

## Word List 1 abase - adroit

**abase** v./降低, 羞辱/lower; humiliate. Defeated, Queen Zenobia was forced to *abase* herself before the conquering Romans, who made her march in chains before the emperor in the procession celebrating his triumph. abasement, n. **abash** v./使难堪/embarrass. He was not at all *abashed* by her open admiration.

**abate** v./减弱, 减少/subside; decrease, lessen. Rather than leaving immediately, they waited for the storm to *abate*. abatement, n.

**abbreviate** v./缩短, 缩写/shorten. Because we were running out of time, the lecturer had to *abbreviate* her speech. **abdicate** v./放弃/renounce; give up. When Edward VIII *abdicated* the British throne to marry the woman he loved, he surprised the entire world.

**abduction** n./绑架/kidnapping. The movie *Ransom* describes the attempts to rescue a multimillionaire's son after the child's *abduction* by kidnappers. abduct, v.

**aberrant** n./不正常的/abnormal or deviant. Given the *aberrant* nature of the data, we doubted the validity of the entire experiment. also n.

**abet** v./帮助, 鼓励/aid, usually in doing something wrong; encourage. She was unwilling to *abet* him in the swindle he had planned.

**abeyance** n./悬而未决/suspended action. The deal was held in *abeyance* until her arrival.

**abhor** v./憎恨/detest; hate. She *abhorred* all forms of bigotry. abhorrence, n.

**abject** ADJ./穷困潦倒, 卑微/wretched; lacking pride. On the streets of New York the homeless live in *abject* poverty, huddling in doorways to find shelter from the wind.

**abjure** v./发誓放弃/renounce upon oath. He *abjured* his allegiance to the king. abjuration, n.

**ablution** n./洗/washing. His daily *ablutions* were accompanied by loud noises that he humorously labeled "Opera in the Bath."

**abnegation** n./批判, 自我牺牲/repudiation; self-sacrifice. No act of *abnegation* was more pronounced than his refusal of any rewards for his discovery.

**abolish** v./废除/cancel; put an end to. The president of the college refused to *abolish* the physical education requirement. abolition, n.

**abominable** ADJ./可恶的, 非常糟糕/detestable; extremely unpleasant; very bad. Mary liked John until she learned he was dating Susan; then she called him an *abominable* young man, with *abominable* taste in women.

**aboriginal** ADJ., n./原来的, 土著的/being the first of its kind in a region; primitive; native. Her studies of the primitive art forms of the *aboriginal* Indians were widely reported in the scientific journals. aborigines, n.

**abortive** ADJ./不成功的, 失败/unsuccessful; fruitless. Attacked by armed troops, the Chinese students had to abandon their *abortive* attempt to democratize Beijing peacefully. abort, v.

**abrade** v./磨损, 侵蚀/wear away by friction; scrape; erode. The sharp rocks *abraded* the skin on her legs, so she put iodine on her *abrasions*.

**abrasive** ADJ./摩擦的, 粗糙的, 研磨剂/rubbing away; tending to grind down. Just as *abrasive* cleaning powders can wear away a shiny finish, *abrasive* remarks can wear away a listener's patience. abrade, v.

**abridge** v./删节, 节选/condense or shorten. Because the publishers felt the public wanted a shorter version of *War and Peace*, they proceeded to *abridge* the novel.

**abrogate** ADJ./废除/abolish. He intended to *abrogate* the decree issued by his predecessor.

**abscond** v./隐匿, 逃避, 躲债/depart secretly and hide. The teller who *absconded* with the bonds went uncaptured until someone recognized him from his photograph on "America's Most Wanted."

**absolute** ADJ./完全的, 肯定的/complete; totally unlimited; certain. Although the King of Siam was an *absolute* monarch, he did not want to behead his unfaithful wife without absolute evidence of her infidelity.

- 2 -

**absolve** v./谅解/pardon (an offense). The father confessor *absolved* him of his sins. absolution, n.

**absorb** v./吸收, 合并/assimilate or incorporate; suck or drink up; wholly engage. During the nineteenth century, America *absorbed* hordes of immigrants, turning them into productive citizens. Can Huggies diapers *absorb* more liquid than Pampers can? This question does not *absorb* me; instead, it bores me. absorption, n.

**abstain** v./控制, 限制(自己)/refrain; hold oneself back voluntarily from an action or practice. After considering the effect of alcohol on his athletic performance, he decided to *abstain* from drinking while he trained for the race. abstinence, n.

**abstemious** ADJ./节制(饮食), 调节/sparing in eating and drinking; temperate. Concerned whether her vegetarian son's *abstemious* diet provided him with sufficient protein, the worried mother pressed food on him.

**abstinence** n./节制(饮食)/restraint from eating or drinking. The doctor recommended total *abstinence* from salted foods. abstain, v.

**abstract** ADJ./抽象的/theoretical; not concrete; nonrepresentational. To him, hunger was an *abstract* concept; he had never missed a meal.

**abstruse** ADJ./难以理解的, 复杂的/obscure; profound; difficult to understand. She carries around *abstruse* works of philosophy, not because she understands them but because she wants her friends to think she does.

**abundant** ADJ./丰富, 富足/plentiful; possessing riches or resources. At his immigration interview, Ivan listed his *abundant* reasons for coming to America: the hope of religious freedom, the prospect of employment, the promise of a more *abundant* life.

**abusive** ADJ./粗俗的侮辱, 对身体有害的/coarsely insulting; physically harmful. An *abusive* parent damages a child both mentally and physically.

**abut** v./毗邻/border upon; adjoin. Where our estates *abut*, we must build a fence.

**abysmal** ADJ./无底的/bottomless. His arrogance is exceeded only by his *abysmal* ignorance.

**abyss** n./深渊, 深坑, 无底洞/enormous chasm; vast bottomless pit. Darth Vader seized the evil emperor and hurled him down into the *abyss*.

**academic** ADJ./学术的/related to a school; not practical or directly useful. The dean's talk about reforming the college admissions system was only an *academic* discussion: we knew little, if anything, would change.

**accede** v./同意/agree. If I *accede* to this demand for blackmail, I am afraid that I will be the victim of future demands.

**accelerate** v./加速/move faster. In our science class, we learn how falling bodies *accelerate*.

**accentuate** v./强调, 重音/emphasize; stress. If you *accentuate* the positive and eliminate the negative, you may wind up with an overoptimistic view of the world.

**accessible** ADJ./可得到的/easy to approach; obtainable. We asked our guide whether the ruins were *accessible* on foot.

**accessory** n./附件/additional object; useful but not essential thing. She bought an attractive handbag as an *accessory* for her dress. also ADJ.

**acclaim** v./赞扬, 表扬/applaud; announce with great approval. The NBC sportscasters *acclaimed* every American victory in the Olympics and decried every American defeat. also n.

**acclimate** v./适应/adjust to climate. One of the difficulties of our present air age is the need of travelers to *acclimate* themselves to their new and often strange environments.

**acclivity** n./上山的陡坡/sharp upslope of a hill. The car would not go up the *acclivity* in high gear.

**accolade** n./出名的大奖/award of merit. In Hollywood, an "Oscar" is the highest *accolade*.

**accommodate** v./招待, 食宿, 适应/oblige or help someone; adjust or bring into harmony; adapt. Mitch always did everything possible to *accommodate* his elderly relatives, from driving them to medical appointments to helping them with paperwork. (secondary meaning)

**accomplice** n./共犯, 同伙/partner in crime. Because he had provided the criminal with the lethal weapon, he was - 3 -

arrested as an *accomplice* in the murder.

**accord** n./一致/agreement. She was in complete *accord* with the verdict.

**accost** v./搭讪, 邂逅/approach and speak first to a person. When the two young men *accosted* me, I was frightened because I thought they were going to attack me.

**accoutre** v./装备/equip. The fisherman was *accoutered* with the best that the sporting goods store could supply. accoutrements, n.

**accretion** n./增长/growth; increase. The *accretion* of wealth marked the family's rise in power.

**accrue** v./附带的/come about by addition. You must pay the interest that has *accrued* on your debt as well as the principal sum. *accrual*, n.

**acerbity** n./尖酸的（语气，脾气）/bitterness of speech and temper. The meeting of the United Nations General Assembly was marked with such *acerbity* that informed sources held out little hope of reaching any useful settlement of the problem. *acerbic*, adj.

**acetic** adj./酸的/vinegary. The salad had an exceedingly *acetic* flavor.

**acidulous** adj./酸的；尖锐，刻薄/slightly sour; sharp, caustic. James was unpopular because of his sarcastic and *acidulous* remarks.

**acknowledge** v./认可，承认/recognize; admit. Although I *acknowledge* that the Beatles' tunes sound pretty dated today, I still prefer them to the "gangsta rap" songs my brothers play.

**acme** n./顶点/top; pinnacle. His success in this role marked the *acme* of his career as an actor.

**acoustics** n./声学的/science of sound; quality that makes a room easy or hard to hear in. Carnegie Hall is liked by music lovers because of its fine *acoustics*.

