and seemed to have been intended as a store-room.

The piazzas of the main building and western wing had no floors, as is usual; but at the doors and at each window, large, flat irregular slabs of granite lay imbedded in the delicious turf, affording comfortable footing in all weather. Excellent paths of the same material -- not nicely adapted, but with the velvety sod filling frequent intervals between the stones, led hither and thither from the house, to a crystal spring about five paces off, to the road, or to one or two out -- houses that lay to the north, beyond the brook, and were thoroughly concealed by a few locusts and catalpas.

Not more than six steps from the main door of the cottage stood the dead trunk of a fantastic pear-tree, so clothed from head to foot in the gorgeous bignonia blossoms that one required no little scrutiny to determine what manner

Thesaurus

alternately: (*adv*) alternatively, by turns, in turn, secondarily, reciprocally, mutually, off-and-on, rather, anthemwise, secondly; (*adj*, *adv*) on and off.

cornice: (*n*) architrave, zoophorus, entablature, epistyle, framing, framework, pediment, projection, sconce; (*v*) furnish, provide.

diagonally: (*adv*) obliquely, slantingly, crossways, transversely, slopingly, aslantly, biasly, slantedly, slantways,

cornerwise, bias. ANTONYM: (*adv*) square.

gable: (*n*) pediment, gable end, wall, gable wall, William Clark gable, bell gable, corbie gable, gavel, Clark gable.

inserted: (*prep*) between; (*adj*) parenthetical.

lighted: (*adj*) illuminated, lit, light, ablaze, bright, ignited, burn, burning, ignite, kindled, lighten.

movable: (*adj*) portable, transferable,

mercurial, adjustable, ambulatory, changeable, transportable, moveable, flexible, active; (*v*) shifting.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) immovable, unchangeable.

projecting: (*adj*) projected, protruding, jutting, protrusive, pendent; (*adj*, *v*) overhanging, jutting over, salient; (*v*) beetling, protuberant, convex.

shutter: (*n*, *v*) close, shade; (*n*) curtain, shut, blind, window, skylight, deadlight, lid, louver, jalousie.

of sweet thing it could be. From various arms of this tree hung cages of different kinds. In one, a large **wicker** cylinder with a ring at top, revelled a mocking bird; in another an **oriole**; in a third the **impudent bobolink** -- while three or four more delicate prisons were loudly vocal with canaries.

The pillars of the **piazza** were enwreathed in **jasmine** and sweet honeysuckle; while from the angle formed by the main structure and its west wing, in front, sprang a grape-vine of **unexampled** luxuriance. Scorning all restraint, it had clambered first to the lower roof -- then to the higher; and along the ridge of this latter it continued to writhe on, throwing out tendrils to the right and left, until at length it fairly attained the east gable, and fell trailing over the stairs.

The whole house, with its wings, was constructed of the old-fashioned Dutch **shingles** -- broad, and with unrounded corners. It is a peculiarity of this material to give houses built of it the appearance of being wider at bottom than at top -- after the manner of Egyptian architecture; and in the present instance, this exceedingly picturesque effect was aided by numerous pots of gorgeous flowers that almost encompassed the base of the buildings.

The shingles were painted a dull gray; and the happiness with which this neutral tint **melted** into the vivid green of the tulip tree leaves that partially overshadowed the cottage, can readily be conceived by an artist.

From the position near the stone wall, as described, the buildings were seen at great advantage -- for the **southeastern** angle was thrown forward -- so that the eye took in at once the whole of the two fronts, with the picturesque eastern gable, and at the same time obtained just a sufficient glimpse of the northern wing, with parts of a pretty roof to the spring-house, and nearly half of a light bridge that spanned the brook in the near vicinity of the main buildings.

I did not remain very long on the brow of the hill, although long enough to make a thorough survey of the scene at my feet. It was clear that I had wandered from the road to the village, and I had thus good traveller's excuse to open the gate before me, and **inquire** my way, at all events; so, without more ado, I proceeded.

Thesaurus

bobolink: (<i>n</i>) reedbird, ricebird.	Oleaceae, common jasmine, ash, olive family, family Oleaceae.	porch, space, veranda.
impudent: (<i>adj</i> , <i>n</i>) bold, daring; (<i>adj</i>) disrespectful, audacious, impertinent, brassy, barefaced, brazen, insolent, brash, cheeky. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) polite, cowardly.	melted: (<i>adj</i>) molten, fluid, liquified, dissolved, liquefied, baked, fluent, touched, limpid, sorry, flowing.	shingles: (<i>n</i>) zoster, herpes, zona, herpes zoster virus.
inquire: (<i>v</i>) demand, ask, explore, enquire, inspect, research, consult, pry, request, wonder; (<i>n</i> , <i>v</i>) question. ANTONYM: (<i>v</i>) answer.	oriole: (<i>n</i>) cacique, bobolink, old world oriole, blackbird, cazique, meadowlark, lark, American oriole, oscine, northern oriole, American songbird.	southeastern: (<i>adj</i>) southeasterly, eastern, easterner.
jasmine: (<i>n</i>) jessamine, Jasminum, East Indian rose-bay, shrub, bush,	piazza: (<i>n</i>) plaza, square, mall, circus, cloister, arcade, court, crescent,	unexampled: (<i>adj</i>) new, unique, unparalleled, rare, novel, undescribed, peerless, inimitable, singular, fantastic, fresh.
		wicker: (<i>n</i>) wickerwork, caning, wood, dwelling, home, osier, piece of work, Wike, cane; (<i>adj</i>) twiggen.

The road, after passing the gate, seemed to lie upon a natural **ledge**, **sloping** gradually down along the face of the north-eastern cliffs. It led me on to the foot of the northern precipice, and thence over the bridge, round by the eastern gable to the front door. In this progress, I took notice that no sight of the out-houses could be obtained.

As I turned the corner of the gable, the mastiff bounded towards me in stern silence, but with the eye and the whole air of a tiger. I held him out my hand, however, in token of **amity** -- and I never yet knew the dog who was proof against such an appeal to his courtesy. He not only shut his mouth and wagged his tail, but absolutely offered me his paw--afterward extending his **civilities** to Ponto.

As no bell was discernible, I rapped with my stick against the door, which stood half open. Instantly a figure advanced to the threshold -- that of a young woman about twenty-eight years of age -- slender, or rather slight, and somewhat above the medium height. As she approached, with a certain modest decision of step altogether **indescribable**. I said to myself, "Surely here I have found the perfection of natural, in **contradistinction** from artificial grace." The second impression which she made on me, but by far the more vivid of the two, was that of enthusiasm. So intense an expression of romance, perhaps I should call it, or of **unworldliness**, as that which gleamed from her **deep-set** eyes, had never so sunk into my heart of hearts before. I know not how it is, but this peculiar expression of the eye, wreathing itself occasionally into the lips, is the most powerful, if not absolutely the sole spell, which rivets my interest in woman. "Romance, provided my readers fully comprehended what I would here imply by the word -- "romance" and "womanliness" seem to me convertible terms: and, after all, what man truly loves in woman, is simply her **womanhood**. The eyes of Annie (I heard some one from the interior call her "Annie, darling!") were "spiritual grey;" her hair, a light chestnut: this is all I had time to observe of her.

At her most courteous of invitations, I entered -- passing first into a tolerably wide **vestibule**. Having come mainly to observe, I took notice that to my right as

Thesaurus

amity: (*n*) friendship, concord, companionship, benevolence, peace, harmony, friendliness, brotherhood, fellowship, sympathy, camaraderie.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) hostility, discord, antagonism, war, animosity.
civilities: (*n*) propriety.
contradistinction: (*n*) distinction, opposition, differentiation, antithesis, variation, antagonism.
deep-set: (*adj*) hollow.
indescribable: (*adj*) indefinable,

ineffable, unutterable, vague, beyond expression, nameless, inexpressible, nondescript, terrible, intangible, termless. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) explainable, conceivable, concrete.
ledge: (*n*) projection, bulge, jetty, board, shelf, rack, bench, hummock, protrusion, rim; (*adj*) escarpment. **ANTONYM:** (*n*) depression.
sloping: (*adj, v*) oblique, slope; (*adj*) slanting, inclined, slanted, diagonal, leaning, sloped; (*adj, adv*) aslope,

aslant; (*v*) slant. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) horizontal, upright.
unworldliness: (*n*) innocence.
vestibule: (*n*) lobby, hall, foyer, antechamber, entrance hall, hallway, entry, porch, passage, anteroom, threshold.
womanhood: (*n*) muliebrity, femininity, adulthood, maturity, manhood, womankind, wifehood, softness, social class, majority, adult female.

I stepped in, was a window, such as those in front of the house; to the left, a door leading into the principal room; while, opposite me, an open door enabled me to see a small apartment, just the size of the vestibule, arranged as a study, and having a large bow window looking out to the north.

Passing into the **parlor**, I found myself with Mr. Landor -- for this, I afterwards found, was his name. He was civil, even **cordial** in his manner, but just then, I was more intent on observing the arrangements of the dwelling which had so much interested me, than the personal appearance of the tenant.

The north wing, I now saw, was a bed-chamber, its door opened into the parlor. West of this door was a single window, looking toward the brook. At the west end of the parlor, were a fireplace, and a door leading into the west wing -- probably a kitchen.

Nothing could be more rigorously simple than the furniture of the parlor. On the floor was an **ingrain** carpet, of excellent texture -- a white ground, spotted with small circular green figures. At the windows were curtains of **snowy** white jaconet **muslin**: they were tolerably full, and hung decisively, perhaps rather formally in sharp, parallel plaits to the floor -- just to the floor. The walls were prepared with a French paper of great delicacy, a silver ground, with a faint green cord running zig-zag throughout. Its expanse was relieved merely by three of Julien's exquisite lithographs a trois **crayons**, fastened to the wall without frames. One of these drawings was a scene of Oriental luxury, or rather voluptuousness; another was a "carnival piece," spirited beyond compare; the third was a Greek female head -- a face so **divinely** beautiful, and yet of an expression so **provokingly indeterminate**, never before arrested my attention.

The more substantial furniture consisted of a round table, a few chairs (including a large rocking-chair), and a sofa, or rather "settee;" its material was plain maple painted a creamy white, slightly interstriped with green; the seat of cane. The chairs and table were "to match," but the forms of all had evidently been designed by the same brain which planned "the grounds;" it is impossible to conceive anything more graceful.

Thesaurus

cordial: (*adj*) genial, warm, affable, amiable, friendly, genuine, ardent, unaffected, gracious, honest; (*n*) liqueur. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unfriendly, stern, cold, cool, disagreeable, aloof, reserved, distant, rude, uncordial, unpleasant.
crayons: (*v*) charcoal, pastel.
divinely: (*adv*) holy, wonderfully, exquisitely, priestly, beautifully, religiously, spiritually, almightily, magnificently, sacredly, godly.

indeterminate: (*adj*) inconclusive, indefinite, equivocal, vague, neutral, indistinct, obscure, undetermined, indecisive, inexact, adventitious. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) quantifiable, definite, determinate, specific, exact, certain, strong.
ingrain: (*v*) infuse, affect, infiltrate, grain, embed, dye, color, imbue, impress, move, ingrained.
muslin: (*v*) linen, cloth; (*n*) mousseline, organdy, cambric, crash,

fabric, nainsook, organdie.
parlor: (*n*) front room, lounge, sitting room, saloon, salon, parlour, parlors, livingroom, common room, parlours, drawing room.
provokingly: (*adv*) annoyingly, maddeningly, exasperatingly, irritatingly, aggravatingly, gallingly, vexatiously.
snowy: (*adj*) white, pure, clean, blank, hoary, achromatic, snow-white, unblemished, wintry, wet, favorite.

On the table were a few **books**, a large, square, crystal bottle of some novel **perfume**, a plain ground -- glass **astral** (not solar) lamp with an Italian shade, and a large vase of resplendently-blooming flowers. Flowers, indeed, of **gorgeous** colours and delicate odour formed the sole mere decoration of the apartment. The fire-place was nearly filled with a vase of brilliant **geranium**. On a **triangular** shelf in each angle of the room stood also a similar vase, varied only as to its lovely contents. One or two smaller bouquets **adorned** the **mantel**, and late violets **clustered** about the open windows.

It is not the purpose of this work to do more than give in detail, a picture of Mr. Landor's residence -- as I found it. How he made it what it was -- and why -- with some particulars of Mr. Landor himself -- may, possibly form the subject of another article.

Thesaurus

adorned: (*adj*) decorated, ornate, bedecked, decked out, fancy, garnished, ornamented, decked, beautiful, inscribed, festooned.
astral: (*adj*) sidereal, stellar, stellated, starlike, starry, dreamy, celestial, stellary, exalted, visionary; (*n*) astral body.
books: (*n*) notebook, account, ledger, literature, accountancy.
clustered: (*adj*) agglomerated, agglomerative, bunched, bunchy,

gregarious, concentrated, conglomerate, collective.
geranium: (*adj*) asphodel, buttercup, anemone, ranunculus, rhododendron, windflower, day lily; (*n*) rose geranium, storksbill, herb, fish geranium.
gorgeous: (*adj*) luxurious, gaudy, attractive, brilliant, wonderful, glorious, gay, florid, palatial, dressy; (*adj, v*) rich. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) ugly, unattractive, detestable, shabby.

mantel: (*n*) mantelpiece, mantelpiece, chimneypiece, lintel, mantelshelf, mantle piece, mantleshef, shelf, drapery, drape, curtain.
perfume: (*n, v*) scent, essence, odor, smell; (*n*) aroma, bouquet, cologne, incense, odour; (*v*) embalm, aromatize. ANTONYMS: (*n*) stink, stench.
triangular: (*adj*) tripartite, trilateral, trigonal, deltoid, triangled, angular, multilateral, angulate.

WILLIAM WILSON

*What say of it? what say [of] CONSCIENCE grim,
That spectre in my path?*

--Chamberlayne's Pharronida

Let me call myself, for the present, William Wilson. The fair page now lying before me need not be **sullied** with my real appellation. This has been already too much an object for the scorn -- for the horror -- for the **detestation** of my race. To the uttermost regions of the globe have not the indignant winds bruited its **unparalleled** infamy? Oh, **outcast** of all outcasts most abandoned! -- to the earth art thou not forever dead? to its **honors**, to its flowers, to its golden aspirations? - - and a cloud, dense, dismal, and limitless, does it not hang eternally between thy hopes and heaven?

I would not, if I could, here or to-day, embody a record of my later years of unspeakable misery, and **unpardonable** crime. This epoch -- these later years -- took unto themselves a sudden elevation in **turpitude**, whose origin alone it is my present purpose to assign. Men usually grow base by **degrees**. From me, in an instant, all virtue dropped bodily as a mantle. From comparatively trivial wickedness I passed, with the stride of a giant, into more than the enormities of

Thesaurus

degrees: (*n*) degree, temperature, compass rose, cardinal points.

detestation: (*n*) abomination, hatred, odium, antipathy, aversion, repulsion, dislike, execration, loathing, revulsion; (*n, v*) hate.

ANTONYM: (*n*) adoration.

honors: (*n*) formality.

outcast: (*n*) exile, castaway, leper, expatriate, outlaw, vagabond, lown, loon, refugee; (*adj, n*) derelict; (*adj*) homeless. ANTONYM: (*n*) native.

sullied: (*adj*) foul, soiled, tainted, stained, besmirched, unclean, filthy, spotted, sordid, flyblown, dim.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) untarnished, clean.

turpitude: (*n*) depravity, evil, corruption, degeneracy, depravation, wickedness, trimming, transgression, shuffling; (*adj*) debasement, abjection.

unparalleled: (*adj*) unequalled, unique, unmatched, incomparable, matchless, unprecedented, peerless,

unexampled, inimitable, unequalled, alone. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) ordinary, inferior, surpassable, abysmal, unremarkable, usual.

unpardonable: (*adj*) irremissible, unforgivable, indefensible, terrible, appalling, unwarranted, awful, unacceptable, shocking, not remissible; (*v*) inexcusable.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pardonable, excusable, justified, excellent, justifiable.

an Elah-Gabalus. What chance -- what one event brought this evil thing to pass, bear with me while I relate. Death approaches; and the shadow which foreruns him has thrown a softening influence over my spirit. I long, in passing through the dim valley, for the sympathy -- I had nearly said for the pity -- of my fellow men. I would fain have them believe that I have been, in some measure, the slave of circumstances beyond human control. I would wish them to seek out for me, in the details I am about to give, some little **oasis** of fatality amid a wilderness of error. I would have them allow -- what they cannot refrain from allowing -- that, although temptation may have **erewhile** existed as great, man was never thus, at least, tempted before -- certainly, never thus fell. And is it therefore that he has never thus suffered? Have I not indeed been living in a dream? And am I not now dying a victim to the horror and the mystery of the wildest of all **sublunary** visions?

I am the descendant of a race whose imaginative and easily excitable temperament has at all times rendered them remarkable; and, in my earliest infancy, I gave evidence of having fully inherited the family character. As I advanced in years it was more strongly developed; becoming, for many reasons, a cause of serious **disquietude** to my friends, and of positive injury to myself. I grew **self-willed**, **addicted** to the wildest caprices, and a prey to the most ungovernable passions. Weak-minded, and beset with constitutional infirmities akin to my own, my parents could do but little to check the evil propensities which distinguished me. Some feeble and ill-directed efforts resulted in complete failure on their part, and, of course, in total triumph on mine. Thenceforward my voice was a household law; and at an age when few children have abandoned their leading-strings, I was left to the guidance of my own will, and became, in all but name, the master of my own actions.

My earliest recollections of a school-life, are connected with a large, **rambling**, Elizabethan house, in a misty-looking village of England, where were a vast number of gigantic and **gnarled** trees, and where all the houses were excessively ancient. In truth, it was a dream-like and spirit-soothing place, that venerable old town. At this moment, in fancy, I feel the refreshing chilliness of its

Thesaurus

addicted: (*adj*) habituated, dedicated, habitual, hooked, devoted, accustomed, captivated, devote, obsessive, obsessed; (*v*) dedicate.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unaccustomed, averse, disinclined, independent, opposed, unenthusiastic, occasional.
disquietude: (*n*) anxiety, agitation, uneasiness, concern, alarm, apprehension, commotion, fear, unrest, turmoil; (*adj, n*) inquietude.
erewhile: (*adv, n*) whilom; (*adj*)

beforehand, ere, afore, yet, theretofore; (*adv*) over, time was, formerly, whilere, erst.
gnarled: (*adj*) knotty, knotted, gnarly, asperous, crisp, deformed, crabbed, roughhewn, wrinkled, unsmooth, unpolished. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) smooth, unknotted, straight.
oasis: (*n*) haven, parcel, shelter, tract, harbor, harbour.
rambling: (*adj*) disjointed, incoherent, desultory, discursive, erratic,

excursive, meandering, diffuse, loose, errant; (*adj, n*) wandering.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) coherent, abrupt, conclusive, pithy, taciturn, compact.
self-willed: (*adj*) stubborn, wilful, wayward, obstinate, headstrong, perverse, intractable, masterful, pig-headed, wild, deaf.
sublunary: (*adj*) earthly, terrestrial, mundane, subastral, cislunar, temporal, worldly, planetary, terrene, telluric, tellurian.

deeply-shadowed avenues, **inhale** the fragrance of its thousand shrubberies, and thrill anew with **undefinable** delight, at the deep hollow note of the church-bell, breaking, each hour, with sullen and sudden roar, upon the stillness of the **dusky** atmosphere in which the fretted Gothic steeple lay imbedded and asleep.

It gives me, perhaps, as much of pleasure as I can now in any manner experience, to dwell upon minute recollections of the school and its concerns. **Steeped** in misery as I am -- misery, alas! only too real -- I shall be pardoned for seeking relief, however slight and temporary, in the weakness of a few rambling details. These, moreover, utterly trivial, and even ridiculous in themselves, assume, to my fancy, **adventitious** importance, as connected with a period and a locality when and where I recognise the first ambiguous monitions of the destiny which afterwards so fully overshadowed me. Let me then remember.

The house, I have said, was old and irregular. The grounds were extensive, and a high and solid brick wall, topped with a bed of mortar and broken glass, encompassed the whole. This prison-like rampart formed the limit of our domain; beyond it we saw but **thrice** a week -- once every Saturday afternoon, when, **attended** by two ushers, we were permitted to take brief walks in a body through some of the neighbouring fields -- and twice during Sunday, when we were paraded in the same formal manner to the morning and evening service in the one church of the village. Of this church the principal of our school was pastor. With how deep a spirit of wonder and perplexity was I wont to regard him from our remote pew in the gallery, as, with step solemn and slow, he ascended the pulpit! This reverend man, with countenance so **demurely** benign, with robes so glossy and so **clerically** flowing, with wig so minutely powdered, so rigid and so vast, -- -could this be he who, of late, with sour visage, and in **snuffy** habiliments, administered, **ferule** in hand, the Draconian laws of the academy? Oh, gigantic paradox, too utterly monstrous for solution!

At an angle of the ponderous wall frowned a more ponderous gate. It was riveted and studded with iron bolts, and surmounted with jagged iron spikes. What impressions of deep awe did it inspire! It was never opened save for the three periodical egressions and ingressions already mentioned; then, in every

Thesaurus

adventitious: (*adj*) accidental, secondary, random, haphazard, casual, aleatory, incident, promiscuous, incidental, fortuitous, foreign.
attended: (*adj*) attent, fraught, tended to.
clerically: (*adv*) sacerdotally, ministerially, ecclesiastically, theocratically.
demurely: (*adv*) soberly, primly, virtuously, staidly, reservedly,

solemnly, sedately, bashfully, seriously, gravely, properly.
 ANTONYMS: (*adv*) improperly, brazenly, brashly, boldly.
dusky: (*adj*) dark, cloudy, gloomy, black, swarthy, dull, murky, obscure, dingy, sooty, somber. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) light, bright, sunny, radiant, clear.
ferule: (*n*) switch, ferula, cudgel, truncheon, ferrule, ferular; (*v*) whip, flog, chastise.

inhale: (*v*) absorb, imbibe, draw, suck, drag, breathe in, drink, attract, inspire, respire; (*n, v*) sniff.
 ANTONYMS: (*v*) blow, expire.
snuffy: (*v*) sooty, disgusting, vexed, angry, sulky, smutty, smoky.
steeped: (*adj*) seasoned, experienced.
thrice: (*adv*) three times, thirdly.
undefinable: (*adj*) undefined, inexpressible, indescribable, vague, inexplicable, ineffable, incommunicable.

creak of its mighty hinges, we found a **plenitude** of mystery -- a world of matter for solemn remark, or for more solemn meditation.

The extensive enclosure was irregular in form, having many **capacious** recesses. Of these, three or four of the largest constituted the play-ground. It was level, and covered with fine hard gravel. I well remember it had no trees, nor benches, nor anything similar within it. Of course it was in the rear of the house. In front lay a small **parterre**, planted with box and other shrubs; but through this sacred division we passed only upon rare occasions indeed -- such as a first advent to school or final departure thence, or perhaps, when a parent or friend having called for us, we **joyfully** took our way home for the Christmas or Midsummer holy-days.

But the house! -- how quaint an old building was this! -- to me how **veritably** a palace of enchantment! There was really no end to its windings -- to its incomprehensible subdivisions. It was difficult, at any given time, to say with certainty upon which of its two stories one happened to be. From each room to every other there were sure to be found three or four steps either in ascent or descent. Then the lateral branches were innumerable -- inconceivable -- and so returning in upon themselves, that our most exact ideas in regard to the whole mansion were not very far different from those with which we pondered upon infinity. During the five years of my residence here, I was never able to ascertain with precision, in what remote locality lay the little sleeping apartment assigned to myself and some eighteen or twenty other scholars.

The school-room was the largest in the house -- I could not help thinking, in the world. It was very long, narrow, and **dismally** low, with pointed Gothic windows and a ceiling of oak. In a remote and terror-inspiring angle was a square enclosure of eight or ten feet, comprising the **sanctum**, "during hours," of our principal, the Reverend Dr. Bransby. It was a solid structure, with massy door, sooner than open which in the absence of the "Dominic," we would all have willingly perished by the *peine forte et dure*. In other angles were two other similar boxes, far less revered, indeed, but still greatly matters of awe. One of these was the **pulpit** of the "classical" usher, one of the "English and

Thesaurus

capacious: (*adj*) large, big, ample, roomy, broad, extensive, vast, commodious, voluminous, wide, expansive. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) small, confined, squeezed, tiny.
dismally: (*adv*) gloomily, sadly, unhappily, murkily, dolefully, forbiddingly, darkly, somberly, depressingly, cheerlessly, grimly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) brightly, smartly.
dure: (*adj*) dura, dura mater, durance, durant, duramen.

joyfully: (*adv*) joyously, merrily, gaily, gleefully, buoyantly, cheerily, jubilantly, pleasantly, mirthfully; (*adv, v*) happily; (*adj, adv*) cheerfully. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) joylessly, miserably, despondently.
parterre: (*adj*) esplanade, estrade; (*n*) shrubbery, seats, seating, plantation, pinery, pinetum, orchard, ledge, avenue.
plenitude: (*n*) plenty, fullness, plenitude, abundance, lot, opulence,

amplitude, exuberance, luxuriance, glut, luxury.
pulpit: (*n*) platform, dais, ambo, lectern, hustings, stump, rostrum, forum, desk, stand, state.
sanctum: (*n*) adytum, holy place, holy, den, sanctum sanctorum, spot, shrine, study, workroom, retreat, place.
veritably: (*adv*) really, authentically, true, indeed, authentically, literally, de facto; (*adj*) actually.

mathematical." Interspersed about the room, crossing and recrossing in endless irregularity, were innumerable benches and desks, black, ancient, and **time-worn**, piled desperately with much-bethumbed books, and so beset with initial letters, names at full length, grotesque figures, and other multiplied efforts of the knife, as to have entirely lost what little of original form might have been their portion in days long departed. A huge bucket with water stood at one extremity of the room, and a clock of **stupendous** dimensions at the other.

Encompassed by the massy walls of this venerable academy, I passed, yet not in **tedium** or disgust, the years of the third **lustrum** of my life. The **teeming** brain of childhood requires no external world of incident to occupy or amuse it; and the apparently dismal monotony of a school was replete with more intense excitement than my riper youth has derived from luxury, or my full manhood from crime. Yet I must believe that my first mental development had in it much of the uncommon -- even much of the outre. Upon mankind at large the events of very early existence rarely leave in mature age any definite impression. All is gray shadow -- a weak and irregular remembrance -- an indistinct regathering of feeble pleasures and phantasmagoric pains. With me this is not so. In childhood I must have felt with the energy of a man what I now find stamped upon memory in lines as vivid, as deep, and as durable as the exergues of the Carthaginian medals.

Yet in fact -- in the fact of the world's view -- how little was there to remember! The morning's awakening, the nightly summons to bed; the connings, the recitations; the periodical half-holidays, and perambulations; the playground, with its broils, its pastimes, its intrigues; -- these, by a mental **sorcery** long forgotten, were made to involve a wilderness of sensation, a world of rich incident, an universe of varied emotion, of excitement the most passionate and spirit-stirring. "*Oh, le bon temps, que ce siecle de fer!*"

In truth, the **ardor**, the enthusiasm, and the **imperiousness** of my disposition, soon rendered me a marked character among my schoolmates, and by slow, but natural gradations, gave me an ascendancy over all not greatly older than myself; -- over all with a single exception. This exception was found in the person of a

Thesaurus

ardor: (*adj, n*) eagerness, zeal; (*n*) fervor, fervency, fire, flame, passion, enthusiasm, ardency, heat, avidity.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) apathy, coolness, coldness, hatred.
imperiousness: (*n*) haughtiness, domineeringness, lordliness, overbearingness, tyranny, assumption.
lustrum: (*n*) luster lustre, ceremony, amount of time.
sorcery: (*n*) charm, incantation,

witchcraft, enchantment, black magic, magic, diabolism, necromancy, black art, witchery, diablerie.
stupendous: (*adj, v*) prodigious; (*adj*) huge, terrific, marvellous, immense, tremendous, fantastic, mighty, mammoth, miraculous, enormous.
ANTONYM: (*adj*) abysmal.
tedium: (*n*) ennui, monotony, tediousness, dullness, sameness, dreariness, lifelessness, difficulty,

drabness; (*adj*) dull work, humdrum.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) excitement, diversion, variation, entertainment, ease.
teeming: (*adj*) abundant, profuse, swarming, crowded, overflowing, exuberant, copious, plentiful, productive, prolific, multitudinous.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) deserted, lacking, needing, wanting, clear, scarce, scanty.
time-worn: (*adj*) antediluvian.

scholar, who, although no relation, bore the same Christian and surname as myself; -- a circumstance, in fact, little remarkable; for, notwithstanding a noble descent, mine was one of those everyday appellations which seem, by prescriptive right, to have been, time out of mind, the common property of the mob. In this narrative I have therefore designated myself as William Wilson, -- a fictitious title not very dissimilar to the real. My namesake alone, of those who in school phraseology constituted "our set," presumed to compete with me in the studies of the class -- in the sports and broils of the play-ground -- to refuse implicit belief in my assertions, and submission to my will -- indeed, to interfere with my arbitrary dictation in any respect whatsoever. If there is on earth a supreme and unqualified **despotism**, it is the despotism of a master mind in boyhood over the less energetic spirits of its companions.

Wilson's rebellion was to me a source of the greatest embarrassment; -- the more so as, in spite of the bravado with which in public I made a point of treating him and his pretensions, I secretly felt that I feared him, and could not help thinking the equality which he maintained so easily with myself, a proof of his true superiority; since not to be overcome cost me a perpetual struggle. Yet this superiority -- even this equality -- was in truth acknowledged by no one but myself; our associates, by some unaccountable blindness, seemed not even to suspect it. Indeed, his competition, his resistance, and especially his impertinent and dogged interference with my purposes, were not more pointed than private. He appeared to be destitute alike of the ambition which urged, and of the passionate energy of mind which enabled me to excel. In his rivalry he might have been supposed **actuated** solely by a **whimsical** desire to thwart, **astonish**, or **mortify** myself; although there were times when I could not help observing, with a feeling made up of wonder, **abasement**, and **pique**, that he mingled with his injuries, his **insults**, or his contradictions, a certain most inappropriate, and assuredly most unwelcome **affectionateness** of manner. I could only conceive this singular behavior to arise from a consummate **self-conceit** assuming the vulgar airs of patronage and protection.

Thesaurus

abasement: (*n*) humiliation, abjection, depression, degeneration, fall, deterioration, disgrace, degeneracy, abjectness, dejection, sinking.
actuated: (*adj*) motivated, actuate.
affectionateness: (*n*) tenderness, feeling, emotionality, emotionalism, fondness, heart, lovingness, protectiveness, regard, respect, warmth.
astonish: (*adj, v*) astound; (*adj, n, v*) surprise; (*adj*) astonishing, surprised;

(*v*) flabbergast, daze, confound, dazzle, stun, alarm, nonplus.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) expect, bore.
despotism: (*n*) tyranny, dictatorship, autocracy, monarchy, oppression, authoritarianism, autarchy, cruelty, Stalinism, domination; (*adj*) violence.
insults: (*adj*) insulting; (*n*) abuse, swearing.
mortify: (*v*) humble, disgrace, abase, crush, embarrass, degrade, shame, demean, depress; (*n, v*) chagrin; (*adj*,

v) confuse.
pique: (*v*) nettle, insult, outrage, irritate, fret; (*n*) grudge, annoyance, umbrage, irritation; (*n, v*) anger, spite.
self-conceit: (*n*) conceit.
whimsical: (*adj, n*) fanciful, eccentric; (*adj*) capricious, freakish, humorous, changeable, fickle, erratic, wayward, odd, arbitrary. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) reasonable, behaving, normal, serious, predictable.

Perhaps it was this latter trait in Wilson's conduct, **conjoined** with our identity of name, and the mere accident of our having entered the school upon the same day, which set afloat the notion that we were brothers, among the senior classes in the academy. These do not usually inquire with much **strictness** into the affairs of their juniors. I have before said, or should have said, that Wilson was not, in the most remote degree, connected with my family. But assuredly if we had been brothers we must have been twins; for, after leaving Dr. Bransby's, I casually learned that my **namesake** was born on the nineteenth of January, 1813 -- and this is a somewhat remarkable coincidence; for the day is precisely that of my own nativity.

It may seem strange that in spite of the continual anxiety occasioned me by the rivalry of Wilson, and his intolerable spirit of contradiction, I could not bring myself to hate him altogether. We had, to be sure, nearly every day a quarrel in which, yielding me publicly the palm of victory, he, in some manner, contrived to make me feel that it was he who had deserved it; yet a sense of pride on my part, and a veritable dignity on his own, kept us always upon what are called "speaking terms," while there were many points of strong **congeniality** in our tempers, operating to awake me in a sentiment which our position alone, perhaps, prevented from **ripening** into friendship. It is difficult, indeed, to define, or even to describe, my real feelings towards him. They formed a motley and heterogeneous **admixture**; -- some petulant animosity, which was not yet hatred, some esteem, more respect, much fear, with a world of uneasy curiosity. To the **moralist** it will be unnecessary to say, in addition, that Wilson and myself were the most inseparable of companions.

It was no doubt the anomalous state of affairs existing between us, which turned all my attacks upon him, (and they were many, either open or covert) into the channel of banter or practical joke (giving pain while assuming the aspect of mere fun) rather than into a more serious and determined hostility. But my endeavours on this head were by no means uniformly successful, even when my plans were the most **wittily** concocted; for my namesake had much about him, in character, of that unassuming and quiet austerity which, while enjoying the

Thesaurus

admixture: (*n*) mixture, composite, alloy, addition, fusion, additive, mixing, amalgam, mix, commixture, melange.

congeniality: (*n*) congenialness, friendliness, niceness, sympathy, fitness, suitableness, amiability, likability, peace. ANTONYM: (*n*) uncongeniality.

conjoined: (*adj*) concomitant, conjunct, associated, concurrent, united, inseparable, coincident, attending,

associate, accompanying, adjunct. **moralist:** (*n*) disciplinarian, martinet, philosopher, utilitarian, stickler, moraliser, egalitarian, dictator, authoritarian, elitist.

namesake: (*n*) somebody, someone, soul, human, mortal, individual, cognominal.

ripening: (*n*) ageing, maturation, development, mellowing, aging, maturing, mature, growing, growth, gestation, organic process.

strictness: (*n*) harshness, severity, rigor, hardness, austerity, exactness, firmness, inclemency, stiffness, accuracy, precision. ANTONYMS: (*n*) leniency, lenience, laxity, flexibility, vagueness, inaccuracy.

wittily: (*adv*) cleverly, sharply, facetiously, smartly, drolly, quickly, amusingly, entertainingly, wisely, funnily, comically. ANTONYM: (*adv*) stupidly.

poignancy of its own jokes, has no heel of Achilles in itself, and absolutely refuses to be laughed at. I could find, indeed, but one vulnerable point, and that, lying in a personal peculiarity, arising, perhaps, from constitutional disease, would have been spared by any antagonist less at his wit's end than myself; -- my rival had a weakness in the faucal or guttural organs, which precluded him from raising his voice at any time above a very low whisper. Of this defect I did not fail to take what poor advantage lay in my power.

Wilson's retaliations in kind were many; and there was one form of his practical wit that disturbed me beyond measure. How his sagacity first discovered at all that so petty a thing would vex me, is a question I never could solve; but, having discovered, he habitually practised the annoyance. I had always felt aversion to my **uncourtly patronymic**, and its very common, if not **plebeian praenomen**. The words were **venom** in my ears; and when, upon the day of my arrival, a second William Wilson came also to the academy, I felt angry with him for bearing the name, and doubly disgusted with the name because a stranger bore it, who would be the cause of its twofold repetition, who would be constantly in my presence, and whose concerns, in the ordinary routine of the school business, must inevitably, on account of the detestable coincidence, be often confounded with my own.

The feeling of **vexation** thus engendered grew stronger with every circumstance tending to show resemblance, moral or physical, between my rival and myself. I had not then discovered the remarkable fact that we were of the same age; but I saw that we were of the same height, and I perceived that we were even singularly alike in general **contour** of person and outline of feature. I was **galled**, too, by the rumor touching a relationship, which had grown current in the upper forms. In a word, nothing could more seriously disturb me, although I **scrupulously** concealed such disturbance,) than any allusion to a similarity of mind, person, or condition existing between us. But, in truth, I had no reason to believe that (with the exception of the matter of relationship, and in the case of Wilson himself,) this similarity had ever been made a subject of comment, or even observed at all by our schoolfellows. That he observed it in all

Thesaurus

contour: (*n*) contour line, outline, form, profile, shape, line, configuration, silhouette, curve, circuit, edge. ANTONYM: (*n*) core.
galled: (*adj*) chafed, uncomfortable, chilly, bleak, bare, bald, angry, painful.
patronymic: (*adj*) patronymical ; (*n*) surname.
plebeian: (*adj*) low, vulgar, ignoble, humble, coarse, mean; (*n*) pleb, commoner; (*adj, n*) proletarian; (*adj,*

v) ordinary, general. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cultivated, proletarian, patrician, refined; (*n*) aristocrat, noble.
poignancy: (*n*) pathos, acuity, acerbity, poignance, mordacity, acuteness, acrimony, sorrow, sorrowfulness, quality, keenness.
praenomen: (*n*) agnomen, given name, prenom, first name, forename.
scrupulously: (*adv*) carefully, painstakingly, strictly, meticulously, religiously, thoroughly, nicely,

exactly, fastidiously, particularly, accurately. ANTONYM: (*adv*) negligently.
uncourtly: (*adj*) unpolished.
venom: (*n*) poison, malice, bane, spite, rancor, malevolence, maliciousness, malignity, hate, bitterness; (*adj, n*) gall. ANTONYM: (*n*) affection.
vexation: (*adj, n*) annoyance, nuisance; (*n*) irritation, worry, aggravation, displeasure, chagrin, chafe, anger, frustration, botheration.

its bearings, and as fixedly as I, was apparent; but that he could discover in such circumstances so fruitful a field of annoyance, can only be attributed, as I said before, to his more than ordinary penetration.

His cue, which was to perfect an imitation of myself, lay both in words and in actions; and most admirably did he play his part. My dress it was an easy matter to copy; my gait and general manner were, without difficulty, **appropriated**; in spite of his constitutional defect, even my voice did not escape him. My louder tones were, of course, **unattempted**, but then the key, it was identical; and his singular whisper, it grew the very echo of my own.

How greatly this most exquisite portraiture harassed me, (for it could not justly be termed a caricature,) I will not now venture to describe. I had but one consolation -- in the fact that the imitation, apparently, was noticed by myself alone, and that I had to endure only the knowing and strangely sarcastic smiles of my namesake himself. Satisfied with having produced in my bosom the intended effect, he seemed to chuckle in secret over the sting he had inflicted, and was characteristically **disregardful** of the public applause which the success of his witty endeavours might have so easily elicited. That the school, indeed, did not feel his design, perceive its accomplishment, and participate in his sneer, was, for many anxious months, a riddle I could not resolve. Perhaps the gradation of his copy rendered it not so readily perceptible; or, more possibly, I owed my security to the master air of the **copyist**, who, disdaining the letter, (which in a painting is all the obtuse can see,) gave but the full spirit of his original for my individual contemplation and **chagrin**.

I have already more than once spoken of the disgusting air of patronage which he assumed toward me, and of his frequent **officious** interference **withy** my will. This interference often took the **ungracious** character of advice; advice not openly given, but hinted or insinuated. I received it with a **repugnance** which gained strength as I grew in years. Yet, at this distant day, let me do him the simple justice to acknowledge that I can recall no occasion when the suggestions of my rival were on the side of those errors or follies so usual to his immature age and seeming inexperience; that his moral sense, at least, if not his

Thesaurus

appropriated: (*adj*) taken, destined, taken over, confiscate, confiscated, condemned, seized, reserved.
chagrin: (*n*) mortification, vexation, annoyance, shame, disappointment, letdown, humiliation; (*n, v*) disquiet, gangrene; (*v*) disappoint, mortify.
 ANTONYMS: (*v*) please, delight; (*n*) pride, satisfaction.
copyist: (*n, v*) clerk, scrivener; (*v*) amanuensis, penman, writer, quill driver; (*n*) copier, copycat, mimic,

dauber, employee.
disregardful: (*adj*) neglectful, negligent, careless, slack, delinquent, oblivious, lax, defiant, derelict; (*v*) remiss.
officious: (*adj, v*) meddlesome; (*adj*) busy, interfering, meddling, obtrusive, impertinent, pragmatical, busybodied, overbearing, nosy; (*v*) pushing. ANTONYM: (*adj*) meek.
repugnance: (*n*) horror, hatred, antipathy, inconsistency, repulsion,

nausea, revulsion, loathing, detestation, aversion, hate.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) pleasantness, love, attractiveness, adoration, liking.
unattempted: (*adj*) unsought.
ungracious: (*adj*) discourteous, impolite, uncivil, surly, unkind, unceremonious, churlish, disrespectful, unfriendly, graceless, unpleasing.
withy: (*n*) osier, twig, with, branchlet, sprig.

general talents and worldly wisdom, was far **keener** than my own; and that I might, to-day, have been a better, and thus a happier man, had I less frequently rejected the counsels embodied in those meaning whispers which I then but too **cordially** hated and too bitterly despised.

As it was, I at length grew **restive** in the extreme under his distasteful supervision, and daily resented more and more openly what I considered his intolerable arrogance. I have said that, in the first years of our **connexion** as schoolmates, my feelings in regard to him might have been easily **ripened** into friendship: but, in the latter months of my residence at the academy, although the intrusion of his ordinary manner had, beyond doubt, in some measure, **abated**, my sentiments, in nearly similar proportion, partook very much of positive hatred. Upon one occasion he saw this, I think, and afterwards avoided, or made a show of avoiding me.

It was about the same period, if I remember aright, that, in an **altercation** of violence with him, in which he was more than usually thrown off his guard, and spoke and acted with an openness of demeanor rather foreign to his nature, I discovered, or fancied I discovered, in his accent, his air, and general appearance, a something which first startled, and then deeply interested me, by bringing to mind dim visions of my earliest infancy -- wild, confused and thronging memories of a time when memory herself was yet unborn. I cannot better describe the sensation which oppressed me than by saying that I could with difficulty shake off the belief of my having been acquainted with the being who stood before me, at some epoch very long ago -- some point of the past even infinitely remote. The **delusion**, however, faded rapidly as it came; and I mention it at all but to define the day of the last conversation I there held with my singular namesake.

The huge old house, with its countless subdivisions, had several large **chambers** communicating with each other, where slept the greater number of the students. There were, however, (as must necessarily happen in a building so awkwardly planned,) many little nooks or recesses, the odds and ends of the structure; and these the economic ingenuity of Dr. Bransby had also fitted up as

Thesaurus

abated: (<i>adj</i>) slack.	bond, concatenation, join, linkage, link, junction.	(<i>n</i>) comprehension, fact, truth.
altercation: (<i>n, v</i>) quarrel, squabble; (<i>n</i>) affray, scrap, fight, hassle, disagreement, fracas, strife, controversy, contest. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) union, harmony, concord, agreement, unity, consensus.	cordially: (<i>adv</i>) warmly, genially, kindly, sincerely, heartfully, ardently, friendly, jovially, earnestly, affectionately, harmoniously. ANTONYMS: (<i>adv</i>) disagreeably, frostily.	keener: (<i>v</i>) Indian giver, floater, repeater.
chambers: (<i>n</i>) bureau, consulting room, countinghouse, apartment, lodging, suite.	delusion: (<i>n</i>) hallucination, deception, cheat, chimera, misunderstanding, mirage, trick, fallacy, error, aberration, falsehood. ANTONYMS:	restive: (<i>adj</i>) obstinate, edgy, fidgety, jittery, impatient, jumpy, intractable, restless, uptight, perverse; (<i>adj, v</i>) skittish. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) calm, patient.
connexion: (<i>n</i>) conjunction, connector, connective, connection, association,		ripened: (<i>adj</i>) mature, matured, elderly, aged, maturer, old, mellow, grown, full-grown, cured, adult. ANTONYM: (<i>adj</i>) young.

dormitories; although, being the merest closets, they were capable of **accommodating** but a single individual. One of these small apartments was occupied by Wilson.

One night, about the close of my fifth year at the school, and immediately after the altercation just mentioned, finding every one wrapped in sleep, I arose from bed, and, lamp in hand, stole through a wilderness of narrow passages from my own bedroom to that of my rival. I had long been plotting one of those **ill-natured** pieces of practical wit at his expense in which I had hitherto been so uniformly unsuccessful. It was my intention, now, to put my scheme in operation, and I resolved to make him feel the whole extent of the malice with which I was imbued. Having reached his closet, I noiselessly entered, leaving the lamp, with a shade over it, on the outside. I advanced a step, and listened to the sound of his tranquil breathing. Assured of his being asleep, I returned, took the light, and with it again approached the bed. Close curtains were around it, which, in the prosecution of my plan, I slowly and quietly withdrew, when the bright rays fell vividly upon the **sleeper**, and my eyes, at the same moment, upon his countenance. I looked; -- and a **numbness**, an iciness of feeling instantly pervaded my frame. My breast heaved, my knees tottered, my whole spirit became possessed with an objectless yet intolerable horror. **Gasping** for breath, I lowered the lamp in still nearer proximity to the face. Were these -- these the **lineaments** of William Wilson? I saw, indeed, that they were his, but I shook as if with a fit of the ague in fancying they were not. What was there about them to confound me in this manner? I gazed; -- while my brain reeled with a multitude of incoherent thoughts. Not thus he appeared -- assuredly not thus -- in the vivacity of his **waking** hours. The same name! the same contour of person! the same day of arrival at the academy! And then his dogged and meaningless imitation of my gait, my voice, my habits, and my manner! Was it, in truth, within the bounds of human possibility, that what I now saw was the result, merely, of the habitual practice of this **sarcastic** imitation? Awe-stricken, and with a creeping shudder, I extinguished the lamp, passed silently from the chamber, and left, at once, the halls of that old academy, never to enter them again.

Thesaurus

accommodating: (*adj*) obliging, yielding, cooperative, docile, submissive, willing, kind, gracious, friendly, accommodative, easy.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) strict, alienating, disobliging, inflexible, intolerant, ungracious, unkind, unsympathetic, uncooperative, unaccommodating, resistant.

gasping: (*adj*) panting, winded, blown, out of breath, thirsty, pursy; (*v*) spavined, touched in the wind.

ill-natured: (*adj*) cantankerous, peevish, sour, surly, catty, crabbed, gruff, disagreeable, malignant, malicious, malevolent.

lineaments: (*v*) exposition, tract, length, expanse, area, extent; (*n*) face.

numbness: (*n*) dullness, anesthesia, stupor, torpor, apathy, symptom, torpidity, lethargy, deadness, indifference, anaesthesia.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) sensation, feeling.

sarcastic: (*adj*) sharp, poignant, caustic,

bitter, biting, pungent, acid, acrimonious, ironical; (*adj, v*) derisive, satirical. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sympathetic, pleasant, approving, kind, complimentary, mild, respectful.

sleeper: (*n*) railroad tie, crosstie, tie, noctambulist, baggage car, slumberer, dreamer, Pullman car, freight car, parlor car, express car.

waking: (*adj*) wakeful; (*n*) awakening, wakefulness, consciousness.

After a lapse of some months, spent at home in mere idleness, I found myself a student at Eton. The brief interval had been sufficient to **enfeeble** my remembrance of the events at Dr. Bransby's, or at least to effect a material change in the nature of the feelings with which I remembered them. The truth -- the tragedy -- of the drama was no more. I could now find room to doubt the evidence of my senses; and seldom called up the subject at all but with wonder at extent of human **credulity**, and a smile at the vivid force of the imagination which I **hereditarily** possessed. Neither was this species of scepticism likely to be diminished by the character of the life I led at Eton. The vortex of thoughtless folly into which I there so immediately and so recklessly plunged, washed away all but the froth of my past hours, engulfed at once every solid or serious impression, and left to memory only the veriest levities of a former existence.

I do not wish, however, to trace the course of my miserable **profligacy** here -- a profligacy which set at defiance the laws, while it eluded the vigilance of the institution. Three years of folly, passed without profit, had but given me rooted **habits** of vice, and added, in a somewhat unusual degree, to my bodily stature, when, after a week of soulless dissipation, I invited a small party of the most dissolute students to a secret **carousal** in my chambers. We met at a late hour of the night; for our debaucheries were to be faithfully protracted until morning. The wine flowed freely, and there were not wanting other and perhaps more dangerous seductions; so that the gray dawn had already faintly appeared in the east, while our delirious extravagance was at its height. Madly flushed with cards and intoxication, I was in the act of insisting upon a toast of more than **wonted profanity**, when my attention was suddenly diverted by the violent, although partial unclosing of the door of the apartment, and by the eager voice of a servant from without. He said that some person, apparently in great haste, demanded to speak with me in the hall.

Wildly excited with wine, the unexpected interruption rather delighted than surprised me. I staggered forward at once, and a few steps brought me to the vestibule of the building. In this low and small room there hung no lamp; and now no light at all was admitted, save that of the exceedingly feeble dawn which

Thesaurus

carousal: (*n*) carouse, feast, binge, party, entertainment, debauchery, festivity, banquet, revelry; (*n, v*) revel; (*adj*) debauch.

credulity: (*n*) credulousness, trustingness, trust, innocence, trustfulness, faith, lack of caution, navet, unwariness, acceptance. ANTONYM: (*n*) wariness.

enfeeble: (*adj, v*) weaken; (*v*) enervate, attenuate, unnerve, waste, impair, devitalize, emaciate, cripple, break,

diminish. ANTONYMS: (*v*) strengthen, harden, galvanize.

habits: (*n*) behavior, decorum, pratique.

hereditarily: (*adv*) ancestrally, inbornly, genetically, inherently, transmittedly, inbredly, congenitally, innately, lineally, natively, ingrainedly.

profanity: (*n*) blasphemy, oath, irreverence, obscenity, swearing, profanation, sacrilege, swear word,

expletive, disrespect, utterance.

ANTONYM: (*n*) purity.

profligacy: (*n*) debauchery, dissipation, licentiousness, prodigality, dissolution, depravity, debauch, corruption, improvidence, dissoluteness, vice. ANTONYMS: (*n*) economy, decency, parsimony.

wonted: (*adj, n*) habitual, ordinary, usual, familiar; (*adj*) everyday, general, conventional, routine; (*n*) accustomed, common, regular.

made its way through the semi-circular window. As I put my foot over the threshold, I became aware of the figure of a youth about my own height, and **habited** in a white **kerseymere** morning frock, cut in the novel fashion of the one I myself wore at the moment. This the faint light enabled me to perceive; but the features of his face I could not distinguish. Upon my entering he strode hurriedly up to me, and, seizing me by the arm with a gesture of **petulant** impatience, whispered the words "William Wilson!" in my ear.

I grew perfectly sober in an instant. There was that in the manner of the stranger, and in the **tremulous** shake of his uplifted finger, as he held it between my eyes and the light, which filled me with unqualified amazement; but it was not this which had so violently moved me. It was the pregnancy of solemn **admonition** in the singular, low, hissing utterance; and, above all, it was the character, the tone, the key, of those few, simple, and familiar, yet whispered syllables, which came with a thousand thronging memories of **bygone** days, and struck upon my soul with the shock of a galvanic battery. Ere I could recover the use of my senses he was gone.

Although this event failed not of a vivid effect upon my disordered imagination, yet was it evanescent as vivid. For some weeks, indeed, I busied myself in earnest inquiry, or was wrapped in a cloud of morbid speculation. I did not pretend to disguise from my perception the identity of the singular individual who thus **perseveringly** interfered with my affairs, and harassed me with his insinuated counsel. But who and what was this Wilson? -- and whence came he? -- and what were his purposes? Upon neither of these points could I be satisfied; merely ascertaining, in regard to him, that a sudden accident in his family had caused his removal from Dr. Bransby's academy on the afternoon of the day in which I myself had eloped. But in a brief period I ceased to think upon the subject; my attention being all absorbed in a contemplated departure for Oxford. Thither I soon went; the uncalculating vanity of my parents **furnishing** me with an outfit and annual establishment, which would enable me to indulge at will in the luxury already so dear to my heart, -- to vie in **profuseness** of expenditure with the haughtiest heirs of the wealthiest earldoms in Great Britain.

Thesaurus

admonition: (*n*) advice, caution, admonishment, reproof, exhortation, lesson, counsel, monition, caveat, censure, rebuke. ANTONYM: (*n*) approval.

bygone: (*adj*) ancient, former, gone, obsolete, outmoded, previous, archaic, old, late; (*n*) preterite, antique. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) future, current, coming, modern.

furnishing: (*n*) provision, fixture, fitting, installation, equipment,

trimming, device, interior decoration, contents; (*v*) provide, furnish.

habited: (*adj*) clothed, dressed, garbed.

kerseymere: (*n*) cassimere.

perseveringly: (*adv*) patiently, doggedly, tenaciously, persistently, determinedly, constantly, resolutely, steadily, insistently, busily, stubbornly.

petulant: (*adj*) irritable, peevish, cross, testy, irascible, cranky, fractious, fretful, pettish, touchy, choleric.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) easygoing, amiable, calm, affable, cheerful.

profuseness: (*n*) abundance, copiousness, exuberance, greenness, nimety, overgrowth, cornucopia, much, mellowness, lavishness, fullness.

tremulous: (*adj*) shaky, trembling, shaking, fearful, apprehensive, quavering, fidgety, shivering; (*n*) nervous, diffident, coy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) stable, confident, steady.

Excited by such appliances to vice, my constitutional temperament broke forth with **redoubled** ardor, and I **spurned** even the common **restraints** of decency in the mad infatuation of my **revells**. But it were absurd to pause in the detail of my extravagance. Let it suffice, that among spendthrifts I out-Heroded Herod, and that, giving name to a multitude of novel follies, I added no brief appendix to the long catalogue of vices then usual in the most **dissolute** university of Europe.

It could hardly be credited, however, that I had, even here, so utterly fallen from the gentlemanly estate, as to seek acquaintance with the vilest arts of the gambler by profession, and, having become an adept in his despicable science, to practise it habitually as a means of increasing my already enormous income at the expense of the weak-minded among my fellow-collegians. Such, nevertheless, was the fact. And the very enormity of this offence against all manly and honourable sentiment proved, beyond doubt, the main if not the sole reason of the impunity with which it was committed. Who, indeed, among my most abandoned associates, would not rather have disputed the clearest evidence of his senses, than have suspected of such **courses**, the gay, the frank, the generous William Wilson -- the noblest and most commoner at Oxford -- him whose follies (said his parasites) were but the follies of youth and **unbridled** fancy -- whose errors but **inimitable** whim -- whose darkest vice but a careless and dashing extravagance?

I had been now two years successfully busied in this way, when there came to the university a young **parvenu** nobleman, Glendinning -- rich, said report, as Herodes Atticus -- his riches, too, as easily acquired. I soon found him of weak intellect, and, of course, marked him as a fitting subject for my skill. I frequently engaged him in play, and contrived, with the gambler's usual art, to let him win considerable sums, the more effectually to **entangle** him in my snares. At length, my schemes being ripe, I met him (with the full intention that this meeting should be final and decisive) at the chambers of a fellow-commoner, (Mr. Preston,) equally intimate with both, but who, to do him Justice, entertained not even a remote suspicion of my design. To give to this a better colouring, I had

Thesaurus

courses: (*n*) menses, catamenia.
dissolute: (*adj, v*) dissipated, fast, wanton; (*adj*) abandoned, depraved, licentious, immoral, corrupt, profligate, degenerate; (*adj, n*) libertine. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) moral, upright, chaste, restrained, good, resolute, virtuous, pure, cautious, righteous, innocent.
entangle: (*n, v*) tangle; (*v*) embrangle, complicate, involve, snarl, entwine, mat; (*adj, v*) enmesh, embarrass,

confuse, bewilder. ANTONYMS: (*v*) disentangle, disengage, extricate, free, unravel, untangle, explain, undo.
inimitable: (*adj*) unique, matchless, particular, unrivaled, unparalleled, special, unmatched, supreme, unparagoned, exclusive, single. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) universal, ordinary.
parvenu: (*adj, n*) upstart; (*adj*) mushroom, pretentious; (*n*) climber,

arriviste, skipjack, snob, nouveau riche, vulgarian, nobody, disagreeable person.
redoubled: (*adj*) ingeminate.
restraints: (*n*) manacles, fetters, chains.
revells: (*adj*) carousing; (*n*) festivities, partying.
spurned: (*adj*) jilted, unloved.
unbridled: (*adj*) wild, unchecked, licentious, reinless, ungoverned, violent, unmuzzled, ungovernable, rampant, rakish, disorderly.

contrived to have assembled a party of some eight or ten, and was **solicitously** careful that the introduction of cards should appear accidental, and originate in the proposal of my contemplated **dupe** himself. To be brief upon a vile topic, none of the low **finesse** was omitted, so customary upon similar occasions that it is a just matter for wonder how any are still found so **besotted** as to fall its victim.

We had protracted our sitting far into the night, and I had at length effected the manoeuvre of getting Glendinning as my sole antagonist. The game, too, was my favorite *ecarte!* The rest of the company, interested in the extent of our play, had abandoned their own cards, and were standing around us as spectators. The parvenu, who had been induced by my artifices in the early part of the evening, to drink deeply, now shuffled, dealt, or played, with a wild nervousness of manner for which his intoxication, I thought, might partially, but could not altogether account. In a very short period he had become my debtor to a large amount, when, having taken a long draught of port, he did precisely what I had been coolly anticipating -- he proposed to double our already extravagant stakes. With a well-feigned show of reluctance, and not until after my repeated refusal had seduced him into some angry words which gave a color of pique to my compliance, did I finally comply. The result, of course, did but prove how entirely the prey was in my **toils**; in less than an hour he had quadrupled his debt. For some time his countenance had been losing the **florid** tinge lent it by the wine; but now, to my astonishment, I perceived that it had grown to a pallor truly fearful. I say to my astonishment. Glendinning had been represented to my eager inquiries as immeasurably wealthy; and the sums which he had as yet lost, although in themselves vast, could not, I supposed, very seriously annoy, much less so violently affect him. That he was overcome by the wine just swallowed, was the idea which most readily presented itself; and, rather with a view to the preservation of my own character in the eyes of my associates, than from any less interested motive, I was about to insist, **peremptorily**, upon a **discontinuance** of the play, when some expressions at my elbow from among the company, and an ejaculation evincing utter despair on the part of Glendinning, gave me to understand that I had effected his total ruin under circumstances which,

Thesaurus

besotted: (*adj*) infatuated, pissed, tipsy, enamored, hooked, muddleheaded, inebriated, blind drunk; (*v*) conceited, dogmatic, positive.
discontinuance: (*n*) discontinuation, ending, stoppage, desistance, intermission, interruption, pause, halt, disjunction, separation, end. ANTONYMS: (*n*) continuance, continuation.
dupe: (*n, v*) fool, con, gull; (*v*) defraud,

bamboozle, beguile, deceive, take in, kid, trick; (*n*) victim. ANTONYM: (*v*) enlighten.
finesse: (*n*) artifice, diplomacy, delicacy, refinement, dexterity, daintiness, ability, skill; (*n, v*) maneuver; (*adj*) intrigue; (*v*) circumvent. ANTONYMS: (*n*) ignorance, tactlessness, coarseness.
florid: (*adj*) flamboyant, fancy, flowery, aureate, flashy, fresh, figurative, gorgeous; (*adj, v*) ornate,

gaudy; (*adj, n*) ruddy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) pale, plain.
peremptorily: (*adv*) absolutely, positively, imperatively, flatly, dogmatically, magisterially, commandingly, imperiously, authoritatively, decidedly, decisively.
solicitously: (*adv*) considerably, concernedly, carefully, uneasily, kindly, apprehensively, attentively, caringly, politely, jealously, earnestly.
toils: (*n*) net, cobweb, meshes, mesh.

rendering him an object for the pity of all, should have protected him from the ill offices even of a fiend.

What now might have been my conduct it is difficult to say. The pitiable condition of my dupe had thrown an air of embarrassed gloom over all; and, for some moments, a profound silence was maintained, during which I could not help feeling my cheeks **tingle** with the many burning glances of scorn or **reproach** cast upon me by the less abandoned of the party. I will even own that an intolerable weight of anxiety was for a brief instant lifted from my **bosom** by the sudden and extraordinary interruption which ensued. The wide, heavy folding doors of the apartment were all at once thrown open, to their full extent, with a vigorous and rushing impetuosity that extinguished, as if by magic, every candle in the room. Their light, in dying, enabled us just to perceive that a stranger had entered, about my own height, and closely muffled in a cloak. The darkness, however, was now total; and we could only feel that he was standing in our midst. Before any one of us could recover from the extreme astonishment into which this rudeness had thrown all, we heard the voice of the intruder.

“Gentlemen,” he said, in a low, distinct, and never-to-be-forgotten whisper which thrilled to the very marrow of my bones, “Gentlemen, I make no apology for this behaviour, because in thus behaving, I am but fulfilling a duty. You are, beyond doubt, **uninformed** of the true character of the person who has to-night won at **ecarte** a large sum of money from Lord Glendinning. I will therefore put you upon an **expeditious** and decisive plan of obtaining this very necessary information. Please to examine, at your leisure, the inner linings of the **cuff** of his left sleeve, and the several little packages which may be found in the somewhat capacious pockets of his **embroidered** morning wrapper.”

While he spoke, so profound was the stillness that one might have heard a pin drop upon the floor. In **ceasing**, he departed at once, and as abruptly as he had entered. Can I -- shall I describe my sensations? -- must I say that I felt all the horrors of the damned? Most assuredly I had little time given for reflection. Many hands roughly seized me upon the spot, and lights were immediately procured. A search ensued. In the lining of my sleeve were found all the court

Thesaurus

bosom: (<i>n</i>) heart, interior, boob, thorax, chest, bust, tit; (<i>n, v</i>) embrace; (<i>v</i>) cherish, hug; (<i>adj</i>) intimate. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) outside, exteriority.	exaggerated, bewrought, decorated.	compliment, commendation, approval.
ceasing: (<i>n</i>) stopping, subsidence.	expeditious: (<i>adj</i>) agile, brisk, swift, prompt, quick, hasty, fast, rapid, speedy, efficient, ready.	tingle: (<i>v</i>) prickle, itch, tickle, smart, sting, burn, creep; (<i>n</i>) tremble, tingling; (<i>n, v</i>) twitter, pain.
cuff: (<i>n, v</i>) hit, knock, clout, punch, slap, whack, manacle, handcuff; (<i>v</i>) box, buffet, beat.	ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) ineffectual, sluggish, slothful, inefficient, leisurely.	uninformed: (<i>adj</i>) ignorant, uneducated, untaught, uninstructed, unlettered, unlearned, unwitting, unaccustomed, unaware, unversed, untutored. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) knowledgeable, informed, literate, logical, conscious.
ecarte: (<i>n</i>) cribbage, quadrille, reverse, picquet, commit, cards, card game, allfours, loo, euchre.	reproach: (<i>n, v</i>) blame, rebuke, charge, abuse, disgrace, reprimand, invective; (<i>v</i>) accuse, chide, condemn; (<i>n</i>) condemnation. ANTONYMS: (<i>n, v</i>) praise; (<i>v</i>) commend, approve; (<i>n</i>)	
embroidered: (<i>adj</i>) ornate, inflated,		

cards essential in ecarte, and, in the pockets of my wrapper, a number of packs, facsimiles of those used at our sittings, with the single exception that mine were of the species called, technically, arrondees; the honours being slightly convex at the ends, the lower cards slightly convex at the sides. In this disposition, the dupe who cuts, as customary, at the length of the pack, will invariably find that he cuts his antagonist an honor; while the **gambler**, cutting at the breadth, will, as certainly, cut nothing for his victim which may count in the records of the game.

Any burst of indignation upon this discovery would have affected me less than the silent contempt, or the sarcastic composure, with which it was received.

"Mr. Wilson," said our host, stooping to remove from beneath his feet an exceedingly luxurious cloak of rare furs, "Mr. Wilson, this is your property." (The weather was cold; and, upon quitting my own room, I had thrown a cloak over my dressing wrapper, putting it off upon reaching the scene of play.) "I presume it is **supererogatory** to seek here (eyeing the folds of the garment with a bitter smile) for any farther evidence of your skill. Indeed, we have had enough. You will see the necessity, I hope, of quitting Oxford -- at all events, of quitting instantly my chambers."

Abased, **humbled** to the dust as I then was, it is probable that I should have resented this **galling** language by immediate personal violence, had not my whole attention been at the moment arrested by a fact of the most startling character. The cloak which I had worn was of a rare description of fur; how rare, how **extravagantly** costly, I shall not venture to say. Its fashion, too, was of my own fantastic invention; for I was fastidious to an absurd degree of **coxcombry**, in matters of this frivolous nature. When, therefore, Mr. Preston reached me that which he had picked up upon the floor, and near the folding doors of the apartment, it was with an astonishment nearly bordering upon terror, that I perceived my own already hanging on my arm, (where I had no doubt unwittingly placed it,) and that the one presented me was but its exact counterpart in every, in even the minutest possible particular. The singular being who had so **disastrously** exposed me, had been muffled, I remembered, in a

Thesaurus

coxcombry: (*v*) conceit, puppyism, dandyism, man millinery.

disastrously: (*adv*) catastrophically, unfortunately, fatally, ruinously, dreadfully, harmfully, sadly, fatefully, destructively, wretchedly, tragically. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) happily, successfully.

extravagantly: (*adv*) excessively, immoderately, inordinately, luxuriously, prodigally, wastefully, profligately, profusely,

ostentatiously, improvidently, unrestrainedly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) economically, stingily, reasonably, meagerly, cheaply, modestly, humbly.

galling: (*adj, v*) irritating; (*v*) aggravating, provoking; (*adj*) exasperating, bitter, vexatious, vexing, maddening, infuriating, bothersome, harassing. ANTONYM: (*adj*) pleasing.

gambler: (*n*) gamester, adventurer,

punter, plunger, croupier, bettor, bookmaker, speculator, gamblers, high roller, shooter.

humbled: (*adj*) humble, humiliated, crushed, depressed, dispirited, abased, broken in, abject, ashamed; (*n*) humbler; (*v*) apart.

supererogatory: (*adj, v*) spare; (*adj*) excess, extra, superfluous, supernumerary, unnecessary, additional, surplus, unasked, supererogative; (*v*) duplicate.

cloak; and none had been worn at all by any of the members of our party with the exception of myself. Retaining some presence of mind, I took the one offered me by Preston; placed it, unnoticed, over my own; left the apartment with a resolute scowl of defiance; and, next morning ere dawn of day, commenced a hurried journey from Oxford to the continent, in a perfect agony of horror and of shame.

I fled in vain. My evil destiny pursued me as if in **exultation**, and proved, indeed, that the exercise of its mysterious dominion had as yet only begun. Scarcely had I set foot in Paris ere I had fresh evidence of the detestable interest taken by this Wilson in my **concerns**. Years flew, while I experienced no relief. Villain! -- at Rome, with how **untimely**, yet with how spectral an **officiousness**, stepped he in between me and my ambition! At Vienna, too -- at Berlin -- and at Moscow! Where, in truth, had I not bitter cause to curse him within my heart? From his inscrutable tyranny did I at length flee, **panic-stricken**, as from a pestilence; and to the very ends of the earth I fled in vain.

And again, and again, in secret communion with my own spirit, would I demand the questions "Who is he? -- whence came he? -- and what are his objects?" But no answer was there found. And then I scrutinized, with a minute scrutiny, the forms, and the methods, and the leading traits of his impertinent supervision. But even here there was very little upon which to base a conjecture. It was noticeable, indeed, that, in no one of the multiplied instances in which he had of late crossed my path, had he so crossed it except to frustrate those schemes, or to disturb those actions, which, if fully carried out, might have resulted in bitter mischief. Poor justification this, in truth, for an authority so **imperiously** assumed! Poor indemnity for natural rights of self-agency so **pertinaciously**, so **insultingly** denied!

I had also been forced to notice that my tormentor, for a very long period of time, (while scrupulously and with miraculous dexterity maintaining his whim of an identity of **apparel** with myself,) had so contrived it, in the execution of his varied interference with my will, that I saw not, at any moment, the features of his face. Be Wilson what he might, this, at least, was but the veriest of affectation,

Thesaurus

apparel: (*n, v*) garb, attire, garment, array, vesture; (*n*) clothing, finery, costume, clothes; (*v*) adorn, clothe.
concerns: (*n*) dealings, affairs.
exultation: (*n*) jubilation, joy, delight, ecstasy, elation, rejoicing, revelling, transport, joyousness, bliss, glee.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) depression, desolation, misery, sorrow.
imperiously: (*adv*) overbearingly, arrogantly, commandingly, magisterially, dictatorially,

masterfully, haughtily, imperatively, authoritatively, domineeringly, insolently. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) meekly, feebly.
insultingly: (*adv*) offensively, scurrilously, opprobriously, contemptuously, foully, scornfully, injuriously, rudely, impertinently, provokingly, sarcastically.
officiousness: (*n*) meddlesomeness, curiosity, importunity, aggressiveness, obtrusiveness.

panic-stricken: (*adj*) afraid, hysterical.
pertinaciously: (*adv*) stubbornly, unyieldingly, firmly, tenaciously, obstinately, doggedly, headstrongly, stiffly, contumaciously, dourly.
untimely: (*adj*) early, unseasonable, inopportune, inappropriate, awkward, immature, previous, ill timed, inconvenient, improper, belated. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) timely, appropriate, opportune, convenient, overdue.

or of folly. Could he, for an instant, have supposed that, in my **admonisher** at Eton -- in the destroyer of my honor at Oxford, -- in him who thwarted my ambition at Rome, my revenge at Paris, my passionate love at Naples, or what he falsely termed my **avarice** in Egypt, -- that in this, my arch-enemy and evil genius, could fall to recognise the William Wilson of my school boy days, -- the namesake, the companion, the rival, -- the hated and dreaded rival at Dr. Bransby's? Impossible! -- But let me hasten to the last eventful scene of the drama.

Thus far I had succumbed **supinely** to this **imperious** domination. The sentiment of deep awe with which I habitually regarded the elevated character, the majestic wisdom, the apparent **omnipresence** and **omnipotence** of Wilson, added to a feeling of even terror, with which certain other traits in his nature and assumptions inspired me, had operated, hitherto, to impress me with an idea of my own utter weakness and helplessness, and to suggest an implicit, although bitterly reluctant submission to his arbitrary will. But, of late days, I had given myself up entirely to wine; and its maddening influence upon my hereditary temper rendered me more and more impatient of control. I began to murmur, -- to hesitate, -- to resist. And was it only fancy which induced me to believe that, with the increase of my own firmness, that of my tormentor **underwent** a proportional diminution? Be this as it may, I now began to feel the inspiration of a burning hope, and at length nurtured in my secret thoughts a stern and desperate resolution that I would submit no longer to be **enslaved**.

It was at Rome, during the Carnival of 18 --, that I attended a masquerade in the palazzo of the Neapolitan Duke Di Broglio. I had indulged more freely than usual in the excesses of the wine-table; and now the suffocating atmosphere of the crowded rooms irritated me beyond endurance. The difficulty, too, of forcing my way through the mazes of the company contributed not a little to the ruffling of my temper; for I was anxiously seeking, (let me not say with what unworthy motive) the young, the gay, the beautiful wife of the aged and **doting** Di Broglio. With a too unscrupulous confidence she had previously communicated to me the secret of the costume in which she would be habited, and now, having caught a

Thesaurus

admonisher: (*n*) guardian, protector, monisher, monitor, warner, reminder, admonitor, admonitioner.

avarice: (*n*) cupidity, covetousness, rapacity, avariciousness, avidity, eagerness, voracity, voraciousness, stinginess; (*adj, n*) greediness; (*adj*) extortion. ANTONYMS: (*n*) philanthropy, benevolence, charity.

doting: (*adj*) fond, loving, affectionate, devoted, delirious, caring, amorous, wandering, silly, lovesome; (*v*) dote.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) inattentive, indifferent, neglectful, uncaring, disapproving, cold.

enslaved: (*adj*) captive, locked up, charmed, incarcerated, in bondage, in prison, bound, subject, beguiled, cringing; (*v*) subjected.

imperious: (*adj*) haughty, domineering, authoritative, arbitrary, imperative, masterful, dictatorial, commanding, lordly, magisterial, despotic. ANTONYM: (*adj*)

subservient.

omnipotence: (*n*) state, providence, omniscience, omnipresence, power, mastery.

omnipresence: (*n*) omnipotence, ubiquitousness, presence, omniscience, everywhere.

supinely: (*adv*) slothfully, languidly, flatly, inertly, torpidly, lethargically, slackly, remissly, pronely, weakly, dully.

underwent: (*v*) endure, tolerate.

glimpse of her person, I was hurrying to make my way into her presence. -- At this moment I felt a light hand placed upon my shoulder, and that ever-remembered, low, damnable whisper within my ear.

In an absolute phrenzy of wrath, I turned at once upon him who had thus interrupted me, and seized him violently by tile collar. He was **attired**, as I had expected, in a costume altogether similar to my own; wearing a Spanish cloak of blue velvet, begirt about the waist with a crimson belt sustaining a rapier. A mask of black silk entirely covered his face.

"Scoundrel!" I said, in a voice **husky** with rage, while every syllable I uttered seemed as new fuel to my fury, "scoundrel! **impostor**! accursed villain! you shall not -- you shall not dog me unto death! Follow me, or I stab you where you stand!" -- and I broke my way from the ball-room into a small ante-chamber adjoining -- dragging him **unresistingly** with me as I went.

Upon entering, I thrust him furiously from me. He staggered against the wall, while I closed the door with an oath, and commanded him to draw. He hesitated but for an instant; then, with a slight sigh, drew in silence, and put himself upon his defence.

The contest was brief indeed. I was frantic with every species of wild excitement, and felt within my single arm the energy and power of a multitude. In a few seconds I forced him by sheer strength against the **wainscoting**, and thus, getting him at mercy, plunged my sword, with **brute ferocity**, repeatedly through and through his bosom.

At that instant some person tried the **latch** of the door. I hastened to prevent an intrusion, and then immediately returned to my dying antagonist. But what human language can adequately **portray** that astonishment, that horror which possessed me at the spectacle then presented to view? The brief moment in which I averted my eyes had been sufficient to produce, apparently, a material change in the arrangements at the upper or farther end of the room. A large mirror, -- so at first it seemed to me in my confusion -- now stood where none had been perceptible before; and, as I stepped up to it in extremity of terror, mine

Thesaurus

attired: (*adj*) clad, appareled, clothed, garbed, habilimented, robed; (*adj, prep*) garmented.
brute: (*adj*) brutal, harsh, gruff, brutish; (*adj, n*) animal, savage; (*n*) barbarian, fiend, creature, monster; (*adv*) beastly. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) weak, refined, mild, gentle; (*n*) gentleman.
ferocity: (*n*) violence, cruelty, ferociousness, fury, rage, truculence, atrocity, fierceness, wildness,

vehemence, anger. ANTONYMS: (*n*) meekness, friendliness, serenity.
husky: (*adj*) hoarse, gruff, burly, big, dry, raucous, beefy, strapping, brawny, sturdy; (*n*) Eskimo dog. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) high, puny, small, smooth, soft.
impostor: (*n*) fraud, cheat, hypocrite, fake, imposter, sham, charlatan, deceiver, faker, cheater, pretender.
latch: (*v*) bar, fasten, grab; (*n, v*) bolt; (*adj, n, v*) lock; (*n*) hasp, clasp, door

latch, hook; (*adj*) link, yoke.
portray: (*v*) picture, depict, describe, delineate, draw, illustrate, impersonate, characterize, interpret, play, limn.
unresistingly: (*adv*) inertly, submissively, inactively, meekly, clearly, evidently, fruitfully, openly, pregnantly, significantly.
wainscoting: (*n*) wainscoting, panel, panelling, lining, dado, paneling, skirting board, panelwork.

own image, but with features all pale and dabbled in blood, advanced to meet me with a **feeble** and tottering gait.

Thus it appeared, I say, but was not. It was my antagonist -- it was Wilson, who then stood before me in the agonies of his **dissolution**. His mask and **cloak** lay, where he had thrown them, upon the floor. Not a thread in all his raiment -- not a line in all the marked and singular lineaments of his face which was not, even in the most absolute identity, mine own!

It was Wilson; but he spoke no longer in a **whisper**, and I could have fancied that I myself was speaking while he said:

"You have **conquered**, and I yield. Yet, **henceforward** art **thou** also dead -- dead to the World, to Heaven and to Hope! In me didst thou exist -- and, in my death, see by this image, which is thine own, how utterly thou hast murdered thyself."

Thesaurus

cloak: (*n, v*) veil, mask, camouflage, wrap, masquerade, screen, pall; (*n*) cape; (*v*) conceal, dissemble, hide. ANTONYMS: (*v*) reveal, uncloak, unmask; (*n, v*) uncover.

conquered: (*adj*) overcome, vanquished, overwhelmed, crushed, subdued, profligate, routed, overthrown, done for, under enemy control, baffled. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) victorious, liberated.

dissolution: (*n*) breakup,

decomposition, cancellation, abolition, analysis, dismissal, dissipation, death, annulment, demise, dissociation. ANTONYMS: (*n*) inauguration, parsimony, decency.

feeble: (*adj*) delicate, decrepit, ailing, helpless, powerless, poor, mild, lax, thin; (*adj, v*) faint, debilitated. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) strong, vigorous, hearty, tough, effective, powerful, unrelenting, robust, potent,

persuasive, able.

henceforward: (*adv*) in future, from now on, from this time on, from this moment on, after this.

thou: (*n*) chiliad, grand, m, g, one thousand, gramme, gram, gm, gigabyte, Gb, curtilage.

whisper: (*n, v*) murmur, hum, mumble, suggestion, hint, inkling; (*v*) breathe, hiss; (*n*) rustle, trace, breath. ANTONYM: (*n*) information.

THE TELL-TALE HEART

True! -- nervous -- very, very **dreadfully** nervous I had been and am; but why will you say that I am mad? The disease had **sharpened** my senses -- not destroyed -- not **dulled** them. Above all was the sense of hearing acute. I heard all things in the heaven and in the earth. I heard many things in hell. How, then, am I mad? Hearken! and observe how **healthily** -- how calmly I can tell you the whole story.

It is impossible to say how first the idea entered my brain; but once conceived, it haunted me day and night. Object there was none. Passion there was none. I loved the old man. He had never **wronged** me. He had never given me insult. For his gold I had no desire. I think it was his eye! yes, it was this! He had the eye of a **vulture** -- a pale blue eye, with a film over it. **Whenever** it fell upon me, my blood ran cold; and so by degrees -- very gradually -- I made up my mind to take the life of the old man, and thus rid myself of the eye forever.

Now this is the point. You fancy me mad. Madmen know nothing. But you should have seen me. You should have seen how wisely I proceeded -- with what caution -- with what **foresight** -- with what **dissimulation** I went to work! I was never kinder to the old man than during the whole week before I killed him. And every night, about midnight, I turned the latch of his door and opened it -- oh so gently! And then, when I had made an opening sufficient for my head, I put in a

Thesaurus

dissimulation: (*n*) deceit, dissembling, duplicity, guile, falsehood, hypocrisy, illusion, imposture, insincerity, pretence, chicanery.

dreadfully: (*adj, adv*) frightfully, shockingly; (*adv*) fearfully, appallingly, hideously, horrendously, horribly, atrociously, ghastly, tremendously, horridly.

ANTONYMS: (*adv*) pleasantly, wonderfully, happily, hardly, superbly, well.

dulled: (*adj*) dull, blunted, benumbed, duller, blunt, uninterested, rounded, jaded, grayed, colorless, deadened.

foresight: (*n*) prevision, forecast, caution, prescience, calculation, prescience, prediction, precaution, vision, foresightedness; (*n, v*) expectation. ANTONYM: (*n*) hindsight.

healthily: (*adv*) salubriously, wholesomely, robustly, healthfully, salutarily, lustily, welly, wholely,

heartily, vigorously, strongly.

sharpened: (*adj*) acute, pointed, acute, sharper, better, sensual.

vulture: (*n*) predator, marauder, ghoul; (*adj*) tyrant, despot, harpy, inquisitor, precisian, oppressor, martinet, extortioner.

whenever: (*n*) anytime, convenience; (*adv*) always, whenever. ANTONYM: (*adv*) immediately.

wronged: (*adj*) upset, hurt, indignant, offended.

dark **lantern**, all closed, closed, that no light shone out, and then I thrust in my head. Oh, you would have laughed to see how **cunningly** I thrust it in! I moved it slowly -- very, very slowly, so that I might not disturb the old man's sleep. It took me an hour to place my whole head within the opening so far that I could see him as he lay upon his bed. Ha! would a madman have been so wise as this, And then, when my head was well in the room, I undid the lantern cautiously-- oh, so cautiously -- cautiously (for the hinges creaked) -- I undid it just so much that a single thin ray fell upon the vulture eye. And this I did for seven long nights -- every night just at midnight -- but I found the eye always closed; and so it was impossible to do the work; for it was not the old man who **vexed** me, but his Evil Eye. And every morning, when the day broke, I went **boldly** into the chamber, and spoke **courageously** to him, calling him by name in a hearty tone, and inquiring how he has passed the night. So you see he would have been a very profound old man, indeed, to suspect that every night, just at twelve, I looked in upon him while he slept.

Upon the eighth night I was more than usually cautious in opening the door. A watch's minute hand moves more quickly than did mine. Never before that night had I felt the extent of my own powers -- of my sagacity. I could scarcely contain my feelings of triumph. To think that there I was, opening the door, little by little, and he not even to dream of my secret **deeds** or thoughts. I fairly chuckled at the idea; and perhaps he heard me; for he moved on the bed suddenly, as if startled. Now you may think that I drew back -- but no. His room was as black as pitch with the thick darkness, (for the shutters were close fastened, through fear of robbers,) and so I knew that he could not see the opening of the door, and I kept pushing it on steadily, steadily.

I had my head in, and was about to open the lantern, when my **thumb** slipped upon the tin fastening, and the old man sprang up in bed, crying out -- "Who's there?"

I kept quite still and said nothing. For a whole hour I did not move a muscle, and in the meantime I did not hear him lie down. He was still sitting up in the

Thesaurus

boldly: (*adj, adv*) courageously, valiantly, heroically; (*adv*) fearlessly, daringly, bravely, intrepidly, impudently, audaciously, shamelessly, brashly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) discreetly, modestly, nervously, hesitantly, shyly, fearfully, meekly, submissively, secretly, respectfully, diffidently.
courageously: (*adv*) intrepidly, valiantly, boldly, daringly, fearlessly, gallantly, heroically, hardily,

dauntlessly, audaciously, stoutheartedly. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) timidly, execrably, fearfully, nervously.
cunningly: (*adv*) craftily, artfully, cleverly, ingeniously, trickily, shrewdly, astutely, insidiously, smartly, foxily, slipperily. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) ineptly, openly.
deeds: (*n*) works, activity, actions, conduct, background, events, happenings, performance, activities.

lantern: (*n*) beacon, light, dormer, tube, lighting fitting, bedside light, street light, street lamp, oil lamp, lime light, lantern.
thumb: (*v*) feel, flip, handle, leaf, touch, flick, hitch, riff; (*n*) pollex, bull nose, forefinger.
vexed: (*adj*) troubled, irritated, angry, pestered, peeved, harassed, sore, harried, uneasy, cross, offended. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) calm, uncomplicated.

bed listening; -- just as I have done, night after night, hearkening to the death watches in the wall.

Presently I heard a slight **groan**, and I knew it was the groan of mortal terror. It was not a groan of pain or of grief -- oh, no! -- it was the low **stifled** sound that arises from the bottom of the soul when overcharged with awe. I knew the sound well. Many a night, just at midnight, when all the world slept, it has welled up from my own bosom, deepening, with its dreadful echo, the terrors that **distracted** me. I say I knew it well. I knew what the old man felt, and pitied him, although I chuckled at heart. I knew that he had been lying awake ever since the first slight noise, when he had turned in the bed. His fears had been ever since growing upon him. He had been trying to fancy them causeless, but could not. He had been saying to himself -- "It is nothing but the wind in the chimney -- it is only a mouse crossing the floor," or "It is merely a cricket which has made a single chirp." Yes, he had been trying to comfort himself with these suppositions: but he had found all in vain. All in vain; because Death, in approaching him had stalked with his black shadow before him, and enveloped the victim. And it was the **mournful** influence of the **unperceived** shadow that caused him to feel -- although he neither saw nor heard -- to feel the presence of my head within the room.

When I had waited a long time, very patiently, without hearing him lie down, I resolved to open a little -- a very, very little crevice in the lantern. So I opened it -- you cannot imagine how stealthily, stealthily -- until, at length a simple dim ray, like the thread of the spider, shot from out the crevice and fell full upon the vulture eye.