**acquiesce** v./默许/assent; agree without protesting. Although she appeared to *acquiesce* to her employer's suggestions, I could tell she had reservations about the changes he wanted made. *acquiescence*, n.; *acquiescent*, adj. **acquire** v./获取/obtain; get. Frederick Douglass was determined to *acquire* an education despite his master's efforts to prevent his doing so.

**acquittal** n./无罪开释/deliverance from a charge. His *acquittal* by the jury surprised those who had thought him guilty. *acquit*, v.

**acrid** adj./尖锐；尖酸/sharp; bitterly pungent. The *acrid* odor of burnt gunpowder filled the room after the pistol had been fired.

**acrimonious** adj./挖苦的，尖酸的（语言，行为）/bitter in words or manner. The candidate attacked his opponent in highly *acrimonious* terms. *acrimony*, n.

**acrophobia** n./恐高症/fear of heights. A born salesman, he could convince someone with a bad case of *acrophobia* to sign up for a life membership in a sky-diving club.

**actuarial** adj./保险精算的，精算/calculating; pertaining to insurance statistics. According to recent *actuarial* tables, life expectancy is greater today than it was a century ago.

**actuate** v./推动，促使/motivate. I fail to understand what *actuated* you to reply to this letter so nastily.

**acuity** n./尖锐/sharpness. In time his youthful *acuity* of vision failed him, and he needed glasses.

**acumen** n./思想敏锐/mental keenness. His business *acumen* helped him to succeed where others had failed. **acute** adj./精明，敏锐，聪明/quickly perceptive; keen; brief and severe. The *acute* young doctor realized immediately that the gradual deterioration of her patient's once acute hearing was due to a chronic illness, not an acute one.

**adage** n./格言，谚语/wise saying; proverb. There is much truth in the old *adage* about fools and their money. **adamant** adj./坚硬，不动摇/hard; inflexible. Bronson played the part of a revenge-driven man, *adamant* in his determination to punish the criminals who destroyed his family. *adamancy*, n.

**adapt** v./改变/alter; modify. Some species of animals have become extinct because they could not *adapt* to a

- 4 -

changing environment.

**addendum** n./附加，补充/an addition or supplement. As an *addendum* to the minutes, let me point out that Susan moved to appoint Kathy and Arthur to the finance committee.

**addiction** n./瘾，依赖/compulsive, habitual need. His *addiction* to drugs caused his friends much grief.

**addle** v./使变疯，腐坏/muddle; drive crazy; become rotten. This idiotic plan is confusing enough to *addle* anyone. *addled*, adj.

**address** v./发表（演讲），处理，讨论/direct a speech to; deal with or discuss. Due to address the convention in July, Brown planned to *address* the issue of low-income housing in his speech.

**adept** adj./擅长于/expert at. She was *adept* at the fine art of irritating people. also n.

**adhere** v./黏着/stick fast. I will *adhere* to this opinion until proof that I am wrong is presented. *adhesion*, n. **adherent** n./支持者，追随者/supporter; follower. In the wake of the scandal, the senator's one-time *adherents* quickly deserted him.

**adjacent** adj./邻近的，毗邻的/adjointing; neighboring; close by. Philip's best friend Jason lived only four houses down the block, close but not immediately *adjacent*.

**adjunct** n./无用的附加物/something added on or attached (generally nonessential or inferior). Although I don't absolutely need a second computer, I plan to buy a laptop to serve as an *adjunct* to my desktop model. **admonish** v./警告，训斥/warn; reprove. He *admonished* his listeners to change their wicked ways. *admonition*, n. **admonition** n./警告/warning. After the student protesters repeatedly rejected Chairman Deng's *admonitions*, the government issued an ultimatum: either the students would end the demonstration at once or the soldiers would fire on the crowd.

**adorn** v./装饰/decorate. Wall paintings and carved statues *adorned* the temple. *adornment*, n.

**adroit** adj./熟练，有技巧/skillful. His *adroit* handling of the delicate situation pleased his employers.

## Word List 2 adulation - amend

**adulation** n./奉承，恭维/flattery; admiration. The rock star thrived on the *adulation* of his groupies and yes men. *adulate*, v.

**adulterate** v./掺杂/make impure by adding inferior or tainted substances. It is a crime to *adulterate* foods without informing the buyer; when consumers learned that Beech-Nut had adulterated their apple juice by mixing it with water, they protested vigorously.

**advent** n./到来，出现/arrival. Most Americans were unaware of the *advent* of the Nuclear Age until the news of Hiroshima reached them.

**adventitious** adj./偶然/accidental; casual. He found this *adventitious* meeting with his friend extremely fortunate.

**adversary** n./对手/opponent. The young wrestler struggled to defeat his adversary.

**adverse** adj./讨厌，敌意/unfavorable; hostile. The recession had a highly *adverse* effect on Father's investment portfolio: he lost so much money that he could no longer afford the butler and the upstairs maid. *adversity*, n. **adversity** n./贫困，不幸/poverty; misfortune. We must learn to meet *adversity* gracefully.

**advocacy** n./支持，辩护/support; active pleading on something's behalf. No threats could dissuade Bishop Desmond Tutu from his *advocacy* of the human rights of black South Africans.

**advocate** v./辩护/urge; plead for. The abolitionists *advocated* freedom for the slaves. also n.

**aerie** n./猛禽的窝/nest of a large bird of prey (eagle, hawk). The mother eagle swooped down on the unwitting rabbit and bore it off to her *aerie* high in the Rocky Mountains.

**aesthetic** adj./审美的/artistic; dealing with or capable of appreciation of the beautiful. The beauty of Tiffany's stained glass appealed to Esther's *aesthetic* sense. *aesthete*, n.

- 5 -

**affable** adj./平易近人的/easily approachable; warmly friendly. Accustomed to cold, aloof supervisors, Nicholas was amazed at how *affable* his new employer was.

**affected** adj./假的，做作的/artificial; pretended; assumed in order to impress. His *affected* mannerisms-his "Harvard" accent, his air of boredom, his use of obscure foreign wordsbugged us: he acted as if he thought he was too good for his old high school friends. *affectedation*, n.

**affidavit** n./宣誓书/written statement made under oath. The court refused to accept his statement unless he presented it in the form of an *affidavit*.

**affiliation** n./联合，加入/joining; associating with. His *affiliation* with the political party was of short duration for he soon disagreed with his colleagues.

**affinity** n./亲缘关系/kinship. She felt an *affinity* with all who suffered; their pains were her pains.

**affirmation** n./正面肯定，确认/positive assertion; confirmation; solemn pledge by one who refuses to take an oath. Despite Tom's *affirmations* of innocence, Aunt Polly still suspected he had eaten the pie.

**affix** v./增加，附于/fasten; attach; add on. First the registrar had to *affix* her signature to the license; then she had to *affix* her official seal.

**affliction** n./痛苦/state of distress; cause of suffering. Even in the midst of her *affliction*, Elizabeth tried to keep up the spirits of those around her.

**affluence** n./富足，财富/abundance; wealth. Foreigners are amazed by the *affluence* and luxury of the American way

of life.

**affront** *n.* /侮辱, 冒犯; 蓄意蔑视/insult; offense; intentional act of disrespect. When Mrs. Proudie was not seated beside the Archdeacon at the head table, she took it as a personal *affront* and refused to speak to her hosts for a week. also *v.*

**aftermath** *n.* /后果, 结果/consequences; outcome; upshot. People around the world wondered what the *aftermath* of China's violent suppression of the student protests would be.  
**agenda** *n.* /议程/items of business at a meeting. We had so much difficulty agreeing upon an *agenda* that there was very little time for the meeting.

**agent** *n.* /方法, 工具; 代表/means or instrument; personal representative; person acting in an official capacity. "I will be the agent of America's destruction," proclaimed the beady-eyed villain, whose *agent* had gotten him the role. With his face, he could never have played the part of the hero, a heroic F.B.I. agent.

**agglomeration** *n.* /聚集, 累积/collection; heap. It took weeks to assort the *agglomeration* of miscellaneous items she had collected on her trip.

**aggrandize** *v.* /增加, 加强/increase or intensify. The history of the past quarter century illustrates how a President may *aggrandize* his power to act aggressively in international affairs without considering the wishes of Congress. **aggregate** *v.* /收集, 聚集/gather; accumulate. Before the Wall Street scandals, dealers in so-called junk bonds managed to *aggregate* great wealth in short periods of time. aggregation, *n.*

**aggressor** *n.* /攻击者/attacker. Before you punish both boys for fighting, see whether you can determine which one was the *aggressor*.

**aghost** *adj.* /吓坏了的/horried. He was *aghost* at the nerve of the speaker who had insulted his host.

**agility** *n.* /敏捷/nimbleness. The *agility* of the acrobat amazed and thrilled the audience.

**agitate** *v.* /激怒, 打扰/stir up; disturb. Her fiery remarks *agitated* the already angry mob.

**agnostic** *n.* /无神论者/one who is skeptical of the existence or knowability of a god or any ultimate reality. *Agnostics* say we can neither prove nor disprove the existence of god; we simply just can't know. also *adj.*

**agrarian** *adj.* /耕地的, 耕种的/pertaining to land or its cultivation. The country is gradually losing its *agrarian* occupation and turning more and more to an industrial point of view.

**alacrity** *n.* /欢快的情绪/cheerful promptness. Phil and Dave were raring to get off to the mountains; they packed up  
- 6 -

their ski gear and climbed into the van with *alacrity*.

**alchemy** *n.* /炼金术士/medieval chemistry. The changing of baser metals into gold was the goal of the students of *alchemy*. alchemist, *n.*

**alcove** *n.* /小隔间, 壁橱/nook; small, recessed section of a room. Though their apartment lacked a full-scale dining room, an *alcove* adjacent to the living room made an adequate breakfast nook for the young couple.

**alias** *n.* /别名/an assumed name. John Smith's *alias* was Bob Jones. also *adj.*

**alienate** *v.* /孤立, 树敌/make hostile; separate. Her attempts to *alienate* the two friends failed because they had complete faith in each other.

**alimentary** *adj.* /营养的/supplying nourishment. The *alimentary* canal in our bodies is so named because digestion of foods occurs there. When asked for the name of the digestive tract, Sherlock Holmes replied, "*Alimentary*, my dear Watson."

**alimony** *n.* / (离婚后的) 生活费, 抚养费/payment by a husband to his divorced wife (or vice versa). Mrs. Jones was awarded \$200 monthly *alimony* by the court when she was divorced from her husband.

**allay** *v.* /平静下来, (使) 冷静下来/calm; pacify. The crew tried to *allay* the fears of the passengers by announcing that the fire had been controlled.

**allege** *v.* /断言/state without proof. Although it is *alleged* that she has worked for the enemy, she denies the *allegation* and, legally, we can take no action against her without proof. allegation, *n.*

**allegiance** *n.* /忠诚/loyalty. Not even a term in prison could shake Lech Walesa's *allegiance* to Solidarity, the Polish trade union he had helped to found.

**allegory** *n.* /寓言/story in which characters are used as symbols; fable. Pilgrim's Progress is an *allegory* of the temptations and victories of man's soul. allegorical, *adj.*

**alleviate** *v.* /解脱, 释放, 释然/relieve. This should *alleviate* the pain; if it does not, we shall have to use stronger drugs.

**alliteration** *n.* /头韵/repetition of beginning sound in poetry. "The furrow followed free" is an example of *alliteration*. **allocate** *v.* /分配, 制定/assign. Even though the Red Cross had *allocated* a large sum for the relief of the sufferers of the disaster, many people perished.

**alloy** *n.* /合金/a mixture as of metals. *A* loys of gold are used more frequently than the pure metal.

**alloy** *v.* /混合, 中和/mix; make less pure; lessen or moderate. Our delight at the Yankees' victory was *alloyed* by our concern for Dwight Gooden, who injured his pitching arm in the game.

**allude** *v.* /暗指/refer indirectly. Try not to mention divorce in Jack's presence because he will think you are *alluding* to his marital problems with Jill.

**allure** *v.* /诱惑, 引诱/entice; attract. *A* lured by the song of the sirens, the helmsman steered the ship toward the reef. also *n.*

**allusion** *n.* /暗指, 暗示/indirect reference. When Amanda said to the ticket scalper, "One hundred bucks? What do you want, a pound of flesh?," she was making an *allusion* to Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice.

**aloft** *adv.* /向上/upward. The sailor climbed aloft into the rigging. To get into a loft bed, you have to climb *aloft*.

**aloof** *adj.* /分离, 保留/apart; reserved. Shy by nature, she remained *aloof* while all the rest conversed.

**altercation** *n.* /大声争吵, 激烈争论/noisy quarrel; heated dispute. In that hottempered household, no meal ever came to a peaceful conclusion; the inevitable *altercation* might even end in blows.

**altruistic** *adj.* /无私的, 关心他人的/unselfishly generous; concerned for others. In providing tutorial assistance and college scholarships for hundreds of economically disadvantaged youths, Eugene Lang performed a truly *altruistic* deed. altruism, *n.*

**amalgamate** *v.* /结合, 整合/combine; unite in one body. The unions will attempt to *amalgamate* their groups into one national body.

**amass** *v.* /收集/collect. The miser's aim is to *amass* and hoard as much gold as possible.

**ambidextrous** *adj.* /双手都灵巧/capable of using either hand with equal ease. A switch-hitter in baseball should be naturally *ambidextrous*.

**ambience** *n.* /环境/environment; atmosphere. She went to the restaurant not for the food but for the *ambience*.

**ambiguous** *adj.* /模棱两可/unclear or doubtful in meaning. His *ambiguous* instructions misled us; we did not know which road to take. ambiguity, *n.*

**ambivalence** *n.* /矛盾的观点或情绪/the state of having contradictory or conflicting emotional attitudes. Torn between loving her parents one minute and hating them the next, she was confused by the *ambivalence* of her feelings. ambivalent, *adj.*

**amble** *n.* /漫步, 缓行/moving at an easy pace. When she first mounted the horse, she was afraid to urge the animal to go faster than a gentle *amble*. also *v.*

**ambulatory** *adj.* /可移动的, 不固定/able to walk; not bedridden. Juan was a highly *ambulatory* patient; not only did he refuse to be confined to bed, but he insisted on riding his skateboard up and down the halls.

**ameliorate** *v.* /提高/improve. Many social workers have attempted to *ameliorate* the conditions of people living in the slums.

**amenable** *adj.* /有服从义务的, 随时服从的/readily managed; willing to be led. He was *amenable* to any suggestions that came from those he looked up to; he resented advice from his inferiors.

**amend** *v.* /修订, 修改, 变更/correct; change, generally for the better. Hoping to *amend* his condition, he left Vietnam for the United States.

## Word List 3 amenities - apostate

**amenities** *n.* /令人愉快的, 礼貌的/convenient features; courtesies. In addition to the customary amenities for the business traveler-fax machines, modems, a health club-the hotel offers the services of a butler versed in the social *amenities*.

**amiable** *adj.* /可爱的, 友好的, 惬意的/agreeable; lovable; warmly friendly. In Little Women, Beth is the *amiable* daughter whose loving disposition endears her to all who know her.

**amicable** *adj.* /温和的, 友好礼貌的/politely friendly; not quarrelsome. Beth's sister Jo is the hot-tempered tomboy who has a hard time maintaining *amicable* relations with those around her. Jo's quarrel with her friend Laurie finally reaches an amicable settlement, but not because Jo turns amiable overnight.

**amiss** ADJ./错误/wrong; faulty. Seeing her frown, he wondered if anything were *amiss*. also ADJ.

**amity** N./友谊/friendship. Student exchange programs such as the Experiment in International Living were established to promote international *amity*.

**amnesia** N./失忆, 健忘/loss of memory. Because she was suffering from *amnesia*, the police could not get the young girl to identify herself.

**amnesty** N./原谅/pardon. When his first child was born, the king granted *amnesty* to all in prison.

**amoral** ADJ./不道德的/nonmoral. The *amoral* individual lacks a code of ethics; he cannot tell right from wrong. The immoral person can tell right from wrong; he chooses to do something he knows is wrong.

**amorous** ADJ./爱情的/moved by sexual love; loving. "Love them and leave them" was the motto of the *amorous* Don Juan.

**amorphous** ADJ./无形的, 不成形的/formless; lacking shape or definition. As soon as we have decided on our itinerary, we shall send you a copy; right now, our plans are still *amorphous*.

**amphibian** ADJ./两栖的/able to live both on land and in water. Frogs are classified as *amphibian*. also N.

**amphitheater** N./椭圆形的剧院, 斗兽场/oval building with tiers of seats. The spectators in the *amphitheater* cheered the gladiators.

**ample** ADJ./丰富的, 富足的/abundant. Bond had *ample* opportunity to escape. Why did he let us catch him?

**amplify** V./放大/broaden or clarify by expanding; intensify; make stronger. Charlie Brown tried to *amplify* his remarks, but he was drowned out by jeers from the audience. Lucy was smarter: she used a loudspeaker to amplify her voice. **amputate** V./截肢, 切除/cut off part of body; prune. When the doctors had to *amputate* the young man's leg to prevent the spread of cancer, he did not let the loss of a limb keep him from participating in sports.

**amulet** N./护身符/charm; talisman. Around her neck she wore the *amulet* that the witch doctor had given her. **anachronistic** ADJ./时代错误/having an error involving time in a story. The reference to clocks in Julius Caesar is *anachronistic*: clocks did not exist in Caesar's time. *anachronism*, N.

**analgesic** ADJ./止痛的/causing insensitivity to pain. The *analgesic* qualities of this lotion will provide temporary relief. **analogous** ADJ./类似的/comparable. She called our attention to the things that had been done in an *analogous* situation and recommended that we do the same.

**analogy** N./类比, 相似/similarity; parallelism. A well-known *analogy* compares the body's immune system with an army whose defending troops are the lymphocytes or white blood cells.