It was open -- wide, wide open -- and I grew furious as I gazed upon it. I saw it with perfect distinctness -- all a dull blue, with a hideous **veil** over it that **chilled** the very **marrow** in my bones; but I could see nothing else of the old man's face or person: for I had directed the ray as if by instinct, precisely upon the damned spot.

And have I not told you that what you mistake for madness is but over-acuteness of the sense? -- now, I say, there came to my ears a low, dull, quick

Thesaurus

chilled: (*adj*) frozen, freezing, cool, refrigerated, icy, inhibited, restrained, confined, shivering, iced, stiff.

distracted: (*adj*) demented, inattentive, abstracted, crazy, frenzied, distraught, preoccupied, distressed, confused; (*adj, v*) mad, disconcerted. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) attentive, alert, assured, calm, mellow.

groan: (*n, v*) grumble, murmur, cry, sigh, mutter, squeak, rumble, scrape;

(*v*) howl, complain; (*n*) complaint.

marrow: (*adj, n*) gist, pith, quintessence; (*n*) substance, heart, kernel, core, content, center, backbone; (*adj*) quiddity.

mournful: (*adj*) sad, miserable, melancholy, funereal, dolorous, dark, pensive, gloomy, lugubrious, lamentable; (*adj, n*) plaintive. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) joyful, happy, emotionless.

stifled: (*adj*) strangled, suppressed,

muffled, deafened, completely covered, dead, deadened, weak, deaf, corn, regardless, decayed.

unperceived: (*v*) unheeded, unthought of, unregarded; (*adj*) unremarked, unnoted, unobserved, unmarked, unknown, stealthy, sly, secret.

veil: (*n, v*) cover, hide, disguise, mask, cloud, shroud, camouflage; (*v*) cloak, conceal; (*n*) curtain, blind.

ANTONYMS: (*v*) disclose, unveil, expose.

sound, such as a watch makes when enveloped in cotton. I knew that sound well, too. It was the beating of the old man's heart. It increased my fury, as the beating of a drum stimulates the soldier into courage.

But even yet I refrained and kept still. I scarcely breathed. I held the lantern motionless. I tried how steadily I could maintain the ray upon the eve. Meantime the hellish **tattoo** of the heart increased. It grew quicker and quicker, and louder and louder every instant. The old man's terror must have been extreme! It grew louder, I say, louder every moment! -- do you mark me well I have told you that I am nervous: so I am. And now at the dead hour of the night, amid the dreadful silence of that old house, so strange a noise as this excited me to **uncontrollable** terror. Yet, for some minutes longer I refrained and stood still. But the beating grew louder, louder! I thought the heart must burst. And now a new anxiety seized me -- the sound would be heard by a neighbour! The old man's hour had come! With a loud yell, I threw open the lantern and leaped into the room. He shrieked once -- once only. In an instant I dragged him to the floor, and pulled the heavy bed over him. I then smiled **gaily**, to find the deed so far done. But, for many minutes, the heart beat on with a **muffled** sound. This, however, did not vex me; it would not be heard through the wall. At length it ceased. The old man was dead. I removed the bed and examined the corpse. Yes, he was stone, stone dead. I placed my hand upon the heart and held it there many minutes. There was no pulsation. He was stone dead. His eye would trouble me no more.

If still you think me mad, you will think so no longer when I describe the wise precautions I took for the concealment of the body. The night waned, and I worked hastily, but in silence. First of all I **dismembered** the corpse. I cut off the head and the arms and the legs.

I then took up three planks from the **flooring** of the chamber, and deposited all between the scantlings. I then replaced the boards so **cleverly**, so cunningly, that no human eye -- not even his -- could have detected any thing wrong. There was nothing to wash out -- no **stain** of any kind -- no blood-spot whatever. I had been too wary for that. A tub had caught all -- ha! ha!

Thesaurus

cleverly: (*adv*) cunningly, expertly, smartly, shrewdly, adroitly, intelligently, dexterously, handily, craftily, skillfully, acutely.
ANTONYMS: (*adv*) clumsily, foolishly, honestly, ineptly, awkwardly, openly, incompetently.
dismembered: (*adj*) broken.
flooring: (*n*) floorboard, floors, base, ground, bottom, floored, level, story, carpeting, bell deck, bridge decking.
gaily: (*adv, v*) happily; (*adv*) gladly,

joyfully, joyfully, cheerfully, mirthfully, joyously, gleefully, sunnily, blithely, lively.
ANTONYMS: (*adv*) sadly, anxiously, dully, despondently.
muffled: (*adj*) hushed, muted, hollow, inarticulate, faint, soft, subdued, low, quiet; (*v*) allusive, covert.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) clear, distinct, audible, slight.
stain: (*n, v*) spot, blemish, tarnish, blot, dye, smear, disgrace, mark, soil, dirt,

defile. **ANTONYMS:** (*v*) enhance, dignify, clean.
tattoo: (*n*) drumbeat, tattoos, bugle call, decoration.
uncontrollable: (*adj*) unruly, uncontrollable, ungovernable, unmanageable, intractable, undisciplined, disobedient, indocile, overwhelming, boisterous; (*adj, v*) uncontrolled. **ANTONYMS:** (*adj*) controllable, imperceptible, orderly, biddable, weak.

When I had made an end of these labors, it was four o'clock -- still dark as midnight. As the bell sounded the hour, there came a knocking at the street door. I went down to open it with a light heart, -- for what had I now to fear? There entered three men, who introduced themselves, with perfect **suavity**, as officers of the police. A shriek had been heard by a neighbour during the night; suspicion of foul play had been aroused; information had been lodged at the police office, and they (the officers) had been **deputed** to search the premises.

I smiled, -- for what had I to fear? I bade the gentlemen welcome. The shriek, I said, was my own in a dream. The old man, I mentioned, was absent in the country. I took my visitors all over the house. I bade them search -- search well. I led them, at length, to his chamber. I showed them his treasures, secure, undisturbed. In the enthusiasm of my confidence, I brought chairs into the room, and desired them here to rest from their fatigues, while I myself, in the wild **audacity** of my perfect triumph, placed my own seat upon the very spot beneath which reposed the corpse of the victim.

The officers were satisfied. My manner had convinced them. I was **singularly** at ease. They sat, and while I answered cheerily, they chatted of familiar things. But, ere long, I felt myself getting pale and wished them gone. My head ached, and I fancied a ringing in my ears: but still they sat and still chatted. The ringing became more distinct: -- It continued and became more distinct: I talked more freely to get rid of the feeling: but it continued and gained **definiteness** -- until, at length, I found that the noise was not within my ears.

No doubt I now grew *very* pale; -- but I talked more **fluently**, and with a heightened voice. Yet the sound increased -- and what could I do? It was a low, dull, quick sound -- much such a sound as a watch makes when enveloped in cotton. I gasped for breath -- and yet the officers heard it not. I talked more quickly -- more **vehemently**; but the noise steadily increased. I arose and argued about trifles, in a high key and with violent gesticulations; but the noise steadily increased. Why would they not be gone? I paced the floor to and fro with heavy strides, as if excited to fury by the observations of the men -- but the noise steadily increased. Oh God! what could I do? I foamed -- I raved -- I swore! I

Thesaurus

audacity: (*n*) nerve, audaciousness, effrontery, arrogance, temerity, cheek, impertinence, insolence, courage; (*n, v*) impudence; (*adj, n*) presumption. ANTONYMS: (*n*) cowardice, propriety, decorum, circumspection, courtesy, fear, respect, spinelessness, reticence.
definiteness: (*n*) certainty, conclusiveness, accuracy, exactness, finality, decisiveness, definition, predictability, intelligibility,

resolution, expressness. ANTONYM: (*n*) uncertainty.

deputed: (*prep*) delegated; (*adj*) delegate.

fluently: (*adv*) easily, glibly, eloquently, liquidly, flowingly, articulately, clearly, persuasively, verbosely, talkatively, fluidly. ANTONYM: (*adv*) awkwardly.

singularly: (*adv*) peculiarly, uniquely, unusually, curiously, rarely, uncommonly, oddly, solely,

exceptionally, individually; (*adj, adv*) remarkably.

suavity: (*adj, n*) amenity; (*n*) courtesy, urbanity, gentleness, pleasantness, suaveness, blandness, polish, civility, complaisance, politeness.

vehemently: (*adj, adv*) ardently; (*adv*) violently, zealously, strongly, fervently, passionately, ferociously, fervidly, keenly, intensely, furiously. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) feebly, gently, impassively.

swung the chair upon which I had been sitting, and **grated** it upon the boards, but the noise arose over all and continually increased. It grew louder -- louder -- louder! And still the men chatted pleasantly, and smiled. Was it possible they heard not? **Almighty** God! -- no, no! They heard! -- they suspected! -- they knew! -- they were making a mockery of my horror!-this I thought, and this I think. But anything was better than this agony! Anything was more **tolerable** than this **derision**! I could bear those **hypocritical** smiles no **longer**! I felt that I must scream or die! and now -- again! -- **hark**! louder! louder! louder! louder!

“Villains!” I shrieked, “dissemble no more! I admit the deed! -- tear up the planks! here, here! -- It is the beating of his **hideous** heart!”

Thesaurus

almighty: (<i>adj</i>) omnipotent, powerful, potent, great, supreme; (<i>adj, n</i>) divine; (<i>n</i>) lord, Jehovah, deity, God, godhead. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) ineffectual, insignificant, lay, powerless, lowly.	barred.	(<i>n</i>) hypocrisy. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) genuine, straightforward.
derision: (<i>n</i>) contempt, mockery, scorn, banter, jeering, disdain, scoff, insult, irony, sport, gibe. ANTONYMS: (<i>n</i>) applause, esteem, admiration, praise, approval.	hark: (<i>v</i>) harken, hear, hearken, heed, listen in; (<i>n</i>) look here, look you, look.	longer: (<i>adj</i>) longest, better, lengest; (<i>adv</i>) farther; (<i>n</i>) yearner, thirster.
grated: (<i>v</i>) areolar, streaked; (<i>adj</i>)	hideous: (<i>adj</i>) dreadful, frightful, fearful, ghastly, horrid, ugly, repulsive, lurid, horrible, grisly, grim. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) lovely, pleasant, beautiful, wonderful.	tolerable: (<i>adj</i>) passable, mediocre, bearable, fair, middling, reasonable, adequate, respectable, endurable, sufferable; (<i>adj, v</i>) satisfactory.
	hypocritical: (<i>adj, adv</i>) deceitful, false, counterfeit; (<i>adj</i>) insincere, disingenuous, dishonest, pharisaical, sanctimonious, hollow, hypocritic;	ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) intolerable, exceptional, unbearable, unsatisfactory, bad, inadequate, appalling, inadmissible.

BERENICE

Dicebant mihi sodales, si sepulchrum amicae visitarem, curas meas aliquantulum forelevatas.

--Ebn Zaiat

Misery is **manifold**. The wretchedness of earth is multiform. Overreaching the wide horizon as the rainbow, its hues are as various as the hues of that arch -- as distinct too, yet as **intimately blended**. Overreaching the wide horizon as the rainbow! How is it that from beauty I have derived a type of unloveliness? -- from the covenant of peace, a simile of sorrow? But as, in ethics, evil is a consequence of good, so, in fact, out of joy is sorrow born. Either the memory of past **bliss** is the anguish of to-day, or the agonies which *are*, have their origin in the ecstasies which *might have been*.

My **baptismal** name is Egeus; that of my family I will not mention. Yet there are no **towers** in the land more time-honored than my gloomy, gray, **hereditary** halls. Our line has been called a race of visionaries; and in many striking particulars -- in the character of the family mansion -- in the frescos of the chief **saloon** -- in the tapestries of the dormitories -- in the chiselling of some **buttresses** in the **armory** -- but more especially in the gallery of antique paintings -- in the fashion of the library chamber -- and, lastly, in the very peculiar nature

Thesaurus

armory: (*n*) arsenal, armament, armoury, resourcefulness, imagination, metalworks, resource, foundry, hall, munitions store, armamentary.
baptismal: (*adj*) eucharistical, Baptistic; (*n*) baptism.
blended: (*adj*) mixed, miscellaneous, composite, assorted, alloyed, amalgamated, beaten, adulterate, conglomerate; (*n*) medley; (*v*) mingle.
bliss: (*n*) happiness, joy, ecstasy,

pleasure, paradise, blessedness, felicity, elation, beatitude, heaven, blessing. ANTONYMS: (*n*) misery, sorrow, agony, grief, anguish, sadness, suffering, gloom, hell, dissatisfaction.
buttresses: (*n*) ramparts, defenses.
hereditary: (*adj*) familial, ancestral, inherent, heritable, inherited, inborn, congenital, innate, patrimonial, native, heredity.
intimately: (*adv*) nearly, familiarly,

personally, secretly, internally, privately, narrowly, thoroughly, near, well, thickly. ANTONYM: (*adv*) superficially.
manifold: (*adj*) diverse, different, many, various, multiplex, multiplied, frequent; (*v*) duplicate, copy, multiply; (*n*) diversity.
saloon: (*n*) pub, public house, salon, parlour, pothouse, hall, barroom, gin mill, alehouse, tavern, taproom.
towers: (*n*) edifice.

of the library's contents -- there is more than sufficient evidence to warrant the belief.

The recollections of my earliest years are connected with that chamber, and with its volumes -- of which latter I will say no more. Here died my mother. Herein was I born. But it is mere **idleness** to say that I had not lived before -- that the soul has no previous existence. You deny it? -- let us not argue the matter. Convinced myself, I seek not to convince. There is, however, a remembrance of aerial forms -- of spiritual and meaning eyes -- of sounds, musical yet sad -- a remembrance which will not be excluded; a memory like a shadow -- vague, variable, indefinite, unsteady; and like a shadow, too, in the impossibility of my getting rid of it while the sunlight of my reason **shall** exist.

In that chamber was I born. Thus awaking from the long night of what seemed, but was not, **nonentity**, at once into the very regions of fairy land -- into a palace of imagination -- into the wild dominions of monastic thought and erudition -- it is not singular that I gazed around me with a startled and ardent eye -- that I loitered away my **boyhood** in books, and dissipated my youth in **reverie**; but it *is* singular that as years rolled away, and the noon of manhood found me still in the mansion of my fathers -- it *is* wonderful what stagnation there fell upon the springs of my life -- wonderful how total an inversion took place in the character of my commonest thought. The realities of the world affected me as visions, and as visions only, while the wild ideas of the land of dreams became, in turn, not the material of my every-day existence, but in very deed that existence utterly and solely in itself.

* * * * *

Berenice and I were cousins, and we grew up together in my paternal halls. Yet differently we grew -- I, ill of health, and buried in gloom -- she, **agile**, graceful, and **overflowing** with energy; hers, the **ramble** on the hill-side -- mine

Thesaurus

agile: (*adj*) active, nimble, spry, quick, adroit, deft, lively, dapper, supple, lithe, astute. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) stiff, ponderous, brittle, logical, oafish, slow, sluggish, unfit, awkward, heavy, inflexible.
boyhood: (*n*) babyhood, adolescence, youth, youthhood, infancy, girlhood, age, boyism, puberty. ANTONYM: (*n*) adulthood.
idleness: (*n*) lethargy, laziness, torpor, inactivity, idling, unemployment,

sloth, inaction, inertia, fainance, idlesse. ANTONYMS: (*n*) energy, activity, bustle, liveliness, responsibility.
nonentity: (*n*) nobody, cipher, nothing, naught, cypher, nil, nonexistence, aught, zero, jackanapes, lightweight.
overflowing: (*adj*) full, copious, exuberant, flooding, bountiful, generous, brimming, profuse; (*n, v*) flood, inundation, deluge.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) sparse, scarce.
ramble: (*n, v*) journey, stroll, saunter, wander, roam, meander, excursion, hike, tramp, walk, promenade. ANTONYM: (*v*) settle.
reverie: (*n*) dream, fantasy, air castle, brown study, revery, trance, abstraction, castle in Spain, castle in the air; (*adj*) preoccupation, distraction. ANTONYM: (*n*) reality.
shall: (*n*) must, necessity; (*v*) require, bequeath, leave.

the studies of the **cloister**; I, living within my own heart, and addicted, body and soul, to the most intense and painful meditation -- she, roaming carelessly through life, with no thought of the shadows in her path, or the silent flight of the raven-winged hours. Berenice! -I call upon her name -- Berenice! -- and from the gray ruins of memory a thousand tumultuous recollections are startled at the sound! Ah, vividly is her image before me now, as in the early days of her **light-heartedness** and joy! Oh, gorgeous yet fantastic beauty! Oh, **sylph** amid the shrubberies of Arnheim! Oh, Naiad among its fountains! And then -- then all is mystery and terror, and a tale which should not be told. Disease -- a fatal disease, fell like the **simoon** upon her frame; and, even while I gazed upon her, the spirit of change swept over her, pervading her mind, her habits, and her character, and, in a manner the most subtle and terrible, disturbing even the identity of her person! Alas! the destroyer came and went! -- and the victim -where is she? I knew her not -- or knew her no longer as Berenice.

Among the numerous train of maladies superinduced by that fatal and primary one which effected a revolution of so horrible a kind in the moral and physical being of my cousin, may be mentioned as the most distressing and obstinate in its nature, a species of epilepsy not unfrequently **terminating** in *trance* itself -- trance very nearly resembling positive dissolution, and from which her manner of recovery was in most instances, **startlingly** abrupt. In the mean time my own disease -- for I have been told that I should call it by no other appellation -- my own disease, then, grew rapidly upon me, and assumed finally a **monomaniac** character of a novel and extraordinary form -- hourly and momentarily gaining vigor -- and at length **obtaining** over me the most incomprehensible ascendancy. This monomania, if I must so term it, consisted in a morbid **irritability** of those properties of the mind in metaphysical science termed the *attentive*. It is more than probable that I am not understood; but I fear, indeed, that it is in no manner possible to convey to the mind of the merely general reader, an adequate idea of that nervous *intensity of interest* with which, in my case, the powers of meditation (not to speak technically) busied and buried themselves, in the contemplation of even the most ordinary objects of the universe.

Thesaurus

cloister: (*n*) abbey, priory, monastery, arcade, friary, piazza, nunnery, circus, veranda; (*v*) encircle, insulate.

irritability: (*n*) irascibility, tetchiness, choler, touchiness, temper, anger, irritation, peevishness, pettishness, testiness; (*adj, n*) petulance.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) cheerfulness, equanimity, cheeriness.

light-heartedness: (*n*) cheerfulness, happiness, levity.

monomania: (*adj, n*) madness,

fanaticism, frenzy, derangement, aberration, alienation, insanity, lunacy; (*adj*) infatuation; (*n*) passion, craze.

monomaniac: (*n*) monomaniacal, diseased person, bigot, fanatic, fiend, kleptomaniac, dipsomaniac, enthusiast.

obtaining: (*n*) acceptance, capture, collection; (*adj*) adeption, dominant.

simoon: (*n*) samiel, wind.

startlingly: (*adv*) wonderfully,

astonishingly, amazingly, astoundingly, shockingly, remarkably, unexpectedly, staggeringly, marvelously, alarmingly, strikingly.

sylph: (*n*) woman, imaginary being, adult female, fairy, imaginary creature, nymph.

terminating: (*adj*) final, ending, conclusive, dying, determining, terminative, last, expiring, decisive, expiring groans; (*n*) termination.

To muse for long **unwearied** hours, with my attention riveted to some frivolous device on the margin, or in the typography of a book; to become absorbed, for the better part of a summer’s day, in a quaint shadow falling **aslant** upon the tapestry or upon the floor; to lose myself, for an entire night, in watching the steady flame of a lamp, or the embers of a fire; to dream away whole days over the perfume of a flower; to repeat, **monotonously**, some common word, until the sound, by dint of frequent repetition, ceased to convey any idea whatever to the mind; to lose all sense of motion or physical existence, by means of absolute bodily quiescence long and **obstinately** persevered in: such were a few of the most common and least pernicious vagaries induced by a condition of the mental faculties, not, indeed, altogether unparalleled, but certainly bidding defiance to anything like analysis or explanation.

Yet let me not be misapprehended. The undue, earnest, and morbid attention thus excited by objects in their own nature frivolous, must not be confounded in character with that **ruminating** propensity common to all mankind, and more especially indulged in by persons of ardent imagination. It was not even, as might be at first supposed, an extreme condition, or exaggeration of such propensity, but primarily and essentially distinct and different. In the one instance, the **dreamer**, or enthusiast, being interested by an object usually *not* frivolous, imperceptibly loses sight of this object in a wilderness of deductions and suggestions issuing therefrom, until, at the conclusion of a day dream *often replete with luxury*, he finds the *incitamentum*, or first cause of his **musings**, entirely vanished and forgotten. In my case, the primary object was *invariably frivolous*, although assuming, through the medium of my distempered vision, a refracted and unreal importance. Few deductions, if any, were made; and those few pertinaciously returning in upon the original object as a centre. The **meditations** were *never* pleasurable; and, at the termination of the reverie, the first cause, so far from being out of sight, had attained that **supernaturally** exaggerated interest which was the prevailing feature of the disease. In a word, the powers of mind more particularly exercised were, with me, as I have said before, the *attentive*, and are, with the day-dreamer, the *speculative*.

Thesaurus

aslant: (<i>adj</i>) oblique, inclined, slanting, diagonal, sloping, wry, awry; (<i>adj, adv</i>) aslope; (<i>adv</i>) slantingly, obliquely, athwart. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) level; (<i>adv</i>) straight.	boringly, drearily, tiresomely, tediously, wearisomely, flatly, humdrumly, prosaically, tonelessly, routinely. ANTONYM: (<i>adv</i>) brightly.	ruminant; (<i>n</i>) abstraction.
dreamer: (<i>n</i>) romancer, visionary, daydreamer, woolgatherer, seer, sleeper, slumberer, illusionist, logician, philosopher, escapist.	musings: (<i>n</i>) contemplation, cogitation, consideration.	supernaturally: (<i>adv</i>) uncannily, weirdly, miraculously, unnaturally, transcendently, spiritually, numinously, occultly, magically, spectrally, ghostly.
meditations: (<i>n</i>) contemplation, consideration, cogitation.	obstinately: (<i>adv</i>) obdurately, mulishly, persistently, perversely, doggedly, refractorily, unyieldingly, willfully, pigheadedly, waywardly, firmly. ANTONYM: (<i>adv</i>) helpfully.	unwearied: (<i>adj</i>) indefatigable, untiring, tireless, untired, indomitable, unflagging, industrious, tolerant, persistent, persevering, laborious. ANTONYM: (<i>adj</i>) impatient.
monotonously: (<i>adv</i>) uninterestingly,	ruminating: (<i>adj</i>) pensive, ruminal,	

My books, at this epoch, if they did not actually serve to **irritate** the disorder, partook, it will be perceived, largely, in their imaginative and **inconsequential** nature, of the characteristic qualities of the disorder itself. I well remember, among others, the **treatise** of the noble Italian, Coelius Secundus Curio, "*De Amplitudine Beati Regni Dei*"; St. Austin's great work, the "*City of God*"; and Tertullian's "*De Carne Christi*", in which the paradoxical sentence "*Mortuus est Dei filius; credible est quia ineptum est: et sepultus resurrexit; certum est quia impossibile est,*" occupied my **undivided** time, for many weeks of laborious and fruitless investigation.

Thus it will appear that, shaken from its balance only by trivial things, my reason bore resemblance to that ocean-crag spoken of by Ptolemy Hephestion, which steadily resisting the attacks of human violence, and the fiercer fury of the waters and the winds, trembled only to the touch of the flower called Asphodel. And although, to a careless thinker, it might appear a matter beyond doubt, that the alteration produced by her unhappy malady, in the *moral* condition of Berenice, would afford me many objects for the exercise of that intense and abnormal meditation whose nature I have been at some trouble in explaining, yet such was not in any degree the case. In the lucid intervals of my **infirmity**, her calamity, indeed, gave me pain, and, taking deeply to heart that total wreck of her fair and gentle life, I did not fall to **ponder**, frequently and bitterly, upon the wonder-working means by which so strange a revolution had been so suddenly brought to pass. But these reflections partook not of the idiosyncrasy of my disease, and were such as would have occurred, under similar circumstances, to the ordinary mass of mankind. True to its own character, my disorder revelled in the less important but more startling changes wrought in the *physical* frame of Berenice -- in the singular and most appalling distortion of her personal identity.

During the brightest days of her unparalleled beauty, most surely I had never loved her. In the strange anomaly of my existence, feelings with me, *had never been* of the heart, and my passions *always were* of the mind. Through the gray of the early morning -- among the trellised shadows of the forest at **noonday** -- and in the silence of my library at night -- she had flitted by my eyes, and I had seen her -- not as the living and breathing Berenice, but as the Berenice of a dream; not

Thesaurus

inconsequential: (*adj*) inconsequent, minor, unimportant, trivial, negligible, small, irrelevant, insignificant, frivolous, trifling, slight. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) significant, major, responsible, serious, crucial.
infirmity: (*adj, n*) frailty, foible, imbecility; (*n*) feebleness, impotence, disability, decrepitude, illness, sickness, disease, weakness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) health, wellness, strength.

irritate: (*adj, v*) incense; (*v*) gall, fret, chafe, harass, grate, displease, vex, goad, aggravate, anger. ANTONYMS: (*v*) soothe, pacify, please, help, calm, encourage, placate.
noonday: (*n*) noontide, noon, high noon, hour, twelve noon, afternoon; (*v*) tide; (*adj*) meridional.
ponder: (*v*) meditate, consider, cogitate, deliberate, think, reflect, conceive, mull, mull over; (*n, v*)

muse, study. ANTONYMS: (*v*) decide, wander, ignore.
treatise: (*n*) tract, thesis, essay, discourse, paper, article, monograph, piece, pamphlet, review, book.
undivided: (*adj*) complete, whole, unbroken, total, single, integral, continuous, united, full, exclusive, solid. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) partial, separate, broken, imperfect, individual.

as a being of the earth, earthy, but as the abstraction of such a being; not as a thing to admire, but to analyze; not as an object of love, but as the theme of the most **abstruse** although desultory speculation. And *now* -- now I shuddered in her presence, and grew pale at her approach; yet, bitterly **lamenting** her fallen and desolate condition, I called to mind that she had loved me long, and, in an evil moment, I spoke to her of marriage.

And at length the period of our **nuptials** was approaching, when, upon an afternoon in the winter of the year -- one of those **unseasonably** warm, calm, and misty days which are the nurse of the beautiful Halcyon, -- I sat, (and sat, as I thought, alone,) in the inner apartment of the library. But, uplifting my eyes, I saw that Berenice stood before me.

Was it my own excited imagination -- or the misty influence of the atmosphere -- or the uncertain twilight of the chamber -- or the gray draperies which fell around her figure -- that caused in it so vacillating and indistinct an outline? I could not tell. She spoke no word; and I -- not for worlds could I have uttered a syllable. An icy chill ran through my frame; a sense of insufferable anxiety oppressed me; a consuming curiosity pervaded my soul; and sinking back upon the chair, I remained for some time breathless and motionless, with my eyes riveted upon her person. Alas! its emaciation was excessive, and not one vestige of the former being lurked in any single line of the contour. My burning glances at length fell upon the face.

The forehead was high, and very pale, and singularly placid; and the once jetty hair fell partially over it, and overshadowed the hollow **temples** with innumerable ringlets, now of a vivid yellow, and jarring **discordantly**, in their fantastic character, with the reigning melancholy of the countenance. The eyes were lifeless, and lustreless, and seemingly pupilless, and I shrank involuntarily from their glassy stare to the contemplation of the thin and **shrunk** lips. They parted; and in a smile of peculiar meaning, *the teeth* of the changed Berenice disclosed themselves slowly to my view. Would to God that I had never beheld them, or that, having done so, I had died!

Thesaurus

abstruse: (<i>adj</i>) esoteric, obscure, abstract, difficult, deep, cryptic, mysterious, occult, complex, dark, intricate. ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) simple, direct, clear, lucid, plain, obvious, mainstream, concrete, comprehensible, easy, accessible.	ANTONYMS: (<i>adv</i>) melodiously, harmoniously, pleasantly, agreeably, softly.	hymeneals. ANTONYM: (<i>n</i>) divorce.
discordantly: (<i>adv</i>) inharmoniously, dissonantly, incongruously, jarringly, discrepantly, unharmoniously, differently, inconsistently, clashingly, contradictorily, raucously.	lamenting: (<i>adj</i>) weeping, wailing, sad, whining; (<i>adj, n</i>) plaintive; (<i>adj, v</i>) bewailing, querulous; (<i>n, v</i>) complaining; (<i>n</i>) grief, sorrow; (<i>v</i>) dissatisfied.	shrunk: (<i>adj</i>) wizened, shrivelled, shrunk, withered, contracted, wizened, narrow, dried, thin, lean, sear.
	nuptials: (<i>n</i>) wedding, matrimony, bridal, wedding ceremony, marriage ceremony, spousal, wedding party, ceremonial, ceremony, espousal,	ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) plump, bloated.
		temples: (<i>n</i>) brow.
		unseasonably: (<i>adv</i>) inconveniently, untimely, inopportunistically, intempestively, not opportunistically, prematurely, timelessly, incommodiously. ANTONYM: (<i>adv</i>) seasonably.

* * * * *

The shutting of a door disturbed me, and, looking up, I found that my cousin had departed from the chamber. But from the disordered chamber of my brain, had not, alas! departed, and would not be driven away, the white and ghastly *spectrum* of the teeth. Not a speck on their surface -- not a shade on their enamel -- not an **indenture** in their edges -- but what that period of her smile had sufficed to brand in upon my memory. I saw them *now* even more **unequivocally** than I beheld them *then*. The teeth! -- the teeth! -- they were here, and there, and everywhere, and visibly and palpably before me; long, narrow, and excessively white, with the pale lips writhing about them, as in the very moment of their first terrible development. Then came the full fury of my *monomania*, and I struggled in vain against its strange and irresistible influence. In the multiplied objects of the external world I had no thoughts but for the teeth. For these I longed with a phrenzied desire. All other matters and all different interests became absorbed in their single contemplation. They -- they alone were present to the mental eye, and they, in their sole individuality, became the essence of my mental life. I held them in every light. I turned them in every attitude. I surveyed their characteristics. I dwelt upon their peculiarities. I pondered upon their **conformation**. I mused upon the alteration in their nature. I shuddered as I assigned to them in imagination a sensitive and sentient power, and even when **unassisted** by the lips, a capability of moral expression. Of Mademoiselle Salle it has been well said, "*Que tous ses pas etaient des sentiments*," and of Berenice I more seriously believed *que toutes ses dents etaient des idees*. *Des idees!* -- ah here was the **idiotic** thought that destroyed me! *Des idees!* -- ah *therefore* it was that I **coveted** them so **madly**! I felt that their possession could alone ever restore me to peace, in giving me back to reason.

And the evening closed in upon me thus -- and then the darkness came, and tarried, and went -- and the day again dawned -- and the mists of a second night were now gathering around -- and still I sat motionless in that solitary room --

Thesaurus

conformation: (*n*) shape, compliance, constitution, configuration, accordance, composition, build, accord, cast, line, formation.
 ANTONYMS: (*n*) disobedience, noncompliance.
coveted: (*adj*) sought after, desirable, in demand. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unpopular.
idiotic: (*adj*) absurd, foolish, fatuous, imbecile, crazy, stupid, ridiculous, mindless, silly, unwise, daft.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) wise, genius, clever.
indenture: (*n, v*) indent; (*n*) deed, covenant, agreement, contract, indentation, notch, assurance, charter; (*v*) bind, oblige.
madly: (*adv*) insanely, furiously, sorely, frantically, wildly, devilishly, deadly, dementedly, foolishly, distractedly; (*adj, adv*) rabidly.
 ANTONYMS: (*adv*) sensibly, calmly, sanely, carefully; (*adj*) slightly.

unassisted: (*adj*) alone, unbacked; (*v*) unsupported, unstrengthened; (*adv*) single-handed. ANTONYM: (*adj*) assisted.
unequivocally: (*adv*) decidedly, definitely, absolutely, positively, exactly, clearly, plainly, categorically, expressly, explicitly, distinctly.
 ANTONYMS: (*adv*) unclearly, vaguely, partially, guardedly, implicitly.

and still I sat buried in meditation -- and still the *phantasma* of the teeth maintained its terrible ascendancy, as, with the most vivid hideous distinctness, it floated about amid the changing lights and shadows of the chamber. At length there broke in upon my dreams a cry as of horror and dismay; and **thereunto**, after a pause, succeeded the sound of troubled voices, **intermingled** with many low moanings of sorrow or of pain. I arose from my seat, and throwing open one of the doors of the library, saw standing out in the ante-chamber a servant **maiden**, all in tears, who told me that Berenice was -- no more! She had been seized with **epilepsy** in the early morning, and now, at the closing in of the night, the grave was ready for its tenant, and all the preparations for the burial were completed.

* * * * *

I found myself sitting in the library, and again sitting there alone. It seemed that I had newly **awakened** from a confused and exciting dream. I knew that it was now midnight, and I was well aware, that since the setting of the sun, Berenice had been interred. But of that **dreary** period which intervened I had no positive, at least no definite comprehension. Yet its memory was replete with horror -- horror more horrible from being vague, and terror more terrible from ambiguity. It was a fearful page in the record my existence, written all over with dim, and hideous, and unintelligible **recollections**. I strived to decypher them, but in vain; while ever and anon, like the spirit of a departed sound, the shrill and **piercing** shriek of a female voice seemed to be ringing in my ears. I had done a deed -- what was it? I asked myself the question aloud, and the whispering echoes of the chamber answered me, -- "*what was it?*"

On the table beside me burned a lamp, and near it lay a little box. It was of no remarkable character, and I had seen it frequently before, for it was the property of the family physician; but how came it *there*, upon my table, and why did I **shudder** in regarding it? These things were in no manner to be accounted for,

Thesaurus

awakened: (<i>adj</i>) excited, aroused, awakens, awoke, interested.	akinetic epilepsy.	harsh, shrill; (<i>adj</i>) high, raw, loud.
dreary: (<i>adj</i>) depressing, drab, dull, cheerless, drear, miserable, gloomy, dark, dismal, stuffy, disconsolate.	intermingled: (<i>adj</i>) amalgamated, integrated, coalesced, blended, incorporated, assorted, consolidated, incorporate, amalgamate, fused.	ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) quiet, dull, soft, hot.
ANTONYMS: (<i>adj</i>) interesting, cheerful, sunny, brilliant, lively, light, exciting, clear, cheery, pleasant, exotic.	maiden: (<i>n</i>) maid, girl, demoiselle, damosel, wench, fille, lass, miss; (<i>adj</i>) first, initiatory, unmarried.	recollections: (<i>n</i>) memories, reminiscences, recollection, biography.
epilepsy: (<i>v</i>) bustle, fits, subsultus, staggers, rout, racket, megrims, fuss; (<i>n</i>) convulsion, cortical epilepsy,	phantasma: (<i>n, v</i>) phantom; (<i>n</i>) apparition.	shudder: (<i>adj, n, v</i>) shake, quake, tremble; (<i>n, v</i>) quiver, twitch, thrill; (<i>n</i>) quivering, shivering, chill, frisson; (<i>v</i>) flutter.
	piercing: (<i>adj, n</i>) sharp, cutting; (<i>adj, v</i>) keen, penetrating, biting, bitter,	thereunto: (<i>adv</i>) thereto.

and my eyes at length dropped to the open pages of a book, and to a sentence underscored therein. The words were the singular but simple ones of the poet Ebn Zaiat: -- "*Dicebant mihi sodales si sepulchrum amicae visitarem, curas meas aliquantulum fore levatas.*" Why then, as I perused them, did the hairs of my head erect themselves on end, and the blood of my body become **congealed** within my veins?

There came a light tap at the library door -- and, pale as the tenant of a tomb, a **menial** entered upon **tiptoe**. His looks were wild with terror, and he spoke to me in a voice tremulous, husky, and very low. What said he? -- some broken sentences I heard. He told of a wild cry disturbing the silence of the night -- of the gathering together of the household -- of a search in the direction of the sound; and then his tones grew thrillingly distinct as he whispered me of a violated grave -- of a disfigured body enshrouded, yet still breathing -- still **palpitating** -- *still alive!*

He pointed to garments; -- they were muddy and clotted with **gore**. I spoke not, and he took me gently by the hand: it was **indented** with the impress of human nails. He directed my attention to some object against the wall. I looked at it for some minutes: it was a spade. With a shriek I **bounded** to the table, and grasped the box that lay upon it. But I could not force it open; and in my **tremor**, it slipped from my hands, and fell heavily, and burst into pieces; and from it, with a rattling sound, there rolled out some instruments of dental surgery, intermingled with thirty-two small, white and ivory-looking substances that were scattered to and fro about the floor.

Thesaurus

bounded: (*adj*) restricted, limited, delimited, encircled, enclosed, confined, leap, spring, bordered, circumscribed, constrained.

ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unbounded, unconfined, unlimited, free.

congealed: (*adj*) firm, solidify, frozen, jelled, jellied, stiff, thick, concrete.

fore: (*adv*) ahead, before; (*adj, adv*) forward; (*n*) bow, head, forefront, stem; (*adj, n*) front; (*adj*) anterior, foremost, frontal. ANTONYMS: (*adv*)

aft, behind, rear; (*adj*) back.

gore: (*v*) butt, stab, spike, spear, push, stick, impale, pierce; (*n*) bloodshed, gusset, carnage.

indented: (*adj*) concave, hollow, serrated, jagged, crenelated, crenelate, crenellated, crenellate, embattled, notched; (*n*) fancier.

menial: (*adj, n*) inferior; (*adj*) lowly, abject, ignoble, humble, low, mean; (*n*) henchman, domestic, lackey, servant. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) elevated,

noble.

palpitating: (*adj*) fluttering, throbbing, aflare, fluttering, flying, unsteady, vibrant, flaring.

tiptoe: (*v*) tip, tippytoe, creep, patter, skirt, skip, tilt, sidle, lean; (*adj*) alert; (*n*) quieter. ANTONYM: (*v*) clump.

tremor: (*n, v*) shiver, quake, shudder, shake; (*n*) agitation, vibration, earthquake, convulsion; (*adj, v*) flutter; (*adj, n*) trepidation; (*v*) tremble.

ELEONORA

Sub conservazione formae specificae salva anima.

--Raymond Lully

I am come of a race noted for vigor of fancy and ardor of passion. Men have called me mad; but the question is not yet settled, whether madness is or is not the loftiest intelligence -- whether much that is glorious- whether all that is profound -- does not spring from disease of thought -- from moods of mind exalted at the expense of the general **intellect**. They who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who dream only by night. In their gray visions they obtain glimpses of **eternity**, and **thrill**, in awakening, to find that they have been upon the verge of the great secret. In snatches, they learn something of the wisdom which is of good, and more of the mere knowledge which is of evil. They penetrate, however, **rudderless** or compassless into the vast ocean of the "light ineffable," and again, like the **adventures** of the Nubian **geographer**, "agressi sunt mare tenebrarum, quid in eo esset exploraturi."

We will say, then, that I am mad. I grant, at least, that there are two distinct conditions of my mental existence -- the condition of a **lucid** reason, not to be disputed, and belonging to the memory of events forming the first epoch of my life -- and a condition of shadow and doubt, **appertaining** to the present, and to

Thesaurus

adventures: (*n*) experiences, fortunes, confessions, journal, life, biography, autobiography, personal narrative.

appertaining: (*adj*) appertinent.

eternity: (*n*) aeon, afterlife, forever, perpetuity, timelessness, endlessness, everlasting, endless time, everlastingness, everness, existence.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) finiteness,

impermanence.

geographer: (*n*) cartographer.

intellect: (*n*) mind, intelligence,

understanding, reason, brains, head, intellectual, apprehension, psyche, genius, brainpower. ANTONYM: (*n*) stupidity.

lucid: (*adj*) clear, transparent, limpid, coherent, distinct, evident, explicit, crystalline, light, diaphanous, bright. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) opaque, unintelligible, muddled, unclear, irrational, confusing, illogical, ambiguous, confused, vague, incoherent.

rudderless: (*adj*) adrift, afloat, aimless, directionless, flooded, aimlessly drifting, drifting, floating, inundated, overflowing, purposeless.

thrill: (*n, v*) delight, shudder, quiver, shiver; (*v*) excite, exhilarate, exalt, stir; (*n*) shake, excitement, chill. ANTONYMS: (*v*) dishearten, discourage, disappoint, displease; (*n*) depression, calm, boredom, agony, sorrow; (*n, v*) bore.

the recollection of what constitutes the second great era of my being. Therefore, what I shall tell of the earlier period, believe; and to what I may relate of the later time, give only such credit as may seem due, or doubt it altogether, or, if doubt it ye cannot, then play unto its **riddle** the Oedipus.

She whom I loved in youth, and of whom I now pen calmly and distinctly these remembrances, was the sole daughter of the only sister of my mother long departed. Eleonora was the name of my cousin. We had always dwelled together, beneath a tropical sun, in the Valley of the Many-Colored Grass. No **unguided** footstep ever came upon that vale; for it lay away up among a range of giant hills that hung beetling around about it, shutting out the sunlight from its sweetest recesses. No path was trodden in its vicinity; and, to reach our happy home, there was need of putting back, with force, the foliage of many **thousands** of forest trees, and of crushing to death the glories of many millions of fragrant flowers. Thus it was that we lived all alone, knowing nothing of the world without the valley -- I, and my cousin, and her mother.

From the dim regions beyond the mountains at the upper end of our **encircled** domain, there crept out a narrow and deep river, brighter than all save the eyes of Eleonora; and, winding stealthily about in **mazy** courses, it passed away, at length, through a shadowy gorge, among hills still **dimmer** than those **whence** it had issued. We called it the "River of Silence"; for there seemed to be a hushing influence in its flow. No murmur arose from its bed, and so gently it wandered along, that the **pearly** pebbles upon which we loved to gaze, far down within its bosom, stirred not at all, but lay in a motionless content, each in its own old station, shining on **gloriously** forever.

The margin of the river, and of the many dazzling rivulets that glided through devious ways into its channel, as well as the **spaces** that extended from the margins away down into the depths of the streams until they reached the bed of pebbles at the bottom, -- these spots, not less than the whole surface of the valley, from the river to the mountains that girdled it in, were carpeted all by a soft green grass, thick, short, perfectly even, and vanilla-perfumed, but so besprinkled throughout with the yellow **buttercup**, the white daisy, the purple

Thesaurus

buttercup: (*n*) kingcup, crowfoot, herb, goldcup; (*adj*) anemone, asphodel, rhododendron, daffodil, windflower, geranium, lily.
dimmer: (*n*) rheostat.
encircled: (*adj*) enclosed, bounded, circinate, circular, decorated, delimited, ringed, wreathed, bordered, annulated, annular.
gloriously: (*adv*) brilliantly, grandly, magnificently, illustriously, marvelously, superbly, wonderfully,

gorgeously, radiantly, greatly, renownedly.
mazy: (*adj*) labyrinthian, knotty, complex, involved, tortuous, sinuous, intricate, anfractuous; (*v*) rivulose, reclivate, scolecoïd.
pearly: (*adj*) fair, iridescent, leaden, livid, drab, milky, dingy, dun, creamy, roan; (*n*) chopper.
riddle: (*n*) mystery, conundrum, puzzle, problem, poser; (*n, v*) screen, sieve; (*v*) puncture, strain, filter, sift.

ANTONYM: (*n*) explanation.
spaces: (*n*) seats, seating.
thousands: (*n*) myriad, much, many.
unguided: (*adj*) aimless, misguided, aimlessly drifting, directionless, planless, rudderless, unled, unprompted. ANTONYM: (*adj*) guided.
whence: (*adv*) wherefrom, hence, because, for, why, wherefore, how, then, then thence so, how comes it, how happens it.

violet, and the ruby-red **asphodel**, that its exceeding beauty spoke to our hearts in loud tones, of the love and of the glory of God.

And, here and there, in groves about this grass, like wildernesses of dreams, sprang up fantastic trees, whose tall slender stems stood not upright, but **slanted gracefully** toward the light that peered at noon-day into the centre of the valley. Their mark was **speckled** with the vivid alternate splendor of ebony and silver, and was **smoother** than all save the cheeks of Eleonora; so that, but for the brilliant green of the huge leaves that spread from their summits in long, tremulous lines, dallying with the Zephyrs, one might have fancied them giant serpents of Syria doing homage to their sovereign the Sun.

Hand in hand about this valley, for fifteen years, roamed I with Eleonora before Love entered within our hearts. It was one evening at the close of the third lustrum of her life, and of the fourth of my own, that we sat, locked in each other's embrace, beneath the serpent-like trees, and looked down within the water of the River of Silence at our images therein. We spoke no words during the rest of that sweet day, and our words even upon the morrow were tremulous and few. We had drawn the God Eros from that wave, and now we felt that he had enkindled within us the fiery souls of our forefathers. The passions which had for centuries distinguished our race, came thronging with the fancies for which they had been equally noted, and together **breathed** a delirious bliss over the Valley of the Many-Colored Grass. A change fell upon all things. Strange, brilliant flowers, star-shaped, burn out upon the trees where no flowers had been known before. The tints of the green carpet **deepened**; and when, one by one, the white daisies shrank away, there sprang up in place of them, ten by ten of the ruby-red asphodel. And life arose in our paths; for the tall **flamingo**, hitherto unseen, with all gay glowing birds, flaunted his scarlet plumage before us. The golden and silver fish haunted the river, out of the bosom of which issued, little by little, a murmur that swelled, at length, into a **lulling** melody more divine than that of the harp of Aeolus-sweeter than all save the voice of Eleonora. And now, too, a **voluminous** cloud, which we had long watched in the regions of Hesper, floated out thence, all gorgeous in crimson and gold, and settling in

Thesaurus

asphodel: (*adj*) buttercup, geranium, ranunculus, rhododendron, windflower, rose, lily; (*n*) daffodil, affodill.
breathed: (*adj*) unvoiced, inaudible, breathing, aphonic.
deepened: (*adj*) concentrated, gathered.
flamingo: (*n*) phenicopter.
gracefully: (*adv*) prettily, graciously, neatly, delicately, smoothly, charmingly, refinedly, lithely, easily,

daintily, nicely. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) awkwardly, ungraciously, clumsily, gracelessly, vigorously, unpleasantly, unkindly, heavily.
lulling: (*adj*) drowsy, assuasive, dreamy, dull, lethargic, quietening, unalarming, dozy; (*n*) appeasement.
slanted: (*adj*) slanting, diagonal, lopsided, tilted, sloped, sloping, oblique, skewed, aslant, askew, aslope. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) straight, balanced, impartial, level, upright.

smoother: (*n*) drum sander, electric sander, sander, power tool.
speckled: (*adj*) dotted, mottled, piebald, specked, spotty, freckled, spotted, multicolored, flecked, brindled, blotchy. ANTONYM: (*adj*) limited.
voluminous: (*adj*) large, bulky, big, extensive, roomy, vast, spacious, capacious, considerable, full, massy. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) cramped, small, little, tiny.

peace above us, sank, day by day, lower and lower, until its edges rested upon the tops of the mountains, turning all their dimness into magnificence, and shutting us up, as if forever, within a magic prison-house of grandeur and of glory.

The loveliness of Eleonora was that of the Seraphim; but she was a maiden **artless** and innocent as the brief life she had led among the flowers. No **guile** disguised the **fervor** of love which animated her heart, and she examined with me its inmost recesses as we walked together in the Valley of the Many-Colored Grass, and discoursed of the mighty changes which had lately taken place therein.

At length, having spoken one day, in tears, of the last sad change which must **befall** Humanity, she thenceforward dwelt only upon this one sorrowful theme, interweaving it into all our converse, as, in the songs of the bard of Schiraz, the same images are found occurring, again and again, in every impressive variation of phrase.

She had seen that the finger of Death was upon her bosom -- that, like the **ephemeron**, she had been made perfect in loveliness only to die; but the terrors of the grave to her lay solely in a consideration which she revealed to me, one evening at twilight, by the banks of the River of Silence. She grieved to think that, having entombed her in the Valley of the Many-Colored Grass, I would quit forever its happy recesses, **transferring** the love which now was so passionately her own to some maiden of the outer and everyday world. And, then and there, I threw myself hurriedly at the feet of Eleonora, and offered up a vow, to herself and to Heaven, that I would never bind myself in marriage to any daughter of Earth -- that I would in no manner prove **recreant** to her dear memory, or to the memory of the devout affection with which she had blessed me. And I called the Mighty Ruler of the Universe to witness the pious solemnity of my vow. And the curse which I invoked of Him and of her, a saint in Helusion should I prove **traitorous** to that promise, involved a penalty the exceeding great horror of which will not permit me to make record of it here. And the bright eyes of Eleonora grew brighter at my words; and she sighed as if a deadly burthen had

Thesaurus

artless: (*adj*) ingenuous, simple, innocent, naive, open, candid, unsophisticated, unpretentious, unaffected, sincere, rugged.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) artful, sophisticated, complicated, unnatural, pretentious, insincere, disingenuous, affected, forced, experienced, cunning.
befall: (*v*) bechance, become, happen, fall, arise, come about, occur, betide, chance, transpire, pass.

ephemeron: (*n*) mayfly.
fervor: (*adj, n*) devotion, passion; (*n*) enthusiasm, zeal, eagerness, fervency, energy, warmth, earnestness, fervidness, ardour.
ANTONYMS: (*n*) indifference, apathy, impassiveness, aloofness, coolness, dejection, doubt.
guile: (*n*) fraud, cunning, craft, duplicity, deception, trickery, deceitfulness, wiliness, craftiness, artifice, slyness. **ANTONYMS:** (*n*)

honesty, straightforwardness, candor, frankness.
recreant: (*adj, n*) coward, renegade, poltroon; (*adj, adv*) cowardly; (*n*) apostate, deserter; (*adj*) disloyal, faithless, scary, fearful, dastard.
traitorous: (*adj*) faithless, treacherous, false, treasonable, perfidious, unfaithful, treasonous, untrue, renegade, traitor, insidious.
transferring: (*n*) transference, etching, delegation; (*adj*) translatory.

been taken from her breast; and she trembled and very bitterly wept; but she made acceptance of the vow, (for what was she but a child?) and it made easy to her the bed of her death. And she said to me, not many days afterward, tranquilly dying, that, because of what I had done for the comfort of her spirit she would watch over me in that spirit when departed, and, if so it were permitted her return to me **visibly** in the watches of the night; but, if this thing were, indeed, beyond the power of the souls in Paradise, that she would, at least, give me frequent indications of her presence, sighing upon me in the evening winds, or filling the air which I breathed with perfume from the censers of the angels. And, with these words upon her lips, she yielded up her innocent life, putting an end to the first epoch of my own.

Thus far I have faithfully said. But as I pass the barrier in Times path, formed by the death of my beloved, and proceed with the second era of my existence, I feel that a shadow gathers over my brain, and I **mistrust** the perfect **sanity** of the record. But let me on. -- Years dragged themselves along heavily, and still I dwelled within the Valley of the Many-Colored Grass; but a second change had come upon all things. The star-shaped flowers shrank into the stems of the trees, and appeared no more. The tints of the green carpet faded; and, one by one, the ruby-red asphodels withered away; and there sprang up, in place of them, ten by ten, dark, eye-like violets, that writhed uneasily and were ever **encumbered** with dew. And Life departed from our paths; for the tall flamingo flaunted no longer his scarlet **plumage** before us, but flew sadly from the vale into the hills, with all the gay glowing birds that had arrived in his company. And the golden and silver fish swam down through the **gorge** at the lower end of our domain and **bedecked** the sweet river never again. And the lulling melody that had been softer than the wind-harp of Aeolus, and more divine than all save the voice of Eleonora, it died little by little away, in murmurs growing lower and lower, until the stream returned, at length, utterly, into the solemnity of its original silence. And then, lastly, the voluminous cloud uprose, and, abandoning the tops of the mountains to the **dimness** of old, fell back into the regions of Hesper, and took away all its manifold golden and gorgeous glories from the Valley of the Many-Colored Grass.

Thesaurus

bedecked: (*adj*) decked out, decorated, ornate, ornamented.

dimness: (*n*) darkness, gloom, shadow, haze, faintness, obscurity, dusk, dark, cloudiness, duskiness, gloominess. ANTONYMS: (*n*) light, brightness, intelligence, clearness, strength, clarity.

encumbered: (*adj*) burdened, burdensome, weighed down, heavy, deep, clayey, cloggy. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unencumbered.

gorge: (*v*) glut, devour, cram, fill, gobble, satiate, stuff; (*n*) abyss, cleft, esophagus, chasm. ANTONYMS: (*v*) nibble, fast; (*n*) hill.

mistrust: (*adj, n, v*) distrust; (*n, v*) doubt, query; (*n*) suspicion, misgiving, disbelief, apprehension, wariness; (*v*) suspect, disbelieve, discredit. ANTONYM: (*v*) believe.

plumage: (*n*) feather, plume, feathering, quill, aftershaft, alula, marabou, finery, animal material;

(*adj*) plumosity, alular.

sanity: (*n*) reason, saneness, mind, health, reasonableness, rationality, soundness, mental health, lucidity, common sense, prudence.

ANTONYMS: (*n*) insanity, madness.

visibly: (*adv*) apparently, noticeably, manifestly, obviously, plainly, perceptibly, appreciably, clearly, discernibly, overtly, conspicuously. ANTONYMS: (*adv*) imperceptibly, invisibly, secretly, ambiguously.

Yet the promises of Eleonora were not forgotten; for I heard the sounds of the swinging of the censers of the angels; and streams of a holy perfume floated ever and ever about the valley; and at lone hours, when my heart beat heavily, the winds that bathed my brow came unto me laden with soft sighs; and indistinct murmurs filled often the night air, and once -- oh, but once only! I was awakened from a slumber, like the slumber of death, by the pressing of spiritual lips upon my own.

But the void within my heart refused, even thus, to be filled. I longed for the love which had before filled it to overflowing. At length the valley **pained** me through its memories of Eleonora, and I left it for ever for the vanities and the turbulent triumphs of the world.

* * * * *

I found myself within a strange city, where all things might have served to **blot** from recollection the sweet dreams I had dreamed so long in the Valley of the Many-Colored Grass. The pomps and pageantries of a stately court, and the mad clangor of arms, and the **radiant** loveliness of women, bewildered and intoxicated my brain. But as yet my soul had proved true to its vows, and the indications of the presence of Eleonora were still given me in the silent hours of the night. Suddenly these manifestations they ceased, and the world grew dark before mine eyes, and I stood aghast at the burning thoughts which possessed, at the terrible temptations which **beset** me; for there came from some far, far distant and unknown land, into the gay court of the king I served, a maiden to whose beauty my whole recreant heart yielded at once -- at whose **footstool** I bowed down without a struggle, in the most **ardent**, in the most **abject** worship of love. What, indeed, was my passion for the young girl of the valley in comparison with the fervor, and the delirium, and the spirit-lifting ecstasy of adoration with which I poured out my whole soul in tears at the feet of the ethereal Ermengarde? -- Oh, bright was the seraph Ermengarde! and in that knowledge I

Thesaurus

abject: (*adj*) contemptible, pitiful, low, wretched, despicable, sordid, base, mean, vile; (*n*) ignominious, dirty.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) honorable, hopeful, magnificent, esteemed, proud, dignified, commendable, noble, exalted, worthy, happy.
ardent: (*adj, n*) enthusiastic, glowing; (*adj, v*) burning, fervent, impassioned; (*adj*) keen, vehement, eager, warm, acute, fervid.
ANTONYMS: (*adj*) apathetic, cool,

unenthusiastic, traitorous, mild, frigid, dispassionate, cold, disloyal, impassive, calm.
beset: (*v*) beleaguer, afflict, assault, siege, molest, worry, attack, plague, obsess, assail; (*adv, v*) surround.
blot: (*n, v*) spot, blemish, smudge, mark, slur, taint, shame; (*v*) tarnish, blob; (*n*) blotch; (*adj, n*) fault.
ANTONYMS: (*v*) dampen, grace, soak, wet, beautify, improve, enhance.

footstool: (*n*) footrest, hassock, footboard, Ottoman.
pained: (*adj*) offended, aggrieved, distressed, displeased, sore, grieved, miserable, injured, wounded, worried, upset. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unaffected.
radiant: (*adj, v*) bright, glittering, lustrous, beamy, glorious; (*adj*) beaming, luminous, effulgent, lucid, glowing, beautiful. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) gloomy, dark, pale, unhappy.

had room for none other. -- Oh, divine was the angel Ermengarde! and as I looked down into the **depths** of her memorial eyes, I thought only of them -- and of her.

I **wedded**; -- nor **dreaded** the **curse** I had invoked; and its **bitterness** was not visited upon me. And once -- but once again in the silence of the night; there came through my **lattice** the soft sighs which had **forsaken** me; and they **modelled** themselves into familiar and sweet voice, saying:

"Sleep in peace! -- for the Spirit of Love reigneth and ruleth, and, in taking to thy passionate heart her who is Ermengarde, thou art absolved, for reasons which shall be made known to thee in Heaven, of thy vows unto Eleonora."

Thesaurus

bitterness: (*n*) acerbity, animosity, gall, malice, resentment, enmity, acridity, acidity, bitter, rancor, sharpness. ANTONYMS: (*n*) joy, happiness, harmony, kindness, blandness, friendliness, goodwill, idealism, affection.
curse: (*n, v*) blight, plague; (*n*) anathema, blasphemy, malediction, denunciation; (*adj, v*) beshrew; (*v*) swear, ban, damn, vituperate. ANTONYMS: (*n*) blessing,

benediction, making; (*v*) communicate.
depths: (*n*) bottom, abyss, depth, lowest point, low point, depression, bowels, rock bottom, slump, midst, nadir. ANTONYM: (*n*) peak.
dreaded: (*adj*) awful, terrible, cowardly, causing horror, dire, direful, desperate, dreadful, fearful, fearsome; (*v*) drad.
forsaken: (*adj*) deserted, abandoned, lonely, forlorn, derelict, desert,

empty, solitary, friendless; (*adj, v*) jilted; (*v*) crossed in love. ANTONYM: (*adj*) unforsaken.
lattice: (*n*) grill, grille, grid, net, fretwork, network, gridiron, wicket, web, netting; (*v*) trellis.
modelled: (*adj*) patterned.
wedded: (*adj, v*) marital, connubial, matrimonial, conjugal, wed; (*adj*) nuptial, bridal. ANTONYMS: (*adj*) unmarried, unattached.

GLOSSARY

aback: (adv) aft, astern, backward, abaft, backwards, short, sternmost, unawares, suddenly; (adj) back

abased: (adj) groveling, slavish, sniveling, humbled, lowered, soapy, cringing, dependent, oily, pliant, corrupt

abasement: (n) humiliation, abjection, depression, degeneration, fall, deterioration, disgrace, degeneracy, abjectness, dejection, sinking

abated: (adj) slack

abdomen: (n) belly, venter, gut, breadbasket, guts, tummy, tum, paunch, underbelly, abdominal cavity

abeyance: (n) inaction, waiting, interruption, suspense, cessation, pause, reprieve, intermission, stoppage, inactiveness; (v)

interregnum. ANTONYMS: (n) action, activity, continuance, continuation, prolongation, revival

abhorrence: (n) odium, antipathy, detestation, hatred, aversion, disgust, execration, hate, loathing, revulsion, horror. ANTONYMS: (n) attraction, adoration, delight, liking, attractiveness

abject: (adj) contemptible, pitiful, low, wretched, despicable, sordid, base, mean, vile; (n) ignominious, dirty. ANTONYMS: (adj) honorable, hopeful, magnificent, esteemed, proud, dignified, commendable, noble, exalted, worthy

abortive: (adj) fruitless, useless, futile, unsuccessful, vain, ineffective, disastrous, idle, rudimental, embryonic, premature.

ANTONYMS: (adj) successful, complete, productive, fruitful, efficient, effectual, consummated, effective

abrupt: (adj) sudden, brusque, sharp, precipitous, steep, instantaneous, unexpected, swift, instant, hasty; (n)

bold. ANTONYMS: (adj) gentle, gradual, rambling, gracious, courteous, polite, anticipated, kind, calm, protracted, deliberate

absolved: (adj) exculpated, exempt, exonerated, cleared, vindicated, guiltless; (v) quit

abstraction: (n) abstract, reverie, engrossment, extraction, withdrawal, removal, deduction, abbreviation, preoccupation, theorisation, theorization.

ANTONYMS: (n) attentiveness, inclusion, alertness, concentration, fact

abstractly: (adv) theoretically, briefly, ideally, abstrusely, withdrawly, abstractedly, academically, imaginarily, complexly, deeply, difficultly. ANTONYM: (adv) practically

abstruse: (adj) esoteric, obscure, abstract, difficult, deep, cryptic, mysterious, occult, complex, dark, intricate. ANTONYMS: (adj) simple, direct, clear, lucid, plain, obvious, mainstream, concrete, comprehensible, easy, accessible

absurdity: (n) absurdness, nonsense, silliness, nonsensicality, meaninglessness, illogicality, stupidity, folly, fatuity, idiocy, preposterousness. ANTONYMS: (n) logic, reasonableness, worthiness, solemnity, sensibleness

abyss: (n) gorge, ravine, chasm, gulf, deep, purgatory, depth, hell, gap, Gehenna, pit. ANTONYMS: (n) junction, juncture

acanthus: (n) cartouche, zigzag, astragal

accede: (v) assent, consent, defer, fall in with, agree, acknowledge, accept, submit, fit, accord, comply with.

ANTONYMS: (v) dissent, veto, refuse, oppose, disallow, deny, denounce, demur, condemn, protest,

disagree

accelerate: (v) advance, hurry, speed, rush, speed up, dispatch, forward, expedite, further; (adj, v) vivify; (n, v) put on. ANTONYMS: (v) decelerate, impede, delay, retard, postpone, defer, brake, hinder, improve

accentuation: (n) stress, emphasis, inflection, emphasizing, prosody, accenting, stressing, intonation, beat, accent mark

acceptation: (n) meaning, sense, adoption, purport, significance, intent, import, approval, assumption, espousal, reception

accessory: (n) accomplice, abettor, abetter, confederate, attachment; (adj, v) ancillary, subservient; (adj, n) auxiliary, adjunct; (adj) appurtenant, subsidiary.

ANTONYMS: (n) instigator, leader, principal

accommodated: (adj) meet

accommodating: (adj) obliging, yielding, cooperative, docile, submissive, willing, kind, gracious, friendly, accommodative, easy. ANTONYMS: (adj) strict, alienating, disobliging, inflexible, intolerant, ungracious, unkind, unsympathetic, uncooperative, unaccommodating, resistant

accomplish: (v) perform, reach, do, compass, perfect, attain, make, fulfill, realize, execute, carry out. ANTONYMS: (v) abandon, neglect, choke, blow, lose

accomplishment: (n) attainment, completion, exploit, performance, deed, skill, fulfillment, feat, action, act, acquisition. ANTONYMS: (n) abandonment, washout, flop, debacle, defeat

accordance: (n) harmony, agreement, conformity, unison, concordance, coincidence, accordancy, admission,

- fitness, consensus, concert
- according:** (adj) pursuant, consonant, equal, agreeable, harmonious, conformable, consistent, corresponding, respondent; (adv) correspondingly, accordingly
- accredited:** (adj) approved, licensed, authorized, certified, credited, entitled, empowered, authorised, legitimate; (v) received; (adj, v) recognized
- accurring:** (adj) incoming
- accumulate:** (v) pile, gather, collect, amass, heap, hoard, compile, assemble, lay up, accrue, cumulate. ANTONYMS: (v) distribute, dwindle, spend, lose, waste, dissipate, lessen, scatter, shuck, shed, decrease
- accumulative:** (adj) acquisitive, additive, additional
- accursed:** (adj) execrable, abominable, detestable, accurst, hateful, damned, damnable, maledict, blasted; (v) atrocious, stranded
- accustomed:** (adj, n) habitual; (adj) familiar, normal, wonted, usual, natural, everyday, ordinary, habituated, common, traditional. ANTONYMS: (adj) unusual, green, unseasoned, unconventional, untrained, abnormal, uncharacteristic, exceptional
- acknowledgment:** (n) admission, acknowledgement, acceptance, confession, greeting, credit, allowance, declaration, agreement, thanks, gratitude. ANTONYMS: (n) rejection, ungratefulness, oversight, snub, ignoring, invoice, blame, defiance
- acquainted:** (adj) knowledgeable, informed, aware, cognizant, conversant, hand and glove, intimate, thick; (adv) abreast; (v) inform, acquaint
- acquiescence:** (n) compliance, consent, resignation, permission, sanction, approval, accord, agreement, submission, conformity; (n, v) assent. ANTONYMS: (n) disagreement, insubordination, rebellion, defiance, rejection
- acrid:** (adj, v) pungent; (adj) bitter, acerbic, caustic, sour, sharp, acerb, corrosive, hot, harsh, tart. ANTONYMS: (adj) mild, savory, palatable, nice, flattering, delicious, kind, complimentary, amicable
- actuated:** (adj) motivated, actuate
- acumen:** (n) perception, insight, understanding, intellect, wisdom, acuteness, astuteness, discrimination, cleverness, discernment, judgment. ANTONYMS: (n) stupidity, naivete, ineptness, inability, ignorance, denseness, dullness, foolishness
- acuteness:** (n) acuity, sharpness, acumen, discrimination, gravity, insight, sensitivity, perspicacity, penetration, keenness, intensity. ANTONYMS: (n) faintness, insignificance, dullness
- adamant:** (adj) rigid, obdurate, stubborn, immovable, firm, inflexible, unyielding, steadfast, inexorable, tough, obstinate. ANTONYMS: (adj) compliant, flexible, pliant, supple, soft, swayable, yielding, acquiescing, receptive, acquiescent, irresolute
- addicted:** (adj) habituated, dedicated, habitual, hooked, devoted, accustomed, captivated, devote, obsessive, obsessed; (v) dedicate. ANTONYMS: (adj) unaccustomed, averse, disinclined, independent, opposed, unenthusiastic, occasional
- addison:** (v) absorb
- addling:** (n) confusion
- adept:** (adj, n) expert; (adj) skillful, able, accomplished, experienced, capable, smart, clever, adroit; (n) virtuoso, whiz. ANTONYMS: (adj) incompetent, inept, awkward, bumbling, fumbling, unskilled
- adhesion:** (n) bond, devotion, stickiness, agglutination, adhesiveness, attachment, fidelity, coherence, traction, coherency, Adhesion weight
- adieu:** (int, n) farewell; (n) vale, valediction, goodbye, leave, cheerio, adios, bye, so long, parting; (int) bon voyage. ANTONYM: (n) greeting
- adjoining:** (adj) contiguous, neighbor, near, abutting, touching, conterminous, neighboring, immediate, next, vicinal; (adj, v) close. ANTONYMS: (adj) separate, divided, detached, apart, far
- admeasurement:** (n) admensuration, extent, valuation, assessment, assize, survey, appraisement, size, magnitude, measure, mensuration
- administer:** (n, v) manage, rule, minister, command; (v) dispense, distribute, give, operate, deal, supply, handle. ANTONYMS: (v) withhold, neglect, frustrate, refuse, deny, mismanage, take
- admirable:** (adj) fine, outstanding, beautiful, great, commendable, lovely, good, creditable, praiseworthy, worthy, grand. ANTONYMS: (adj) appalling, poor, unworthy, despicable, contemptible, detestable, dishonorable, rotten, unimpressive, loathsome, low
- admirably:** (adv) superbly, perfectly, excellently, admirable, marvellously, heroically, bravely, brilliantly, nicely, creditably, ably. ANTONYMS: (adv) badly, inadequately, dishonorably, execrably, incompetently, poorly
- admitting:** (adj) susceptible; (adv) conditionally; (n) acknowledgment, receipt, credence; (conj) although
- admixture:** (n) mixture, composite, alloy, addition, fusion, additive, mixing, amalgam, mix, commixture, melange
- admonisher:** (n) guardian, protector, monisher, monitor, warner, reminder, admonitor, admonitioner
- admonition:** (n) advice, caution, admonishment, reproof, exhortation, lesson, counsel, monition, caveat, censure, rebuke. ANTONYM: (n) approval
- adoration:** (n) admiration, adulation, cult, appreciation, reverence, glorification, idolization, homage, praise; (adj, n) devotion, passion. ANTONYMS: (n) hatred, detestation, despising, disparagement, revulsion, repulsion, disgust, disdain
- adorned:** (adj) decorated, ornate, bedecked, decked out, fancy, garnished, ornamented, decked, beautiful, inscribed, festooned
- advantageous:** (adj) expedient, useful, auspicious, helpful, gainful, serviceable, convenient, lucky, worthwhile, beneficial; (adj, v) profitable. ANTONYMS: (adj) useless, disadvantageous, detrimental, unhelpful, unfortunate, inauspicious, worthless, unpleasant
- adventitious:** (adj) accidental, secondary, random, haphazard, casual, aleatory, incident, promiscuous, incidental, fortuitous, foreign
- adventures:** (n) experiences, fortunes, confessions, journal, life, biography, autobiography, personal narrative
- advert:** (n) advertisement, announcement, ad, advertising, poster, advertizing; (v) notice, allude, mention, pay attention, attend
- advisable:** (adj) eligible, desirable,

- advantageous, suitable, sound, prudent, acceptable, sensible, fitting, convenient, appropriate.
ANTONYMS: (adj) inappropriate, unwise, imprudent, improper, worthless
- afar:** (adv) off, away, far away, distantly, beyond. **Afar** off, in the distance, by far, apart; (adj) outlying, far. **ANTONYMS:** (adv) close, nearby, near; (prep) within
- affectation:** (n) pretension, feint, pose, display, airs, affectedness, ostentation, show, pretense, mannerism, sham. **ANTONYMS:** (n) artlessness, honesty, modesty
- affectionateness:** (n) tenderness, feeling, emotionality, emotionalism, fondness, heart, lovingness, protectiveness, regard, respect, warmth
- affections:** (n) bosom
- afflict:** (n, v) pain, distress; (v) trouble, grieve, torment, hurt, strike, aggrieve, smite, bother, disturb. **ANTONYMS:** (v) aid, comfort, encourage, help, soothe
- afflicted:** (adj) miserable, distressed, stricken, pitiful, sorrowful, ill, woeful, dejected, sorry; (v) afflict, displeased
- affright:** (v) frighten, scare, horrify, startle, terrorize, terrify, intimidate; (n) dread, alarm, fear; (n, v) fright
- affronted:** (adj) insulted, hurt, slighted, embarrassed, angry, ashamed, horrified, humiliated, piqued, annoyed. **ANTONYM:** (adj) unconcerned
- afloat:** (adj) buoyant, floating, current, in circulation, directionless, undirected, rudderless; (adv) adrift, aboard; (v) afoot; (n) on foot
- afterward:** (adv, conj) then, after that; (adv) thereafter, afterwards, later, subsequently, later on, next, soon; (adj) following; (n) future. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) now, previously, before
- aggregated:** (adj) cumulative, aggregative
- aghast:** (adj) dismayed, appalled, horrified, frightened, scared, terrified, confounded, astonished; (n) agape; (v) all agog, breathless. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) undisturbed, unperturbed, unsurprised
- agile:** (adj) active, nimble, spry, quick, adroit, deft, lively, dapper, supple, lithe, astute. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) stiff, ponderous, brittle, logical, oafish, slow, sluggish, unfit
- awkward, heavy, inflexible
- agitated:** (adj) upset, excited, nervous, restive, tumultuous, distressed, tense, jumpy, overwrought, anxious, alarmed. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) calm, lethargic, tranquil, relaxed, assured, cool, still
- agitation:** (n) disturbance, excitement, tumult, stirring, convulsion, stir, commotion, emotion, unrest, shake, turmoil. **ANTONYMS:** (n) serenity, calm, equanimity, rest, peace, deterrent
- agonizing:** (adj, v) excruciating; (adj) painful, harrowing, poignant, grievous, agonising, torturous, heartbreaking, sore, anguished, aching. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) restful, painless, enjoyable, easy, bearable, wonderful, unemotional
- agreeable:** (adj) accordant, nice, sweet, consistent, suitable, amusing, enjoyable, affable; (adj, v) pleasant, desirable; (adj, n) acceptable. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) disagreeable, discordant, unpleasant, nasty, unwilling, resistant, aggressive, repugnant, averse, stubborn, unacceptable
- ague:** (n) acute, symptom, sickness, malady, illness, malaria, paludism, swamp fever, chills and fever; (adj) appendicitis, angina pectoris
- aided:** (adj) power, favored
- ailment:** (n) complaint, affection, disease, trouble, condition, ill, disorder, sickness, affliction; (adj, n) infirmity; (v) distemper
- airs:** (n, v) pretension; (n) affectation, pride, pose, pretensions, attitude; (adj, n) arrogance; (v) precisianism, euphuism, purism, pedantry. **ANTONYMS:** (n) humility, personality, realness, truthfulness, honesty
- akin:** (adj) near, like, allied, equivalent, alike, similar, analogous, parallel, cognate, kindred, corresponding. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) unconnected, alien, disconnected, dissimilar, different
- alabaster:** (n) whiteness, calcite, gypsum, onyx marble, Oriental alabaster; (adj) ivory, milk, lily, milky, paper, white
- alarmed:** (adj) afraid, scared, frightened, apprehensive, horrified, anxious, uneasy, agitated, shocked, terrified, concerned. **ANTONYM:** (adj) carefree
- alarmedly:** (adv) anxiously, scaredly, apprehensively, frightenedly,
- fearfully, horrifiedly, agitatedly, uneasily, worriedly
- alarming:** (adj) scary, alarm, awful, formidable, shocking, appalling, awesome, dire, horrid, horrible, dreadful. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) soothing, lovely, normal
- algebra:** (v) Nilpotent algebra, geometry, fluxions, analytical geometry, quadratics, arithmetic, analysis
- allah:** (n) Kali, Devi, Brahma, Brahman, Bathala, Ushas, oread, Durga, Jahweh, lord, Jehovah
- allayed:** (adj) quenched, slaked
- allaying:** (adj) sedative; (n) allayment
- alleviate:** (n, v) ease; (v) relieve, comfort, mitigate, relax; (adj, v) assuage, soothe, calm, still, smooth, appease. **ANTONYMS:** (v) aggravate, intensify, magnify, worsen, heighten, increase, augment, burden
- alleviation:** (n) remission, abatement, relaxation, easement, solace, assuagement, mitigation, palliation, reprieve, comfort, easing
- alloy:** (n) amalgam, admixture, blend, mixture, fusion, compound; (adj, v) sophisticate; (v) devalue, mix, debase, deteriorate. **ANTONYMS:** (v) clean, clear, separate
- allude:** (v) advert, refer, hint, glance, intimate, suggest, touch, bring up, mean, notice, pertain
- allusion:** (n) innuendo, reference, cue, suggestion, mention, intimation, pointer, insinuation, implication, indication, clue
- almighty:** (adj) omnipotent, powerful, potent, great, supreme; (adj, n) divine; (n) lord, Jehovah, deity, God, godhead. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) ineffectual, insignificant, lay, powerless, lowly
- aloft:** (adj, adv) overhead; (adv) up, on high, over, aloof, upwards, uphill, above ground; (prep) upon; (adj) eminent, lofty
- altercation:** (n, v) quarrel, squabble; (n) affray, scrap, fight, hassle, disagreement, fracas, strife, controversy, contest. **ANTONYMS:** (n) union, harmony, concord, agreement, unity, consensus
- alternate:** (adj, n, v) substitute; (n) surrogate, standby, vice; (v) reciprocate, vary, take turns, fluctuate, change; (adj, n) alternative; (adj) secondary. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) consecutive, successive, required, opposite,

- necessary, essential; (v) remain, continue
- alternately:** (adv) alternatively, by turns, in turn, secondarily, reciprocally, mutually, off-and-on, rather, anthemwise, secondly; (adj, adv) on and off
- amassed:** (adj) collected, assembled, cumulative, aggregate, gathered, conglomerate, combined, concentrated, collective, total, congregated
- amateness:** (n) lasciviousness, amorousness, carnality, eroticism, erotism, prurience, sexiness, pruriency
- amazement:** (n) admiration, wonder, surprise, consternation, stupefaction, stupor, wonderment, feeling, alarm, jolt; (v) amaze. ANTONYMS: (n) preparation, indifference, expectation, coolness, cool, composure, calmness, contempt, belief
- amazingly:** (adj, adv) wonderfully, stupendously, awfully; (adv) surprisingly, astoundingly, extraordinarily, spectacularly, marvelously, fabulously, terrificly, terrifically. ANTONYMS: (adv) predictably, mildly
- amber:** (n) yellow, yellowness, electrum, ambergis, gold, brown, electron, gum; (adj) chromatic
- amiability:** (n) geniality, affableness, kindness, friendliness, courtesy, cordiality, amiableness, affability, kindness, joviality, hospitality. ANTONYMS: (n) unfriendliness, hostility, unkindness
- amity:** (n) friendship, concord, companionship, benevolence, peace, harmony, friendliness, brotherhood, fellowship, sympathy, camaraderie. ANTONYMS: (n) hostility, discord, antagonism, war, animosity
- ammonia:** (n) anhydrous ammonia, ammonium hydroxide, ammonia water
- amphitheatre:** (n) amphitheater, arena, stadium, gallery, bowl, coliseum, colosseum
- amplification:** (n) hyperbole, addition, gain, extension, expansion, growth, increase, escalation, elaboration, enlargement, ampliation. ANTONYMS: (n) reduction, decrease, condensation, understatement, abbreviation
- amply:** (adj, adv) abundantly, sufficiently; (adv) fully, well, lavishly, plentifully, richly, generously, enough, adequately, capaciously. ANTONYMS: (adv) meagerly, inadequately, illiberally, sparingly, poorly
- amuse:** (v) please, beguile, absorb, entertain, enjoy, disport, distract, delight, occupy, recreate, rejoice. ANTONYMS: (v) bore, dull, tire, annoy, anger, cloy, depress, weary, disappoint
- analogous:** (adj) similar, analog, analogical, akin, parallel, like, equivalent, corresponding, comparable, cognate, analogue. ANTONYMS: (adj) dissimilar, different, heterologous, disparate, disagreeing, homologous, opposite, unlike
- analyze:** (n, v) scrutinize; (v) review, assay, consider, study, check, canvass, break down, investigate, anatomize, analyse. ANTONYMS: (v) assemble, overlook, unite, integrate, ignore, construct, compound, combine, compose, neglect
- analyzing:** (n) study
- ancestor:** (n) forerunner, forefather, parent, father, precursor, antecedent, forebear, forbear, prototype, ancestry, ascendant. ANTONYMS: (n) descendant, successor, offspring, progeny
- anchor:** (n) mainstay, armature, grappling iron, grapnel, chapelet; (v) fasten, secure, cast anchor, fix; (adj) refuge, rest. ANTONYMS: (v) release, detach
- anchorage:** (n) berth, port, mooring, moorage, encampment, roads, harbor, dock, road, moorings, haven
- anecdote:** (n) tale, account, yarn, narrative, story, fable, relation, ana, fiction, trait, gossip
- anew:** (adv) again, newly, lately, recently, over again, once more, once again, new; (adj) only yesterday, the other day, just now
- angelic:** (adj) cherubic, heavenly, seraphic, virtuous, celestial, beautiful, angelical, divine, good, holy, saintly. ANTONYMS: (adj) devilish, demonic, dark, wicked
- animate:** (v) inspire, encourage, quicken, invigorate, stimulate, revive, hearten; (adj, v) cheer, inspirit, exhilarate; (adj) live. ANTONYMS: (v) deaden, inhibit, kill, discourage; (adj) inanimate, dead, dull, dispirited, insentient, sluggish, spiritless
- animated:** (adj) alive, lively, animate, perky, spirited, sprightly, brisk, cheerful, quick, vivacious, airy. ANTONYMS: (adj) lethargic, dull, blank, lifeless, spiritless, stiff, unanimated, bored, impassive, unexciting, dead
- animation:** (adj, n) life, vivacity; (n) liveliness, vitality, activity, spirit, exhilaration, dash, energy, buoyancy; (adj) alacrity. ANTONYMS: (n) lethargy, lifelessness, inertness, inertia, sluggishness, boredom
- animosity:** (n) hatred, enmity, anger, malice, rancor, resentment, venom, bad blood, antagonism, spite, abhorrence. ANTONYMS: (n) companionship, affection, love, friendship, harmony, goodwill, cooperation
- annihilate:** (v) eradicate, exterminate, eliminate, wipe out, extinguish, destroy, quash, crush, demolish, quench, extirpate. ANTONYMS: (v) build, help, save, protect, surrender
- annihilated:** (adj) exterminated, lost, uncreated, wiped out, annihilate; (v) perished
- annihilation:** (n) abolition, death, slaughter, destruction, obliteration, extermination, extirpation, disintegration, demolition, defeat, pulverization. ANTONYMS: (n) preservation, survival, creation, protection
- annoy:** (v) pester, displease, anger, harass, bother, vex, aggravate, grate, molest; (n) annoyance; (n, v) afflict. ANTONYMS: (v) pacify, soothe, gratify, placate, comfort, encourage, delight
- annoyance:** (n) anger, harassment, aggravation, disturbance, inconvenience, pain, bother, botheration, temper, displeasure, vexation. ANTONYMS: (n) calm, satisfaction, patience, calmness, delight, equanimity, advantage, balm
- anointed:** (adj) hallowed, divine, greasy; (v) anoint
- anomalous:** (adj) abnormal, irregular, deviant, atypical, aberrant, eccentric, exceptional, peculiar, anomalistic, unusual, unnatural. ANTONYMS: (adj) usual, regular, typical, ordinary
- anomaly:** (n) aberration, anomalously, deviation, abnormality, aberrant, peculiarity, irregularity, exception, deflection, informality, anachronism.