**anarchist** N./无政府主义者/person who seeks to overturn the established government; advocate of abolishing authority. Denying she was an *anarchist*, Katya maintained she wished only to make changes in our government, not to destroy it entirely. *anarchy*, N.

**anarchy** N./无政府主义/absence of governing body; state of disorder. The assassination of the leaders led to a period of *anarchy*.

**anathema** N./诅咒/solemn curse; someone or something regarded as a curse. The Ayatolla Khomeini heaped *anathema* upon "the Great Satan," that is, the United States. To the Ayatolla, America and the West were *anathema*; he loathed the democratic nations, cursing them in his dying words. *anathematize*, V.

**ancestry** N./祖先/family descent. David can trace his *ancestry* as far back as the seventeenth century, when one of his ancestors was a court trumpeter somewhere in Germany. *ancestral*, ADJ.

**anchor** V./固定; 锚/secure or fasten firmly; be fixed in place. We set the post in concrete to *anchor* it in place. *anchorage*, N.

**ancillary** ADJ./辅助的/serving as an aid or accessory; auxiliary. In an *anci lary* capacity, Doctor Watson was helpful; however, Holmes could not trust the good doctor to solve a perplexing case on his own. also N.

**anecdote** N./奇闻轶事/short account of an amusing or interesting event. Rather than make concrete proposals for welfare reform, President Reagan told *anecdotes* about poor people who became wealthy despite their impoverished backgrounds.

**anemia** N./贫血/condition in which blood lacks red corpuscles. The doctor ascribes her tiredness to *anemia*. *anemic*, ADJ.

**anesthetic** N./麻醉药/substance that removes sensation with or without loss of consciousness. His monotonous voice acted like an anesthetic; his audience was soon asleep. *anesthesia*, N.

**anguish** N./极度痛苦/acute pain; extreme suffering. Visiting the site of the explosion, the governor wept to see the *anguish* of the victims and their families.

**angular** ADJ./有尖角的, 瘦骨嶙峋的/sharp-cornered; stiff in manner. Mr. Spock's features, though *angular*, were curiously attractive, in a Vulcan way.

**animated** ADJ./活跃的, 有生气的/lively; spirited. Jim Carrey's facial expressions are highly *animated*: when he played Ace Ventura, he looked practically rubber-faced.

**animosity** N./仇恨/active enmity. He incurred the *animosity* of the ruling class because he advocated limitations of their power.

**animus** N./敌意/hostile feeling or intent. The *animus* of the speaker became obvious to all when he began to indulge in sarcastic and insulting remarks.

**annals** N./记录, 历史/records; history. In the *annals* of this period, we find no mention of democratic movements. **annex** V./接手/attach; take possession of. Mexico objected to the United States' attempts to *annex* the territory that later became the state of Texas.

**annihilate** V./毁灭, 破坏/destroy. The enemy in its revenge tried to *annihilate* the entire population. **annotate** V./评论, 注释/comment; make explanatory notes. In the appendix to the novel, the editor sought to *annotate* many of the author's more esoteric references.

**annuity** N./年金, 养老金/yearly allowance. The *annuity* he setup with the insurance company supplements his social security benefits so that he can live very comfortably without working.

**annul** V./避免/make void. The parents of the eloped couple tried to *annul* the marriage.

**anoint** V./神圣化/consecrate. The prophet Samuel *anointed* David with oil, crowning him king of Israel. **anomalous** ADJ./不正常的, 变态的/abnormal; irregular. He was placed in the *anomalous* position of seeming to approve procedures which he despised.

**\*anomaly** N./不正常/irregularity. A bird that cannot fly is an *anomaly*.

**anonymity** N./匿名/state of being nameless; anonymousness. The donor of the gift asked the college not to mention him by name; the dean readily agreed to respect his *anonymity*.

**anonymous** ADJ./匿名的/having no name. She tried to ascertain the identity of the writer of the *anonymous* letter.

**antagonism** N./反抗, 敌对/hostility; active resistance. Barry showed his *antagonism* toward his new stepmother by ignoring her whenever she tried talking to him. *antagonistic*, ADJ.

**antecede** V./先于/precede. The invention of the radiotelegraph *antedeceded* the development of television by a quarter of a century.

**antecedents** N./历史环境; 历史背景/preceding events or circumstances that influence what comes later; ancestors or early background. Susi Bechhofer's ignorance of her Jewish background had its *antecedents* in the chaos of World War II. Smuggled out of Germany and adopted by a Christian family, she knew nothing of her birth and *antecedents* until she was reunited with her family in 1989.

**antediluvian** ADJ./远古, 上古, 及其久远/antiquated; extremely ancient. Looking at his great-aunt's antique furniture, which must have been cluttering up her attic since the time of Noah's flood, the young heir exclaimed, "Heavens! How positively *antediluvian*!"

**anthem** N./圣歌, 赞美诗/song of praise or patriotism. Let us now all join in singing the national *anthem*.

**anthology** N./选集/book of literary selections by various authors. This *anthology* of science fiction was compiled by the late Isaac Asimov. *anthologize*, V.

**anthropocentric** ADJ./人类中心说/regarding human beings as the center of the universe. Without considering any evidence that might challenge his *anthropocentric* viewpoint, Hector categorically maintained that dolphins could not be as intelligent as men. *anthropocentrism*, N.

**anthropoid** ADJ./类人的/manlike. The gorilla is the strongest of the *anthropoid* animals. also N.

**anthropologist** N./人类学家/a student of the history and science of mankind. *Anthropologists* have discovered several relics of prehistoric man in this area.

**anthropomorphic** ADJ./人形的/having human form or characteristics. Primitive religions often have deities with *anthropomorphic* characteristics. *anthropomorphism*, N.

**anticlimax** N./反高潮, 突降/letdown in thought or emotion. After the fine performance in the first act, the rest of the play was an *anticlimax*. *anticlimactic*, ADJ.

**antidote** N./解药/medicine to counteract a poison or disease. When Marge's child accidentally swallowed some

cleaning fluid, the local poison control hotline instructed Marge how to administer the *antidote*.

**antipathy** *n.* / 反对, 厌恶/aversion; dislike. Tom's extreme *antipathy* for disputes keeps him from getting into arguments with his temperamental wife. Noise in any form is *antipathetic* to him. Among his other *antipathies* are

- 10 -

honking cars, boom boxes, and heavy metal rock.

**antiquated** *ADJ.* /过时的, 陈旧的/old-fashioned; obsolete. Philip had grown so accustomed to editing his papers on word processors that he thought typewriters were too *antiquated* for him to use.

**antiseptic** *n.* /抗菌物/substance that prevents infection. It is advisable to apply an *antiseptic* to any wound, no matter how slight or insignificant. also *ADJ.*

**antithesis** *n.* /对立面/contrast; direct opposite of or to. This tyranny was the *antithesis* of all that he had hoped for, and he fought it with all his strength.

**apathy** *n.* /漠不关心/lack of caring; indifference. A firm believer in democratic government, she could not understand the *apathy* of people who never bothered to vote. apathetic, *ADJ.*

**ape** *v.* /模仿/imitate or mimic. He was suspended for a week because he had *aped* the principal in front of the whole school.

**aperture** *n.* /洞, 穴, 孔/opening; hole. She discovered a small *aperture* in the wall, through which the insects had entered the room.

**apex** *n.* /高点, 顶点, 高潮/peak; summit; climax. He was at the *apex* of his career: he had climbed to the top of the heap. **aphasia** *n.* /失声/loss of speech due to injury or illness. After the automobile accident, the victim had periods of *aphasia* **when** he could not speak at all or could only mumble incoherently.

**aphorism** *n.* /格言, 警句, 谚语/pithy maxim. An *aphorism* differs from an adage in that it is more philosophical or scientific. "The proper study of mankind is man" is an aphorism. "There's no smoke without a fire" is an adage. aphoristic, *ADJ.*

**apiary** *n.* /蜂房/a place where bees are kept. Although he spent many hours daily in the *apiary*, he was very seldom stung by a bee.

**aplomb** *n.* /沉着, 垂直/poise; assurance. Gwen's *aplomb* in handling potentially embarrassing moments was legendary around the office; when one of her clients broke a piece of her best crystal, she coolly picked up her own goblet and hurled it into the fireplace.

**apocalyptic** *ADJ.* /启示的, 启示录的/prophetic; pertaining to revelations. The crowd jeered at the street preacher's *apocalyptic* predictions of doom. The Apocalypse or *Book of Revelations* of Saint John prophesies the end of the world as we know it and foretells marvels and prodigies that signal the coming doom.

**apocryphal** *ADJ.* /假的, 捏造的/untrue; made up. To impress his friends, Tom invented *apocryphal* tales of his adventures in the big city.

**apogee** *n.* /顶点/highest point. When the moon in its orbit is farthest away from the earth, it is at its *apogee*. **apolitical** *ADJ.* /不问政治的/having an aversion or lack of concern for political affairs. It was hard to remain *apolitical* during the Vietnam War; even people who generally ignored public issues felt they had to take political stands. **apologist** *n.* /辩护者/one who writes in defense of a cause or institution. Rather than act as an *apologist* for the current regime in Beijing and defend its brutal actions, the young diplomat decided to defect to the West.