ANTONYM: (n) normality
anon: (adv) directly, immediately, early, readily, soon, instantly, again, forthwith, promptly, shortly, rath
antagonist: (n) opponent, adversary, enemy, foe, rival, match, opposition, opposer, assailant, opposite, competitor. ANTONYMS: (n) supporter, advocate, colleague, synergist, ally, defender
antediluvian: (adj) ancient, outmoded, archaic, old, obsolete, dated, antique, musty, outdated, prehistoric, primeval. ANTONYMS: (adj) new, late, young, contemporary
anticipating: (v) anticipate; (adj) pregnant, anticipant, hopeful, ready, oracular
antimony: (n) metal, tartar emetic, stibium
antiquity: (n) ancientness, ancientry, past, relic, status quo, artefact, artifact, oldness, old age, hoariness; (adj, n) age. ANTONYMS: (n) today, newness, modernity
aorta: (n) pore, arteria, spout, scupper, vein, capillary, gully hole, emunctory, abdominal aorta
apathetic: (adj) indifferent, uninterested, cool, impassive, perfunctory, dull, spiritless, nonchalant, casual, lukewarm, lazy. ANTONYMS: (adj) enthusiastic, inquisitive, fervent, energetic, concerned, interested, keen, excited, passionate, ambitious, caring
apathy: (n) indifference, inactivity, lassitude, inertia, lethargy, passivity, supineness, passiveness, lukewarmness, emotionlessness, impassivity. ANTONYMS: (n) keenness, energy, interest, inquisitiveness, vitality, drive, eagerness, concern, involvement, enjoyment, desire
aperture: (n) breach, slit, puncture, opening, gap, cleft, perforation, loophole, mouth, hiatus, outlet. ANTONYM: (n) closure
apex: (n) top, peak, vertex, crown, acme, apices, extremity, height, summit, pinnacle, point. ANTONYMS: (n) base, nadir, trough, bottom, abyss, depth
aphrodite: (adj) peri, Apollo, Cupid, Hebe, narcissus, the Graces, Hyperion, houri, Venus; (n) Adonis, Cytherea
apocryphal: (adj) untrue, questionable, fallacious, fictitious, spurious, antisciptural, bogus,

unreal, unauthenticated, ungrounded; (v) problematical. ANTONYMS: (adj) authentic, doubtless, real, substantiated
apollo: (adj) Aphrodite, Hyperion, narcissus, peri, houri; (n) aurora, Terpsichore, Euterpe, Phoebus Apollo, Orpheus, orb of day
apotheosis: (n) deification, exaltation, ideal, paragon, canonization, worship, glorification, embodiment, epitome, angel, crackerjack
appalled: (adj) dismayed, scared, shocked, horrified, afraid, fright, amazed, astonished, stunned, outraged, scandalized. ANTONYM: (adj) indifferent
apparel: (n, v) garb, attire, garment, array, vesture; (n) clothing, finery, costume, clothes; (v) adorn, clothe
apparition: (n) ghost, phantom, spirit, spectre, hallucination, spook, shade, eidolon, wraith, advent; (n, v) vision
appellation: (n) designation, denomination, title, name, nickname, epithet, moniker, term, appellative, cognomen, degree
appended: (adj) added, affixed, additional
appertaining: (adj) appertinent
applause: (n, v) acclaim, praise; (n) admiration, approval, eulogy, compliment, plaudit, commendation, clapping, clap, ovation. ANTONYMS: (n) disapproval, Boos, booing, denigration, hisses, hissing, rejection, condemnation, criticism, jeering
appliances: (n) equipment, rig, hardware, rigging, outfit, tackle, tackling
applicability: (n) pertinency, fitness, relevance, adequacy, suitability, eligibility, appropriateness; (adj) aptitude, propriety, compatibility, commensurability
appreciable: (adj, adv, v) perceptible, noticeable; (adj) considerable, respectable, conspicuous, palpable, discernible, apparent, manifest; (adj, adv) observable; (v) measurable. ANTONYMS: (adj) insignificant, inconsiderable, negligible, unnoticed
apprehend: (v) arrest, comprehend, grasp, catch, understand, fathom, realize, sense, follow, nail; (adj, v) conceive. ANTONYMS: (v) misunderstand, discharge, free, liberate

apprehended: (adj) arrested, seized, understood, under arrest, in custody, detained, appreciated, comprehended
apprehension: (n) alarm, comprehension, dread, misgiving, understanding, capture, foreboding, arrest, trepidation; (n, v) doubt, appreciation. ANTONYMS: (n) release, confidence, calmness, tranquility, freeing, misunderstanding, peace, relief, bravery, calm, equanimity
appropriated: (adj) taken, destined, taken over, confiscate, confiscated, condemned, seized, reserved
arabesque: (n) fret, molding, flourish, tracery, strapwork, listel, embroidery, decoration, coquillage, fillet
arabian: (n) Arab, Saracen, Beduin, Bedouin; (adj) arabesque
arabic: (n) Arab, Arabic script
archway: (n) arcade, entry, entranceway, entryway, entree, doorway, entrance
ardent: (adj, n) enthusiastic, glowing; (adj, v) burning, fervent, impassioned; (adj) keen, vehement, eager, warm, acute, fervid. ANTONYMS: (adj) apathetic, cool, unenthusiastic, traitorous, mild, frigid, dispassionate, cold, disloyal, impassive, calm
ardor: (adj, n) eagerness, zeal; (n) fervor, fervency, fire, flame, passion, enthusiasm, ardency, heat, avidity. ANTONYMS: (n) apathy, coolness, coldness, hatred
aright: (adv) correctly, right, well, true, not Amis, satisfactorily, favorably, justly, exactly, rightly, properly
armorial: (v) typical, symptomatic, symbolic, representative, pathognomonic, exponential, emblematic, diagnostic, diacritical, demonstrative, characteristic
armory: (n) arsenal, armament, armoury, resourcefulness, imagination, metalworks, resource, foundry, hall, munitions store, armamentary
aromatic: (adj) spicy, scented, sweet, savory, balmy, redolent, odorous, perfumed, pungent, tasty, piquant. ANTONYMS: (adj) smelly, odorless, stinky, acrid, mild, sweet, insipid
arouse: (v) wake, stir, agitate, excite, awaken, stimulate, anger, kindle, provoke, raise; (n, v) rouse. ANTONYMS: (v) calm, dampen,

- stifle, sedate, quiet, pacify, bore, allay, lull, quench, suppress
- arousing:** (adj, n) stirring; (adj) moving, stimulating, affecting, animating, hopeful, pitiful, poignant; (n) awakening, start, beginning
- arrant:** (adj) rank, unmitigated, thorough, stark, utter, ill, gross, infamous, bad, blatant, base. ANTONYM: (adj) minor
- arrogance:** (n) haughtiness, disdain, conceit, presumption, audacity, vanity, arrogancy, conceitedness, arrogant, condescension, imperiousness. ANTONYMS: (n) modesty, timidity, humbleness, diffidence, respect
- artless:** (adj) ingenuous, simple, innocent, naive, open, candid, unsophisticated, unpretentious, unaffected, sincere, rugged. ANTONYMS: (adj) artful, sophisticated, complicated, unnatural, pretentious, insincere, disingenuous, affected, forced, experienced, cunning
- ascendancy:** (n) ascendancy, supremacy, control, influence, power, mastery, rule, dominion, domination, advantage, authority. ANTONYMS: (n) weakness, subordination
- ascend:** (n) ascension, climb, ascending, elevation, hill, incline, advance, grade; (n, v) rise; (v) ascend, uprise. ANTONYMS: (n) fall, drop, declivity
- ascertain:** (v) determine, find out, learn, discover, check, tell, control, find, ensure, detect; (adj, v) establish. ANTONYM: (v) disprove
- ascertained:** (adj) discovered, determined; (v) absolute, recognized, received, noted, notorious, decisive, unmistakable, unequivocal, positive
- ashes:** (n) dust, cinders, remains, cinder, clay, earth, embers, clinker; (adj) scoriae, mother, precipitate
- aslant:** (adj) oblique, inclined, slanting, diagonal, sloping, wry, awry; (adj, adv) aslope; (adv) slantingly, obliquely, athwart. ANTONYMS: (adj) level; (adv) straight
- asphodel:** (adj) buttercup, geranium, ranunculus, rhododendron, windflower, rose, lily; (n) daffodil, affodill
- aspiring:** (adj) aspirant, wishful, enterprising, envious, desirous, coming; (v) aspire, vaulting. ANTONYM: (adj) desperate
- assemblage:** (n) meeting, collection, congregation, set, multitude, crew, confluence, gathering, gang, convention, convocation. ANTONYMS: (v) dispersal, scattering
- assent:** (n) acceptance, acquiescence, approval, agreement, compliance, admission, approbation; (v) accede, accord, agree; (adj, v) acquiesce. ANTONYMS: (v) resist, disagree, disapprove, reject, refuse; (n) disagreement, refusal, resistance
- asseveration:** (n) contention, assertion, averment, avowal, claim, affidavit, statement, allegation, accusation, swearing, promise
- assign:** (v) allot, delegate, consign, ascribe, appoint, place, allocate, appropriate; (n, v) allow, apply, give. ANTONYMS: (v) relieve, discharge, discredit, divest, refuse, take
- assignment:** (n) meeting, tryst, engagement, date, assignment, apportionment, allocation, allocate, allotment, alienation, assign
- assuredly:** (adv) certainly, confidently, positively, securely, indeed, definitely, undoubtedly, admittedly, safely, insuredly, decidedly
- astern:** (adv) aft, after, aback, behind, sternmost, rearwards; (adj, adv) backward; (adj) back, rear. ANTONYM: (adv) forward
- astonish:** (adj, v) astound; (adj, n, v) surprise; (adj) astonishing, surprised; (v) flabbergast, daze, confound, dazzle, stun, alarm, nonplus. ANTONYMS: (v) expect, bore
- astound:** (adj, v) amaze, surprise; (v) daze, shock, stun, frighten, flabbergast, confound, perplex, petrify, startle. ANTONYM: (v) dull
- astounded:** (adj) amazed, stunned, flabbergasted, bewildered, dumbfounded, surprised, staggered, astonished, dazed, astound, aghast
- astounding:** (adj) amazing, miraculous, wonderful, incredible, tremendous, spectacular, sensational, breathtaking, awesome, staggering, prodigious. ANTONYMS: (adj) unremarkable, comforting, predictable, boring, insignificant
- astral:** (adj) sidereal, stellar, stellated, starlike, starry, dreamy, celestial, stellary, exalted, visionary; (n) astral body
- astronomical:** (adj) vast, celestial, astrophysical, great, uranic, enormous, large, galactic, universal, elevated, excessive
- astute:** (adj) shrewd, artful, bright, sharp, quick, cunning, crafty, sagacious, wily, clever; (adj, v) canny. ANTONYMS: (adj) naive, stupid, slow, dumb, dim, idiotic, retarded, unintelligent, foolish, obtuse, indiscriminate
- astuteness:** (n) cleverness, craftiness, cunning, shrewdness, slyness, foxiness, knowingness, wiliness, perspicacity, craft, depth. ANTONYMS: (n) foolishness, frankness
- asunder:** (adj, v) separate; (adv) aside, in two; (adj, adv) in Twain; (adj) loose, distant, adrift, aloof; (v) discrete, far between, free. ANTONYM: (adv) together
- athwart:** (adj, adv, n, prep) across; (adv, prep) aslant, cross; (adj, adv, prep) thwart; (adj, adv) crosswise; (adv) sideways, obliquely, transversely, traverse, overthwart, crossways
- atom:** (n) grain, speck, molecule, particle, mite, bit, mote, monad, crumb, corpuscle, iota
- atrocious:** (adj, n) outrage, flagrancy; (n) brutality, abomination, barbarity, barbarism, violence, atrociousness, inhumaneness, crime, horror. ANTONYMS: (n) kindness, humanity
- attain:** (v) make, reach, achieve, acquire, gain, strike, catch, arrive at, find, obtain, come to. ANTONYMS: (v) lose, fail, abandon, surrender, differ
- attainable:** (adj) possible, obtainable, gettable, available, feasible, approachable, accessible, viable, doable, realistic, open. ANTONYMS: (adj) unattainable, unachievable, impossible
- attained:** (adj) attains, attain, reached, complete, earned, fulfilled
- attainments:** (n) knowledge, learning, achievement, menticulture, culture
- attendant:** (n) companion, follower, assistant, escort, subordinate, employee, guide, varlet; (adj) accompanying, concomitant, incidental. ANTONYMS: (n) superior, boss; (adj) absent, unrelated, significant
- attendants:** (n) entourage, followers,

retinue, tendance, persons present, suite

attentive: (adj) assiduous, diligent, heedful, watchful, observant, advertent, mindful, careful, aware, alert, respectful. ANTONYMS: (adj) unfocused, negligent, neglectful, forgetful, heedless, unobservant, rude, unprepared, unconscious, uncaring, inconsiderate

attentively: (adv) carefully, mindfully, watchfully, observantly, heedfully, vigilantly, cautiously, considerately, diligently, alertly, obligingly. ANTONYMS: (adv) unhelpfully, neglectfully, abruptly, carelessly, hastily, casually

attired: (adj) clad, appareled, clothed, garbed, habilitament, robed; (adj, prep) garmented

audacity: (n) nerve, audaciousness, effrontery, arrogance, temerity, cheek, impertinence, insolence, courage; (n, v) impudence; (adj, n) presumption. ANTONYMS: (n) cowardice, propriety, decorum, circumspection, courtesy, fear, respect, spinelessness, reticence

audible: (adj) plain, hearable, distinct, detectable, sounding, sharp, sonic, definite, discernible, perceptible, sensory. ANTONYMS: (adj) inaudible, unintelligible, undetectable, silent, faint

audibly: (adv) loudly, clearly, out loud. ANTONYMS: (adv) imperceptibly, inaudibly, indistinctly, silently

auditory: (adj) acoustic, auditive, audience, audio, aural, audible; (n) hearing, auditorium, pit, boxes, stalls

ought: (n) nil, zero, anything, ought, cypher, nix, cipher, naught, null, zip; (adj) any

augmented: (adj) amplified, enlarged, greater than before, inflated, plus, more

austerity: (adj, n) acerbity, stringency; (n) asceticism, strictness, sternness, gravity, severity, hardship, harshness, plainness, simplicity. ANTONYMS: (n) permissiveness, leniency, lenience, exuberance, abandonment, gentleness, indulgence, joy, warmth, affluence, cheerfulness

authenticated: (adj) genuine, true, real, valid, authentic, official, legal, documented, authoritative, legitimate

authorship: (n) source, paternity,

writing, pencraft, fatherhood, origin, authorism, bookcraft, drafting; (n, v) composition; (v) publication

avails: (n) Vail

avalanche: (n) deluge, occurrence, cascade, landslide, mud slide, plenty; (v) debacle, descend, roll down.

ANTONYMS: (n) deficiency, lack, famine, drought

avarice: (n) cupidity, covetousness, rapacity, avariciousness, avidity, eagerness, voracity, voraciousness, stinginess; (adj, n) greediness; (adj) extortion. ANTONYMS: (n)

philanthropy, benevolence, charity

avatar: (n) embodiment, juggernaut, lares et penates, impersonation, epitome, personification, fetich, Jagannath, golden calf, graven image, Jagannatha

avenger: (n) vindicator, revenger, wrecker, venger, Eumenides, aggressor, assailant, attacker, retaliator

aversion: (n) antipathy, distaste, abhorrence, disinclination, dislike, grudge, aversion, nausea, enmity, revulsion; (n, v) disgust.

ANTONYMS: (n) attraction, love, inclination, predilection, desire, fondness, goodwill

avidity: (adj, n) greed, greediness; (n) eagerness, ardor, covetousness, lust, desire, enthusiasm, rapacity, cupidity, avidness

avoidance: (n) escape, evasion, abstention, forbearance, cancellation, prevention, annulment, dodging, avoid, evade, shun.

ANTONYMS: (n) embrace, confronting

await: (v) anticipate, abide, bide, tarry, wait, attend, look, hope, approach, loom, come on. ANTONYM: (v) doubt

awaited: (adj) expected, appointed, scheduled, forthcoming, prospective

awaken: (v) arouse, wake, rouse, call, stir, kindle, get up, raise, wake up, waken, revive. ANTONYMS: (v) dampen, calm, retire, suppress, spoil, quench, douse, stifle

awakened: (adj) excited, aroused, awakens, awoke, interested

awakening: (n) arousal, waking up, revival, disenchantment, awakenment, introduction, provocation; (adj) arousing, moving, animating; (v) awake. ANTONYM: (n) suppression

awaking: (n) waking, awakening

awed: (adj) frightened, groveling,

reverential, reverent, overwhelmed, overcome, intimidated, worshipful, impressed, fearful, abominable.

ANTONYMS: (adj) unawed, irreverent

awhile: (adj) in transitu, en passant; (adv) briefly

awkwardly: (adv) gawkily, ineptly, ungracefully, embarrassingly, maladroitly, stiffly, gracelessly, inopportunist, bunglingly, inelegantly, unskillfully.

ANTONYMS: (adv) gracefully, elegantly, usefully, urbanely, contentedly, coherently, calmly, conveniently, agilely, expertly, amenably

awoke: (adj) awakened

axiom: (n) maxim, adage, apothegm, principle, proposition, truism, saying, saw, proverb, truth, motto. ANTONYMS: (n) foolishness, paradox, absurdity

azote: (n) bullwhack, blacksnake, kurbash, chicote, sjambok, sewer gas, rawhide, quilt, atomic number, miasma, phlebotis

azure: (adj, n) cerulean, blue; (n) sapphire, blueness, indigo, lazuline, heaven; (adj) chromatic, bright blue, azurn, azureous

backward: (adj, adv) late, behindhand; (adj) tardy, retarded, reluctant, coy, slow, laggard, dilatory; (adv) behind, backwardly. ANTONYMS: (adj, adv) ahead; (adv) onward; (adj) quick, developing, advanced, confident, brilliant, bold

bade: (v) bid, command, bad

baffled: (adj) bewildered, puzzled, perplexed, confounded, at sea, frustrated, befuddled, beaten, bemused, preoccupied, helpless.

ANTONYM: (adj) clear

bagdad: (n) Baghdad, capital of Iraq

balancing: (adj, n) matching; (n) bringing into state of equilibrium, adjustment, equalization, equipoise, reconciliation, redress, wheel balancing, balancing accountancy, comparison; (adj) library

ballad: (n) song, folk song, carol, poem, ballade, recitative, solfeggio, pastoral, recitativo, ditty, bravura

balm: (n) salve, unguent, incense, perfume, aroma, unction, liniment, balsam, arnica, lotion, fragrance.

ANTONYMS: (n) irritant, nuisance

balustrade: (n) fence, banisters, banister, bannister, barrier, handrail, pale, balusters, guardrail,

- circumvallation, ring fence
bandage: (v) bind, wrap, dress, envelop; (adj, n) truss, tie; (n) swathe, binding, roller, gauze; (adj) string. ANTONYMS: (v) undress
banter: (n, v) chaff, badinage, jest, quiz; (v) kid, tease, joke, deride, twit; (n) raillery, fun. ANTONYMS: (v) flatter, placate, soothe
baptismal: (adj) eucharistical, Baptistic; (n) baptism
barbaric: (adj) boorish, uncivil, graceless, churlish, uncouth, uncivilized, savage, barbarous, wild, gross, inhuman. ANTONYMS: (adj) refined, civilized, cultured, polished
bard: (n) minstrel, muse; (v) beautify, decorate, embellish; (adj) lyrical, scald, skald, troubadour, trouvere, barred
bark: (n, v) skin, yelp, snarl, cry, rind, shout; (v) growl, roar; (n) bay, peel, crust. ANTONYMS: (n, v) whisper
barred: (adj) prohibited, forbidden, barricaded, barred, banned, illicit, streaked; (v) striated, areolar, veined; (n) Bart. ANTONYMS: (adj) admissible, legitimate, eligible, open
barren: (adj, n) sterile; (adj) infertile, deserted, arid, void, dry, stark, meagre, fruitless, abortive; (n) waste. ANTONYMS: (adj) productive, lush, fruitful, developing, growing, profitable, rewarding, rich, sheltered, humid, populous
bathed: (adj) sweaty
batten: (n) plank, bar, lath; (v) fasten, strengthen, fix, board up, flourish, thrive, fatten, fortify. ANTONYMS: (v) unfix, unfasten, loosen
bauble: (adj) gimcrack; (n) trinket, ornament, trifle, bagatelle, gaud, bangle, novelty; (adj, n) toy, gewgaw, plaything
beads: (n) pearls, chaplet, censer, pax, patera, host, cross, pyx, reliquary, rood, thurible
beak: (n) neb, snout, bill, nose, prow, snoot, rostrum, proboscis, nib, pecker; (v) peck
beaming: (adj) bright, radiant, glowing, glad, beamy, cheerful, refulgent, sunny, luminous, resplendent, incandescent. ANTONYMS: (adj) gloomy, dark, dusky, frowning, sad, sullen, tenebrous
bearings: (n) bearing, direction, crest, position
beasts: (n) stock
becalmed: (v) stagnant; (adj) unmoving, nonmoving, motionless
bedding: (n) litter, bed, bed linen, quilt, cover, stratification, spread, blanket, bed clothing, bottom, foundation
bedecked: (adj) decked out, decorated, ornate, ornamented
beetling: (adj) soaring, prominent, protrusive, projecting, towering; (v) overhanging, jutting over
befall: (v) bechance, become, happen, fall, arise, come about, occur, betide, chance, transpire, pass
befitting: (adj) apt, becoming, suitable, apropos, decent, condign, fitting, fit; (adj, v) proper; (n) feat; (v) meet. ANTONYMS: (adj) improper, unbecoming, unfitting, unsuitable
beggar: (n) mendicant, mumper, pauper, tramp, sponger, joker, poor man, cadger, bloke; (v) beg, pauperize. ANTONYMS: (n) giver
behavior: (n, v) bearing, demeanor; (n) carriage, conduct, deportment, act, behaviour, manner, character, action, morality
beheld: (adj) visual
behemoth: (n) giant, titan, colossus, personage, monstrosity, hippopotamus, Goliath, anomaly, heavyweight; (adj) leviathan, elephant
behold: (v) see, view, contemplate, regard, perceive, observe, look, consider, discern, descry, watch. ANTONYMS: (v) Miss, disregard, ignore, overlook
beholder: (n) witness, looker, observer, onlooker, viewer, eyewitness, bystander, auditor, audile, passer by, watcher
beholding: (n) fusion, seeing, visual perception, look
belle: (n) beauty, fille, girl, miss, missy
benches: (n) bleachers
bends: (n) caisson disease, aeroembolism, air embolism, bend, gas embolism, compressed air sickness
benign: (adj, n) benevolent, nice, gentle, humane; (adj) kind, affable, amiable, charitable, merciful, soft, beneficial. ANTONYMS: (adj) unkind, malevolent, malign, unfortunate, severe, selfish, misanthropic, mean, malignant, malicious, hurtful
bequeathed: (adj) hereditary
bequest: (n, v) will; (n) endowment, patrimony, estate, inheritance, heirloom, heritage, donation, gift, allowance, bequeathal
beset: (v) beleaguer, afflict, assault, siege, molest, worry, attack, plague, obsess, assail; (adv, v) surround
besotted: (adj) infatuated, pissed, tipsy, enamored, hooked, muddleheaded, inebriated, blind drunk; (v) conceited, dogmatic, positive
bestow: (v) give, confer, grant, impart, contribute, donate, apply, award; (adj, v) accord, allow, present. ANTONYMS: (v) deprive, refuse, withhold, retrieve, withdraw
bestowed: (adj) presented, conferred, awarded, accurate
bewilder: (v) astound, amaze, puzzle, bemuse, baffle, nonplus, befuddle, stump; (adj, v) perplex, confound, stun. ANTONYMS: (v) explain, enlighten, inform, sharpen
bewildered: (adj) bemused, confused, confounded, perplexed, befuddled, puzzled, dumbfounded, taken aback, addled, disoriented; (adj, v) lost. ANTONYMS: (adj) unimpressed, clear, oriented, precise, understanding, alert
bewildering: (adj) astonishing, puzzling, perplexing, confusing, marvelous, mystifying, amazing, astounding, discomfit, upsetting, staggering. ANTONYMS: (adj) enlightening, simple, soothing
bewilderment: (n) astonishment, quandary, confusion, surprise, wonder, bemusement, maze, chaos, jumble, mess; (adj, n) perplexity. ANTONYMS: (n) order, clarity
bibliotheca: (n) Bible
bidding: (n) behest, order, dictate, charge, bid, request, call, dictation, direction, fiat; (adj) imperative
billow: (n, v) wave, surge, swell; (n) sea, cloud; (v) balloon, heave, zoom, roll, inflate, bloat. ANTONYMS: (n) trough; (v) flatten, collapse, deflate
billows: (n) great waters, high seas, offing, watery waste, brine, vapors, clouds, smoke, sea, ocean, main
bind: (n) bind, ligature, vehicle, bookbinder, cement, bond, harvester, protection, obligation, agglutinant, folder
birch: (v) lash, flog, scourge, wipe, warm, whop; (adj) birchen; (n) birch tree, stick, white birch, rod
bismuth: (n) metal, atomic number
bivouac: (n, v) camp; (v) tent, encamp, dwell; (n) encampment, cantonment, campsite, campground,

laager, spial, scout
blackened: (adj) sulphured, blackening, colored, coloured, filthy, achromatic, colorful
blackness: (n) black, darkness, sable, gloom, nigritude, night, inkiness, dark, murk, murkiness, obscurity
blasphemous: (adj, v) profane, irreverent, sacrilegious; (adj) ungodly, impious, irreligious, unconsecrated, godless, unholy, wicked; (v) desecrate. ANTONYMS: (adj) reverent, devout, godly, religious
blazing: (adj) flaming, afire, burning, ardent, aflame, glaring, bright, blatant, alight, passionate; (n) blaze. ANTONYMS: (adj) freezing, quiet
bled: (v) bleed; (n) bulla
blemish: (n, v) stain, scar, flaw, blot, slur; (n) defect, stigma, fault; (v) deface; (adj, n) imperfection; (adj, v) disfigure. ANTONYMS: (v) enhance, beautify, embellish, improve; (n) perfection, enhancement
blended: (adj) mixed, miscellaneous, composite, assorted, alloyed, amalgamated, beaten, adulterate, conglomerate; (n) medley; (v) mingle
blindly: (adv) darkly, dimly, blindfoldly, purblindly, obscurely, heedlessly, unreasoningly, blindfold, unsightedly, inconsiderately, ignorantly. ANTONYMS: (adv) sensibly, carefully, considerately, purposely
blindness: (n) cecity, sightlessness, alepsy, ignorance, prestriction, execration, cataract, fog, anopia; (adj, n) darkness; (adj) anopsy
bliss: (n) happiness, joy, ecstasy, pleasure, paradise, blessedness, felicity, elation, beatitude, heaven, blessing. ANTONYMS: (n) misery, sorrow, agony, grief, anguish, sadness, suffering, gloom, hell, dissatisfaction
blissful: (adj) happy, heavenly, merry, joyful, delighted, glad, cheerful, delightful, ecstatic, elated, blest. ANTONYMS: (adj) unhappy, grieving, sad, sorrowful, depressed, unpleasant, down, dreadful
bloom: (adj, n, v) flower; (v) prosper, flourish, thrive, burgeon; (adj, v) blow, fructify; (n) prime, blush, flush, bud. ANTONYMS: (v) shrivel, struggle, wane, die, deteriorate, decrease; (n) pallor, withering
blooming: (adj) rosy, thriving,

flourishing, healthy, prosperous, ruddy, booming, blossoming, cherry, verdant, green.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) arid, pale
blossoming: (n) bloom, florescence, flowering, anthesis, blossom, efflorescence, inflorescence, ontogeny, ontogenesis; (adj) budding, growing. ANTONYM: (adj) failing
blossomy: (adj) flowery, floral, bloomy
blot: (n, v) spot, blemish, smudge, mark, slur, taint, shame; (v) tarnish, blob; (n) blotch; (adj, n) fault.
 ANTONYMS: (v) dampen, grace, soak, wet, beautify, improve, enhance
blurred: (adj) fuzzy, indistinct, foggy, blurry, bleary, vague, out of focus, blear, cloudy, clouded, dim.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) sharp, definite, distinct, precise, certain
blush: (n, v) glow, color; (v) redden, crimson; (n) red, bloom, rosiness, ruddiness, redness; (adj) bashful; (adv) blushing. ANTONYMS: (v) blanch, pale, blench; (n) paleness
blushing: (adj) rosy, coy, blushful, flushed, red, shy, bashful, overmodest, ruddy; (adv) blushing, ablush. ANTONYM: (adj) pale
boasting: (n) bluster, bravado, rodomontade, swagger, braggadocio, ostentation, show; (v) brag; (adj) swaggering, vamping, strutting
bobolink: (n) reedbird, ricebird
bodiless: (adj) immaterial, unbodied, disembodied, aeriform, unsubstantial, metaphysical, unembodied, bodiless, disincarnate
boisterous: (adj, n) rough; (adj) furious, loud, noisy, fierce, raucous, wild, rude, vociferous; (adj, v) tempestuous, rampant.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) restrained, orderly, calm, dignified, silent, tranquil, gentle, placid
boldly: (adj, adv) courageously, valiantly, heroically; (adv) fearlessly, daringly, bravely, intrepidly, impudently, audaciously, shamelessly, brashly. ANTONYMS: (adv) discreetly, modestly, nervously, hesitantly, shyly, fearfully, meekly, submissively, secretly, respectfully, diffidently
bonhomie: (n) geniality, affability, affableness, amiability, friendliness, munificence, cordiality, joviality;

(adj) naivete, candor, sincerity
bookseller: (n) bookshop, bookstore, owner, proprietor, publisher
boon: (n) blessing, benefit, mercy, concession, good, gratuity; (n, v) benefaction, gift, grant; (adj) jocund, hilarious. ANTONYMS: (n) disadvantage, privation, disaster, minus
bordering: (adj) abutting, adjoining, conterminous, contiguous, frontier, next, neighboring, nearby, near, approximate, fringing
bosky: (adj) green, shady, brushy
bosom: (n) heart, interior, boob, thorax, chest, bust, tit; (n, v) embrace; (v) cherish, hug; (adj) intimate. ANTONYMS: (n) outside, exteriority
bottoms: (n) swamp, lees, residue
boudoir: (n) bedchamber, bedroom, master bedroom
bounded: (adj) restricted, limited, delimited, encircled, enclosed, confined, leap, spring, bordered, circumscribed, constrained.
boundless: (adj) unbounded, unconfined, unlimited, free
bounden: (adj) bound, indebted, compulsory, binding
bounds: (n) boundary, border, limit, bound, margin, borderline, end, bourn, Bourne, brink, edge.
 ANTONYMS: (n) center, middle
bowels: (n) gut, compassion, pity, inside, bowel, viscera, innards, belly, guts, insides, intestines
bower: (n) arbour, alcove, pergola, hermitage, grotto, framing, framework, summer house; (v) inclose, embower, enclose
bowstring: (v) behead, electrocute, hang, strangle, turn off; (n, v) gibbet; (n) gallows, drop, halter, tree, rope
boyhood: (n) babyhood, adolescence, youth, youthhood, infancy, girlhood, age, boyism, puberty.
 ANTONYM: (n) adulthood
boyish: (adj) young, puerile, adolescent, youthful, babyish, childish, girlish, kittenish, boylike, callow, immature. ANTONYM: (adj) mature
brandish: (n, v) flourish; (v) display, wield, flaunt, shake, agitate, swing, bandy, beckon, raise, jerk.
 ANTONYMS: (v) conceal, lower, sheathe
bravado: (n) boast, bluster, braggadocio, bluff, bragging, swagger, defiance, ostentation, bravery, talk, swaggering.

ANTONYMS: (n) restraint, humility, modesty
brazen: (adj) audacious, impudent, brassy, insolent, bold, brash, impertinent, blatant, flagrant, forward, saucy. ANTONYMS: (adj) shy, abashed, prudish, reserved, quiet, discreet, respectful, ashamed, veiled, modest
brazier: (n) warmer, heater, bucket, barbecue
breathless: (adj, adv) out of breath; (adj) panting, inanimate, breathtaking, winded, choking, puffing; (v) all agog, aghast; (adj, n) eager; (n) in hysterics. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull, expected, boring
breathlessly: (adv) pantingly, eagerly, windedly, deadily, inanimately, breathtakingly, impatiently, animatedly, hungrily, chokingly, pulselessly
brethren: (n) congregation, assembly, brother, people, laity, family, flock, fold
brickwork: (n) masonry, bricklaying, nogging, stonework
brig: (n) barque, hermaphrodite brig, snow, jail, bridge, prison, big house, penal institution, ship
brightly: (adv) vividly, luminously, radiantly, gaily, clearly, shiningly, intensely, cheerfully, smartly, bright, lustrously. ANTONYMS: (adv) gloomily, drearily, bleakly, stupidly, dully, blankly, seriously, pessimistically
brilliance: (n, v) brightness; (n) brilliance, lustre, luster, splendor, glitter, glory, radiance, splendour; (adj, n) gorgeousness; (v) gloss
brilliantly: (adv) brightly, glitteringly, gloriously, superbly, radiantly, shiningly, resplendently, splendidly, magnificently, dazzlingly, vividly. ANTONYMS: (adv) incompetently, terribly, poorly, dimly, badly, abysmally
brim: (n) rim, periphery, verge, edge, lip, hem, rand, margin, perimeter, brink, limit
brink: (n, v) edge; (n) border, hem, threshold, boundary, brim, shore, periphery, lip, margin, limit. ANTONYMS: (n) middle, interior, end
bristles: (n) beard, five o'clock shadow
brook: (v) endure, abide, stomach, stand, tolerate, digest, suffer, support, undergo; (n, v) creek; (n) stream. ANTONYMS: (v) spurn,

resist, reject, prohibit
brotherhood: (n) fraternity, sodality, association, kinship, relationship, friendliness, confraternity, fellowship, organization, partnership, society
brows: (n) brow
brunswick: (n) Braunschweig
brute: (adj) brutal, harsh, gruff, brutish; (adj, n) animal, savage; (n) barbarian, fiend, creature, monster; (adv) beastly. ANTONYMS: (adj) weak, refined, mild, gentle; (n) gentleman
bugaboo: (n) bugbear, hobgoblin, boogeyman, booger, spectre, headache, vexation, monster, scarecrow, specter; (adj) bug bear
bulky: (adj) large, unwieldy, great, huge, ample, fat, extensive, corpulent, heavy, gross; (adj, adv) portly. ANTONYMS: (adj) compact, manageable, thin, insubstantial, miniature, tiny, wieldy, slight, light, slim
bumper: (n) buffer, fender, cushion, shock absorber, brimmer, defense, bumper shield, Atlantic bumper; (v) fill; (adj) abundant, plentiful. ANTONYM: (adj) meager
bumpkin: (n) boor, yokel, rustic, hick, clown, rube, bumkin, lout, countryman, clod, chawbacon
buoyant: (adj) cheerful, light, optimistic, lighthearted, airy, hopeful, floaty, bright, blithe, elastic; (adj, n) sanguine. ANTONYMS: (adj) heavy, weighted, down, depressed, somber, miserable, serious, melancholy, downbeat
burnished: (adj) polished, bright, shiny, lustrous, shimmering, sparkly, glittery, shining; (adj, v) sunny; (v) meridian, orient
burr: (n) bit, birrus, bureau, burrel, borel, flash, pericarp; (v) pipe, jangle, clink, clank
bursting: (adj) explosive, teeming, chock-full, full, complete, paroxysmal, exploding, disruptive, detonating, crowded; (n) outbreak. ANTONYM: (adj) hungry
burthen: (v) weight, angle, weight down; (n) loading, plumbing, white elephant
buttercup: (n) kingcup, crowfoot, herb, goldcup; (adj) anemone, asphodel, rhododendron, daffodil, windflower, geranium, lily
butterflies: (adj) anxious, apprehensive, frightened; (n) trepidation, nervousness, anxiety

buttresses: (n) ramparts, defenses
buzz: (n, v) rumor, call, ring, hiss, drone, gossip, purr, whisper, murmur; (n) report, hearsay. ANTONYM: (n) bore
buzzing: (n) noise, murmur; (adj) humming, abuzz, bustling, lively, droning, purring, vibrant, vivacious, full of beans
bygone: (adj) ancient, former, gone, obsolete, outmoded, previous, archaic, old, late; (n) preterite, antique. ANTONYMS: (adj) future, current, coming, modern
cadaverous: (adj) gaunt, wan, ghastly, thin, haggard, deathly, pale, ashen, dead, skeletal, bony. ANTONYMS: (adj) rosy, ruddy, flushed, glowing, lifelike, lively, plump
cadaverously: (adv) gauntly, ghastly, haggardly, wanly, skeletally, pallidly, palely, ashenly, pinchedly, drawnly, spectrally
cadence: (n) beat, tempo, measure, rhythm, cadency, descent, time; (n, v) pace; (v) gait, step, rate
calamity: (n) disaster, adversity, affliction, misfortune, plague, catastrophe, tragedy, blow, bale, distress; (n, v) trouble. ANTONYMS: (n) blessing, boon, luck, joy, opportunity
calculus: (n) stone, calculi, computation, bilestone, encrustation, incrustation, analysis, reckoning, differential calculus, enterolith; (v) calculation
caliph: (n) Calif, khalif, kaliph, ruler, tsar, Soldan, kaiser, Grand Turk, dictator, Ceasar, sultan
calmness: (n) calm, composure, quietness, poise, serenity, stillness, quiet, silence, placidity, peace; (adj, n) coolness. ANTONYMS: (n) anxiety, nervousness, restlessness, panic, fury, unrest, intensity, discomposure, bustle, annoyance, noise
caloric: (adj) thermal; (n) heat, thermogen
camel: (adj, n) beige; (n) Camel's hair, elephant, llama, artiodactyl mammal; (adj) Manila, fawn
campanile: (n) bell tower; (adj) steeple, cupola, dome, turret, tower, spire, pillar, obelisk, monument, minaret
canaries: (n) bullfinches, Fringillidae, family Fringillidae, Canary Islands, buntings, Azores
candelabrum: (n) chandelier,

- candlestick, girandole, luster, sconce, gaselier, branched candlestick, electrolier
- cane:** (n, v) scourge, whip; (v) flog, beat, birch, thrash, lash; (n) stick, bat, rattan, twig
- canning:** (n) packing, preservation, tinning, can filling, canning process
- canoe:** (n) dugout, pirogue, canoes, caique, birchbark, dugout canoe, birchbark canoe, felucca; (adj) self-sufficient
- canopy:** (n) awning, baldachin, screen, tester, sunshade, marquee, blast deflector, shade, ceiling, cloth, cab shield
- cant:** (n) jargon, lingo, slang, vernacular, argot; (n, v) bank, tilt, bias, incline; (adj, n) bevel; (v) list
- canvass:** (n, v) campaign, discuss; (n) review; (v) beg, examine, scrutinize, view, agitate, inspect, survey, study. ANTONYM: (v) neglect
- capacious:** (adj) large, big, ample, roomy, broad, extensive, vast, commodious, voluminous, wide, expansive. ANTONYMS: (adj) small, confined, squeezed, tiny
- carcass:** (n) body, frame, corpse, cadaver, framework, shell, carrion, remains, dead body, skeleton, bomb
- carelessly:** (adv) incautiously, hastily, recklessly, heedlessly, casually, sloppily, imprudently, inconsiderately, rashly, negligently, unwarily. ANTONYMS: (adv) thoroughly, diligently, carefully, warily, laboriously, thoughtfully, attentively, daintily, methodically, discreetly, economically
- caressing:** (adj) caressive, soft; (n) petting, foreplay, stimulation, dalliance, smooching, snuggling, arousal, hugging, cuddling
- carnival:** (n) fair, feast, festival, amusement park, funfair, show, fiesta, bazaar, gala, jamboree, Saturnalia
- carousal:** (n) carouse, feast, binge, party, entertainment, debauchery, festivity, banquet, revelry; (n, v) revel; (adj) debauch
- cartilaginous:** (adj) cartilaginous, rubbery, tough
- cascade:** (n) torrent, deluge, shower, falls, cataract; (n, v) fall, stream, spout, overflow; (v) gush, flow. ANTONYMS: (n, v) trickle, dribble; (v) drip, seep, drizzle; (n) drought
- casement:** (n) embrasure, casement cloth
- cask:** (n) bucket, butt, tun, tub, drum, vat, hogshhead, keg, coffin, containerful, vessel
- castellated:** (adj) castled, crenelated, battlemented, casemated, crenellated; (v) machicolated, loopholed; (n) fancier
- catalepsy:** (adj) trance, catalepsis, fixity, immobility
- cataleptic:** (adj) out cold, comatose, insensible
- catapla:** (n) bonavist, bean tree
- cataract:** (n) waterfall, torrent, falls, deluge, cataclysm, amaurosis, blindness, angel, flood, prestriktion; (v) pour
- catechism:** (n) interrogation, creed, education, question, test; (v) challenge
- causality:** (n) causal relationship, causation, origin
- causeless:** (adj) adventitious, accidental, groundless, uncaused, reasonless, casual, aimless, fortuitous, gratuitous, indeterminate, undetermined
- causeway:** (n) pathway, sidewalk, path, track, alley, footpath, jetty, causey, walkway; (v) furnish, provide
- cavern:** (n) hollow, cove, vault, hole, enclosure, antrum, lair, antre, socket, den; (v) cavern out
- cavernous:** (adj) profound, concave, echoing, resonant, sepulchral, yawning, huge, deep, depressed, sunken, vast. ANTONYMS: (adj) cramped, claustrophobic, convex, crowded, shallow, small, tiny, confined, narrow
- cavity:** (n) antrum, cave, hole, pocket, hollow, void, pit, chamber, caries, depression, hollowness. ANTONYMS: (n) hump, lump
- ceasing:** (n) stopping, subsidence
- celebrity:** (n) fame, notable, luminary, star, distinction, notoriety, notability, personality, bigwig, magnate, glory. ANTONYMS: (n) obscurity, oblivion, unknown, infamy
- censer:** (n) incensory, incense burner, Agnus Dei, beads, vessel, patera, rood, rosary, reliquary, relics, pyx
- cent:** (adj) picayune, mill, pistareen; (n) subunit, rupee, red cent, centime
- cessation:** (n) pause, abatement, close, stop, respite, suspension, surcease, standstill, rest, termination; (n, v) death. ANTONYMS: (n) beginning, continuation, commencement, persistence
- chafed:** (adj) uncomfortable, sore, painful, galled, angry; (v) fretted, agitated
- chagrin:** (n) mortification, vexation, annoyance, shame, disappointment, letdown, humiliation; (n, v) disquiet, gangrene; (v) disappoint, mortify. ANTONYMS: (v) please, delight; (n) pride, satisfaction
- chained:** (adj) in chains, enchained, bound
- chanticler:** (n) dunghill cock, partlet, rooster, barn door fowl, hen, poultry, chicken, fowl
- characteristically:** (adv) typically, distinctively, peculiarly, distinguishingly, representatively, individually, naturally, essentially, particularly, normally, regularly. ANTONYM: (adv) unusually
- characterize:** (v) distinguish, call, mark, characterise, typify, define, differentiate, describe, entitle, name, depict
- charms:** (n) trinkets, jewelry, jewels
- charnel:** (adj) carnal, sepulchral, ghastly; (n) burial vault, cemetery, charnel house
- chartreuse:** (n) liqueur, greenness, viridity, pea green, yellowish green, yellow green; (adj) chromatic, green
- chasm:** (n) breach, gap, hiatus, gulf, ravine, hole, abyss, vacancy, canyon, aperture, emptiness. ANTONYMS: (n) junction, closure
- chastity:** (n) honor, purity, abstinence, virtue, innocence, chasteness, continence, modesty, cleanliness, austerity; (adj) honesty. ANTONYMS: (n) nymphomania, lewdness, adultery
- chatter:** (n, v) babble, gossip, prattle, gab, cackle, natter; (adj, n, v) jabber; (adj, v) prate, palaver; (v) blabber, patter. ANTONYM: (v) drawl
- cheat:** (n, v) trick, con, fake, sham; (n) fraud, bilk, impostor; (v) defraud, beguile, betray, fleece. ANTONYMS: (v) support, repay, help, contribute, aid
- cheerfulness:** (n) glee, happiness, exhilaration, hilarity, mirth, merriment, gladness, cheer, good spirits, pleasure, joviality. ANTONYMS: (n) sadness, grimness, seriousness, misery, resentment, uncheerfulness, solemnity, lethargy, bleakness, gravity, gloominess
- cheerily:** (adv) merrily, pleasantly, cheerfully, joyfully, gaily, brightly, happily, mirthfully, jovially, sunnily, blithely. ANTONYMS:

- (adv) nastily, sulkily, seriously, miserably, sadly
- cheering:** (adj, n) encouraging, inspiring; (adj) comforting, hearty, exhilarating, heartening, amusing; (n) applause, acclaim, ovation, cheers. ANTONYMS: (adj) disheartening, heartbreaking, discouraging, depressing, dejecting, disturbing
- cherished:** (adj) dear, precious, loved, treasured, prized, intimate, wanted, valued, pet, valuable, close. ANTONYMS: (adj) unremarkable, hated, distant
- cherub:** (n) baby, seraph, infant, cherubim, guardian angel, child, babe, archangel, cherubin
- chess:** (n) chess game, chess set, cheat, shogi, cheater, cheating, brome, brome grass, bearded darnel, checkers, board game
- chestnut:** (adj, n) auburn, commonplace; (n) chestnut tree, sweet chestnut, wood, anecdote, joke, banality; (adj) bay, trite, castaneous
- chestnuts:** (n) *Castanopsis*, *Fagaceae*, *Castanea*, genus *Castanea*, beech family
- chickens:** (n) Galliformes, order Galliformes
- childish:** (adj) childlike, naive, babyish, immature, simple, puerile, infantile, juvenile, silly, frivolous, young. ANTONYMS: (adj) sensible, old, wise, adult, jaded
- chili:** (n) Chile, chilli, capsicum, pepper, chili pepper, cayenne pepper, dish, jalapeno, hot pepper, chilli pepper, chili con carne
- chilled:** (adj) frozen, freezing, cool, refrigerated, icy, inhibited, restrained, confined, shivering, iced, stiff
- chilliness:** (n) coldness, cold, frigidity, chill, low temperature, cool, wintriness, frostiness, algor, iciness, algidity. ANTONYMS: (n) warmth, friendliness
- chilling:** (adj) icy, bloodcurdling, wintry, macabre, ghastly, cold, scary, apathetic; (n) cooling, freezing, refrigeration. ANTONYM: (adj) reassuring
- chilly:** (adj, adv) unfriendly; (adv) coolly, frigidly; (adj) cool, bleak, algid, freezing, frozen, icy, frosty; (adj, n) cold. ANTONYMS: (adj) hot, tropical, responsive, mild, welcoming, friendly, balmy, torrid
- chimaera:** (n) chimera
- chime:** (n) carillon, melody; (adj) harmonize; (v) go, jingle, clang, peal, tinkle, buzz, ring, chimb
- chimera:** (n) fantasy, dream, illusion, vision, chimaera, maggot, imagination, phantom, fancy, daydream; (adj) Minotaur. ANTONYM: (n) truth
- chimes:** (n) bells, echo, refrain, repetend, ritornello, glockenspiel
- chiming:** (v) mocking
- chiromancy:** (n) soothsaying, divination, foretelling, palm reading, chiromancy
- chirp:** (n, v) chirrup, peep; (v) sing, trill, chitter, warble, carol, emit, whistle, utter; (adj) take heart
- chirurgical:** (adj) chirurgic
- chiselled:** (adj) chiseled, clean-cut
- choking:** (n) strangulation, throttling, slugging, asphyxiation; (adj) suffocative, suffocating, smothering, breathless, clogging, bitter, blinding
- chopping:** (adj) jolly
- chords:** (n) key, clef
- chrysalis:** (n) larva, chicken, whelp, tadpole, pullet, fry, cub, cocoon, pupa, chrysalid, nestling
- chuckle:** (n, v) snicker, snigger, giggle, chortle, titter, crow; (v) chuck, laugh, cackle, exult; (n) laughter
- cipher:** (n) zero, nothing, number, nil, nobody, null; (n, v) figure, cypher, code; (v) calculate; (adj, n) nonentity. ANTONYMS: (n) infinity; (v) encode, decode, code, scramble
- circumference:** (n) circuit, border, perimeter, boundary, periphery, outline, brim, compass, circle, edge, rim. ANTONYMS: (n) middle, inside, interior, center
- circumlocution:** (n) verbiage, ambages, equivocation, evasion, verbosity, verbosity, quibble, indirect expression, circumstance, annulling, cancellation. ANTONYMS: (n) straightforwardness, conciseness, brevity
- circumscribed:** (adj) bounded, finite, confined, delimited, restricted, insular, narrow, bigoted, qualified, close, accurate
- circumstantial:** (adj) particular, detailed, incidental, thorough, presumptive, precise, coincidental, elaborate, exact, special, specific. ANTONYM: (adj) concrete
- citadel:** (n) castle, bastion, fortification, bulwark, Acropolis, fort, stronghold, tower, chateau; (n, v) fortress; (v) keep
- civilities:** (n) propriety
- civility:** (n) politeness, courtesy, comity, attention, propriety, affability, amenity, cultivation, complaisance, courteousness, civilization. ANTONYMS: (n) rudeness, incivility, coarseness
- clairvoyance:** (n) second sight, precognition, ESP, extrasensory perception, foresight, parapsychology, intuition, insight, electrobiology, third eye, telepathy
- clamber:** (v) scramble, crawl, scale, ascend, mount, shinny, shin, struggle, surmount, ramp, climber
- clamminess:** (n) damp, humidity, dampness, closeness, dankness, moisture, mugginess, wetness, wet, succulence. ANTONYMS: (n) dryness, freshness, smoothness
- clammy:** (adj) viscous, sweaty, sticky, muggy, moist, humid, damp, viscid, sultry, dank; (n) ropy. ANTONYMS: (adj) arid, dried, fresh
- clandestinely:** (adv) covertly, furtively, surreptitiously, stealthily, confidentially, privately, privily, hiddenly, secretively, obscurely, undercoverly. ANTONYMS: (adv) publicly, brazenly
- clang:** (n, v) chime, clangor, ring, clash, clank, clatter, sound; (adj, n, v) peal; (v) boom, clink; (n) crash
- clangor:** (n, v) clang, clangour; (n) din, crash, clash, clank, clatter, uproar, racket, roll, ring
- clangorous:** (adj) blatant, clanging, multisonous, powerful, shrill, resonant, hollow, full, deep
- clashing:** (adj, n) discordant; (n) collision, interference, antagonism, discord; (adj) conflicting, incompatible, opposed, contrary; (adv) clashingly; (v) bickering. ANTONYM: (adj) consistent
- classically:** (adv) typically, refinedly, ideally, modelly, exemplarily, archetypally, purely, correctly, primely, excellently, conventionally
- classify:** (n, v) arrange, sort, order, organize; (v) categorize, separate, assort, sort out, distinguish, rank, group. ANTONYMS: (v) disorder, disorganize, disarrange, lump
- claws:** (v) tentacle, tenaculum, unguis, hook, fangs, teeth; (n) clutches, jaws
- cleanly:** (adj) clean; (adv) clearly, tidily, purely, neatly, freshly, immaculately, spotlessly, unsulliedly, fairly, unadulteratedly

cleanness: (n) cleanliness, spotlessness, purity, sinlessness, whiteness, clean, innocence, neatness, tidiness, pureness, minimalism. ANTONYMS: (n) dirtiness, filth, clutter

cleft: (adj, n) split; (n) fissure, cleavage, crevice, rift, fracture, aperture, breach, chap, chink, crack. ANTONYM: (adj) united

cllematis: (n) blue jasmine

clenched: (adj) tight, clinched

clerically: (adv) sacerdotally, ministerially, ecclesiastically, theocratically

cleverly: (adv) cunningly, expertly, smartly, shrewdly, adroitly, intelligently, dexterously, handily, craftily, skillfully, acutely. ANTONYMS: (adv) clumsily, foolishly, honestly, ineptly, awkwardly, openly, incompetently

clew: (n) cue, clod, glob, knob, footmark, footprint, vestige; (v) point out; (adj) pellet, globule, Pelote

clime: (n) land, territory, region, meridian, zone, soil, sky, latitude

cling: (v) adhere, cleave, stick, cohere, hang, attach, grasp, adjoin, clutch, grip, hold. ANTONYMS: (v) detach, repel, unfasten

clocks: (n) alfileria, alfileria, storksbill, pin clover, redstem storksbill, pin grass, filaria, filaree

clockwork: (n) wheelwork. ANTONYMS: (n) inaccuracy, impreciseness, inconsistency

clod: (adj, n) lump; (n) oaf, glebe, ball, clay, yokel, gawk, agglomeration, lout, clump; (adj) block. ANTONYM: (n) intellect

cloister: (n) abbey, priory, monastery, arcade, friary, piazza, nunnery, circus, veranda; (v) encircle, insulate

closet: (n) cupboard, cubicle, cell, latrine, bathroom, wardrobe, water closet; (adj) clandestine, confidential, secret, private. ANTONYM: (adj) open

clothed: (adj) dressed, wrapped, cloaked, robed, covered, attired, vested, absorbed, decent; (v) accustomed, arrayed. ANTONYM: (adj) unclothed

clotted: (n) clammy, ropy, mastic, glutenous, gelatin; (adj) thick, clogged, grumous, bloody, choked, fleamy

cloudy: (adj) dull, gloomy, nebulous, murky, dark, turbid, foggy, muddy, misty, sunless, vaporous.

ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, bright, sunny, cloudless

clump: (n, v) cluster, bundle; (n) lump, group, clot, knot, tuft, chunk, clod, ball; (v) plod

clustered: (adj) agglomerated, agglomerative, bunched, bunchy, gregarious, concentrated, conglomerate, collective

coalesce: (v) amalgamate, combine, merge, unite, blend, incorporate, fuse, clot, mix, join, absorb. ANTONYMS: (v) divide, split, fragment

coalescence: (n) unification, amalgamation, conglutination, coalition, embodiment, fusion, incorporation, union, concretion, combination, merger

coals: (n) ashes, fire, residue, embers

cognizance: (n, v) cognition, acquaintance; (n) sense, consciousness, ken, notice, jurisdiction, note, observation, recognition; (v) knowledge

cognizant: (adj) mindful, conscious, sensible, knowing, knowledgeable, familiar, cognisant, perceptive, witting, conversant, acquainted. ANTONYMS: (adj) unwitting, ignorant, cognizant, oblivious, uninformed

cohort: (n) associate, gang, troop, colleague, accomplice, friend, cluster, band, follower, set, legion. ANTONYMS: (n) opponent, superior

coldness: (n) chilliness, coolness, indifference, distance, apathy, iciness, reserve, frost, frigidity, unconcern; (adj, n) cold. ANTONYMS: (n) friendliness, sympathy, sensitivity, hotness, heat, responsiveness, concern, brightness, kindness

collateral: (n) warranty, guarantee, mortgage, guaranty, security, pledge, bond; (adj) secondary, indirect, oblique, subsidiary. ANTONYMS: (adj) primary, chief, fundamental, principal, lineal

collocation: (n) disposal, configuration, collection, collocate, pair up, put into pairs, junction, classification, arrangement, disposition, apposition

colloquy: (n) talk, conference, conversation, dialog, chat, dialogue, colloquation, verbal intercourse, meeting, parley, interview

color: (n, v) flush, blush, tint, tinge, paint, stain; (adj, n, v) colour; (v)

redden; (n) guise, complexion; (adj, n) tone. ANTONYMS: (v) discolor, pale, show, whiten, untwist, denote, depict, represent, blanch, blench

colors: (n) flag, colours, paints, banner, color, colour, ensign, pigment, tint, dye, paint

colossal: (adj) huge, gargantuan, prodigious, Brobdingnagian, vast, enormous, great, mammoth, immense, massive, monstrous. ANTONYMS: (adj) tiny, small, insignificant, minute, compact, microscopic, miniature, slight

colouring: (n) coloration, painting, colour, coloring, color, tincture, tint, hue, colouration, dyeing, exterior condition

columnar: (adj) columned, stelene, columnlike, columniform, basaltiform

combattiveness: (n) aggression, aggressiveness, attack, fight, militance

combustible: (n) fuel, firing, butane, flammability; (adj) flammable, fiery, burnable, comburent, combustible, irritable, ignitable. ANTONYMS: (adj) fireproof, noncombustible, incombustible, diffusing, nonexplosive

comforter: (n) blanket, muffler, comfortable, pacifier, reliever, bedclothes, bedding, dummy, coverlet, cover, communicator

comfortless: (adj) dreary, desolate, bleak, uncomfortable, inconsolable, gloomy, lonely; (adj, v) disconsolate, forlorn; (v) joyless, sick at heart

commence: (v) begin, start, open, initiate, embark, institute, introduce, launch, arise, inaugurate, enter. ANTONYMS: (v) finish, stop, terminate, complete, remain, relinquish

commenced: (v) began, Gan; (adj) initiate, present

commencement: (n) opening, start, origin, birth, kickoff, inauguration, inception, onset, outset, origination, source. ANTONYMS: (n) middle, termination, finishing, finish, ending, conclusion, culmination

commensurate: (adj) equal, sufficient, commensurable, proportionate, equivalent, comparable, coextensive, tangible, valid, level, competent. ANTONYMS: (adj) inappropriate, inconsistent, incommensurate, divergent, inadequate

commoner: (n) burgher, layman, plebeian, common man, common

- person, proletary, proletaire, democrat, roturier, republican, pleb
- commotion:** (n) tumult, ado, disturbance, turmoil, stir, din, flurry, fuss, bedlam, tempest; (n, v) agitation. ANTONYMS: (n) peace, order, calm, serenity, calmness, stillness, quiet, tranquility, inactivity
- communicating:** (n) communication, intercommunication, suasion, expression, transmission, examination, intercourse, dramaturgy; (v) communicate; (adj) communicant, dramaturgic
- compiler:** (n) program, author, compiling program, programme, compiling, bookmaker, editor, translator, writer, compiler, encyclopedist
- complexion:** (n, v) tint; (n) cast, character, appearance, look, hue, aspect, flush, glow, dye, fashion
- compliment:** (n, v) praise, honor; (v) laud, flattery, applaud, greet, adulation, congratulate, belaud; (n) eulogy, tribute. ANTONYMS: (n) criticism, reproach, disparagement; (n, v) slander, libel; (v) criticize, denounce, disparage, denigrate, complain, belittle
- composure:** (n) calmness, serenity, poise, calm, equanimity, temper, aplomb, tranquillity, peace, temperament, disposition. ANTONYMS: (n) panic, discomposure, anger, nervousness, perturbation, anxiety, agitation, turbulence, awkwardness
- comprehend:** (v) grasp, catch, see, comprise, appreciate, feel, sense, apperceive, read; (adj, v) understand; (n, v) embrace. ANTONYMS: (v) mistake, misapprehend, exclude, misunderstand, misconceive
- comprehended:** (adj) understood, apprehended
- comprehensible:** (adj) intelligible, coherent, understandable, lucid, perspicuous, accessible, plain, apprehensible, comprehensible, readable, incomprehensible. ANTONYMS: (adj) unintelligible, illegible, unfathomable, obscure, doubtful, incomplete, difficult, unclear
- compressed:** (adj) flat, condensed, dense, concentrated, compacted, tight, pointed, packed, concise, close, brief
- concave:** (n) indentation, depression, concavity; (adj) cavernous, biconcave, cupped, dipped, arched, indented; (adj, n) crescent; (v) stove in. ANTONYM: (adj) curved
- concealing:** (n) covering, concealment, burial, stealing, stealth, screening, burying, screenings, activity; (adj) suppressive
- concealment:** (n) suppression, confidentiality, concealing, secrecy, screen, disguise, hiding, privacy, camouflage, blind, covering. ANTONYMS: (n) discovery, disclosure, exposure, expression, openness, uncovering, revelation
- conceive:** (v) think, imagine, comprehend, design, apprehend, realize, discover, cogitate, appreciate, invent, catch. ANTONYMS: (v) destroy, doubt, misunderstand, question, ruin
- conceiving:** (n) fantasy, daydream; (adj) imaginant, original
- conchetto:** (n) plaisanterie, quip, brilliant idea, crank, private joke, quiddity, quirk, standing jest, standing joke
- concision:** (n) brevity, pithiness, succinctness, briefness, schism, terseness, shortness; (v) abridgment, curtailment, retrenchment
- concluding:** (adj) last, terminal, ultimate, closing, definitive, conclusive, latest; (n) ending, dying, finishing, reasoning. ANTONYMS: (adj) opening, former, first
- conclusive:** (adj) decisive, undeniable, definitive, certain, definite, crucial, indisputable, ultimate; (adj, prep) cogent; (adj, v) unanswerable, determinate. ANTONYMS: (adj) indecisive, uncertain, dubious, unconfirmed, indefinite, questionable, iffy, opening, unconvincing, provisional
- concocted:** (adj) unnatural, trumped up, hypothetical, fake, false
- condensation:** (n) abridgement, liquefaction, synopsis, compression, capsule, contraction, abridgment, abstract, abbreviation, concentration, epitome. ANTONYMS: (n) dryness, expansion
- condensed:** (adj) concise, compressed, concentrated, succinct, compact, summary, compendious, short, shortened; (adj, v) condense; (n) tabloid. ANTONYMS: (adj) loose, uncondensed, diluted, expanded, convoluted, long
- conferred:** (adj) given, presented
- confessing:** (v) confess
- confessor:** (n) priest, penitentiary, communicator, shriver, minister, Holy Father, father
- confine:** (n, v) bound, border, limit; (v) bind, restrain, circumscribe, tie, incarcerate, hold; (n) boundary, bounds. ANTONYMS: (v) release, free, liberate, broaden
- confines:** (n) boundary, bound, barrier, compass, limit, limits, range, frontier; (adj) environs, alentours; (adj, n) neighborhood
- confining:** (adj) restricting, limiting, narrow, confined, oppressive, stringent, constrictive, restrictive, closemouthed; (v) confine; (n) contraction
- conflagration:** (n) blaze, inferno, flame, wildfire, combustion, holocaust, burning, bonfire, empyrosis, flagation; (n, v) deflagration
- conflicting:** (adj) repugnant, opposed, incompatible, clashing, inconsistent, opposite, contrary, divergent, adverse, paradoxical; (v) antagonistic. ANTONYMS: (adj) consistent, compatible, parallel, peaceful, harmonious, corresponding, agreeing, agreeable, congruous
- conformation:** (n) shape, compliance, constitution, configuration, accordance, composition, build, accord, cast, line, formation. ANTONYMS: (n) disobedience, noncompliance
- confound:** (v) bewilder, baffle, nonplus, perplex, astonish, puzzle, amaze, astound, mistake; (adj, v) confuse, stupefy. ANTONYMS: (v) explain, clarify, comfort, lose, distinguish; (n) understanding
- confounded:** (adj) bemused, accursed, execrable, baffled, cursed, befuddled, confused, puzzled, aghost, perplexed; (adj, v) abashed
- confusedly:** (adv) obscurely, disorderedly, perplexedly, cloudily, dazedly, befuddledly, muddily, bemusedly, dizzily, bewilderedly, puzzledly
- congealed:** (adj) firm, solidify, frozen, jelled, jellied, stiff, thick, concrete
- congeniality:** (n) congenialness, friendliness, niceness, sympathy, fitness, suitability, amiability, likability, peace. ANTONYM: (n) uncongeniality
- conglomeration:** (n) conglomerate, congeries, sum, agglomeration,

aggregation, accumulation, mass, pile, medley, collection, ball

conical: (adj) pyramidal, tapering, copped, conelike, coniform, taper, cone, tapered, copped, pointed

conjecture: (n) supposition, speculation, assumption, surmise, hypothesis; (v) suppose, believe, anticipate, assume, speculate; (n, v) estimate. ANTONYMS: (n) certainty; (v) demonstrate, know, learn, prove

conjoined: (adj) concomitant, conjunct, associated, concurrent, united, inseparable, coincident, attending, associate, accompanying, adjunct

conjointly: (adv) collectively, unitedly, communally, together, altogether, mutually, conjunctly, conjoinedly, combined, also, completely

conjured: (adj) invented, made up, pretended, untrue. ANTONYM: (adj) factual

conjuror: (n) magician, seer, illusionist, prestidigitator, conjure man, jockey, performer, wizard, witch, trickster, necromancer

connecting: (n) concatenation, assembly, attachment, connection, connexion, joining, coupling, junction, fastening, articulation; (adj) connected

connexion: (n) conjunction, connector, connective, connection, association, bond, concatenation, join, linkage, link, junction

connoisseurship: (n) discernment, taste, artistic quality, vertu, appreciation, virtu

conquered: (adj) overcome, vanquished, overwhelmed, crushed, subdued, profligate, routed, overthrown, done for, under enemy control, baffled. ANTONYMS: (adj) victorious, liberated

conqueror: (n) champion, winner, subjugator, vanquisher, hero, superior, defeater, subduer, invader, colonist, Alexander. ANTONYM: (n) loser

consigned: (adj) destined, aboard

consigning: (n) delegation

conspicuously: (adv) prominently, eminently, remarkably, obviously, clearly, outstandingly, evidently, manifestly, plainly, strikingly; (adj, adv) noticeably. ANTONYMS: (adv) imperceptibly, unnoticeably, vaguely

constrained: (adj) forced, bound, stiff,

strained, awkward, compelled, limited, affected, stilted, rigid, unnatural. ANTONYMS: (adj)

unrestricted, liberated, natural, open

constructiveness: (n) usefulness

consuming: (adj) blazing, overwhelming, burning, absorbing, corrosive; (v) grating, searching, grinding, racking; (n) consumption, wasting

consummate: (adj, v) perfect; (n, v) conclude, crown; (v) accomplish, achieve, execute; (adj) accomplished, absolute, profound, matchless, masterful. ANTONYMS: (adj) inadequate, mediocre, incomplete, deficient, amateurish, untrained, abysmal, inept; (v) start, initiate, begin

consummation: (n) accomplishment, completion, fulfillment, fruition, performance, execution, climax, attainment, perfection, end, realization

contagion: (n) plague, contagious disease, taint, transmission, contamination, disease, conduction, pest, corruption, pollution, grippe

contemplated: (adj) intended, willful

contemplation: (n) consideration, reflection, thought, attention, cogitation, musing, introspection, speculation, animus, deliberation; (n, v) study

contemplative: (adj, v) reflective, pensive, wistful, meditative, introspective; (adj) broody, brooding, speculative, ruminative, musing; (v) museful. ANTONYMS: (adj) shallow, vacuous, blank, thoughtless, disregarding, unreflective, satisfied

contemptible: (adj) abject, mean, base, pitiful, little, worthless, unworthy, miserable, ignoble, abominable, shameful.

ANTONYMS: (adj) estimable, admired, deserving, worthy, honorable, respectable, respectful, noble, generous, commendable, good

contemptuous: (adj) scornful, disdainful, insulting, arrogant, proud, haughty, derisive, cynical, sarcastic, disrespectful; (adj, v) supercilious. ANTONYMS: (adj) approving, complimentary, deferential, humble, polite, respected, admiring

contemptuously: (adv) scornfully, sneeringly, insultingly, disparagingly, superciliously,

derisively, condescendingly, disrespectfully, haughtily, contumeliously, sardonically.

ANTONYM: (adv) approvingly

contentedly: (adv) gladly, satisfiedly, contently, gratifiedly, pleasedly, cheerfully, joyfully, smugly, easily, complacently, placidly.

ANTONYMS: (adv) crossly, awkwardly, unhappily, discontentedly, sadly

contour: (n) contour line, outline, form, profile, shape, line, configuration, silhouette, curve, circuit, edge. ANTONYM: (n) core

contradistinction: (n) distinction, opposition, differentiation, antithesis, variation, antagonism

contrasting: (adj) diverse, conflicting, counter, diametric, distinct, assorted, contrastive, dissimilar, incongruent, miscellaneous; (n) division. ANTONYMS: (adj) like, uniform

contrived: (adj) affected, unnatural, false, forced, labored, spurious, feigned, unreal, strained, built, artificially formal. ANTONYM: (adj) sincere

confusion: (adj) attenuation, comminution, detrition, levigation, multure, trituration; (n) swelling, concussion, discoloration, trauma, bump

conversant: (adj) proficient, knowing, informed, familiar, versed, learned, cognizant, conscious, erudite, experienced, skilled. ANTONYMS: (adj) unfamiliar, oblivious, inexperienced

converse: (n, v) chat, discourse, argue; (v) confer, confabulate, speak; (n) conversation, colloquy, contrast; (adj, n) opposite; (adj) counter. ANTONYMS: (adj, n) equal; (adj) similar, complementary; (n) similarity

convertible: (adj) adaptable, commutable, interchangeable, transmutable, changeable, much at one; (n) car, automobile, sofa, security, motorcar

converting: (n) conversion, converting operation

convex: (adj) gibbous, biconvex, hunched, bulgy, protuberant, prominent; (adj, n) crescent; (v) protrude, bulge out, stick out, projecting. ANTONYMS: (adj) concave, sunken

conveyed: (v) borne, sent

conveying: (n) conveyance, delivery,

- conveyancing, conveyance of title, transference, transmission, convey, transmit, assigning, transfer, delegation
- convict:** (adj, n) felon; (n) captive, con, criminal, jailbird, inmate, prisoner, malefactor, offender; (v) convince, sentence. ANTONYMS: (n) innocent; (v) liberate, release, free, exonerate, absolve, clear
- convolute:** (v) deform, twist, sophisticate, pervert, convolve, curl, bend, wind, turn, refer, denote
- convulsion:** (adj, n, v) spasm; (n) fit, paroxysm, commotion, attack, clonus, shake, seizure, upheaval, cramp; (adj, n) disturbance. ANTONYM: (n) peace
- convulsions:** (n) convulsion, spasm, epilepsies, eclampsia, mirth
- convulsive:** (adj) spastic, galvanic, fitful, paroxysmal, violent, choreic, unsteady, hysterical; (v) unquiet, restless, saltatory
- convulsively:** (adv) spasmodically, paroxysmally, spastically, with convulsions
- coolly:** (adv) quietly, composedly, coldly, collectedly, nonchalantly, placidly, serenely, chilly, steadily, frostily, frigidly. ANTONYMS: (adv) nervously, anxiously, agitatedly, expressively, boisterously, enthusiastically
- coolness:** (n) chill, cool, composure, assurance, cold, calmness, alienation, frigidity, equanimity, chilliness, poise. ANTONYMS: (n) friendliness, panic, approachability, mustiness, turbulence, agitation
- coop:** (n, v) pen; (n) birdcage, enclosure, jail, hutch, cell, henhouse, hencoop, gaol, cote; (v) impound
- copyist:** (n, v) clerk, scrivener; (v) amanuensis, penman, writer, quill driver; (n) copier, copycat, mimic, dauber, employee
- coquetry:** (v) captation, obsequiousness, sentimentalism, sycophancy, mock modesty, minauderie, toadeating, flunkeyism, prudery; (n) dalliance, invitation
- coral:** (adj) rosy, chromatic; (n) roe, red coral, red, precious coral, madrepore, anthozoan, actinozoan, orange
- cordial:** (adj) genial, warm, affable, amiable, friendly, genuine, ardent, unaffected, gracious, honest; (n) liqueur. ANTONYMS: (adj) unfriendly, stern, cold, cool, disagreeable, aloof, reserved, distant, rude, uncordial, unpleasant
- cordiality:** (adj, n) friendliness, geniality, sympathy, sociability; (n) hospitality, sincerity, affability, amity, kindness, amiability; (v) heartiness. ANTONYMS: (n) frostiness, disapproval, disapprobation, disagreement, difference, misunderstanding, hostility, rudeness
- cordially:** (adv) warmly, genially, kindly, sincerely, heartfully, ardently, friendly, jovially, earnestly, affectionately, harmoniously. ANTONYMS: (adv) disagreeably, frostily
- cornice:** (n) architrave, zoophorus, entablature, epistyle, framing, framework, pediment, projection, sconce; (v) furnish, provide
- correcting:** (n) amendment, correction, rectification, adjustment, compensation, reading
- corroborative:** (adj) corroboratory, collateral, confirmative, confirming, affirmative, corroborant, substantiating, verifying, verificatory, validatory, substantiative
- couch:** (n) bed, sofa, settee, divan; (adj, v) lie; (v) express, put, frame, lower, repose; (adj) recline
- coutenance:** (n) aspect, expression, brow, complexion; (n, v) face, sanction, support, favor; (v) allow, tolerate, uphold. ANTONYMS: (v) reject, oppose, discourage, disapprove, prohibit
- counterfeiting:** (n) forgery, simulation, contraband, plagiarism, imitation
- couplet:** (n) distich, verse, twosome, stanza, pair, canto, rhyme, triplet, quatrain, deuce, two
- courageously:** (adv) intrepidly, valiantly, boldly, daringly, fearlessly, gallantly, heroically, hardily, dauntlessly, audaciously, stoutheartedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) timidly, execrably, fearfully, nervously
- courier:** (n) emissary, herald, runner, bearer, cicerone, ambassador, envoy, conveyor, conveyer, carrier, valet de place. ANTONYMS: (n) receiver, sender
- courteous:** (adj, v) civil; (adj) affable, attentive, gracious, decorous, chivalrous, bland, thoughtful, urbane, mannerly, gentlemanly. ANTONYMS: (adj) rude, impolite, boorish, insulting, unmannerly, gruff, improper, vulgar, unhelpful, neglectful, graceless
- courtier:** (n) aristocrat, official, attendant, suckling
- cove:** (n) bay, cave, harbor, bight, inlet, recess, creek, glen, man, fellow, guy
- covert:** (adj) clandestine, hidden, concealed, secret, underground, undercover; (n) cover, blind, refuge, concealment, covering. ANTONYMS: (adj) open, aboveboard, unconcealed, public, blatant
- coveted:** (adj) sought after, desirable, in demand. ANTONYM: (adj) unpopular
- cowardice:** (n) dastardliness, poltroonery, pusillanimity, fear, spirit, cravenness, timidity, fearfulness, base fear, cowardship. ANTONYMS: (n) nerve, bravery, daring, determination
- coxcombry:** (v) conceit, puppyism, dandyism, man millinery
- cracking:** (n) crack, break, fracture; (adj) splitting, swell, smashing, corking, bully, great, keen, neat. ANTONYMS: (adj) smooth, slow
- cradle:** (n) cot, birthplace, nursery, berth, crib, nest, hammock, bassinet, origin; (v) hold, groundwork
- crafty:** (adj) cunning, adroit, sly, astute, artful, wily, clever, tricky, shift, designing, scheming. ANTONYMS: (adj) naive, open, honest, guileless, artless, straightforward, trustworthy, ingenuous, blatant, straight
- crag:** (adj, n) rock; (n) bluff, precipice, heugh; (adj) stone, pike, crest, granite, quartz, sugar loaf, crystal
- craggy:** (adj) cragged, rugged, rocky, cliffy, jagged, hilly, harsh, uneven, broken, precipitous, abrupt. ANTONYMS: (adj) even, flat, level
- crashing:** (n) destruction, thunder; (adj) roaring, deafening, wicked, booming
- craved:** (adj) coveted
- craging:** (n) appetite, addiction, appetite, eagerness, hankering, yen, hunger; (n, v) desire, appetency; (adj, n) longing; (adj) eager. ANTONYMS: (n) disgust, hatred, distaste, repulsion, aversion, apathy, disinclination; (adj) unconcerned, disinterested
- crayons:** (v) charcoal, pastel
- creak:** (v) pipe, screech, twang, skreigh, resound, jangle, gnash, confess; (n) creaking; (adv)

creakingly; (adj) ancient
creamy: (adj) greasy, sandy, buttery, pearly, soft, oily, rich, smooth, thick, fatty, unctuous. ANTONYMS: (adj) light, lumpy, clear, watery
creator: (n) author, originator, producer, maker, inventor, artist, founder, builder, manufacturer, initiator, God. ANTONYM: (n) destructor
credible: (adj) convincing, likely, plausible, reasonable, faithful, specious, conceivable, persuasive, possible, probable; (adj, n) authentic. ANTONYMS: (adj) unbelievable, incredible, unconvincing, unlikely, impossible, doubtful, inaccurate, unrealistic
credited: (adj) accredited, accepted. ANTONYM: (adj) unofficial
credulity: (n) credulousness, trustingness, trust, innocence, trustfulness, faith, lack of caution, naiveté, unwariness, acceptance. ANTONYM: (n) wariness
creep: (v) grovel, sneak, steal, fawn, lurk, truckle, cringe; (n) creeping, crawling, toady, sycophant. ANTONYMS: (v) race, dash, hasten, hurry, speed, fly
creeping: (n) creep, crawl, locomotion, spreading; (v) lensor; (adj) reptile, slow, repentant, reptatory, serpiginous, moving
crescent: (n) circus, carve, arch, arcade, bow, peristyle, lunule; (adj) semilunar, falcate; (adj, n) convex, concave. ANTONYMS: (adj) uncoiled, straight, unbent, unbowed
crevice: (n) cleft, break, chink, cranny, chap, fissure, interstice, rift, gap, hole, fracture
crimson: (adj, n) carmine, ruby, scarlet, maroon; (v) blush, flush, redden; (adj) bloody, ruddy, cherry; (n) deep red
crooked: (adj) bent, corrupt, dishonest, curved, unfair, deformed; (adj, n, v) awry; (adj, v) irregular, askew, wry, indirect. ANTONYMS: (adj) straight, honest, principled, even, aboveboard, lawful, level, moral, flat, aligned, honorable
crotch: (n, v) caprice; (n) quirk, kink, crank, hook, fad, whim, quirkiness, queeriness, quarter note, oddity
crouch: (v) bend, couch, cringe, squat, sneak, bow, huddle, stoop, lie down, crawl, hunch
crowned: (adj) laureled, fulfilled, browbound, incoronate, successful

crucible: (n) melting pot, retort, calabash, touchstone, still, vessel, matrix, pix, reagent, ordeal, check
crumbled: (adj) rotten, fragmented
crumbling: (adj, v) moldering, ramshackle; (adj) rotten, dilapidated, worn out; (n) ruin, decay, disintegration, fragmentation; (v) waterlogged, tainted. ANTONYM: (adj) pristine
crumpled: (adj) rumpled, crinkly, wrinkled, bent, corrugated, crinkled, disheveled, lined, furrowed, dented, damaged
crushing: (adj) overpowering, overwhelming, destructive; (n) grinding, quelling, stifling, suppression, flattening, pressure; (v) shatter; (adv) crushingly. ANTONYMS: (adj) mild, wonderful
crypt: (n) tomb, mausoleum, cellar, sepulcher, catacomb, closet, grave, choir, chancel, aisle, krypton
cuff: (n, v) hit, knock, clout, punch, slap, whack, manacle, handcuff; (v) box, buffet, beat
cultivated: (adj) cultured, refined, tame, educated, sophisticated, elegant, urbane, polished, accomplished, civil, polite. ANTONYMS: (adj) wild, untamed, uncouth, coarse, graceless
cultivating: (adj) educating, taming, humanizing, calming
cunning: (adj) crafty, canny, adroit, wily, sly, shrewd, tricky, artful; (n) craftiness, craft, cleverness. ANTONYMS: (adj) simple, honest, stupid, unimaginative, gullible, ingenuous, straightforward, candid, sincere; (n) frankness, straightforwardness
cunningly: (adv) craftily, artfully, cleverly, ingeniously, trickily, shrewdly, astutely, insidiously, smartly, foxily, slipperily. ANTONYMS: (adv) ineptly, openly
curio: (n) antique, oddity, bibelot, peculiarity, rarity, virtu, sundry, wonder, whatchamacallit, whatis, stuff
curling: (adj) curled, curly, moving, curled up; (adv) curlingly; (n) croquet, pallone, polo, tipcat, golf, curling edge
curse: (n, v) blight, plague; (n) anathema, blasphemy, malediction, denunciation; (adj, v) beshrew; (v) swear, ban, damn, vituperate. ANTONYMS: (n) blessing, benediction, making; (v) communicate

cursed: (adj) damned, doomed, execrable, cursed, wretched, unlucky, accursed, blamed, blasted, confounded; (v) accurst. ANTONYMS: (adj) commendable, honorable, nice, sweet, kine
cursor: (adj) careless, passing, fleeting, perfunctory, ephemeral, superficial, slapdash, facile, evanescent, sketchy, shallow. ANTONYMS: (adj) complete, comprehensive, meticulous, long
curt: (adj) concise, brief, abrupt, short, brusque, crisp, terse, laconic, rude, churlish, crusty. ANTONYMS: (adj) polite, friendly, courteous, gracious, civil, lengthy, rambling, voluble, caring, loquacious, convoluted
curvature: (n) bend, arch, bow, crook, arc, shape, curvity, twist, curliness, incurvation, winding
cylindrical: (adj) cylinder, round, tubular, rounded, tubelike, vasiform, cylindroid, bulging, complete, circular
cypress: (n) cyprus, wood, cypresses, juniper, sequoia, sandarac, cypress tree; (adj) deep mourning, willow, mourning, cypress green
dabbled: (adj) bespattered, besplashed, covered, covered patchily, splattered, splashed, splattered, splashy; (v) soggy
dagger: (n) bodkin, sword, blade, obelisk, knife, stiletto, dirk, cutlass, grapeme, saber, skean
daintiness: (adj, n) frailty, fragility, weakness, dainty; (n) fineness, loveliness, niceness, fastidiousness, finesse, refinement, nicety. ANTONYMS: (n) inelegance, sturdiness, ugliness
dalliance: (n) delay, play, flirt, flirting, billing and cooing, coquetry, petting, holdup, hanky-panky, necking, love affair
dallying: (n) frivolity; (adj) flirtatious, dilatory
damnable: (adj) cursed, damned, abominable, hateful, accursed, devilish, infernal, disgusting, sinful, deplorable, offensive. ANTONYMS: (adj) commendable, laudable, praiseworthy
damnation: (n) damn, condemnation, anathema, state, curse, execration, judgment, oath, imprecation, denunciation, denouncement
dampness: (n) clamminess, humidity, moistness, moisture, wet, wetness, vapor, dankness, drizzle, heat, mugginess. ANTONYMS: (n)

dryness, smoothness, freshness

damps: (adj) humid

damsel: (n) demoiselle, damosel, damozel, damoiselle, wench, maiden, maid, girl, nymph, unmarried woman, virgin

dangling: (adj) suspended, pendent, pendant, limp, floppy, pendulous; (n) suspension, abeyance, break, abatement; (adv) adangle.

ANTONYM: (adj) upright

dank: (adj) damp, wet, moist, humid, sticky, soggy, sultry, muggy, juicy, rheumy, musty. ANTONYMS: (adj) arid, parched, bright

daring: (adj, n) bold, courageous, adventurous; (adj) audacious, venturesome, intrepid; (n) bravery, audacity, boldness, courage, adventurousness. ANTONYMS: (n) cowardice, timidity; (adj) timid, cautious, dull, afraid, chicken, fearful, unadventurous, wimpy

dashed: (v) ashamed, cut up, sunk; (adj) broken, done for, dejected, discouraged, dotted

dashing: (adj) stylish, dapper, gallant, showy, smart, snappy, impetuous, rakish, raffish, brave; (adj, n) spruce. ANTONYMS: (adj) boring, uns stylish, dull, bumbling, bland, awkward, drab, graceless

daubed: (adj) beplastered, covered, greasy

dauntless: (adj) brave, bold, audacious, daring, fearless, intrepid, stout, heroic, valiant, confident, gallant. ANTONYMS: (adj) irresolute, terrified, scared, poltroon, fearful, daunted, frightened, afraid, cowardly

davy: (n) Humphrey Davy

dawdling: (adj) slow, dilatory, tardy, deliberate, measured, laggard; (n) dalliance, coquetry, trifling, dithering, wavering. ANTONYMS: (n) decisiveness; (adj) rushed, fast

daybreak: (adj, n) break of day; (n) sunrise, prime, morning, light, dawning, cockcrow, dayspring, aurora, sunup, daylight.

ANTONYMS: (n) sunset, sundown, darkness, eventide, nightfall

dazzle: (v) bedazzle, blind, captivate; (n, v) sparkle, shine, flash, glare, awe; (adj) dazzling, confuse; (n) brightness. ANTONYMS: (v) bore; (n) dullness

dazzling: (adj) brilliant, blinding, splendid, glaring, vivid, stunning, dazzlingly, striking, sparkling, fulgent, resplendent. ANTONYMS:

(adj) dim, ugly, uninspired, unremarkable, unexceptional, gradual, abysmal, humdrum, dark

deaden: (n, v) dampen, blunt, benumb, stun, obtund; (adj, n, v) damp; (v) muffle, mute, cushion; (adj, v) quell; (adj) allay.

ANTONYMS: (v) accentuate, amplify, enliven, heighten, strengthen, build, invigorate, increase

deafen: (adj) stun, render deaf; (v) desensitize, soften, weaken, muffle, deave, dampen, blindfold

dearest: (n) dear, darling, love, honey, lover, sweetheart, loved one, baby; (adj) precious, intimate, sweet

deathful: (adj) mortal

debauch: (v) corrupt, debase, deprave, demoralize, vitiate, violate, whore, pollute; (n) Saturnalia, orgy; (n, v) riot. ANTONYMS: (v) upgrade, praise, laud, elevate, honor

decayed: (adj) spoiled, corrupt, dilapidated, rank, rusty, rotting, decaying, rotted, putrid; (adj, v) wasted; (v) stale. ANTONYMS: (adj) matured, restored, strengthened

decaying: (adj) rotten, decayed, rotting, stale, decadent, stinking, decomposed, smelly, shabby, seedy; (n) fading. ANTONYM: (adj) pristine

decease: (v) go, die, perish, pass, pass away, exit, expire; (n) demise, passing, departure, expiration. ANTONYMS: (n) nascency; (v) survive

deceive: (v) cheat, circumvent, bamboozle, pretend, hoax, fool, cozen, trick, beguile; (n, v) dupe; (n) fraud. ANTONYMS: (v) guide, inform, undeceive, protect

deceived: (adj) mistaken, misguided

decency: (n) dignity, modesty, decorum, kindness, morality, courtesy, correctness, goodness, virtue, respectability, propriety. ANTONYMS: (n) indecency, offensiveness, corruption, immorality, wickedness, unsuitability, unkindness, rudeness, impropriety, badness, nastiness

decidedly: (adv) clearly, positively, definitely, absolutely, emphatically, decisively, resolutely, firmly, markedly, surely, determinedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) uncertainly, equivocally, slightly, vaguely

decisively: (adv) resolutely, conclusively, firmly, finally, fatefully, crucially, definitively,

positively, absolutely, definitely, flatly. ANTONYMS: (adv) irresolutely, unconvincingly, indecisively, aimlessly, insignificantly, halfheartedly, hesitantly

declivity: (n) decline, fall, downhill, downgrade, incline, dip, slope; (n, v) gradient; (v) acclivity, ascent, bank

decomposition: (n) decay, rot, putrefaction, dissolution, disintegration, rotting, deterioration, analysis, rust, corruption, degradation

decorations: (n) flags, badges, streamers, bunting, insignia, streamer

decorum: (n) propriety, gentility, decorousness, dignity, fitness, manners, correctness, ceremony, properness, politeness, grace. ANTONYMS: (n) impoliteness, rudeness, informality, indecorum, impropriety, indecency, corruption, abandon, vulgarity

deduce: (v) infer, assume, derive, guess, deduct, conclude, construe, understand, reason, take, surmise.

ANTONYMS: (v) misinterpret, misunderstand, speculate, confuse

deducing: (n) thought; (adj) observant

deem: (v) believe, assume, consider, count, hold, think, feel, view, suppose, regard, imagine.

ANTONYMS: (v) disregard, doubt

deepen: (v) intensify, amplify, develop, rise, redouble, heighten, strengthen, raise, magnify, increase, darken. ANTONYMS: (v) lower, contract, shorten, reduce, lessen, decrease, lighten, diminish

deepened: (adj) concentrated, gathered

deepening: (n) amplification, aggravation

deepest: (adj) inmost, center, cordial, earnest, genuine, hearty, warm, sincere, innermost. ANTONYM: (adj) outermost

deep-set: (adj) hollow

deference: (n) homage, respect, compliance, admiration, allegiance, reverence, obedience, submission, compliancy, duty, complaisance. ANTONYMS: (n) contempt, opposition, rebellion, resistance, disobedience

deferred: (adj) put off, delayed, belated, late, later than usual. ANTONYMS: (adj) hurried, hastened, expedited, advanced,

early

defiance: (n) challenge, opposition, rebellion, insubordination, rebelliousness, disobedience, resistance, contempt, intractableness, mutiny, contradiction. ANTONYMS: (n) acceptance, surrender, deference, conformance, submission, acquiescence, cooperation, loyalty, meekness, support, agreement

definiteness: (n) certainty, conclusiveness, accuracy, exactness, finality, decisiveness, definition, predictability, intelligibility, resolution, expressness.

ANTONYM: (n) uncertainty

definitively: (adv) decisively, conclusively, definitely, categorically, determinately, eventually, ultimately, explicitly, unequivocally, terminally, crucially

definitiveness: (n) correctness, exactness, precision

deformed: (adj) distorted, misshapen, bent, malformed, ugly, crippled, contorted, warped, shapeless, twisted, deform. ANTONYMS: (adj) beautiful, flawless, unflawed, perfect, straight

defy: (n, v) dare; (v) brave, resist, ignore, confront, revolt, oppose, withstand, disobey, contradict; (n) defiance. ANTONYMS: (v) obey, acquiesce, surrender, yield, comply, accept

deity: (n) God, godhead, godhood, godship, idol, immortal, goddess, Jupiter; (adj, n) divinity, the Deity, theology. ANTONYMS: (n) human, mortal, person

deliberation: (n) cogitation, counsel, debate, caution, thought, advisement, attention, contemplation, consultation; (adj, n) calculation, circumspection. ANTONYMS: (n) thoughtlessness, carelessness, impetuosity, distraction, rashness

delicacy: (adj, n) weakness, fragility, tidbit; (n) finesse, daintiness, delicate, elegance, sensitivity, luxury, treat, airiness. ANTONYMS: (n) sturdiness, toughness, durability, frankness, inelegance, ruggedness, vulgarity, tactlessness, insensitivity, inaccuracy, clumsiness

delicately: (adv) exquisitely, softly, tenderly, gracefully, subtly, sensitively, daintily, precisely, elegantly, ticklishly, weakly. ANTONYMS: (adv) inelegantly,

tactlessly, thickly, imprecisely, clumsily, ungracefully, unsubtly, heavily, carelessly, roughly, severely

deliciously: (adv) delightfully, nicely, scrumptiously, tastily, goodly, sweetly, delicately, toothsomely, appetizingly, daintily, juicily

delineation: (n) portrayal, description, picture, definition, drawing, design, outline, diagram, plan, sketch, illustration.

ANTONYM: (n) unity

delirious: (adj) crazy, wild, frantic, wandering, demented, excited, insane, mad, frenetic, doting, drunk.

ANTONYMS: (adj) unexcited, rational, composed, relaxed, reasonable, balanced, lucid, collected, clearheaded, calm, dejected

delirium: (n) craze, insanity, mania, disturbance, fever, ecstasy, derangement; (adj, n) fury; (adj) furor, rage, distraction.

ANTONYMS: (n) indifference, dejection

deliverance: (n) salvation, rescue, release, freedom, escape, emancipation, delivery, relief, liberation, liberty, salvage.

ANTONYMS: (n) downfall, suppression

deliverer: (n) saviour, deliveryman, redeemer, rescuer, bailor, Christ, individual, human, somebody, person, helper

delude: (v) cheat, deceive, betray, defraud, beguile, cozen, mislead, fool, trick, bamboozle, circumvent

delusion: (n) hallucination, deception, cheat, chimera, misunderstanding, mirage, trick, fallacy, error, aberration, falsehood.

ANTONYMS: (n) comprehension, fact, truth

demeanor: (n, v) bearing, conduct; (n) carriage, air, deportment, attitude, manner, behaviour, guise, mien, port

demon: (n) ghost, fiend, incubus, monster, daemon, ogre, daimon, goblin, deuce, genie, elf.

ANTONYM: (n) saint

demoniac: (adj) diabolic, devilish, possessed, demoniacal, amuck, amok, berserk, violent; (n) fiend, monster, ogre

demoniacal: (adj) demonic, amuck, berserk, amok, diabolical; (adj, v) devilish; (v) satanic, diabolic, mephistophelian, beside oneself, bouleverse

demoniacally: (adv) demonically, possessedly, brutally, frenetically
demure: (adj) humble, modest, coy, reserved, prim, bashful, shy, retiring, timid; (adj, v) sober, grave.

ANTONYMS: (adj) bold, outgoing, extroverted, loudmouthed, boisterous, decadent, exciting, indecorous, brazen

demurely: (adv) soberly, primly, virtuously, staidly, reservedly, solemnly, sedately, bashfully, seriously, gravely, properly.

ANTONYMS: (adv) improperly, brazenly, brashly, boldly

denominate: (v) designate, entitle, nominate, style, christen, denote, title, dub; (n, v) name, appoint; (n) term

denouement: (n) catastrophe, end, close, conclusion, consummation, ending, finish, result, issue, upshot, outcome. ANTONYM: (n) start

denounce: (v) censure, decry, accuse, brand, criticize, damn, reproach, excoriate, betray, arraign, scold.

ANTONYMS: (v) commend, compliment, honor, laud, approve, support

densely: (adv) solidly, heavily, slowly, obtusely, compactly, firmly, dully, dumbly, closely, tightly, stupidly. ANTONYMS: (adv) loosely, sparsely, brightly

depart: (v) go, deviate, decrease, diverge, start, stray, wander, leave, die, vary, part. ANTONYMS: (v) stay, arrive, enter, come, abide, conform, continue, remain, appear, converge, return

departed: (adj) dead, bygone, late, former, bypass, defunct, past, left; (adj, v) gone, extinct; (n) decedent. ANTONYMS: (adj) remaining, alive

departing: (adj, v) parting; (adj, n) leaving, going away; (adj) outgoing, outbound, outward, passing, decedent, valedictory, retiring; (v) depart. ANTONYM: (n) arrival

depicted: (adj) pictured, represented, graphic, delineated; (v) depict
deplorable: (adj) sad, wretched, criminal, calamitous, abominable, pitiful, lamentable, miserable, regrettable, sorry; (adj, v) woeful.

ANTONYMS: (adj) acceptable, pleasing, laudable, happy, cheerful, admirable, agreeable, excellent, fortunate, praiseworthy

deplorably: (adv) pathetically, pathetically, woefully, lamentably, pitifully, regrettably, unforgivably,

- unpardonably, unfortunately, abominably, seriously.
ANTONYMS: (adv) laudably, understandably
- depopulated:** (adj) abandoned, deserted, uninhabited
- depriving:** (adj) scanty, privative, grudging, causing privation, stinging
- deputed:** (prep) delegated; (adj) delegate
- derision:** (n) contempt, mockery, scorn, banter, jeering, disdain, scoff, insult, irony, sport, gibe.
ANTONYMS: (n) applause, esteem, admiration, praise, approval
- derivable:** (adj) inferable, dogmatic, inducible, obtainable, traductive
- descendant:** (adj, n) descendant; (n) offspring, progeny, scion, offshoot, successor, relation, heir, derivative, follower, sprig. **ANTONYMS:** (n) precursor, progenitor, parent, forebear, ascendant, predecessor
- descending:** (v) descend; (adj) downhill, down, descendent, decreasing, dropping, falling, sloping, degressive, occative; (adv) downward. **ANTONYM:** (adj) upward
- desirous:** (adj) wistful, avid, ambitious, greedy, longing, eager, hungry, covetous, envious, agog; (adj, v) willing. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) undesirous, reluctant, undesiring, unconcerned
- desolate:** (adj, v) desert, forlorn; (adj) bare, barren, alone, bleak, deserted, cheerless, disconsolate; (v) devastate, destroy. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) cheerful, inhabited, happy, sheltered, mobbed, overcrowded, ecstatic, hopeful; (v) create, construct, build
- desolation:** (n) devastation, misery, destruction, depression, grief, wretchedness, bleakness, loneliness, waste, ruin; (adj, n) desertion. **ANTONYMS:** (n) ecstasy, joy, productiveness, fertility, fecundity, cheer, fruitfulness, preservation, hopefulness, cheerfulness
- despairing:** (adj) hopeless, desperate, despondent, forlorn, desolate, dejected, pessimistic, sad, brokenhearted, miserable, inconsolable. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) hopeful, optimistic, rosy, happy, confident, cheerful
- despairingly:** (adv) forlornly, desperately, despondently, dejectedly, sadly, desolately, disconsolately, resignedly, sorrowfully, frantically, frantically.
ANTONYMS: (adv) energetically, expectantly, cheerfully
- despicable:** (adj) vile, base, abominable, mean, abject, miserable, dishonorable, filthy, dirty, hateful, ignoble. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) honorable, creditable, praiseworthy, worthy, noble, loveable, likable, laudable, endearing, commendable, loveable
- despise:** (v) disdain, loathe, depreciate, abhor, dislike, detest, slight, hate; (n, v) contempt; (n) contempt, deride. **ANTONYMS:** (v) respect, love, adore, appreciate, cherish, like, praise, accept
- despised:** (adj) scorned, despicable, hated, abject, disparaged, mean, attaching disgrace, unpopular, unloved, reviled, opprobrious
- despotism:** (n) tyranny, dictatorship, autocracy, monarchy, oppression, authoritarianism, autarchy, cruelty, Stalinism, domination; (adj) violence
- destined:** (adj, v) bound, fated; (adj) predetermined, sure, inescapable, intended, predestined, inevitable, prepared, foreordained, appointed. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) unscheduled, unlikely
- destitute:** (adj) impoverished, needy, bankrupt, broke, poor, helpless, impecunious, penniless, necessitous; (adj, v) forlorn, devoid.
ANTONYMS: (adj) wealthy, privileged, prosperous, solvent
- destroyer:** (n) wrecker, ruiner, destructor, warship, annihilator, saboteur, extirpator, anarchist, assassin, bad person, butcher.
ANTONYM: (n) creator
- desultory:** (adj) indiscriminate, aimless, spasmodic, purposeless, capricious, superficial, cursory, random, rambling, immethodical, fitful. **ANTONYM:** (adj) wholehearted
- detach:** (v) disengage, part, break off, unhook, remove, disentangle, cut off, disconnect, separate, dissociate; (n, v) detail. **ANTONYMS:** (v) fasten, add, associate, connect, unite, couple, link
- detaching:** (adj) peeling, disengaging, shedding; (n) division
- detailing:** (n) particularization, description, recital
- detecting:** (n) spotting, investigation, catching, detective work, sleuthing, police investigation, hearing; (adj) observant
- detestable:** (adj) hateful, abhorrent, damnable, odious, offensive, despicable, execrable, horrible, infamous; (adj, v) cursed; (adj, adv) atrocious. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) admirable, adorable, sweet, loveable, lovable, likable, delightful, cherished, honorable, desirable, nice
- detestation:** (n) abomination, hatred, odium, antipathy, aversion, repulsion, dislike, execration, loathing, revulsion; (n, v) hate.
ANTONYM: (n) adoration
- detested:** (adj) despised, unpopular, disliked, loathed, not accepted, unloved, scorned, reviled, out of favor, not liked
- devastated:** (adj) destroyed, desolated, ruined, ravaged, wasted, bare, blasted, superfluous, shattered, wrecked, waste
- devious:** (adj) shift, circuitous, indirect, roundabout, fraudulent, insincere, crafty, oblique, sly, untrustworthy, errant.
ANTONYMS: (adj) open, straight, aboveboard, straightforward, trustworthy, direct, candid, principled, unbent, unbowed, truthful
- devour:** (v) eat, bolt, gulp, demolish, guzzle, swallow, gorge, ingurgitate, gobble, use up, absorb.
ANTONYMS: (v) avoid, abstain, regurgitate, nibble, fast, sip
- devoured:** (adj) eaten up
- devout:** (adj) pious, devoted, saintly, heartfelt, holy, dear, devotional, hearty, earnest; (adj, v) pure; (adj, n) godly. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) irreverent, unbelieving, undevout, unholy, atheistic, secular, uncommitted
- dexterity:** (n) agility, cleverness, ability, aptitude, skill, deftness, expertise; (adj, n) art, cunning; (n, v) adroitness, address. **ANTONYMS:** (n) clumsiness, awkwardness, ineptitude, inability, uselessness, inexperience, ineptness, inaccuracy
- diagonally:** (adv) obliquely, slantingly, crossways, transversely, slopingly, aslant, biased, slantedly, slantways, cornerwise, bias.
ANTONYM: (adv) square
- dialect:** (n) language, speech, vernacular, tongue, accent, lingo, conversation, say, talk, patois, phraseology
- dictate:** (n, v) command, charge,

- order, decree; (n) bidding, behest, edict; (v) bid, prescribe, rule, ordain. ANTONYMS: (v) request, ask, record; (n, v) obey
- dictation:** (n) command, bidding, bid, dictate, control, behest, charge, commission, order, direction, commandment
- diddle:** (v) cheat, do, fool, gull, swindle, trick, con, cozen, dally, jockey, mulct
- differing:** (adj) divergent, opposite, disagreeing, different, diverse, heretical, dissonant, dissentaneous, discrepant; (adv) differinglly; (n) divergence. ANTONYMS: (adj) similar, parallel
- diffuse:** (v) spread, circulate, disperse, broadcast, scatter, propagate, shed, expand, distribute, permeate; (adj) prolix. ANTONYMS: (adj) concentrated, abridged, pithy, succinct, terse, short, abbreviated, brief, confined, focused, limited
- diffused:** (adj) spread, dispersed, dim, distributed, softened
- digestion:** (n, v) concoction; (n) assimilation, chemical change, coction, biological process, chemical process, digestion; (v) classification, analysis, clustering; (adj) digestive
- dilapidation:** (n) disrepair, devastation, desolation, deterioration, ruin, collapse, neglect, decrepitude, waste, destruction, impairment
- diminish:** (v) decline, abate, abridge, deduct, dwindle, detract, fall, depreciate; (adj, v) lessen; (adj, n, v) degrade; (n, v) reduce. ANTONYMS: (v) grow, compliment, supplement, rise, recognize, prolong, praise, flatter, expand, enlarge, congratulate
- diminution:** (n, v) decrease, decline; (n) deduction, reduction, abatement, cut, contraction, rebate, decrement, curtailment, declension. ANTONYMS: (n) growth, expansion, restoration, enlargement
- diminutive:** (adj) minute, Lilliputian, small, petite, tiny, bantam, baby, exiguous, short, miniature, midget. ANTONYMS: (adj) big, huge, gigantic, large, giant, tall
- dimmer:** (n) rheostat
- dimness:** (n) darkness, gloom, shadow, haze, faintness, obscurity, dusk, dark, cloudiness, duskiness, gloominess. ANTONYMS: (n) light, brightness, intelligence, clearness, strength, clarity
- dint:** (v) indent; (n) indentation, blow, strength, percussion, agency, hollow, depression, might, impression; (adj) delve
- diplomacy:** (n) tact, delicacy, diplomatics, statecraft, wisdom, tactfulness, talks, wisdom, foreign affairs; (n, v) politics; (adj) diplomatic. ANTONYMS: (n) violence, indiscretion, tactlessness, insensitivity
- diplomatist:** (n) consul, ambassador, official, functionary, embassy, diplomatic minister, nuncio, minister, plenipotentiary, jay, page
- dire:** (adj) awful, desperate, direful, dreadful, appalling, forbidding, terrible, formidable, awesome, shocking, calamitous. ANTONYMS: (adj) wonderful, fortuitous, unimportant, trivial, propitious, insignificant, fortunate, harmless, favorable, modest, praiseworthy
- directing:** (adj) guiding, directive, administrative, determinative, directional, sovereign, commanding, controlling; (n) administration, conducting, conservation
- disagreeable:** (adj) nasty, offensive, uncomfortable, distasteful, cantankerous, cross, ungrateful, abhorrent, horrible, bad, painful. ANTONYMS: (adj) pleasant, friendly, amiable, inoffensive, acceptable, desirable, easygoing, happy, pleasing, sweet, nice
- disappearing:** (adj) vanishing, fading, declining, weakening, diminishing; (adv) vanishingly, off; (v) disappear; (n) going, going away, leaving. ANTONYMS: (n) appearance, arrival; (adj) increasing
- disapprobation:** (n) condemnation, animadversion, displeasure, discountenance, disapproval, blame, objection, dissatisfaction, disfavor, anger, dislike
- disastrously:** (adv) catastrophically, unfortunately, fatally, ruinously, dreadfully, harmfully, sadly, fatefully, destructively, wretchedly, tragically. ANTONYMS: (adv) happily, successfully
- disbelieving:** (adj) unbelieving, skeptical, questioning, leery, not persuaded, unsure, uncertain, suspicious, quizzical, nervous, mistrustful. ANTONYMS: (adj) believing, credulous, unsuspicious, certain, convinced
- discernible:** (adj) observable, apparent, visible, appreciable, conspicuous, detectable, evident, noticeable, obvious, audible, palpable. ANTONYMS: (adj) indiscernible, unrecognizable, indistinguishable, obscure, obscured, unnoticeable, invisible, undetectable
- disclosing:** (n) confession, communication
- discoloration:** (n) blot, blemish, blotch, spot, decoloration, discolouration, fading, mark, splotch, scar, bruise
- discomposed:** (adj) disturbed, perturbed, doubtful, excited, distraught, uncomfortable, fearful
- disconcert:** (n, v) discompose, disappoint; (v) confuse, discomfit, baffle, derange, abash, throw, upset, unsettle, distract. ANTONYMS: (v) comfort, soothe, settle, please, encourage
- disconsolately:** (adv) unhappily, gloomily, sadly, dismally, dolefully, melancholy, forlornly, dispiritedly, downcastly, glumly, downheartedly. ANTONYM: (adv) contentedly
- discontinuance:** (n) discontinuation, ending, stoppage, desistance, intermission, interruption, pause, halt, disjunction, separation, end. ANTONYMS: (n) continuance, continuation
- discordant:** (adj) conflicting, dissonant, jarring, raucous, incompatible, discrepant, inconsistent, disharmonious, harsh, hoarse, incongruous. ANTONYMS: (adj) musical, melodic, compatible, pleasant, cooperating, accordant, agreeable, agreeing, soft
- discordantly:** (adv) inharmoniously, dissonantly, incongruously, jarringly, discrepantly, unharmoniously, differently, inconsistently, clashingly, contradictorily, raucously. ANTONYMS: (adv) melodiously, harmoniously, pleasantly, agreeably, softly
- discoverable:** (adj) determinable, visible, observable, discernible, calculable, findable
- discriminating:** (adj) discerning, astute, discriminate, refined, penetrating, keen, sharp, critical, discriminatingly, characteristic, distinctive. ANTONYMS: (adj) indiscriminate, indiscriminating, uncritical, stupid
- disengage:** (v) discharge, detach,

- extricate, release, disconnect, enfranchise; (adj, v) disentangle, clear, disembarass, free; (adj) disencumber. ANTONYMS: (v) fasten, engage, attach, connect, tighten, obstruct, unite, couple, join, activate, lock
- disfigured:** (adj) crooked, ugly, spoil, damage, deform, shabby, hurt, shapeless, dishonest, stained, blemished
- disguised:** (adj) cloaked, concealed, masked, secret, hidden, veiled, in disguise, incognito, blind; (adj, v) private; (n) groggy. ANTONYMS: (adj) recognizable, unmasked, uncovered, uncloaked, revealed, open, obvious
- disgusted:** (adj) fed up, ill, weary, sickened, nauseated, queasy, indisposed, demented, shocked, crazy, horrified. ANTONYMS: (adj) attracted, happy, pleased
- disheartened:** (adj) dejected, depressed, despondent, dispirited, demoralized, disappointed, sad, downcast, down, low, daunted. ANTONYMS: (adj) cheerful, enthusiastic, happy, positive, hopeful
- disinter:** (v) exhume, unear, dig up, disentomb, unveil, dig, expose, excavate, unbury, untomb, ungrave. ANTONYM: (v) bury
- disinterring:** (n) excavation
- dismal:** (adj) cheerless, dejected, dreary, gloomy, desolate, disconsolate, depressing, melancholy, black, dim, dull. ANTONYMS: (adj) bright, happy, lively, uplifting, sunny, pleasant, light, cheery, strong, soulful, wonderful
- dismally:** (adv) gloomily, sadly, unhappily, murkily, dolefully, forbiddingly, darkly, somberly, depressingly, cheerlessly, grimly. ANTONYMS: (adv) brightly, smartly
- dismay:** (adj, n, v) appall; (v) depress, dishearten, discourage, horrify; (n) consternation, discouragement; (n, v) daunt, affright; (adj, n) terror, dread. ANTONYMS: (n, v) delight; (v) stimulate, assure, ensure, encourage, elate; (n) spirit, satisfaction, mettle, resolution, assurance
- dismembered:** (adj) broken
- disordered:** (adj) chaotic, upset, sick, disorganized, broken, incoherent, deranged, messy, disjointed, disconnected, ill. ANTONYMS: (adj) neat, ordered, organized, arranged, quiet, regulated, systematic, systematized, straightforward, tidy
- displace:** (v) dismiss, dislocate, dislodge, depose, bump, shift, uproot, remove, cashier, evacuate, disturb. ANTONYMS: (v) replace, restore, reinstate, wedge, straighten, remain
- displaying:** (n) advertising
- disposed:** (adj) prone, apt, ready, subject, prepared, liable, game, inclined, fain, likely, minded. ANTONYMS: (adj) ailing, indisposed, unlikely, disinclined, reluctant, impervious
- disputed:** (adj) moot, disputable, opposed, open to discussion, uncertain, dubious, doubtful, debatable
- disquietude:** (n) anxiety, agitation, uneasiness, concern, alarm, apprehension, commotion, fear, unrest, turmoil; (adj, n) inquietude
- disregarded:** (adj) unnoticed, neglected, unseen, written off, wretchless, unvalued, unheeded, overlooked, lost, irrecoverable; (v) unregarded
- disregardful:** (adj) neglectful, negligent, careless, slack, delinquent, oblivious, lax, defiant, derelict; (v) remiss
- disreputable:** (adj, n, v) discreditable; (adj) base, dishonorable, doubtful, sordid, infamous, shameful, dishonourable, dishonest, despicable, notorious. ANTONYMS: (adj) honorable, respected, ethical, noble, decent, respectable, sporting, pleasant, admirable, famous, honest
- dissect:** (n, v) anatomize, scrutinize; (v) carve, dismember, cut, decompose, analyse, cut up, separate, parse, resolve. ANTONYMS: (v) mend, synthesize, join
- dissection:** (n) analysis, anatomy, autopsy, breakdown, cut, decomposition, resolution, cutting, examination, calculation, section
- dissemble:** (v) feign, assume, conceal, disguise, camouflage, dissimulate, act, hide, sham, pretend, mask. ANTONYMS: (v) show, demonstrate, expose, reveal
- disservice:** (n) disadvantage, hurt, injury, harm, damage, detriment, injustice, spoliation, mischief, wrong, bad turn. ANTONYMS: (n) kindness, help, benevolence
- dissimilar:** (adj) different, disparate, diverse, heterogeneous, unlike, divergent, distinct, not like, not similar, unequal, separate. ANTONYMS: (adj) similar, like, alike, equal, matched, same, uniform, indistinct
- dissimulation:** (n) deceit, dissembling, duplicity, guile, falsehood, hypocrisy, illusion, imposture, insincerity, pretence, chicanery
- dissipated:** (adj, v) fast; (adj) dissolute, immoral, abandoned, profligate, prodigal, gay, rakish, degenerate, squandered, licentious. ANTONYMS: (adj) upright, moral
- dissipating:** (n) distribution
- dissipation:** (n) waste, dissolution, licentiousness, extravagance, excess, profligacy, consumption, decomposition, disintegration; (n, v) diffusion, dissemination. ANTONYMS: (n) appearance, growth, restraint, moderation, decency, uprightness
- dissolute:** (adj, v) dissipated, fast, wanton; (adj) abandoned, depraved, licentious, immoral, corrupt, profligate, degenerate; (adj, n) libertine. ANTONYMS: (adj) moral, upright, chaste, restrained, good, resolute, virtuous, pure, cautious, righteous, innocent
- distantly:** (adv) reservedly, aloofly, coldly, formally, coolly, frigidly, standoffishly, farly, removedly, vaguely, detachedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) intimately, passionately, clearly, warmly, nearby, alertly
- distaste:** (n, v) disgust, aversion, disinclination; (n) antipathy, dissatisfaction, repulsion, hatred, disrelish, revulsion, displeasure, disfavor. ANTONYMS: (n) attraction, liking, taste, desire, love
- distasteful:** (adj, v) disagreeable; (adj) offensive, unwelcome, ugly, revolting, undesirable, objectionable, disgusting, foul, nasty; (v) unpalatable. ANTONYMS: (adj) pleasant, tasteful, attractive, appealing, savory, pleasing, desirable, appetizing, tasty, nice, noble
- distempered:** (adj) sick, diseased, disordered
- distended:** (adj) inflated, bloated, turgid, puffed, bombastic, distent, expanded, enlarged; (adj, v) puffy; (v) blowzy, bigswoln
- distilled:** (adj) alcoholic

distinctness: (n) clearness, sharpness, definition, otherness, perspicuity, discreteness, articulate sound, separation, uncloudedness, dissimilarity; (adj) conspicuousness. ANTONYM: (n) indistinctness

distinguishing: (adj) distinctive, identifying, typical, discriminating, specific, distinct, peculiar; (adv) distinguishingly; (adj, v) discriminative; (v) distinguish; (n) hearing. ANTONYMS: (adj) common, typical

distracted: (adj) demented, inattentive, abstracted, crazy, frenzied, distraught, preoccupied, distressed, confused; (adj, v) mad, disconcerted. ANTONYMS: (adj) attentive, alert, assured, calm, mellow

distressing: (adj) sorrowful, deplorable, pitiful, painful, bad, depressing, disturbing, sore, lamentable, hurtful, worrying. ANTONYMS: (adj) reassuring, heartwarming, pleasing, unemotional, soothing, comforting, comfortable, cheerful, appealing, happy

distrust: (n, v) mistrust, discredit; (n) suspicion, misgiving, disbelief, uncertainty, hesitation; (v) suspect, disbelieve, question; (adj) distrustful. ANTONYMS: (n) confidence, faith, trustingness, certainty, belief, optimism; (v) believe, entrust, depend, confide

diverging: (adj) branching, divergingly, centrifugal, divaricate, oblique

diverted: (adj) abstracted, entertained, pleased, inattentive, sidetracked, unfocused, preoccupied

divest: (v) bereave, dispossess, dismantle, denude, despoil, strip, disrobe, free, relieve, discharge, unclothe. ANTONYMS: (v) invest, clothe, cover, dress, provide, bequeath, harbor, add

divested: (adj) bereft, destitute, naked

divinely: (adv) holy, wonderfully, exquisitely, priestly, beautifully, religiously, spiritually, almightily, magnificently, sacredly, godly

divining: (adj) oracular; (n) dowsing

divulge: (v) disclose, betray, communicate, declare, impart, reveal, leak, expose, break, tell, confess. ANTONYMS: (v) suppress, hide, withhold, deny

dizzily: (adv) unsteadily, woozily,

lightly, faintly, vertiginously, dazedly, frivolously, confusedly, flippantly, thoughtlessly; (adj, adv) silly. ANTONYM: (adv) alertly

dizziness: (n) giddiness, swimming, faint, symptom, nausea, perkiness, playfulness, flightiness, lightheartedness, laughing and joking; (v) scotom

dizzy: (adj) giddy, silly, faint, frivolous, light, vertiginous, brainsick, featherbrained, flighty, muzzy; (v) daze. ANTONYMS: (adj) alert, balanced, intelligent, poised, rational, steady, sober, serious

dizzying: (adj) excessive, steep, precipitous, inordinate

docility: (n) obedience, tractability, meekness, flexibility, docibleness, submission, deference, humility, gentleness, willingness, tractableness

dogged: (adj) obdurate, stubborn, willful, bullheaded, insistent, obstinate, tenacious, wilful, untiring, resolute, persistent. ANTONYMS: (adj) yielding, compromising, indifferent, undetermined

dogma: (n) tenet, creed, belief, doctrine, principle, faith, gospel, theory, canon, way of thinking, opinion

dolt: (n) ass, fool, dummy, dunce, clod, dumbbell, dullard, stupid, pudding head, oaf, numskull. ANTONYMS: (n) intellect, whiz

domesticated: (adj) tame, vernacular, subdued, gentle, tamed, naturalized, submissive, depressed, crushed, cade, broken. ANTONYM: (adj) wild

dominican: (n) capuchin, Jacobin, Black Friar, observant, predicant

dominion: (n) authority, control, domain, command, reign, rule, sway, power, kingdom, mastery, supremacy. ANTONYM: (n) subjugation

donjon: (n) castle, dungeon, fastness, hold, oubliette, citadel, capitol, bread and butter, stronghold, fortress

doom: (n, v) sentence, destine, fate; (v) condemn, convict, damn; (n) destiny, day of reckoning, chance, luck, lot. ANTONYMS: (n) plan; (v) absolve

dotting: (adj) fond, loving, affectionate, devoted, delirious, caring, amorous, wandering, silly, lovesome; (v) dote. ANTONYMS: (adj) inattentive, indifferent,

neglectful, uncaring, disapproving, cold

doubly: (adv) twice, twofold, two times, in two ways, dualistically

doughty: (adj) dauntless, courageous, hardy, fearless, intrepid, daring, audacious, bold, manful, heroic, gallant

downfall: (n) ruin, decline, destruction, debacle, defeat, descent, decadence, failure, undoing, devastation, bane. ANTONYMS: (n) making, ascension, lift, salvation, victory, creation, beginning

downward: (adv) underneath, under, below, downwards, downwardly, beneath, down below; (adj) downcast, sloping, depressed, downright. ANTONYMS: (adv) up; (adj) rising

doze: (n, v) snooze, sleep, slumber, drowse, siesta, forty winks, rest; (v) catnap, nod, coma, nod off. ANTONYM: (v) wake

draconian: (adj) strict, rigorous, stringent, harsh, hard, exacting, austere, rigid, stern, stiff, cruel

draper: (n) monger, haberdasher, linen draper, mercer, dealer, bargainer

drapery: (n) drape, clothing, dress, blind, raiment, costume, toilette, furnishings, trim, guise, toilet

draught: (n, v) draft, sketch, design, potation, plan; (n) dose, air current, wind, gulp, outline; (v) blueprint

dread: (n, v) apprehension, fear, panic; (n) anxiety, awe, consternation, alarm, trepidation, dismay, foreboding, terror. ANTONYMS: (adj) pleasing, welcomed, pleasant; (v) welcome, want; (n) reassurance, fearlessness, confidence, security, ease, calm

dreaded: (adj) awful, terrible, cowardly, causing horror, dire, direful, desperate, dreadful, fearful, fearsome; (v) drad

dreadfully: (adj, adv) frightfully, shockingly; (adv) fearfully, appallingly, hideously, horrendously, horribly, atrociously, ghastly, tremendously, horridly. ANTONYMS: (adv) pleasantly, wonderfully, happily, hardly, superbly, well

dreading: (adj) anxious

dreamer: (n) romancer, visionary, daydreamer, woolgatherer, seer, sleeper, slumberer, illusionist, logician, philosopher, escapist

dreaming: (n) reverie, ambition,

nightmare, conception, castle in the air; (adj) absent-minded, asleep, visionary, vacant, wistful, rapt

dreamy: (adj) faraway, romantic, impractical, somnolent, visionary, sleepy, pensive, moony, idealistic, drowsy; (v) balmy. ANTONYMS: (adj) cynical, vigorous, pragmatic, practical, awake, alert, ordinary, prosaic

dreariness: (n) desolation, tedium, dullness, gloominess, boringness, dulness, depression, boredom, sadness, bleakness, gloom. ANTONYMS: (n) brightness, cheerfulness, splendor

dreary: (adj) depressing, drab, dull, cheerless, drear, miserable, gloomy, dark, dismal, stuffy, disconsolate. ANTONYMS: (adj) interesting, cheerful, sunny, brilliant, lively, light, exciting, clear, cheery, pleasant, exotic

drenching: (adj, n) soaking; (n) wetting, dipsomaniac, sousing, dip, boozier, alcoholic

dromedary: (n) camel, llama, elephant, dromedary tractor

droopingly: (adv) pendulously, droopily, flabbily, limply, piningly, flaccidly, floppily, laxly, noddingly

drowsy: (adj, n) sleepy; (adj) lazy, comatose, somnolent, slow, lethargic, sluggish, dull, indolent, soporific, listless. ANTONYMS: (adj) energetic, awake, lively, vigorous, vivacious, refreshed

drugged: (adj) stoned, drowsy, narcotised, comatose, drunk, high, chloroformed, narcotized, stupefied. ANTONYMS: (adj) clean, straight

drunkard: (n) alcoholic, drinker, boozier, dipsomaniac, rummy, inebriate, toper, sot, bibber, lush, imbiber

dulled: (adj) dull, blunted, benumbed, duller, blunt, uninterested, rounded, jaded, grayed, colorless, deadened

dully: (adv) slowly, sluggishly, stupidly, tediously, drearily, heavily, tamely, boringly, monotonously, tiresomely, bluntly. ANTONYMS: (adv) animatedly, luminously, brightly, brilliantly

dungeon: (n, v) keep; (n) prison, cell, jail, penitentiary, fastness, oubliette, Bastille, bridewell, detention, house of correction

dupe: (n, v) fool, con, gull; (v) defraud, bamboozle, beguile, deceive, take in, kid, trick; (n)

victim. ANTONYM: (v) enlighten

duplicate: (n, v) copy; (n) counterpart, match, imitation; (adj, n, v) twin; (adj) dual, matching; (v) trace, replicate; (adj, n) second, equal. ANTONYMS: (adj) different; (v) create, originate; (n) master

durable: (adj, v) stable, fast; (adj) lasting, permanent, sturdy, strong, serviceable, enduring, firm, tough, abiding. ANTONYMS: (adj) weak, flimsy, lightweight, undependable, temporary, shoddy, cheap, unstable, soft, insubstantial, fickle

dure: (adj) dura, dura mater, durance, durant, duramen

dusky: (adj) dark, cloudy, gloomy, black, swarthy, dull, murky, obscure, dingy, sooty, somber. ANTONYMS: (adj) light, bright, sunny, radiant, clear

dwell: (adj, v) inhabit; (v) reside, bide, live, stay, lodge, delay, occupy, continue, be, settle. ANTONYM: (v) wander

dwelling: (n) domicile, home, residence, house, place, accommodation, address, building, lodge, habitation; (adj, n) dwell

dwell: (v) dwell, inhabit

eagerness: (n, v) desire, aspiration; (n) enthusiasm, avidity, cupidity, readiness, passion, keenness, ambition, fervor, avidness.

ANTONYMS: (n) indifference, unwillingness, aloofness, disinterest, lethargy, listlessness, patience, gloom, reluctance

earnest: (adj, v) devout; (adj) eager, solemn, heartfelt, diligent, studious, sincere, intense, ardent, staid; (n) guarantee. ANTONYMS: (adj) flippant, halfhearted, uncertain, insincere, unimportant, nonchalant, lethargic, apathetic, unenthusiastic, indifferent, frivolous

earnestly: (adj, adv) seriously; (adv) eagerly, intently, zealously, solemnly, ardently, fervently, heartily, gravely, warmly, passionately. ANTONYMS: (adv) indifferently, insincerely, unconcernedly, jokingly

earnestness: (n) seriousness, sincerity, gravity, fervor, devotion, graveness, staidness, honesty; (adj, n) ardor, zeal, intentness.

ANTONYMS: (n) slackness, lightness, carelessness, frivolousness, cheerfulness, insincerity, flippancy

earthen: (adj) clay, ceramic,

earthenware

earthly: (adj, n) terrestrial; (adj) carnal, worldly, conceivable, human, geotic, secular, terrene, temporal, telluric, sublunary.

ANTONYMS: (adj) spiritual, divine, ethereal, immortal, impossible, improbable, inconceivable, celestial

earthquake: (n) tremor, shock, quake, temblor, cataclysm, upheaval, seaquake, avalanche; (adj) thunderstorm, volcano, seismic

earthly: (adj) coarse, mundane, earthly, realistic, vulgar, worldly, gross, terrestrial, natural, terrene, rude. ANTONYMS: (adj) sophisticated, cultured, clean

eastward: (adj) eastbound, eastern; (adv) eastwards

eater: (n) glutton, devourer, diner, trencherman, dunker, affluent, viander, vegetarian, picnicker, mouth, luncheon

eaves: (n) arch, balcony, cupola, dome, penthouse, eave, overhang, attic, loft, projection, roof space

ebon: (adj) black, ebony, dark, sable, jetty, swarthy, inky, dusky, atrocious, atramentous, achromatic

ebony: (adj, n) sable; (adj) black, dark, jet, soot, raven, smut, sloe; (n) jet black, coal black, wood

ecarte: (n) cribbage, quadrille, reverse, picquet, commit, cards, card game, allfours, loo, euchre

eccentric: (adj, n) odd; (adj) wacky, bizarre, abnormal, crazy, strange, outlandish, anomalous, cranky, erratic; (n) character. ANTONYMS: (adj) normal, ordinary, conventional, usual, concentric, common, sane, dull, orthodox; (n) conformer, traditionalist

eccentricity: (n) abnormality, idiosyncrasy, oddness, peculiarity, anomaly, crankiness, irregularity, quirk, strangeness, weirdness, curiousness. ANTONYMS: (n) usualness, normalcy, conventionality, concentricity, conformity

ecstasy: (n) delight, rapture, joy, bliss, delirium, happiness, trance, enthusiasm, exaltation, elation; (n, v) transport. ANTONYMS: (n)

desolation, gloom, downheartedness, melancholy, depression, dejection, anguish, sadness, despair, agony, bore

ecstatic: (adj) delighted, excited, rhapsodic, rapt, exultant, blissful, joyful, elated, happy, transported;

(n, v) thrilling. ANTONYMS: (adj) depressed, down, unhappy, dejected, desolate, despairing, miserable, troubled, sad, calm

eddies: (n) turbulence

educe: (v) derive, draw, draw out, extract, elicit, evoke, evolve, gain, interpret, make, pull. ANTONYMS: (v) Miss, overlook

effected: (adj) completed, complete, finished, fulfilled, done, realized, conventional, constituted, established

effectual: (adj, n) efficient, efficacious, able; (adj) forceful, telling, authoritative, operative, potent, adequate, impressive, powerful. ANTONYMS: (adj) ineffectual, incapable, weak, impotent, ineffective, unproductive, unsuccessful, useless

effectually: (adv) efficaciously, effectively, validly, adequately, potently, tellingly, strongly, decisively; (adj) nicely, fully, head and shoulders. ANTONYM: (adv) ineffectually

effulgence: (n) brilliance, brightness, radiance, glow, radiance, luster, burnish, glory, shine, sheen, refulgence

eglantine: (n) briar, sweetbrier, rose, sweetbriar, eglantine, catbrier, bullbrier, brierpatch, briar pipe, briar patch

egregious: (adj) rank, glaring, flagrant, crying, infamous, outrageous, peculiar, absurd, eccentric; (v) extravagant; (adj, v) preposterous. ANTONYMS: (adj) petty, slight, trivial, measly, little, minor

egress: (n) exit, egression, outlet, door, emergence, departure, emersion, emission, way out, dissilience; (v) emerge. ANTONYMS: (n) entry, ingress

eighty-six: (v) rid, veto, lack, disqualify, get rid of, drop, reject, divest, dispose of, eradicate

ejaculation: (n) cry, ejection, emission, interjection, discharge, vociferation, expelling, exclaiming, eruption, shout, emanation

elaborately: (adv) detailedly, fancily, laborably, complicatedly, minutely, extensively, flamboyantly, knottily, ornamentally, involvedly, ornately. ANTONYM: (adv) simply

elapsed: (adj) gone, forgotten, lapsed, back, beyond, onwards, over and done

elastic: (adj) flexible, springy, soft, pliable, resilient, limber, pliant, yielding, ductile, buoyant; (n) rubber band. ANTONYMS: (adj) rigid, stiff, inflexible, inelastic, unadaptable, intolerant, firm, hard, unyielding

elevate: (v) advance, lift, hoist, erect, exalt, boost, rear, cheer, promote, dignify, uphold. ANTONYMS: (v) demote, drop, downgrade, depress, decrease, reduce

elevated: (adj) exalted, towering, noble, lofty, grand, great, majestic, tall, elated, magnanimous; (adj, v) steep. ANTONYMS: (adj) base, lowly, decreased, humble, inferior, lessened, low, sunken, undignified, lowered

elevation: (n) height, highness, exaltation, ascent, climb, hill, aggrandizement, raise, El, Alt, stature. ANTONYMS: (n) degradation, descent, levelness, depression, downgrading, demotion, drop, depth

elicited: (adj) evoked, elicit

eloquent: (adj) glib, fluent, persuasive, expressive, meaningful, significant, graphic, vivid, speaking, forcible, moving. ANTONYMS: (adj) incoherent, innocent, straightforward, weak

elysium: (n) heaven, paradise, Elysia, Elysian, Eden, Valhalla, Arcadia, easy street, rapture

emaciated: (adj) bony, lean, thin, gaunt, skinny, meager, wasted, haggard, slender, slim, lanky. ANTONYMS: (adj) fat, obese, heavy, bloated, beefy, overweight

emaciation: (n) gauntness, maceration, thinness, leanness, consumption; (v) tabes, collapse, tabefaction, marasmus; (adj) macilency, marcor

emanating: (adj) emergent, emanant

emanation: (n) emission, effluvium, effusion, effluence, efflux, radiation, excretion, exhalation, flow, egress, ectoplasm

embankment: (n) dam, bank, bulwark, weir, wall, jetty, rampart, mound, pier, pond, fortification

embarrass: (v) baffle, bother, confound, hinder, disconcert, block, complicate, impede, discomfit; (adj, v) bewilder, encumber.

ANTONYMS: (v) comfort, please, soothe, relieve

embellish: (v) dress, adorn, decorate, deck, beautify, ornament,

embroider, trim, bedeck, gild, garnish. ANTONYMS: (v) deface, understate, disfigure, mar, spoil, uglify

embellishments: (n) trimmings, arrangements, added extras, fixing, trappings

embers: (v) cinder, ash, scoriae; (n) fire, ashes

embodied: (adj) incarnate, corporate, corporeal, corporal, bodied, personified, incorporated, combined, tangible, associated, in person

embodiment: (n) shape, epitome, incarnation, avatar, amalgamation, union, unification, incorporation, coalescence, cast; (adj) integration

embody: (v) comprehend, comprise, personify, body, represent, exemplify, typify, encompass, incorporate, materialize, integrate. ANTONYMS: (v) divide, exclude, disembody

embraced: (adj) popular

embroidered: (adj) ornate, inflated, exaggerated, bewrought, decorated

emendation: (n) amendment, correction, betterment, repair, revision, castigation, reform, rectification, improvement, reformation, discipline

emerald: (adj) green, verdigris, verd antique, malachite, verdant, brilliant; (n) beryl, gem, viridity, greenness, chalcedony

emigrate: (n, v) migrate; (v) immigrate, transplant, depart, demigrate, leave. ANTONYMS: (v) remain, immigrate

eminence: (n) distinction, elevation, altitude, celebrity, superiority, rank, excellence, fame, glory, prominence, status. ANTONYMS: (n) insignificance, cavity, depression, unimportance, dip, commonness, inferiority

eminent: (adj) high, celebrated, elevated, brilliant, illustrious, noble, big, famous, renowned, conspicuous, dignified.

ANTONYMS: (adj) undistinguished, obscure, low, unremarkable, common, uncelebrated, unimportant, insignificant, humble, ordinary

emphatic: (adj) decided, categorical, expressive, forceful, pronounced, assertive, loud, important, emphatical, insistent; (adj, v) absolute. ANTONYMS: (adj) insignificant, unassertive,

- understated, unemphatic, halfhearted
- emptied:** (adj) empty, void, depleted, emptier, annulled, open, vacuous
- enamel:** (v) varnish, polish, lacquer, lacker, plate, cloisonne, satsuma; (n, v) glaze; (n) paint, coating, enameler
- enamored:** (adj) loving, smitten, crazy, taken with, dotty, amorous, besotted, captivated, hooked, mad, enamoured. ANTONYMS: (adj) sickened, repelled
- encased:** (adj) incased, sheathed
- enchained:** (adj) in chains, bound
- enchanted:** (adj) bewitched, delighted, charmed, fascinated, rapt, spellbound, blissful, happy, enamored, possessed; (v) entranced. ANTONYMS: (adj) disenchanted, unhappy
- enchanting:** (adj) captivating, delightful, fascinating, bewitching, lovely, alluring, magical, glamorous, adorable; (adj, v) charming, engaging. ANTONYMS: (adj) unhappy, revolting, repulsive, repellent, foul, everyday, dull, disenchanting, annoying, uninteresting, despicable
- enchantingly:** (adv) fascinatingly, bewitchingly, enthrallingly, charmingly, entrancingly, lovely, attractively, appealingly, beguilingly, pleasantly, delightfully. ANTONYM: (adv) unpleasantly
- enchantment:** (n) attraction, captivation, charm, conjuration, sorcery, spell, bewitchment, incantation, delight, bewitchery; (adj, n) rapture. ANTONYMS: (n) displeasure, discomfort
- encircle:** (adv, n, v) compass; (adv, v) beset, surround, enclose, encompass, environ; (v) besiege, circumvent, bound; (n, v) circle, embrace. ANTONYM: (v) expose
- encircled:** (adj) enclosed, bounded, circinate, circular, decorated, delimited, ringed, wreathed, bordered, annulated, annular
- encircling:** (adj, prep) surrounding; (prep) around; (adj) comprehensive, encompassing, roundabout, circuitous, rotary, circumferential, inclusive; (v) encircle
- enclosure:** (n) appendage, annex, cage, appendix, addendum, barrier, enclosing, pen, yard, hedge, addition
- encompassed:** (adj) bounded
- encrusted:** (adj) crusted, crustlike, covered, smudged, dirty, filthy, peeling, grubby, soiled, flaking, curmudgeonly. ANTONYM: (adj) smooth
- encumbered:** (adj) burdened, burdensome, weighed down, heavy, deep, clayey, cloggy. ANTONYM: (adj) unencumbered
- encyclopdia:** (n) cyclopaedia, cyclopedia, book of knowledge, book of facts
- endeared:** (adj) dear
- endeavor:** (n, v) struggle, try, strain; (n) effort, trial, essay, shot, enterprise, work; (v) strive, aim. ANTONYMS: (n, v) neglect
- endeavoring:** (n) effort; (adj) aspiring
- endeavors:** (n) activities, deeds, events, Comings and Goings, undertakings, accomplishments, happenings
- endlessly:** (adv) incessantly, ceaselessly, unendingly, continually, perpetually, infinitely, constantly, everlastingly, boundlessly, unceasingly, eternally. ANTONYMS: (adv) briefly, intermittently
- endowed:** (adj) gifted, clever, cute, felicitous, competent, blessed, artistic, brilliant, ingenious, talented, qualified
- endowing:** (v) endow; (n) appropriation
- endowment:** (adj, n, v) talent; (n, v) donation, gift; (adj, n) faculty, capacity; (n) flair, foundation, genius, presentation, contribution, present. ANTONYM: (n) receipt
- endowments:** (n) beneficence, accomplishments, advantage
- endurable:** (adj) bearable, supportable, tolerable, livable, sufferable, acceptable, sustainable, unobjectionable, manageable, patible. ANTONYMS: (adj) intolerable, unbearable, unendurable
- endurance:** (adj, n) sufferance; (n) stamina, tolerance, courage, permanence, continuance, energy, fortitude, tenacity, duration, toughness. ANTONYMS: (n) weakness, inconsistency, impatience, frailty, discontinuation, discontinuance, death
- endure:** (adj, n, v) continue, support; (n, v) bear, suffer, stand, be; (v) accept, undergo, allow, stay, tolerate. ANTONYMS: (v) perish, die, break, fall, discontinue, crumble, end, enjoy, resign, quit, collapse
- enduring:** (adj) durable, abiding, lasting, permanent, continuing, constant, hardy, immortal, eternal, stable; (adv) enduringly. ANTONYMS: (adj) impatient, transient, fleeting, mortal, modern, insubstantial, inconstant, fickle, erratic, unstable
- enfeeble:** (adj, v) weaken; (v) enervate, attenuate, unnerve, waste, impair, devitalize, emaciate, cripple, break, diminish. ANTONYMS: (v) strengthen, harden, galvanize
- enforcing:** (v) enforce
- engaging:** (adj, v) charming, inviting, prepossessing; (adj) attractive, interesting, lovable, delightful, appealing, pleasant, captivating; (adv) engagingly. ANTONYMS: (adj) repulsive, loathsome, repellent, unattractive, undesirable, unlikable, dull, unpleasant, repellent
- engulfed:** (adj) overcome, weak, overwhelmed, conquered, overpowered, swamped, powerless, flooded, enclosed, beaten, enveloped
- enigma:** (adj, n) mystery, riddle; (n) puzzle, secret, perplexity, poser, question, problem, closed book, nut to crack, logograph. ANTONYMS: (n) clearness, explanation
- enkindle:** (v) arouse, fire, ignite, burn, stir, stimulate, inspire, provoke, evoke, raise, excite
- enkindled:** (adj) ignited, lighted, kindled, burning; (prep) inflamed
- ennui:** (n) fatigue, tedium, weariness, melancholy, monotony, tediousness, dissatisfaction, listlessness, apathy; (v) bore, pall. ANTONYMS: (n) variation, liveliness, enthusiasm, energy, interest
- enormity:** (n) magnitude, size, greatness, vileness, immensity, outrage, vastness, seriousness, crime, evil, indecency. ANTONYMS: (n) minuteness, veniality, unimportance, tininess, virtue, goodness, diminutiveness, remissibility, smallness, mildness, insignificance
- enquirer:** (n) inquirer, asker, speaker, talker, tester, quizzier, interviewer, interrogator, examiner, querier
- enraged:** (adj) angered, furious, infuriated, irate, mad, livid, incensed, exasperated, raging, irritated, boiling
- enraptured:** (adj) rapt, rapturous, captive, bewitched, rhapsodic, ecstasy, confined, absorbed, jubilant,

joyous, enamored
enriching: (n) enrichment; (v) enrich; (adj) uplifting, educational, inspiring, elevating, edifying, artistic, enlightening
ensemble: (n) chorus, outfit, group, totality, company, whole, collection, band, corps de ballet, dress; (adj, n) entirety. ANTONYM: (n) single
enshrine: (v) bury, shrine, revere, enfold, venerate, inclose; (n, v) sanctify; (n) edify, convert, beatify, inscribe. ANTONYMS: (v) taint, disrespect, desecrate, defile, corrupt
enslaved: (adj) captive, locked up, charmed, incarcerated, in bondage, in prison, bound, subject, beguiled, cringing; (v) subjected
ensue: (v) come, arise, happen, result, succeed, occur, transpire, turn out, befall, come after, stem. ANTONYMS: (v) forerun, preface, antecede, dwindle, recede
ensuing: (adj) following, consequent, succeeding, later, subsequent, next, successive, resulting, consequential, ensue, posterior. ANTONYMS: (adj) antecedent, earlier, prior, preliminary
entangle: (n, v) tangle; (v) embrace, complicate, involve, snarl, entwine, mat; (adj, v) enmesh, embarrass, confuse, bewilder. ANTONYMS: (v) disentangle, disengage, extricate, free, unravel, untangle, explain, undo
entangled: (adj) complicated, intricate, embroiled, complex, foul, confused, matted, tangled, inextricable, knotty; (v) entangle
entertained: (adj) diverted, pleased
enthrall: (v) charm, enslave, attract, captivate, enrapture, ravish, transport, delight, engross, please, inthral
enthusiast: (n) addict, fanatic, fiend, fan, admirer, freak, aficionado, advocate, fancier, buff; (adj, n) zealot. ANTONYMS: (n) skeptic, depreciator, disparager, opponent
entombment: (n) interment, sepulture, inhumation, coarctation, captivity, mancipation, limbo, burying, funeral, burial chamber, intombment
entranced: (adj) delighted, captivated, fascinated, enthralled, enchanted, ecstatic, beguiled, enslaved, gripped; (adv) on cloud nine; (v) overjoyed
entrancing: (adj) captivating, enthralling, bewitching, fascinating,

charming, attractive, magnetic, glamorous, tempting, engaging, enticing. ANTONYM: (adj) boring
entrapment: (n) entanglement, setup, trap
enunciation: (n) delivery, elocution, articulation, pronunciation, speech, declaration, announcement, accent, assertion, inflection, expression
envelop: (v) fold, enfold, encase, enclose, wrap, encircle, conceal, embrace, beset, hide; (n) envelope. ANTONYMS: (v) reveal, release, open, unwrap, expose
enveloped: (adj) convoluted, enclosed, cover, bounded, Byzantine, clothed, involved, misty, swallowed, vested, emotionally involved
enwrapped: (adj) absorbed, engrossed, cloaked, captive, clothed, deeply moved, draped, enclosed, enraptured, intent, rapt
ephemeron: (n) mayfly
epigram: (n) aphorism, joke, witticism, expression, locution, saying, crack, wisecrack, moral, jeu d'esprit, smart saying
epilepsy: (v) bustle, fits, subsultus, staggers, rout, racket, megrims, fuss; (n) convulsion, cortical epilepsy, akinetic epilepsy
epoch: (n) era, date, period, day, season, time, term, cycle, crisis, date of reference, times
equitably: (adv) justly, impartially, right, rightly, honestly, honorably, equally, fair and square, objectively, without favoritism. ANTONYM: (adv) unfairly
equivocal: (adj) ambiguous, indefinite, doubtful, dubious, questionable, elusive, cryptic, precarious, problematic, apocryphal, double. ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, unequivocal, definite, obvious, plain, unquestionable, certain, direct
erecting: (n) construction, building, erection
erewhile: (adv, n) whilom; (adj) beforehand, ere, afore, yet, theretofore; (adv) over, time was, formerly, whilere, erst
eros: (adj) yearning
errand: (n) chore, mission, job, task, assignment, embassy, duty, charge, messenger, communication, work
erring: (adj) devious, sinful, fallible, wrong, amiss, at fault, guilty, perverse, reprehensible; (n) transgression
erudition: (n) education, scholarship,

letters, edification, reading, learnedness, culture, lore, eruditeness; (n, v) knowledge; (adj, n) wisdom. ANTONYM: (n) simplicity
escaping: (n) evasion, getaway, break, breakout, running away, running off, run-around; (adj) fugitive
eschew: (v) abstain, shun, elude, forbear, evade, shirk, refrain, keep from, let alone, duck, flinch. ANTONYMS: (v) like, choose, embrace, participate, court
escriroire: (n) secretary, desk, secretaire, writing table, vitrine, vargueno, etagere, cabinet, scrutoire
especial: (adj) extraordinary, special, specific, chief, individual, distinct, distinctive, characteristic, appropriate, peculiar, express. ANTONYMS: (adj) general, normal, common, unexceptional, usual
espouse: (n, v) wed; (v) embrace, sustain, defend, marry, advocate, accept, take up, assume, back, betroth. ANTONYMS: (v) deny, oppose, repudiate, spurn, desert, abandon, divorce, detract
esteem: (n) deference, admiration; (n, v) respect, value, consideration, account; (v) appreciate, deem, adore, admire, count. ANTONYMS: (v) scorn, hate, disdain, insult, despise, abominate, abhor, dislike, reject; (n) disesteem, disapproval
eternally: (adv) always, permanently, incessantly, perpetually, constantly, ceaselessly, endlessly, unendingly, unceasingly, lastingly; (adj, adv) forever. ANTONYMS: (adv) briefly, sporadically
eternity: (n) aeon, afterlife, forever, perpetuity, timelessness, endlessness, everlasting, endless time, everlastingness, everness, existence. ANTONYMS: (n) finiteness, impermanence
ethelred: (n) Ethelred I, Ethelred II
ether: (adj) air, elastic fluid, anaesthetic agent, steam, flatus, fume, reek, vapor; (n) divinyl ether, firmament, vinyl ether
ethereal: (adj) airy, celestial, unworldly, delicate, intangible, aeriform, spiritual, aery, vaporous, incorporeal, diaphanous. ANTONYMS: (adj) earthly, heavy, indelicate, worldly, tangible, thick, robust, concrete
evanescent: (adj) passing, temporary, fleeting, transitory, fugitive,

momentary, transient, cursory, temporal, intangible, short-lived

evaporation: (n) dehydration, disappearance, desiccation, vapor, vaporisation, vapour, vaporation, drying up, clouding, boiling, vaporizing. ANTONYM: (n) wetting

eventful: (adj) fateful, weighty, lively, important, momentous, memorable, notable, hectic, significant; (n) stirring; (v) full of incident. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull, insignificant, ordinary, slow, empty

everlasting: (adj) eternal, ceaseless, endless, constant, continual, perpetual, immortal, deathless, ageless, aeonian; (adj, n) lasting. ANTONYMS: (adj) finite, ephemeral, fleeting, mortal, ending, terminating, inconstant, fragile, perishable

evermore: (adj, adv) always, forever, ever; (adv) everlastingly, forevermore, perpetually, ever and again, for all time, until the end of time. ANTONYMS: (adv) temporarily, suddenly

evolutions: (n) evolution

exaggerate: (v) boast, aggravate, amplify, dramatize, overdo, overdraw, brag, overstate, magnify, aggrandize, enhance. ANTONYMS: (v) minimize, alleviate, weaken

exaggeration: (n) distortion, magnification, enlargement, overstatement, hyperbole, misrepresentation, caricatura, embellishment, elaboration, trope, romance. ANTONYMS: (n) irony, minimizing, reduction

exaltation: (n) elation, ecstasy, apotheosis, worship, praise, rapture, deification, grandeur, adoration; (n, v) sublimation; (v) laud. ANTONYMS: (n) abasement, belittlement, debasement, degradation, humiliation, sorrow, derogation, disparagement

exalted: (adj) elevated, eminent, noble, high, August, elated, dignified, great, sublime, grand, big. ANTONYMS: (adj) belittled, condemned, criticized, debased, humble, humiliated, low, lowly, minor, ridiculed, base

exasperated: (adj) incensed, annoyed, enraged, angered, indignant, mad, irate, irritated, cheesed off, testy; (adj, prep) provoked. ANTONYM: (adj) pleased

excavated: (adj) concave, hollow

excavation: (n) mine, digging, dig,

hollow, hole, ditch, shaft, bore, working, cellar, delf

exceeding: (prep) beyond, more than, greater than; (adj) excessive, transcendent, extraordinary, exceptional, prodigious, surpassing, Olympian; (v) exceed

exceedingly: (adj, adv) very, highly; (adv) too, exceptionally, overly, surpassingly, extraordinarily, greatly, awfully, terrifically, eminently. ANTONYMS: (adv) slightly, hardly, insufficiently, somewhat

excel: (v) top, surpass, cap, outdo, pass, eclipse, beat, transcend, lead, outshine; (adj, v) better. ANTONYMS: (v) flunk, trail

excellently: (adv) splendidly, beautifully, exquisitely, magnificently, finely, marvelously, goodly, worthily, grandly, primely, superbly. ANTONYMS: (adv) poorly, badly, terribly

excepted: (v) except; (adj) let off, excused

excepting: (conj, prep) but, bar; (n, prep) except for, exclusive of; (prep) aside from, besides, apart from, barring, excluding, with the exception of; (v) saving. ANTONYM: (prep) including

excessively: (adj, adv) immoderately, exorbitantly, inordinately; (adv) extremely, enormously, exceedingly, very, profusely, overly, exaggeratedly, intemperately. ANTONYMS: (adv) justifiably, moderately, insufficiently

excitability: (n) irritability, impetuosity, responsiveness, vehemence, petulance, choler, indiscretion, feeling, crossness, excitableness, nervousness

excitable: (adj) nervous, irritable, combustible, hasty, edgy, fiery, sensitive, volatile, passionate, warm, quick. ANTONYMS: (adj) unexcitable, calm, unflappable, easygoing, easy, tranquil, reliable, mild

excite: (v) arouse, enliven, disturb, agitate, awaken, incite, inspire, rouse, electrify; (n, v) energize; (adj, v) quicken. ANTONYMS: (v) calm, pacify, bore, soothe, stifle, tranquilize, placate, quiet, dampen

execute: (v) do, achieve, complete, perform, accomplish, act, effect, carry out, enforce, make, fulfill. ANTONYMS: (v) abandon, ignore, disregard, Miss, forget, shirk, revive

executioner: (n) killer, murderer, hangman, headsman, electrocutioner, executor, tormentor, executer, public executioner, slaughterer, slayer

exemplifying: (adj) illustrative, demonstrative

exertion: (n) application, exercise, endeavor, attempt, struggle, trouble, diligence, strain, labor, pull, essay. ANTONYMS: (n) idleness, inactivity, inertia, relaxation, laziness, ease

exhalation: (n) emanation, expiration, breathing out, steam, vapour, emission, fumes, vapor, puff, effusion, wind

exhausting: (adj) difficult, grueling, tiring, tiresome, exhaustingly, strenuous, draining, wearing, wearisome, wearying, hard. ANTONYMS: (adj) undemanding, refreshing, easy, light

exhaustion: (n) consumption, enervation, tiredness, lassitude, attrition, weakening, weariness, inanition, weakness; (adj, n) collapse; (adj) prostration. ANTONYMS: (n) vitality, pep, restoration, vim

existent: (adj) current, real, factual, instant, alive, existing, present, substantial, living, extant, effective. ANTONYMS: (adj) potential, unreal, false

expanse: (n) breadth, expansion, space, region, compass, extent, orbit, latitude, acreage, dilation, length. ANTONYM: (n) closeness

expectoration: (n) expulsion, projection, expectorate, sputum, spittle, phlegm, spitting, body process, bodily process, activity, bodily function

expedient: (adj) fit, advisable, becoming, desirable, adequate, apt, convenient, suitable; (n) contrivance, resource, artifice. ANTONYMS: (adj) inappropriate, inexpedient, impractical, futile, detrimental, inconvenient, foolish

expeditious: (adj) agile, brisk, swift, prompt, quick, hasty, fast, rapid, speedy, efficient, ready. ANTONYMS: (adj) ineffectual, sluggish, slothful, inefficient, leisurely

experimentally: (adv) tentatively, trially, by experimentation, empirically, observationally, provisionally, scientifically, experientially, through an

- experiment
- expiration:** (n) ending, end, conclusion, finish, close, exhalation, termination, exit, death, lapse, expiry. ANTONYM: (n) beginning
- expired:** (adj) lapsed, deceased, invalid, dead, overdue, extinct, elapsed, out
- explorer:** (n) adventurer, traveler, pioneer, researcher, tourist, scout, discoverer, diver, excursionist, soul, mortal
- expound:** (v) explicate, elucidate, annotate, elaborate, define, read, clarify, illustrate, interpret; (adj, v) explain, expand
- expressive:** (adj) significant, meaningful, descriptive, mobile, revelatory, indicative, articulate, graphic, emphatic, suggestive, vivid. ANTONYMS: (adj) unemotional, undemonstrative, nondescript, cold, expressionless, empty, emotionless, inarticulate, innocent, impassive, reserved
- exquisitely:** (adv) excellently, finely, magnificently, perfectly, beautifully, gorgeously, superbly, keenly, subtly; (adj, adv) intensely, exceedingly
- exterior:** (adj, n) outside, surface, outward; (n) appearance, skin, front; (adj) external, superficial, outlying, outer, outdoor. ANTONYMS: (adj, n) interior, inside; (adj) inner, internal, intrinsic, middle, deep
- externally:** (adv) superficially, exteriorly, outside, outwardly, without, foreignly, extrinsically, surface, extraneously, peripherally, outwardly. ANTONYM: (adv) internally
- extinguished:** (adj) extinct, out, dead, quenched, allayed, destroyed; (n) defunctness, complete annihilation, experimental extinction, extermination, extinction
- extinguishment:** (n) effacement, annihilation, obliteration, nullification, extinction, destruction, eclipse, nirvana
- extort:** (v) exact, soak, compel, take, wring, force, extract, pry; (adj) bleed, fleece, overcharge
- extravagance:** (n) dissipation, luxury, excess, profligacy, lavishness, squandering, recklessness, waste, prodigality, magnificence, immoderateness. ANTONYMS: (n) economy, frugality, parsimony, prudence, paucity, moderation, austerity, necessity, bareness
- extravagant:** (adj) wasteful, luxurious, prodigal, exaggerated, profligate, costly, expensive, lavish, immoderate, profuse, undue. ANTONYMS: (adj) restrained, frugal, parsimonious, plain, stingy, understated, thrifty, reasonable, moderate, cautious, tasteful
- extravagantly:** (adv) excessively, immoderately, inordinately, luxuriously, prodigally, wastefully, profligately, profusely, ostentatiously, improvidently, unrestrainedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) economically, stingily, reasonably, meagerly, cheaply, modestly, humbly
- extremity:** (n) end, member, boundary, bound, close, appendage, limit, limb, ending, fringe, conclusion. ANTONYMS: (n) trunk, average, minimum, head, leniency
- exult:** (v) rejoice, triumph, cheer, glory, chuckle, crow, jubilate, brag, boast, celebrate; (n, v) delight. ANTONYMS: (v) grieve, mourn, bemoan
- exultation:** (n) jubilation, joy, delight, ecstasy, elation, rejoicing, revelling, transport, joyousness, bliss, glee. ANTONYMS: (n) depression, desolation, misery, sorrow
- eyebrow:** (n) supercilium, eyebrows, forehead, strap line, hair
- eyelid:** (n) lid, palpebra, chapeau
- eyrie:** (n) aery, eyry, habitation, cave, cell, den, hiding place, hole, lair, sanctum sanctorum
- fab:** (n) legend, fiction, tale, story, fabrication, fairy tale, lie, myth, anecdote; (adj, n) apologue, parable. ANTONYMS: (n) fact, history
- fabrication:** (n) construction, fiction, fable, assembly, creation, formation, falsehood, production, lie; (n, v) invention, forgery. ANTONYMS: (n) honesty, fact, correction, dismantling, dismantlement
- facilities:** (n) mother wit
- fain:** (adj) willing, prepared, ready, favorable, heart and soul, prone; (adv) gladly, lief, readily, willingly; (v) optative
- fainting:** (n) swoon, syncope, deliquium, lipothymy, prostration, stupor; (adj, n) lipothymic
- faithfully:** (adv) exactly, accurately, sincerely, staunchly, precisely, truly, authentically, dutifully, literally, steadfastly, truly. ANTONYMS: (adv) unfaithfully, approximately, falsely, insincerely, carelessly,
- inaccurately
- fallacy:** (n) delusion, deception, paralogism, illusion, misconception, falsehood, inaccuracy, idol, falsity, sophistry; (adj, n) subterfuge. ANTONYMS: (n) fact, truth, validity, verity, understanding, correctness
- falsely:** (adv) incorrectly, fraudulently, deceptively, dishonestly, wrongly, erroneously, misleadingly, deceitfully, unfaithfully, spuriously, fictitiously. ANTONYMS: (adv) honestly, truthfully, faithfully, authentically, correctly, naturally, rightly
- familiarity:** (adj, n) acquaintance; (n) intimacy, closeness, experience, casualness, conversancy, knowledge, converseance, naturalness, nearness, friendship. ANTONYMS: (n) unfamiliarity, formality, abnormality, distance, animosity
- familiarly:** (adv) intimately, usually, ordinarily, nearly, frequently, commonly, regularly, informally, closely, acquaintedly, conventionally. ANTONYM: (adv) distantly
- fancied:** (adj) unreal, chimerical, fictional, fanciful, fictitious, fabricated, preferred, assumed, illusory, imagined, ideal
- fancies:** (n) stock
- fanciful:** (adj) mythical, fantastic, capricious, unreal, arbitrary, romantic, ideal, chimerical, notional, visionary; (adj, v) fancy. ANTONYMS: (adj) prosaic, real, realistic, plausible, normal
- fancying:** (n) daydream, fantasy
- fangs:** (v) tentacle, tenaculum, nail, hook, unguis, teeth; (n) clutches
- fantastically:** (adv) wonderfully, fabulously, tremendously, marvelously, extraordinarily, strangely, queerly, magnificently, grotesquely, whimsically, peculiarly. ANTONYMS: (adv) plausibly, abysmally
- far-off:** (adj) distant, far, faraway, outlying, extreme, inaccessible, last, long, obscure, unknown, wide
- farther:** (adj, adv, prep) beyond; (adj) additional, more, distant; (adv) furthermore, besides, abroad, in addition, too; (adj, prep) outside; (pron) another. ANTONYMS: (prep) within; (adv) nearer, closer
- fashioned:** (adj) formed, featured, fictitious, intentional, bent, wrought

fashioning: (n) devising, cartography, making, cartographic, cartographical, mapmaking

fastened: (adj) tied, fast, buttoned, closed, tight, secure, pinned, binding, empight, steady, firm. ANTONYMS: (adj) unfastened, unbuttoned

fastening: (n) clasp, clip, buckle, attachment, lock, catch, link, bonding; (n, v) bond; (v) tie, bind

fastidious: (adj, n) exacting, critical, accurate; (adj) delicate, particular, careful, exigent, dainty, discriminating, nice, fussy.

ANTONYMS: (adj) sloppy, unfastidious, careless, uncouth, uncritical, easy, indifferent, undemanding, slapdash, relaxed, easygoing

fastidiously: (adv) nicely, meticulously, finically, finickily, squeamishly, carefully, precisely, daintily, fussily, strictly, accurately

fatalities: (n) dead, wounded
fatality: (n) disaster, calamity, death, mishap, demise, misadventure, lethality, adversity, loss, decease, dead

fates: (adj) book of fate, Parcae, sky; (n) fortune, the fates

fathom: (n, v) plumb; (v) penetrate, discern, bottom, understand, comprehend, know, make out, measure; (n) probe, gauge. ANTONYMS: (v) confuse, misunderstand, Miss

fatigue: (v) exhaust, tire, weary, harass, enervate, fag, jade, wear; (n) exhaustion, weariness, tiredness. ANTONYMS: (n) energy, liveliness, vitality, vigor, strength; (v) energize, renew, rejuvenate, restore, invigorate

fatness: (n) adiposity, fleshiness, avoirdupois, heaviness, adiposeness, obesity, greasiness, stoutness, fattiness, size, corpulence. ANTONYMS: (n) leanness, thinness

faubourg: (n) suburbia, suburb

favor: (n, v) countenance, aid, grace, support, benefit, boon; (adj, n) kindness; (n) advantage; (v) befriend, encourage, patronize. ANTONYMS: (v) hinder, contradict, dislike, hurt, differ, thwart, reject, demean; (n) derogation, disapproval, unkindness

favorite: (adj, n) darling, favourite, dear, number one; (adj) favored, beloved, popular; (n) pet, choice, pick, preference. ANTONYMS: (n)

indifference, superior, underdog; (adj) unwanted, despised, disliked, hated, unusual

fearfully: (adv) timidly, timorously, awfully, apprehensively, horrendously, hideously, anxiously, appallingly, terribly; (adj, adv) shockingly, dreadfully.

ANTONYMS: (adv) bravely, calmly, confidently, wonderfully, rationally, unconcernedly

feasibility: (adj, n) practicability; (n) practicableness, practicality, possibility, probability, convenience, potentiality, capability, reality, feasibility, physical constraints

feather: (n) pen, feathering, pinion, nib, plumage, quill, kind, spline; (n, v) plume; (adj, n, v) fringe; (v) fledge

feathery: (adj) light, fluffy, plummy, soft, downy, featherlike, plumose, plumelike, velvety, creamy, tender.

ANTONYM: (adj) rough

feeble: (adj) delicate, decrepit, ailing, helpless, powerless, poor, mild, lax, thin; (adj, v) faint, debilitated.

ANTONYMS: (adj) strong, vigorous, hearty, tough, effective, powerful, unrelenting, robust, potent,

persuasive, able

feeblest: (adj) least

feebly: (adv) faintly, unenthusiastically, dimly, hopelessly, unproductively, unpersuasively, unconvincingly, uncertainly, reluctantly, powerlessly, insipidly.

ANTONYMS: (adv) robustly, confidently, domineeringly, vehemently, stubbornly, strongly, effectively, convincingly, competently, admirably, wholeheartedly

felicity: (n) happiness, bliss, blessedness, beatitude, luck, felicitousness, joy, fortune, ecstasy, enjoyment, appropriateness.

ANTONYM: (n) infelicity

felon: (n) convict, culprit, crook, malefactor, thug, desperado, miscreant, offender, hoodlum, outlaw; (adj) felonious

ferocity: (n) violence, cruelty, ferociousness, fury, rage, truculence, atrocity, fierceness, wildness, vehemence, anger. ANTONYMS: (n) meekness, friendliness, serenity

ferule: (n) switch, ferula, cudgel, truncheon, ferrule, ferular; (v) whip, flog, chastise

fervid: (adj) ardent, burning, hot, vehement, eager, passionate,

impassioned, fiery, enthusiastic; (adj, v) warm, glowing

fever: (adj, n) devotion, passion; (n) enthusiasm, zeal, eagerness, fervency, energy, warmth, earnestness, fervidness, ardour. ANTONYMS: (n) indifference, apathy, impassiveness, aloofness, coolness, dejection, doubt

fete: (n) feast, festival, carnival, party, banquet, celebration, gala, festivity, fiesta, eisteddfod; (v) celebrate

fettered: (adj) bound, in fetters, in bonds, responsible

fetters: (n) chains, captivity, bond, restraint, irons, handcuffs, iron, enduring; (v) confine, fee, embellish. ANTONYM: (n) liberation

feverishly: (adv) excitedly, hotly, febrilely, hectically, feverously, hysterically, passionately, frantically, fanatically, heatedly, frenziedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) indifferently, peacefully, sluggishly

fictitious: (adj) bogus, assumed, fictional, counterfeit, artificial, fake, fabulous, sham, fabricated, fanciful, apocryphal. ANTONYMS: (adj) true, honest, historical, factual

fiddle: (n, v) con, cheat, trick; (v) tamper, play, diddle, meddle, tinker; (n) kit, swindle, fraud

fidelity: (n) constancy, devotion, faithfulness, adherence, allegiance, loyalty, faith, dedication, exactness; (adj, n) honesty, truth.

ANTONYMS: (n) infidelity, unfaithfulness, disloyalty, inaccuracy, faithlessness, dishonesty, unreliability

fiend: (n) monster, devil, fanatic, brute, deuce, incubus, goblin, ogre, enthusiast, daemon, addict.

ANTONYM: (n) angel

fiendish: (adj, v) infernal, diabolic, satanic, hellish; (adj) demonic, diabolical, cruel, atrocious, inhuman, wicked, brutal

fierceness: (n) ferocity, violence, cruelty, force, brutality, rage, intensity, strength, vehemence, wildness, ferociousness. ANTONYMS: (n) friendliness, calmness, meekness

fiery: (adj, n) burning, passionate, glowing; (adj) fervent, ablaze, hot, fervid, impassioned, peppery; (adj, v) fierce, violent. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, passionless, dispassionate, indifferent, placid, gentle, cool; (adv) easygoing

filagree: (n) filagree, embellishment

filmy: (adj) diaphanous, delicate, sheer, transparent, gauzy, fine, thin, vaporous, limpid, light, ethereal.

ANTONYMS: (adj) opaque, clear, thick, coarse, robust, heavy

fineness: (n) refinement, elegance, daintiness, thinness, choiceness, beauty, superiority, subtlety, slimness, slenderness, narrowness.

ANTONYMS: (n) stoutness, thickness, vulgarity, inaccuracy, coarseness, width

finer: (adj) superior, advanced, bigger, higher, more, greater

finesse: (n) artifice, diplomacy, delicacy, refinement, dexterity, daintiness, ability, skill; (n, v) maneuver; (adj) intrigue; (v) circumvent. ANTONYMS: (n) ignorance, tactlessness, coarseness

fins: (n) flippers, flipper, cinque

firmness: (adj, n) constancy; (n) determination, resolution, assurance, consistency, obstinacy, steadfastness, resolve, confidence, courage, backbone. ANTONYMS: (n) softness, instability, vacillation, unsteadiness, yielding, irresoluteness, droopiness, indefiniteness, indecisiveness, indecision, leniency

fishes: (n) amphibians, Craniata, Subphylum Vertebrata, Vertebrata, birds

fissure: (n) crevice, chasm, cranny, break, cleft, breach, rift, chap, chink, cleavage, aperture. ANTONYMS: (n) repair, mend

fitful: (adj) erratic, fickle, changeable, spasmodic, uncertain, intermittent, irregular, variable, sporadic, desultory, flickering. ANTONYMS: (adj) regular, unbroken

fitfully: (adv) intermittently, spasmodically, inconstantly, sporadically, unsteadily, unevenly, uncertainly, randomly, interruptedly, flickeringly, occasionally. ANTONYMS: (adv) recurrently, peacefully

fitter: (n) adjuster, machinist, sartor, cutter, mounter, erector; (adj) suitable, healthier

fixedly: (adv) steadily, steadfastly, regularly, intently, stably, setly, permanently, rigidly, unwaveringly, surely, resolutely

flags: (n) streamer, streamers, sidewalk, trottoir, pavement, walk, footpath, bunting; (adj) wood pavement, flagstone

flakes: (n) dust

flamingo: (n) phenicopter

flaring: (adj) flared, flaming, burning, blazing, tawdry, ablaze, garish, fiery; (v) glaring; (n) flare; (adv) flaringly

flashing: (adj) bright, sparkling, blinking, meteoric, scintillating, light, brilliant, dazzling, gleaming; (n) flare, flashes

flatness: (n) dullness, monotony, plain, flat, tedium, sameness, insipidness, tediousness, platitude, smoothing, smooth. ANTONYM: (n) unevenness

flatter: (v) fawn, adulate, wheedle, cajole, soap, kowtow, blandish, grovel, butter up; (n, v) court; (n) caress. ANTONYMS: (v) insult, disparage, criticize, discourage

fledged: (adj) feathered, ripe, vanned, fledge, flidge

flee: (v) bolt, break out, fly, desert, break, abscond, elope, elude, run away, run, leave. ANTONYMS: (v) appear, advance

fleshy: (adj) corpulent, brawny, chubby, overweight, obese, heavy, stout, round, succulent; (adj, adv) plump; (adv) portly. ANTONYMS: (adj) slim, slender

flickering: (adj) sparkling, flicker, desultory, capricious, glistening, shimmering, glittering; (n) twinkling, flicker, fluttering; (adv) flickeringly

flippant: (adj) frivolous, airy, saucy, giddy, impertinent, impudent, rude, lightheaded, pert; (adj, v) glib; (v) voluble. ANTONYMS: (adj) earnest, caring, respectful

flooring: (n) floorboard, floors, base, ground, bottom, floored, level, story, carpeting, bell deck, bridge decking

florid: (adj) flamboyant, fancy, flowery, aureate, flashy, fresh, figurative, gorgeous; (adj, v) ornate, gaudy; (adj, n) ruddy. ANTONYMS: (adj) pale, plain

fluctuating: (adj) variable, unpredictable, unstable, erratic, inconstant, irresolute, mutable, unsteady, irregular, fickle; (v) fluctuate. ANTONYMS: (adj) constant, fixed

fluently: (adv) easily, glibly, eloquently, liquidly, flowingly, articulately, clearly, persuasively, verbosely, talkatively, fluidly.

ANTONYM: (adv) awkwardly

flurried: (adj) frightened, agitated; (v) galled

flux: (v) dissolve, thaw, course, fuse,

melt; (n) tide, current, flood, torrent, afflux, lapse. ANTONYM: (n) stability

foaming: (adj) foamy, effervescent, effervescing, bubbly, bubbling, sparkling, spumy; (adj, n) frothing; (n) surging, effervescence, scum

folder: (n) brochure, file, binder, book, case, booklet, briefcase, covering, file folder, folding machine, pamphlet

folding: (n) foldaway, plication, foldable, bend, crease, bending, flexure, pleating, collapsable, collapsible, doubling

folds: (n) laps

fondness: (n) affection, attachment, love, taste, regard, appetite, tenderness, partiality, endearment, liking, relish. ANTONYMS: (n) aversion, indifference, neglect, antipathy, detachment, hatred

foothold: (n) bridgehead, beachhead, hold, support, handhold, basis, footholds, ground, step, toehold, position

footing: (n) foothold, base, bottom, foundation, status, rank, foot, pedestal, situation, relation, root.