**apostate** *n.* /变节者, 脱党者, 叛徒/one who abandons his religious faith or political beliefs. Because he switched from one party to another, his former friends shunned him as an *apostate*. apostasy, *n.*

## Word List 4 apotheosis - astigmatism

**apotheosis** *n.* /神化, 典范/elevation to godhood; an ideal example of something. The *apotheosis* of a Roman emperor was designed to insure his eternal greatness: people would worship at his altar forever. The hero of the musical *How to Succeed in Business...* was the *apotheosis* of yuppieness: he was the perfect upwardly-bound young man on the make.

**appall** *v.* /使惊慌, 震惊/dismay; shock. We were *appalled* by the horrifying conditions in the city's jails.

- 11 -

**apparatus** *n.* /器械, 设备/equipment. Firefighters use specialized *apparatus* to fight fires.

**apparition** *n.* /鬼, 幽灵/ghost; phantom. On the castle battlements, an *apparition* materialized and spoke to Hamlet, warning him of his uncle's treachery. In *Ghostbusters*, hordes of *apparitions* materialized, only to be dematerialized by the specialized apparatus wielded by Bill Murray.

**appease** *v.* /平静, 安抚/pacify or soothe; relieve. Tom and Jody tried to *appease* the crying baby by offering him one toy after another, but he would not calm down until they *appeased* his hunger by giving him a bottle. **appellation** *n.* /名字, 标题/name; title. Macbeth was startled when the witches greeted him with an incorrect *appellation*. Why did they call him Thane of Cawdor, he wondered, when the holder of that title still lived? **append** *v.* /追加, 附上/attach. When you *append* a bibliography to a text, you have just created an *appendix*.

**application** *n.* /勤奋的付出/diligent attention. Pleased with how well Tom had whitewashed the fence, Aunt Polly praised him for his *application* to the task. apply, *v.* (secondary meaning)

**apposite** *ADJ.* /合适的/appropriate; fitting. He was always able to find the *apposite* phrase, the correct expression for every occasion.

**appraise** *v.* /估价/estimate value of. It is difficult to *appraise* the value of old paintings; it is easier to call them priceless. appraisal, *n.*

**appreciate** *v.* /感激; 增值; 赏识/be thankful for; increase in worth; be thoroughly conscious of. Little Orphan Annie truly *appreciated* the stocks Daddy Warbucks gave her, which appreciated in value considerably over the years. **apprehend** *v.* /逮捕; 惧怕; 领会/arrest (a criminal); dread; perceive. The police will *apprehend* the culprit and convict him before long.

**apprehension** *n.* /害怕/fear. His nervous glances at the passersby on the deserted street revealed his *apprehension*.

**apprenticeship** *n.* /学徒身份/time spent as a novice learning a trade from a skilled worker. As a child, Pip had thought it would be wonderful to work as Joe's apprentice; now he hated his *apprenticeship* and scorned the blacksmith's trade.

**apprise** *v.* /告诉/inform. When he was *apprised* of the dangerous weather conditions, he decided to postpone his trip.

**approbation** *n.* /同意, 批准/approval. She looked for some sign of *approbation* from her parents, hoping her good grades would please them.

**appropriate** *v.* /获得; 挪用, 据为己有/acquire; take possession of for one's own use. The ranch owners *appropriated* the lands that had originally been set aside for the Indians' use.

**apropos** *PREP.* /关于/with reference to; regarding. I find your remarks *apropos* of the present situation timely and pertinent. also *ADJ.* and *ADV.*

**aptitude** *n.* /能力, 才能/fitness; talent. The counselor gave him an *aptitude* test before advising him about the career he should follow.

**aquatic** *ADJ.* /与水有关系的/pertaining to water. Paul enjoyed *aquatic* sports such as scuba diving and snorkeling. **aquiline** *ADJ.* /弯曲的, 钩状的/curved, hooked. He can be recognized by his *aquiline* nose, curved like the beak of the eagle.

**arable** *ADJ.* /可耕种的/fit for growing crops. The first settlers wrote home glowing reports of the New World, praising its vast acres of *arable* land ready for the plow.

**arbitrator** *n.* /仲裁者/a person with power to decide a dispute; judge. As an *arbitrator* in labor disputes, she has won the confidence of the workers and the employers.

**arbitrary** *ADJ.* /反复无常; 残暴; 随机的/capricious; randomly chosen; tyrannical. Tom's *arbitrary* dismissal angered him; his boss had no reason to fire him. He threw an *arbitrary* assortment of clothes into his suitcase and headed off, not caring where he went.

**arbitrator** *n.* /仲裁者/judge. Because the negotiating teams had been unable to reach a contract settlement, an

- 12 -

outside *arbitrator* was called upon to mediate the dispute between union and management. arbitration, *n.*

**arboretum** *n.* /植物园/place where different tree varieties are exhibited. Walking along the tree-lined paths of the *arboretum*, Rita noted poplars, firs, and some particularly fine sycamores.

**arcade** *n.* /拱廊/a covered passageway, usually lined with shops. The *arcade* was popular with shoppers because it gave them protection from the summer sun and the winter rain.

**arcane** *ADJ.* /秘密; 谜/secret; mysterious; known only to the initiated. Secret brotherhoods surround themselves with

*arcane* rituals and trappings to mystify outsiders. So do doctors. Consider the *arcane* terminology they use and the impression they try to give that what is arcane to us is obvious to them.

**archaeology** *N.*/考古学/study of artifacts and relics of early mankind. The professor of *archaeology* headed an expedition to the Gobi Desert in search of ancient ruins.

**archaic** *ADJ.*/过时的/antiquated. "Methinks," "thee," and "thou" are *archaic* words that are no longer part of our normal vocabulary.

**archetype** *N.*/原形/prototype; primitive pattern. The Brooklyn Bridge was the *archetype* of the many spans that now connect Manhattan with Long Island and New Jersey.

**archipelago** *N.*/群岛/group of closely located islands. When Gauguin looked at the map and saw the *archipelagoes* in the South Seas, he longed to visit them.

**archives** *N.*/档案; 档案馆/public records; place where public records are kept. These documents should be part of the *archives* so that historians may be able to evaluate them in the future.

**ardent** *ADJ.*/激烈的; 热心的; 有激情的/intense; passionate; zealous. Katya's ardor was contagious; soon all her fellow demonstrators were busily making posters and handing out flyers, inspired by her *ardent* enthusiasm for the cause. ardor, *N.*

**arduous** *ADJ.*/努力; 奋发/hard; strenuous. Her *arduous* efforts had sapped her energy.

**aria** *N.*/清唱剧/operatic solo. At her Metropolitan Opera audition, Marian Anderson sang an *aria* from *Norma*.

**arid** *ADJ.*/荒芜的/dry; barren. The cactus has adapted to survive in an *arid* environment.

**aristocracy** *N.*/贵族/hereditary nobility; privileged class. Americans have mixed feelings about hereditary *aristocracy*. we say all men are created equal, but we describe particularly outstanding people as natural aristocrats. **armada** *N.*/舰队/fleet of warships. Queen Elizabeth's navy defeated the mighty *armada* that threatened the English coast.

**aromatic** *ADJ.*/芬芳的/fragrant. Medieval sailing vessels brought *aromatic* herbs from China to Europe.

**arousal** *N.*/觉醒; 激励/awakening; provocation (of a response). On *arousal*, Papa was always grumpy as a bear. The children tiptoed around the house, fearing they would arouse his anger by waking him up.

**arraign** *V.*/传讯; 责问/charge in court; indict. After his indictment by the Grand Jury, the accused man was *arraigned* in the County Criminal Court.

**array** *V.*/排列; 整理/marshal; draw up in order. His actions were bound to *array* public sentiment against him. also *N.* **array** *V.*/衣服; 穿着, 装饰/clothe; adorn. She liked to watch her mother *array* herself in her finest clothes before going out for the evening. also *N.*

**arrears** *N.*/欠债/being in debt. He was in *arrears* with his payments on the car.

**arrest** *V.*/阻止; 引起注意; 吸引/stop or slow down; catch someone's attention. Slipping, the trapeze artist plunged from the heights until a safety net luckily arrested his fall. This near-disaster *arrested* the crowd's attention.

**arrogance** *N.*/傲慢, 骄傲/pride; haughtiness. Convinced that Emma thought she was better than anyone else in the class, Ed rebuked her for her *arrogance*.

**arroyo** *N.*/干枯的河床/gully. Until the heavy rains of the past spring, this *arroyo* had been a dry bed.

**arsenal** *N.*/军火库/storage place for military equipment. People are forbidden to smoke in the *arsenal* for fear that a stray spark might set off the munitions stored there.-

- 13 -

**articulate** *ADJ.*/有效的; 独特的/effective; distinct. Her *articulate* presentation of the advertising campaign impressed her employers. also *V.*

**artifact** *N.*/人造物品/object made by human beings, either handmade or mass-produced. Archaeologists debated the significance of the *artifacts* discovered in the ruins of Asia Minor but came to no conclusion about the culture they represented.

**artifice** *N.*/技巧; 欺骗/deception; trickery. The Trojan War proved to the Greeks that cunning and *artifice* were often more effective than military might.

**artisan** *N.*/工匠/manually skilled worker; craftsman, as opposed to artist. A noted *artisan*, Arturo was known for the fine craftsmanship of his inlaid cabinets.

**artless** *ADJ.*/坦诚; 直率/without guile; open and honest. Sophisticated and cynical, Jack could not believe Jill was as *artless* and naive as she appeared to be.

**ascendancy** *N.*/统治, 控制/controlling influence; domination. Leaders of religious cults maintain *ascendancy* over their followers by methods that can verge on brainwashing.

**ascertain** *V.*/确认, 确证/find out for certain. Please *ascertain* her present address.

**ascetic** *ADJ.*/苦行; 禁欲/practicing self-denial; austere. The wealthy, self-indulgent young man felt oddly drawn to the strict, *ascetic* life led by members of some monastic orders. also *N.*

**ascribe** *V.*/归因于; 指派/refer; attribute; assign. I can *ascribe* no motive for her acts.

**aseptic** *ADJ.*/抗菌的/preventing infection; having a cleansing effect. Hospitals succeeded in lowering the mortality rate as soon as they introduced *aseptic* conditions.

**ashen** *ADJ.*/灰色/ash-colored. Her face was *ashen* with fear.

**asinine** *ADJ.*/愚蠢/stupid. Your *asinine* remarks prove that you have not given this problem any serious consideration. **askance** *ADJ.*/瞄, 不经意的斜视/with a sideways or indirect look. Looking *askance* at her questioner, she displayed her scorn.

**askew** *ADJ.*/歪斜/crookedly; slanted; at an angle. When he placed his hat *askew* upon his head, his observers laughed.

**asperity** *N.*/严酷, 粗暴/sharpness (of temper). These remarks, spoken with *asperity*, stung the boys to whom they had been directed.

**aspirant** *N.*/有志者; 有抱负的人/seeker after position or status. Although I am an *aspirant* for public office, I am not willing to accept the dictates of the party bosses. also *ADJ.*

**aspire** *V.*/热望; 热心于/seek to attain; long for. Because he *aspired* to a career in professional sports, Philip enrolled in a graduate program in sports management. aspiration, *N.*

**assail** *V.*/攻击/assault. He was *assailed* with questions after his lecture.

**assay** *V.*/分析; 化验/analyze; evaluate. When they *assayed* the ore, they found that they had discovered a very rich vein. also *N.*

**assent** *V.*/同意; 接受/agree; accept. It gives me great pleasure to *assent* to your request.

**assert** *V.*/断言/declare or state with confidence; put oneself forward boldly. Malcolm *asserted* that if Reese quit acting like a wimp and *asserted* himself a bit more, he'd improve his chances of getting a date. assertion, *N.* **assessment** *N.*/评价, 评估; 判断/evaluation; judgment. Your SAT I score plays a part in the admission committee's *assessment* of you as an applicant.

**assiduous** *ADJ.*/勤奋/diligent. He was *assiduous*, working at this task for weeks before he felt satisfied with his results. assiduity, *N.*

**assimilate** *V.*/吸收; 同化/absorb; cause to become homogeneous. The manner in which the United States was able to *assimilate* the hordes of immigrants during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries will always be a source of pride to Americans. The immigrants eagerly *assimilated* new ideas and customs; they soaked them up, the way

- 14 -

plants soak up water.-

**\*assuage** *V.*/减轻(痛苦); 满足(饥渴); 安慰/ease or lessen (pain); satisfy (hunger); soothe (anger). Jilted by Jane, Dick tried to assuage his heartache by indulging in ice cream. One gallon later, he had *assuaged* his appetite but not his grief.

**assumption** *N.*/假定, 设想; 采取/something taken for granted; taking over or taking possession of. The young princess made the foolish assumption that the regent would not object to her *assumption* of power. assume, *V.* **assurance** *N.*/担保, 保证; 确定; 自信/promise or pledge; certainty; self-confidence. When Guthrie gave Guinness his *assurance* that rehearsals were going well, he spoke with such *assurance* that Guinness felt relieved. assure, *V.* **asteroid** *N.*/小行星/small planet. *Asteroids* have become commonplace to the readers of interstellar *travel stories* in science fiction magazines.

**astigmatism** *N.*/散光/eye defect that prevents proper focus. As soon as his parents discovered that the boy suffered from *astigmatism*, they took him to the optometrist for corrective glasses.

## Word List 5 astral-barb

**astral** *ADJ.*/关于星的/relating to the stars. She was amazed at the number of *astral* bodies the new telescope revealed.

**astringent** *ADJ.*/收敛的/binding; causing contraction. The *astringent* quality of the unsweetened lemon juice made swallowing difficult. also *N.*

**astronomical** *ADJ.*/巨大, 广阔/enormously large or extensive. The government seems willing to spend *astronomical* sums on weapons development.



**astute** ADJ./聪明; 敏锐/wise; shrewd; keen. The painter was an *astute* observer, noticing every tiny detail of her model's appearance and knowing exactly how important each one was.

**asunder** ADV./分裂, 分开/into parts; apart. A fierce quarrel split the partnership asunder: the two partners finally sundered their connections because their points of view were poles *asunder*.

**asylum** N./庇护所/place of refuge or shelter; protection. The refugees sought *asylum* from religious persecution in a new land.

**asymmetric** ADJ./不对称/not identical on both sides of a dividing central line. Because one eyebrow was set markedly higher than the other, William's face had a particularly *asymmetric* appearance.

**atavism** N./反祖; 隔代遗传/resemblance to remote ancestors rather than to parents; deformity returning after passage of two or more generations. The doctors ascribed the child's deformity to an *atavism*.

**atheistic** ADJ./无神论/denying the existence of God. His *atheistic* remarks shocked the religious worshippers.

**atlas** N./地图集/a bound volume of maps, charts, or tables. Embarrassed at being unable to distinguish Slovenia from Slovakia, George W. finally consulted an *atlas*.

**atone** V./补偿; 偿还/make amends for; pay for. He knew no way in which he could *atone* for his brutal crime.

**atrocities** N./暴行/brutal deed. In time of war, many *atrocities* are committed by invading armies.

**\*atrophy** N./萎缩, 变得没用/wasting away. Polio victims need physiotherapy to prevent the *atrophy* of affected limbs. also *v.*

**attain** V./获得; 完成/achieve or accomplish; gain. The scarecrow sought to *attain* one goal: he wished to obtain a brain.

**attentive** ADJ./专心的, 专注的; 全神贯注/alert and watchful; considerate; thoughtful. Spellbound, the *attentive* audience watched the final game of the tennis match, never taking their eyes from the ball. A cold wind sprang up; Stan's attentive daughter slipped a sweater over his shoulders without distracting his attention from the game.

**attenuate** V./削弱/make thin; weaken. By withdrawing their forces, the generals hoped to *attenuate* the enemy lines.

**attest** V./证明/testify, bear witness. Having served as a member of the Grand Jury, I can attest that our system of

- 15 -

indicting individuals is in need of improvement.

**attribute** N./属性/essential quality. His outstanding *attribute* was his kindness.

**attribute** V./归因于; 解释/ascribe; explain. I *attribute* her success in science to the encouragement she received from her parents.

**attrition** N./裁员; 磨损/gradual decrease in numbers; reduction in the work force without firing employees; wearing away of opposition by means of harassment. In the 1960s urban churches suffered from *attrition* as members moved from the cities to the suburbs. Rather than fire staff members, church leaders followed a policy of attrition, allowing elderly workers to retire without replacing them.

**atypical** ADJ./非正常的, 不正常/not normal. The child psychiatrist reassured Mrs. Keaton that playing doctor was not *atypical* behavior for a child of young Alex's age. "Yes," she replied, "but not charging for house calls!"

**audacious** ADJ./大胆的; 鲁莽的/daring; bold. Audiences cheered as Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia made their *audacious*, deathdefying leap to freedom, escaping Darth Vader's troops. *audacity*, *n.*

**audit** N./核算, 稽核/examination of accounts. When the bank examiners arrived to hold their annual *audit*, they discovered the embezzlements of the chief cashier. also *v.*

**auditory** ADJ./听觉的/pertaining to the sense of hearing. Audrey suffered from *auditory* hallucinations: she thought Elvis was speaking to her from the Great Beyond.

**augment** V./增长/increase; add to. Armies *augment* their forces by calling up reinforcements; teachers *augment* their salaries by taking odd jobs.

**augury** N./占卜; 预言/omen; prophecy. He interpreted the departure of the birds as an *augury* of evil. *augur*, *v.*

**august** ADJ./威严的; 令人印象深刻的/impressive; majestic. Visiting the palace at Versailles, she was impressed by the *august* surroundings in which she found herself.

**aureole** N./日冕/sun's corona; halo. Many medieval paintings depict saintly characters with *aureoles* around their heads.