ANTONYM: (n) top

footstep: (n) pace, footfall, track, footmark, vestige, tread, trail, stride, degree; (n, v) step, action

footstool: (n) footrest, hassock, footboard, Ottoman

forbear: (v) refrain, desist, help, tolerate, abide, eschew, endure, relinquish; (n) predecessor, progenitor, forbear

forbidding: (adj) grim, ominous, dismal, dour, austere, abominable, ugly, hard, repulsive, redoubtable; (n) banning. ANTONYMS: (adj) alluring, inviting, pleasant, hospitable, friendly, favorable, comforting

forcible: (adj) forceful, active, energetic, powerful, strong, violent, coercive, vigorous, effective, convincing; (prep) conclusive. ANTONYMS: (adj) weak, gentle, peaceful

forcibly: (adv) forcefully, emphatically, powerfully, by force, mightily, under protest, cogently, hard, strongly, convincingly, clearly. ANTONYMS: (adv) voluntarily, weakly, gently

fore: (adv) ahead, before; (adj, adv) forward; (n) bow, head, forefront, stem; (adj, n) front; (adj) anterior, foremost, frontal. ANTONYMS:

(adv) aft, behind, rear; (adj) back
forefathers: (n) patriarchs, forefather, ancestor, colony, lineage, family
foreground: (n) front, scene, panorama, window, vista; (v) bring out, emphasize, highlight, cozy up, cotton up, accentuate. ANTONYM: (v) background
forenoon: (n) morning, morn, am, period, daybreak, break of the day, morning time, first light, dayspring, a, cockcrow
foresail: (n) sail, jib, canvass, fore sail, canvas
foreseen: (v) foresee, long expected; (adj) envisioned, foretold, contingent, concourse, coming, casual, adventitious, accidental, predictable
foreshadowing: (adj) prefigurative, adumbrative, prophetic; (n) prefiguration, omen, adumbration, revelation, portent, sign, prediction, harbinger
foresight: (n) prevision, forecast, caution, providence, calculation, prescience, prediction, precaution, vision, foresightedness; (n, v) expectation. ANTONYM: (n) hindsight
forfeit: (n) penalty, deprivation, cost; (v) abandon, forgo, relinquish, waive; (n, v) sacrifice, pawn; (adj) confiscate, lost. ANTONYMS: (n) retention; (v) claim, redeem, receive, maintain
forgery: (n) counterfeiting, fake, sham, invention, fabrication, falsehood, copy, phony, imitation, misrepresentation, fiction. ANTONYMS: (n) correction, truth
forgetfulness: (n) neglect, amnesia, obliviousness, inattention, memory loss, omission, unknowingness, unawareness, Lethe, carelessness, loss of memory. ANTONYMS: (n) awareness, concentration, remembering, attention
forsaken: (adj) deserted, abandoned, lonely, forlorn, derelict, desert, empty, solitary, friendless; (adj, v) jilted; (v) crossed in love. ANTONYM: (adj) unforsaken
forte: (adj, n) faculty, ability, endowment; (n) strong point, strength, specialty, strong suit, metier; (adj) loud, strong; (adv) loudly. ANTONYMS: (n) weakness, failing
forthwith: (adv) directly, immediately, at once, now, instantly, straight, presently,

straightaway, incontinently; (adj, adv) quickly; (adj) immediate
fortuitous: (adj) contingent, accidental, chance, adventitious, fortunate, coincidental, lucky, unintentional, haphazard, incidental, odd. ANTONYMS: (adj) unlucky, deliberate
fouled: (adj) befouled, foul, afoul, polluted, stained, contaminated, soiled, filthy, dirtied, disgusting
foulness: (n) filthiness, dirtiness, corruption, contamination, dirt, squalor, squalidity, impurity, pollution, nastiness, indecency. ANTONYMS: (n) cleanness, luxury, cleanliness, purity, attractiveness
founded: (v) swamped, cast away, shipwrecked, unsuited, grounded, wrecked, stranded
fowl: (n) poultry, bird, domestic fowl, chick, cochin, birds, partlet, poult, hen, fowls, rooster
fowls: (n) poultry
fractured: (v) cracked, contrite, broken friendship, blighted, apart, disunited, disconnected; (adj) torn, fissured
fragrance: (n, v) aroma, perfume, scent, smell; (n) bouquet, odor, essence, odour, redolence, sweetness; (adj) fragrant. ANTONYMS: (n) stink, stench
fragrant: (adj) spicy, odorous, balmy, sweet, odorant, scented, redolent, savory, fragrance, odoriferous, scent. ANTONYMS: (adj) smelly, putrid, malodorous, odorless
frantic: (adj) desperate, crazy, excited, distraught, frenetic, distracted; (adj, v) frenzied, furious, wild, raging; (n) maniac. ANTONYMS: (adj) mellow, composed
frantically: (adv) frenziedly, desperately, wildly, distractedly, furiously, excitedly, deliriously, ravingly, distraughtly, fiercely, crazily. ANTONYMS: (adv) sensibly, cautiously, peacefully, sluggishly
fraternity: (adj, n) brotherhood; (n) association, company, club, fellowship, society, companionship, clan, circle, community, organization
fray: (n) conflict, action, fight, combat, disturbance, fracas, scrap; (n, v) affray, broil; (v) rub, fret
freaks: (n) caprices, facetiousness, humor

freeman: (n) freedman, freedwoman, freewoman
frenzied: (adj) frenetic, crazy, delirious, hectic, furious, wild, manic, fanatical, raging, rabid; (n) maniac. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, controlled, mellow, composed
frenzy: (n) fury, anger, insanity, mania, hysteria; (adj, n) distraction, aberration, alienation, phrensy, derangement; (n, v) craze. ANTONYMS: (n) calmness, calm, order
fretted: (adj) latticed, haggard, magged, latticelike, reticulated, reticular, interlaced. ANTONYM: (adj) unfretted
friction: (n) discord, attrition, rub, dispute, abrasion, disagreement, conflict, dissension, rubbing, clash; (n, v) resistance. ANTONYMS: (n) smoothness, agreement, concord, ease
friendless: (adj) alone, lonely, abandoned, solitary, helpless, lonesome, forsaken, unfriended, deserted, introverted, unwanted. ANTONYM: (adj) sociable
fright: (n, v) dismay, alarm, scare, affright; (n) awe, fear, dread, terror, horror, consternation, apprehension. ANTONYMS: (n) calm, fearlessness, courage, confidence, security
frightful: (adj, v) fearful; (adj) formidable, awful, fearsome, appalling, gruesome, horrible, terrible, dread, frightening, grim. ANTONYMS: (adj) wonderful, calming, soothing, pleasant, lovely, fair
frivolity: (n) flippancy, giddiness, flightiness, frivolousness, silliness, triviality, frippery, prank; (adj, n) trifling, inconsistency; (adj) folly. ANTONYMS: (n) solemnity, substance, importance, reliability, responsibility
frivolous: (adj) empty, foolish, dizzy, petty, idle, light, flighty, unimportant, flippant, trivial, superficial. ANTONYMS: (adj) important, solemn, worthwhile, vital, weighty, staid, significant, sensible, responsible, crucial, heavy
frock: (n) dress, gown, clothing, attire, robe, kirtle, habit, clothes, coat, chemise, caftan
fronting: (n) facing; (adj) apparent, evident, exposed, obvious; (prep) against, toward
froth: (n, v) bubble, spume, fizz, suds, sparkle; (v) boil, effervesce, ferment;

(n) effervescence, bubbles, spindrift
frothing: (adj) foamy, bubbling, effervescent, bubbly, spumous, spumy, effervescing, sudsy, agitated; (n) effervescence, scum
fruitful: (adj) fertile, copious, profitable, abundant, plentiful, rich, fecund, good, fat, productive, lucrative. ANTONYMS: (adj) unproductive, barren, infertile, unfruitful, unprofitable, sterile, fruitless, destructive
fruitless: (adj, v) abortive; (adj) barren, useless, empty, futile, ineffective, idle, pointless, sterile, bootless, unproductive. ANTONYMS: (adj) fertile, useful, effective, satisfying, fruitful, worthwhile, profitable, successful, productive, hopeful, meaningful
frustrate: (v) disappoint, foil, fail, counteract, balk, disconcert, cross, balk, prevent, elude; (n, v) thwart. ANTONYMS: (v) promote, further, please, assist, satisfy, soothe
fulfilling: (adj) satisfying, satisfactory, pleasing, uplifting, pleasurable, effectual; (n) execution, enforcement. ANTONYM: (adj) frustrating
fulfillment: (n) completion, fruition, achievement, satisfaction, fulfilment, attainment, execution, consummation, contentment, observance, discharge. ANTONYMS: (n) disobedience, dissatisfaction, abandonment, dismay
full-length: (n) unabridged; (adj) whole
fumes: (n) gas, exhaust, exhaust fumes, smokes, smog, vapor, exhalation, steam, smoke, toxic waste, contamination
functionary: (n) officer, official, clerk, employee, agent, Mandarin, incumbent, appointee, bailiff, beadle, bureaucrat
funereal: (adj) doleful, dismal, dreary, somber, gloomy, melancholy, dolorous, dark, depressing, lugubrious; (v) burial. ANTONYMS: (adj) cheery, lively, cheerful
fungi: (n) bacteria, fungus, kingdom fungi, Thallophyta, fungus kingdom
fungus: (n) mushroom, blastomycete, ergot, earthstar, earthnut, candida, growth, bolete, earthball, basidiomycete, ascomycete
funnel: (n) flue, tunnel, funnel shape, shaft, cone, hopper, trachea,

weasand; (v) channel, move, pipe
furlong: (v) yard, rood, pole, palm, nail, line, inch, hand, fathom, cubit, foot
furnace: (n) forge, heater, blast furnace, fireplace, hearth, stove, oven, kiln, electric furnace, cupola, crematorium
furnishing: (n) provision, fixture, fitting, installation, equipment, trimming, device, interior decoration, contents; (v) provide, furnish
furtherance: (n) advance, aid, support, promotion, encouragement, improvement, lift, forwarding, fartherance, relief; (n, v) advancement. ANTONYM: (n) impediment
fustian: (adj, n) rant, jargon; (adj) bombastic, inflated, pompous, grandiloquent, highfalutin, prose run mad; (n) claptrap, blah, grandiosity
futile: (adj) useless, empty, ineffective, frivolous, idle, abortive, bootless, hopeless, meaningless, vain, hollow. ANTONYMS: (adj) successful, useful, fruitful, meaningful, worthwhile, promising, productive, effective
futility: (n) emptiness, inanity, worthlessness, vanity, uselessness, fruitlessness, frivolity, unusefulness, purposelessness, hollowness, insignificance. ANTONYMS: (n) importance, worth, worthiness, fruitfulness, effectiveness, competence, usefulness
gable: (n) pediment, gable end, wall, gable wall, William Clark gable, bell gable, corbie gable, gavel, Clark gable
gaily: (adv, v) happily; (adv) gladly, jovially, joyfully, cheerfully, mirthfully, joyously, gleefully, sunnily, blithely, lively. ANTONYMS: (adv) sadly, anxiously, dully, despondently
gait: (n, v) pace, step, tread, footstep, rate, stride, action; (n) walk, carriage, movement, velocity
gale: (n) blast, blow, tempest, storm, squall, hurricane, gust, wind, thunderstorm, blizzard, fresh gale. ANTONYM: (n) breeze
galled: (adj) chafed, uncomfortable, chilly, bleak, bare, bald, angry, painful
galling: (adj, v) irritating; (v) aggravating, provoking; (adj) exasperating, bitter, vexatious,

vexing, maddening, infuriating, bothersome, harassing. ANTONYM: (adj) pleasing
gallows: (n) gibbet, gallous, gallows-bits, hanging, noose, scaffold, halter, tree, rope, gallowstree, bough
galvanic: (adj) Voltaic, hasty, hurried, restless, electrical, mercurial, unquiet, galvanizing, galvanising, fussy, fidgety
gambler: (n) gamester, adventurer, punter, plunger, croupier, bettor, bookmaker, speculator, gamblers, high roller, shooter
gaping: (adj, n) agape; (adj) vast, yawning, cavernous, discontinuous, wide, ajar, drowsy, hollow, wide open; (adj, v) oscitant. ANTONYMS: (adj) cramped, narrow
garbled: (adj) indistinct, unintelligible, incoherent, disordered, confused, disjointed, truncated, lopped, inarticulate, upset, disunited. ANTONYM: (adj) distinct
gardening: (n) cultivation, horticulture, agronomy, floriculture, agriculture, husbandry, spade husbandry, vintage, landscape gardening, flower gardening, landscaping
gargantua: (adj) Brobdingnagian, mammoth, monster, Gog and Magog, giant, Goliath; (n) Cyclops
garret: (n) cockloft, loft, attic, house top, storey, level, upper story, story, dome, noggin, classical Greek
gaseous: (adj) volatile, airy, gasiform, aerial, gassy, vaporous, tenuous, evaporable, flatulent, invisible, ethereal. ANTONYM: (adj) solid
gash: (n, v) slash, scratch, tear, wound, slit, break, rip, slice, crack, score; (n) fissure
gasp: (n, v) pant; (v) puff, blow, breathe, sigh, heave, wheeze, breathe heavily, gag; (n) inhalation, breath
gasing: (adj) panting, winded, blown, out of breath, thirsty, pursy; (v) spavined, touched in the wind
gaudy: (adj) flashy, loud, showy, garish, flamboyant, tasteless, colorful, tacky, brassy, tawdry, florid. ANTONYMS: (adj) tasteful, restrained, muted, drab, modest, dull, quality
gaunt: (adj) lean, thin, cadaverous, desolate, bleak, dreary, meager, bony, angular, lanky, sullen. ANTONYMS: (adj) fresh, rounded, obese

gauntlet: (n) mitt, sleeve, wristband, gantlet, mitten, gloves; (v) corner stone, armored vest, buffer, mask, call to arms

gelatinous: (adj) jellylike, gluey, glutinous, viscous, gelatinlike, mucilaginous, albuminous, gooey, heavy, adhesive, liquid

gemmary: (n) gemmology

gems: (n) jewels, Gemes, jewellery, trinkets, ornaments, charms

generalities: (n) general points, general terms, generalia

generality: (n) generalization, commonness, rule, abstraction, commonality, balance, thought, quality, idea, catholicity, bulk. ANTONYMS: (n) specific, particularity

generalization: (n) generalisation, induction, idea, abstraction, dialectics, theorisation, theorization, learning, notion, concept, colligation. ANTONYM: (n) fact

genoise: (adj) Genovese

genteel: (adj) elegant, polite, cultured, refined, graceful, courtly, courteous, fashionable, nice, civil, ladylike. ANTONYMS: (adj) uncouth, improper, vulgar

gentlemanly: (adj) courteous, polite, chivalrous, refined, gallant, suave, mannerly, genteel, gentle, well-bred; (n) gentleman. ANTONYMS: (adj) rude, unbecoming

geographer: (n) cartographer

geometry: (v) arithmetic, analysis, algebra, stereometry, hypsometry, configuration, analytic geometry, analytical geometry, coordinate geometry, descriptive geometry, elementary geometry

geranium: (adj) asphodel, buttercup, anemone, ranunculus, rhododendron, windflower, day lily; (n) rose geranium, storksbill, herb, fish geranium

germ: (n) beginning, bacterium, bud, sprout, kernel, microbe, embryo, egg, bacillus, root, seed

gesticulation: (n) sign, motion, signal, bow, flourish, bowing, beck, wave, movement, act, agency

ghastly: (adj) awful, fearful, cadaverous, dreadful, grisly, gruesome, macabre, hideous, appalling, atrocious; (adv) gruesomely. ANTONYMS: (adj) wonderful, lovely, attractive, delightful

gibbering: (adj) wild

giddy: (adj, v) flighty; (adj) dizzy,

faint, silly, changeable, vertiginous, featherbrained, light, fickle, capricious; (adv) careless.

ANTONYMS: (adj) serious, dull

gigantic: (adj) colossal, enormous, large, huge, giant, stupendous, monstrous, vast, big, immense, massive. ANTONYMS: (adj) small, tiny, little, insignificant, short, miniature

gilded: (adj, v) gilt; (adj) rich, gold, golden, deluxe, gilden, fortunate, garish, advantageous, aurated, luxurious

gimlet: (n) auger, borer, wimble, drill, bore, probe, trepan, awl, corkscrew, cocktail, gimblet

girt: (n, v) girth, girdle; (v) gird, begird, encircle, environ; (n) band, belt, zone, cingle; (adj) braced

glare: (n) glance, brilliance, radiance, brightness; (n, v) glower, flash, shine, scowl, beam, frown; (v) flame. ANTONYMS: (n) dullness, dimness

glaring: (adj) conspicuous, bright, blatant, egregious, obvious, plain, flaming, garish, crying, gross, glary. ANTONYMS: (adj) soft, inconspicuous, dull, minor

glaringly: (adv) dazzlingly, blazingly, brilliantly, plainly, obviously, grossly, rankly, flagrantly, flamingly, brightly; (adj) famously

glassy: (adj, v) glossy; (adj) clear, glazed, smooth, flat, crystalline, dead, dull, hyaline, transparent; (v) glabrous. ANTONYMS: (adj) alert, bumpy, dull, expressive, murky, rough

gleam: (n, v) glance, beam, blaze, shine, glimmer, glow, flash, flicker, sparkle, glitter; (v) twinkle

gleaming: (adj) brilliant, shiny, radiant, glossy, lustrous, glowing, beaming, resplendent; (n) gleam, glimmer; (adj, adv) a gleam. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull, dirty, rough

glee: (n) delight, cheerfulness, mirth, fun, gaiety, hilarity, joy, rejoicing, frolic, jubilation, happiness.

ANTONYMS: (n) sadness, gloom, sorrow, despondency, displeasure, misery, boredom

glistening: (adj) shining, glossy, shiny, glisten, brilliant, beaming, sleek, lustrous, sparkling, reflecting light, gleaming. ANTONYM: (adj) dull

glitter: (n, v) flash, beam, shine, glisten, glimmer, glow, sparkle,

flicker, shimmer; (v) glance; (n) radiance. ANTONYM: (n) dullness

glittering: (adj, v) brilliant; (adj) sparkling, flashing, dazzling, glistening, glistening, glinting, shining, scintillating, splendid; (adj, adv) aglitter

gloriously: (adv) brilliantly, grandly, magnificently, illustriously, marvelously, superbly, wonderfully, gorgeously, radiantly, greatly, renownedly

glove: (n) boxing glove, gloves, mitt, mitten, baseball mitt, baseball glove, handwear, wristband, sleeve, mittens, batting glove

glowing: (adj, n) enthusiastic, cordial, passionate; (adj) burning, fervent, blazing, flaming, fiery, dazzling; (adj, v) warm; (adj, adv) aglow.

ANTONYMS: (adj) pale, wan, unhappy, unenthusiastic, derogatory, dispassionate, unwell

glutinous: (adj) sticky, viscous, gluey, clammy, tenacious, pasty, gummy, viscid, gooey; (adj, n) gelatinous, mucilaginous

gnarled: (adj) knotty, knotted, gnarly, asperous, crisp, deformed, crabbed, roughhewn, wrinkled, unsmooth, unpolished. ANTONYMS: (adj) smooth, unknotted, straight

goaded: (adj) provoked, forced, motivated, involuntary, aggravated, compulsive, determined, involuntary

goadng: (n) encouragement, exhortation, gad, branch line, prodding, prod, spur, urging, spurring; (adj) provocative

goblet: (n) bowl, chalice, cup, mug, grail, beaker, basin, tumbler, rummer, flask; (v) glass

gondola: (n) boat, coracle, catamaran, basket, hydroplane, compartment, auto, hovercraft, gundelet, gondola lift, elevator car

gondolier: (n) bargee, waterman, boater, gondoliere

gore: (v) butt, stab, spike, spear, push, stick, impale, pierce; (n) bloodshed, gusset, carnage

gorge: (v) glut, devour, cram, fill, gobble, satiate, stuff; (n) abyss, cleft, esophagus, chasm. ANTONYMS: (v) nibble, fast; (n) hill

gorgeously: (adv) splendidly, magnificently, grandly, stunningly, sumptuously, wonderfully, superbly, exquisitely, resplendently, attractively, delightfully. ANTONYM: (adv) horribly

gossamer: (adj) thin, sheer, filmy, diaphanous, delicate, fine, cobwebby, gauzy, down; (adj, n) cobweb; (n) gauze. ANTONYMS: (adj) opaque, robust, thick, heavy

graceful: (adj) beautiful, delicate, amiable, easy, fine, charming, fair, airy, becoming, lovely, lithe.

ANTONYMS: (adj) inelegant, stocky, awkward, vigorous, jerky, ugly, stilted, heavy, coarse, strenuous

gracefully: (adv) prettily, graciously, neatly, delicately, smoothly, charmingly, refinedly, lithely, easily, daintily, nicely. ANTONYMS: (adv) awkwardly, ungraciously, clumsily, gracelessly, vigorously, unpleasantly, unkindly, heavily

gradation: (n) degree, scale, ablaut, progression, graduation, tier, step, level, shade, form, extent

grandeur: (n) dignity, splendor, magnitude, brilliance, glory, pomp, elegance, majesty, magnificence, grandness; (adj, n) solemnity.

ANTONYMS: (n) modesty, simplicity

granulated: (adj) granular, coarse

grapple: (n, v) grip, clasp, tackle, grasp; (v) fight, contend, grapple, struggle; (adj, n, v) lock; (adj, n) hook; (n) grappling

grasping: (adj) avaricious, covetous, acquisitive, greedy, avid, voracious, rapacious, grabby, mercenary, stingy; (n) seizing. ANTONYMS: (adj) generous, altruistic

grated: (v) areolar, streaked; (adj) barred

gratification: (adj, n) delight; (n, v) content; (n) enjoyment, pleasure, satisfaction, fruition, complacency, joy, luxury, treat, fulfillment.

ANTONYMS: (n) dissatisfaction, disenchantment, dismay, discontent, anxiety

gratified: (adj) glad, satisfied, pleased, delighted, happy, thankful, grateful, content, complacent, comfortable, cheerful

gratify: (v) delight, please, appease, accommodate, satisfy, amuse, suit, indulge, cater; (n, v) humor; (adj) contented. ANTONYMS: (v) dissatisfy, displease, disappoint

grating: (adj) hoarse, strident, harsh, discordant, gravelly, raspy, gruff, raucous; (n, v) lattice; (n) grate, grid.

ANTONYMS: (adj) pleasing, soothing, smooth, harmonious

graven: (adj) carved, engraved,

etched, sculptured, sculptile, sculpted, inscribed, carved

graveyard: (n) burial ground, churchyard, necropolis, burying ground, burial site, site, burial place, radioactive cemetery, memorial park, morgue

grieve: (adj) hurt

grieve: (n, v) distress, aggrieve, afflict, sorrow, annoy; (v) trouble, lament, deplore, bemoan, fret, bewail. ANTONYMS: (v) rejoice, celebrate, encourage

grieved: (adj) sore, sad, sorry, sorrowful, upset, woeful, pained, affected, brokenhearted

grievous: (adj) bitter, dolorous, dreadful, deplorable, sad, tough, pitiful, atrocious, regrettable, sorrowful, sorry. ANTONYM: (adj) successful

groan: (n, v) grumble, murmur, cry, sigh, mutter, squeak, rumble, scrape; (v) howl, complain; (n) complaint

grobe: (v) fumble, finger, grabble, search, handle, scramble, paw, mishandle; (n, v) touch; (adj) groping; (adv) gropingly

groping: (adj) fumbling, gropingly, investigative, uncertain, blind, probing, tentative, uncertain, unsure, hesitant, exploratory

grossly: (adv) rudely, roughly, commonly, heavily, bluntly, disgustingly, shamefully, rankly, totally, uncouthly, obscenely.

ANTONYM: (adv) appealingly

grotesque: (adj) fantastic, bizarre, funny, antic, absurd, droll, strange, baroque, weird, ugly, hideous.

ANTONYMS: (adj) lovely, normal, commonplace, attractive

grotesqueness: (n) grotesquery, grotesquerie

grotesquerie: (n) grotesquery

grouping: (n) group, class, arrangement, association, collection, category, disposition, order, union, party, sort

groveling: (adj) groveling, base, abject, menial, vulgar, slavish, servile, obsequious, low, wormlike, earthbred

gruff: (adj) bluff, abrupt, curt, crusty, brusque, brutal, husky; (adj, v) coarse, rough, hoarse, harsh.

ANTONYMS: (adj) courteous, friendly, high, velvety, smooth, mellow, gentle, civil, polite

grumble: (n, v) mutter, gripe, growl, moan, rumble, mumble, groan, roar; (v) complain, grouch; (n) complaint.

ANTONYMS: (n, v) praise; (v) compliment, rejoice

grunt: (v) growl, croak, mutter, complain, murmur, moan, clamor, mumble; (n, v) cry; (n) groan, cottonwick

guarded: (adj) wary, careful, chary, circumspect, cagey, vigilant, watchful, conditional, discreet, gingerly, conservative.

ANTONYMS: (adj) frank, careless, trusting, reckless, open, unwary, natural

guarding: (n) surveillance, conservation, precaution, shielding, marking, civil defense, patrol, accompaniment, guardianship; (adj) preserving, defensive

guesser: (n) conjecture

guessing: (adv) guessingly; (n) dead reckoning, guesswork, approximation, supposition, gibe, shot, blastoff, barb, estimation, dig

guiding: (adj) scouting, directive, leading, controlling, guidance, directional, guide, direction, management, steering, sovereign

guile: (n) fraud, cunning, craft, duplicity, deception, trickery, deceitfulness, wiliness, craftiness, artifice, slyness. ANTONYMS: (n) honesty, straightforwardness, candor, frankness

guiltlessness: (n) innocence, sinlessness, harmlessness, purity, inculpability, inculpableness

gunwale: (n) gun rest, strake, wale, bracketed blenny, inwale

gush: (n, v) flood, flow, spurt, jet, discharge, stream, rush, surge; (n) burst, effusion; (v) course

gust: (n) eruption, flurry, blow, blast, puff, flare, explosion, gale, storm, breeze; (adj, n) whiff

gusty: (adj) blustery, stormy, windy, blowy, tempestuous, squally, dirty, blustering, blustorous, airy, inclement. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, airless

guttural: (adj) hoarse, throaty, gruff, croaking, husky, harsh, velar, raucous, grum; (n) dental; (v) nasal.

ANTONYMS: (adj) soft, smooth, high

gyrating: (adj) turning, spinning, winding, circling, gyrant

gyratory: (adj) revolving, gyral, vortical, rotational, gyrating, changeable, circling, turning, dizzy; (v) vertiginous, circumrotatory

habiliments: (n) clothes, garb, apparel, clothing, costume, dress,

equipage, material, tackle, thing, apparatus

habited: (adj) clothed, dressed, garbed

habitual: (adj, n) common, frequent, usual; (adj) chronic, conventional, confirmed, accustomed, natural, commonplace, everyday, ordinary. ANTONYMS: (adj) occasional, infrequent, mild, irregular, exceptional, erratic, abnormal, innovative

habitually: (adv) usually, ordinarily, normally, generally, regularly, frequently, commonly, routinely, wontedly, conventionally, commonplacely. ANTONYMS: (adv) unusually, seldom, erratically, exceptionally, occasionally

hades: (n) underworld, Hel, sheol, Stygian creek, Styx, pit of Acheron, blaze, inferno, aides, Aidoneus, Avernus

halcyon: (adj) calm, peaceful, untroubled, tranquil, happy, quiet, auspicious, prosperous, golden; (v) pacific; (n) alcyon

hale: (adj) healthy, whole, sturdy, strong, sane, rugged, robust; (v) drag; (adj, n) well, hearty, sound. ANTONYM: (adj) unwell

handiwork: (n) handicraft, creation, production, handcraft, product, handwork, work, produce, design, performance; (v) workmanship

handmaiden: (n) maid, amah, subordinateness, subsidiarity, housemaid, maidservant, servant, biddy

hangings: (n) long curtains

hangman: (n) executioner, headsman, hanger, tormentor, tiger, boggle, crossword puzzle, scrabble, wild beast, hyena

harassed: (adj) annoyed, pestered, irritated, bothered, annoy, jittery, worried, troubled, beleaguered, obsessed, harried. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, carefree

harassing: (adj) troublesome, carking, galling, thorny, vexatious; (v) bothering, pestering, tormenting, worrying, annoy, harass

hardening: (v) harden; (n) solidification, curing, sclerosis, callosity, calcification, symptom, inurement, hardener; (adj) reprobation, perversion

harem: (n) hareem, quarters, zenana, serail

hark: (v) harken, hear, hearken, heed, listen in; (n) look here, look you,

look

harp: (n) lyre, harmonica, harper, lute, mouth harp; (v) dwell, ingeminate, iterate, restate, reiterate, retell

harshness: (n) austerity, asperity, severity, acrimony, brutality, hardness, roughness, rigor, inclemency, hoarseness; (adj, n) strictness. ANTONYMS: (n) softness, leniency, quietness, flexibility, kindness, mercy, sweetness, melodiousness, brightness, smoothness, lenience

hasp: (n, v) hook; (n) catch, buckle, fastening, hank; (adj) bolt, screw, rivet, pin, nail; (v) fasten

haste: (n, v) hurry, dash, dispatch, rush; (n) celerity, expedition, rapidity, speed, bustle, hastiness, quickness. ANTONYMS: (n) delay, patience, forethought, caution

hasten: (adj, n, v) speed, quicken; (v) expedite, advance, hurry, hie, dash, rush; (n, v) further, forward, dispatch. ANTONYMS: (v) linger, retard, amble

hastened: (adj) careless

hastening: (n) quickening, speed, hurrying, speeding up, faster, fast, stepping up

haunt: (n, v) resort, ghost; (n) den, hangout, home; (v) pursue, follow, stalk, afflict, persecute; (adj) harass

haunted: (adj) ghostly, ghostlike, phantom, taken up, preoccupied, possessed, unearthly, magical, mad, infatuated, concerned

haunting: (adj) moving, memorable, unforgettable, beguiling, attractive, ominous, weird, treasured, evocative, etched in your mind, deep. ANTONYMS: (adj) forgettable, unremarkable

headlong: (adj, adv) headfirst; (adv) directly, hastily, precipitately; (adj) rash, hurried, desperate, precipitous, impetuous, sudden, precipitate. ANTONYMS: (adj) cautiously, considered; (adv) carefully

headway: (n) advancement, way, advance, headroom, forward movement, speed, progress, head, clearance, development; (v) flood. ANTONYMS: (n) deterioration, regression

healthily: (adv) salubriously, wholesomely, robustly, healthfully, salutarily, lustily, welly, wholly, heartily, vigorously, strongly

heaps: (adj, n) lots, much; (n) masses,

oodles, piles, stacks, many, tons, plenty, lot, accumulation.

ANTONYM: (adj) inadequate

hearken: (v) hark, harken, attend, listen, hear, heed, list, listen in, listen to, regard, look out

hearse: (n) catafalque, coffin, entomb, urn, shell, sarcophagus, pall, cinerary urn, auto, car, automobile

heartily: (adv) cordially, sincerely, enthusiastically, warmly, strongly, earnestly, vigorously, ardently, soundly, devoutly, eagerly.

ANTONYMS: (adv) feebly, languorously

heartly: (adj) heartfelt, healthy, genial, sturdy, cheering, fervent, wholehearted, lusty, enthusiastic, convivial; (adj, n) well.

ANTONYMS: (adj) unhealthy, frail, old, weak, sluggish, unwholesome, meager

heavenly: (adj) celestial, blissful, ethereal, delightful, angelic, blessed, elysian, holy, unearthly, godlike, sacred. ANTONYMS: (adj) worldly, miserable, infernal, hellish, unappealing, dreadful, turbulent

heaving: (v) tremor, twitter; (adj) swelling, full, full up, jammed; (n) murmur, forcing out, groan, grumble, mutter. ANTONYM: (adj) deserted

hebrew: (n) Israelite, Rabbist, rabbinist, kike, Pharisee, redeemer, savior; (adj) Hebraic, Greek, Jewish, dominical

hebrides: (n) Hebridean Isles, Western Isles, Hebridean islands

hctic: (adj) frantic, frenzied, agitated, busy, hurried, chaotic, exciting, fevered, furious, febrile; (n) fever. ANTONYMS: (adj) idle, leisurely, quiet, empty, dull, mellow

heighten: (v) amplify, enlarge, aggravate, raise, deepen, elevate, boost, grow, expand, compound, advance. ANTONYMS: (v) alleviate, damage, decrease, improve, lessen

heightened: (adj) excited, intense, irritate, keen, resonant, sensitive

heiress: (n) inheritress, inheritrix, inheritor, heritor, owner, beneficiary

heirs: (n) family, posterity, issue

hellish: (adj, v) diabolic, satanic; (adj) infernal, diabolical, fiendish, demonic, beastly, wicked, unholy, detestable; (v) mephistophelian

helplessness: (n) powerlessness, defenselessness, dependence, impotency, impotence, inability, impuissance, incapability,

- incapacity, defencelessness, failing.
ANTONYMS: (n) resistance, capacity, strength
- henceforward:** (adv) in future, from now on, from this time on, from this moment on, after this
- herbage:** (n) herb, grass, pasture, pasturage, foliage, herbaceous plant, forage, flora, eatage, vegetable kingdom
- herculean:** (adj) cyclopean, prodigious, formidable, powerful, brawny, laborious, difficult, hard, giant, gigantic; (v) paestric
- hereafter:** (adv) thereafter, from now on, hence, henceforth, hereinafter, afterwards; (n) afterlife, futurity, time to come, great beyond, future life
- hereditarily:** (adv) ancestrally, inbornly, genetically, inherently, transmittedly, inbredly, congenitally, innately, lineally, natively, ingrainedly
- hereditary:** (adj) familial, ancestral, inherent, heritable, inherited, inborn, congenital, innate, patrimonial, native, heredity
- herein:** (adv) here, therein
- heretofore:** (adv) formerly, as yet, before, so far, yet, already, until now, previously, once, hereunto; (adv, n) hitherto
- hereupon:** (adv) immediately, whereupon, thereupon
- hermit:** (n) anchorite, ascetic, solitary, anchorite, eremite, monk, troglodyte, solitaire, loner, caveman, cave man
- herod:** (adj) bear down, out Herod, ride roughshod; (n) Herod the great
- heroine:** (n) woman, personna, brave woman, role, protagonist, part, leading lady, heroess, role model, female lead, character
- hesper:** (n) Vesper, evening
- heterogeneous:** (adj, v) different; (adj) assorted, miscellaneous, mixed, unlike, motley, varied, various, disparate, heterogeneous; (v) diverse. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) homogeneous, autogenous
- hickories:** (n) walnut family, Juglandaceae
- hickory:** (n) mockernut hickory, hickory tree, pignut, shellbark, shagbark, mockernut, club, brown hickory, black hickory, big shellbark, bitter pignut
- hideous:** (adj) dreadful, frightful, fearful, ghastly, horrid, ugly, repulsive, lurid, horrible, grisly, grim. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) lovely, pleasant, beautiful, wonderful
- hideously:** (adv) dreadfully, ghastly, awfully, loathsomely, horrendously, fearfully, odiously, gruesomely, shockingly, repulsively, heinously. **ANTONYMS:** (adv) pleasantly, wonderfully, appealingly
- hideousness:** (adj) ugliness; (n) awfulness, eyesore, vileness, ghastliness, deformity, horribleness, misery, repulsiveness, gruesomeness, unattractiveness. **ANTONYM:** (n) attractiveness
- hilarity:** (adj, n) mirth, merriment; (n) delight, exhilaration, cheerfulness, joy, jollity, gaiety, happiness, laughter, fun. **ANTONYMS:** (n) boredom, despondency, misery
- hinted:** (adj) veiled, roundabout, not explicit, implicit, coded, oblique
- hippopotami:** (n) family Hippopotamidae, Hippopotamidae
- hiss:** (v) fizz, spit, whiz, whisper, whoosh; (n) buzz, jeer, hissing, ridicule; (n, v) hoot, taunt
- hissing:** (adj) sibilant, sibilous, sibilatory; (n) whistling, heckling, scoffing, sibilance, taunts, sibilation, white noise; (v) fizzle. **ANTONYM:** (n) applause
- hither:** (adv) here, whither, hitherward, thither
- hoarsely:** (adv) roughly, huskily, raucously, gruffly, throatily, gratingly, stridently, gutturally, thickly, croakily, raggedly. **ANTONYM:** (adv) smoothly
- hobbling:** (n) limping; (adj) crippled
- hogshead:** (n) cask, barrel, vat
- homage:** (n) allegiance, obeisance, fealty, accolade, honor, loyalty, worship, veneration, deference, devotion, compliment
- homely:** (adj) plain, common, rustic, artless, home, snug, homelike, domestic; (adj, adv) ugly; (adv) plainly, simply. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) sophisticated, striking, uncomfortable, bleak
- honeysuckle:** (n) Aquilegia Canadensis, Australian honeysuckle, coast banksia, banksia integrifolia, sweet wine, shrub, liqueur, bush, bush honeysuckle, coral honeysuckle, fly honeysuckle
- honor:** (n, v) respect, reputation, glory, fame, reward; (n) award, accolade, reverence; (v) celebrate; (adj, n, v) worship, grace. **ANTONYMS:** (n, v) dishonor, disgrace; (n) shame, humiliation, wickedness, contempt, insult; (v) break, ignore, disrespect, discredit
- honors:** (n) formality
- horizontally:** (adv) evenly, flatly, planely, straightly, frigidly, dully, barwise, smoothly, recumbently, prostrately; (adj) crosswise
- horrid:** (adj) grisly, ghastly, ugly, gruesome, grim, fearful, dreadful, direful, dire, horrible, fearsome. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) lovely, nice, appealing, attractive, kind
- horridly:** (adv) shockingly, direly, gruesomely, horrifically, direfully, fearsomely, fearfully, dreadfully, grimly, ugly, nastily. **ANTONYM:** (adv) pleasantly
- horrors:** (adj) pessimism, vapors, spleen, megrims; (n) delirium tremens
- horseback:** (n) hogback, body part
- hotly:** (adv) heatedly, passionately, fervidly, fervently, pepperily, sultrily, intensely, sharply, torridly; (adj, adv) violently, vehemently. **ANTONYMS:** (adv) impassively, mildly
- hound:** (v) bloodhound, chase, hunt, follow, badger, course, bait, pursue; (n) greyhound, blackguard, cad. **ANTONYM:** (v) soothe
- hourly:** (adv) always, by the hour, daily, often, constantly, continually, frequently; (adj) horary, continual, ephemeral; (n) an hour
- houseless:** (adj) unhoused
- hover:** (v) fly, hang, float, poise, vacillate, flutter, brood, drift, glide, waver; (adj) boggle
- hovering:** (adj) suspended, poised, impending, flying, high
- howl:** (n, v) cry, roar, scream, bark, shout, yell, bay, yelp; (v) bawl, growl, yawl. **ANTONYM:** (v) laugh
- howling:** (n) howl, cry; (adj) fierce, fantastic, gross, glaring, marvelous, wonderful, wondrous; (adj, n) weeping, sniveling
- hudson:** (n) Hudson River, Henry Hudson
- humbled:** (adj) humble, humiliated, crushed, depressed, dispirited, abased, broken in, abject, ashamed; (n) humbler; (v) apart
- humming:** (adj) droning, zippy, reeking, bustling, grunting, stinking; (n) buzzing, vocalizing, sound, murmur, growling
- humor:** (n, v) caprice, freak, humour; (n) temper, mood, disposition, wit; (v) indulge, gratify; (adj, n) spirit, frame of mind. **ANTONYMS:** (n) seriousness, gravity, solemnity; (v)

- displease
hurl: (v) chuck, dash, pitch, throw, dart, pelt, toss, heave, send; (n, v) fling; (n) casting. ANTONYM: (v) hold
hurricane: (n) storm, tempest, cyclone, squall, tornado, whirlwind, twister, tropical storm, gust, spring hawser, monsoon
hurriedly: (adv) rapidly, quickly, swiftly, abruptly, promptly, fast, in haste, suddenly, speedily, rashly, precipitately. ANTONYMS: (adv) calmly, unhurriedly, patiently, carefully, gradually, thoroughly
hurrying: (n) hastening, speed, quickening, rushing, early, speeding, speeding up, stepping up, amphetamine, forward, eager
hushed: (adj) calm, silent, still, subdued, placid, muffled, noiseless, soft, soundless, tranquil, gentle. ANTONYM: (adj) noisy
huskiness: (n) gruffness, harshness, strength, croakiness, toughness, stridency, ruggedness, roughness, brusqueness, curtness, formidability. ANTONYM: (n) smoothness
husky: (adj) hoarse, gruff, burly, big, dry, raucous, beefy, strapping, brawny, sturdy; (n) Eskimo dog. ANTONYMS: (adj) high, puny, small, smooth, soft
hyacinth: (n) zircon, amethyst, cape hyacinth, carbuncle, common hyacinth, hyacine
hydrangea: (n) carpenteria, deutzia, decumary, hortensia, shrub, climbing hydrangea
hypochondriac: (adj) malade imaginaire, seek sorrow, afflictive, heavy, gloomy, downhearted, doleful, dispirited, dismal, disconsolate; (n) atrabilarian
hypocritical: (adj, adv) deceitful, false, counterfeit; (adj) insincere, disingenuous, dishonest, pharisaical, sanctimonious, hollow, hypocritic; (n) hypocrisy. ANTONYMS: (adj) genuine, straightforward
hysteria: (n) delirium, frenzy, hysteric, madness, fury, craze, furor, panic, uterus, neuroticism, mania. ANTONYM: (n) order
hysterical: (adj, n) feverish; (adj) wild, violent, eccentric, frenzied, emotional, fitful, febrile, erratic; (n) fanatical, hysterics. ANTONYMS: (adj) relaxed, composed, restrained
ichor: (adj) humor, gravy, blood, serum, sap, rheum; (n) pus, festering, sanies, suppuration, bodily fluid
iciness: (n) gelidity, coldness, cold, frostiness, frigidity, frost, coolness, frisson, chilliness, winter. ANTONYM: (n) heat
ideality: (n) vision, idealism
idealized: (adj) idyllic, perfect, perfecter, theoretical
idiosyncrasy: (n) mannerism, eccentricity, foible, peculiarity, oddity, feature, attribute, personality, quirk, diathesis; (adj, n) individuality
idiosyncratic: (adj) characteristic, individual, distinctive, erratic, odd, peculiar, proper, queer, distinct, singular, typical. ANTONYMS: (adj) common, normal, universal
idiotic: (adj) absurd, foolish, fatuous, imbecile, crazy, stupid, ridiculous, mindless, silly, unwise, daft. ANTONYMS: (adj) wise, genius, clever
idleness: (n) lethargy, laziness, torpor, inactivity, idling, unemployment, sloth, inaction, inertia, faience, idlesse.
idle: (n) energy, activity, bustle, liveliness, responsibility
ill-fated: (adj) hapless, unfortunate, unhappy, poor, accursed, cursed, fatal, infelicitous, unchancy, disastrous, inauspicious
illimitable: (adj) endless, infinite, boundless, limitless, unlimited, immense, eternal, measureless, interminable, unmeasurable, unmeasured
ill-mannered: (adj) graceless, uncivil, barbaric, boorish, impertinent, uncouth, rough, impolite, surly, ill, discourteous
ill-natured: (adj) cantankerous, peevish, sour, surly, catty, crabbed, gruff, disagreeable, malignant, malicious, malevolent
illuminating: (adj) illuminate, informative, edifying, illuminatingly, instructive, descriptive, brilliant, light, elucidate, illustrative, lighten. ANTONYMS: (adj) hidden, unilluminating, secretive
illusions: (n) fantasy
illustrious: (adj, n) glorious, celebrated, excellent, grand; (adj) famous, bright, eminent, famed, distinguished, brilliant, well-known. ANTONYMS: (adj) unknown, obscure, ordinary, undistinguished, lowly
imbecile: (adj) foolish, idiotic, fatuous, dumb, imbecilic, simple; (n) idiot, moron, cretin, ass, oaf. ANTONYM: (adj) genius
imbedded: (v) embosomed, rooted, mewed up, in the bosom of, posited, situate; (adj) encysted
imbue: (v) infuse, saturate, permeate, tinge, steep, dye, fill, impregnate, pervade, instill, inoculate
imbued: (adj) addicted, alive, instinct, full
imitate: (n, v) duplicate; (v) forge, ape, emulate, follow, feign, counterfeit, mimic, mock, assume, act
imitated: (adj) mimical
imitative: (adj) imitative; (n) emulation, mimicry, forgery, acting
immaterial: (adj) insignificant, inconsequential, irrelevant, disembodied, incorporeal, trivial, bodiless, spiritual, unimportant, extraneous, psychic. ANTONYMS: (adj) significant, material, corporeal, physical, tangible, important
immateriality: (n) immaterialness, unimportance, insignificance, impalpability, abstractness, incorporeality, quality, irrelevance, incorporeity, immaterial, irrelevancy. ANTONYM: (n) materiality
immature: (adj) green, childish, tender, unripe, raw, crude, youthful, callow, inexperienced, young, juvenile. ANTONYMS: (adj) adult, developed, ripe, old, fledged, experienced, sophisticated, responsible, sensible, ready
immeasurably: (adv) boundlessly, endlessly, immensely, greatly, much; (adj) exceedingly, extremely, exquisitely, acutely, ultra, intensely. ANTONYM: (adv) slightly
immensity: (n) greatness, enormousness, immenseness, infinity, bulk, largeness, infiniteness, infinitude, vastness, grandeur, grandness. ANTONYM: (n) lightness
immersed: (adj) submerged, engrossed, deep, underwater, sunk, dipped, covered, engaged, profound, rapt, riveted. ANTONYMS: (adj) detached, superficial, bored
immolation: (n) holocaust, human sacrifices, suttee; (v) oblation, offering, sacrifice, favor, free gift, boon, benefaction, grant

immortal: (adj) eternal, enduring, undying, endless, monumental; (adj, v) deathless, imperishable, celebrated; (n) deity, God, divinity. ANTONYMS: (adj) obscure, earthly, forgettable, perishable, temporary

immortality: (n) sempiternity, perpetuity, athanasia, glory, aye, fame, everness, immortal, permanency, deathlessness, undying. ANTONYM: (n) mortality

immoveable: (adj) fast, immobile, stabile, unmovable

impaired: (adj) sick, damaged, crippled, defective, faulty, corrupted, poor, unfit, hurt, deficient, depressed

impart: (v) give, convey, disclose, communicate, announce, grant, reveal, hand, bestow, divulge, confer. ANTONYMS: (v) withhold, withdraw

impatience: (n) annoyance, eagerness, anger, intolerance, restlessness, fidget, nervousness, fidgetiness, enthusiasm, edginess; (adj) nonendurance. ANTONYMS: (n) calmness, endurance, apathy

impede: (v) clog, hinder, bar, obstruct, barricade, delay, preclude, check, curb, encumber, embarrass. ANTONYMS: (v) facilitate, help, encourage, free, assist, prompt, broaden

impeded: (adj) blocked, disabled, hampered, crippled, slow

impediment: (n, v) hindrance, check, difficulty, delay; (n) bar, hitch, barrier, obstruction, drawback, encumbrance, block. ANTONYMS: (n) benefit, boost, incentive, strength

impelled: (adj) prompted, provoked, determined, compulsive, encouraged, goaded, motivated, bound

impelling: (adj) communicating force, driving, impellent, effective, active, efficacious, exciting, moving, persuasive, urgent; (n) constraint

impenetrable: (adj) impassable, thick, incomprehensible, hard, mysterious, unfathomable, unintelligible, impervious, opaque, heavy, obscure. ANTONYMS: (adj) penetrable, readable, straightforward, apparent, simple, sparse, vulnerable, accessible, transparent, understandable, open

imperatively: (adv) commandingly, imperiously, urgently, pressingly, authoritatively, obligatorily, essentially, magisterially,

necessarily, instantly, critically

imperceptible: (adj) invisible, intangible, insensible, faint, evanescent, inaudible, negligible, indiscernible, unseen, unnoticeable, gentle. ANTONYMS: (adj) obvious, overwhelming, clear, visible, perceptible, heavy, noticeable, definite, considerable, conspicuous, strong

imperceptibly: (adv) unnoticeably, gradually, slightly, invisibly, gently, quietly, softly, observably, indistinctly, scarcely, hardly.

ANTONYMS: (adv) obviously, visibly, audibly, conspicuously, perceptibly, heavily, clearly, strongly

imperfect: (adj) faulty, deficient, defective, unfinished, incomplete, poor, flawed, partial, inadequate, broken, fallible. ANTONYMS: (adj) perfect, whole, unblemished, adequate, complete, sound, boundless, capable, flawless

imperfect: (adj, n) frailty; (n) fault, blemish, defect, deficiency, flaw, weakness, disadvantage, vice, foible, shortcoming. ANTONYMS: (n) perfection, strength

imperious: (adj) haughty, domineering, authoritative, arbitrary, imperative, masterful, dictatorial, commanding, lordly, magisterial, despotic. ANTONYM: (adj) subservient

imperiously: (adv) overbearingly, arrogantly, commandingly, magisterially, dictatorially, masterfully, haughtily, imperatively, authoritatively, domineeringly, insolently. ANTONYMS: (adv) meekly, feebly

imperiousness: (n) haughtiness, domineeringness, lordliness, overbearingness, tyranny, assumption

impertinent: (adj) fresh, pert, saucy, forward, audacious, brash, brazen, extraneous, discourteous, disrespectful, flippant.

ANTONYMS: (adj) respectful, polite, courteous

impetuosity: (n) eagerness, haste, heat, violence, vehemence, impulsiveness, impetuosity, excitability, temerity, precipitation, fervency. ANTONYMS: (n) deliberation, patience, consideration, carefulness

impetuous: (adj) boisterous, hasty, fiery, headlong, heady, hot, brash,

foolhardy, dashing, fierce; (adj, v) impulsive. ANTONYMS: (adj) considered, careful, slow, sensible, patient

impetuously: (adv) rashly, impulsively, vehemently, precipitately, fiercely, headily, passionately, intensely, fierily, spontaneously, thoughtlessly.

ANTONYMS: (adv) deliberately, sensibly, patiently

implanted: (adj) ingrained, inherent, ingrafted, entrenched, surrounded, native, established, fixed, set in, rooted

implore: (v) beg, beseech, supplicate, ask, conjure, crave, pray, importune, appeal, plead, solicit. ANTONYMS: (v) demand, grant, reject

importunate: (adj) annoying, exigent, pressing, insistent, bothersome, pestiferous, pestilent, instant, obdurate, demanding, pleading. ANTONYM: (adj) feeble

impossibility: (n) impossibility, option, nonexistence, absurdity, inability, impracticability, alternative, choice, contradiction, contradiction in terms, doubtfulness. ANTONYMS: (n) possibility, probability

impostor: (n) fraud, cheat, hypocrite, fake, imposter, sham, charlatan, deceiver, faker, cheater, pretender

imposture: (n) fraud, deceit, deception, counterfeit, cheating, trickery, trick, cheat, hoax, guile, dissimulation

improbable: (adj) implausible, impossible, incredible, unbelievable, fishy, questionable, inconceivable, impractical, unthinkable, absurd; (adj, n) marvelous. ANTONYMS: (adj) probable, certain, plausible, truthful, ordinary, on, practical

improvised: (adj, adv) off the cuff, informal, unplanned; (adj) extemporaneous, improvisatory, offhand, makeshift, spontaneous, unrehearsed, temporary, extemporized. ANTONYMS: (adj) prepared, permanent

impudent: (adj, n) bold, daring; (adj) disrespectful, audacious, impertinent, brassy, barefaced, brazen, insolent, brash, cheeky.

ANTONYMS: (adj) polite, cowardly

impulsion: (n) impetus, thrust, drive, momentum, force, drift, movement, motivation, excitement, motivity, goad

impunity: (n) impune, come off,

- freedom, immunity, permission, forgiveness. ANTONYM: (n) liability
- impurity:** (n) impureness, pollution, filth, dirtiness, admixture, defilement, dirt, dross, adulteration, foulness, corruption. ANTONYM: (n) cleanliness
- inaccessible:** (adj) impervious, remote, impenetrable, distant, unapproachable, unattainable, untouchable, unobtainable, unaccessible, impossible, aloof. ANTONYMS: (adj) available, nearby, attainable, approachable, achievable
- inaccuracy:** (n) fault, blunder, falsity, mistake, slip, falseness, incorrectness, miscalculation, quality, impreciseness, deviation. ANTONYMS: (n) accuracy, correctness, exactitude, realism, validity, care
- inaccurate:** (adj) incorrect, faulty, false, wrong, inexact, improper, loose, untrue, mistaken, not exact, imprecise. ANTONYMS: (adj) correct, exact, accurate, truthful, careful, reliable, valid
- inanimate:** (adj) defunct, dull, breathless, inorganic, inactive, lifeless, exanimate, deceased, extinct, unconscious, spiritless. ANTONYMS: (adj) living, animate, spirited
- inanimation:** (n) lethargy, emptiness, starvation, lassitude, inanity, vacancy, airiness; (adj) collapse, prostration, deliquium, apoplexy
- inapplicable:** (adj) irrelevant, unfit, unsuitable, inappropriate, unseemly, unfitting, inapt, inept, inapposite, inopportune, unsuited. ANTONYM: (adj) relevant
- inaudibly:** (adv) inarticulately, unnoticeably, imperceptibly, gently, incoherently, invisibly, indiscernibly, indistinctly, silently, unintelligibly, untraceably. ANTONYMS: (adv) audibly, distinctly, coherently, perceptibly, loudly, obviously
- incarnate:** (adj) embodied, bodied, material, corporeal; (v) materialize, typify, actualize, substantiate, personify, be, body forth
- incarnation:** (n) avatar, personification, epitome, byword, impersonation; (adj, n) quintessence; (adj) essential part, quiddity, lifeblood, marrow, pith
- incipient:** (adj) initial, budding, nascent, imperfectly formed, commencing, first, undeveloped; (adj, v) introductory; (v) inceptive; (n) beginning
- incision:** (n) dent, cut, gash, groove, score, scratch, furrow, slice; (n, v) crack, split; (v) fissure
- inclination:** (n, v) desire, bent; (n) fancy, affection, tendency, leaning, drift, appetite, dip, proclivity, bias. ANTONYMS: (n) disinclination, reluctance, aversion, indifference, unwillingness, antipathy, dislike, horror
- inclusive:** (adj) included, broad, comprehensive, sweeping, overall, total, general, whole, extensive, complete; (v) include. ANTONYMS: (adj) local, narrow, sketchy, elite, partial, restricted
- incoherence:** (n) incoherency, disconnectedness, disjointedness, nonsensicality, nonsense, meaninglessness, incoherentness, inconsistency; (adj) frenzy, wandering, incoherent. ANTONYM: (n) coherence
- incoherent:** (adj) disjointed, disconnected, delirious, rambling, confused, disordered, incompatible, wandering, muddled, inconsistent, contradictory. ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, articulate, eloquent, intelligible, lucid, sound, concise, consistent
- incomparably:** (adv) superlatively, matchlessly, uniquely, exceptionally, outstandingly, unbeatably, uncomparably, excellently, very, greatly, beyond compare. ANTONYM: (adv) comparably
- incomprehensible:** (adj) inapprehensible, inscrutable, inarticulate, abstruse, cryptic, unfathomable, puzzling, obscure, inexplicable, inconceivable, unaccountable. ANTONYMS: (adj) comprehensible, explicable, understandable, intelligible, legible, obvious, straightforward
- inconceivable:** (adj, v) unbelievable, hard to believe; (adj) impossible, implausible, incomprehensible, unimaginable, unthinkable, improbable, unintelligible, inscrutable, fabulous. ANTONYMS: (adj) conceivable, believable, likely, understandable, credible
- inconceivably:** (adv) unthinkable, amazingly, astoundingly, beyond belief, impenetrably, implausibly, unintelligibly, unfathomably, unbelievably, inexplicably. ANTONYM: (adv) conceivably
- incongruous:** (adj) inappropriate, improper, absurd, inapt, incompatible, conflicting, inconsistent, incoherent, inexpedient; (adj, n) contradictory, dissonant. ANTONYMS: (adj) appropriate, befitting, consistent, reasonable
- inconsequential:** (adj) inconsequent, minor, unimportant, trivial, negligible, small, irrelevant, insignificant, frivolous, trifling, slight. ANTONYMS: (adj) significant, major, responsible, serious, crucial
- inconsiderable:** (adj) inconsequential, immaterial, small, petty, slight, negligible, trivial, fractional, minute, imperceptible, slender. ANTONYM: (adj) major
- inconsiderately:** (adv) unthinkingly, indiscreetly, carelessly, unadvisedly, tactlessly, rashly, unkindly, rudely, headlongly, inattentively, selfishly. ANTONYMS: (adv) considerably, politely
- inconsistency:** (n) disagreement, contradiction, incompatibility, incoherence, incongruity, discordance, disparity, variance, repugnance, contradictoriness; (adj, n) frivolity. ANTONYMS: (n) steadiness, equality, constancy, concord, parity, predictability, reliability
- incontrovertible:** (adj, v) indisputable; (adj) undeniable, irrefutable, certain, indubitable, unquestionable, positive, demonstrable, conclusive, irrefragable, sure. ANTONYMS: (adj) dubious, weak, arguable, tenuous, disputable, debatable
- inconveniently:** (adv) awkwardly, incommodiously, troublesomely, inappropriately, disadvantageously, difficultly, annoyingly, unsuitably, inexpediently, inaptly, unhandily. ANTONYMS: (adv) handily, expediently
- incredulously:** (adv) skeptically, disbelievingly, distrustfully, suspiciously, dubiously, doubtfully, questioningly, uncertainly, mistrustfully, doubtingly, cynically
- incubus:** (n) demon, load, weight, devil, fiend, daemon, Ephialtes, onus, situation, cacodemon, responsibility

incumbent: (adj, v) superimposed; (n) functionary, official, householder, occupant, parson, locum tenens, sojourner; (adj) compulsory; (v) supernatant, overlying

indebted: (adj) grateful, appreciative, thankful, obliged, liable, insolvent, broke; (prep) beholden, debted; (n) debtor; (v) owe. ANTONYM: (adj) ungrateful

indelicate: (adj) indelicate, unseemly, filthy, immodest, dirty, gross, immoral, indecorous, shameful, unbecoming, inappropriate. ANTONYMS: (adj) proper, fitting, admirable, correct, pleasant

indecision: (n) hesitation, irresolution, uncertainty, indecisiveness, hesitance, qualm, vacillation, hesitancy, dubiety, infirmity of purpose; (adj, n) suspense. ANTONYMS: (n) determination, resolve, resolution, confidence

indefinite: (adj, v) ambiguous, vague; (adj) uncertain, boundless, hazy, equivocal, unlimited, doubtful, dubious, imprecise, indecisive. ANTONYMS: (adj) definite, limited, fixed, constrained, specific, distinct, known, precise, clear, exact

indented: (adj) concave, hollow, serrated, jagged, crenelated, crenelate, crenellated, crenellate, embattled, notched; (n) fancier

indenture: (n, v) indent; (n) deed, covenant, agreement, contract, indentation, notch, assurance, charter; (v) bind, oblige

inexpressible: (adj) indefinable, ineffable, unutterable, vague, beyond expression, nameless, inexpressible, nondescript, terrible, intangible, termless. ANTONYMS: (adj) explainable, conceivable, concrete

indeterminate: (adj) inconclusive, indefinite, equivocal, vague, neutral, indistinct, obscure, undetermined, indecisive, inexact, adventitious. ANTONYMS: (adj) quantifiable, definite, determinate, specific, exact, certain, strong

indeterminately: (adv) indefinitely, indistinctly, undeterminedly, equivocally, faintly, undefinedly, inexactly, uncertainly, ambiguously, obscurely, indecisively

indicative: (adj, n) declarative; (adj) significant, suggestive, meaningful, demonstrative, significative,

indicatory, reminiscent; (n) indicative mood, common mood; (v) indicating. ANTONYMS: (adj) hidden, secretive

indignant: (adj) angry, incensed, furious, enraged, wrathful, hurt, rage, provoked, hot, anger, irate. ANTONYMS: (adj) cool, content, unaffected

indignation: (n) anger, resentment, displeasure, grudge, umbrage, rage, outrage, exasperation, choler, dudgeon; (adj, n) wrath. ANTONYMS: (n) contentment, pleasure

indigo: (adj, n) blue; (n) anil, Indigofera tinctoria, shrub, dyestuff, indigo plant, indigotin; (adj) bice, azure, cerulean, mauve

indiscretion: (n) foolishness, fault, rashness, inconsideration, carelessness, injudiciousness, faux pas, hastiness, indiscreetness, flippancy; (adj, n) temerity. ANTONYMS: (n) discretion, diplomacy, forethought

indistinct: (adj) indefinite, inarticulate, faint, dull, fuzzy, indeterminate, hazy, neutral; (adj, n) confused, cloudy, dark. ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, slight, separate, certain, precise, audible, strong, definite

indistinctly: (adv) vaguely, dimly, hazily, mistily, inarticulately, shadowily, obscurely, unclearly, fuzzily, confusedly, ambiguously.

ANTONYMS: (adv) precisely, audibly, coherently, distinctly

indite: (v) pen, draft, draw up, frame, dictate, write, annotate, footnote, formulate, adopt, dramatize

individuality: (n) character, individualism, personality, originality, distinctiveness, identity, peculiarity, selfhood, ego, disposition, independence. ANTONYMS: (n) commonality, sameness, conformity

individualized: (adj) detailed, personal, personalised, personalized

indivisible: (adj) inseparable, indivisibility, undividable, integral, atomic, indissoluble, indiscernible, undivisible, undividual, unbreakable, individual

indubitably: (adv) certainly, surely, positively, incontrovertibly, unquestionably, clearly, undoubtedly, of course, absolutely, indisputably, decidedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) possibly,

arguably, doubtfully

indulge: (n, v) gratify, humor; (v) coddle, cosset, baby, pamper, spoil, satisfy, please, mollify, coddle, cocker. ANTONYMS: (v) frustrate, deprive, stifle, neglect, deny, displease, fast

indulged: (adj) pet, privileged, cherished, admired

indwelling: (n) inhabitation, abode, inherence, immanency; (adj) immanent, inborn, congenital, built-in, intimate; (v) indwell; (adv) in situ

inexperience: (adj) inexperienced, indexterity, incomprehension, inability; (adj, n) simplicity; (n) freshness, innocence, ignorance, newness, callowness, unfamiliarity. ANTONYMS: (n) skillfulness, sophistication, wisdom

inexplicable: (adj) incomprehensible, mysterious, unaccountable, inscrutable, unfathomable, enigmatic, baffling, indecipherable, unexplained, incognizable, preternatural. ANTONYMS: (adj) understandable, explicable, mundane, apparent, explainable, straightforward, natural, legible

inexpressible: (adj, v) indescribable; (adj) ineffable, unspeakable, unutterable, indefinable, incommunicable, nameless, untold, beyond description, unexpressible, undefinable. ANTONYM: (adj) definite

inexpressibly: (adv) unspeakably, indescribably, beyond words

infallible: (adj) sure, inevitable, positive, inerrable, unailing, absolute, confident, definite, dependable; (adj, v) unerring; (n) sterling. ANTONYMS: (adj) fallible, faulty

infamy: (n) dishonor, disrepute, ignominy, notoriety, shame, opprobrium, reproach, stain, discredit, baseness; (adj, n) pollution. ANTONYMS: (n) fame, virtue, honor, obscurity, pride

infancy: (n) babyhood, cradle, beginning, birth, genesis, minority, early childhood, youth, nonage, adolescence, early days. ANTONYM: (n) maturity

infatuation: (adj) devotion, fascination, enchantment, gross credulity; (adj, n) passion, fervor, fanaticism; (n) crush, idolatry, love, hobby. ANTONYM: (n) indifference

infernal: (adj) devilish, fiendish, diabolical, demonic, damned, cursed, blasted, unholy, wicked;

(adj, v) diabolic, satanic
inferno: (n) hell, blaze, abyss, fire, Gehenna, perdition, infernal regions, infernal region, hell on earth, Hades, shades below.
 ANTONYM: (n) heaven
inferring: (adj) deducing consequences; (n) deduction, thought
infest: (v) overrun, disturb, pester, beset, annoy, invade, harry, overwhelm, occupy, molest, harass
infinitude: (n) infiniteness, boundlessness, immensity, endlessness, eternity, unboundedness, immeasurability, limitlessness, indefiniteness; (adj, n) infinity; (adj) infinite
infinity: (n) infinite, immensity, infiniteness, infinitude, boundlessness, immutability, glory, greatness, holiness, forever, perpetuity. ANTONYM: (n) limitedness
infirmity: (adj, n) frailty, foible, imbecility; (n) feebleness, impotence, disability, decrepitude, illness, sickness, disease, weakness. ANTONYMS: (n) health, wellness, strength
inflamed: (adj) impassioned, excited, angry, hot, flaming, ablaze, irritated, passionate, painful, burning; (n) red
inflict: (v) impose, cause, wreak, force, enforce, deal, deliver, administer, foist, put, obtrude
informing: (n) briefing, disclosure, appraisal, warning, revelation, ratting, presentation, introduction; (v) inform; (adj) intelligencing, giving information
ingenious: (adj) adroit, artful, clever, cunning, deft, expert, creative, imaginative, cute, acute, able. ANTONYMS: (adj) impulsive, naive, unoriginal, inept
ingenuity: (adj, n) ability; (n) adroitness, ingeniousness, cunning, imagination, acumen, resource, originality, skill, wit, inventiveness. ANTONYM: (n) ineptness
ingrain: (v) infuse, affect, infiltrate, grain, embed, dye, color, imbue, impress, move, ingrain
ingress: (n) access, entrance, entry, entree, admission, entering, admittance, incoming, door, arrival, gateway. ANTONYM: (n) exit
inhabit: (v) reside, abide, occupy, lodge, settle, people, live, indwell, be, exist; (n) habit. ANTONYMS: (v) desert, vacate

inhabited: (v) populous, full of people, arrayed, clothed, dressed, accustomed, habited; (adj, v) peopled; (adj) occupied, settled, housing. ANTONYMS: (adj) unoccupied, uninhabited, business
inhale: (v) absorb, imbibe, draw, suck, drag, breathe in, drink, attract, inspire, respire; (n, v) sniff. ANTONYMS: (v) blow, expire
inhuman: (adj) heartless, cruel, atrocious, brutal, cold, harsh, ferocious, remorseless, barbarous, relentless, barbaric. ANTONYMS: (adj) sympathetic, kind, humane
inhumation: (n, v) interment; (n) entombment, sepulture, funeral, burying, humation, burial chamber
inhumed: (adj) hidden, interred
inimitable: (adj) unique, matchless, particular, unrivaled, unparalleled, special, unmatched, supreme, unparagoned, exclusive, single. ANTONYMS: (adj) universal, ordinary
injure: (n, v) damage, harm, impair; (v) contuse, disfigure, maim, bruise, blemish, wound, insult; (adj, v) abuse. ANTONYMS: (v) heal, enable, repair, protect, help
inky: (adj) black, ebony, sable, atramentous, jetty, dusky, gloomy, murky, pitchy, atramental, atramentous spots
inmost: (adj) innermost, inward, deep, intimate, private, inner, interior, internal, personal, secret, intrinsic. ANTONYM: (adj) outermost
innate: (adj) inherent, congenital, inbred, indigenous, instinctive, natural, intrinsic, constitutional, essential, ingrained; (adj, v) born. ANTONYMS: (adj) learned, conditioned, acquired, trained, spiritual
innermost: (adj) inward, intimate, inner, interior, close, internal, middle, center, hint, hearty; (adj, n) inside. ANTONYMS: (adj) external, outermost, outer
innumerable: (adj) countless, numberless, incalculable, multitudinous, infinite, innumerable, unnumbered, uncounted, myriad, immeasurable, untold. ANTONYM: (adj) finite
inopportuneness: (n) untimeliness, awkwardness
inordinate: (adj) immoderate, extravagant, exorbitant, undue, exuberant, unconscionable,

unreasonable, fulsome, irregular, extreme, preposterous.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) moderate, small
inorganic: (adj) lifeless, mineral, dead, unorganized, inorganical, inorganized. ANTONYM: (adj) organic
inquire: (v) demand, ask, explore, enquire, inspect, research, consult, pry, request, wonder; (n, v) question. ANTONYM: (v) answer
inquiring: (adj) inquisitive, quizzical, interested, analytical, probing, intrusive; (adj, n) questioning; (v) inquire; (n) enquiry, question, examination. ANTONYM: (adj) uninquiring
inquisition: (n) examination, inquest, inquiry, exploration, quest, probe, investigation, research, inspection, disquisition; (adj) Reign of Terror
inquisitive: (adj) inquiring, speculative, nosy, prying, questioning, nosey, meddling, investigative, meddlesome, quizzical, overcurious. ANTONYMS: (adj) apathetic, uninterested
inquisitorial: (adj) extortionate, inquisitional, nosy, inquisitive, inquisitorial, inquisitorial, oppressive, withering, caudicial, analytic; (v) catechetical. ANTONYM: (adj) accusatorial
inscrutability: (n) inscrutableness, incomprehensibility, impenetrability, magic, dark, charm, charisma, darkness, obscurity, poker face, secrecy
inscrutable: (adj) inexplicable, incomprehensible, mysterious, weird, cryptic, cryptal, deep, enigmatic, uncanny, hidden, arcane. ANTONYMS: (adj) transparent, expressive, clear, straightforward
insensibility: (n) callousness, hardness, indifference, dullness, stupidity, stupor, impassiveness, coma, physical insensibility, impassivity, trance
insensible: (adj) imperceptible, numb, unconscious, callous, dull, unaware, apathetic, impassive, indiscernible, comatose, impassible. ANTONYMS: (adj) sensible, conscious, sensitive, awake, alive, compassionate, concerned, aware
inseparable: (adj) indissoluble, inextricable, inherent, indiscernible, built-in, indispensable, infrangible, innate, unseparable; (v) severable, unseparated. ANTONYMS: (adj)

separable, dividable, isolatable
insinuated: (adj) subtle
insipid: (adj) tasteless, bland, dull, watery, flavorless, uninteresting, vapid, savorless, boring, tame, humdrum. ANTONYMS: (adj) exciting, tasty, interesting, flavorful, spicy, lively, colorful, dark, bright, inspired, imaginative
insipidity: (n) flatness, insipidness, blandness, insulsity, jargon, platitude, depression, dejection, boredom, idiocy
insoluble: (adj) inextricable, insolvable, irresoluble, unsolvable, indiscernible, inaccessible, indissoluble, indivisible, inexplicable, hopeless, firm
inspire: (adj, v) cheer, enliven, exhilarate; (v) encourage, excite, inhale, incite, affect, infuse, hearten, actuate. ANTONYMS: (v) extinguish, disenchant, douse, knock, dampen, calm, dishearten
instantaneous: (adj) immediate, prompt, sudden, precipitate, momentary, abrupt, precipitous, precipitant, swift, momentaneous, quick. ANTONYMS: (adj) gradual, delayed, considered
instigation: (n) fomentation, encouragement, incitement, abetment, incitation, agitation, provocation, inducement, initiation, excitation, stimulus
instinctive: (adj) inherent, inborn, automatic, natural, mechanical, spontaneous, intuitive, unconscious, gut, reflex; (adj, v) involuntary. ANTONYMS: (adj) learned, stilted, deliberate, factual, systematic, trained, spiritual
instrumentality: (n) agency, device, instrument, medium, method, ceramic, arms, hardware, implement, usefulness, expedient
insufferable: (adj, v) intolerable, abhorrent; (adj) excruciating, impossible, unbearable, insupportable, unendurable, unsufferable, hateful, painful; (v) nauseous. ANTONYMS: (adj) manageable, nice, lovable
insufferably: (adv) hatefully, hopelessly, agonizingly, disagreeably, dreadfully, unfeasibly, trip, ridiculously, intolerably, impossibly, horrendously
insulated: (adj) cloistered
insulting: (adj) contemptuous, insolent, injurious, offensive, scurrilous, defamatory,

opprobrious, rude, disgraceful, disdainful, impolite. ANTONYMS: (adj) courteous, conciliatory, polite, generous, cordial
insultingly: (adv) offensively, scurrilously, opprobriously, contemptuously, foully, scornfully, injuriously, rudely, impertinently, provokingly, sarcastically
insults: (adj) insulting; (n) abuse, swearing
insuperable: (adj) unconquerable, indomitable, impassable, invincible, unsurmountable, unbeatable, impregnable, overwhelming, formidable, inexpressible, unassailable. ANTONYM: (adj) vulnerable
insure: (v) assure, secure, guarantee, cover, underwrite, ensure, indemnify, ascertain, control, cinch, verify
insurmountable: (adj) insuperable, unsurmountable, impassable, impossible, unconquerable, unbeatable, indomitable, impregnable, overwhelming, invincible, unruly. ANTONYMS: (adj) vulnerable, easy, manageable
intellect: (n) mind, intelligence, understanding, reason, brains, head, intellectual, apprehension, psyche, genius, brainpower. ANTONYM: (n) stupidity
intellectually: (adv) rationally, intelligently, spiritually, cerebrally, intellectually, learnedly, academically, mindly, ideally, culturedly, smartly
intelligible: (adj) clear, understandable, articulate, luminous, apprehensible, graspable, simple, lucid, definite, distinct, perspicuous. ANTONYMS: (adj) difficult, illegible
intemperance: (n) dissipation, drunkenness, indulgence, debauchery, crapulence, drinking, drink, immoderateness, overindulgence, intemperateness, insobriety. ANTONYM: (n) temperance
intemperate: (adj) inordinate, immoderate, dissipated, unbridled, extreme, disorderly, inclement, unruly, wild, undue, violent. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, temperate, moderate
intently: (adv) fixedly, attentively, seriously, rapidly, intensely, closely, steadily, eagerly, absorbedly, hard, steadfastly. ANTONYM: (adv)

absently
interiorly: (adv) innerly, inwardly, insidely, intimately, nationally, privately, secretly, inlandly, centerly, intrinsically, inside
intermedium: (n) intermediary, medium, copula, bond of union, hyphen, vehicle, hand, balance, average, generality, negotiator
interment: (n) burial, sepulture, entombment, funeral, sepulcher, committal, obsequies, arenation, burying, grave, humation
intermingled: (adj) amalgamated, integrated, coalesced, blended, incorporated, assorted, consolidated, incorporate, amalgamate, fused
intermingling: (n) entangling, mangle, merger, combination
interposed: (adj) interjacent, intercedent, intervenient, parenthetical, intermediate colors, mediate
interred: (adj) buried, inhumed, hidden. ANTONYM: (adj) unburied
interruption: (n) disruption, intermission, halt, pause, suspension, discontinuance, hiatus; (n, v) break, hindrance, impeding; (v) interrupt. ANTONYMS: (n) permanence, help, respect
intervolved: (v) fast, firm, tight, taut, set, secure, taught
interweaving: (n) braiding
intimated: (adj) tacit, furtive, detected
intimately: (adv) nearly, familiarly, personally, secretly, internally, privately, narrowly, thoroughly, near, well, thickly. ANTONYM: (adv) superficially
intolerable: (adj) unbearable, insupportable, painful, obnoxious, detestable, inexcusable, deplorable, undesirable, hard, excruciating, difficult. ANTONYMS: (adj) bearable, tolerable, acceptable, reasonable, nice, understandable, lovable, excusable, inoffensive, manageable
intolerably: (adv) excruciatingly, unbearably, insufferably, unendurably, insupportably, unfeasibly, impossibly, horribly, unpardonably, inexcusably, unforgivably. ANTONYMS: (adv) tolerably, excusably, bearably, acceptably, pleasantly, understandably
intonation: (n) inflection, tone, expression, cadence, timbre, chanting, drone, prosody,

- vocalizing, singing, sound
intoxicated: (adj) drunken, drunk, inebriate, tipsy, elated, stimulated, intoxicate, infatuated, fuddled, loaded, plastered. ANTONYM: (adj) sober
intoxication: (n) inebriation, inebriety, poisoning, tipsiness, fascination, grogginess, ecstasy, daze, excitement, euphoria, wine
intricate: (adj, n) complicated; (adj) difficult, knotty, hard, tricky, convoluted, tortuous, inextricable, elaborate, obscure; (adj, v) involved. ANTONYMS: (adj) simple, easy, plain
intrigue: (n, v) cabal, contrivance, scheme; (v) fascinate, connive, captivate, attract, charm; (n) conspiracy, trick, plot
intriguing: (adj) interesting, absorbing, fascinating, designing, engrossing, scheming, enchanting, challenging, provocative, captivating, attractive. ANTONYMS: (adj) repellent, uninteresting, ordinary
intruder: (n) trespasser, interloper, encroacher, raider, invader, aggressor, go between, gatecrasher, stalker, boarder; (adj, n) stranger
intruding: (adj) aggressive, interfering, intrusive
infrusion: (n) infringement, encroachment, disturbance, interruption, inroad, trespass, invasion, violation, incursion, disruption, entry
intuition: (n) insight, feeling, presentiment, suspicion, premonition, notion, instinct, sense, vision, bosom, thought. ANTONYMS: (n) intellect, certainty
invariable: (adj) fixed, consistent, even, immutable, steady, unchanging, stable, uniform, set, undeviating, unchanged. ANTONYMS: (adj) changing, dynamic, erratic, irregular, varied
inversion: (n) reversal, turnover, transposition, everting, eversion, anastrophe, retroversion, subversion, movement, negation, reversion
inverted: (adj) upside down, upside-down, anastrophe, overturned, topsy-turvy, reversed, upturned, on its head, invert, hyperbatic; (adj, adv) backward. ANTONYM: (adj) amphitropous
investiture: (n) installation, coronation, enthronization, enthronement, induction, initiation, investing, appointment, installment, investure; (n, v) investment
invigorated: (adj) brisk, reinvigorated, impudent, impertinent, energizing, energising, clean, bracing, refreshed
involute: (adj, v) intact; (adj) sacred, sacrosanct, whole, entire, pure; (v) in petto, clandestine, auricular, close, privy
involutionarily: (adv) unconsciously, unintentionally, inadvertently, automatically, forcedly, mechanically, unthinkingly, reluctantly, accidentally, automatically, unwillingly. ANTONYMS: (adv) voluntarily, consciously, willingly, purposely
iota: (adj, n) speck, dot, particle, molecule, jot, atom; (n) whit, tittle, shred, scintilla, crumb. ANTONYM: (n) lot
irreclaimable: (adj, v) incorrigible; (adj) irrecoverable, irreversible, irretrievable, irreparable, irremediable, irredeemable, irrevocable; (v) past praying for, obdurate, reprobate
irrecoverable: (adj) incurable, irreparable, remediless, irreclaimable, irremediable, unrecoverable, forgotten, desperate, lost, irrevocable, irreversible
irredeemable: (adj) irretrievable, irreversible, irremediable, irreparable, irrecoverable, hopeless, irrevocable, inveterate, incorrigible, unredeemable, inconvertible. ANTONYM: (adj) superficial
irreducible: (v) intransmutable, indefeasible, inextinguishable, uncommensurable, irretrievable, unaccommodating, reverseless, irreversible, irresoluble, irrevocable; (adj) net. ANTONYM: (adj) reducible
irregularity: (n) abnormality, anomaly, eccentricity, inequality, deviation, aberration, constipation, exception, unevenness, variation; (adj, n) deformity. ANTONYMS: (n) symmetry, normality, regularity, dependability, equality, frequency, evenness, consistency, predictability, smoothness
irregularly: (adv) erratically, occasionally, abnormally, sporadically, crookedly, unequally, randomly, atypically, roughly, eccentrically, fitfully. ANTONYMS: (adv) evenly, systematically, constantly, frequently, honestly, peacefully, recurrently
irreparably: (adv) irretrievably, irremediably
irrepressible: (adj) uncontrollable, uncontainable, unmanageable, wanton, inextinguishable, rampant, effervescent; (v) ungovernable, volcanic, stanchless, simmering. ANTONYM: (adj) orderly
irresistible: (adj) resistless, invincible, irrefragable, irrefutable, overpowering, overwhelming, impregnable, indomitable, charming, fascinating; (adj, v) uncontrollable. ANTONYMS: (adj) resistible, insignificant, unappealing, weak
irresistibly: (adv) charmingly, necessarily, overwhelmingly, charismatically, fiercely, temptingly, overpoweringly, appealingly, beguilingly
irresolution: (n) indecisiveness, hesitation, doubt, irresoluteness, indetermination, shilly-shally, uncertainty, hesitancy, incertitude, dubiety, suspense. ANTONYMS: (n) resolution, decisiveness, determination
irreverence: (n) blasphemy, profanity, impiety, disrespect, desecration, sacrilege, mockery, discourtesy, encroachment, hypocrisy, impertinence. ANTONYMS: (n) reverence, piety, respect
irrevocable: (adj) irrecoverable, final, irreparable, irremediable, irredeemable, conclusive, irreclaimable, unchangeable, fixed; (adj, v) irretrievable, inevitable. ANTONYMS: (adj) revocable, superficial, provisional, flexible, impermanent
irritability: (n) irascibility, tetchiness, choler, touchiness, temper, anger, irritation, peevishness, pettishness, testiness; (adj, n) petulance. ANTONYMS: (n) cheerfulness, equanimity, cheeriness
irritable: (adj) fractious, irascible, edgy, cantankerous, touchy, petulant, excitable, cross, sensitive, grumpy, disagreeable. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, happy, cheerful, amiable, patient, pleasant, stable, courteous; (n) cheeriness
irritate: (adj, v) incense; (v) gall, fret, chafe, harass, grate, displease, vex, goad, aggravate, anger. ANTONYMS: (v) soothe, pacify,

please, help, calm, encourage, placate

irritated: (adj) annoyed, exasperated, incensed, enraged, aggravated, furious, irate, inflamed, sore, displeased, provoked. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, pleased, patient, contented

islet: (n) island, ait, reef, holm, atoll, eyot, breaker, coral reef, coral Island, wight

jacobin: (n) Dominican, Jacobine

jagged: (adj) rough, angular, irregular, crooked, craggy, toothed, scraggy, rugged, bumpy, jaggy; (adj, n) ragged. ANTONYMS: (adj) smooth, even, straight, blunt, level

jarring: (adj, n) harsh, dissonant, inconsistent; (adj) rough, inharmonious, strident, grating, jolting, raucous, cacophonous, bumpy. ANTONYMS: (adj) soft, usual

jasmine: (n) jessamine, Jasminum, East Indian rose-bay, shrub, bush, Oleaceae, common jasmine, ash, olive family, family Oleaceae

jehovah: (n) God, Yahveh, lord, Yahwe, almighty, Yahweh, master, jah, trinity, idol, creator

jeopardize: (v) chance, hazard, venture, endanger, gamble, threaten, menace, stake, adventure, risk; (n) jeopard. ANTONYMS: (v) protect, guard

jerk: (n, v) jump, yank, shake, twitch, jar, tug, bump, heave, pull; (v) flog, fling. ANTONYM: (v) ease

jest: (n) gag, gibe, quip, game; (n, v) jape; (v) banter, jeer, deride, gird, sneer, clown

jetty: (n) groyne, pier, breakwater, dock, mole, bulwark, berth, quay, wharf, jutty, harbor

jingling: (adj) reverberant, clinking, jingly

joyfully: (adv) joyously, merrily, gaily, gleefully, buoyantly, cheerily, jubilantly, pleasantly, mirthfully; (adv, v) happily; (adj, adv) cheerfully. ANTONYMS: (adv) joylessly, miserably, despondently

junction: (n, v) joint; (adj, n) crisis; (n) articulation, event, junction, connection, affair, point, time, conjuncture; (v) joining

junto: (n) faction, junta, clique, conspiracy, coterie, camarilla, pack, ring, Camorra, combination, ingroup

justly: (adv) accurately, fairly, correctly, honestly, lawfully,

properly, exactly, uprightly, legitimately, impartially, purely. ANTONYMS: (adv) wrongly, unfairly, unjustifiably, unjustly, unlawfully, sinfully, falsely, immorally

juxtaposition: (n) apposition, proximity, contact, contiguity, abuttal, location, locating, placement, position, positioning, comparison

kabbala: (n) kabala, cabbala, cabbalah, arcanum, kabbalah

keel: (n) foot, hoof, carina, root, fin keel; (v) careen, cool, pitch, tumble, droop, flag

keener: (v) Indian giver, floater, repeater

keenly: (adv) eagerly, zealously, piercingly, acutely, cuttingly, ardently, strongly, lively, penetratingly, fervently, avidly. ANTONYMS: (adv) unenthusiastically, apathetically, faintly, reluctantly, patiently, passively, halfheartedly, vaguely

kerseymere: (n) cassimere

knapsack: (n) bag, rucksack, haversack, kitbag, packsack, pack, back pack, wallet, pouch, scrip, kit bag

knell: (n, v) knoll; (v) chime, call, resound, circle, environ, call up, echo, band, encircle, be around

knob: (n) button, swelling, hump, knob, protuberance, grip, nub, lump, node, bump; (adj, n) bulb

koran: (n) Quran, Alcoran, Alkoran

labor: (n, v) toil, endeavor, drudgery, travail, struggle, confinement, childbirth, delivery, grind; (n) effort, exertion. ANTONYMS: (n, v) rest; (v) relax, ignore; (n) management, leisure, death, relaxation

laboring: (adj) working, labouring, toiling, drudging, labors, work, elaborate, employed, busy

laborious: (adj) hard, arduous, backbreaking, heavy, industrious, diligent, grueling, assiduous, exhausting, formidable, tough. ANTONYMS: (adj) simple, effortless, undemanding, light, brisk

labyrinth: (n) inner ear, tangle, confusion, complication, internal ear, web, unit, system; (adj, n) network; (v) eel, labyrinthian

laconic: (adj) curt, brief, terse, compendious, succinct, pithy, compact, taciturn, laconical, summary, short. ANTONYM: (adj) voluble

laden: (adj) burdened, full, loaded, ladened, filled, hampered, heavy, charged, encumbered; (v) lade, load. ANTONYMS: (adj) empty, lacking

lain: (adj) artless, unsophisticated, unaffected, naive, untutored, simple, pure, natural, native, inartificial

lakelet: (n) lake

lamented: (adj) mourned, bewailed

lamenting: (adj) weeping, wailing, sad, whining; (adj, n) plaintive; (adj, v) bewailing, querulous; (n, v) complaining; (n) grief, sorrow; (v) dissatisfied

landman: (n) landlubber, novice, tiro, tyro, countryman, lubber, klutz, initiate, inhabitant, goon, gawk

lantern: (n) beacon, light, dormer, tube, lighting fitting, bedside light, street light, street lamp, oil lamp, lime light, lanthorn

lapse: (n, v) decline, drop, mistake; (adj, n, v) fall; (v) expire, elapse, collapse, go by; (n) oversight, error, fault. ANTONYMS: (v) behave, start, rise, renew, improve

lapsed: (adj) fallen, elapsed, slip, defunct, forgotten, invalid, irreligious, lost, nonchurchgoing, finished

lapsing: (n) backsliding, lapse, atavism, relapse, relapsing, reversion, reverting, recidivism, failure

larboard: (adj) left; (n) sinister, embrasure, interface, nearside

lash: (n, v) beat, chastise, scourge, goad; (v) flog, bind, batter; (adj, v) strap, tie, lace; (n) hit. ANTONYMS: (v) unlash, untie

lashings: (n) lots, oodles, abundance, plenty, heaps, rafts, large indefinite quantity, large indefinite amount, inexhaustibleness, wads, hemorrhoid

lastly: (adv) eventually, ultimately, latterly, in conclusion, last, at last, terminally, latestly, utmostly, definitively, concludingly. ANTONYM: (adv) initially

latch: (v) bar, fasten, grab; (n, v) bolt; (adj, n, v) lock; (n) hasp, clasp, door latch, hook; (adj) link, yoke

lateral: (adj) sidelong, collateral, peripheral, accidental, indirect, incidental, parallel, being without; (adv) sideward, laterally, sideway. ANTONYM: (adj) logical

latitude: (n) freedom, scope, breadth, room, expanse, range, compass, climate, clime, space, reach.

ANTONYM: (n) constraint
latterly: (adv) lately, lastly, late, subsequently, finally, of late, newly, ultimately, secondly, freshly, afterward. ANTONYM: (adv) initially
lattice: (n) grill, grille, grid, net, fretwork, network, gridiron, wicket, web, netting; (v) trellis
laughably: (adv) ludicrously, comically, absurdly, idiotically, pathetically, pathetically, preposterously, foolishly, unbelievably, outrageously. ANTONYMS: (adv) solemnly, impressively
leaden: (adj) heavy, gray, sluggish, grey, inert, torpid, grave, languid, drab, burdensome, livid. ANTONYM: (adj) bright
leafy: (adj) green, verdant, lush, foliose, foliate, leafed, luxuriant, foliaceous, leaved, bowery, flourishing. ANTONYMS: (adj) leafless, urban, withering
learnedly: (adv) wisely, letteredly, literately, literarily, cleverly, skillfully, intellectually, sagely, studiously, culturedly, academically
ledge: (n) projection, bulge, jetty, board, shelf, rack, bench, hummock, protrusion, rim; (adj) escarpment. ANTONYM: (n) depression
leer: (n, v) glance; (n) grin, wink, smirk, look, gaze, nudge, shrug, tip the wink; (v) simper, ogle
legible: (adj) readable, distinct, fair, plain, clean, definite, explicit, understandable, direct, cloudless, light. ANTONYM: (adj) unreadable
legion: (n) crowd, troop, mass, army, horde, cohort, force, multitude, corps; (adj) many, countless. ANTONYM: (adj) few
lethargic: (adj, v) drowsy, dozy; (adj) languid, indolent, comatose, dull, sleepy, torpid, slow, listless, lazy. ANTONYMS: (adj) alert, playful, lively, agitated, vigorous, awake, enthusiastic, industrious, spirited
lethargy: (n) drowsiness, indifference, apathy, inactivity, fatigue, inertia, stupor, laziness, sluggishness, idleness, languor. ANTONYMS: (n) verve, vitality, liveliness, nimbleness, animation, alertness, vigor, activity, wakefulness, interest, speediness
lettered: (adj, v) erudite; (adj) learned, educated, enlightened, literate, knowledgeable, scholarly, knowing, literary; (v) instructed,

leaned
lever: (n, v) pry, prize; (v) raise, jimmy, wrench, prise; (n) crowbar, knob, key, pry bar, bar
levity: (n) flightiness, frivolity, flippancy, buoyancy, lightness, giddiness, inconstancy, frivolousness, humorousness, jocosity; (n, v) fickleness. ANTONYMS: (n) gravity, seriousness
license: (n, v) permit, allow, licence; (n) allowance, freedom, permission, liberty, authority, authorization, certificate; (v) certify. ANTONYMS: (v) decertify; (n) restriction
lids: (n) lid
lieu: (n) office, position, locality, stead, behalf, part, role, berth, station, site, seat
lifeless: (adj) inanimate, dull, insipid, defunct, inactive, flat, exanimate, dreary, tedious, inert, lackluster. ANTONYMS: (adj) lively, stiff, alive, interesting, awake, moving, upright, bright, brilliant, firm, inspiring
lighted: (adj) illuminated, lit, light, ablaze, bright, ignited, burn, burning, ignite, kindled, lighten
light-headed: (adj) dizzy, flighty, skittish, queer, faint, lightheaded
light-hearted: (adj) merry, blithe, sunny, cheerful, vivacious, bright, festive, airy, buoyant, lighthearted, light
light-heartedness: (n) cheerfulness, happiness, levity
lilies: (n) lily
limb: (n) arm, branch, member, bough, extremity, offshoot, part, leg, wing, appendage, edge
limitless: (adj) boundless, immense, endless, unlimited, measureless, infinite, illimitable, interminable, vast, bottomless, incalculable. ANTONYMS: (adj) limited, restricted, little, minor, small, few
linden: (n) lime, basswood, cottonwood, tree, wood, calx, calcium hydroxide, linden tree, hydrated lime, fluxing lime, citrus aurantifolia
lineally: (adv) ancestrally, directly, straightly, straight
lineaments: (v) exposition, tract, length, expanse, area, extent; (n) face
lingering: (adj) long, chronic, extended, dilatory, protracted, prolonged, residual, lengthy, inactive, dull; (n) delay. ANTONYM: (adj) quick

lisbon: (n) capital of Portugal
listener: (n, v) auditor; (n) eavesdropper, audience, observer, perceiver, hearkener, attendant, attendee, attendant, beholder
lithe: (adj, v) limber, flexible; (adj) graceful, slender, lissom, supple, lissome, svelte, agile, ductile, elastic. ANTONYMS: (adj) clumsy, stiff, inflexible
litterateur: (n) essayist, author, scholar, man of letters, literator, bookman, dilettanti, journalism, lamb, writer, illuminati
littleness: (n) minuteness, smallness, pettiness, puniness, delicacy, size, a few, a little bit, a smidgen, insignificance, slightness
liveliness: (adj, n) animation, briskness; (n) life, effervescence, buoyancy, exuberance, vigor, activity, agility, cheerfulness, enthusiasm. ANTONYMS: (n) lethargy, awkwardness, lifelessness, laziness, sadness, apathy
livid: (adj) furious, irate, ashen, mad, blue, gray, ghastly, leaden, colorless, angry, enraged. ANTONYMS: (adj) flushed, happy, pleased
loaf: (adj, v) lounge; (v) hang around, loiter, loll, linger, laze, mess about, be idle; (adj, n) block; (adj) lump, poke. ANTONYM: (v) work
loathed: (adj) unpopular, hated, reviled, undesirable
loathing: (n, v) abomination, aversion, dislike, distaste; (n) hate, hatred, abhorrence, detestation, nausea, antipathy, execration. ANTONYMS: (n) love, adoration, liking, delight, goodwill
loathsome: (adj) foul, hideous, distasteful, disgusting, hateful, abominable, revolting, execrable, loathly, nauseous, horrible. ANTONYMS: (adj) delightful, nice, noble, inoffensive, pleasant, admirable, good, attractive
lobe: (n) lobule, Ventral lobe, Olfactory lobe, mesolobe, division, flap, projection, branch, wing, lobular, loma
locale: (n) position, scene, situation, environment, region, district, habitat, locus, venue, location, locality
locus: (n) position, spot, location, venue, place, point, orbit, post, scene, situation, space
locust: (n) courbaril, cicada, wood, carob, clammy locust, Colorado beetle, black locust, acridid, honey

- locust, locust tree; (v) lose
- locution:** (n) idiom, byword, talk, speech, saying, phrase, adage, epigram, calque, beatitude, axiom
- lodged:** (adj) wedged, stuck fast, stuck, jammed
- lodgings:** (n) digs, accommodation, domiciliation, lodging, billet, housing, quarters, residence, pad, living quarters, launchpad
- loft:** (n) garret, cockloft, hayloft, upper story, story, storey, farmhouse, igloo, cottage; (v) propel, impel
- loftiest:** (adj) uppermost, top, sovereign
- lofty:** (adj, v) high, elevated; (adj) exalted, eminent, arrogant, grand, tall, haughty, great, distinguished, majestic. ANTONYMS: (adj) short, lowly, base, modest, deferential, humble
- loin:** (n) hip, haunch, dorsum, buttock, side, croup, breech, backside, scut, flank, loins, tenderloin
- longing:** (n, v) desire, aspiration; (adj) eager, wistful, nostalgic; (n) nostalgia, wish, hankering, urge, appetite; (adj, n) yearning. ANTONYMS: (n) apathy, disinclination; (adj) satisfied, unconcerned
- longitudinally:** (adv) lengthways, longways, longwise, at length, endlong, along
- loosened:** (adj) disentangled, loose, freed, disengaged, extricated, unsnarled
- loosening:** (n) relaxation, unfastening, ease, undoing, liberalization, adjustment, alteration, liberalisation, easiness; (adj) solutive, laxative
- lore:** (n) erudition, folklore, letters, literature, tradition, science, acquired knowledge, knowledge, wide information, lesson, legend
- loth:** (adj) disinclined, averse, reluctant, unwilling, indisposed, antipathetical, antipathetic, not content, shy of, repugnant; (v) averse from
- loveliness:** (n) comeliness, fairness, grace, attractiveness, charm, glamour, pulchritude, beauteousness, good looks, cuteness, fineness. ANTONYMS: (n) unattractiveness, unpleasantness, awkwardness
- lowering:** (adj) heavy, dismal, gloomy, threatening, dark, glum, murky; (n) fall, drop, cut, decline
- lozenge:** (n) diamond, pastille, capsule, candy, troche, pastil, rhombus, tablet, bolus, cough drop, dose
- luce:** (n) pike, Clare booth Luce, Henry Robinson Luce, Henry Luce
- lucid:** (adj) clear, transparent, limpid, coherent, distinct, evident, explicit, crystalline, light, diaphanous, bright. ANTONYMS: (adj) opaque, unintelligible, muddled, unclear, irrational, confusing, illogical, ambiguous, confused, vague, incoherent
- ludicrous:** (adj) absurd, ridiculous, farcical, foolish, laughable, comical, grotesque, derisory, droll, preposterous, jocular. ANTONYMS: (adj) sane, impressive
- lulling:** (adj) drowsy, assuasive, dreamy, dull, lethargic, quietening, unalarming, dozy; (n) appeasement
- lully:** (adv) stilly, calmly, coolly; (n) Ramon Lully, Raymond Lully, Jean Baptiste Lully
- luminary:** (n) celebrity, star, leading light, personality, guiding light, VIP, authority, worthy, shining light, Magnus Apollo, shiner
- luminous:** (adj) glowing, brilliant, lustrous, lucent, sunny, lambent, radiant, light, aglow; (adj, n) lucid, clear. ANTONYMS: (adj) dark, obscure
- luminousness:** (n) illumination, luminescence, glow, light, brightness, incandescence, luminance, light source, clearness, flawlessness, Christ Within. ANTONYM: (n) dirtiness
- lunatic:** (n) madman, maniac, bedlamite; (adj) insane, foolish, moonstruck, mad, mental, deranged, idiotic; (adj, n) madcap. ANTONYM: (adj) sensible
- lurch:** (n, v) stumble, pitch, stagger; (v) reel, tilt, cant, rock, sway, shake, teeter, wobble. ANTONYM: (v) hesitate
- lurid:** (adj) ghastly, grisly, gruesome, loud, frightful, sharp, shocking, gaudy, sensational, hideous, horrific. ANTONYMS: (adj) subtle, muted, bland, dull, modest
- lustre:** (n) brilliance, gloss, brilliancy, grandeur, splendour, effulgence, splendor, shininess, shine, sheen, brightness
- lustreless:** (adj) dull, lackluster, lacklustre, dim, mat, matt, duller, flat
- lustrous:** (adj, v) bright, splendid; (adj) glossy, brilliant, lucid, shiny, shining, light, luminous, sleek, radiant. ANTONYM: (adj) unhealthy
- lustrum:** (n) luster lustre, ceremony, amount of time
- luxuriance:** (n) exuberance, copiousness, abundance, lushness, affluence, wealth, luxury, excess, luxuriance, rampancy; (adj) fecundity
- luxuriant:** (adj, n) lush; (adj) abundant, lavish, exuberant, dense, thick, fertile, flourishing, fecund, opulent, profuse. ANTONYMS: (adj) barren, meager, unhealthy, arid, withering, sparse, shabby, unadorned
- luxuriantly:** (adv) abundantly, opulently, plentifully, richly, profusely, generously, bountifully, thickly, riotously, exuberantly, copiously
- luxurious:** (adj) voluptuous, costly, deluxe, lavish, sumptuous, epicurean, grand, luscious, opulent, magnificent; (adj, n) lush. ANTONYMS: (adj) meager, frugal, poor, Spartan, austere, humble, unpleasant, ascetic, impoverished
- luxuriousness:** (n) sumptuousness, opulence, sybaritism, extravagance, grandeur, lavishness, lewdness, lushness, effeminacy, splendor, sensuality. ANTONYMS: (n) shabbiness, bareness
- lynx:** (n) cat, bobcat, caracal, wildcat, bay lynx, common lynx, cougar, desert lynx, Felis concolor
- lyre:** (n) lira, archlute, lute
- mace:** (n) cudgel, bludgeon, hammer, official, shillelah, spice, sprig, stick, nutmeg, rod, scepter
- maddening:** (adj) exasperating, annoying, aggravating, irritating, galling, trying, vexing, madden, bothersome, crazy, vexatious. ANTONYMS: (adj) pleasing, soothing, satisfying
- mademoiselle:** (n) girl, signorina, damsel, drum, silver perch, drumfish
- madly:** (adv) insanely, furiously, sorely, frantically, wildly, devilishly, deadily, dementedly, foolishly, distractedly; (adj, adv) rabidly. ANTONYMS: (adv) sensibly, calmly, sanely, carefully; (adj) slightly
- madman:** (n) bedlamite, maniac, crazy, loony, nut, madcap, looney,

loco, sufferer, raver, nutcase
magi: (adj) heretical, fire worshiper;
 (n) luminary, gymnosophist,
 Magnus Apollo, Nestor, oracle,
 shining light, Solomon, solon, wise
 men

magically: (adv) as if by magic,
 occultly, marvelously, charmingly,
 enchantingly, witchingly,
 wonderfully, mysteriously,
 miraculously, supernaturally,
 mysticly

magnificence: (adj, n) splendor,
 brilliancy, gorgeousness; (n) glory,
 pomp, brilliance, grandness,
 greatness, dignity, majesty, loftiness.
 ANTONYMS: (n) paucity, modesty,
 shabbiness, poverty, austerity,
 unattractiveness

maiden: (n) maid, girl, demoiselle,
 damosel, wench, fille, lass, miss;
 (adj) first, initiatory, unmarried

maine: (n) pine tree state

majestic: (adj) grand, awesome,
 stately, imperial, royal, exalted,
 glorious, kingly, August; (adj, v)
 imposing; (adj, adv) regal.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) pathetic, pitiful,
 modest, lowly, undignified

malady: (n, v) illness, ailment,
 indisposition, distemper; (adj, n, v)
 disorder; (adj, n) complaint,
 infirmity; (n) sickness, condition,
 trouble, ill

malevolence: (n) malice, hatred,
 spite, hate, ill will, bitterness,
 hostility, rancor, venom, grudge,
 enmity. ANTONYMS: (n)
 benevolence, good, affection,
 goodwill

malice: (n) spite, animosity, enmity,
 venom, ill will, hatred, malevolence,
 cruelty, envy, hate, spleen.
 ANTONYMS: (n) goodwill,
 benevolence, affection, goodness

malicious: (adj) evil, vicious,
 venomous, spiteful, unkind, cruel,
 poisonous, mean, mischievous,
 pernicious, nasty. ANTONYMS:
 (adj) kind, harmless, kindhearted,
 loving, unmalicious, compassionate,
 good, merciful, pleasant, provoked

maltreating: (v) maltreat

manhood: (n) majority, maturity,
 valor, resolution, personality,
 humanity, integrity, bravery; (adj)
 manliness, ripe age, maturity full
 age

maniac: (n) madman, bedlamite,
 madcap, freak, fanatic, nut, looney,
 bigot, madwoman; (adj) loco,
 maniacal

manifestation: (n) appearance,
 indication, exhibition, expression,
 display, demonstration, sign,
 incarnation, advent, show,
 revelation

manifold: (adj) diverse, different,
 many, various, multiplex,
 multiplied, frequent; (v) duplicate,
 copy, multiply; (n) diversity

manly: (adj) manlike, masculine,
 manful, virile, brave, gallant; (adv)
 manfully, boldly, hardily, virilely;
 (adj, adv) stately. ANTONYMS:
 (adj) weak, unmanly, cowardly;
 (adv) unmanfully

mantel: (n) mantelpiece, mantelpiece,
 chimneypiece, lintel, mantelshelf,
 mantle piece, mantleself, shelf,
 drapery, drape, curtain

mantle: (n) cloak, cape, pall, blanket,
 curtain, blind, coat; (n, v) cover, veil;
 (adj, n, v) blush, flush

maple: (n) box elder, full moon
 maple, moosewood, hedge maple,
 great maple, dwarf maple, goosefoot
 maple, field maple

marbles: (n) wit, sanity, mind,
 reason, jackstones, jacks, cuds

mare: (n) Maria, Money makes the
 mare go, broodmare, doe, hen, bitch,
 horse, region, part, jennet, roe

marrow: (adj, n) gist, pith,
 quintessence; (n) substance, heart,
 kernel, core, content, center,
 backbone; (adj) quiddity

marrying: (adj) married

marvel: (n, v) wonder; (n) prodigy,
 curiosity, phenomenon, amazement,
 miracle, portent, marl, surprise,
 admiration; (v) admire.

ANTONYMS: (v) disregard; (n)
 nightmare

masked: (adj) cloaked, covert,
 concealed, hidden, covered,
 camouflaged, secret, veiled,
 incognito, draped, furtive.

ANTONYM: (adj) overt

masonry: (n) brickwork, stonework,
 construction, bricklaying, structure,
 trade, dry masonry, craft,
 freemasons collectively

masquerade: (n, v) disguise, guiser,
 guisard, masked ball, party,
 mummery, mummer, interlude,
 lever de rideau, opera, opera bouffe
masquerade: (n, v) disguise, pose,
 revel; (n) camouflage, masque, fancy
 dress, pretense, fake, cover; (v)
 impersonate, pretend

massacre: (n, v) murder, carnage,
 butchery; (v) exterminate, kill,
 annihilate, butcher, slay; (n) mass

murder, bloodshed, killing
massy: (adj) bulky, ample,
 voluminous, heavy, considerable,
 weighty, ponderous, compacted, in
 mass, beamy

mast: (n) post, foremast, column,
 spar, spanker-mast, mainmast,
 jigger, tower, aerial, ship mast, nut
materialism: (n) deism, dialectical
 materialism, desire, Sabellianism,
 Tractarianism, theism, Socinianism,
 greed, Erastianism, Adventism,
 anabaptism. ANTONYM: (n)
 generosity

materiality: (n) corporeality,
 substantiality, concreteness,
 importance, tangibility, reality,
 element, essential nature,
 groundwork, vital part,
 materialness. ANTONYM: (n)
 immateriality

materially: (adv) physically,
 substantially, corporeally,
 significantly, really, essentially,
 corporally, vitally, solidly,
 momentarily, fundamentally
mathematician: (v) arithmetician,
 algebraist, calculator, abacist; (n)
 geometrician, gauss, scientist, man
 of science, Archimedes, whitehead;
 (adj) Cartesian

matured: (adj) ripe, experienced,
 developed, old, adult, mellow,
 maturer, ripened, ready, payable,
 owing. ANTONYMS: (adj) unripe,
 young

mazy: (adj) labyrinthian, knotty,
 complex, involved, tortuous,
 sinuous, intricate, anfractuous; (v)
 rivulose, reclivate, scoleoid
meandering: (adj) circuitous, indirect,
 zigzag, tortuous, winding,
 serpentine, sinuous, roundabout,
 snaky, windy; (v) twirl.

ANTONYMS: (adj) straight; (n)
 directness

mediate: (v) intervene, intercede,
 interfere, intermediate, referee,
 arrange, interpose, moderate,
 reconcile, negotiate; (adj) middle.
 ANTONYM: (v) provoke

meditation: (n, v) contemplation,
 study; (n) consideration, reflection,
 deliberation, thought, introspection,
 musing, rumination, conception,
 reflexion. ANTONYM: (n)
 distraction

meditations: (n) contemplation,
 consideration, cogitation

medley: (n) mixture, miscellany,
 jumble, melange, potpourri,
 hotchpotch, concoction, admixture,

hash; (adj) imbroglia, chaos
meek: (adj) lowly, docile, gentle, tame, low, submissive, compliant, mild, modest, quiet, kind.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) assertive, bossy, haughty, arrogant, overbearing, rebellious, disobedient, wild, harsh, brash
meerschau: (n) mineral, pipe, sea foam, kiefekil
melancholy: (adj, v) dreary; (adj, n) gloom, melancholic; (adj) depressed, dejected, dismal, gloomy, doleful; (n, v) low spirits; (n) gloominess, depression. ANTONYMS: (n) happiness, cheerfulness, hopefulness, optimism; (adj) happy, bright, cheery, satisfied
melodrama: (n) excitement, melodrame, soap opera, romance
melody: (n) air, tune, music, measure, harmony, aria, song, strain, line, melodic phrase; (n, v) chant
melted: (adj) molten, fluid, liquified, dissolved, liquefied, baked, fluent, touched, limpid, sorry, flowing
memoirs: (n) reminiscences, memoir, autobiography, essay, biography, annals, chronicle, account, diary, life story, memento Mori
memoranda: (n) memorandum, note
menace: (n) threat, danger; (n, v) hazard, risk, peril; (v) endanger, imperil, intimidate, jeopardize, threaten, bully. ANTONYMS: (v) help, protect, guard; (n) pleasure
menial: (adj, n) inferior; (adj) lowly, abject, ignoble, humble, low, mean; (n) henchman, domestic, lackey, servant. ANTONYMS: (adj) elevated, noble
merchandise: (v) market, deal; (n) freight, cargo, product, commodity, goods, consignment, wares; (adj) commodities, ware
merciful: (adj) humane, gracious, lenient, compassionate, kind, clement, benign, kindly, gentle, beneficent, forgiving. ANTONYMS: (adj) pitiless, merciless, unforgiving, spiteful, harsh, impatient, severe, hardhearted
merciless: (adj) brutal, pitiless, unmerciful, remorseless, heartless, implacable, inhuman, hard, grim, barbarous, unfeeling. ANTONYMS: (adj) charitable, kind, humane, soft, caring, tolerant
merge: (v) combine, amalgamate, melt, fuse, integrate, meld, commingle, unite, mix, consolidate; (adj, v) coalesce. ANTONYMS: (v)

split, diverge, decentralize, unpick, segregate
merged: (adj) integrated, amalgamated, unified, incorporate, united, fused, combined, interconnected, mixed, intermingled, complex
meritorious: (adj) commendable, laudable, deserving, estimable, creditable, worthy, admirable, excellent, praiseworthy, desertful, meritable. ANTONYMS: (adj) discreditable, worthless
merrily: (adv) gaily, cheerfully, blithely, cheerily, gladly, gleefully, mirthfully, brightly, jovially, joyfully, gayly. ANTONYMS: (adv) sadly, anxiously, miserably, unhappily, carefully, despondently
merriment: (n) fun, amusement, cheerfulness, hilarity, glee, jollity, frolic, gaiety, happiness, festivity; (adj, n) mirth. ANTONYMS: (n) misery, gloom, seriousness, despondency, boredom
merry: (adj) joyful, lively, cheerful, glad, jolly, facetious, frolicsome, lighthearted, festive; (adj, n) convivial, jovial. ANTONYMS: (adj) gloomy, miserable, serious, uptight
mesmeric: (adj) attractive, spellbinding, enticing, mesmerizing, interesting, fascinating, entrancing, alluring, captivating, charming, compelling. ANTONYM: (adj) boring
mesmerism: (n) animal magnetism, exorcism, bewitchery, enchantment, pathetism, suggestion, hint, influence, magnetism, second sight, mysticism
mesmerized: (adj) fascinated, mesmerised, hypnotised, hypnotized, bewitched, awestruck; (adj, v) transfixed, rapt; (v) wrapped in, absorbed, riveted
mesmerizing: (adj) mesmeric, spellbinding, attractive, captivating, soporific, enticing, magnetic, appealing, fascinating; (adj, v) riveting; (v) engrossing. ANTONYM: (adj) repellent
metallic: (adj) metal, harsh, metalline, metallic, hard, basic, actual, absolute, certain, chalybeate, clearly expressed. ANTONYM: (adj) soft
metamorphosis: (n) alteration, change, conversion, transformation, metamorphism, translation, transmutation, transfiguration, revision, modification, transmogrification

metaphysical: (adj) theoretical, supernatural, mental, immaterial, mystical, nooscopic, abstract, metaphysic, subjective, unworldly, theological. ANTONYM: (adj) empirical
metaphysics: (n) ontology, metaphysic, outside actual experience, ontological, cosmological, philosophy
methodical: (adj) methodic, formal, systematic, regular, organized, businesslike, neat, precise, exact, correct, meticulous. ANTONYMS: (adj) careless, illogical, chaotic, aimless, thoughtless, haphazard, unprofessional, disorderly, unscientific, inconsistent
metropolis: (n) city, capital, town, municipality, buffalo, meshed, borough, burgh, independence, hull, bale
miasma: (n) malaria, atmosphere, Aial poison, fog, miasm, haze, gas, mephitis, ambiance, ambience, contagion
midsummer: (n) summer, solstice, June solstice, June
midway: (adj) middle, center, intermediate, central, median; (n) tract, middle of the road, intermediary, battle of midway; (adv) in the middle; (prep) between. ANTONYM: (adj) extreme
mimic: (adj, v) mock; (v) imitate, mime, copy, impersonate, parody, emulate; (n, v) counterfeit; (n) imitator, mimicker, ape
mingled: (adj) miscellaneous, complex, indiscriminate, heterogeneous, medley, confused, eclectic, motley, different; (v) blended, blent
mingling: (adj) blending, merging, confluent, blended; (n) mixture, mixing, commixtion, interchange, exchange, commixture; (adv) minglingly
minutely: (adv) precisely, in detail, closely, tiny, small, insignificantly, infinitesimally, diminutively, nicely, exactly, microscopically
minuteness: (n) diminutiveness, smallness, attention to detail, petiteness, tininess, weeness
miraculous: (adj) marvelous, astonishing, marvellous, wonderful, astounding, remarkable, magical, incredible, wonder, stupendous, phenomenal. ANTONYMS: (adj) normal, mundane, unremarkable

miraculously: (adv) astoundingly, marvelously, strangely, remarkably, stupendously, supernaturally, astonishingly, staggeringly, wondrously, startlingly, phenomenally

mirthful: (adj) gay, jolly, merry, festive, gleeful, glad, blithe, amusing, jocund, laughable, comical

misanthrope: (n) misanthropist, cynic, pessimist, skeptic, misogynist, misanthropos, Timon, grump, man hater, hermit, egotist

miscalculation: (n) inaccuracy, fault, mistake, boomerang, backfire, miscomputation, arithmetical error, undoing, misestimation, slip, misreckoning

miscellaneous: (adj) heterogeneous, mixed, different, general, sundry, indiscriminate, motley, varied, diverse, multifarious, versatile.

ANTONYMS: (adj) uniform, homogeneous, limited

mischievous: (adj, n) evil, hurt, harm; (n) damage, ill, detriment, disadvantage, devilry, caper, devilment, maleficence.

ANTONYMS: (n) obedience, beneficence, help

misconceived: (adj) inaccurate, erroneous, deformed

misconduct: (n) misdeed, crime, wrongdoing, wrong, fault, misdemeanor, malpractice; (adj, v) mismanage; (v) mishandle, misbehave; (n, v) sin

miser: (n) stinginess, curmudgeon, hunk, muckworm, niggard, skintflint, cheapskate, parsimony, moneygrubber, Jew, miserliness

misled: (adj) fooled, undirected, false, bewildered, confused, erroneous, mistaken, misleading, misdirected, led astray, incorrect

mistaking: (n) misunderstanding, mistake, imbroglia, misinterpretation, misconstruction, misapprehension, misconstrual, interpretation, misreading; (adj) mistaken, misleading

mistrust: (adj, n, v) distrust; (n, v) doubt, query; (n) suspicion, misgiving, disbelief, apprehension, wariness; (v) suspect, disbelieve, discredit. ANTONYM: (v) believe

misty: (adj) hazy, foggy, cloudy, brumous, dim, indistinct, nebulous, fuzzy, dark, dull, blurred.

ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, distinct

misunderstood: (adj) mistreated, confused

moaning: (n, v) lamentation; (adj) groaning, whining, funereal, inarticulate, dirgeful; (n) complaining, mourning

mockery: (n) gibe, jeer, irony, farce, charade, derision, parody, mock, scorn, imitation, burlesque.

ANTONYM: (n) approval

mocking: (adj) derisive, ironic, jeering, mock, quizzical, sarcastic, taunting, derisory, teasing, sardonic, sneering. ANTONYMS: (adj) respectful, approving,

complimentary, sympathetic; (n) praise

modelled: (adj) patterned

moiety: (n) mediety, portion, part, parcel, section, piece, bit, division, cut, class

moisture: (n) damp, dampness, wet, humid, moist, moistness, vapor, moisture content, moisten, dank, dampen

molten: (adj) liquified, melted, liquefied, fluid; (v) sodden

momentary: (adj) brief, fugitive, transient, short, instantaneous, ephemeral, passing, momentaneous, temporary, impermanent, temporal. ANTONYMS: (adj) lasting, lengthy, long

momently: (adv) momentarily, in a moment, presently

momentous: (adj, v) grave, memorable; (adj) significant, weighty, material, big, consequential, serious, critical, crucial, great. ANTONYMS: (adj) trivial, unimportant, inconsequential, frivolous, minor

monastic: (adj) monachal, cloistral, monasterial, monastical, monkish, cloistered, clerical; (n) monk, brother, friar, benedict

monkish: (adj) clerical, nonindulgent

monomania: (adj, n) madness, fanaticism, frenzy, derangement, aberration, alienation, insanity, lunacy; (adj) infatuation; (n) passion, craze

monomaniac: (n) monomaniacal, diseased person, bigot, fanatic, fiend, kleptomaniac, dipsomaniac, enthusiast

monotonous: (adj) dull, flat, boring, dreary, tedious, insipid, monotone, monotonic; (adj, v) dry, uninteresting, stupid. ANTONYMS: (adj) exciting, varied, stimulating, lively, exotic, enthralling, brilliant, flexible

monotonously: (adv) uninterestingly,

boringly, drearily, tiresomely, tediously, wearisomely, flatly, humdrumly, prosaically, tonelessly, routinely. ANTONYM: (adv) brightly

monotony: (n) boredom, dullness, evenness, sameness, tediousness, flatness, dreariness, tautophony, tiresomeness; (adj) dull work, humdrum. ANTONYMS: (n) variety, variation

monstrosity: (n) freak, eyesore, leviathan, abortion, ogre, anamorphosis, malformation, lusus naturae; (adj, n) enormity; (adj) bizarrerie, immensity

monstrous: (adj) huge, atrocious, heinous, monster, immense, gigantic, grievous, ugly, flagitious, dreadful; (adj, v) grotesque.

ANTONYMS: (adj) tiny, minute, beautiful, good, small, lovely, attractive

moodiness: (n) temperament, depression, capriciousness, grumpiness, petulance, sullenness, humorlessness, ill humor, ill humour, jocularly, unhappiness. ANTONYM: (n) cheeriness

moody: (adj) gloomy, dark, irritable, morose, capricious, glum, grumpy, fickle, petulant, dour, sullen. ANTONYMS: (adj) equable, happy, reliable, stable, calm

moonlight: (adj, n) moonshine; (n) moonbeam, moonglade, occupation, lunation, lunar month, labor; (n, v) work; (v) pilfer, do work; (adj) moonshiny

moralist: (n) disciplinarian, martinet, philosopher, utilitarian, stickler, moraliser, egalitarian, dictator, authoritarian, elitist

morals: (n) ethics, moral, light, hedonism, ethical motive, conscience, motivation, motive, need, behavior, moral philosophy

morass: (n) bog, swamp, quagmire, mire, fen, marsh, moss, sump, sludge, tangle, mud

morbid: (adj) diseased, gruesome, macabre, corrupt, pathologic, unwholesome, peccant, sick, unhealthy, pathological; (adj, v) sickly

morbidly: (adv) sickly, unhealthily, diseasedly, frightfully, unwholesomely, ghoulishly, corruptly, macabrely, gruesomely, ghastly, ailingly

morgue: (n) crematorium, crematory, dead room, pride, funeral parlour,

- building, funeral home, funeral church, funeral chapel, edifice; (adj, n) deadhouse
- morrow:** (n) morning, future, mean solar day, day
- mortal:** (adj) deadly, fatal, lethal, deathly, earthly; (n) man, individual, creature, person, human being, body. ANTONYMS: (adj, n) immortal; (adj) eternal, heavenly, mild, perfect, spiritual
- mortar:** (n) howitzer, plaster, trench mortar, field piece, glue, lute, heavy gun, gun, birdlime, gum, cannon
- mortification:** (n) chagrin, embarrassment, shame, gangrene, disappointment, disgrace, corruption, necrosis, degradation; (adj, n) vexation; (adj) grievance
- mortify:** (v) humble, disgrace, abase, crush, embarrass, degrade, shame, demean, depress; (n, v) chagrin; (adj, v) confuse
- moss:** (n) lichen, marsh, bog, morass, marish, fen, bryophyte, quagmire, swamp, Bryace; (adj) byssus
- motionless:** (adj) inactive, inert, immobile, stationary, fixed, unmoving, quiescent, dead, torpid; (adj, adv) calm, at rest. ANTONYMS: (adj) mobile, active, alive, flowing
- motionlessness:** (n) stationariness, fixedness, inaction, inertness, stillness, rest, lifelessness, inactiveness, hush. ANTONYMS: (n) movement, motion, animation
- motley:** (adj) miscellaneous, mottled, assorted, colorful, heterogeneous, multicolored, checkered; (n) medley, miscellany, mixture, assortment. ANTONYM: (adj) homogeneous
- mound:** (v) embankment; (adj, n) knoll, hillock, hummock; (n) hill, mass, grave; (n, v) stack, bank, pile; (adj) barrow. ANTONYM: (n) hollow
- mountainous:** (adj) colossal, gargantuan, huge, hilly, giant, alpine, enormous, large, rugged, gigantic, craggy. ANTONYMS: (adj) flat, tiny
- mourn:** (v) bewail, grieve, deplore, cry, bemoan, regret, distress, sad, wail, mourning, weep. ANTONYMS: (v) rejoice, celebrate, applaud
- mournful:** (adj) sad, miserable, melancholy, funereal, dolorous, dark, pensive, gloomy, lugubrious, lamentable; (adj, n) plaintive. ANTONYMS: (adj) joyful, happy,
- emotionless
- mournfully:** (adv) sadly, sorrowfully, glumly, woefully, unhappily, plaintively, grievously, funereally, dejectedly, dolorously, poignantly. ANTONYMS: (adv) cheerfully, joyfully
- movable:** (adj) portable, transferable, mercurial, adjustable, ambulatory, changeable, transportable, moveable, flexible, active; (v) shifting. ANTONYMS: (adj) immovable, unchangeable
- moveable:** (adj) movable, transportable, moving, transferable, transferrable, assignable, conveyable
- muffled:** (adj) hushed, muted, hollow, inarticulate, faint, soft, subdued, low, quiet; (v) allusive, covert. ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, distinct, audible, slight
- multicolor:** (adj) multicolored, motley, varicolored, piebald, multicoloured, varicoloured, multicolour, variegated, colored, calico, assorted
- multiform:** (adj) different, multifarious, polymorphous, multigenerous, manifold, miscellaneous, multiple, polymorphic, multiplex, polyschematist, multifold
- multiplied:** (adj) many, multitudinous, teeming, peopled, populous, studded, thick, increased, frequent; (v) absorb, acquisition
- multitude:** (n) flock, horde, crowd, host, throng, concourse, mob, masses, mass, herd, swarm. ANTONYM: (n) trickle
- multitudinous:** (adj) innumerable, infinite, manifold, multiple, numberless, myriad, many, numerous, thick, populous, innumerable
- mummer:** (n) mime, pantomimist, mimier, guiser, thespian, player, pantomime, masque, clown, dumb show, guisard
- munificent:** (adj) liberal, bountiful, lavish, free, bounteous, prodigal, beneficent, magnanimous, unstinted, unsparing, princely. ANTONYMS: (adj) mean, tightfisted, malevolent
- murky:** (adj) dark, gloomy, cloudy, dusky, dingy, misty, dim, muddy, opaque, dirty, black. ANTONYMS: (adj) bright, light, obvious, sunny
- murmur:** (n, v) grumble, mumble, hum, whisper, mutter, whine, babble, drone; (v) complain, bubble,
- breathe
- murmuring:** (n) murmuration, murmur, complaint, grumble, muttering, mutter, murmur vowel; (adj) whispering, humming, droning, murmurous
- muse:** (v) meditate, ponder, deliberate, consider, cogitate, reflect, brood, ruminate, speculate, think, mull. ANTONYM: (v) wander
- musically:** (adv) harmoniously, melodiously, sweetly, melodically, dulcetly, euphoniously, pleasingly, canorously, pleasantly, rhythmically, metrically. ANTONYMS: (adv) harshly, unmusically
- musingly:** (adv) thoughtfully, ponderingly, meditatively, contemplatively, reflectively, ruminatively, broodingly, deep in thought. ANTONYM: (adv) unthinkingly
- musings:** (n) contemplation, cogitation, consideration
- musket:** (n) fusil, blunderbuss, gun, rifle
- muslin:** (v) linen, cloth; (n) mousseline, organdy, cambric, crash, fabric, nainsook, organdie
- mustard:** (n) Chinese mustard, charlock, Indian mustard, GAI Choi, colza, eagerness, cruciferous vegetable, rape, mustard greens, field mustard, condiment
- mute:** (adj) dumb, silent, inarticulate, dummy, tongueless; (v) muffle, dampen, deaden, hush; (adj, v) quiet, dull. ANTONYMS: (adj) talkative, speaking, spoken; (v) amplify
- mystic:** (adj, v) secret, recondite; (adj) mysterious, occult, cryptical, cryptic, esoteric, inscrutable, weird, magical; (adj, n) psychic
- mystified:** (adj) metagrabolized, puzzled, perplexed, metagrobolized, bemused, unclear, at a loss, metagrobolised, baffled, flummoxed, having difficulties. ANTONYMS: (adj) enlightened, clear
- naiad:** (n) nymph, Oberon, Mab, hamadryad, water nymph, Nereid, nixie, sprite, chrysalis, Thetis, damsel
- nailed:** (adj) fixed, tight, stationary, stable, secure, decided, firm, immobile
- nakedness:** (n) nudity, altogether, baldness, nude, nudeness, undress, birthday suit, openness, status,

- emptiness, frankness
nameless: (adj) unknown, unnamed, unidentified, unsung, undistinguished, unspecified, inexpressible, strange, indescribable, obscure, unspeakable. ANTONYM: (adj) famous
namesake: (n) somebody, someone, soul, human, mortal, individual, cognominal
narrated: (adj) oral, narrative
narrating: (v) narrate
narration: (n) description, recital, narrative, explanation, history, tale, report, relation, story, recitation, rehearsal
nativity: (n) birth, horoscope, nascency, delivery, genesis, cradle, nascence, birthing, origin, childbirth, births. ANTONYM: (n) death
naught: (n) cipher, nothing, null, aught, nix, nought, zip, cypher, nada; (adj, n, pron) nil; (n, pron) zilch
nausea: (n) sickness, queasiness, squeamishness, revulsion, repugnance, qualm, illness; (v) loathing, aversion, dislike, distaste
neatness: (n) trimness, dexterity, orderliness, tidiness, spruceness, cleanliness, precision, compactness, purity, cleanness, elegance. ANTONYMS: (n) untidiness, largeness, clumsiness, disorder, inelegance, clutter, chaos, messiness
necromancy: (n) sorcery, conjuration, black magic, incantation, enchantment, black art, divination, witchcraft, charm, soothsaying, thaumaturgy
necromantic: (adj) mystic, mysterious, necromantical
neighborhood: (n) vicinity, district, area, community, locality, place, quarter, environs, section; (adj) neighboring, local
neighboring: (adj, adv) adjacent, near; (adj) adjoining, nearby, contiguous, neighbor, abutting, next, neighborly, nigh, next to. ANTONYMS: (adj) distant, remote, far, national
neighbors: (n) neighbourhood
nervousness: (n) nerves, trepidation, disquiet, tension, jumpiness, restlessness, jitters, agitation, worry, fearfulness, edginess. ANTONYMS: (n) boldness, confidence, reassurance, calm, relief, peace, equanimity
nether: (adj) lower, inferior, down, low, chthonic, chthonian, infernal, subjacent, less, lesser; (adj, adv) under
nethermost: (adj) bottommost, lowermost, undermost, lowest, farthest down
never-ceasing: (adj) immortal
niagara: (n) flood, waterfall, cataract, ghyll, torrent, overflow, Niagara Falls, Niagara river
nibbling: (n) rate cutting, feeding, eating
nicety: (n) detail, exactness, fastidiousness, nuance, refinement, exactitude, justness, precision, correctness, daintiness, elegance
niche: (n) alcove, hole, bay, recess, nook, compartment, recession, opening, place, ecological niche, fireplace
nightcap: (n) drink, dram, game, cap, mobcap, drop
nightly: (adv) every night, by night; (n) night; (adj) nocturnal. ANTONYM: (adj) daily
nihility: (n) naught, nothing, nihilism, vacuity, nullity, nonexistence, oblivion, void, inanity, emptiness, cipher
nitre: (n) niter, potassium nitrate, saltpetre, saltpeter, nitrate
nobleman: (n) patrician, aristocrat, lord, peer, marquis, nobility, grandee, baron, duke, armiger, burgrave
noiselessly: (adv) silently, soundlessly, stilly, softly, mutely, delicately, wordlessly, gently, speechlessly; (adj, adv) stealthily; (adj) noiseless. ANTONYMS: (adv) heavily, audibly
nonentity: (n) nobody, cipher, nothing, naught, cypher, nil, nonexistence, aught, zero, jackanapes, lightweight
nook: (n) angle, niche, recess, hole, coign, bay, compartment, oriel, cove, refuge, haven
noonday: (n) noontide, noon, high noon, hour, twelve noon, afternoon; (v) tide; (adj) meridional
noose: (n) loop, trap, gin, lasso, net, gibbet, gallows, bowstring, snare, girdle; (v) hang
northward: (adj, adv) north; (adj) northbound; (adv) northerly, northwards, in the north, to the north
northwest: (adj) northwestern, Idaho; (n) nW, geographic region, geographical area, geographical region, geographic area, compass point
northwestern: (adj) northwesterly, western, westerner, north
norwegian: (adj, n) Scandinavian; (n) Norseman, North Germanic, north Germanic language, Northman, Nordic; (adj) norwegian
nostril: (n) flue, chimney, funnel, weasand, nozzle, port, throat, trachea, naris, anterior naris, nare
nostrils: (n) naris, nose
nothingness: (n) nothing, void, nullity, nihility, emptiness, insignificance, nonentity, blankness, vacuum, cipher; (adj) nonbeing. ANTONYMS: (n) being, importance, significance
noticing: (n) observation, look; (adj) conscious
notoriety: (n) publicity, reputation, fame, infamy, disrepute, note, notability, prominence, flagrancy, distinction; (adj, n) renown. ANTONYM: (n) obscurity
novelty: (adj) news; (n) freshness, mutation, newness, trinket, curiosity, originality, oddity, bauble; (n, v) change, difference
novice: (n) learner, beginner, apprentice, greenhorn, newcomer, neophyte, amateur, freshman, novitiate, tyro, initiate. ANTONYMS: (n) expert, veteran, teacher, trainer
numb: (adj) benumbed, dead, asleep, torpid, insensible, deadened, callous, impassive; (adj, v) dull; (v) benumb, deaden. ANTONYMS: (adj) responsive, conscious; (v) sensitize
numbness: (n) dullness, anesthesia, stupor, torpor, apathy, symptom, torpidity, lethargy, deadness, indifference, anaesthesia. ANTONYMS: (n) sensation, feeling
nuptials: (n) wedding, matrimony, bridal, wedding ceremony, marriage ceremony, spousal, wedding party, ceremonial, ceremony, espousal, hymeneals. ANTONYM: (n) divorce
oaken: (adj) woody
oasis: (n) haven, parcel, shelter, tract, harbor, harbour
oath: (n) expletive, malediction, imprecation, promise, affidavit, cuss, swearing, pledge, assurance, asseveration; (v) swear
objectionable: (adj) distasteful, offensive, nasty, exceptional, undesirable, disagreeable, unwelcome, disgusting, unacceptable, repugnant, obnoxious.

ANTONYMS: (adj) agreeable, desirable, acceptable, inoffensive
objectless: (adj) purposeless, endless, endless bliss, endless clamor, endless praise, endless time, excessive, fruitless, interminable, random, infinite
observable: (adj, adv) noticeable, perceptible; (adj) discernible, apparent, appreciable, visible, evident, noteworthy, notable, detectable, remarkable.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) hidden, imperceptible, invisible
observant: (adj) mindful, watchful, alert, cautious, circumspect, careful, aware, heedful, vigilant, awake, keen. ANTONYMS: (adj) unobservant, dreaming, insensitive, unprepared, oblivious
obstinacy: (n) stubbornness, firmness, bullheadedness, determination, contumacy, mulishness, impenitence, resolve, resoluteness, impenitency, pertinacity. ANTONYMS: (n) cooperation, compliance
obstinate: (adj) obdurate, inflexible, intractable, determined, inveterate, disobedient, willful, stubborn, contrary, wayward, dogged. ANTONYMS: (adj) flexible, amenable, irresolute, cooperative, easygoing, docile, biddable, agreeable, accommodating, malleable, gentle
obstinately: (adv) obdurately, mulishly, persistently, perversely, doggedly, refractorily, unyieldingly, willfully, pigheadedly, waywardly, firmly. ANTONYM: (adv) helpfully
obstructed: (adj) blind, blocked, congested, impeded, impedit, foiled, tight, thwarted, stymied, frustrated, impassable. ANTONYM: (adj) unobstructed
obstruction: (n, v) hindrance, impediment, interruption, check, difficulty; (n) bar, hitch, blockage, blockade, block, hurdle. ANTONYMS: (n) success, boost, help
obtrusive: (adj) blatant, conspicuous, officious, impudent, intrusive, pushy, saucy, prominent, forward, protrusive, rude. ANTONYMS: (adj) unobtrusive, helpful
obtrusively: (adv) forwardly, officiously, pushily, protrudingly, saucily, prominently, impudently, meddlesomely, blatantly, pertly, conspicuously

obtuse: (adj) dim, stupid, dense, blunt, heavy, slow, insensitive, doltish, thick, dumb, simple. ANTONYMS: (adj) bright, clever, perceptive, sensitive, intelligent, astute, acute, shrewd
occupant: (n) tenant, inhabitant, dweller, denizen, occupier, inmate, holder, citizen, householder, dalesman, coaster
occupying: (n) commencement, employment, moving in, occupation
octavo: (n) folio, eightvo, size, quarto, book
odious: (adj, v) hateful, obnoxious; (adj) detestable, hideous, nasty, execrable, disgusting, abhorrent, abominable, heinous, forbidding. ANTONYMS: (adj) pleasant, delightful, agreeable, lovable, nice
odor: (n) aroma, scent, odour, bouquet, flavour, perfume, flavor, savor, stink; (n, v) smell, stench
odorous: (adj) fragrant, odoriferous, aromatic, balmy, scented, sweet, redolent, perfumed, odorant, malodorous, fragrance. ANTONYM: (adj) smelly
oedipus: (n) Oedipus rex
offend: (v) irritate, affront, insult, contravene, injure, disgust, infringe, displease, abuse, wound, anger. ANTONYMS: (v) please, delight, praise, attract
offended: (adj) angry, affronted, aggrieved, pained, wronged, annoyed, insulted, shocked, vexed, resentful, injured. ANTONYMS: (adj) indifferent, proud, unconcerned
officious: (adj, v) meddlesome; (adj) busy, interfering, meddling, obtrusive, impertinent, pragmatical, busybodied, overbearing, nosy; (v) pushing. ANTONYM: (adj) meek
officiousness: (n) meddlesomeness, curiosity, importunity, aggressiveness, obtrusiveness
offing: (n) ocean, high seas, sea, hereafter, billows, deep, future, brine, water, watery waste, body of water
oily: (adj, v) bland, soapy; (adj) fatty, fat, oleaginous, unctuous, slick, buttery; (adv) unctuously, smoothly, oleaginously. ANTONYM: (adj) lean
olden: (adj) old, past, former, whilom, archaic, bygone, early, previous, immemorial, outmoded, old-world. ANTONYMS: (adj) contemporary, modern
ominous: (adj) baleful, inauspicious,

ill, menacing, threatening, black, sinister, minatory, unlucky, forbidding, minacious.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) promising, auspicious, reassuring, bright, lucky, wonderful
omnipotence: (n) state, providence, omniscience, omnipresence, power, mastery
omnipresence: (n) omnipotence, ubiquitousness, presence, omniscience, everywhere
onward: (adv) ahead, forwards, before, forth, onwards, along, in advance, frontward, forrader; (adv, prep) on; (adj) progressive. ANTONYM: (adv) backward
oozy: (adj) damp, moist, muddy, humid, wet, miry, slimy, boggy, juicy, leaky, seeping
openness: (n) honesty, frankness, freedom, sincerity, candor, sociability, truth, forthrightness, exposure, receptivity, convenience. ANTONYMS: (n) furtiveness, hostility, secretiveness, reserve, dishonesty, confidentiality, closeness, caginess, resistance, reticence, caution
opium: (v) poppy, balm, anodyne, milk, rose water; (adj) anaesthetic agent; (n) tobacco, hashish, ether, Opie, cocaine
oppress: (v) press, harass, afflict, burden, pinch, depress, encumber, repress, crush; (adj, v) wrong; (adj) aggrieve. ANTONYMS: (v) alleviate, liberate
oppressed: (adj) laden, persecuted, broken, burdened, drawn, gloomy, aggrieved, downcast, heavy, laden, loaded
oppressive: (adj, v) onerous, close, burdensome; (adj) sultry, stuffy, tyrannical, muggy, despotic, dictatorial, gloomy, domineering. ANTONYMS: (adj) liberal, democratic, humane, free, tolerant, airy, freezing, libertarian
oppressively: (adv) severely, overbearingly, heavily, sultrily, stiflingly, stuffily, repressively, weightily, depressingly, overpoweringly, onerously
optic: (adj) visual, optical, ophthalmic; (n) eye, peeper, oculus, receptor, optics, center, centre, compound eye
opulence: (n) fortune, wealth, luxury, exuberance, comfort, luxuriousness, prosperity, wealthiness, plenty; (adj, n) riches, affluence. ANTONYMS: (n) poverty, paucity, shabbiness,

austerity
ordinarily: (adv) generally, usually, regularly, normally, frequently, customarily, habitually, routinely, middlingly, plainly, familiarly. ANTONYMS: (adv) unusually, rarely, strangely, exceptionally
originality: (n) novelty, imagination, ingenuity, initiative, freshness, newness, invention, creativity, heterodoxy, innovation; (adj, n) individuality. ANTONYMS: (n) normality, unoriginality
originate: (v) begin, arise, initiate, commence, issue, develop, start, come, invent, grow, make. ANTONYMS: (v) terminate, kill
oriole: (n) cacique, bobolink, old world oriole, blackbird, cazique, meadowlark, lark, American oriole, oscine, northern oriole, American songbird
ornamented: (adj) embellished, beautified, fancy, flowery, ornate, adorned, bedecked, decked, festooned, feathered, florid
ornaments: (n) stuff, trim, ornamentation, equipments, dress, disposition, custom, curios, condition, clothing, gaudery
oscillation: (n) beat, tremor, vibration, sway, swing, pulse, libration, variation, vacillation, fluctuation, quiver
osseous: (adj) ossific, osteal, haggard, cadaverous, boney, gaunt, emaciated
ossification: (n) convention, compliance, conformance, conformation, accord, abidance, conformism, conventionality, accordance, hardened conventionality; (adj) vitrification
ossified: (adj) harder, hard, inactive, fossilised, stiff, uniform, thick
ottoman: (n) hassock, footstool, footrest, fauteuil, Osmanli, settle, Turk, Ottoman, woollack, fag, pouf
outcast: (n) exile, castaway, leper, expatriate, outlaw, vagabond, lown, loon, refugee; (adj, n) derelict; (adj) homeless. ANTONYM: (n) native
outré: (adj) bizarre, freakish, freaky, outlandish, flaky, remarkable, stilted, bombastic; (adj, v) extravagant; (v) fabulous, egregious
outrun: (v) surpass, outdo, exceed, outride, outstep, outleap, outjump, outgo, outdistance, beat, distance
outstretched: (adj) extended, lengthy, flat, open, unfolded, stretched, broad, wiredrawn, wide, long

outwardly: (adv) exteriorly, superficially, apparently, outside, seemingly, without, ostensibly, evidently, extrinsically, outerly, outside. ANTONYMS: (adv) internally, underneath
overboard: (adj) exorbitant, rabid
overcast: (adj) dark, cloudy, dim, dull, gloomy, heavy, muddy, dismal; (n, v) cloud; (adj, v) obscure; (v) darken. ANTONYMS: (adj) sunny, clear
overdone: (adj) exaggerated, overstated, overcooked, excessive, immoderate, extravagant, fulsome, overdo, undue, overwrought, profuse. ANTONYMS: (adj) restrained, tender
overflowing: (adj) full, copious, exuberant, flooding, bountiful, generous, brimming, profuse; (n, v) flood, inundation, deluge. ANTONYMS: (adj) sparse, scarce
overgrown: (adj) excessive, exorbitant, inordinate, extravagant, monstrous, covered, exaggerated, dropical, lush; (v) turgid, tumid
overhanging: (adj, v) projecting; (v) beetling; (adj) covering, imminent, impending, pendent, obumbrant, hanging over, overspreading, depending, hanging
overpowered: (adj) beaten, conquered, inundated, engulfed, flooded, routed, vanquished, subdued, subjugated, overflowing, mild
overpowering: (adj) overwhelming, oppressive, resistless, compelling, intense, heavy, strong, onerous, devastating, uncontrollable, depressing. ANTONYMS: (adj) light, subtle, imperceptible, insignificant, shallow, weak, faint, bland
overreaching: (n) deceit, overtraining
overshadowing: (adj) consuming, major, overwhelming, uncontrollable, unbearable, intense
oversight: (adj, n, v) omission; (n) control, mistake, lapse, error, direction, management; (adj, n) fault, blunder; (n, v) charge, care
overspread: (v) cover, spread, disseminate, distribute, scatter, diffuse, disperse, broadcast, overlay, mantle, clothe
overthrow: (adj, n, v) defeat, rout; (n) fall, downfall, destruction; (n, v) overpower, ruin, overturn; (adj, v) overcome; (v) bring down, demolish. ANTONYMS: (v) install,

validate, lose, appoint; (n) victory, beginning
overtook: (v) overtake
overwhelmed: (adj) beaten, overpowered, vanquished, dumbfounded, inundated, flooded, overthrown, engulfed, conquered, bewildered; (v) overborne. ANTONYM: (adj) unimpressed
owing: (adj) due, unpaid, unsettled, outstanding, overdue, owed, payable, undischarged, indebted, fulfilling obligation, lawful. ANTONYM: (adj) settled
pabulum: (n) edible, eatable, comestible, aliment, nourishment, victual, stuff, matter, material, hyle, element
pacing: (n) accelerando, andante, allegro, allegretto, pace, walk, tempo, musical time, maneuvering alongside another vessel, cardiac pacing
packing: (n) boxing, package, gasket, bundling, fill, pad, pack, envelopment, wadding, wrap, backpacking
padded: (adj) cushioned, cushiony, fill, corrupt, faint, lengthy, redundant, full
paddle: (n) blade, vane, oar, rowing; (v) dabble, dodder, row, pull, spank, toddle, totter
padlock: (n) bolt, bar, holdfast, rail, rivet, wall, security device, deadbolt, combination lock, closure; (v) secure
pagan: (adj, n) gentile, ethnic, agnostic; (n) idolater, infidel, paynim, heretic; (adj) heathenish, irreligious, ethical, profane
pained: (adj) offended, aggrieved, distressed, displeased, sore, grieved, miserable, injured, wounded, worried, upset. ANTONYM: (adj) unaffected
palazzo: (n) palace
palliative: (adj) mitigatory, alleviatory, alleviative, corrective, mitigative, extenuating, enantiopathic; (n) palliation, relief, justification, mitigating circumstances. ANTONYM: (adj) painful
pallid: (adj) ghastly, wan, bloodless, lurid, cadaverous, sickly, ashen, white, pasty, livid, watery. ANTONYMS: (adj) healthy, rosy, vivid
pallor: (n) pallidness, wanness, complexion, achromasia, lividity, lividness, luridness, pale, skin color, whiteness, sallowness.

ANTONYMS: (n) rosiness, coloration, bloom
palpability: (n) physicalness, feeling, fact, clarity, materiality, palpation, tangibleness, reality, corporeality
palpable: (adj) tangible, obvious, evident, apparent, clear, transparent, indubitable, noticeable, lucid, patent, perceptible.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) imaginary, intangible, impalpable, doubtful, furtive, imperceptible, insignificant, obscure, unclear
palpably: (adv) patently, noticeably, clearly, manifestly, obviously, plainly, transparently, unmistakably, evidently, tangibly, markedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) imperceptibly, insignificantly
palpitate: (n, v) throb, pant, thrill, heave; (v) flutter, pulsate, shiver, shake, quiver, pound, flicker
palpitating: (adj) fluttering, throbbing, aflare, flittering, flying, unsteady, vibrant, flaring
paltry: (adj, n) mean; (adj) contemptible, measly, trifling, abject, insignificant, inconsiderable, puny, little, trivial, low. ANTONYMS: (adj) generous, substantial, plentiful, enormous, important, profound
pamphlet: (n) book, leaflet, booklet, flyer, magazine, treatise, tract, writing, literature, folder, lampoon
pane: (n) window pane, paneling, pane of glass, panelling, windowpane, window-pane, board, square, sheet of glass, leaf, box
panes: (n) Fauni
pangs: (n) anguish, compunction, contrition, distress
panic-stricken: (adj) afraid, hysterical
panorama: (n) view, aspect, prospect, landscape, scene, vista, countryside, background, exposure, perspective, sight
panoramic: (adj) general, wide, broad, periscopic
paradises: (n) paradise
paradoxical: (adj) contradictory, conflicting, ambiguous, illegible, contrary, strange, inconsistent, questionable, ironic; (v) enigmatic, problematical
parallelism: (n) parallel, likeness, similitude, analogy, affinity, similarity, parity, eurythmy, harmony, approximation, conformity
paralyzed: (adj) palsied, crippled, disabled, helpless, torpid, powerless, prostrate, enervated,

dead, impotent, inert
parched: (adj, n) thirsty; (adj) arid, adust, torrid, barren, desiccated, dehydrated, scorched, baked, withered, shriveled. ANTONYMS: (adj) quenched, humid
parchment: (n) vellum, sheepskin, lambskin, diploma, testament, will; (v) foolscap, tablet, table, slate, pillar
parentheses: (n) bracket, brackets
parley: (v) negotiate, converse, confer, consult; (n, v) talk, treat; (n) conversation, interview, colloquy, meeting, consultation
parlor: (n) front room, lounge, sitting room, saloon, salon, parlour, parlors, livingroom, common room, parlours, drawing room
partaking: (n) input, contribution
parterre: (adj) esplanade, estrade; (n) shrubbery, seats, seating, plantation, pinery, pinetum, orchard, ledge, avenue
partiality: (n) favor, fondness, leaning, fancy, favour, predilection, liking, prejudice, favoritism, bias, affection. ANTONYMS: (n) impartiality, fairness, indifference, horror, antipathy
parti-colored: (adj) varicolored, multicolored, dappled, speckled
partisan: (n) backer, champion, friend, bigot, disciple, advocate, adherent, enthusiast; (adj, n) sectarian, partizan; (adj) biased. ANTONYMS: (n) peacekeepers, opponent, rebel, turncoat; (adj) unbiased, nonpartisan, Standard, impartial, fair, disloyal
parvenu: (adj, n) upstart; (adj) mushroom, pretentious; (n) climber, arriviste, skipjack, snob, nouveau riche, vulgarian, nobody, disagreeable person
passionately: (adv) fervently, vehemently, violently, fiercely, eagerly, zealously, fervidly, fierily, enthusiastically, heatedly, stormily. ANTONYMS: (adv) mildly, apathetically, calmly, halfheartedly, impassively, jokingly, gently
pasteboard: (n) card, cardboard, paperboard, board, composition board, entertainment, thin cardboard
pastor: (n) minister, ecclesiastic, cleric, divine, priest, parson, curate, herdsman, churchman, chaplain, celebrant
pastoral: (n) eclogue, idyll, idyl; (adj) clerical, rural, rustic, idyllic, countrified, Arcadian, country,

ministerial
paternal: (adj) parental, agnate, maternal, agnatic, concerned, solicitous, patrimonial, ancestral, fatherlike, racial, fraternal. ANTONYMS: (adj) filial, motherly
pathway: (n) lane, road, path, footpath, course, trail, alley, highway, way, tract, track
patiently: (adv) perseveringly, invalidly, quietly, uncomplainingly, persistently, forbearingly, resignedly, steadily, doggedly, calmly, meekly. ANTONYM: (adv) eagerly
patrimony: (n) birthright, inheritance, legacy, bequest, entail, estate, dower, heirloom, heredity, hereditament, endowment fund
patronymic: (adj) patronymical; (n) surname
paved: (adj) cobbled
peaceable: (adj) gentle, calm, pacific, amicable, quiet, friendly, inoffensive, moderate, meek, serene; (adj, v) peaceful. ANTONYMS: (adj) argumentative, belligerent, intemperate, quarrelsome, crooked, disruptive, harsh, disordered
peal: (n) ding, noise, clang, dingdong, blast; (v) chime, knell, toll, echo; (adj, n) swell; (n, v) bang
pearly: (adj) fair, iridescent, leaden, livid, drab, milky, dingy, dun, creamy, roan; (n) chopper
peasantry: (n) farmers
pebble: (n) boulder, crystal, flint, rock, scree, cobblestone, calculus, crag, granite, pebblestone; (adj) quartz
pebbles: (n) shingle, grit, gravel, stones
pectoral: (adj) thoracic; (n) musculus pectoralis, pecs, petto, pectoral medallion, adornment, pectoral muscle, musculus pectoralis minor, musculus pectoralis major, greater pectoral muscle, pectoralis
peculiarity: (n) idiosyncrasy, distinction, particularity, oddness, eccentricity, distinctiveness, abnormality, characteristic, attribute, difference, individuality. ANTONYM: (n) similarity
peculiarly: (adj, adv) particularly, curiously, unusually, uncommonly, singularly; (adv) especially, oddly, strangely, specifically, weirdly, specially. ANTONYMS: (adv) typically, ordinarily, slightly
pecuniary: (adj) financial, fiscal, commercial, economic, nummulary,

- sumptuary, numismatical, pecunial, crumena
- pedestrian:** (adj) humdrum, ordinary, earthbound, banal, trite, tedious, hackneyed, prosaic, dull; (n) walker, footer. ANTONYMS: (adj) exciting, inspired, excellent, exceptional, inspiring, original; (n) driver
- peering:** (adj) nosy, prying, snoopy
- peevish:** (adj) fretful, fractious, morose, testy, irascible, moody, capitious, petulant, cross, cantankerous, touchy
- pendant:** (n) chandelier, counterpart, locket, match, lavalier, lustre, appendage, sister; (adj) hanging, suspended, dangling
- pendent:** (adj) pendulous, suspended, pendant, dangling, pending, unsettled, undecided, pensile, drooping, projecting; (n) stipend
- pendulous:** (adj) drooping, hanging, cernuous, droopy, nodding, flagging, swinging, pensile, flabby, wavering, unstable
- pendulum:** (n) metronome, horologe, gnomon, dial, setup, pendant, clepsydra, weight; (v) flap, skirt, pony tail
- penetrate:** (v) bore, imbue, fathom, infiltrate, pierce, permeate, cut, filter, interpenetrate, get through, enter
- penetrating:** (adj) astute, sharp, cutting, discerning, incisive, piercing, perceptive, discriminating, trenchant; (adj, v) biting, acute. ANTONYMS: (adj) mild, soft, mellow, low, gentle, dull, dense
- perceiving:** (n) feeling, sensing, hearing, looking at, recognition, thought, vision, lipreading; (adj) conscious, percipient, reasonable
- perceptible:** (adj) conspicuous, appreciable, evident, discernible, obvious, visible, palpable, apparent, detectable, manifest, observable. ANTONYMS: (adj) intangible, unclear, inaudible, inconspicuous, obscure, undetectable, invisible
- perceptibly:** (adv) discernibly, apparently, appreciably, manifestly, clearly, sensibly, markedly, conspicuously, recognizably, really, patently. ANTONYMS: (adv) inaudibly, invisibly
- peremptorily:** (adv) absolutely, positively, imperatively, flatly, dogmatically, magisterially, commandingly, imperiously, authoritatively, decidedly,
- decisively
- perennial:** (adj) lasting, eternal, continual, constant, abiding, durable, perpetual, permanent, enduring, ceaseless; (adj, v) evergreen. ANTONYMS: (adj) biennial, occasional
- perfected:** (adj) consummate, elaborate, mellow, mature, ripe, fulfilled, done, formed; (v) completed, consummated, excessive
- perforce:** (n) on compulsion; (adv) needs
- perfume:** (n, v) scent, essence, odor, smell; (n) aroma, bouquet, cologne, incense, odour; (v) embalm, aromatize. ANTONYMS: (n) stink, stench
- peril:** (n, v) hazard, risk, endanger, menace, adventure; (n) danger, jeopardy, chance; (v) imperil, expose, compromise. ANTONYM: (n) security
- perilous:** (adj, v) dangerous, hazardous; (adj) insecure, unsafe, parlous, precarious, risky, treacherous, dicey, critical, dodgy. ANTONYM: (adj) secure
- periodical:** (n) journal, magazine, newspaper, review, organ, publication, book; (adj) intermittent, cyclic, recurrent, annual
- perish:** (v) expire, pass away, de cease, go, fade, decay, depart, fall, pass, ruin, annihilate. ANTONYMS: (v) survive, live, appear
- perished:** (adj) decayed, emperished, rotting, annihilated, fallen, lost, moldy, nonexistent, putrefied, dead, decomposed
- permeation:** (n) interpenetration, penetration, pervasion, diffusion, saturation, infiltration, percolation, mutual penetration, intensity, hydraulic conductivity, fertilization
- pernicious:** (adj) detrimental, evil, bad, injurious, fatal, noxious, deadly, baneful, mischievous, mortal, malign. ANTONYMS: (adj) favorable, pleasant, harmless
- perpendicular:** (adj) upright, vertical, steep, plumb, straight, right, sheer, orthogonal, normal, precipitous, true. ANTONYMS: (adj) horizontal, parallel, inclined, oblique, prone, gentle
- perpendicularly:** (adv) uprightly, erectly, straightly, upright, orthogonally, sheerly, precipitously, normally, plumb; (adv, v) sheer; (adj, adv) directly
- perpetrate:** (v) do, act, perform,
- make, execute, carry out, draw, give, enact, put, institutionalize
- perpetual:** (adj) incessant, continual, constant, endless, eternal, everlasting, lasting, ceaseless, immortal, continuous, perennial. ANTONYMS: (adj) temporary, intermittent, transitory, mortal, unstable, finite, inconstant, occasional, sporadic
- perpetually:** (adv) eternally, everlastingly, always, incessantly, continually, endlessly, permanently, unceasingly, ceaselessly, ever; (adj, adv) forever. ANTONYMS: (adv) erratically, sporadically
- perplexed:** (adj) confused, puzzled, baffled, confounded, doubtful, distracted, disconcerted; (adj, v) intricate, complicated, lost, involved. ANTONYMS: (adj) unperplexed, assured, clear, knowing
- perplexity:** (n) confusion, dilemma, bewilderment, maze, labyrinth, embarrassment, quandary, complication, enigma; (adj, n) difficulty, distress. ANTONYM: (n) understanding
- perseverance:** (n) endurance, tenacity, resolution, constancy, fortitude, assiduity, industry, doggedness, firmness, persistence, determination. ANTONYMS: (n) vacillation, cowardice, indecision, indifference
- persevering:** (adj) diligent, firm, determined, constant, resolute, dogged, persistent, tenacious, steadfast, industrious, insistent. ANTONYM: (adj) irresolute
- perseveringly:** (adv) patiently, doggedly, tenaciously, persistently, determinedly, constantly, resolutely, steadily, insistently, busily, stubbornly
- persist:** (v) persevere, go on, endure, insist, maintain, remain, linger, follow; (n, v) last, abide, hold. ANTONYMS: (v) abandon, desist, cease
- personage:** (n) person, notable, celebrity, personality, individual, bigwig, figure, somebody, human, character, being
- perspicacity:** (n) intelligence, judgment, insight, discrimination, astuteness, judgement, discernment, shrewdness, perception, wisdom; (adj) penetration. ANTONYMS: (n) stupidity, dullness
- perspiration:** (n) diaphoresis,

- hidrosis, sudor, sweating, extravasation, secretion, exertion, exudation, effort, lather, water
- persuasion:** (n) belief, opinion, faith, inducement, creed, idea, exhortation, enticement, view, sentiment; (adj, n) conviction. ANTONYMS: (n) force, punishment, dissuasion
- pertinaciously:** (adv) stubbornly, unyieldingly, firmly, tenaciously, obstinately, doggedly, headstrongly, stiffly, contumaciously, dourly
- pertinacity:** (n) persistence, persistency, doggedness, obstinacy, tenacity, contumacy, pertinacy, purpose, endurance, firmness, constancy
- perturbed:** (adj) disturbed, agitated, hot and bothered, confused, uneasy, concerned, worried, unsettled, troubled, upset, distraught. ANTONYMS: (adj) untroubled, relaxed
- perusal:** (n) examination, scrutiny, study, survey, inspection, poring over, studying, literary scholarship, perusing, lection, look
- pervading:** (adj) penetrating, general, profound, permeating, permeant, overmastering, lowly, deeply felt, intellectually deep, deep, almighty
- perverse:** (adj) fractious, obstinate, obdurate, bad, corrupt, headstrong, disobedient, intractable, willful, sinister, wayward. ANTONYMS: (adj) wholesome, obliging, agreeable, accommodating, malleable, good
- perverseness:** (n) perversity, cussedness, unruliness, wilfulness, willfulness, contumacy, obliquity, degeneracy, depravity, deliberate unruliness, crotchettiness
- perversion:** (n) misrepresentation, falsification, corruption, depravity, misuse, casuistry, vice, buggery; (adj) declension, hardening, backsliding
- perversity:** (n) perverseness, cussedness, evil, perversion, willfulness, unruliness, corruption, wilfulness, depravity; (adj) contumacy, spinosity
- pest:** (adj, n) bore, plague, bother; (n) blight, nuisance, gadfly, annoyance, epidemic, pain, tormentor, scourge. ANTONYM: (n) pleasure
- pestilence:** (n) pest, epidemic, blight, disease, curse, infectious disease, contagion, infection, virus; (adj) murrain, pox
- pestilent:** (adj) mortal, deathly, pernicious, deadly, baneful, fatal, harmful, noxious, pestiferous, plaguey, bothersome. ANTONYM: (adj) delightful
- petulance:** (n) touchiness, testiness, tetchiness, crossness, choler, fretfulness, peevishness, temper, acerbity; (adj) petulant, flippancy
- petulant:** (adj) irritable, peevish, cross, testy, irascible, cranky, fractious, fretful, pettish, touchy, choleric. ANTONYMS: (adj) easygoing, amiable, calm, affable, cheerful
- petulantly:** (adv) testily, impatiently, sulkily, querulously, pettishly, irritably, snappishly, morosely, tetchily, crossly, sullenly. ANTONYMS: (adv) calmly, lightly
- phantasm:** (n) apparition, ghost, illusion, phantom, spirit, vision, delusion, hallucination, eidolon, specter, fancy
- phantasma:** (n, v) phantom; (n) apparition
- phantasmagoric:** (adj) dreamlike, dreamy, phantasmagorical, phantasmagorical, surreal, surrealist
- phantom:** (n, v) apparition, phantasm, vision, phantasma; (n) spectre, specter, appearance, shade, shadow, wraith, spirit
- phosphoric:** (adj) phosphorous, phosphorical
- phraseology:** (n) language, expression, phrasing, wording, idiom, vernacular, dialect, choice of words, terminology, locution; (n, v) style
- phrenology:** (n) organoscopy, life science, pneumatology
- phthisis:** (n) pulmonary tuberculosis, marasmus; (adj) pertussis, necrosis, ringworm, quinsy, pneumonia, psora, pyrosis, rachitis, rubeola
- physician:** (n) doctor, medico, doc, medic, quack, surgeon, leech, houseman, MD, allergist, intern
- physique:** (n) figure, form, constitution, shape, body, habitus, frame, person, size, appearance; (adj, n) muscle
- piazza:** (n) plaza, square, mall, circus, cloister, arcade, court, crescent, porch, space, veranda
- pictorial:** (adj) picturesque, illustrative, graphical, vivid, photographic, lifelike, pictural, figurative, descriptive, artistic, scenic
- piercing:** (adj, n) sharp, cutting; (adj, v) keen, penetrating, biting, bitter, harsh, shrill; (adj) high, raw, loud. ANTONYMS: (adj) quiet, dull, soft, hot
- pilau:** (n) pilaff, pilaw, bulgur pilaf, dish
- piled:** (adj) heaped, dense, aggregate, collective, concentrated, cumulous
- pinch:** (n, v) nip, arrest, twinge, squeeze; (n) emergency, crisis, exigency; (v) compress, lift, wring, constrict
- pinched:** (adj) haggard, drawn, emaciated, cadaverous, narrow, penurious, thin, penniless, adenoidal; (adj, n) necessitous; (n) distressed. ANTONYM: (adj) relaxed
- pinion:** (v) fetter, bind, shackle, restrain, halter, gag; (n) pennon, quill, wing, irons; (adj) tie
- pinions:** (n) restraint
- pinnacle:** (n) apex, top, height, crest, zenith, crown, summit, acme, heyday, climax, culmination. ANTONYMS: (n) nadir, base, bottom, trough
- pious:** (adj, n, v) devout; (adj, n) godly; (adj) religious, holy, saintly, devotional, pure, hypocritical, devoted, sanctimonious; (adj, v) earnest. ANTONYMS: (adj) impious, sinful, profane, blasphemous, irreligious, uncommitted, secular, irreverent
- piquancy:** (n) pungency, zest, tang, flavour, spice, nip, taste, galvanism, flavor, bite; (adj) antithesis
- pique:** (v) nettle, insult, outrage, irritate, fret; (n) grudge, annoyance, umbrage, irritation; (n, v) anger, spite
- pistol:** (n) firearm, gun, gat, revolver, rod, Captain Bobadil, derringer, spray gun, shooter, drawcansir, Thraso
- pitcher:** (n) jar, ewer, mug, pot, hurler, creamer, container, pail, bucket, flagon, tankard
- pitchy:** (adj) tarry, dusky, dark, fuliginous, jet, murky, obscure, pitch dark, inky, black, achromatic
- pitiable:** (adj) forlorn, abject, pathetic, miserable, pitiful, wretched, lamentable, poor, squalid; (adj, v) deplorable, mournful. ANTONYMS: (adj) privileged, strong
- pitiful:** (adj, n) abject; (adj) pathetic, lamentable, piteous, contemptible, miserable, distressing, mean, wretched, poor, sad. ANTONYMS:

- (adj) generous, heartwarming, admirable, cheerful, fine, happy, impressive
- placid:** (adj) calm, composed, easygoing, equable, gentle, quiet, pacific, tranquil, cool, peaceable; (adj, v) peaceful. ANTONYMS: (adj) rough, energetic, stormy, frenetic, excitable, agitated, unstable, bothered, harsh, boisterous
- placidly:** (adv) coolly, calmly, tranquilly, peacefully, stilly, quietly, composedly, silently, meekly, impassively, collectedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) agitatedly, boisterously
- plague:** (v) molest, harass, afflict, hassle, annoy, badger, pester, disturb, beleague; (n, v) worry; (adj, n, v) bother. ANTONYM: (v) comfort
- plank:** (n) timber, beam, slat, girder, panel, parachute, matchboard, footbridge, hardboard; (v) flump; (n, v) planch
- plastered:** (adj) drunk, tight, intoxicated, pixedated, loaded, soaked, sloshed, smashed, wet, inebriated, pissed
- plastering:** (n) daubing, coating, partering, rendering, stucco, coat, plasterwork, application, covering, parterting
- plateau:** (n) table, highland, tableland, mesa, parterre, ledge, Ardenness, esplanade, estrade; (adj) table land
- platter:** (n) disk, record, disc, tray, trencher, phonograph record, phonograph recording, porringer, potager; (adj) table, tablet
- playmate:** (n) friend, chum, companion, associate, fellow, partner, comrade, pal, buddy, mate, familiar
- plaything:** (n) bauble, trifle, gewgaw, cockhorse, doll, dollhouse, dolly, playhouse, hobby, hobbyhorse, kaleidoscope
- pleasantly:** (adv) pleasingly, nicely, cheerily, enjoyably, agreeably, delightfully, sunnily, genially, gratifyingly, kindly; (adv, v) happily. ANTONYMS: (adv) disagreeably, offensively, awfully, discordantly, dreadfully, shockingly, unkindly, irritably, harshly, curtly, nastily
- pleasing:** (adj, n) acceptable; (adj) amiable, lovable, amusing, attractive, gratifying, lovely, pleasant, charming, delightful, inviting. ANTONYMS: (adj) unpleasant, unwelcome, infuriating, disappointing, straight, hurtful, maddening, displeasing, discordant, harsh, frustrating
- pleasurable:** (adj, v) pleasant; (adj) enjoyable, delectable, delightful, entertaining, nice, gratifying, merry, agreeable, lovely, joyful. ANTONYMS: (adj) boring, disagreeable, dull, miserable
- plebeian:** (adj) low, vulgar, ignoble, humble, coarse, mean; (n) pleb, commoner; (adj, n) proletarian; (adj, v) ordinary, general. ANTONYMS: (adj) cultivated, proletarian, patrician, refined; (n) aristocrat, noble
- pledge:** (n, v) bond, gage, wager, engage, promise, plight, guarantee, bet, contract; (n) assurance; (v) covenant. ANTONYM: (v) redeem
- plentitude:** (n) plenty, fullness, plentitude, abundance, lot, opulence, amplitude, exuberance, luxuriance, glut, luxury
- plentifulness:** (n) copiousness, plenitude, plenteousness, abundance, profusion, inexhaustibleness, lashings, lot, lushness, luxuriance, luxury
- plotting:** (n) machinations, intrigues, evaluation; (adj) scheming, perfidious, sly, treacherous, deep, insidious, false, faithless
- plumage:** (n) feather, plume, feathering, quill, aftershaft, alula, marabou, finery, animal material; (adj) plumosity, alular
- plume:** (n) feather, plumage, quill, panache, aigrette, crest, feathering; (v) pride, pluck, dress, preen
- plumed:** (adj) plumate, crested, emplumed, plummy, plumose, decorated, flying, feathery
- plunge:** (n, v) drop, dive, fall, jump; (v) douse, duck, submerge, crash, dunk, plummet; (adj, v) immerse. ANTONYMS: (n, v) rise; (v) hesitate; (n) improvement
- plunging:** (adv) diving, headlong, pitching, headfirst; (adj) precipitous, low, plummeting; (n) descent
- plural:** (adj) upwards of, several, certain
- pluto:** (n) netherworld, infernal region, hell, Hel, solar system, Hades, aides, Aidoneus, Erebus
- pocketing:** (n) pilfering, pinching, robbery, shoplifting, theft, thieving, burglary
- poetical:** (adj) imaginative, rhetorical, poetic, figurative, inventive
- poignancy:** (n) pathos, acuity, acerbity, poignance, mordacity, acuteness, acrimony, sorrow, sorrowfulness, quality, keenness
- poisoned:** (adj, v) tainted; (v) peccant, morbid, tabid; (adj) venenate, made virulent, rabid, resentful, sour, mangy, leprous
- poisonous:** (adj) toxic, mortal, venomous, noxious, malicious, fatal, baneful, poison, lethal, viperous, mephitic. ANTONYMS: (adj) harmless, benevolent, edible, kindhearted
- politic:** (adj, v) tactful; (adj) discreet, judicious, circumspect, shrewd, prudent, suave, calculating, tricky, cute, chary. ANTONYMS: (adj) injudicious, unwise, impolitic, foolish
- pomegranate:** (n) fruit tree, edible fruit, pomegranate tree
- pomp:** (n) grandeur, parade, ostentation, show, ceremony, glory, luxury, pageantry, magnificence, state, splendor. ANTONYMS: (n) understatement, modesty
- ponder:** (v) meditate, consider, cogitate, deliberate, think, reflect, conceive, mull, mull over; (n, v) muse, study. ANTONYMS: (v) decide, wander, ignore
- pondering:** (adj) pensive, musing, meditative, contemplative, thoughtful, reflective; (n) consideration, deliberation, cogitation, reflection, lucubration
- ponderous:** (adj) heavy, grave, onerous, burdensome, massive, unwieldy, bulky, stodgy, hard, tedious, dull. ANTONYMS: (adj) elegant, graceful, lively, brisk, manageable
- poop:** (n) ninny, stern, nincompoop, feces, quarter, dope, dirt, inside information, after part; (n, v) shit; (v) fatigue
- poplar:** (n) poplar tree, abele, cottonwood, hackmatack, wood, white poplar, angiospermous tree, gray poplar, flowering tree, black poplar, balsam poplar
- populace:** (n) multitude, masses, inhabitants, public, commonalty, mob, crowd, population, nation, man, country
- populous:** (adj) multitudinous, crowded, densely populated, multiple, thick, inhabited, numerous, manifold, multiplied; (adj, v) teeming; (v) closely packed.