**auroral** ADJ./曙光的, 极光的/pertaining to the aurora borealis. The *auroral* display was particularly spectacular that evening.

**auspicious** ADJ./幸运的, 吉祥的/favoring success. With favorable weather conditions, it was an auspicious moment to set sail. Thomas, however, had doubts about sailing: a paranoid, he became suspicious whenever conditions seemed *auspicious*.

**austere** ADJ./严厉的; 朴素的/forbiddingly stern; severely simple and unornamented. The headmaster's *austere* demeanor tended to scare off the more timid students, who never visited his study willingly. The room reflected the man, austere and bare, like a monk's cell, with no touches of luxury to moderate its austerity.

**authenticate** V./鉴别/prove genuine. An expert was needed to *authenticate* the original Van Gogh painting, distinguishing it from its imitation.

**authoritarian** ADJ./独裁/subordinating the individual to the state; completely dominating another's will. The leaders of the *authoritarian* regime ordered the suppression of the democratic protest movement. After years of submitting to the will of her authoritarian father, Elizabeth Barrett ran away from home with the poet Robert Browning.

**authoritative** ADJ./权威; 独裁/having the weight of authority; peremptory and dictatorial. Impressed by the young researcher's well-documented presentation, we accepted her analysis of the experiment as *authoritative*.

**autocratic** ADJ./独裁/ having absolute, unchecked power; dictatorial. Someone accustomed to exercising authority may become *autocratic* if his or her power is unchecked. Dictators by definition are autocrats. Bosses who dictate behavior as well as letters can be autocrats too.

**automaton** N./机器人/mechanism that imitates actions of humans. Long before science fiction readers became aware of robots, writers were presenting stories of *automatons* who could outperform men.

**autonomous** ADJ./自治/self-governing. Although the University of California at Berkeley is just one part of the state

- 16 -

university system, in many ways Cal Berkeley is *autonomous*, for it runs several programs that are not subject to outside control. *autonomy*, *n.*

**autopsy** N./验尸/examination of a dead body; post-mortem. The medical examiner ordered an *autopsy* to determine the cause of death. also *v.*

**auxiliary** ADJ./辅助的/helper, additional or subsidiary. To prepare for the emergency, they built an *auxiliary* power station. also *n.*

**avalanche** N./雪崩/great mass of falling snow and ice. The park ranger warned the skiers to stay on the main trails, where they would be in no danger of being buried beneath a sudden *avalanche*.

**\*avarice** N./贪婪, 贪财/greediness for wealth. King Midas is a perfect example of *avarice*, for he was so greedy that he wished everything he touched would turn to gold.

**avenge** V./复仇/take vengeance for something (or on behalf of someone). Hamlet vowed he would *avenge* his father's murder and punish Claudius for his horrible crime.

**averse** ADJ./反对的/reluctant; disinclined. The reporter was *averse* to revealing the sources of his information.

**aversion** N./厌恶, 抵制/firm dislike. Bert had an aversion to yuppies; Alex had an aversion to punks. Their mutual *aversion* was so great that they refused to speak to one another.

**avert** V./转移; 防止/prevent; turn away. She *averted* her eyes from the dead cat on the highway.

**\*aviary** N./鸟舍/enclosure for birds. The *aviary* at the zoo held nearly 300 birds.

**avid** ADJ./贪婪/greedy; eager for. He was *avid* for learning and read everything he could get. *avidity*, *n.*

**avocation** N./副业, 业余爱好/secondary or minor occupation. His hobby proved to be so fascinating and profitable that gradually he abandoned his regular occupation and concentrated on his *avocation*.

**avow** V./宣布/declare openly. Lana *avowed* that she never meant to steal Debbie's boyfriend, but no one believed her avowal of innocence.

**avuncular** ADJ./像伯父(叔叔)一样的/like an uncle. *Avuncular* pride did not prevent him from noticing his nephew's shortcomings.

**awe** N./敬畏/solemn wonder. The tourists gazed with *awe* at the tremendous expanse of the Grand Canyon.

**awry** ADV./扭曲的; 歪曲的/distorted; crooked. He held his head *awry*, giving the impression that he had caught cold in his neck during the night. also *ADJ.*

**axiom** N./公理, 自明的道理/self-evident truth requiring no proof. Before a student can begin to think along the lines of

Euclidean geometry, he must accept certain principles or *axioms*.

**azure** *ADJ.* /天蓝/sky blue. *Azure* skies are indicative of good weather. **babble** *v.* /嘟囔/chatter idly. The little girl *babbled* about her doll. also *n.*

**bacchanalian** *ADJ.* /喝醉的, 耍酒疯/drunken. Emperor Nero attended the *bacchanalian* orgy.

**badger** *v.* /激怒, 纠缠/pester; annoy. She was forced to change her telephone number because she was *badgered* by obscene phone calls.

**badinage** *n.* /开玩笑, 揶揄; 取消/teasing conversation. Her friends at work greeted the news of her engagement with cheerful *badinage*.

**baffle** *v.* /挫败/frustrate; perplex. The new code *baffled* the enemy agents.

**bait** *v.* /欺负, 玩弄, 折磨/harass; tease. The school bully *baited* the smaller children, terrorizing them.

**baleful** *ADJ.* /恶意的, 有害的/deadly; having a malign influence; ominous. The fortune teller made  *baleful* predictions of terrible things to come.

**balk** *v.* /反对; 阻止/foil or thwart; stop short; refuse to go on. When the warden learned that several inmates were planning to escape, he took steps to *balk* their attempt. However, he *balked* at punishing them by shackling them to the walls of their cells.

**ballast** *n.* /配重; 沙袋/heavy substance used to add stability or weight. The ship was listing badly to one side; it was  
- 17 -

necessary to shift the *ballast* in the hold to get her back on an even keel. also *v.*

**balm** *n.* / (止痛的) 安慰物/something that relieves pain. Friendship is the finest *balm* for the pangs of disappointed love.

**balmy** *ADJ.* /柔和的; 芳香的/mild; fragrant. A *balmy* breeze refreshed us after the sultry blast. -

**banal** *ADJ.* /平凡, 陈腐, 老生常谈/hackneyed; commonplace; trite; lacking originality. The hack writer's worn-out clichés made his comic sketch seem *banal*. He even resorted to the banality of having someone slip on a banana peel! **bandy** *v.* /传话/discuss lightly or glibly; exchange (words ) heatedly. While the president was happy to *bandy* patriotic generalizations with anyone who would listen to him, he refused to *bandy* words with unfriendly reporters at the press conference.

**bane** *n.* /祸根/cause of ruin; curse. Lucy's little brother was the *bane* of her existence: his attempts to make her life miserable worked so well that she could have poisoned him with ratsbane for having such a *baneful* effect. **bantering** *ADJ.* /可笑的, 嘲弄的/good-natured ridiculing. They resented his *bantering* remarks because they thought he was being sarcastic.

**barb** *n.* /鱼钩, 钩状物/sharp projection from fishhook, etc.; openly cutting remark. If you were a politician, which would you prefer, being caught on the *barb* of a fishhook or *beingsubjectedto* malicious verbal *barbs*? Who can blame the president if he's happier fishing than back in the capitol listening to his critics' *barbed* remarks?

## Word List 6 bard-bluff

**bard** *n.* / (吟游) 诗人/poet. The ancient *bard* Homer sang of the fall of Troy.

**baroque** *ADJ.* /华丽的/highly ornate. Accustomed to the severe lines of contemporary buildings, the architecture students found the flamboyance of *baroque* architecture amusing. They simply didn't go for *baroque*.

**barrage** *n.* /弹幕, 火力网/barrier laid down by artillery fire. The company was forced to retreat through the *barrage* of heavy cannons.

**barren** *ADJ.* /荒芜的, 贫瘠的/desolate; fruitless and unproductive; lacking. Looking out at the trackless, *barren* desert, Indiana Jones feared that his search for the missing expedition would prove *barren*.

**barricade** *n.* /屏障; 障碍物/hastily put together defensive barrier; obstacle. Marius and his fellow students hurriedly improvised a rough *barricade* to block police access to the students' quarter. Malcolm and his brothers *barricaded* themselves in their bedroom to keep their mother from seeing the hole in the bedroom floor. also *v.*

**barterer** *n.* /交易商/trader. The *barterer* exchanged trinkets for the natives' furs. It seemed smarter to *barter* than to pay cash.

**bask** *v.* /享受 (温暖); 愉快, 舒适/luxuriate; take pleasure in warmth. *Basking* on the beach, she relaxed so completely that she fell asleep.

**bastion** *n.* /堡垒; 工事/fortress; defense. The villagers fortified the town hall, hoping this improvised *bastion* could protect them from the guerillas' raids. .

**bate** *v.* /限制; 抑制/let down; restrain. Until it was time to open the presents, the children had to *bate* their curiosity.

bated, *ADJ.*

**bauble** *n.* /小玩意儿/trinket; trifle. The child was delighted with the *bauble* she had won in the grab bag.

**bawdy** *ADJ.* /猥亵的; 下流的; 卖淫的/indecent; obscene. Jack took offense at Jill's *bawdy* remarks. What kind of young man did she think he was?