ANTONYM: (adj) uninhabited
pore: (n) stoma, interstice, emunctory, gully hole; (v) speculate, meditate, contemplate, concentrate, centre, engulf, engross
pores: (n) voids
porous: (adj) leaky, poriferous, holey, pervious, open, spongy, honeycombed, absorbent, cellular, perforated; (v) riddled.
 ANTONYMS: (adj) impermeable, watertight, nonporous
portal: (n) gate, door, mouth, gateway, porch, entry, entrance, inlet, portals, entree, lips
portraiture: (n) depiction, description, delineation, picture, characterization, likeness, portrayal, imagery, representation; (v) genre, high art
portray: (v) picture, depict, describe, delineate, draw, illustrate, impersonate, characterize, interpret, play, limn
possessing: (adj) fruitive
possessor: (n) owner, holder, proprietor, householder, occupant, landowner, landholder, proprietary, somebody, someone, soul
postpone: (v) defer, delay, adjourn, procrastinate, put off, suspend, hold over, remit, shelve; (adj, v) retard, waive. ANTONYMS: (v) advance, continue
posture: (n) attitude, condition, stance, deportment, aspect, circumstance, manner, figure, mien; (n, v) pose, place
potency: (n) force, might, efficacy, effectiveness, strength, ability, power, energy, intensity, potence, vigor. ANTONYMS: (n) powerlessness, weakness
powdered: (adj) powdery, fine, crushed, milled, ground, broken up, finer, minced, pulverised; (n) punctated, milk
powerfulness: (n) effectiveness, interestingness, jurisdiction, effectuality, effectualness, power, might, mightiness, efficacy, effectivity, alchemy
praenomen: (n) agnomen, given name, prenomen, first name, forename
prairie: (n) meadow, lea, grassland, field, savanna, steppe, heath, bush, jungle, desert, pampas
precaution: (n) foresight, care, prevention, discretion, anticipation, caution, circumspection, prudence, safeguard, protection; (adj)

precautionary
precincts: (n) entourage, arena, outskirts, neighbourhood, walk, neighborhood, proximity, surroundings, vicinity, limitations, suburbs
precipice: (n) abyss, chasm, escarpment, gulf, steep, crag, verge, brink, abysm, ravine, drop
precipitancy: (n) haste, temerity, hastiness, rashness, hurriedness, abruptness, indiscretion, inconsideration, precipitation, brusqueness; (adj, n) precipitousness
precipitate: (adj, n) hasty; (adj, n, v) deposit; (adj) impetuous, headlong, sudden, immediate, instant, precipitant; (n, v) accelerate, expedite; (v) hurry. ANTONYMS: (adj) overdue, cautious, protracted; (v) retard
precipitating: (adj) down
precipitous: (adj) abrupt, sharp, precipitate, perpendicular, sheer, headlong, hasty, sudden, precipitant; (adj, v) steep, high. ANTONYM: (adj) flat
precluded: (adj) not allowed
preconceived: (v) prepense, aforethought
preconcert: (v) preestablish; (n) preconcertion
predisposing: (adj) procatactic, initial, disposing beforehand, beginning, predisponent
predominant: (adj) paramount, chief, overriding, prevailing, main, supreme, ruling, sovereign, principal; (adj, v) prevalent, regnant. ANTONYMS: (adj) minor, subsidiary, peripheral, sparse
pre-eminent: (adj) prominent, outstanding, notable, transcendent, remarkable, eminent, famous, principal, utmost, uppermost, unequaled
prefect: (n) chief, proconsul, provost, syndic, governor, warden, archon, administrator, lieutenant; (v) disclose, further
premise: (n, v) premiss; (n) hypothesis, presumption, supposition, theory, grounds, thesis; (v) postulate, preface, introduce, state
preparatory: (adj, v) preparative; (adj) introductory, preceding, propaedeutic, prefatory, initial, precedent, opening, antecedent; (n) preparation, prior. ANTONYM: (adj) final
prescriptive: (adj) customary,

immemorial, accustomed, traditional; (v) presumptive
preserver: (n) defender, protector, custodian, conservative, keeper, conservator, savior, patron, restorer, flotation device; (adj) third person
preserving: (n) conservation, preservation, protection, conservancy, embalmment, fixation; (adj) saving, frugal, economical, protective, thrifty
presumable: (adj) likely, specious, credible, apparent, probable, thinkable, ben trovato, easy of belief, colorable, ostensible, supposed
presume: (v) dare, consider, believe, think, infer, guess, expect, esteem, conclude, suppose, conjecture. ANTONYMS: (v) appreciate, despair, speculate
presumed: (adj) supposed, reputed, putative, understood, alleged, probable, theoretical
pretence: (n) deceit, pretext, dissimulation, pretense, affectation, falsehood, deception, hypocrisy, bluff, appearance, pretension
pretended: (adj, v) sham, mock, counterfeit, pseudo, spurious; (adj) assumed, fake, feigned, fictitious, bogus, affected
pretensions: (n) airs, affected manner, mannerism
preternatural: (adj) unearthly, occult, outlandish, miraculous, uncanny, transcendental, extraordinary, abnormal, weird, nonnatural, otherworldly
prevalent: (adj, v) prevailing; (adj) predominant, general, common, popular, preponderant, rife, extensive, dominant, epidemic; (adj, n) current. ANTONYMS: (adj) rare, uncommon, sparse, limited
prickling: (n) itch, somesthesia, somesthesia, somesthesia, pins and needles, itching, itchiness, feeling, frisson; (adj, n) tingling; (adj) painful
priesthood: (n) ministry, apostleship, clericals, profession, the desk, the cloth, church government, clerical, community, hierarchy, presbytery
primeval: (adj) primitive, ancient, primordial, aboriginal, primal, original, primary, first, primeval, prehistoric, antediluvian. ANTONYMS: (adj) modern, contemporary, factual
princely: (adj, v) August, grand, great, lordly, dignified, stately; (adj) generous, munificent, majestic,

- magnificent, gorgeous. ANTONYM: (adj) ungenerous
- principia**: (n) principle
- probing**: (n) probe, inquiry, investigation, research, test, enquiry; (adj) inquisitive, inquisitory, inquiring, quizzical, shrewd. ANTONYM: (adj) apathetic
- proceeding**: (n) matter, transaction, affair, procedure, lawsuit, proceedings; (v) deed, act; (n, v) measure; (adv, n) happening; (adj, adv, v) going on
- procrustean**: (adj) rigid, canonical, positive, orthodox, uncompromising, strict
- procuring**: (v) procure
- prodigious**: (adj) gigantic, enormous, huge, phenomenal, portentous, stupendous, exceptional, colossal, immense, gargantuan; (adj, v) monstrous. ANTONYMS: (adj) unexceptional, normal, average, tiny, weak
- profanation**: (n) blasphemy, sacrilege, violation, outrage, abuse, prostitution, curse, pollution, violence, dissent; (adj) profanity
- profanity**: (n) blasphemy, oath, irreverence, obscenity, swearing, profanation, sacrilege, swear word, expletive, disrespect, utterance. ANTONYM: (n) purity
- professed**: (adj) alleged, declared, apparent, avowed, pretended, seeming, supposed, affected, feigned, so-called, purported
- profligacy**: (n) debauchery, dissipation, licentiousness, prodigality, dissolution, depravity, debauch, corruption, improbvidence, dissoluteness, vice. ANTONYMS: (n) economy, decency, parsimony
- profundity**: (n) deepness, profoundness, abstruseness, penetration, wisdom, obscurity, astuteness, abstrusity, erudition; (adj) profound, extensive. ANTONYMS: (n) superficiality, banality, flippancy, height, mildness, simplicity
- profuse**: (adj, n) generous, liberal; (adj) plentiful, ample, copious, lavish, bounteous, exuberant, excessive, full, prodigal. ANTONYMS: (adj) sparse, meager, thin, scanty, restrained, unhealthy, small
- profusely**: (adv) lavishly, copiously, extravagantly, bountifully, generously, plentifully, galore, prodigally, richly, excessively, amply. ANTONYMS: (adv) meagerly, stingily, thinly
- profuseness**: (n) abundance, copiousness, exuberance, greenness, nimety, overgrowth, cornucopia, much, mellowness, lavishness, fullness
- profusion**: (n) opulence, abundance, prodigality, plenty, excess, cornucopia, plenitude, profuseness, copiousness, exuberance; (adj) amplitude. ANTONYMS: (n) insufficiency, scarcity
- prognostic**: (n, v) omen; (n) portent, foreboding, auspice, indication, sign, forerunner, bodement, auspices; (adj) predictive; (v) augury
- projecting**: (adj) projected, protruding, jutting, protrusive, pendent; (adj, v) overhanging, jutting over, salient; (v) beetling, protuberant, convex
- prolix**: (adj) diffuse, lengthy, wordy, garrulous, copious, protracted, windy, talkative, redundant, long, ponderous
- prolixity**: (n) verbosity, verbiage, flatulence, prolixness, verbalization, lengthiness, verboseness, diffuseness, copiousness, length, circumlocution. ANTONYM: (n) conciseness
- promiscuously**: (adv) licentiously, miscellaneously, randomly, wantonly, mixedly, loosely, indiscriminatingly, confusedly, sluttishly, every which way, arbitrarily
- promontory**: (n) cape, headland, mull, point, ness, head, bluff, foreland, projection, peninsula, cliff
- promulgate**: (v) advertise, circulate, announce, notify, divulge, declare, propagate, enunciate, annunciate, herald, issue
- promulgation**: (n) announcement, proclamation, annunciation, publication, declaration, dissemination, pronouncement, issue, advertisement, spread, circulation
- proneness**: (n) predisposition, proclivity, inclination, disposition, bent, tendency, propensity, propension, predilection, aptitude, propensity
- pronounce**: (v) articulate, declare, affirm, say, assert, express, vocalize, proclaim; (n, v) allege; (adj, v) deliver, utter. ANTONYM: (v) mumble
- propensity**: (n) proclivity, leaning, disposition, bias, bent, aptitude, aptness, proneness, predisposition, predilection, penchant. ANTONYM: (n) inability
- prophet**: (n) augur, oracle, vaticinator, seer, predictor, diviner, forecaster, visionary, foreteller, priest, clairvoyant
- proportionate**: (adj, v) proportional; (adj) proportionable, equal, harmonious, comparable, balanced, sufficient, relative, appropriate, adequate, equitable. ANTONYM: (adj) disproportionate
- propped**: (adj) fulcrate
- proprieties**: (n) custom
- propriety**: (adj, n) decency, modesty, correctness, aptitude; (n) decorum, fitness, etiquette, civility, grace, politeness, manners. ANTONYMS: (n) impropriety, rudeness, unsuitableness, indecorum, decadence, tactlessness, corruption, vulgarity, indecency
- prospectively**: (adv) potentially, expectedly, futurely, impendingly, intendedly, imminently, comingly, in future, hereafter
- prostrate**: (adj, v) prone, exhaust, level, fatigue; (v) fell, overwhelm, overcome, floor, overthrow; (adj) deject, knock down. ANTONYM: (adj) upright
- protracted**: (adj, v) extended, lingering, continued; (adj) prolonged, lengthy, extensive, prolix, chronic, lengthened, slow, spun out. ANTONYMS: (adj) brief, abrupt, short, concise, easy
- protruded**: (adj) extant, outstanding
- protuberance**: (n) prominence, bulge, swelling, bump, hump, lump, nub, node, knob, protrusion, jut
- proverb**: (n) adage, byword, aphorism, dictum, saying, axiom, parable, motto, expression; (n, v) maxim, saw
- providence**: (n) forethought, fortune, fate, discretion, God, destiny, care, economy, caution, precaution, chance. ANTONYM: (n) improvidence
- provokingly**: (adv) annoyingly, maddeningly, exasperatingly, irritatingly, aggravatingly, gallingly, vexatiously
- prow**: (n) bow, stem, fore, beak, nose, obeisance, forepart, curtain call, bowknot, bowing, arc
- ptolemey**: (n) Claudius Ptolemaeus
- puff**: (adj, n, v) gasp; (n, v) blow, whiff, gust, drag; (v) boast, inflate,

huff, heave, brag, distend
puffed: (adj) puff, bloated, distended, puffy, tumid, turgid, swell, breathless, bepudded, overflowing, out of breath
pulpit: (n) platform, dais, ambo, lectern, hustings, stump, rostrum, forum, desk, stand, state
pulsation: (n) pulse, beat, pounding, impulse, heartbeat, throb, tremor, pulsing, palpitation, throbbing, beating
punctuality: (n) accuracy, precision, nicety, exactitude, truth, fidelity, exactness, promptitude, steadiness; (adj) rigor, mathematical precision. ANTONYM: (n) tardiness
pungent: (adj, n) bitter; (adj) hot, peppery, acid, acrid, biting, penetrating, caustic; (adj, v) poignant, keen, brisk. ANTONYMS: (adj) bland, sweet, faint, odorless
pungently: (adv) spicily, piquantly, strongly, biting, tartly, acridly, racily, poignantly, incisively, stinging, sourly
punish: (v) amerce, discipline, castigate, chasten, chastise, penalize, strike, avenge, pay, beat, execute. ANTONYMS: (v) excuse, exonerate, pardon, reward, commend
purloined: (adj) taken
purplish: (adj) majestic, violet, chromatic, imperial, embellished, empurpled
purposeless: (adj) meaningless, senseless, useless, driftless, empty, random, objectless, nonsensical, designless; (adj, adv) aimless, directionless. ANTONYM: (adj) meaningful
pursuance: (n) prosecution, execution, pursuit, implementation, fulfillment, achievement, search, quest, fulfillment, exercise, chase
pursuer: (n) follower, plaintiff, petitioner, persecutor, hunter, disciple, accuser, prosecutor, attendant, beau, driver
purulent: (adj) pussy, infected, pyogenic, mattery, septic, suppurative, peccant, foul, rotten, fetid, dirty
putridity: (n) decomposition, putridness, putrescence, filth, rot, putrefaction, depravity, rottenness, corruption, impureness, impurity
pyramids: (n) billiards, pingpong, pool, bagatelle, jackstones, pushball, hopscotch
quack: (n) fraud, fake, cheat, mountebank, empiric, physician,

doctor, charlatan, medicaster; (v) cackle; (n, v) cry
quackery: (n, v) charlatanism; (n) knavery, imposture, charlatanry, quackeries, hypocrisy, empiricism, mountebankery, trickery; (v) shallow profundity, crocodile tears
quaint: (adj) odd, funny, picturesque, comical, fanciful, curious, whimsical, strange, queer, peculiar, droll. ANTONYMS: (adj) modern, ordinary, dull
quarto: (n) folio, size, quart, book, octavo
quatrain: (n) distich, couplet, canto, line, heroic stanza, elegiac stanza, verse, triplet
quaver: (n, v) quiver, quake, shake, shudder, shiver, tremble; (n) tremor, eighth note; (v) warble, flutter, flicker
quicken: (adj) hasty, rapid, passionate, intoxicated
quickness: (n) celerity, expedition, promptness, alacrity, agility, speed, dispatch, dexterity, fleetness, hurry, readiness. ANTONYMS: (n) awkwardness, delay, ineptness
quiescence: (n) still, calm, abeyance, inaction, ease, inactivity, rest, quiescency, estivation, hibernation, calmness
quieted: (adj) composed
quietude: (n) quietness, calmness, peace, composure, placidity, tranquility, repose, serenity, tranquillity, hush, silence
quintessence: (n) heart, epitome, marrow, gist, core, model, paragon, archetype, nub, substance, soul
quits: (n) quit, par, even, equal, abandon, leave, quittance, a wash
quitting: (n) departure, resignation
quiver: (adj, n, v) shudder, shiver, tremble, shake; (v) flicker, flutter, vibrate; (n, v) palpitate, quaver; (n) vibration, tremor
quivering: (adj, n) trembling, tremor, quaking, trepidation; (n) palpitation, quiver, vibration; (adj) flutter, quavering, shivering, tremulous. ANTONYM: (adj) steady
quoting: (n) citation
rabble: (n) crowd, masses, trash, herd, canaille, people, rout, ragtag, horde, gang, riffraff
rabid: (adj) mad, fanatical, fanatic, enthusiastic, frantic, insane, frenzied, extreme; (v) fierce, fiery; (adj, v) wild. ANTONYMS: (adj) happy, moderate
raconteur: (n) conversationalist,

storyteller, anecdotist, talker, teller, relator, chatterbox, communicator, gossip, historian, orator
radiance: (n) gleam, glory, brilliance, luster, lustre, beam, brightness, effulgence, sparkle, light; (adj, n) brilliancy. ANTONYMS: (n) darkness, gloominess
radiant: (adj, v) bright, glittering, lustrous, beamy, glorious; (adj) beaming, luminous, effulgent, lucid, glowing, beautiful. ANTONYMS: (adj) gloomy, dark, pale, unhappy
radiantly: (adv) effulgently, brightly, beamingly, luminously, refulgently, shiningly, lucidly, sparklingly, sunnily, beautifully, lustrously
radicalness: (n) origination, germinal principle
raiment: (n, v) dress, garb, apparel, garment, clothes; (n) costume, attire, clothing, array, habit; (v) clothe
ramble: (n, v) journey, stroll, saunter, wander, roam, meander, excursion, hike, tramp, walk, promenade. ANTONYM: (v) settle
rambling: (adj) disjointed, incoherent, desultory, discursive, erratic, excursive, meandering, diffuse, loose, errant; (adj, n) wandering. ANTONYMS: (adj) coherent, abrupt, conclusive, pithy, taciturn, compact
rampant: (adj, v) rife; (adj) wild, raging, luxuriant, unchecked, prevailing, rank, boisterous, exuberant, furious, irrepressible. ANTONYMS: (adj) contained, controlled, mild, rare, sparse
rampart: (n) wall, fortification, earthwork, guard, embankment, barricade, defense, barrier; (v) battlement, circumvallation; (n, v) vallum
ramparts: (n) rampart, fortification
ramus: (n) branch
ransack: (v) loot, pillage, seek, despoil, comb, rifle, rake, raid, sack, pry, foray
ransacking: (n) rummage, hunting, depredation, digging
rapidity: (n) expedition, quickness, promptness, dispatch, celerity, haste, velocity, pace, fleetness, promptitude, speed. ANTONYM: (n) tardiness
rapier: (n) bilbo, brand, blade, foil, glaive, whinyard, saber, Glave, steel, cimeter, broadsword
rapport: (n) accord, affinity, compatibility, relationship, sympathy, concord, association,

conformity, accordance, companionship; (n, v) connection
rapt: (adj) engrossed, intent, ecstatic, preoccupied, spellbound, captive, enthralled, attentive, fixed, enwrapped; (v) engrossed in. ANTONYMS: (adj) detached, inattentive, uninterested, bored
rapturous: (adj) overjoyed, enraptured, rapt, delighted, rhapsodic, blissful; (adj, v) ravishing; (v) ardent, passionate, fond, erotic. ANTONYM: (adj) down
rarified: (adj) rarefied, lofty, idealistic, exalted, rare, majestic, reserved, proud, thin, noble, ideal
rarity: (n) rareness, curiosity, infrequency, curio, peculiarity, dearth, scarcity, tenuity, paucity, scarceness, antique. ANTONYM: (n) frequency
ratiocination: (n) reasoning, conclusion, deduction, argumentation, logic, end, abstract thought, close, closing, decision, determination
rattled: (adj) hot and bothered, perturbed, upset, unsettled, puzzled, disconcerted, discomposed, bewildered, beside oneself, abashed, addled. ANTONYM: (adj) calm
rattling: (adj) lively, brisk, racy, marvelous, fantastic, zippy, snappy, spanking, merry; (adv) very, real
ravenous: (adj) hungry, greedy, avid, famished, gluttonous, voracious, rapacious, insatiable, edacious, covetous, predatory. ANTONYM: (adj) moderate
ravine: (n, v) gap, cleft; (n) chasm, canyon, dell, defile, gully, glen, pass, abyss, valley
raving: (adj, v) wild; (adj) frantic, delirious, furious, mad, insane; (adj, n) madness, distraction, rage; (n) rabid, delirium
razor: (adj, n) straight razor; (adj) knife, cutlery, edge tool, penknife; (n) electric razor, shaver, safety razor, electric shaver, rasour; (v) epilate
reap: (v) harvest, gain, glean, gather, obtain, cut, receive, earn, acquire; (adj, v) mow; (adj) clip. ANTONYMS: (v) lose, scatter
reasoned: (adj) coherent, rational, sound, logical, valid, reasonable, carefully considered, intelligent, heavy, healthy, good. ANTONYM: (adj) confused

reasoner: (n) analogist, casuist, logician, ratiocinator, disputant, arguer, intellectual, intellect
reassured: (adj) hopeful, reinsured, secure, confident
recalling: (adj) revocatory; (n) recognition
recess: (n) niche, pause, intermission, holiday, nook, vacation, hollow, alcove, interval, interruption; (n, v) break. ANTONYM: (n) continuation
recesses: (n) penitentialia, bowels, inside
recklessly: (adv) rashly, carelessly, imprudently, hastily, heedlessly, negligently, foolhardily, inattentively, wildly, wantonly, neglectfully. ANTONYMS: (adv) prudently, responsibly, calmly, discreetly, sensibly, cautiously
recognisable: (adj) identifiable, placeable, discernible, easily perceived, appreciable
recognizing: (v) recognize, acknowledge, recognise; (adj) conscious, respectful; (n) observation
recoil: (n, v) rebound, kick, bounce, shrink; (n) reaction, repercussion, backlash; (v) bound, cringe, flinch, quail
recoiling: (adv) recoilingly; (adj) resilient, bashful, leaving back, rebounding; (n) return
recollect: (v) recall, remember, recognize, call to mind, remind, mind, think, call up, reminisce, refresh, retrieve. ANTONYM: (v) forget
recollection: (n, v) mind; (n) reminiscence, recall, anamnesis, remembrance, recognition, memento, memorial, commemoration, memoir, retrospect
recollections: (n) memories, reminiscences, recollection, biography
reconcile: (adj, v) conciliate, accord, harmonize; (v) accommodate, pacify, placate, mediate, adjust, harmonise, make up, propitiate. ANTONYMS: (v) alienate, estrange, provoke, quarrel, segregate, worsen
reconnoitre: (v) explore, scout, reconnaissance, investigate, examine, inspect, probe, survey, observe, make a reconnaissance
recourse: (n, v) appeal, haunt; (n) refuge, expedient, resource, assistance, alternative, dependence, haven, asylum, request
recreant: (adj, n) coward, renegade,

poltroon; (adj, adv) cowardly; (n) apostate, deserter; (adj) disloyal, faithless, scary, fearful, dastard
recusant: (n) heretic, nonconformist, beatnik, contestant; (v) Protestant; (adj) dissentient, negative, contrary, contumacious, disobedient, unorthodox
reddened: (adj) red, ablaze, aflame, flushed, crimson, inflamed, blazing, aroused, blemished, red as scarlet, spotty
redeem: (v) recover, deliver, atone, recoup, expiate, ransom, reclaim, save, free, extricate, refund. ANTONYMS: (v) hock, pawn, lose
red-hot: (adj) impassioned, flaming, burning, fiery, incandescent, torrid, enthusiastic, boiling, up-to-date, sultry, contemporary
redness: (n) red, blush, glow, crimson, carmine, catarrh, cellulitis, cerise, mastoiditis, colitis, enteritis
redoubled: (adj) ingeminate
redresser: (n) correction, indemnification, amendment
reduplication: (n) iteration, doubling, tautology, gemination, replica, repeating, reiteration, artifice, reproduction, biplicity; (v) repetition
reeking: (adj) dripping, overly diluted, odorous, noisome, high, fetid, stale; (v) sloppy, soft, soaking, sodden
reeling: (adj) giddy, intoxicated, tipsy, queer, lightheaded, groggy, fuddled, bewildered; (n) titubation, rotary straightening
re-examination: (n) revision, correction, retrospect
reflux: (n) reflux, regurgitation, backflow, depreciation; (v) reflexion, decrement, indraught, reflex, undercurrent, vortex, whirlpool
refrain: (v) desist, cease, fast, avoid, leave off, withhold, stop, spare; (adj, v) forbear; (n) chorus, hold. ANTONYMS: (v) participate, act, consume, persist
refreshing: (adj) bracing, invigorating, refreshing, pleasant, fresh, cool, refresh, refreshingly, crisp, tonic, pleasing. ANTONYMS: (adj) unwelcome, soporific, tiring, relaxing, musty
regaining: (n) regain, clawback, proceeds, payoff, paying back, reappearance, indemnity, issue, recapture, recurrence, redress. ANTONYM: (n) loss
regal: (adj) noble, imperial, grand, purple, royal, dignified, kingly,

August, imposing, stately, magnificent. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) undignified, modest, poor

regularity: (n) constancy, evenness, punctuality, orderliness, uniformity, steadiness, method, accuracy, discipline, system, exactness.

ANTONYMS: (n) lateness, asymmetry, irregularity, disorder, variability, variety, abnormality

reigning: (adj) regnant, predominant, overruling, reign, sovereign, controlling, royal, dominant, ascendant, prevalent, chief

rejoice: (v) cheer, gladden, triumph, revel, jubilate, gratify, gloat, please; (n, v) delight, glory, joy.

ANTONYMS: (v) lament, mourn, complain

relapse: (n, v) regress, decline, fall; (n) recidivism, recurrence, regression, deterioration; (v) backslide, revert, recur, deteriorate.

ANTONYMS: (v) improve, recover, progress; (n) improvement, recovery, regeneration

relaxing: (v) relax; (adj) soothing, restful, comfortable, gentle, assuasive, clement, comforting; (n) repose, detent, quieter.

ANTONYMS: (adj) stressful, trying, uncomfortable, invigorating, irritating, rushed, troubled, tense, stimulating, noisy

relentlessly: (adv) ruthlessly, remorselessly, mercilessly, unyieldingly, pitilessly, brutally, persistently, strictly, callously, severely, sternly. **ANTONYMS:** (adv) gently, sporadically, intermittently

relieving: (adj) pertinent, comforting, applicable; (n) encouragement

remembrance: (n, v) recollection, mind; (n) commemoration, memorial, recall, relic, monument, keepsake, reminiscence, recognition; (adj, n) memento

remembrances: (adj) aboard, devoir, respects, welcome; (n) remembrance

reminiscences: (n) memoirs

remnant: (n) end, relic, remains, residue, fragment, leftover, survival, trace, oddment, balance, stub

remorse: (n) penitence, contrition, repentance, regret, guilt, penance, sorrow, grief, qualm, ruefulness, compassion. **ANTONYM:** (n) shamelessness

remoter: (adj) ulterior, further, more distant

rendering: (n) interpretation,

translation, rendition, reading, representation, version, interpreting, depiction, execution, construction, explanation

rending: (adj) ripping, excruciating, cacophonous, cacophonous; (v) harrowing; (n) division, outbreak

renown: (n, v) fame; (n) glory, distinction, eminence, notoriety, kudos, name, popularity, prestige, prominence, honor. **ANTONYMS:** (n) infamy, commonness; (adj) anonymity

replete: (adj) fraught, profuse, excessive, inordinate, exuberant, overmuch, satisfied; (v) fill, take, satiate, cloy. **ANTONYM:** (adj) hungry

repose: (n, v) recline, peace, lie, calm; (n) composure, ease, quiet, leisure, recreation, relaxation; (v) lay.

ANTONYMS: (n, v) work; (n) activity, panic, agitation

reposing: (adj) calm, asleep

repress: (v) inhibit, crush, quash, control, suppress, put down, bridle, keep down, subdue, restrain, reduce. **ANTONYMS:** (v) declare, liberate, incite

reproach: (n, v) blame, rebuke, charge, abuse, disgrace, reprimand, invective; (v) accuse, chide, condemn; (n) condemnation.

ANTONYMS: (n, v) praise; (v) commend, approve; (n) compliment, commendation, approval

repugnance: (n) horror, hatred, antipathy, inconsistency, repulsion, nausea, revulsion, loathing, detestation, aversion, hate.

ANTONYMS: (n) pleasantness, love, attractiveness, adoration, liking

repulsive: (adj) offensive, detestable, ugly, disagreeable, nauseous, hideous, loathsome, abhorrent; (adj, v) abominable, hateful, obnoxious.

ANTONYMS: (adj) pleasant, delightful, desirable, reputable, lovely, lovable, humane, appealing, laudable

requiescat: (n) orison, communion

requisite: (n) need, necessity, requirement, must; (adj, n) necessary, prerequisite; (adj) required, mandatory, needful, compulsory, obligatory.

ANTONYMS: (adj) voluntary, optional, dispensable; (n) inessential, luxury

resemble: (v) seem, imitate, compare, correspond, to resemble, agree, look, simulate; (adj) look like; (n)

resemblance; (adv) alike

resembling: (adj, prep) like; (adj) analogous, parallel, similar, conformable, approximate, semblative, other, probable; (prep) similar to, reminiscent of.

ANTONYM: (prep) unlike

resisting: (adj) tough, tenacious, sequacious, stringy, tough as whitleather, resistant, recalcitrant, opposing, making resistance, loath; (v) resist

resistlessly: (adv) supinely, unresistingly

resolute: (adj, n) constant, firm, fixed, steady; (adj, v) determined; (adj) inflexible, brave, adamant, dogged, unbending, courageous.

ANTONYMS: (adj) weak, uncertain, uncommitted, timid, fickle, feeble, indecisive, flexible, flippant, hesitant, undecided

resolving: (n) factoring, resolve, settlement, solving, solution, factorization, diagonalization, declaration, firmness, resoluteness; (v) solve

respecting: (prep) about, regarding, apropos, as regards, pertaining to; (adj) relative, not absolute, pertaining, referring, loving

respiration: (n) breathing, breath, breathe, aspiration, respire, inspiration, wind, breathing place, periodic breathing, panting, exercising

resplendent: (adj, n) bright, lucid; (adj) radiant, luminous, illustrious, splendid, flamboyant, glorious, magnificent, gorgeous, effulgent.

ANTONYM: (adj) dull

restive: (adj) obstinate, edgy, fidgety, jittery, impatient, jumpy, intractable, restless, uptight, perverse; (adj, v) skittish. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) calm, patient

restoring: (n) reinstatement, restoration; (adj) grateful, reflective, comforting, refreshing

restrain: (adj, v) confine; (v) control, rein, hold, curb, bind, contain, prevent, limit, repress; (n, v) check.

ANTONYMS: (v) encourage, promote, unleash, impel, release, intensify, increase, free, extend, express, support

restrained: (adj) reserved, quiet, modest, temperate, discreet, limited, reasonable, subdued, unemotional, reticent, guarded. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) unrestrained, open, flashy, immoral, ostentatious, wild, loud,

- theatrical, outgoing, extravagant, emotional
- restraints:** (n) manacles, fetters, chains
- resurrection:** (n) renewal, rebirth, revival, regeneration, restoration, resurgence, reanimation, restitution, renaissance, resumption, resuscitation. ANTONYM: (n) disappearance
- resuscitation:** (n) revival, resurrection, resurgence, reanimation, revitalisation, revitalization, reviction, revivification, recovery, reappearance
- retardation:** (n) retard, impediment, slowdown, retardment, lag, mental retardation, deceleration, resistance, holdup, imbecility; (v) postponement
- retarding:** (n) delay, let, hindrance, impediment, obstacle; (adj) ritardando
- retina:** (n) cornea, iris, pupil, membrane
- retiring:** (adj) humble, diffident, bashful, reserved, unassuming, unobtrusive, timid, coy, shy, sheepish, meek. ANTONYMS: (adj) assertive, bold, outgoing, forward, incoming, arrogant, brash, sociable
- retreating:** (n) flight; (adj) moving back
- retribution:** (n) reprisal, judgment, penalty, punishment, requital, repayment, recompense, reward, revenge, retaliation, restitution. ANTONYM: (n) reward
- revel:** (n, v) frolic; (v) drink, celebrate, exult, wallow, rejoice, bask, riot; (n) carousal, orgy; (adj) luxuriate. ANTONYMS: (v) mourn; (n) mourning
- reveller:** (n) merry-maker, roisterer, celebrant, celebrater, celebrator
- revels:** (adj) carousing; (n) festivities, partying
- reverberated:** (adj) rebounding, repellent, driven back
- reverberation:** (n) echo, rebound, noise, peal, replication, reaction, recoil, boom, reflectivity; (n, v) reflection; (v) reflexion. ANTONYM: (n) silence
- reverenced:** (adj) revered, reverend, sacred, sublime, venerated, August, inspiring awe, emeritus, empyreal, empyrean, profoundly honored
- reverie:** (n) dream, fantasy, air castle, brown study, reverie, trance, abstraction, castle in Spain, castle in the air; (adj) preoccupation, distraction. ANTONYM: (n) reality
- revery:** (n) dream, daydream, castle in Spain, air castle, castle in the air, imagine, dreaming; (v) low spirits, melancholy, ill humor, despondency
- revive:** (v) refresh, invigorate, quicken, renew, renovate, restore, resuscitate, animate, awake, repair, recreate. ANTONYMS: (v) demoralize, kill, slay, stagnate, abandon, die, drain
- revolved:** (adj) disgusted
- revolving:** (adj) turning, rotating, vertiginous, rotary, gyratory, wheeling, rotative, rotatory, rotational; (n) revolution; (v) revolve
- revulsion:** (n) horror, hatred, aversion, repulsion, repugnance, hate, distaste, dislike, detestation, abomination, abhorrence. ANTONYMS: (n) love, attraction, delight, liking, adoration
- rhetorical:** (adj) pompous, declamatory, grandiloquent, bombastic, forensic, flowery, magniloquent, turgid, embellished, ornate; (n) rhetoric. ANTONYMS: (adj) quiet, un-rhetorical
- rheum:** (adj) juice, humor, gravy, lymph, blood, sanies, serosity, serum, sap; (n) genus rheum, saliva
- rhymed:** (adj) riming, rimed, frosty, frosted. ANTONYM: (adj) unrhymed
- riches:** (n, v) money; (n) affluence, abundance, fortune, opulence, plenty, prosperity, exuberance, treasure, resources; (v) gold
- richly:** (adv) wealthily, copiously, opulently, lavishly, abundantly, sumptuously, affluently, profusely, amply, plentifully, fully. ANTONYMS: (adv) meagerly, poorly, simply, barely
- richness:** (adj, n) opulence, abundance, affluence, riches; (n) fruitfulness, profusion, fecundity, fullness, luxury, exuberance, cornucopia. ANTONYMS: (n) infertility, poverty, narrowness, shabbiness, weakness, bareness
- riddle:** (n) mystery, conundrum, puzzle, problem, poser; (n, v) screen, sieve; (v) puncture, strain, filter, sift. ANTONYM: (n) explanation
- rift:** (n, v) breach, fissure, split; (n) gap, break, chasm, crack, crevice, cleft, misunderstanding, rupture. ANTONYM: (n) unity
- righteous:** (adj) fair, right, good, moral, virtuous, honest, just, correct, honorable; (adj, n) pious, godly. ANTONYMS: (adj) immoral, wicked, unrighteous, bad, corrupt, unethical, unjust, wrong, poor
- rightful:** (adj) right, lawful, just, justifiable, proper, legal, equitable, licit, real, genuine, true. ANTONYMS: (adj) wrongful, illegal, unlawful, fake
- rigidity:** (n) firmness, inflexibility, rigor, hardness, stiffness, rigour, inflexibleness, tension, rigidity, severity, inelasticity. ANTONYMS: (n) malleability, pliability, softness, limpness, looseness, relaxation, cooperation, weakness
- rigidly:** (adv) severely, sternly, strictly, firmly, stringently, unbendingly, rigorously, uncompromisingly, stubbornly, unyieldingly, strongly. ANTONYMS: (adv) loosely, amenably
- rigorously:** (adv) severely, strictly, stringently, carefully, harshly, exactly, austere, closely, narrowly, stiffly, gravely. ANTONYMS: (adv) leniently, lightheartedly, negligently
- ripened:** (adj) mature, matured, elderly, aged, maturer, old, mellow, grown, full-grown, cured, adult. ANTONYM: (adj) young
- ripening:** (n) ageing, maturation, development, mellowing, aging, maturing, mature, growing, growth, gestation, organic process
- ripping:** (adj) splitting, great, terrific, glorious, wonderful, exquisite, superb, splendid, excellent; (n) tear, scarifying
- ripple:** (v) bubble, murmur, gurgle, billow, surge, burble, cockle; (n, v) wave, swell, ruffle, purr
- rivalry:** (n) contest, contention, opposition, antagonism, race, emulation, match, conflict, contestation, envy, rivalry. ANTONYM: (n) friendship
- riveted:** (adj) immovable, immobile, irremovable, rooted, wrapped up, intent; (v) wrapped in, engrossed in, rapt, absorbed, transfixed. ANTONYM: (adj) detached
- rivulet:** (n) stream, creek, streamlet, brook, arroyo, brooklet, rillet, runnel, watercourse, gill, river
- roaming:** (adj) wandering, roving, errant, itinerant, Peripatetic, traveling, vagabond, astray; (n) ramble, journey, ubiquity
- roaring:** (n) bellowing, roar, bellow, thunder; (adj) booming, prosperous,

thriving, flourishing, deafening, noisy, boisterous
roasted: (adj) fried, baked
robbed: (adj) plundered, rubato, fleeced, borrowed, bereft
robber: (n) highwayman, bandit, mugger, outlaw, plunderer, pillager, burglar, pirate, crook, filcher, spoiler
robe: (n, v) dress, array, vest, garb, apparel; (v) clothe, attire, rig; (n) gown, cloak, garment
robes: (n) garb, fine clothes, costume, best clothes
rocking: (adj) vivacious, merry, spirited, spry, festive; (n) metalling, convulsion
romancer: (n) visionary, idealist, romancist
romanticist: (n) idealist, visionary, somebody, someone, soul, sentimentalist, artist, creative person, person; (adj) amorous, quixotic
rooted: (adj, v) fixed; (adj) ingrained, immovable, inveterate, firm, set, frozen, riveted, irremovable; (v) imbedded, posited
rotted: (adj) roted, crappy, icky, lousy, rotten, unsound
roughened: (adj) cracked, loco, kooky, kookie, unsmooth, rough, nutty, nuts, loopy, loony, haywire
roundness: (n) rotundity, globosity, sphericity, rondure, plumpness, globularness, cylindricalness, cylindricity, shape, rotundness, circle. ANTONYMS: (n) angularity, slenderness, thinness
ruby: (adj, n) red, crimson; (adj) jewel, ruddy, scarlet, diamond, pearl, precious stone, bijou; (n) carbuncle, deep red
rudderless: (adj) adrift, afloat, aimless, directionless, flooded, aimlessly drifting, drifting, floating, inundated, overflowing, purposeless
rudely: (adv) crudely, coarsely, uncivilly, indelicately, impolitely, roughly, harshly, vulgarly, brutally, meanly, wildly. ANTONYMS: (adv) respectfully, graciously, decently, civilly, properly, attentively, agreeably, tactfully, thoughtfully, acceptably, gently
rudeness: (n) disrespect, audacity, insolence, impudence, discourtesy, incivility, effrontery, bad manners, impoliteness, impropriety, primitiveness. ANTONYMS: (n) civility, refinement, propriety, courteousness, courtesy, decency, respect, diplomacy, praise,

thoughtfulness, gentleness
rudimental: (adj) abortive, rudimentary, basal, elementary, neglected, rude, original, obsolete, obscure, imperfectly developed, institutional
rudiments: (n) grammar, fundamentals, elements, alphabet, abecedary, primer, vade mecum, bedrock, element, fundamental principle, rudiment
rugged: (adj, n) rough, jagged, ragged; (adj) difficult, rocky, tough, broken, robust, hilly, strong, craggy. ANTONYMS: (adj) delicate, easy, smooth, flimsy, fragile, soft, weak, feeble
ruinous: (adj) harmful, baleful, disastrous, calamitous, injurious, deleterious, dilapidated, blasting, baneful, pernicious; (adj, n) subversive. ANTONYMS: (adj) beneficial, fortunate, harmless
rumbling: (adj, n) grumbling; (n) grumble, noise, boom, thunder, roll, roar; (adj) hollow, low; (v) combination, berloque
ruminating: (adj) pensive, ruminal, ruminant; (n) abstraction
rumor: (n) hearsay, talk, news; (n, v) gossip, fame, buzz, bruit, noise, rumour; (v) repute, reputation. ANTONYM: (n) truth
rung: (n) rundle, grade, degree, stage, stair, spoke, stave, crosspiece, tread, step; (adj) ringed
rustling: (n) rustle, whispering, whisper, larceny; (adj) murmurous, susurrous, active, soughing
sable: (adj) black, dark, dusky, sombre, murky, mournful; (n) ebony, fur, blackness, marten, pitch black
saffron: (n) yellow, crocus sativus, orange yellow, yellowness, seasoner, seasoning, flavouring, flavourer, saffron crocus, flavorer; (adj) topaz
sagacious: (adj, v) judicious, prudent, discreet; (adj) rational, astute, acute, discerning, keen, perspicacious, intelligent, shrewd. ANTONYMS: (adj) foolish, stupid, dense
sagaciously: (adv) wisely, astutely, sapiently, judiciously, politically, prudently, cleverly, sharply, perceptively, sagely, discreetly
sagacity: (n, v) discernment, judgment, penetration; (n) judiciousness, sense, prudence, gumption, acumen, perspicacity; (adj, n) discretion, wisdom.

ANTONYM: (n) foolishness
sailor: (n) seaman, seafarer, tar, bluejacket, gob, boatman, navigator, navy man, lascar, Panama, leghorn
salamanders: (n) caecilians, class Amphibia, Congo snakes, family Salamandridae, frogs, order Caudata, Salamandridae, amphibia, newts
saloon: (n) pub, public house, salon, parlour, pothouse, hall, barroom, gin mill, alehouse, tavern, taproom
sanctify: (v) purify, hallow, enshrine, anoint, honor, reconsecrate, lustrate; (adj, v) ordain, bless; (n) edify, convert
sanction: (n, v) warrant, countenance, assent, consent, license; (v) approve, okay, authorize; (n) endorsement, permission, authority. ANTONYMS: (v) forbid, prohibit, disapprove, reject, outlaw, debar; (n, v) ban, veto; (n) reward, prohibition, refusal
sanctum: (n) adytum, holy place, holy, den, sanctum sanctorum, spot, shrine, study, workroom, retreat, place
sane: (adj, n) reasonable, lucid; (adj) rational, judicious, right, sensible, normal, wise, wholesome, sound, prudent. ANTONYMS: (adj) unbalanced, insane, crazed, delirious, unreasonable, irrational, foolish
sanity: (n) reason, saneness, mind, health, reasonableness, rationality, soundness, mental health, lucidity, common sense, prudence. ANTONYMS: (n) insanity, madness
sarcastic: (adj) sharp, poignant, caustic, bitter, biting, pungent, acid, acrimonious, ironical; (adj, v) derisive, satirical. ANTONYMS: (adj) sympathetic, pleasant, approving, kind, complimentary, mild, respectful
sarcophagus: (n) casket, urn, tomb, shell, pall, cinerary urn, bier, hearse, catafalque
sassafras: (n) seasoner, yarrow, seasoning, flavorer, flavourer, flavouring, laurel, sassafras tree, sassafras wood, flavoring
sate: (v) fill, satisfy, glut, satiate, pall, saturate, gorge, take, surfeit, content, replete
satin: (adj) glossy, sleek, velvet, down, silky, silklike, silken, satiny, velure; (n) cloth, fabric
scaly: (adj) scaled, scabby, rough, flaky, scurfy, lepidote, scaley; (v) cortical, cutaneous, cuticular,

dermal. ANTONYM: (adj) smooth
scant: (adj) insufficient, scanty, skimpy, poor, few, inadequate, narrow, little; (adj, v) meager, bare; (v) skimp. ANTONYMS: (adj) plentiful, extensive
scarce: (adj) rare, insufficient, deficient, infrequent, uncommon, scant, scanty, few, sparse; (adv) just, barely. ANTONYMS: (adj) plentiful, common, adequate, strong, usual, extensive
scare: (adj, n, v) panic; (adj, n) dread; (v) intimidate, daunt, frighten, appall, horrify; (adj, v) dismay, awe; (n, v) fright; (adj) consternation. ANTONYMS: (v) comfort, soothe, encourage; (n) reassurance, bravery
scarred: (adj) marred, scarred, marked, hurt, defaced
schoolboy: (n) lad, scholar, pupil, student, disciple, learner, schoolchild, youngun, younker, youth, school child
scimitar: (n) sabre, cutlass, falchion, sword, broadsword, cavalry sword, knife, scimitar
scorn: (v) despise, contemn, reject; (n, v) ridicule, neglect, disregard, deride, slight; (n) contempt, derision, mockery. ANTONYMS: (n, v) respect, praise; (v) appreciate, revere, value, approve, admire, accept; (n) admiration, commendation, humility
scoundrel: (n, v) rascal; (n) knave, blackguard, cad, villain, ruffian, miscreant, crook, rapsallion, varlet, scalawag
scourge: (n) curse, blight, affliction, plague, bane, calamity; (v) lash, flagellate, castigate, punish; (n, v) whip
scowl: (n, v) glare, grimace, roar, sneer; (v) glower, pout, lower, sulk; (adj) black looks, mumps; (n) growl. ANTONYMS: (n, v) grin
scrambling: (adj) boisterous, impetuous, cursory, furious
scrape: (n, v) scratch, graze, score, mark; (v) rub, pare, rake, grate, chafe, abrade; (n) abrasion
screwed: (adj) threaded, firm, maudlin, muddled, muzzy, raddled, corned; (n) whittled
scruple: (adj, v) hesitate, demur, pause; (n) hesitation, qualm, misgiving, distrust, objection; (n, v) mistrust; (v) falter, question
scruples: (n) conscience, moral sense, sense of right and wrong, morality, ethical motive, principle, ethics,

moral fiber, morals
scrupulous: (adj) careful, punctilious, exact, conscientious, particular, painstaking, accurate, prudent, meticulous, rigorous, cautious. ANTONYMS: (adj) sloppy, unscrupulous, slapdash, relaxed, guilty, deceitful
scrupulously: (adv) carefully, painstakingly, strictly, meticulously, religiously, thoroughly, nicely, exactly, fastidiously, particularly, accurately. ANTONYM: (adv) negligently
scrutinizing: (adj) exploring thoroughly, inquisitive, searching, penetrating
sculptural: (adj) modeled, sculpted, resembling sculpture, sculptured, shapely, graven
scythe: (n) crotch, crutch, crane, elbow, ankle, fluke, groin, knee, zigzag; (n, v) sithe; (v) reap
seaman: (n) seafarer, tar, gob, sailor, bluejacket, jack, navigator, bargee, bargeman, boatswain, bosun
seamed: (adj) unsmooth, rough
seared: (adj) arid, dry as a bone, recusant, parched. ANTONYM: (adj) wet
seasoned: (adj) veteran, flavoured, flavored, mature, ripe, versed, hardened, confirmed, practised, accustomed, sophisticated. ANTONYMS: (adj) green, unseasoned, inexperienced, mild
seclusion: (n) retreat, segregation, retirement, isolation, secrecy, concealment, insulation, separation, hermitage; (adj, n) solitude, loneliness. ANTONYMS: (n) company, closeness, inclusion
secrete: (v) hide, excrete, cover, disguise, discharge, mask, cache, bury, emit, exude, screen. ANTONYMS: (v) show, absorb, reveal, unearth
securely: (adv) surely, safely, closely, solidly, steadily, assuredly, strongly, tightly, fixly, setly, stably. ANTONYM: (adv) insecurely
sedate: (adj, v) calm, serious, quiet, demure; (adj) staid, composed, solemn, sober, earnest, cool, heavy. ANTONYMS: (v) stimulate; (adj) wild, frenetic, bold, boisterous, frivolous
sedge: (n) rush, nutsedge, papyrus, nutgrass, chufa, galingale, galangal, weed, rush nut, nut sedge, nut grass
sedges: (n) grasses
seduced: (adj) profaned, infatuated,

fascinated
seeming: (adj) ostensible, superficial, illusory, outward, probable, deceptive, specious; (adj, n) appearance, semblance; (n) aspect, show. ANTONYMS: (adj) actual, deep, inner
seizing: (v) seize; (n) seizure, clutches, prehension, taking, apprehension, capture, infection; (adj) catching, galling, controlling
seizure: (n) arrest, confiscation, capture, seizing, apprehension, appropriation, attachment, convulsion, detention; (adj, n) attack, assumption. ANTONYMS: (n) release, restoration, surrender
self-conceit: (n) conceit
self-defence: (n) self-defense
self-esteem: (n) self-conceit, pretension, self-respect, amour-propre, esteem
self-possession: (n) composure, poise, imperturbability, serenity, aplomb, coolness, balance, restraint, self-control, morale, presence
self-sacrificing: (adj) angelic, unselfish
self-willed: (adj) stubborn, wilful, wayward, obstinate, headstrong, perverse, intractable, masterful, pig-headed, wild, deaf
semblance: (adj, n) color; (n) resemblance, appearance, look, aspect, air, image, similarity, pretense, guise, pretext. ANTONYM: (n) difference
sensations: (n) feelings, vibrations, ambiance
senseless: (adj) foolish, mindless, preposterous, pointless, irrational, absurd, stupid, insensible, idiotic, fatuous, purposeless. ANTONYMS: (adj) meaningful, wise, conscious, provoked, prudent, useful, worthwhile
sensibility: (adj, n, v) feeling, notion; (n, v) sensation, appreciation, sense; (n) emotion, sensitivity, consciousness, perceptivity, awareness; (adj, n) sentiment. ANTONYM: (n) insensitivity
sentience: (n) sense, sensation, awareness, sensibility, sensitivity, sentiency, modality, sensory faculty, consciousness, sensitiveness, faculty
sentient: (adj) sensitive, animate, aware, responsive, susceptible, perceptive, aesthetic, sensible, tender, impressionable, alive. ANTONYMS: (adj) inanimate, insentient, unconscious, dead

sentiments: (n) breast
sentry: (n, v) guard, watch; (n) lookout, guardsman, picket, keeper, warden, watchman, warder, lookout man, scout
sepulchral: (adj, v) hollow, hoarse; (v) mortuary, harsh, rough, horridous, grum; (adj) ghastly, raucous, husky; (n) funeral
sepulture: (n, v) interment, inhumation; (n) sepulchre, entombment, grave, mausoleum, funeral, sepulcher, burial chamber, repository, monument
sequel: (n) sequence, result, issue, aftermath, continuation, continuance, outcome, consequence, ending, upshot, outgrowth.
 ANTONYM: (n) prelude
seraglio: (n) harem, palace, zenana, serai, quarters, living quarters, serail
seraph: (n) angel, hero, demigod, seraphim, cherub, heroine; (adj) saintly
seraphim: (n) seraph, martial ardor, eagerness, ardor
serge: (n) cloth, fabric, material
serpent: (n) snake, ophidian, viper, snake in the grass, reptile, rattlesnake, colubrid, contrafagotto, cor anglais, hautboy; (v) goose
serpentine: (adj, v) snaky; (adj) insidious, crooked, snakelike, tortuous, winding, sinuous, curved, cunning; (v) circling, meander
servitude: (n) bondage, serfdom, enslavement, captivity, slavery, yoke, vassalage, thrall, easement, serfhood, dependency. ANTONYM: (n) freedom
severed: (adj) cut off, cut, broken, separate, Severn, disconnected, rent off, disrupt, disengaged, torn, disrupted
shaded: (adj) dark, shads, sheltered, shadowed, umbrageous, twilight, sunless, subdued, soft, colored, darksome. ANTONYM: (adj) unshaded
shadowed: (adj) shady, shaded, shadowy, queer, dim, louche, funny, incensed, indignant, faint, fishy
shadowy: (adj) indistinct, misty, dark, faint, obscure, hazy, gloomy, vague, shady, insubstantial, dusky. ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, palpable, light, distinct, open
shamefully: (adv) ignominiously, ingloriously, scandalously, infamously, shockingly, discredibly, basely, outrageously; (adv, v) dishonorably, foully,

nastily. ANTONYMS: (adv) commendably, compassionately, nobly
sharpened: (adj) acute, pointed, acute, sharper, better, sensual
sharpness: (n, v) keenness, edge; (n) severity, bitterness, asperity, acumen, poignancy, pungency, quickness, perspicacity; (adj, n) roughness. ANTONYMS: (n) dullness, haziness, softness, slowness, indistinctness, gentleness, evenness, courtesy, blandness, stupidity, kindness
sheathed: (adj) invaginated, enclosed. ANTONYM: (adj) unsheathed
sherry: (v) rye, schnapps, highball, peg, rum, whisky, xeres, sling, usquebaugh; (n) sherris, manzanilla
shew: (v) demonstrate, prove, show, contradict, establish, substantiate, support, sustain, indicate, exhibit, display. ANTONYM: (v) disprove
shingles: (n) zoster, herpes, zona, herpes zoster virus
shivering: (adj) quivering, shaking, trembling, shaky, quaking, tremulous, shuddering, chilled; (n) chill, cold, shiver. ANTONYM: (adj) composed
shores: (n) coast, seaboard, seashore, shoreline. ANTONYM: (n) interior
showy: (adj, v) pretentious, brilliant; (adj) gaudy, garish, flashy, loud, flamboyant, dashing, gay; (adj, n) magnificent, fine. ANTONYMS: (adj) tasteful, restrained, discreet, plain, dull, quality
shrank: (v) minify
shriek: (n, v) screech, cry, shout, call, howl, yell, yowl, scream; (v) bellow, caterwaul, shrill. ANTONYM: (v) sigh
shrieking: (n) shriek, screeching, screech, scream, belly laugh, shrill, howler, riot; (adj) sharp
shrill: (adj) piercing, penetrating, strident, keen, shrewd; (v) shriek, screech, scream, yell; (adj, v) high, sharp. ANTONYMS: (adj) low, quiet, resonant
shrink: (adj, v) recoil; (n, v) flinch, wince; (v) contract, shorten, lessen, diminish, cower, reduce, quail, decrease. ANTONYMS: (v) increase, enlarge, grow, stretch, swell, bloom, rise, inflate
shrinking: (n) contraction, recoil, reduction, decrease, condensation; (n, v) lessening; (adj) timid, fearful, shy, bashful; (adj, adv) cowardly. ANTONYM: (adj) confident

shroud: (adj, n, v) cover; (n, v) cloak, hide, conceal; (adj, n) shelter; (v) shield, envelop, enshroud; (n) covering, mantle, pall. ANTONYM: (v) disclose
shrouded: (adj) hidden, covered, veiled, cloaked, secret, wearing a veil, unseen, ulterior, masked, enclosed, misty
shrub: (n) bush, scrub, heath, greasewood, gorse, gooseberry, goldenbush, frangipanni, hawthorn, fuchsia, furze
shrubbery: (n) brush, plantation, flora, parterre, shrub, scrub, brushwood, hedge, thicket, bushes, area
shrunk: (adj) contracted, wizened, withered, shrivelled, shriveled, wizened, insipid, drawn grain, wearish
shrunk: (adj) wizened, shrivelled, shrunk, withered, contracted, wizened, narrow, dried, thin, lean, sear. ANTONYMS: (adj) plump, bloated
shudder: (adj, n, v) shake, quake, tremble; (n, v) quiver, twitch, thrill; (n) quivering, shivering, chill, frisson; (v) flutter
shuddering: (adj, n) quivering, shaking; (adv) shudderingly; (n) cold sweat, tremor; (adj) rough, shaky, jumpy, quaking, shivery, bumpy. ANTONYM: (adj) smooth
shudderingly: (adv) quiveringly, shiveringly, shakingly, shuddering
shuffled: (adj) disorganized
shutter: (n, v) close, shade; (n) curtain, shut, blind, window, skylight, deadlight, lid, louver, jalousie
shutting: (n) closing, conclusion, end, closure, ending, finish, mop up, culmination, closedown; (adj) confining, claudent. ANTONYM: (n) opening
sickening: (adj) revolting, nauseous, offensive, repulsive, foul, nauseating, noisome, obnoxious, loathsome, repugnant, abominable. ANTONYMS: (adj) attractive, pleasant, delightful, wholesome, light, appealing, wonderful
sickly: (adj, adv) poorly; (n) invalid; (adj) sick, ailing, pale, sallow, indisposed, morbid, diseased; (adj, n, v) infirm; (adj, v) faint. ANTONYMS: (adj) healthy, bitter, robust
sidelong: (adj) indirect, oblique, side, askant, askance, askant; (adv) sideways, obliquely, askew, aslant, sideling. ANTONYM: (adj) direct

sidereal: (adj) astral, starry, sidereal
signify: (n, v) intend, mark; (adj, n, v) import; (v) imply, indicate, denote, point, stand for, express, intimate, matter

silken: (adj) glossy, silk, sleek, soft, satiny, satin, shiny, smooth, slick, downy, mild. ANTONYMS: (adj) coarse, dull, rough

silvery: (adj) silvern, argent, bright, white, gray, rich, silverish, melodious, fair, Argentine, clear

simile: (n) figure of speech, analogy, comparison, compare, resemblance, likeness, similarity, allegory, similitude, parable; (adj) metalepsis
similitude: (n) resemblance, similarity, comparison, image, picture, simile, likeness, equivalence, kinship, analogy; (adj, n) semblance. ANTONYMS: (n) difference, unlikeness

simoon: (n) samiel, wind

simpleton: (n) fool, blockhead, dolt, dunce, numskull, ninny, nincompoop, booby, sap, dummy, dullard

sincere: (adj, v) earnest, devout; (adj) genuine, faithful, heartfelt, honest, serious, open, artless, candid; (adj, n) cordial. ANTONYMS: (adj) insincere, dishonest, guarded, flippant, affected, disingenuous, hypocritical, cunning, unfaithful, unenthusiastic, unbelievable

sincerity: (adj, n) candor, honesty, integrity, probity, faithfulness; (n) earnestness, heartiness, genuineness, candour, frankness, cordiality. ANTONYMS: (n) dishonesty, hypocrisy, flippancy, frivolity, affectedness, caution, reticence, deceit, doubt

sine: (n) without, circular function, hell, cotangent, angle, cosine, hypotenuse

singly: (adv) one by one, separately, independently, severally, solely, respectively; (adj, adv) alone, only, merely; (adj) single, particularly. ANTONYM: (adv) multiply

singular: (adj, n) extraordinary; (adj) odd, individual, particular, peculiar, phenomenal, rare, queer, single, quaint, exceptional. ANTONYMS: (adj) ordinary, normal, together, usual, customary

singularly: (adv) peculiarly, uniquely, unusually, oddly, rarely, uncommonly, oddly, solely, exceptionally, individually; (adj, adv) remarkably

sire: (v) generate, engender, beget, procreate, mother, get, make; (n) forefather, ancestor, patriarch, pater

skilful: (adj) adroit, practised, experienced, cunning, expert, dextrous, clever, adept, proficient, practiced, good

skim: (v) slip, browse, skip, sweep, read, race, fly, shave, brush; (n, v) cream, slide

slack: (adj, v) loose, lax, remiss, slow, dull; (adj) indolent, negligent, idle, flaccid, limp, baggy. ANTONYMS: (adj) strict, taut, thorough, brisk, diligent, attentive, upright, prompt, meticulous; (v) tighten; (n) tautness

slant: (n, v) incline, angle, pitch, bias, tilt, lurch; (v) lean, bend; (adj, n, v) slope; (adj, n) inclination; (adj) obliquity. ANTONYMS: (v) level, straighten
slanted: (adj) slanting, diagonal, lopsided, tilted, sloped, sloping, oblique, skewed, aslant, askew, aslope. ANTONYMS: (adj) straight, balanced, impartial, level, upright

sleeper: (n) railroad tie, crosstie, tie, noctambulist, baggage car, slumberer, dreamer, Pullman car, freight car, parlor car, express car
sleepy: (adj) drowsy, dozy, slow, lazy, hypnotic, inactive, comatose, dull, heavy, dreamy; (adv) asleep. ANTONYMS: (adj) awake, energetic, vigorous, clear, lively, refreshed

slime: (adj) mud, silt; (n) mucus, ooze, phlegm, gook, muck, gunk, goo, filth; (adj, n) sludge

slimy: (adj) greasy, slippery, muddy, sludgy, squalid, oily, oozy, ropy, viscous, slimed, sordid.

ANTONYM: (adj) reputable

slippery: (adj, v) precarious; (adj) crafty, glib, elusive, oily, glossy, untrustworthy, wily, unreliable, tricky; (v) questionable.

ANTONYMS: (adj) rough, dry, reliable, straight, direct

sloop: (n) raceabout, knockabout, smack, boat, yawl, hoy, buss, cat, clipper, corvette, cutter

sloped: (adj) slanting, oblique, sloping, inclined, aslope, diagonal, aslant, leaned, leant, colored, biased

sloping: (adj, v) oblique, slope; (adj) slanting, inclined, slanted, diagonal, leaning, sloped; (adj, adv) aslope, aslant; (v) slant. ANTONYMS: (adj) horizontal, upright

sluggish: (adj) inert, indolent, inactive, idle, slow, torpid, slack,

languid; (adj, n) lazy, drowsy, heavy. ANTONYMS: (adj) energetic, fast, brisk, lively, alert, speedy, industrious

sluggishly: (adv) dully, inertly, torpidly, indolently, languidly, lethargically, listlessly, lazily, dilatorily, slothfully, stagnantly. ANTONYMS: (adv) brightly, dynamically, nimbly

slumber: (n, v) rest, doze, snooze, nap, drowse, repose, catnap; (v) be asleep, kip, take a nap; (n) siesta

slumberer: (n) noctambulist, dreamer, dormouse, crosstie, human, individual, marmot, railroad tie, sleeper goby, sleeping car, sleepwalker

slur: (adj, n) blot, brand, stigma, reproach; (n, v) libel, disgrace, insult, vilify; (n) affront, defamation; (adj, v) blur. ANTONYMS: (v) focus, compliment; (n) praise

smack: (adv, n, v) slap, bang; (n, v) savor, knock, kiss, hit, buss, wallop; (n) flavor, blow; (adj, n) dash

smelt: (v) fuse, temper, anneal, to smelt, distill, refine, heat; (n) sparring, capelan, caplin, capelin
smitten: (adj, v) stricken; (adj) in love, crazy, enamored, struck, nuts, dotted, besotted, gaga, taken with, affected
smoky: (adj) murky, hazy, fumid, vaporous, opaque, muddy, famish, burnt; (v) sooty, smutty, dusty. ANTONYMS: (adj) clean, fresh, clear

smother: (n) drum sander, electric sander, sander, power tool

smother: (v) stifle, suffocate, choke, muffle, extinguish, put out, suppress, asphyxiate, hush up, gag, repress. ANTONYMS: (v) express, light, encourage

smothered: (adj) strangled, stifled, smothers, pent-up, covered
snatches: (n) grasp, gain, catch
sneer: (n, v) deride, jeer, scorn, flout, ridicule, scoff, mock, leer, grimace, gird; (n) smirk

snore: (n) snoring; (v) snort, saw logs, snooze, siesta, hibernation, breathe, doze, saw wood, coma, dream

snoring: (n) stertor, respiration; (adj) stertorous, asleep

snort: (v) snore, huff, inhale; (n, v) snicker, hoot, chuckle, sneer; (n) bird, Bronx cheer, boo, razzing. ANTONYM: (v) exhale

snowball: (v) increase, become more intense, add, gain, get, increase in intensity, intensify, magnify; (n)

- snowdrift, sweet sand verberna, frozen dessert
- snowy:** (adj) white, pure, clean, blank, hoary, achromatic, snow-white, unblemished, wintry, wet, favorite
- snuffy:** (v) sooty, disgusting, vexed, angry, sulky, smutty, smoky
- soar:** (v) climb, hover, fly, mount, glide, leap, jump, lift, billow; (n, v) rise, increase. ANTONYMS: (v) decrease, drop, descend, collapse, sink
- sobbing:** (adj) crying, weeping, weepy, tearful; (n) lamentation, shortness of breath, shit, prick, motherfucker, tear, lament
- socle:** (n) plinth, shank, leg, pedestal, zocle, footstall
- soften:** (adj, v) moderate, mitigate, mollify, assuage, relieve; (v) melt, dull, relent, mute, alleviate; (adj, n, v) palliate. ANTONYMS: (v) harden, solidify, set, congeal, exacerbate, freeze, sharpen, stand, increase
- softened:** (adj) diffused, muffled, muted, quiet, slow, touched, sluggish, soften, pultaceous, subdued, low-key
- softening:** (adj) emollient, salving, relaxing; (v) soften; (adj, n) soothing; (n) maceration, mitigation, easement, mollification, inteneration, encouragement
- softness:** (n) mildness, kindness, flabbiness, flaccidity, suavity, downiness, gentleness, tenderness, faintness; (adj, n) delicacy; (adj) smoothness. ANTONYMS: (n) rigidity, hoarseness, brightness, hardness, volume, harshness, tone, noise, heaviness, firmness, loudness
- soiled:** (adj) grubby, dirty, nasty, grimy, unclean, filthy, muddy, black, mucky, polluted, foul. ANTONYMS: (adj) pure, immaculate
- sojourn:** (adj, v) reside, inhabit; (n) residence, abode; (adj, n, v) stay; (v) remain, lodge, abide, live; (n, v) delay, domicile
- solace:** (n) consolation, relief, balm, solacement; (v) console, allay, relieve, recreate; (n, v) ease, cheer, support. ANTONYMS: (n) distress, grief
- solemn:** (adj, n, v) serious; (adj, v) sober, important, sedate, devout, formal, demure; (adj) heavy, dignified, sacred; (adj, n) earnest. ANTONYMS: (adj) frivolous, cheerful, unceremonious, funny, playful, flippant, relaxed
- solemnity:** (n) seriousness, sobriety, earnestness, formality, ceremony, impressiveness, austerity, sedateness, display, pomp, grandeur. ANTONYMS: (n) humor, levity, cheerfulness, understatement
- solemnly:** (adv) earnestly, gravely, majestically, stately, sternly, staidly, thoughtfully, soberly, formally, ceremoniously, importantly. ANTONYMS: (adv) cheerfully, flippantly
- solicit:** (v) crave, request, petition, ask, pray, importune, require, apply, implore, demand; (adj, v) court
- solicited:** (adj) requested
- solicitously:** (adv) considerably, concernedly, carefully, uneasily, kindly, apprehensively, attentively, caringly, politely, jealously, earnestly
- solidity:** (n) consistency, firmness, density, compactness, reliability, rigidity, substance, consistence, hardness; (adj, n) stiffness, soundness. ANTONYMS: (n) softness, hollowness, porosity, looseness, instability, slenderness, lightness, clearness, limpness
- solidly:** (adv) steadfastly, substantially, strongly, stably, steadily, stoutly, compactly, soundly, securely, sturdily, consistently. ANTONYMS: (adv) feebly, unreliably, weakly, sparsely
- solitary:** (adj) forlorn, only, alone, single, lonely, lone, sole, unaccompanied, isolated; (adj, n) recluse; (n) hermit. ANTONYMS: (adj) sociable, combined, common, outgoing
- solitude:** (n) desolation, loneliness, seclusion, privacy, aloneness, isolation, retirement, lonesomeness, retreat, desert, solitariness. ANTONYMS: (n) companionship, closeness
- solving:** (n) solution, resolving, settlement, resolve, answer, resolving power, finding, determination, resoluteness, declaration; (v) solve
- sombre:** (adj) dismal, dreary, dark, shadowy, mournful, morose, murky, gloomy, sober, dull, glum
- sooth:** (n) verity, soothsaying, fact, truth, reality
- soothing:** (adj) calming, soft, smooth, pacifying, quiet, restful, bland, calm, assuasive; (adj, n) softening; (n) alleviation. ANTONYMS: (adj) upsetting, disturbing, hostile, scary, worrying, stimulating, exasperating, annoying, invigorating, painful, intimidating
- sophist:** (n) sophister, ratiocinator, scholar, reasoner, Tartfufe, pedant, Pecksniff, obscurantist, obfuscator, Pharisee, Jesuit. ANTONYM: (n) dilettante
- sophistry:** (n) chicanery, sophistication, casuistry, sophism, fallacy, evasion, equivocation, quibble, chicane, sophistries, lack of imagination
- sorcery:** (n) charm, incantation, witchcraft, enchantment, black magic, magic, diabolism, necromancy, black art, witchery, diablerie
- sorrow:** (n, v) regret, lament, grieve; (v) mourn; (n) mourning, heartache, repentance, remorse; (adj, n) sadness, misery; (adj, n, v) distress. ANTONYMS: (n) joy, delight, happiness, peace, hopefulness, cheerfulness, shamelessness, calm, content; (v) rejoice
- sorrowful:** (adj) melancholy, doleful, sad, rueful, lugubrious, gloomy, dreary, grievous, piteous, unhappy, mournful. ANTONYMS: (adj) cheerful, content, joyful, successful
- soulless:** (adj) inanimate, exanimate, callous, impassive, flat, spiritless, passionless, lifeless, inert, dull, cold. ANTONYMS: (adj) exciting, soulful
- soundless:** (adj) silent, dumb, noiseless, still, mute, voiceless, bottomless, fathomless, unfathomable, hushed, motionless
- soundly:** (adv) sound, fully, solidly, thoroughly, deeply, substantially, validly, strongly, stably, fastly, safely. ANTONYMS: (adv) harmfully, halfheartedly, fitfully, unconvincingly
- southeastern:** (adj) southeasterly, eastern, easterner
- southward:** (adv) southwards, southernly; (adj) southbound, southern
- spade:** (v) grub, delve, scoop, excavate; (n) nigger, coon, nigra, jigaboo, boy, black person, spit
- spanned:** (adj) crossed
- spareness:** (n) scantiness, meagreness, austerity, lacking denseness, poorness, sparseness, scantness, exiguity, sparsity
- sparkle:** (n, v) flicker, flash, shimmer, spark, shine, blaze, fizz, gleam, glitter; (v) blink, glare.

ANTONYMS: (n) apathy, dullness, lifelessness

sparkling: (adj, v) effervescent; (adj) bright, brilliant, radiant, glittery, bubbly, glittering, scintillating, shining, scintillant; (n) sparkle.

ANTONYMS: (adj) dull, dirty, lifeless, lethargic

sparks: (n) fire

sparsely: (adv) infrequently, lightly, rarely, scatteredly, meagerly, scantily, poorly, sporadically, slenderly, scarcely, leanly.

ANTONYMS: (adv) thickly, densely

spasm: (n) fit, outburst, cramp, attack, twitch, paroxysm, convulsion, pain, pang, start, tic

spasmodic: (adj) spastic, convulsive, intermittent, erratic, broken, irregular, sporadic, desultory, sudden, discontinuous; (v) in consonant. ANTONYM: (adj) continuous

spasmodically: (adv) convulsively, fitfully, intermittently, irregularly, desultorily, brokenly, frequently, spasically, startlingly. ANTONYM: (adv) recurrently

specious: (adj) plausible, apparent, deceptive, seeming, ostensible, spurious, hollow, colorable, showy, illogical, misleading. ANTONYMS: (adj) logical, valid

speck: (adj, n) point, atom, particle; (n) blot, flaw, smudge, blotch, blemish, grain, mote, dot.

ANTONYM: (n) lot

speckled: (adj) dotted, mottled, piebald, specked, spotty, freckled, spotted, multicolored, flecked, brindled, blotchy. ANTONYM: (adj) limited

spectral: (adj) ghostly, phantasmal, apparitional, unearthly, ghostlike, supernatural, ghostly, shadowy, insubstantial, eerie, cadaverous

spectre: (n) phantasm, shadow, shade, phantom, apparition, ghost, spook, wraith, revenant, terror, eidolon

speculate: (v) contemplate, deliberate, suppose, imagine, venture, consider, hazard, meditate, muse, reflect, ponder

speculating: (n) conception

speculatively: (adv) reflectively, hypothetically, contemplatively, chancily, academically, conjecturally, inquisitively, pensively, tentatively, insecurely, notionally

speechless: (adj) silent, mute, dumb,

dumbfounded, voiceless, quiet, tongueless, tacit, noiseless, mum, wordless. ANTONYMS: (adj) loquacious, eloquent, talkative

speedily: (adj, adv) quickly, quick, immediately; (adv) rapidly, promptly, hastily, swiftly, fast, apace, hurriedly, fleetly.

ANTONYMS: (adv) later, eventually

speeding: (n) acceleration, quickening, hurrying, fastness, f number, scudding, focal ratio, amphetamine; (adj) active, hastening; (adv) faster

speedy: (adj, v) rapid, prompt, fleet, swift; (adj) fast, agile, ready, immediate, cursory, hurried, brisk.

ANTONYMS: (adj) leisurely, plodding

spherical: (adj) global, orbicular, globular, globose, circular, rotund, spheric, rounded, orbiculate, sphere, full. ANTONYM: (adj) nonspherical

spicy: (adj) piquant, racy, fragrant, pungent, salty, blue, savory, hot, juicy, peppery, redolent.

ANTONYMS: (adj) bland, mild, dull, insipid, tasteless, uninteresting, faint, sweet

spirited: (adj) animated, frisky, energetic, racy, bold, gritty, quick, enthusiastic, dashing, peppery, brave.

ANTONYMS: (adj) spiritless, lifeless, feeble, cowardly, apathetic, lethargic, spineless, dull, solemn, sluggish, lackluster

spirituality: (n) inwardness, incorporeity, church property, otherworldliness, beneficence, religion, spirituality, beneficiary, devoutness, belongings, religious studies

spite: (n) malice, grudge, hatred, malevolence, rancour, venom, rancor, maliciousness, ill will, animosity; (n, v) pique.

ANTONYMS: (v) please; (n) benevolence, goodwill, love, affection, harmony

splendor: (adj, n, v) brilliancy; (n) magnificence, pomp, sheen, lustre, luster, glory, ostentation, glitter; (n, v) brightness; (adj, n) radiance.

ANTONYMS: (n) dullness, ordinariness, paucity, austerity, understatement, shabbiness, simplicity, unattractiveness

splitting: (adj) ripping; (n) fission, partition, division, schism, crack, breakup, disunion, dissociation, cleavage; (v) to split

splootch: (n, v) mark, spot; (n) blot, splodge, stain, smear, blob, smudge,

speck, stigma, discoloration

spotting: (n) staining, espial, maculation, catching, spot, detecting, fleck, speckle, spying, soilure, soiling

springing: (v) jumping, climbing, bounding, furious, conspicuous, prominent, ascending, projecting outwardly; (n) growth, suspension, emanation

springy: (adj) flexible, elastic, resilient, bouncy, yielding, whippy, pliable, spongy, lively, live, supple. ANTONYM: (adj) unyielding

spun: (adj) spined; (v) rotate, revolve

spurious: (adj, adv, v) counterfeit; (adj, adv, n) false; (adj) phony, fake, illegitimate, bogus, specious, misbegotten, bastardly; (adj, n) bastard; (adj, v) pseudo.

ANTONYMS: (adj) real, authentic, valid

spurned: (adj) jilted, unloved

squandering: (n, v) waste; (adj) prodigal, profligate, extravagant, lavish; (n) extravagance, dissipation, prodigality, damage, lavishness; (v) squander. ANTONYMS: (n) economy; (adj) parsimonious

squeak: (n, v) screech, shriek, scream, peep, yell, howl, chirp, cheep; (v) creak, squeak, scrape

stab: (n, v) thrust, impale, jab, pierce, prod, dig, stick, pink; (n) try, prick; (v) spike

staggered: (adj) dumbfounded, astonished, flabbergasted, astounded, stunned, bewildered, surprised, thunderstruck, angular, dizzy, taken aback

stagnation: (n) recession, depression, stagnancy, deadlock, stasis, delay, inaction, inactivity, backwater, slump, congestion

stain: (n, v) spot, blemish, tarnish, blot, dye, smear, disgrace, mark, soil, dirt, defile. ANTONYMS: (v) enhance, dignify, clean

stair: (n) stage, degree, footstep, rank, stairway, staircase, corbiestep, ladder, pace, steps, support

starboard: (n) dexter, offside; (adj) proper, good, ripe, correct. ANTONYM: (adj) port

starry: (adj) sidereal, starlike, radiant, showy, gleaming, bright, lustrous, shiny, lucid, stellar, fulgent.

ANTONYMS: (adj) starless, dull

startle: (n, v) start, jump; (v) frighten, scare, astonish, shock, astound, amaze, shake, threaten, electrify.

ANTONYM: (v) soothe

startling: (adj) wonderful, shocking, surprising, striking, alarming, appalling, marvellous, dramatic, frightful, sensational, lurid.

ANTONYMS: (adj) unremarkable, soothing, comforting

startlingly: (adv) wonderfully, astonishingly, amazingly, astoundingly, shockingly, remarkably, unexpectedly, staggeringly, marvelously, alarmingly, strikingly

starvation: (n) inanition, famine, famishment, hunger, privation, starving, malnutrition, dearth, poverty, scarcity, esurience
starving: (adj) famished, hungry, malnourished, voracious, skinny, undernourished, thin, empty, peckish; (adj, v) starved; (n) starvation. ANTONYMS: (adj) satiated, healthy

stately: (adj) solemn, imposing, elegant; (adj, v) noble, dignified, grand, proud, great; (adj, adv) regal, majestic, royal. ANTONYMS: (adj) boisterous, humble, modest, lowly

statuary: (n) sculptor, carver, figuriste, modeler, chaser, statue, sculptress, assemblage, accumulation, aggregation, collection

stature: (n) height, altitude, standing, tallness, prestige, figure, growth, status, quality, rank, greatness

stead: (n) behalf, room, lieu, spot, location, station, space, seat, position, office, locality

stealthily: (adv) furtively, sneakily, surreptitiously, covertly, clandestinely, underhandly, underhandedly, in secret, privately, sneakily; (adj, adv) noiselessly. ANTONYM: (adv) brazenly

stealthy: (adj) clandestine, secret, surreptitious, sneaky, covert, private, backstairs, concealed, feline; (adj, v) sly, insidious. ANTONYM: (adj) blatant

steeped: (adj) seasoned, experienced
steeple: (adj, n) spire, tower; (n) campanile, minaret, turret, dome; (adj) pyramid, column, obelisk, monument, pillar

stemmed: (adj) cauline, stemless. ANTONYM: (adj) stemless

stern: (adj) rigid, rigorous, austere, hard, strict, grim, solemn, rough; (adj, v) harsh; (n) back; (adj, n) rear. ANTONYMS: (adj) friendly, approving, lenient, funny, genial, gentle, kindly, lax, liberal, cheerful,

flexible

sternly: (adv) severely, strictly, austere, harshly, rigidly, grimly, rigorously, stringently, seriously, relentlessly, solemnly.

ANTONYMS: (adv) leniently, lightheartedly, kindly, warmly, cheerfully

stertorous: (adj) articulate, distinct, strident, hoarse, noisy, raucous, stertorous, breathless

stifle: (v) smother, suffocate, repress, dampen, muffle, extinguish, strangle, quell, hush up, asphyxiate, check. ANTONYMS: (v) express, arouse, stimulate, light, exacerbate, show

stifled: (adj) strangled, suppressed, muffled, deafened, completely covered, dead, deadened, weak, deaf corn, regardless, decayed

stifling: (adj) close, oppressive, sweltering, stuffy, heavy, hot, torrid, sticky; (n) crushing, quelling, suppression. ANTONYMS: (adj) fresh, airy, cool, temperate

stillness: (n) hush, calmness, immobility, serenity, silence, quietness, peacefulness; (adj, n) calm, quiet, peace, still.

ANTONYMS: (n) bustle, movement, uproar, motion, turbulence, turmoil, vigor, disturbance, chaos, agitation

sting: (n, v) bite, hurt, con, pain; (v) prick, itch, irritate, prickle, goad, provoke, smart. ANTONYMS: (v) calm; (n) honesty

stony: (adj) rocky, hard, rough, callous, cold, pitiless, flinty, unfeeling, obdurate, bleak, icy.

ANTONYMS: (adj) smooth, kind

stooping: (adj) hunched, crooked, asymmetrical, not erect, not straight, corrupt; (n) patronage

stout: (adj, n) sturdy, stocky, hearty; (adj) hardy, strong, robust, obese, husky, bold, corpulent, fleshy.

ANTONYMS: (adj) thin, slim, flimsy, cowardly, slight, skinny, fragile, weak

straining: (n) effort, push, exertion, distortion, overrefinement, tension, endeavor, torture, twisting; (adj) arduous; (v) tighten

strangeness: (n) oddity, oddness, quaintness, peculiarity, curiousness, abnormality, weirdness, foreignness, queerness, singularity, quirk.

ANTONYMS: (n) familiarity, nativeness

strangle: (v) smother, stifle, asphyxiate, scrag, tighten, repress,

constrict, pinch, strangle; (adj, v) throttle; (n) strangling

strap: (n, v) lash, whip; (n) strop, leash, rein, shoulder strap, band, bar; (v) bind, flog; (adj, n) tie.

ANTONYM: (v) untie

stray: (v) wander, ramble, range, digress, straggle, meander, depart, deviate, rove, drift, err. ANTONYM: (v) settle

strayed: (v) stray

streak: (n, v) ray, dash, mark, flash; (adj, n) stripe; (n) band, beam, run, bar, groove, gleam

streaks: (n) stripes, cords

streaming: (adj) flowing, flapping, detached, incoherent, baggy, slack, relaxed, loose, lax; (n) cyclosis; (v) disheveled

strewn: (v) besprent, sprinkled over
stricken: (adj) smitten, struck, beaten, laid low, affected, hurt, low, impaired, dotty; (v) heavy laden, victimized

strictness: (n) harshness, severity, rigor, hardness, austerity, exactness, firmness, inclemency, stiffness, accuracy, precision. ANTONYMS: (n) leniency, lenience, laxity, flexibility, vagueness, inaccuracy

stride: (n, v) pace, tread, walk, stalk, rate, toddle, stump; (n) footstep, gait, progress; (v) march

striped: (adj) stripy, brindled, variegated, lined, banded, virgated, zoned, paled, with stripes

strove: (v) strive

studded: (adj) mucicated, bristling, peopled, crowded, manifold, multinomial, multiple, multiplied, multitudinous, populous; (v) freckled

stupendous: (adj, v) prodigious; (adj) huge, terrific, marvellous, immense, tremendous, fantastic, mighty, mammoth, miraculous, enormous. ANTONYM: (adj) abysmal

stupidly: (adv) dully, thickly, obtusely, senselessly, fatuously, slowly, insanely, unwisely, doltishly, crassly, densely.

ANTONYMS: (adv) shrewdly, brightly, sensibly, wisely, sensitively, prudently, carefully

stupor: (n) lethargy, stupefaction, coma, shock, insensibility, unconsciousness, trance, sluggishness, torpor, haze, grogginess. ANTONYMS: (n) alertness, awareness, wakefulness

sturdily: (adv) strongly, firmly, stoutly, solidly, robustly, hardily,

- powerfully, soundly, hardly, substantially, stalwartly.
ANTONYMS: (adv) lightly, flimsily, slightly
- suavity:** (adj, n) amenity; (n) courtesy, urbanity, gentleness, pleasantness, suaveness, blandness, polish, civility, complaisance, politeness
- subdued:** (adj) quiet, muffled, dull, restrained, muted, tame, faint, repressed, low, meek; (adj, v) resigned. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) enthusiastic, lively, uninhibited, unsubdued, rebellious, noisy, bright, elaborate, frivolous, upbeat
- subduing:** (adj) aggressively haughty, conquering, domineering, insolent, overbearing, overcoming, overpowering, repressing, suppressive; (n) bondage, oppression
- subjoined:** (v) enclitical
- sublimation:** (n) exaltation, transmutation, transformation, purification, elevation, paragon, alteration, change, condensation, modification, shift
- sublime:** (adj, v) majestic; (adj) dignified, grand, lofty, magnificent, elevated, noble, exalted, glorious; (v) sacred, sublimated. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) poor, ridiculous
- sublunary:** (adj) earthly, terrestrial, mundane, subaerial, cislunar, temporal, worldly, planetary, terre, telluric, tellurian
- subside:** (v) diminish, decline, abate, lessen, fall, sink, calm, descend, collapse, dip, settle. **ANTONYMS:** (v) strengthen, excite
- substantiality:** (n) matter, solidity, plenum, substantialness, materiality, hypostasis, actuality, reality, substance, body, fact
- substituted:** (v) replace; (prep) deputed, delegated; (adj) substitutional
- subterranean:** (adj) underground, backdoor, profound, subaqueous, submarine, subterrene, subterrestrial, deep, hole-and-corner, subterraneous, subterrany
- subterrene:** (adj) subaqueous, subterranean, subterraneous
- succeeding:** (adj) following, subsequent, after, consecutive, posterior, ensuing, consequent, successive, consequential; (adj, adv) later; (v) succeed. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) outgoing, preceding
- successively:** (adv) in turn, one after the other, in succession, sequentially, serially, running, in order, gradually, subsequently, repeatedly, one after another
- succinctly:** (adv) compactly, briefly, tersely, shortly, summarily, compendiously, laconically, pithily, curtly, sententiously, condensedly
- suction:** (n) sucking, intake, aspiration, absorption, uptake, traction, leverage, ingestion, consumption, draft, force per unit area
- suddenness:** (n) steepness, hastiness, precipitance, precipitancy, precipiteness, sudden, craggedness, surprise, precipitousness, brusqueness, curtness
- suffrance:** (n) allowance, patience, permission, forbearance, leave, toleration, suffering, resignation, acceptance; (n, v) tolerance; (adj, v) supportance
- suffice:** (v) satisfy, do, answer, content, fulfill, be sufficient, qualify, function, be enough, suit, fulfil
- suffocating:** (adj) choking, oppressive, smothering, close, stifling, suffocative, suffocatingly, suffocate, sultry, stifle, overpowering
- suffocation:** (n) asphyxiation, asphyxia, choking, killing, garrote, strangling, putting to death, apnoea, kill
- suggestive:** (adj, v) expressive; (adj) obscene, spicy, allusive, graphic, smutty, significative, narrative, meaningful, epic, implicative
- sullen:** (adj, n) morose, sulky, sour; (adj) gloomy, gruff, glum, moody, dark, cross, surly; (adj, v) grim. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) bright, cheery; (n) cheeriness
- sullenly:** (adv) sulkily, sourly, grumpily, morosely, moodily, dourly, somberly, peevishly, surly, crossly, petulantly. **ANTONYMS:** (adv) graciously, contentedly, gladly, cheerily
- sullied:** (adj) foul, soiled, tainted, stained, besmirched, unclean, filthy, spotted, sordid, flyblown, dim. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) untarnished, clean
- sulphureous:** (adj) sulphuric, sulphurous, sulfurous, sulphurate
- sulphurous:** (adj) stifling, acerb, hot, sulphurous, infernal, brimstony, virulent, caustic, containing acid, sultry, burning hot
- summing:** (n) computation
- summon:** (v) assemble, convene, demand, ask, invoke, evoke, invite, muster, page, rally, convoke. **ANTONYM:** (v) disband
- summoning:** (n) induction, conjuration, conjuring, conjury, demand, elicitation, adjuration, exhortation
- sunbeams:** (n) sunshine, light, daylight, rays
- sunder:** (n, v) divide, sever, part, share, divorce; (v) separate, dis sever, tear, detach, cleave; (n) fragment
- sunken:** (adj) concave, depressed, submerged, empty, underwater, cavernous, recessed, gaunt, low, depression, submarine. **ANTONYM:** (adj) convex
- sunrise:** (n) dawn, sunup, daybreak, daylight, aurora, first light, dayspring, twilight, dawning, break of day, crack of dawn. **ANTONYMS:** (n) sunset, sundown, nightfall
- superabundance:** (n) overabundance, glut, surplus, surfeit, abundance, overmuchness, copiousness, plethora, redundancy, superfluity, surplusage
- supererogation:** (n) sweat, excess, elbow grease, effort, exertion
- supererogatory:** (adj, v) spare; (adj) excess, extra, superfluous, supernumerary, unnecessary, additional, surplus, unasked, supererogative; (v) duplicate
- superfluous:** (adj, v) spare; (adj) needless, extra, excess, excessive, unnecessary, surplus, pointless, superabundant, supernumerary, supererogatory. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) indispensable, important, essential, basic, pertinent
- superhuman:** (adj) supernatural, heavenly, preterhuman, superman, epic, daring, godlike, gallant, brave, celestial, incredible. **ANTONYM:** (adj) normal
- superintendence:** (n) oversight, direction, management, inspection, control, government, surveillance, supervising, care, guidance, invigilation
- supernaturally:** (adv) uncannily, weirdly, miraculously, unnaturally, transcendently, spiritually, numinously, occultly, magically, spectrally, ghostly
- superscription:** (n) inscription, address, direction, superscript, aim, order, command, endorsement,

guidance, image, management
superstition: (n) superstitious, taboo, religion, old wives' tale, superstitious notion, lore, folklore, fanaticism, fallacy, belief, magic. ANTONYMS: (n) science, truth
superstitious: (adj) superstition, false, groundless, eerie, irrational, fallacious
supervene: (v) happen, ensue, follow, hap, occur, pass, advene, survene, befall, come, take place
supinely: (adv) slothfully, languidly, flatly, inertly, torpidly, lethargically, slackly, remissly, prone, weakly, dully
supposing: (adv) admitting, conditionally, in case; (n) supposition, conjecture, thought, theory, assumption; (conj) although, what if; (v) suppose
supposition: (n, v) conjecture; (n) assumption, hypothesis, presumption, premise, speculation, surmise, guess, supposal, thought, imagination. ANTONYMS: (n) fact, knowledge, proof, reality, practice
supposititious: (adj, v) spurious, counterfeit; (adj) suppositious, suppositional, supposed, conjectural, bastard, factitious, false, illegitimate; (v) fabulous
surcingle: (n) girth, girdle, bellyband, lasso, halter, cestus, noose, garter, running knot, knot
surf: (n) foam, breaker, spray, wave, surge, swell, suds, bubble; (v) browse, beach comber, ground swell
surmounted: (adj) beaten
surname: (n) cognomen, name, sobriquet, family name, soubriquet, last name, nickname, maiden name, moniker, first name, agnomen
surpass: (v) beat, outdo, exceed, surmount, better, excel, outstrip, overcome, overrun, best, go beyond. ANTONYMS: (v) fail, lose, follow, trail
surpassing: (adj) excellent, superior, transcendent, exceptional, prodigious, fine, outstanding, extraordinary; (v) surpass; (adv) surpassingly; (prep) above
surpassingly: (adv) surpassing, extremely, surpass, excellently, superiorly, transcendently, greatly, extraordinarily, eminently, finely, preeminently
susceptibility: (n) sensitivity, liability, impressibility, inclination, capability, sensibility, susceptibleness, receptivity,

responsiveness, proclivity, tendency. ANTONYMS: (n) resistance, insensitivity
suspense: (n) doubt, expectancy, anticipation, indecision, insecurity, unrest, expectation, irresolution, suspension, tension; (adj, n) hesitation. ANTONYM: (n) knowledge
suspiciously: (adj, adv) doubtfully, skeptically, hesitantly, unbelievably; (adv) mistrustfully, warily, uncertainly, shadily, dubiously, watchfully, questioningly. ANTONYMS: (adv) carelessly, gullibly, thoughtlessly, certainly, confidently
sustaining: (adj) underneath, alimentary, at the bottom of, comforting, filling, fundamental, healthy, profitable, rich; (n) continuation, maintenance
swallows: (n) sparrows, rooks, robins, Passeriformes, Hirundinidae, etc, order Passeriformes
sward: (n) sod, greensward, lawn, green, divot, turf, grass, meadow, mead, sodomite, grassplat
swarm: (n) host, horde, multitude, drove, throng, cloud, assembly; (n, v) mob; (v) teem, pour; (adj) shoal. ANTONYMS: (v) retreat; (n) few
swarming: (adj) full, crowded, alive, packed, populous, sensitive, thick; (v) dense, crowded to suffocation, serried, closely packed. ANTONYMS: (adj) clear, deserted
sway: (n, v) command, rule, control, rock, stagger, roll; (v) oscillate, reel, lurch, shake; (n) reign. ANTONYMS: (v) stay, dissuade, discourage
swayed: (adj) persuaded, susceptible, touched, convinced. ANTONYM: (adj) doubtful
swaying: (adj) swinging, convincing, oscillating, influential, persuasive, moving, tilting, groggy; (n) floating, manipulation
swedenborg: (n) Emanuel Swedenborg, Svedberg
sweepings: (adj, n) trash; (n) waste, rubbish, garbage, debris, ruff, markings, rubble, detritus; (adj) rags, orts
sweeps: (n) sweep period
sweetly: (adv) pleasantly, sweet, mildly, melodically, melodiously, softly, syrupily, beautifully, pleasingly, dulcetly, fairly. ANTONYMS: (adv) discordantly, horribly, sharply, harshly, unkindly

sweet-scented: (adj) fragrant
swell: (n, v) rise, heave, increase, wave, billow; (v) enlarge, expand, puff, grow, bloat; (adj, n) dandy. ANTONYMS: (v) deflate, desiccate, shrink, compress, concentrate, wane; (n, v) decline; (adj) bad, horrible, shabby, awful
swelled: (adj) big, inflated, bloated, swollen, adult, boastful, bighearted, bad, fully grown, crowing, elder
swelling: (n) protuberance, lump, swell, intumescence, growth, projection, prominence, bulge, dropsy; (adj, v) inflated; (adj) growing. ANTONYM: (n) decline
sweltering: (adj) hot, close, sticky, stifling, muggy, sultry, scorching, humid, broiling, baking, oppressive. ANTONYMS: (adj) fresh, cool, cold
swiftness: (n) speed, haste, rapidity, celerity, acceleration, quickness, promptness, pace, velocity, agility, dispatch. ANTONYM: (n) clumsiness
swimmer: (n) bather, natator, surfer, diver, traveller, traveler, aquanaut, athlete, surfboarder, divers, plunger
swollen: (adj, v) inflated, distended; (adj) bombastic, puffy, turgid, puffed, high, egotistic, bulging; (v) blown; (adj, prep) pompous. ANTONYMS: (adj) contracted, shrunken
swoon: (adj, n, v) faint; (adj, n) collapse; (n) fainting, syncope, prostration, deliquium; (v) conk, black out, pass out, die; (adj) puff
swoning: (adj) light, not burdensome, flippant, friable, giddily, psychologically light, giddy, sandy, nimble, unconscious, lite
syllabification: (n) division
syllable: (n) antepenultimate, antepenult, penultima, penultimate, articulate, utter, linguistic unit, solfa syllable, speech sound, syllabe, language unit
sylyph: (n) woman, imaginary being, adult female, fairy, imaginary creature, nymph
synonymous: (adj) equivalent, consignificative, synonymical, similar, synonymic, same, the same as, interchangeable, equal, corresponding, consignant. ANTONYMS: (adj) different, antonymous, dissimilar, opposite
tainted: (adj, v) rotten, rancid, bad, musty, reasty, vitiated; (adj) rank, contaminated, faulty, putrid, dirty.

ANTONYMS: (adj) unadulterated, unchanged, untarnished, clean

talons: (v) claws, tenaculum, unguis, tentacle, teeth; (n) clutches

tamed: (adj) tame, broken, domesticated, under control, tamer, meek, gentle, domestic, docile, controlled, cultivated

tangled: (adj) involved, complex, knotted, intricate, complicated, entangled, knotty, convoluted, disheveled, tousled, matted.

ANTONYMS: (adj) tidy, straightforward, untangled, neat, simple

tantalize: (v) tease, irritate, rally, frustrate, pester, taunt, jeer, badger, harass, tantalise, twit

taper: (n) candle, taper hole, bougie, rushlight, taper ratio; (v) sharpen, point, acuminate, diminish, lessen, reduce. ANTONYMS: (v) rise, widen

tapering: (adj) narrow, narrowing, pointed, angustation, coarctation, conical, dwindling, constricting, constrictive, decreasing; (n) crowning

tapestry: (n) arras, tapis, textile, embroidery, hanging, carpet, cloth, complexity, fabric, material, mending

tardily: (adv) belatedly, late, dilatorily, lately, slackly, sluggishly, recently, backwardly, behindhandly; (adv, v) slow, easy. ANTONYMS: (adv) quickly, punctually

tarn: (n) mere, lake, loch, pond, lough, well, pool, puddle, slab, tairn, mountain lake

tasteful: (adj) refined, neat, graceful, savory, tasty, delicious, dainty, discriminating, clean, appreciate, artistic. ANTONYMS: (adj) vulgar, cheap, garish, offensive, unstylish, unrefined, unfashionable, loud, obvious, tacky

tattered: (adj) shabby, ragged, scruffy, dilapidated, threadbare, frayed, seedy, worn out, torn, shattered; (adj, v) bedraggled. ANTONYMS: (adj) elegant, smart, new

tattoo: (n) drumbeat, tattoos, bugle call, decoration

technicality: (n) detail, lingo, technicalness, technology, St, triviality, small beer, side issue, point, pettiness, jargon

tedium: (n) ennui, monotony, tediousness, dullness, sameness, dreariness, lifelessness, difficulty,

drabness; (adj) dull work, humdrum. ANTONYMS: (n) excitement, diversion, variation, entertainment, ease

teeming: (adj) abundant, profuse, swarming, crowded, overflowing, exuberant, copious, plentiful, productive, prolific, multitudinous.

ANTONYMS: (adj) deserted, lacking, needing, wanting, clear, scarce, scanty

temperament: (n) character, nature, disposition, constitution, personality, quality, spirit, humor, equanimity, composure, mettle

tempest: (adj, n) storm, gust; (n) gale, hurricane, squall, disturbance, cyclone, typhoon, agitation, tornado, blizzard. ANTONYM: (n) serenity

tempestuous: (adj, n) rough, boisterous, severe; (adj) raging, furious, wild, angry, windy, fierce, gusty; (adj, v) turbulent.

ANTONYMS: (adj) mild, moderate, relaxed

temporal: (adj) secular, earthly, profane, lay, carnal, mortal, fleeting, temporary, transient, impermanent, mundane. ANTONYMS: (adj)

spiritual, otherworldly, mental, permanent, perpetual, lasting

tenable: (adj) reasonable, justifiable, maintainable, plausible, invulnerable, excusable, believable, credible, defensible, sensible. ANTONYMS: (adj) unbelievable, untenable

tenanted: (adj) occupied, engaged, having tenants, resided in

tenderly: (adv) softly, kindly, delicately, affectionately, fondly, warmly, painfully, sensitively, caringly, sympathetically, gently.

ANTONYMS: (adv) roughly, severely, disapprovingly, harshly

tenderness: (n) fondness, soreness, love, affection, sympathy; (adj, n) clemency, mildness, compassion, gentleness, softness, delicacy.

ANTONYMS: (n) pleasure, dryness, hatred, strength, detachment

tending: (n) care, hairdressing, aid, treatment, attention, babysitting, incubation; (adj) apt, conducive, prone, disposed

tenor: (n) purport, meaning, substance, tendency, spirit, tone, mood, effect, set, temper; (adj) soprano

tenuity: (n) feebleness, rareness, thinness, low density, slenderness, debility, infirmity, weakness,

indigence, fineness, frailness.

ANTONYM: (n) thickness

terminating: (adj) final, ending, conclusive, dying, determining, terminative, last, expiring, decisive, expiring groans; (n) termination

termination: (n) close, end, conclusion, result, dissolution, cessation, expiration, finale, finish, completion, issue. ANTONYMS: (n) beginning, preservation, initiation, inauguration, creation

terrestrial: (adj) earthly, mundane, worldly, terrene, sublunary, sublunar, telluric, planetary, tellurian, land, global. ANTONYMS: (adj) otherworldly, amphibious, cosmic, heavenly, spiritual

terrifically: (adv) wonderfully, marvelously, greatly, excellently, superbly, stupendously, extremely, marvellously, enormously, terribly, exceptionally. ANTONYM: (adv) abysmally

terrify: (n, v) frighten, alarm, fright, affright; (v) panic, dismay, startle, horrify, intimidate, terrorize, daunt. ANTONYMS: (v) please, delight, calm, soothe, comfort

thence: (adv) therefore, thus, therefrom, thereof, consequently, then, so, thereafter, thenceforth, since, on account of

thenceforward: (adv) thereafter

thereabout: (adv) thereby, by that

therefrom: (adv) therefore, thereof, hence; (adj) redundancy, strictly, exact, expected, likeness, deportment, coincidence, accurate

therein: (adv) in this, in there
thereof: (adv) thence, therefrom, therefore, hence; (adj) casual, intelligence, observer, occasional, prearranged, premeditated, fortuitous

thereunto: (adv) thereto

thereupon: (adv) hereupon, next, then, immediately, therefore, therewith, in the sequel, close upon, upon which, whereupon, accordingly

therewith: (adv) herewith, moreover, therewithal, forthwith, with that, besides, wherewith

thinker: (n) intellect, mind, longhead, head, intellectual, creative thinker, theorist, sage, wise person, pundit, ruminator. ANTONYM: (n) realist

thirst: (n, v) hunger, lust, wish; (n) longing, yen, craving, hankering, dryness, appetite; (v) starve, crave. ANTONYM: (n) dislike

hither: (adv) hither, whither, on that point, in that respect, at that place, in that location; (adj) further, ulterior, remoter, succeeding, more distant

thoroughness: (n) completeness, resolution, assiduousness, determination, care, caution, comprehensiveness, detail, attention to detail, resolve, meticulousness.

ANTONYM: (n) negligence

thoughtless: (adj, v) careless, heedless, rash, improvident; (adj) reckless, inattentive, hasty, unthinking, negligent, neglectful, imprudent. ANTONYMS: (adj) considerate, considered, heedful, prudent, kind, cautious, mindful, responsible, attentive, observant, sensible

thrice: (adv) three times, thirdly

thrill: (n, v) delight, shudder, quiver, shiver; (v) excite, exhilarate, exalt, stir; (n) shake, excitement, chill.

ANTONYMS: (v) dishearten, discourage, disappoint, displease; (n) depression, calm, boredom, agony, sorrow; (n, v) bore

thrilled: (adj) jubilant, excited, happy, overjoyed, elated, ecstatic, pleased, thrilled, contented, grateful, flattered. ANTONYMS: (adj) bored, unhappy, depressed, desolate, sad, down, miserable

thrilling: (adj, n) electric; (adj) exciting, sensational, exhilarating, electrifying, emotional, rousing, gripping, stimulating; (adj, v) impressive; (n, v) swelling. ANTONYMS: (adj) boring, depressing, discouraging, upsetting, uninspiring

thrillingly: (adv) electrically, impressively, stirringly, stimulatingly, sensationallly, grippingly, electrifyingly, breathtakingly, excitingly, emotionally, movingly

throbbing: (adj, n) beating; (n) pounding, pulsation, pulse, ache, palpitation, sting; (adj) painful, pulsatile, palpitating, palpitant. ANTONYM: (n) pleasure

throng: (n, v) swarm, herd, mob, flock, press; (n) multitude, host, horde, mass, assembly, concourse. ANTONYMS: (n) trickle, few; (v) disperse

thronged: (adj) throng, busy, populous, brisk, teeming, swarming, sprightly, sensitive, replete, overflowing; (n) persistent

thunderbolt: (n) bolt of lightning, lightning, thunder, thunderclap, bombshell, surprise, flash, shackle, quarrel, streak of lightning, streak

thwart: (adv, v) cross; (v) frustrate, prevent, oppose, baffle, obstruct, hinder, impede, defeat, disappoint, balk. ANTONYMS: (v) promote, assist, encourage, aid, help, please, permit

thwarted: (adj) disappointed, foiled, discomfited, defeated, not victorious, baffled, balked, beaten, upset, embarrassed, saddened.

ANTONYM: (adj) satisfied

tier: (n) layer, floor, stratum, grade, level, degree; (adj, n) rank, row, line, range, file

tightening: (n) clamping, thinning, tapering, alteration, modification, narrowing, reduction, adjustment.

ANTONYM: (n) expansion

tile: (n) roof, thatch, bonnet, pantile, castor, ceiling, roofing tile, wimple, tiling, paving stone; (v) cover

tiled: (adj) paved, lined, smooth, cemented

time-honored: (adj) traditional, classic, glorious, old, accepted, immemorial, regular, proverbial

timely: (adj, adv, v) seasonable; (adj, v) convenient, appropriate; (adj) punctual, apt, prompt, propitious, pat, fit; (adv) apropos; (adj, adv) early. ANTONYMS: (adj) inopportune, premature, unlucky, inappropriate, late

time-worn: (adj) antediluvian

timid: (adj) shy, afraid, diffident, coy, bashful, nervous, frightened, apprehensive, modest; (adj, adv) cowardly; (adj, n) cautious.

ANTONYMS: (adj, n) brave; (adj) confident, bold, fearless, resolute, forward, daring, brazen, extrovert, brash, talkative

timon: (n) Diogenes, egotist, man hater, misanthrope, misanthropist

tinge: (n, v) color, hue, tint, dye, stain, touch, tincture; (n) shade, cast, undertone; (adj, n, v) dash.

ANTONYMS: (v) whiten, pale; (n) white, information, pallor

tinged: (adj) plausible, bright, painted, fey, touched, specious, colorful, stained, tinted, dyed, tinct

tingle: (v) prickle, itch, tickle, smart, sting, burn, creep; (n) tremble, tingling; (n, v) twitter, pain

tingling: (n) tingle, itch, thrill, pins and needles, tickle, somesthesia, somatic sensation; (adj) stinging,

tickling, tickly; (v) turn

tint: (n, v) color, tinge, hue, stain, dye, tinct; (n) shade, tincture, tone, cast; (v) paint. ANTONYMS: (n) white, pallor; (v) whiten, pale

tinted: (adj) dyed, coloured, not natural, bleached, bright, colorful, scummy, soft; (adv) faster

tiptoe: (v) tip, tipptoe, creep, patter, skirt, skip, tilt, sidle, lean; (adj) alert; (n) quieter. ANTONYM: (v) clump

titled: (adj) highborn, patrician, coroneted, aristocratic, named, generous, posh, upright, worthy, fair; (n) princely. ANTONYM: (adj) petty

toga: (n) robe, cloak, coat, dress, ermine, frock, blouse, robes of state, tunic, purple, pall

toil: (n, v) labor, work, drudge, sweat, drudgery, grind, labour, travail; (v) plod; (n) effort, exertion. ANTONYMS: (n) pastime, entertainment, fun, relaxation; (v) laze, neglect

toiling: (adj) labouring, drudging, busy

toils: (n) net, cobweb, meshes, mesh

tokens: (n) decorations, discriminating marks, indications, indicia, insignia, signs, appearances, badges

toledo: (n) bilbo, broadsword, glaive, cutlass, falchion, Glave, saber, scimitar, skean, sword, whinyard

tolerable: (adj) passable, mediocre, bearable, fair, middling, reasonable, adequate, respectable, endurable, sufferable; (adj, v) satisfactory.

ANTONYMS: (adj) intolerable, exceptional, unbearable, unsatisfactory, bad, inadequate, appalling, inadmissible

tolerably: (adv) well enough, passably, acceptably, reasonably, enough, moderately, to a tolerable degree, pretty, to an adequate degree; (adj, adv) somewhat; (adj) pretty well. ANTONYMS: (adv) unbearably, intolerably, unacceptably, unreasonably, insufficiently, inadequately

torment: (n, v) tease, distress, harass, afflict, pain, annoy; (n) agony, anguish, suffering; (v) persecute, oppress. ANTONYMS: (v) please, delight, placate, comfort, soothe; (n) contentment, happiness, pleasure, calm, content

tormented: (adj) worried, tortured, hagridden, troubled, beleaguered, beset, besieged, cruciate, cruciform,

- distraught, distressed. ANTONYM: (adj) calm
- tormentor:** (n) pest, tormenter, torturer, pesterer, annoyer, teaser, tease, tantalizer, persecutor, gadfly, flat
- torpid:** (adj) inactive, sluggish, indolent, dull, slow, dormant, lazy, dead, lifeless, flat, supine. ANTONYMS: (adj) energetic, lively
- torrents:** (n) white water, rapids
- tortoise:** (v) sluggard, loiterer, lingerer; (n) gopher, desert tortoise, gopher tortoise, giant tortoise, gopher turtle, testudo
- tortured:** (adj) anguished, suffering, agonized, excruciate, excruciated, gnarled, hagridden, miserable, woeful, hurt
- torturer:** (n) flogger, oppressor, scourger
- totality:** (n) total, aggregate, entirety, whole, entirety, completeness, fullness, integrity, wholeness, amount; (adj, n) all. ANTONYM: (n) part
- totter:** (v) stumble, shake, falter, lurch, rock, teeter, waver, waddle, toddle, stagger, shamble
- tottering:** (adj) unsteady, ramshackle, easily shaken, tottery, sick, rocky, broken, trembling, cracked; (v) drooping; (n) convulsion
- tout:** (v) bluster, brag, advertise, boast, canvass, blow, gas, bespeak, gasconade, swash; (n) hotel runner. ANTONYMS: (v) conceal, understate
- tract:** (n) region, area, expanse, essay, pamphlet, section, extent, district, dissertation, plot, lot
- trailing:** (n) tracking, drift, pursuit, streaminess, hunt, heeling; (adj) following, rambling, sprawling, prone, procumbent
- trait:** (n) characteristic, attribute, quality, character, idiosyncrasy, property; (adj, n) peculiarity, trick; (n, v) lineament; (v) stroke, touch
- traitorous:** (adj) faithless, treacherous, false, treasonable, perfidious, unfaithful, treasonous, untrue, renegade, traitor, insidious
- traits:** (v) lineaments, area, expanse, exposition, extent, length, tract, trace; (n) character, nature, personality
- trance:** (adj, n) ecstasy; (n, v) coma, charm; (n) fascination, daze, dream, captivation, spell, stupor, obstupefaction; (v) capture. ANTONYMS: (n) loyalist, reality, alertness
- tranquil:** (adj, v) quiet, unruffled, smooth; (adj, n) peaceful; (adj) placid, still, serene, sedate, collected, composed, equable. ANTONYMS: (adj) noisy, tense, agitated, anxious, troubled, bustling, loud, perturbed, frenetic, moving, bothered
- tranquility:** (n) peace, serenity, repose, calm, ease, rest, easiness, quietude, quietness, harmony; (adj, n) placidity. ANTONYMS: (n) chaos, violence, uproar, upheaval
- tranquillity:** (adj, n, v) quiet; (n) serenity, quietness, relaxation, quietude, peacefulness, calmness; (n, v) repose, rest; (adj, n) stillness, calm. ANTONYMS: (n) noise, agitation, movement, panic, turbulence, turmoil
- tranquilly:** (adv) serenely, calmly, peacefully, quietly, stilly, undisturbedly, untroubledly, restfully, placidly, coolly, unperturbedly. ANTONYMS: (adv) anxiously, noisily
- transferring:** (n) transference, etching, delegation; (adj) translatory
- transient:** (adj) fleeting, temporary, passing, transitory, fugacious, ephemeral, momentary, temporal, provisional; (adj, n) fugitive, vagabond. ANTONYMS: (adj) enduring, lasting, immanent, long; (n) resident
- translator:** (n) translating program, transcriber, dragoman, translator, program, arranger, assembler, assembly program, computer program, computer programme, adapter
- transparency:** (n) clearness, clarity, slide, limpidity, pellucidity, lucidity, diaphaneity, translucency, overhead, foil, pellucidity. ANTONYMS: (n) ambiguity, opacity, dirtiness, impurity
- traversing:** (n) traverse, perambulation, crossing; (adj) moving
- treacherous:** (adj) unfaithful, deceitful, false, perfidious, dangerous, disloyal, unreliable, unsafe, Punic, fraudulent, faithless. ANTONYMS: (adj) faithful, loyal, honest, safe, true, genuine, forthright, stable, harmless, dependable, open
- treatise:** (n) tract, thesis, essay, discourse, paper, article, monograph, piece, pamphlet, review, book
- tremble:** (adj, n, v) shiver; (n, v) quiver, shudder, thrill, palpitate; (adj, v) totter, quake; (n) throb; (v) flutter, quail, falter. ANTONYMS: (v) steady, calm
- trembles:** (n) animal disease, nervousness
- tremor:** (n, v) shiver, quake, shudder, shake; (n) agitation, vibration, earthquake, convulsion; (adj, v) flutter; (adj, n) trepidation; (v) tremble
- tremulous:** (adj) shaky, trembling, shaking, fearful, apprehensive, quavering, fidgety, shivering; (n) nervous, diffident, coy. ANTONYMS: (adj) stable, confident, steady
- trepanning:** (n) circular grooving
- trepidation:** (n) fear, tremor, alarm, apprehension, fright, terror, dread, dismay, consternation, perturbation, disquiet. ANTONYMS: (n) contentment, calm, confidence, equanimity, bravery, reassurance
- tresses:** (n) locks, mop, head of hair
- triangular:** (adj) tripartite, trilateral, trigonal, deltoid, triangled, angular, multilateral, angulate
- trickle:** (n, v) dribble, drip, distill, drool; (v) percolate, ooze, seep, flow, leak, filter, leach. ANTONYMS: (n) throng, deluge, onslaught; (v) gush, flow, flood
- trifle:** (n, v) play; (adj, n, v) trinket; (v) dally, fiddle, flirt, fool, frivol; (n) nothing, triviality, detail; (adj, n) bagatelle
- trifles:** (n) jests, nonsense, nugae, trivia
- trifling:** (adj) paltry, slight, petty, negligible, immaterial, worthless, trivial, minor, small; (adj, v) inconsequential; (adj, n) frivolity. ANTONYMS: (adj) significant, worthwhile, major, considerable, crucial, enormous, great, mature, profound, substantial; (n) importance
- trimmed:** (adj) down, slashed, shortened, neat, mown, level, gelded, emasculated, demure, cunning, sly
- triple:** (adj) threefold, ternary, triplex, trine, tripartite, Ternate, triplasian; (adj, n) thribble; (n) triad, safety, threesome
- tripod:** (n) triplopia, triangle, trionym, easel, trident, triennium, trignon, trisula, triskelion, triseme, trirame
- trist:** (n, v) trust

triumphant: (adj) victorious, successful, triumphal, exulting, winning, joyful, rejoicing, elated, conquering, prideful; (adj, v) exultant. ANTONYMS: (adj) disappointed, failing, losing, defeated, miserable, sorrowful

triumphantly: (adv) exultantly, winningly, jubilantly, elatedly, proudly, successfully, triumphally, conqueringly, gleefully, delightedly, gloriously

trodden: (adj) trampled, damaged, beaten, compressed, packed down. ANTONYM: (adj) loose

troop: (n) group, corps, gang, crowd, band, brigade, crew, herd, swarm, horde; (n, v) flock

troublesome: (adj) difficult, hard, arduous, bothersome, inconvenient, onerous, awkward, annoying, laborious, tough, heavy. ANTONYMS: (adj) nice, helpful, useful, advantageous, convenient, uncomplicated, delightful

trowel: (n) spatula, watch glass, dipper, transplant, trowel, tablespoon, pointing trowel, plastering trowel, brick trowel, garden trowel; (v) delve

trumpery: (n) nonsense, trash, frippery, gimcracks, gimcrackery, tripe, frills, folderol, falderal; (adj) trashy, worthless

trumpet: (n) horn, cornet, bugle, clarion, trump, brass, trombone; (v) proclaim, promulgate, show off, blare

trumpets: (n) *Sarracenia flava*, yellow pitcher plant, pitcher plant, yellow trumpet

trunks: (n) short pants, pants, luggage, Jockey shorts, Jamaica shorts, Bermuda shorts, bathing trunks, bathing suit, costume, drawers, swimming trunks

trustingly: (adv) confidently, unsuspectingly, naively, credulously, innocently, confidently, showing trust. ANTONYMS: (adv) doubtfully, distrustfully

tulip: (n) iris, rainbow, cottage tulip, candlestick tulip, chameleon, dwarf tulip; (adj) lily, asphodel, anemone, buttercup, daffodil

tumbled: (adj) disordered

tumbling: (adj) falling, billowing, dropping, rolled; (adj, adv) plunging; (n) gymnastics, acrobatics, stunting, stunt flying, rumbling; (adv) headfirst

tumult: (adj, n, v) hubbub,

disturbance; (n) stir, commotion, bustle, din, fuss, excitement; (n, v) clamor, disorder, brawl. ANTONYMS: (n) peace, push, serenity, order, calm

tumultuous: (adj, n) boisterous, tempestuous; (adj) disorderly, riotous, turbulent, noisy, furious, loud, troubled, disturbed; (adj, v) tumultuary. ANTONYMS: (adj) peaceful, calm

tumultuously: (adv) turbulently, tempestuously, violently, uproariously, boisterously, tumultuarly, noisily, furiously, loudly, agitatedly; (adj, adv) madly

turbulent: (adj, n) tempestuous, rough, stormy, boisterous, rude; (adj) furious, disorderly, violent, wild, noisy, riotous. ANTONYMS: (adj) peaceful, untroubled, manageable, moderate, obedient, settled, still, relaxed, orderly, mild

turf: (n) sward, greensward, ground, grass, field, peat, lawn, green, divot, Corso, race course

turpitude: (n) depravity, evil, corruption, degeneracy, depravation, wickedness, trimming, transgression, shuffling; (adj) debasement, abjection

twig: (n) sprig, bough, limb, shoot, offshoot, spray, branchlet, scion, stalk; (n, v) stick; (v) grasp

twilight: (n) nightfall, night, sunset, gloaming, evening, sundown, eventide, fall, decline, evenfall; (adj) aurora. ANTONYMS: (n) daybreak, sunrise

twinkling: (n) moment, jiffy, minute, second, flash, trice, twinkle, wink, split second, breath; (adj) sparkling. ANTONYM: (adj) dull

twofold: (adj) dual, duplicate, twin, doubled, threefold, treble, duplex, duple; (adv) two times, as much again, twice

typhus: (n) typhina, typhomania, typhus fever, rickettsial disease, spotted fever

typography: (n) composition, musical creation, musical composition, makeup, lettering, craft, print, constitution, font, opus, paper

tyranny: (adj, n) dictatorship, autocracy; (n) absolutism, despotism, oppression, cruelty, monarchy, totalitarianism, authoritarianism, autarchy, Caesarism. ANTONYMS: (n) democracy, liberty

ulterior: (adj) later, eventual,

subterranean, covert, extraneous, foreign, alien, subsequent, privy, distant, hidden. ANTONYMS: (adj) known, overt, public, transparent

ultramarine: (adj) chromatic; (n) blueness, cobalt, cyanogen, ultramarine blue

unaccountable: (adj) incomprehensible, inexplicable, strange, unintelligible, unexplainable, mysterious, impenetrable, undiscoverable, undecipherable, unknowable, unnatural. ANTONYMS: (adj) accountable, explainable, responsible, explicable

unaccountably: (adv) mysteriously, especially, curiously, bizarrely

unaccustomed: (adj) new, strange, unusual, inexperienced, unseasoned, unacquainted, uncustodial, rare, unfamiliar, unwonted; (adj, v) untrained. ANTONYMS: (adj) familiar, normal, ready, usual, prepared, knowledgeable, customary

unadapted: (adj) unadjusted, unsuited, inapplicable, unmodified, irrelevant, incompetent, incompatible, inapposite, inappropriate

unaltered: (adj) unalterable, unmoved, same, unaffected. ANTONYM: (adj) affected

unanticipated: (adj) unforeseen, sudden, surprising, amazing, startling, shocking, serendipitous; (adj, adv) out of the blue; (v) unhoped for, unlooked for; (adj, v) unpredicted

unassisted: (adj) alone, unbacked; (v) unsupported, unstrengthened; (adv) single-handed. ANTONYM: (adj) assisted

unassuming: (adj) humble, retiring, unobtrusive, lowly, quiet, diffident, unpretentious, meek, simple, inconspicuous, unaffected. ANTONYMS: (adj) conspicuous, elaborate, bold, confident, presumptuous, pretentious, brash, wild

unattainable: (adj) impossible, inaccessible, impracticable, impractical, unapproachable, unobtainable, out of print, not possible, unassailable, unavailable, unbeatable. ANTONYMS: (adj) vulnerable, accessible, possible, attainable, feasible

unattempted: (adj) unsought

unattended: (adj) ignored, neglected,

alone, solitary, abandoned, disregarded, not safeguarded, lonely

unavoidably: (adv) inescapably, necessarily, ineluctably, by necessity, of necessity, automatically, needs, inevitable, relentlessly, true to form, unsurprisingly. ANTONYMS: (adv) surprisingly, unnecessarily

unawed: (adj) unflinching, unshrinking, unblanched, unabashed, unapprehensive, undaunted, undismayed, final, firmly determined, peremptory, positive

unbecoming: (adj) indecorous, unseemly, inappropriate, indecent, indelicate, untoward, unworthy, unsuitable, shameful, unbefitting, incongruous. ANTONYMS: (adj) dignified, becoming, fitting, proper, seemly, correct, decent, suitable

unbidden: (adj) unbid, uninvited, spontaneous, voluntary, willing, unwanted

unblemished: (adj) clean, perfect, faultless, pure, immaculate, blameless, clear, irreproachable, unspotted, untarnished, flawless. ANTONYMS: (adj) blemished, flawed, marked, imperfect, used, marred, guilty, infirm

unborn: (adj) uncreated, unmade, unproduced, unconceived, unbred, not begotten, unbegotten; (n) posterity. ANTONYM: (adj) born

unbound: (adj) uncontrolled, unconstrained, open, untied, untrammelled, exempt, unchained, released, unfettered, unobstructed; (v) unencumbered. ANTONYMS: (adj) bound, restricted

unbounded: (adj) immeasurable, limitless, endless, infinite, immense, measureless, unlimited, vast, illimitable, unmeasured, absolute

unbridled: (adj) wild, unchecked, licentious, reinless, ungoverned, violent, unmuzzled, ungovernable, rampant, rakish, disorderly

unceasing: (adj) ceaseless, incessant, perpetual, continuous, constant, continual, everlasting, eternal, lasting, uninterrupted, endless. ANTONYMS: (adj) acute, intermittent, sporadic

unceasingly: (adv) incessantly, endlessly, ceaselessly, continually, unremittingly, unendingly, constantly, always, perpetually, uninterruptedly, eternally.

ANTONYM: (adv) acutely

unceremoniously: (adv) casually, familiarly, easily, offhandedly, abruptly, ungraciously, uncivilly, curtly, closely, intimately, cozily. ANTONYMS: (adv) attentively, carefully, distantly, formally

uncharitable: (adj) stingy, unkind, ungenerous, unforgiving, unamiable, relentless, grim, cruel, inexorable, stern, hardhearted. ANTONYMS: (adj) charitable, generous, considerate

unclosed: (v) ajar, unstopped; (adj) sincere, public, plain, obvious, frank, exposed, evident, artless, apparent

uncomplaining: (adj) patient, enduring, tolerant, uncomplaining, submissive, unwearied, compliant, acquiescent, resigned, forbearing. ANTONYMS: (adj) impatient, intolerant

unconditionally: (adv) totally, categorically, flatly, completely, unreservedly, unqualifiedly, unlimitedly, utterly, positively, unrestrictedly, definitely. ANTONYMS: (adv) partially, unenthusiastically

uncongenial: (adj) unfriendly, hostile, incongenial, cold, unfit, unsuited, contrastive, chilly, cool, unsociable, distant. ANTONYMS: (adj) friendly, hospitable

unconnected: (adj) detached, disjointed, incoherent, unrelated, illogical, confused, irrelevant, incongruous; (adj, prep) separate, separated; (v) unattached. ANTONYMS: (adj) attached, pertinent, relevant, together

unconquerable: (adj) insurmountable, impregnable, insuperable, irresistible, unbeatable, proof against, resistless, indomitable, unquenchable, impassable, inextinguishable. ANTONYMS: (adj) conquerable, feeble

unconsciousness: (n) blackout, insensibility, grogginess, loss of consciousness, coma, trance, stupefaction, faint, unawareness, ignorance, torpor. ANTONYM: (n) awareness

uncontrollable: (adj) unruly, uncontrollable, ungovernable, unmanageable, intractable, undisciplined, disobedient, indocile, overwhelming, boisterous; (adj, v) uncontrolled. ANTONYMS: (adj)

controllable, imperceptible, orderly, biddable, weak

uncounted: (adj) countless, numberless, myriad, innumerable, multitudinous, unnumbered, innumerable, incalculable, many; (adj, v) untold; (n) legion

uncourtly: (adj) unpolished

uncouth: (adj) rough, rude, barbarous, vulgar, crude, awkward, clumsy, gross, unrefined, ungainly, common. ANTONYMS: (adj) refined, couth, polite, sophisticated, pleasant, proper, genteel

uncovered: (adj) naked, open, bare, nude, unclothed, bald, unreserved, unprotected, evident, frank, manifest. ANTONYMS: (adj) indoor, concealed

unction: (n) salve, ointment, balm, unguent, gusto, anointment, inspiration, smarm, cream, oleaginousness, smarminess

undecayed: (adj) sound, green

undecided: (adj) uncertain, doubtful, dubious, unresolved, pending, indecisive, irresolute, hesitant, debatable, indefinite; (adj, v) undetermined. ANTONYMS: (adj) certain, determined, sure, settled, definite, decisive

undefinable: (adj) undefined, inexpressible, indescribable, vague, inexplicable, ineffable, incommunicable

undergrowth: (n) brush, brushwood, underwood, groundcover, thicket, scrub, copse, ground cover, coppice, wood, grove

underlined: (n) emphasis; (adj) noteworthy, vital, weighty

undertone: (n) undercurrent, murmur, tinge, nuance, whisper, suggestion, implication, connotation, overtone, association, hint

underwood: (n) brush, underbrush, thicket, groundcover, coppice, ground cover, understorey, copse, brushwood, bosage, thick foliage

undeviating: (adj) straight, unswerving, invariable, direct, consistent, stable, unchanged, unvarying; (adj, n) fixed, steady, firm. ANTONYM: (adj) temporary

undiminished: (adj) unabated, unrestricted, unreduced, undying, not deficient, morally whole, internal, faithful, unrelieved, interior; (v) on the increase

undisturbed: (adj) peaceful, quiet, tranquil, serene, placid, still, easy,

smooth, uninterrupted, untroubled, composed. ANTONYMS: (adj)

tense, anxious, agitated, bothered, disordered, disturbed, noisy, scared

undivided: (adj) complete, whole, unbroken, total, single, integral, continuous, united, full, exclusive, solid. ANTONYMS: (adj) partial, separate, broken, imperfect, individual

undue: (adj) excessive, immoderate, unreasonable, unwarranted, inordinate, extravagant, exorbitant, extreme, unfair, improper, unjustified. ANTONYMS: (adj) reasonable, due, appropriate, sensible, justified, just, fair

undulated: (adj) undulatory

undulation: (v) flutter, undulate; (n) fluctuation, oscillation, impulse, surge, pulsation, vibration, swell, swing, roll

unearthly: (adj) weird, ghostly, uncanny, ethereal, unworldly, preternatural, spectral, eerie, spiritual, strange, heavenly.

ANTONYMS: (adj) natural,

physical, acceptable, normal, human

uneasily: (adv) apprehensively, restlessly, worriedly, nervously, solicitously, unquietly, constrainedly, awkwardly, fretfully, unsettledly, fearfully. ANTONYMS: (adv) calmly, confidently, unconcernedly, comfortably, fearlessly

uneasiness: (n) disquiet, discomfort, inquietude, anxiety, unease, malaise, disquietude, apprehension, unrest, impatience; (n, v) agitation. ANTONYMS: (n) peace, calm, confidence

unendurable: (adj) intolerable, insufferable, insupportable, excruciating, impossible, unsupportable, uneasy, teasing, passionate, not patient, intolerant. ANTONYM: (adj) bearable

unequal: (adj) different, unlike, uneven, rough, lopsided, unfair, inadequate, disparate, disproportionate, unbalanced, unsymmetrical. ANTONYMS: (adj) equal, even, fair, identical, similar, same, level, constant, balanced, like, corresponding

unequivocal: (adj, v) clear, positive, definite; (adj) decided, explicit, unambiguous, categorical, plain, definitive, unmistakable; (adj, n) certain. ANTONYMS: (adj) equivocal, indefinite, obscured,

vague, ambiguous, implicit, uncertain

unequivocally: (adv) decidedly, definitely, absolutely, positively, exactly, clearly, plainly, categorically, expressly, explicitly, distinctly. ANTONYMS: (adv) unclearly, vaguely, partially, guardedly, implicitly

unexampled: (adj) new, unique, unparalleled, rare, novel, undescribed, peerless, inimitable, singular, fantastic, fresh

unexplored: (adj) unexplained, unapprehended, unascertained, undiscovered, unheard of; (v) unexamined, uninvented, unsearched, unstudied, unweighed, unsifted

unexpressed: (v) unproclaimed, unexpressed, unwritten, untold, untalked of, unsung, unsaid, unpublished; (adj) hidden, latent, undisclosed

unfastened: (adj) open, movable, loose, unbuttoned, overt, opened, opened out, slack, undecided, undetermined, assailable. ANTONYMS: (adj) buttoned, fixed, shut, tied

unfathomable: (adj) incomprehensible, inexplicable, inscrutable, unintelligible, impenetrable, abysmal, deep, immeasurable, unaccountable, obscure, enigmatic. ANTONYMS: (adj) fathomable, shallow, explicable, explainable, comprehensible, believable, straightforward, understandable, legible, clear

unfinished: (adj) rough, rude, unaccomplished, imperfect, incomplete, partial, immature, unpolished, raw, undone; (v) uncompleted. ANTONYMS: (adj) finished, complete, complex, completed

unfold: (v) spread, open, extend, develop, stretch, spread out, reveal, display, stretch out; (adj, v) expound, explain. ANTONYMS: (v) fold, block, stagnate, stop, hide, withhold, check, wrap, conceal

unformed: (adj) shapeless, amorphous, unfashioned, formless, crude, unlabored, unpolished, unwrought, unfledged, inchoate, embryonic. ANTONYMS: (adj) distinct, mature

unfrequently: (adv) not much, not often, unoften, rarely

ungentlemanly: (adj) ribald, discourteous, shabby, uncouth, unrefined, impolite

ungovernable: (adj) unruly, uncontrollable, irrepressible, intractable, licentious, violent, wild, indocile, uncontrolled, turbulent; (adj, v) headstrong

ungracious: (adj) discourteous, impolite, uncivil, surly, unkind, unceremonious, churlish, disrespectful, unfriendly, graceless, unpleasing

unguided: (adj) aimless, misguided, aimlessly drifting, directionless, planless, rudderless, unled, unprompted. ANTONYM: (adj) guided

unhappily: (adv) wretchedly, unluckily, disconsolately, badly, woefully, forlornly, sorrowfully, unfortunately, dismally, dejectedly, despondently. ANTONYMS: (adv) cheerfully, contentedly, luckily, willingly, enthusiastically, fortunately

unhappiness: (n) sadness, misery, melancholy, distress, grief, regret, infelicity, woe, sorrowfulness, depression, displeasure. ANTONYMS: (n) cheerfulness, pleasure, joy, elation, contentment, satisfaction, cheer

unheeded: (adj) unnoticed, neglected, disregarded, ignored; (v) unthought of, unseen, unperceived, unobserved, unnoted, unmarked, unmissed

unhesitatingly: (adv) readily, openly, freely, plainly, speedily, willingly, decidedly, resolutely, determinedly, sincerely, undisguisedly.

ANTONYM: (adv) eventually

unholy: (adj) wicked, sinful, unhallowed, profane, fiendish, impious, diabolic, infernal, unsanctified, evil; (adv) wickedly. ANTONYMS: (adj) reasonable,

pious, godly, sensible, religious

unhurried: (adj) slow, gradual, deliberate, calm, languid, easy, sluggish, measured, torpid, lenient, blas. ANTONYMS: (adj) rushed, vigorous, strict, fast, thoughtless, speedy

uniformity: (n) consistency, constancy, evenness, sameness, equality, monotony, regularity, similarity, order, identity, proportion. ANTONYMS: (n) variety, inconsistency, nonuniformity, variation,

dissimilarity, unevenness

uniformly: (adv) equally, evenly, consistently, regularly, homogeneously, identically, steadily, unvaryingly; (adj, adv) ever, always, invariably

unimaginative: (adj) uninspired, sterile, stereotypical, stereotypic, stereotyped, insipid, commonplace, barren, unoriginal, prosaic, infertile. ANTONYMS: (adj) original, ingenious, imaginative, farsighted, distinctive, inspired

unimpeded: (adj) free, unrestrained, free-flowing, unhampered, move without being impeded, expedite, unchecked, speedily, quick, prompt, unrestricted. ANTONYM: (adj) restricted

unimpressive: (adj) not noteworthy, ridiculous, preposterous, pitiful, undistinguished, pathetic, unconvincing, mediocre, ludicrous, incompetent, feeble. ANTONYMS: (adj) grand, fine, admirable, persuasive, imposing, competent

uninformed: (adj) ignorant, uneducated, untaught, uninstructed, unlettered, unlearned, unwitting, unaccustomed, unaware, unversed, untutored. ANTONYMS: (adj) knowledgeable, informed, literate, logical, conscious

unintelligible: (adj) opaque, inarticulate, unfathomable, impenetrable, unaccountable, ambiguous, not clear, obscure, indistinct, inconceivable, secret. ANTONYMS: (adj) understandable, clear, comprehensible, intelligible, obvious

uninterrupted: (adj) ceaseless, continuous, continual, unbroken, incessant, perpetual, constant, unceasing, endless; (adj, adv) straight, nonstop. ANTONYMS: (adj) intermittent, temporary, broken, alternate, noisy, sporadic; (adv) indirectly

uninterruptedly: (adv) constantly, ceaselessly, continually, endlessly, unremittingly, unceasingly, successively, consecutively, continuedly, sustainedly, straightly

unison: (n) agreement, union, accord, coincidence, accordance, concord, unity, unisonance, concurrence, consonance, concordance.

ANTONYMS: (n) discord, disharmony, disarray

unite: (v) associate, meet, connect, link, blend, join, coalesce, unify, tie,

amalgamate; (adj, v) fuse.

ANTONYMS: (v) divide, cut, disband, disconnect, diverge, segregate, split, undo, unpick

universality: (n) catholicity, generality, Catholicism, entirety, totality, prevalence, universality, popularity, existing everywhere, completeness, catholicness

unload: (v) discharge, empty, unlade, clear, tip, exonerate, free, dump, relieve; (adj, v) unburden, disburden. ANTONYM: (v) fill

unmanageable: (adj) unwieldy, intractable, uncontrollable, awkward, cumbersome, stubborn, clumsy, bulky, recalcitrant, ungovernable, obstinate.

ANTONYMS: (adj) manageable, orderly, wieldy, amenable, biddable

unmanned: (adj) emasculate; (v) unnerved

unmask: (v) uncloak, expose, reveal, debunk, uncover, unfold, unkennel, detect, disclose, unseal, bare.

ANTONYMS: (v) mask, conceal
unmeaning: (adj) insignificant, meaningless, senseless, nonsensical, irrational, expressionless, gibberish, foolish, peanut, weatless, undistinguished

unmingled: (adj) unmixed, plain, uncompounded, sheer, simple, uncombined, concentrated, homely, artless, bluff, patent

unnamable: (adj) nameless, indescribable, anonymous, inexpressible

unnatural: (adj) affected, artificial, grotesque, supernatural, forced, abnormal, eccentric, uncanny, stilted, mannered, anomalous.

ANTONYMS: (adj) natural, normal, real, unaffected, commonplace, genuine, sincere

unnecessarily: (adv) uselessly, redundantly, superfluously, gratuitously, futilely, pointlessly, unessentially, excessively, sparsely, wantonly, supererogatorily.

ANTONYM: (adv) inescapably

unnerved: (v) relaxed; (adj) enervated, afraid, alarmed, anxious, fearful, hysterical, scared, tense, terrified, timid. ANTONYM: (adj) confident

unnoticed: (v) unheeded, unthought of, unregarded; (adj) disregarded, unmarked, hidden, neglected, ignored, obscure; (adj, v) unremarked, unobserved.

ANTONYMS: (adj) evident, seen,

noticeable, noted, obvious

unobstructed: (adj) open, unconstrained, clear, unhindered, unchecked, unimpeded, manifest, uncaught, unconfined, unloaded, free. ANTONYMS: (adj) obstructed, unclear, restricted

unobtrusive: (adj) unassuming, discreet, inconspicuous, restrained, unnoticeable, humble, unostentatious, diffident, reserved, unpretentious, subdued.

ANTONYMS: (adj) obtrusive, conspicuous, elaborate, flaunting, noticeable, loud, brash, obvious

unoffending: (adj) innocent, harmless, innocuous, offenseless, blameless, innoxious, unharmed, unhurt, uninjured, uncontroversial, savoury. ANTONYMS: (adj) offending, offensive

unorganized: (adj) nonunionized, unarranged, unprovided, untrimmed, unorganised, not formed, amorphous, unready, unfurnished, unformed, unequipped

unparalleled: (adj) unequalled, unique, unmatched, incomparable, matchless, unprecedented, peerless, unexampled, inimitable, unequalled, alone. ANTONYMS: (adj) ordinary, inferior, surpassable, abysmal, unremarkable, usual

unpardonable: (adj) irremissible, unforgivable, indefensible, terrible, appalling, unwarranted, awful, unacceptable, shocking, not remissible; (v) inexpiable.

ANTONYMS: (adj) pardonable, excusable, justified, excellent, justifiable

unperceived: (v) unheeded, unthought of, unregarded; (adj) unremarked, unnoted, unobserved, unmarked, unknown, stealthy, sly, secret

unpleasantly: (adv) distastefully, disagreeably, rudely, obnoxiously, bitterly, painfully, awfully, troublesomely, offensively, hardly, displeasingly. ANTONYMS: (adv) delightfully, agreeably, kindly, politely, graciously, attractively, sweetly, well, humbly

unpretending: (adj) unassuming, humble, unostentatious, unobtrusive, lowly, unpretentious, restrained; (n) plain, homely, familiar, intimate

unprincipled: (adj) abandoned, unscrupulous, depraved, dishonest,

- unethical, profligate, dissolute, shameless, unconscionable, vicious, immoral. ANTONYMS: (adj) ethical, moral, honest, professional
- unprofitable:** (adj) profitless, fruitless, futile, inutile, disadvantageous, unfruitful, barren, idle, vain, uneconomic, unproductive. ANTONYMS: (adj) fruitful, lucrative
- unqualified:** (adj) incompetent, sheer, total, unconditional, absolute, incapable, complete, utter, unmitigated, unfit, perfect. ANTONYMS: (adj) qualified, trained, prepared, competent, fit, conditional, indefinite, tentative, capable, incomplete, partial
- unquestionable:** (adj) incontrovertible, indisputable, sure, incontestable, indubitable, certain, unequivocal, irrefutable, undoubted, definite; (v) unimpeachable. ANTONYMS: (adj) dubious, uncertain, doubtful, indefinite, tenuous, provisional, debatable, disputable
- unquestionably:** (adv) certainly, definitely, indubitably, decidedly, indisputably, positively, surely, of course, assuredly, no doubt; (adj) doubtless. ANTONYMS: (adv) doubtfully, possibly, arguably
- unquiet:** (adj) restless, anxious, nervous, turbulent, unsettled, disturbed, fussy, tumultuous; (v) movable, saltatory, shifting. ANTONYM: (adj) quiet
- unreal:** (adj) illusory, fantastic, fanciful, imaginary, insubstantial, artificial, fictitious, visionary, untrue; (adj, v) ideal, fancied. ANTONYMS: (adj) genuine, natural, substantial, authentic, ordinary, plausible
- unredeemed:** (adj) cursed, lost, damned, fated, goddam, goddamned, everlasting, infernal, unlucky, unsaved, goddamn
- unrelenting:** (adj, n) harsh, hard, severe; (adj) stern, relentless, implacable, austere, cruel, grim, unforgiving, persistent. ANTONYMS: (adj) feeble, inexorable, sympathetic, temporary, merciful, compassionate, finite, gentle
- unrelieved:** (adj) concentric, undiminished, monotonous, unceasing, constant, unremitting, unrelenting, unending, tiresome, straight; (v) worse. ANTONYM: (adj) acute
- unreservedly:** (adj, adv) freely; (adv) candidly, frankly, absolutely, sincerely, liberally, ingenuously, entirely, categorically, fully, plainly. ANTONYMS: (adv) hardly, parsimoniously, unenthusiastically, unwillingly
- unresistingly:** (adv) inertly, submissively, inactively, meekly, clearly, evidently, fruitfully, openly, pregnantly, significantly
- unruffled:** (adj) still, tranquil, composed, quiet, serene, cool, peaceful, placid, collected, sedate; (adj, v) undisturbed. ANTONYMS: (adj) agitated, bothered, disturbed, excitable, excited, fiery, frivolous, perturbed, scatterbrained, anxious
- unscrewed:** (adj) confused, distraught, frantic, frenetic, puzzled, unbalanced, disorganized
- unscrupulous:** (adj) dishonest, unprincipled, unethical, immoral, dishonorable, crooked, unfair, unconscionable, sharp, unscrupulous, sly. ANTONYMS: (adj) scrupulous, principled, ethical, honest, moral
- unseasonably:** (adv) inconveniently, untimely, inopportune, intempestively, not opportunely, prematurely, timelessly, incommodiously. ANTONYM: (adv) seasonably
- unseen:** (adj, v) unknown; (adj) invisible, concealed, hidden, unobserved, secret, veiled, latent; (v) unheeded, unperceived; (n) spiritual world. ANTONYMS: (adj) seen, visible, open, famous, noticeable
- unselfish:** (adj) selfless, altruistic, disinterested, liberal, magnanimous, philanthropic, considerate, beneficent, charitable, kind, helpful. ANTONYMS: (adj) greedy, uncharitable, thoughtless
- unsightly:** (adj) repulsive, hideous, unpleasant, unattractive, uncomely, unlovely, unseemly, disagreeable, nasty, homely, plain. ANTONYMS: (adj) beautiful, nice, pleasing, pretty, appealing, attractive
- unspeakable:** (adj) ineffable, dreadful, awful, terrible, inexpressible, nasty, horrible, atrocious, indefinable, shocking; (adj, v) unutterable. ANTONYMS: (adj) nice, wonderful, pleasant, good, lovely, bearable
- unsteadily:** (adv) precariously, unevenly, irregularly, insecurely, erratically, falteringly, dizzily, shakily, volatily, giddily, waveringly. ANTONYMS: (adv) firmly, alertly, securely
- unsteady:** (adj) insecure, changeable, dizzy, unbalanced, rickety, unsettled, shaky, unsound, precarious, uneven; (adj, n) uncertain. ANTONYMS: (adj) steady, stable, alert, firm, secure, constant
- unstring:** (v) take, take away, shake, enervate, emasculate, remove
- unstrung:** (adj) nervous, asthenic, discomposed, overwrought, adynamic; (v) weakly
- unsuited:** (adj) incompatible, inappropriate, inapplicable, inapt, improper, unfit, unbecoming, mismatched, mismatched, inapposite, incongruous
- unsurpassed:** (adj) unequalled, supreme, peerless, unexcelled, unexceeded, matchless, without comparison, unrivaled; (v) unequalled, unapproached, unparagone
- untenanted:** (adj) vacant, uninhabited. ANTONYM: (adj) occupied
- untimely:** (adj) early, unseasonable, inopportune, inappropriate, awkward, immature, previous, ill timed, inconvenient, improper, belated. ANTONYMS: (adj) timely, appropriate, opportune, convenient, overdue
- unto:** (prep, v) to, till, up to; (prep) towards, before
- untold:** (adj) infinite, incalculable, innumerable, vast, uncounted, unnumbered, unlimited, endless; (v) unsaid, untalked of, unpublished. ANTONYMS: (adj) little, minor, small, tiny, open, slight
- untouched:** (adj) intact, unharmed, unmoved, unscathed, virgin, whole, unhurt, new, impervious, imperturbable, impassive. ANTONYMS: (adj) affected, touched, refined, vulnerable, used, spoiled, partial, injured, marred, tainted, impure
- untrue:** (adj) erroneous, unfaithful, disloyal, incorrect, sham, mistaken, fallacious, treacherous, wrong, faithless, inaccurate. ANTONYMS: (adj) faithful, true, valid, factual, honest, reliable, correct, truthful, loyal, real
- untutored:** (adj) unschooled, uneducated, illiterate, uncultivated,

- artless, simple, naive, unaffected, rude, rough, pure. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) trained, educated
- unutterable:** (adj) indescribable, unspeakable, inexpressible, unpronounceable, indefinable, untellable, unnameable, unapproachable, beyond description, incommunicable, terrible
- unwarranted:** (adj) baseless, unfounded, unreasonable, gratuitous, unjustified, groundless, unauthorized, unwarrantable, unjustifiable, wanton, unsupported. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) fair, warranted, justified, rightful, necessary, justifiable, moderate, sound, just
- unwearied:** (adj) indefatigable, untiring, tireless, untired, indomitable, unflagging, industrious, tolerant, persistent, persevering, laborious. **ANTONYM:** (adj) impatient
- unwelcome:** (adj) undesirable, objectionable, unpopular, unasked, unwished, unintroduced, unvisited, uninvited, unpleasant; (adj, n) disagreeable, unsatisfactory. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) welcome, desirable, gratifying, wanted, fortunate
- unwittingly:** (adv) unintentionally, unknowingly, unconsciously, accidentally, ignorantly, innocently, unawares, unwares, unsuspectingly, uninformedly, obviously. **ANTONYMS:** (adv) mindfully, deliberately, knowingly
- unworldliness:** (n) innocence
- unworthy:** (adj) undeserving, base, disgraceful, ignoble, low, contemptible, despicable, ugly, unmerited, unseemly, shameful. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) deserving, valuable, honorable, estimable, reputable
- unwrought:** (adj) unfashioned, unformed, unhewn, raw, crude, unpolished, unlabored, bald, bare, bleak, uncooked
- upbraid:** (v) rebuke, censure, blame, scold, chide, reprimand, condemn, berate, objugate, rate; (n, v) revile
- upholstery:** (n) furniture, covering, garnish, soft furnishings
- uplift:** (n, v) lift; (v) elate, raise, elevate, exhilarate, pick up, hoist, upheave, regenerate; (n) upheaval, upthrust. **ANTONYMS:** (v) degrade, depress, knock, dishearten
- uplifted:** (adj) high, raised, noble, not inverted, not prone, proud, undismayed, stately, lofty, sublime, animated
- uplifting:** (n) ascent, exaltation, edification, upbuoyance; (adj) heartening, healing, gratifying, exhilarating, exalted, curative, cheering. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) deadly, ridiculous, heartbreaking
- uppermost:** (adj) top, upmost, upper, highest, chief, maximum, supreme, greatest, major, outermost; (n) main. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) bottom, lowest, trivial, lower
- uprise:** (v) rise, mount, arise, get up, climb, go up, stand up, originate, lift, bristle; (n, v) swell. **ANTONYM:** (v) set
- uproar:** (adj, n, v) hubbub, disturbance, tumult; (n) din, noise, turmoil, commotion, disorder, confusion; (adj, n) row; (n, v) brawl. **ANTONYMS:** (n) calm, peace, serenity, order
- upside:** (n) crest, crown, poll, top side, upper side, pate, round top, acme, summit, superlative, teetotum
- upward:** (adv) upwards, upwardly, aloft; (adj) overhead, rising, upper, increasing, open, vertical, mounting, upright. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) descending, downward; (adv) down
- upwardly:** (adj, adv) up; (adv) uply, upwards; (adj) open, improving
- usher:** (v) lead, escort, accompany, marshal, show, conduct, bring, attend; (n) attendant, porter, doorman
- utmost:** (adj, n) maximum, extreme, uttermost, furthestmost, best, highest; (adj, adv) farthest; (adj, v) supreme; (adj) last, furthest; (adj, n, v) greatest. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) moderate, worst
- uttered:** (adj) expressed, express, verbalised, verbalized, vocal, explicit, oral; (v) spoke, quoth, said
- utmost:** (adj, n) extreme; (adj, adv) farthest; (n) maximum, level best; (adj) furthest, utter, last, farthestmost, furthestmost, ultimate, most. **ANTONYM:** (adj) moderate
- vacancy:** (n) emptiness, blank, opening, void, incogitancy, post, blankness, inanity, absence; (adj, n) vacuity; (adj) depletion. **ANTONYMS:** (n) fill, tenancy, overflow
- vacillating:** (adj) indecisive, changeable, undecided, wavering, giddy, vacillant, hesitating, hesitant; (adj, v) infirm, debilitated, enfeebled. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) stable, strong, consistent, decisive, determined, resolute
- vagaries:** (n) whims, disposition, facetiousness, freaks, humor, ill humor, mood, temper, caprices
- vain:** (adj) proud, arrogant, conceited, fruitless, idle, empty, abortive, ineffectual, unproductive, narcissistic; (adj, v) useless. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) shy, successful, possible, persuasive, selfless, fruitful, humble, useful, responsible, worthwhile, effective
- valet:** (n) man, attendant, lackey, butler, flunkey, manservant, waiter, gentleman, livery servant, servant, retainer
- valourously:** (adv) gallantly, fearlessly, courageously, boldly, stoutly, bravely, intrepidly, gamely, heroically, heroically, undauntedly
- vanish:** (n, v) disappear; (adj, v) fade; (v) disperse, pass, go, die, dissipate, evaporate, depart, flee, melt away. **ANTONYMS:** (v) come, arrive, wax, stay
- vanishing:** (n) disappearance, vanishment, dissipation; (adj) dying, fleeting, momentary, breaking up, declining, diminishing, dissolving, evanescent. **ANTONYMS:** (adj) thriving, increasing
- vanity:** (n) egotism, pride, emptiness, arrogance, futility, inanity, vainglory, conceitedness, pretension, pomposity; (adj, n) amour propre. **ANTONYMS:** (n) selflessness, humility, importance, value, effectiveness
- vapor:** (n) fog, cloud, steam, haze, evaporation, vapour, fume; (adj, n) gas, air; (adj, v) bluster; (v) boast
- vapour:** (n) vapor, evaporation, gas, vaporization, vaporisation, boiling, clouding, mist, fog, damp, smoke
- vase:** (n) jar, urn, barrel, vessel, container, jug, pitcher, pot, bouquet, bushel
- vastness:** (n) enormity, immensity, immenseness, enormousness, grandeur, size, hugeness, bigness, extent, magnificence, grandness. **ANTONYM:** (n) closeness
- vault:** (n, v) leap, bound, spring, jump, arch, hop, hurdle; (n) grave, tomb, cellar, crypt
- vaulted:** (adj) domed, hollow, hooked, testudinated, rounded, arcuated, in the form of an arch, curved, concave, roofed
- vehemently:** (adj, adv) ardently;

- (adv) violently, zealously, strongly, fervently, passionately, ferociously, fervidly, keenly, intensely, furiously. ANTONYMS: (adv) feebly, gently, impassively
- veil:** (n, v) cover, hide, disguise, mask, cloud, shroud, camouflage; (v) cloak, conceal; (n) curtain, blind. ANTONYMS: (v) disclose, unveil, expose
- velvety:** (adj) smooth, soft, velvet, silky, fluffy, woolly, supple, creamy, delicate, furry; (v) lanate. ANTONYMS: (adj) croaky, watery
- venerable:** (adj) ancient, reverend, estimable, August, respectable, aged, distinguished, sacred, worthy, of long standing, revered. ANTONYMS: (adj) unworthy, unimpressive, undignified, disreputable
- veneration:** (n) respect, awe, honor, devotion, esteem, adoration, deference, estimation, worship, admiration, thaumatolatriy. ANTONYMS: (n) contempt, disapproval
- vengeance:** (n) retribution, reprisal, retaliation, requital, avengement, wrath, vendetta, spite, revengeance; (n, v) avenge, resentment. ANTONYMS: (n) forgiveness, acceptance
- vengeful:** (adj) vindictive, unforgiving, malicious, spiteful, rancorous, unfriendly, unmerciful, despicable, resentful, avengeful, malevolent. ANTONYMS: (adj) pardoning, condoning, forgiving
- venom:** (n) poison, malice, bane, spite, rancor, malevolence, maliciousness, malignity, hate, bitterness; (adj, n) gall. ANTONYM: (n) affection
- vent:** (n) exit, opening, flue, chimney, escape, blowhole; (n, v) discharge, air, release; (v) emit, ventilate. ANTONYMS: (n) door, closure; (v) block, suppress
- venus:** (adj) the Graces; (n) Urania, narcissus, terrestrial planet, Adonis, peri, solar system, Hyperion, houri, Hebe, genus Venus
- verbatim:** (adv) literally, word for word, literatim, verbally, to the letter; (adj) exact, direct, verbal, verbatim et literatim, not alternating; (adj, adv) directly. ANTONYMS: (adj) imprecise, broad
- verdant:** (adj) lush, leafy, flourishing, fresh, raw, verdurous, blooming, immature, inexperienced, emerald, young. ANTONYMS: (adj) dying, urban, withering
- verdured:** (adj) verdant
- veriest:** (adj) of mark, pointed, remarkable
- verily:** (adj, adv) really; (adv) indeed, in reality, genuinely, quietly, actually, selfly, truly, identically, exactly; (adv, int) in truth
- veritable:** (adj, v) real, true, actual, very; (adj) genuine, authentic, bona fide, unquestionable, factual, truthful, right. ANTONYMS: (adj) false, unreal
- veritably:** (adv) really, authentically, true, indeed, authentically, literally, de facto; (adj) actually
- vermin:** (n) bug, varmint, louse, trash, pest, brute, varment, scum, riffraff, ragtag and bobtail, rabble
- versed:** (adj) skillful, skilled, knowledgeable, proficient, expert, adept, conversant, old, learned, adroit, practised. ANTONYMS: (adj) green, immature, inexperienced, unversed
- vestibule:** (n) lobby, hall, foyer, antechamber, entrance hall, hallway, entry, porch, passage, anteroom, threshold
- vestige:** (n, v) trace, remains, track, token, footprint; (n) relic, shadow, remnant, indication, evidence, remainder
- vesture:** (n) clothing, raiment, dress, clothes, apparel, garment, vestment, garb, attire, array, togs
- vexation:** (adj, n) annoyance, nuisance; (n) irritation, worry, aggravation, displeasure, chagrin, chafe, anger, frustration, botheration
- vexed:** (adj) troubled, irritated, angry, pestered, peeved, harassed, sore, harried, uneasy, cross, offended. ANTONYMS: (adj) calm, uncomplicated
- viand:** (n) dish
- vibration:** (n) tremor, shudder, quiver, beat, pulse, oscillation, shiver, pulsation, trembling, undulation, movement. ANTONYM: (n) stillness
- vibrations:** (n) vibes, atmosphere, ambiance, premonition, undercurrent, feelings, vibraharp, vibraphone, ambience
- vibratory:** (adj) vibratile, vibrating, oscillatory, vibrative, oscillating, oscillative, swinging, moving
- vigilance:** (n) caution, alertness, prudence, attention, watchfulness, surveillance, jealousy, vigil, watch, circumspection; (adj) vigilant. ANTONYMS: (n) carelessness, indiscretion, negligence, inattentiveness, recklessness
- vigilant:** (adj) alert, watchful, attentive, observant, cautious, guarded, circumspect, wakeful, careful, jealous; (adj, v) awake. ANTONYMS: (adj) careless, negligent, reckless, oblivious, unprepared, asleep
- vigor:** (n, v) energy; (adj, n) intensity; (n) spirit, vitality, force, life, strength, power, might, vim, stamina. ANTONYMS: (n) weakness, apathy, frailty, laziness, enervation, inactivity, indifference, illness, lifelessness, sluggishness, tardiness
- vile:** (adj, n) contemptible, dirty, low; (adj, v) base; (adj) despicable, ignoble, evil, sorry, revolting, offensive, nasty. ANTONYMS: (adj) attractive, kind, nice, lovely, lovable, gentle, honorable, good, delightful, admirable, noble
- villain:** (n) rascal, scoundrel, rogue, knave, miscreant, criminal, bandit, crook, reprobate, varlet, rapsallion. ANTONYMS: (n) heroine, hero
- violate:** (v) contravene, break, transgress, ravish, desecrate, dishonor, disobey, infringe, rape, profane, offend. ANTONYMS: (v) obey, respect, consecrate, observe, honor, uphold
- violated:** (adj) profaned, seduced, dishonored; (v) strained, disunited, ruined financially, subjugated, rough, not continuous, humbled, fractured
- violation:** (n) infraction, breach, infringement, trespass, assault, outrage, invasion; (adj, n, v) abuse; (n, v) crime, offense; (adj, n) defilement. ANTONYMS: (n) obedience, observance, consecration, respect
- violet:** (adj, n) mauve, lavender; (adj) empurpled, lilac, purplish; (n) viola, purpleness, indigo, sweet violet, reddish blue, pansy
- virtu:** (n) connoisseurship, perceptiveness, taste, quality, objet d'art, appreciation, artistic quality, discernment
- virtuoso:** (adj, n) expert; (n) genius, master, adept, mastermind, critic, connoisseur, wizard, magician, whiz; (adj) masterly. ANTONYMS: (n) rookie, amateur, greenhorn; (adj) unexceptional, mediocre, uninspired

visage: (n) face, look, mug, physiognomy, expression, kisser, appearance, aspect, brow, smiler, forehead

visibly: (adv) apparently, noticeably, manifestly, obviously, plainly, perceptibly, appreciably, clearly, discernibly, overtly, conspicuously.

ANTONYMS: (adv) imperceptibly, invisibly, secretly, ambiguously

visionary: (adj, n) utopian; (adj, v) imaginary; (adj) airy, fanciful, unreal, dreamy, ideal, romantic; (n) seer, dreamer, prophet.

ANTONYMS: (adj) foolish, unromantic, practical, real, realistic, unimaginative

visitation: (v) visit, examination; (n) tribulation, calamity, annoyance, misfortune, irritation, infliction, inspection, test, ordeal

vista: (n) outlook, panorama, horizon, aspect, scene, landscape, scenery, picture, alley; (adj, n) view, perspective

vita: (n) memoir, resume

vitality: (n) energy, life, animation, life force, vigor, liveliness, verve, sparkle, spirit, vigour, vim.

ANTONYMS: (n) lethargy, apathy, sluggishness

vivacious: (adj) lively, animated, sprightly, vibrant, spry, effervescent, gay; (adj, v) cheerful, active, buoyant, brisk. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull, lethargic, listless, compliment, inactive, praise, languid, lifeless, serious, sluggish

vivacity: (adj, n) life, liveliness; (n) energy, vitality, enthusiasm, dash, spirit, vigor, happiness, sparkle, effervescence. ANTONYMS: (n) apathy, dullness, sluggishness

vividly: (adv) brightly, lively, intensely, clearly, brilliantly, graphically, strikingly, dramatically, colorfully, glowingly, severely.

ANTONYMS: (adv) blandly, modestly, vaguely

vizier: (n) prime minister, regent, vice president, viceregent, premier, vizir, functionary, grand vizier, minister, official, vicar

voiceless: (adj) silent, unvoiced, surd, breathed, mute, speechless, inarticulate, tacit, dumb, tongueless, unspoken. ANTONYMS: (adj) sonant, voiced

void: (adj, n) hollow, null, blank; (n) emptiness, vacancy; (adj, v) vacant; (v) nullify, quash, rescind; (adj) invalid, vacuous. ANTONYMS: (v)

validate, sanction, permit, keep, allow; (adj) full, occupied, filled, meaningful, solid; (n) fullness

volition: (n, v) will, testament; (n) choice, option, selection, determination, conation, preference, velleity, free will; (v) purpose

voluminous: (adj) large, bulky, big, extensive, roomy, vast, spacious, capacious, considerable, full, massy.

ANTONYMS: (adj) cramped, small, little, tiny

voluptuous: (adj) luscious, voluptuary, sensual, carnal, sybaritic, epicurean, buxom, sexy, sensuous, lascivious, erotic.

ANTONYM: (adj) underdeveloped

voluptuousness: (n) shapeliness, lewdness, lasciviousness, curvaceousness, lust, prurience, delicacy, lechery, gratification, luxury, fullness

voracity: (n) rapacity, greed, gluttony, ravenousness, rapaciousness, esurience, greediness, eagerness, hunger, voraciousness, covetousness.

ANTONYM: (n) moderation

vortex: (n) swirl, convolution, whirl, maelstrom; (n, v) whirlpool; (v) undercurrent, storm, heavy sea, ground swell, reflux, indraught

vowed: (v) promised, named, benempt

voyager: (n) passenger, traveller, tourist, explorer, itinerant, commuter, wanderer, wayfarer, adventurer

vulgar: (adj) rude, coarse, plebeian, nasty, common, foul, indecent, gross, unrefined; (adj, n) low, vile.

ANTONYMS: (adj) refined, sophisticated, tasteful, polite, aesthetic, muted, fashionable, decent, artistic, pleasant, clean

vulture: (n) predator, marauder, ghoul; (adj) tyrant, despot, harpy, inquisitor, precisian, oppressor, martinet, extortioner

wadding: (n) filling, stuffing, packing, wad, pad, packing material; (adj, n) padding, cushion; (adj) pillow, feather bed, down

wagon: (n) truck, wain, paddy wagon, waggon, lorry, station wagon, dray, car, chariot, Jagger wagon, beach wagon

wailing: (n, v) lamentation, lament, moaning; (adj) lamenting, weeping, crying, wailful, howling, sobbing; (adj, n) bawling; (n) cry

wainscoting: (n) wainscotting, panel,

panelling, lining, dado, paneling, skirting board, panelwork

wakefulness: (n) insomnia, arousal, vigilance, guard, temporary state, alertness, consciousness, circumspection, caution; (v) vigil; (n, v) watch. ANTONYMS: (n) inattentiveness, unconsciousness

waken: (v) stir, awaken, wake, wake up, arouse, awake, excite, call, kindle, evoke, provoke

waking: (adj) wakeful; (n) awakening, wakefulness, consciousness

wallenstein: (n) Albrecht Eusebius Wenzel Von Wallenstein

walnut: (n) wood, walnut tree; (v) succotash, waffle, vanilla, trepang, porterhouse steak, supawn, salmis, sea slug, sauerkraut

walnuts: (n) walnut family, family Juglandaceae, hickories, Juglandaceae, pecans

waltz: (n) minuet, valse, tango, tap, polka, ballroom dance, music; (v) trip the light fantastic, zip, oscillate, waltz around

wanderings: (n) peregrination

waning: (n) decrease, decline, lessening, ebb, failure; (adj) run to seed, ripe, mellow, diminishing, abating, moribund. ANTONYMS: (adj) growing, thriving, waxing, increasing; (n) improvement

wanness: (n) paleness, pallidness, lividness, luridness, lividity, achromasia, wan, sensationalism, skin color, grimness, ghastliness

wanton: (adj) loose, dissolute, light, licentious, unchaste, lewd, debauched, unprovoked; (v) dally; (n, v) sport; (adj, v) flirt.

ANTONYMS: (adj) moral, wise, nice, kind, gentle, decent, clean, careful, observant, justifiable, involuntary

warranted: (adj) legitimate, secured, bonded, legal, locked, mistaken, necessary; (v) privileged, sanctioned, allowed; (n) securer

watchful: (adj) alert, observant, careful, cautious, wary, attentive, wakeful, mindful, circumspect, sleepless, awake. ANTONYMS: (adj) inattentive, negligent, oblivious, forgetful, careless, asleep, trusting, unprepared, reckless

waterfall: (n) cataract, falls, chute, force, angel, twin, fall, Niagara, overfall, pertinency, reenforce

weaken: (n, v) dilute; (v) lessen, diminish, debilitate, break,

- attenuate, relax, undermine, enervate, thin; (adj, v) enfeeble. ANTONYMS: (v) bolster, grow, escalate, increase, refresh, improve, enhance, continue, condense, concentrate, boost
- weari**ed: (adj) jaded, tired, spent, fatigued, weary, prostrate, limp, haggard, shattered, worn, fatigate
- wearily**: (adv) sickly, boredly, dully, languidly, jadedly, exhaustedly, sadly, soberly, gravely, heavily, seriously. ANTONYMS: (adv) hopefully, untiringly, energetically, dynamically
- weariness**: (n) exhaustion, tiredness, lassitude, languor, asthenopia, defatigation, grogginess, listlessness, boredom, ennui, prostration
- wearisomeness**: (n) tedium, irksomeness, monotony
- weber**: (n) milliweber, Ernst Heinrich weber, baron Karl Maria Friedrich Ernst Von weber, max weber, Wb, Wilhelm Eduard weber
- wedded**: (adj, v) marital, connubial, matrimonial, conjugal, wed; (adj) nuptial, bridal. ANTONYMS: (adj) unmarried, unattached
- weeping**: (adj) tearful, lachrymose, dolorous, dolorous; (n, v) lament, lamentation; (v) wailing; (n) sobbing, tears, cry; (adj, n) howling. ANTONYM: (n) celebration
- weighty**: (adj) heavy, ponderous, grievous, powerful, profound; (adj, v) grave, serious, momentous, significant, solemn, influential. ANTONYMS: (adj) superficial, light, unimportant, trivial, weightless, unsubstantial, thin, solvable, small, facile, easy
- westward**: (adv) west, westwards; (adj, adv) westerly; (adj) westbound, western; (v) to the west
- whence**: (adv) wherefrom, hence, because, for, why, wherefore, how, then, then thence so, how comes it, how happens it
- wherein**: (adv) in what, in which, where
- whiff**: (n, v) blow, smell, drag; (n) scent, breath, aroma, odor, trace, taste, touch; (v) sniff
- whim**: (n, v) fancy, vagary, humor, freak; (n) notion, impulse, fad, mood, whimsy, thought, idea. ANTONYMS: (n) plan, reality, aversion
- whimsical**: (adj, n) fanciful, eccentric; (adj) capricious, freakish, humorous, changeable, fickle, erratic, wayward, odd, arbitrary. ANTONYMS: (adj) reasonable, behaving, normal, serious, predictable
- whirl**: (n, v) spin, turn, eddy, roll, wheel, twist, swirl; (v) reel, gyrate; (n) go, fling
- whirling**: (adj) rotary, revolving, dizzy, giddy, lightheaded, rotating, vortical; (n) rotation, gyration, revolution; (adj, n) swirling
- whirlingly**: (adv) revolvingly, spinningly
- whirlpool**: (n, v) vortex, whirl, swirl, gurge; (n) maelstrom, verticity, whirl; (v) undercurrent, indraught, reflux, purl
- whirlwind**: (n) tornado, hurricane, twister, gale, tempest, cyclone, typhoon, waterspout, windstorm, flurry, dust devil
- whiskers**: (n) fuzz, goatee, hair, imperial, face fungus, beaver, mustache, moustache, sideburns, facial hair, sideboards
- whispering**: (n) whisper, murmur, susurration, rustle, report, stage whisper; (adj, n) rustling; (adj) susurrant, tranquil, hoarse, susurrous
- whisperingly**: (adv) murmuringly, whisperously
- whiteness**: (n) paleness, ivory, chalk, pearl, bone, bleach, alabaster, frostiness, hoariness, pallor, innocence. ANTONYM: (n) black
- whither**: (adv) hither, thither, whereunto, whereto, for
- wick**: (n) taper, candlewick, wax light, cord, candle, sleeve bearing wick, burner
- wickedness**: (n) depravity, sin, sinfulness, iniquity, harm, ill, vice, evilness, corruption, immorality, crime. ANTONYMS: (n) goodness, kindness, piety, righteousness, benevolence, religiousness, obedience, good
- wicker**: (n) wickerwork, caning, wood, dwelling, home, osier, piece of work, Wike, cane; (adj) twiggen
- wield**: (v) ply, wave, exercise, brandish, hold, manipulate, flourish, exert, manage, use, swing
- wilder**: (n) Samuel Wilder, Thornton Niven Wilder, Thornton Wilder, Billy Wilder
- willingly**: (adv) readily, voluntarily, cheerfully, spontaneously, helpfully, disposedly, actively, openly, obligingly, eagerly; (adj, adv) freely. ANTONYMS: (adv) grudgingly, reluctantly, uncooperatively, unenthusiastically
- willow**: (n) willow tree, black willow, arctic willow, arroyo willow, balsam willow, bay willow, bearberry willow, white willow, silver willow; (adj) mourning, weeds
- winged**: (adj) swift, rapid, speedy, quick, flying, alate, sublime, lofty, alated, aligerous, composed
- wisely**: (adv) judiciously, prudently, sagaciously, cleverly, discreetly, shrewdly, smartly, learnedly, astutely, sharply, perspicaciously. ANTONYMS: (adv) stupidly, recklessly, imprudently, immaturely, illogically
- withal**: (adv) nevertheless, notwithstanding, however, even so, all the same, nonetheless, with; (adj) likewise; (n) sufficiency, adequacy, enough
- withdrawing**: (adj) receding, outgoing, retiring, moving back, modest, lowly; (n) departure, privacy, seclusion, cancellation
- withered**: (adj) wizened, sear, shriveled, thin, shrunken, dry, dried up, wilted, faded, wizen; (v) lame. ANTONYM: (adj) plump
- withheld**: (adj) hidden, uncommitted. ANTONYM: (adj) ongoing
- withholding**: (n) detention, reservation, withholding tax, confinement, custody, deduction, deprivation, estrangement, holding, keeping, maintenance. ANTONYM: (n) release
- withstand**: (v) stand, bear, survive, defy, weather, sustain, brave, suffer; (n, v) resist, oppose, confront. ANTONYMS: (v) surrender, succumb
- withy**: (n) osier, twig, with, branchlet, sprig
- wittily**: (adv) cleverly, sharply, facetiously, smartly, drolly, quickly, amusingly, entertainingly, wisely, funnily, comically. ANTONYM: (adv) stupidly
- witty**: (adj, v) smart, clever, sharp, brilliant; (adj) amusing, funny, facetious, jocular, intelligent, quick, comic. ANTONYMS: (adj) dull, unamusing, unfunny, thick
- wizard**: (n) necromancer, sorcerer, conjuror, genius, enchanter, conjurer, expert, whiz, ace, warlock; (adj, n) adept. ANTONYM: (n) rookie
- womanhood**: (n) muliebrity, femininity, adulthood, maturity,

manhood, womankind, wifehood, softness, social class, majority, adult female

womanliness: (n) womanlike, femaleness, femineity, femininity, sex, womanishness, feminineness.

ANTONYM: (n) masculinity

wonderfully: (adv) superbly, astonishingly, terrifically, magnificently, fantastically, marvellously, wondrously, amazingly, excellently; (adj, adv) strangely, famously. ANTONYMS:

(adv) awfully, unpleasantly, poorly, abysmally, unremarkably, mildly, horribly, badly, incompetently

wont: (adj, n) use, custom, usage; (n) practice, tradition, cleanliness, assuetude, assuefaction, convention, rut; (v) practise

wonted: (adj, n) habitual, ordinary, usual, familiar; (adj) everyday, general, conventional, routine; (n) accustomed, common, regular

wooded: (adj) arboreous, sylvan, woody, timbered, densely forested, leafy

worldly: (adj, adv) earthly; (adj) mundane, secular, terrestrial, temporal, carnal, sophisticated, lay, profane; (adv) mundanely, temporally. ANTONYMS: (adj) spiritual, naive, cloistered, religious, unsophisticated, unworldly, unrefined, otherworldly, low, heavenly, immaterial

worm: (v) squirm, wriggle, twist, spiral, helix, writhe; (n) helminth, maggot; (adj) emmet, midge, fly

worthless: (adj, v) futile, vain; (adj) vile, idle, empty, trifling, void, trivial, cheap, miserable, null.

ANTONYMS: (adj) precious, useful, worthwhile, priceless, meaningful, helpful, invaluable, deserving, valid, worthy, substantial

worthlessness: (n) emptiness, uselessness, paltriness, trashiness, insignificance, nothingness, negativity, purposelessness, pride, pointlessness; (adj) inanity.

ANTONYMS: (n) importance, worth, helpfulness, appropriateness

wrapper: (n) cover, wrap, cloak, peignoir, housecoat, negligé, envelope, wrapping, covering, dust cover, mantle

wrath: (n) rage, resentment, ire, fury, displeasure, indignation, passion, madness, choler, irritation; (adj) angry. ANTONYMS: (n) happiness, love, composure, serenity

wreath: (n) crown, coronal, garland, chaplet, lei, circle, posy, fascia, cincture, girdle, laurels

wreathed: (adj) ringed, serpentine, coiled, circular, circinate, bent, annulate, tortile, torqued, surrounded, curled

wreck: (n, v) smash, shipwreck, wrack; (v) damage, spoil, demolish, destroy, devastate; (n) crash, ruins, destruction. ANTONYMS: (v) build, preserve, create, repair, assist; (n) creation

wretch: (n) victim, villain, scoundrel, reprobate, reptile, miscreant, martyr, object of compassion, poor devil, prey, wreck

wretchedness: (n) unhappiness, grief, distress, desolation, woe, sorrow, anguish, infelicity, tribulation, affliction, misfortune

wring: (n, v) squeeze; (v) twist, wrench, wrest, torture, torment, distort, extract, twine, contort, rack

wringing: (adj) saturated, soaked, soaked to the skin, soaking wet, sodden, sopping, sopping wet, wet, wet through, wringing wet, soaking. ANTONYM: (adj) dry

writhe: (adj, v) distort, wrest; (v) contort, wriggle, squirm, wrench, worm, coil, wiggle, thrash, warp

writhed: (adj) crooked, writhen, distorted, twisted

writhing: (adj, n) twisting; (adj) wriggly, squirming, wiggling, wiggly, twisty, tortuous, snaky, winding, sinuous; (n) twist

wronged: (adj) upset, hurt, indignant, offended

wrought: (adj) shaped, done, worked, worked up, formed

yawning: (adj, v) gaping, oscitant; (n) yawn, hiation, pandiculation, oscitancy; (adj) cavernous, open, drowsy, profound, sleepy.

ANTONYMS: (adj) cramped, narrow

yell: (n, v) cry, roar, scream, howl, call, bellow, whoop, shriek, outcry; (v) bawl, holler

yellowish: (adj) sallow, yellowed, flavescent, xanthous, turning yellow, sensationalistic, jaundiced, luteous, chickenhearted, easily frightened, chicken

yielded: (v) yold, yolden

yielding: (adj, v) flexible, pliable, supple, tractable, pliant; (adj) compliant, submissive, soft, obedient, docile; (n) submission.

ANTONYMS: (adj) hard, firm,

inflexible, solid, rigid, obstinate, stiff, stubborn, unyielding, rebellious

yonder: (adv) beyond, further, farther, abroad, thither, further away, at that place; (adj) distant, yond, furious, fierce

yowling: (n) holla, hollao, vociferation, bellowing

zaire: (n) Congo, French Congo, Belgian Congo, Republic of the Congo, English breakfast tea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, congou tea, congou, Congo river

zigzag: (v) wind, meander, twist; (n, v) bend; (adj) furcated, winding, meandering, bifurcate; (adj, v) indirect; (n) groin, crane