**beam** *n.* /光束; 铁梁, 木梁; 一束电波/ray of light; long piece of metal or wood; course of a radio signal. *v.* smile radiantly. If a *beam* of light falls on you, it illuminates you; if a *beam* of iron falls on you, it eliminates you. (No one feels like *beaming* when crushed by an iron beam.)

**beatific** *ADJ.* /祝福; 幸福的/giving bliss; blissful. The *beatific* smile on the child's face made us very happy.

**beatitude** *n.* /祝福/blessedness; state of bliss. Growing closer to God each day, the mystic achieved a state of  
- 18 -

indescribable *beatitude*.

**bedizen** *v.* /俗丽, 俗气/dress with vulgar finery. The witch doctors were *bedizened* in all their gaudiest costumes. **bedraggle** *v.* /邋遢的; 湿的/wet thoroughly; stain with mud. We were so *bedraggled* by the severe storm that we had to change into dry clothing. bedraggled, *ADJ.*

**beeline** *n.* /直线/direct, quick route. As soon as the movie was over, Jim made a *beeline* for the exit.

**befuddle** *v.* /迷惑/confuse thoroughly. His attempts to clarify the situation succeeded only in *befuddling* her further. **beget** *v.* /得子; 产生/father; produce; give rise to. One good turn may deserve another; it does not necessarily *beget* another.

**begrudge** *v.* /愤恨; 嫉妒/resent. I *begrudge* every minute I have to spend attending meetings; they're a complete waste of time.

**\*beguile** *v.* /欺骗, 骗住; 消磨时间/mislead or delude; pass time.

With flattery and big talk of easy money, the con men *beguiled* Kyle into betting his allowance on the shell game. Broke, he *beguiled* himself during the long hours by playing solitaire.

**behemoth** *n.* /怪物; 怪兽/huge creature; monstrous animal. Sportscasters nicknamed the linebacker "The *Behemoth*."

**belabor** *v.* /嘴贫, 过度的说; 谩骂/explain or go over excessively or to a ridiculous degree; attack verbally. The debate coach warned her student not to bore the audience by *belaboring* her point.

**belated** *ADJ.* /推迟的, 延期的/delayed. He apologized for his *belated* note of condolence to the widow of his friend and explained that he had just learned of her husband's untimely death.

**beleaguer** *v.* /攻击; 使烦恼/besiege or attack; harassed. The babysitter was surrounded by a crowd of unmanageable brats who relentlessly *beleaguered* her.

**belie** *v.* /掩饰, 造成假象; 矛盾/contradict; give a false impression. His coarse, hard-bitten exterior *belied* his inner sensitivity.

**belittle** *v.* /蔑视, 使渺小/disparage or depreciate; put down. Parents should not *belittle* their children's early attempts at drawing, but should encourage their efforts. Barry was a put-down artist: he was a genius at *belittling* people and making them feel small.

**bellicose** *ADJ.* /好斗的, 好战的/warlike. His *bellicose* disposition alienated his friends.

**belligerent** *ADJ.* /好斗的, 好斗嘴的/quarrelsome. Whenever he had too much to drink, he became *belligerent* and tried to pick fights with strangers. belligerence, *n.*

**bemoan** *v.* /哀叹, 悲伤/lament; express disapproval of. The widow *bemoaned* the death of her beloved husband. Although critics *bemoaned* the serious flaws in the author's novels, each year his latest book topped the best-seller list.

**bemused** *ADJ.* /困惑的, 发呆的/confused; lost in thought; preoccupied. Jill studied the garbled instructions with a *bemused* look on her face.

**benediction** *n.* /祝福/blessing. The appearance of the sun after the many rainy days was like a *benediction*. **benefactor** *n.* /恩人, 赞助人/gift giver; patron. Scrooge later became Tiny Tim's *benefactor* and gave him gifts. **beneficial** *ADJ.* /有用的/helpful; useful. Tiny Tim's cheerful good nature had a *beneficial* influence on Scrooge's onceuncharitable disposition.



**beneficiary** *n.* / (遗产) 受益人/person entitled to benefits or proceeds of an insurance policy or will. In Scrooge's will, he made Tiny Tim his *beneficiary*. everything he left would go to young Tim.

**benevolent** *ADJ.* /慈善的/generous; charitable. Mr. Fezziwig was a *benevolent* employer, who wished to make Christmas merrier for young Scrooge and his other employees.

**benign** *ADJ.* /良性的, 好的; 和蔼可亲的/kindly; favorable; not malignant. Though her *benign* smile and gentle bearing made Miss Marple seem a sweet little old lady, in reality she was a tough-minded, shrewd observer of human nature.

- 19 -

benignity, *n.*

**bent** *ADJ.* *n.* /先天的/determined; natural talent or inclination. *Bent* on advancing in the business world, the secretary- heroine of *Working Girl* has a true *bent* for high finance.

**\*bequeath** *v.* /遗赠, (代代) 相传/leave to someone by a will; hand down. Though Maud had intended to *bequeath* the family home to her nephew, she died before changing her will. bequest, *n.*

**berate** *v.* /严厉指责, 谴责/scold strongly. He feared she would *berate* him for his forgetfulness.

**bereavement** *n.* /丧亲/state of being deprived of something valuable or beloved. His friends gathered to console him upon his sudden *bereavement*.

**bereft** *ADJ.* /失去的, 缺少的/deprived of; lacking; desolate because of a loss. The foolish gambler soon found himself *bereft* of funds.

**berserk** *ADV.* /疯狂的, 狂暴的/frenzied. Angered, he went *berserk* and began to wreck the room.

**beseech** *v.* /乞求, 恳求/beg; plead with. The workaholic executive's wife *beseached* him to spend more time with their son.

**beset** *v.* /困扰/harass or trouble; hem in. Many vexing problems *beset* the American public school system. Sleeping Beauty's castle was beset on all sides by dense thickets that hid it from view.

**besiege** *v.* /围攻/surround with armed forces; harass (with requests). When the bandits *besieged* the village, the villagers holed up in the town hall and prepared to withstand a long siege. Members of the new administration were *besieged* with job applications from people who had worked on the campaign.

**besmirch** *v.* /弄脏/soil, defile. The scandalous remarks in the newspaper *besmirch* the reputations of every member of the society.

**bestial** *ADJ.* /残忍的/beastlike; brutal. According to legend, the werewolf was able to abandon its human shape and take on a *bestial* form.

**bestow** *v.* /给予/give. He wished to *bestow* great honors upon the hero.

**betoken** *v.* /预示; 表示/signify; indicate. The well-equipped docks, tall piles of cargo containers, and numerous vessels being loaded all *betoken* Oakland's importance as a port.

**betray** *v.* /出卖; 背叛/be unfaithful; reveal (unconsciously or unwillingly). The spy *betrayed* his country by selling military secrets to the enemy. When he was taken in for questioning, the tightness of his lips *betrayed* his fear of being caught.

**betroth** *v.* /订婚/become engaged to marry. The announcement that they had become *betrothed* surprised their friends who had not suspected any romance. betrothal, *n.*

**bevy** *n.* /一群 (少女, 小鸟) /large group. The movie actor was surrounded by a *bevy* of starlets.

**biased** *ADJ.* /偏见的, 偏差/slanted; prejudiced. Because the judge played golf regularly with the district attorney's father, we feared he might be *biased* in the prosecution's favor. bias, *n.*

**bicameral** *ADJ.* /两院制的 (参, 众) /two-chambered, as a legislative body. The United States Congress is a *bicameral* body.

**bicker** *v.* /争吵/quarrel. The children *bickered* morning, noon, and night, exasperating their parents.

**biennial** *ADJ.* /两年一度/every two years. Seeing no need to meet more frequently, the group held *biennial* meetings instead of annual ones. Plants that bear flowers *biennially* are known as *biennials*.

**bigotry** *n.* /固执/stubborn intolerance. Brought up in a democratic atmosphere, the student was shocked by the *bigotry* and narrowness expressed by several of his classmates.

**bilious** *ADJ.* /消化不良, 易怒/suffering from indigestion; irritable. His *bilious* temperament was apparent to all who heard him rant about his difficulties.

**bilk** *v.* /骗/swindle; cheat. The con man specialized in *bilking* insurance companies.

**billowing** *ADJ.* /波涛翻滚/swelling out in waves; surging. Standing over the air vent, Marilyn Monroe tried vainly to - 20 -

control her *billowing* skirts.

**bivouac** *n.* /帐篷/temporary encampment. While in *bivouac*, we spent the night in our sleeping bags under the stars. also *v.*

**bizarre** *ADJ.* /怪异的/fantastic; violently contrasting. The plot of the novel was too *bizarre* to be believed.

**blanch** *v.* /漂白/bleach; whiten. Although age had *blanched* his hair, he was still vigorous and energetic. **bland** *ADJ.* /温和的/soothing or mild; agreeable. Jill tried a *bland* ointment for her sunburn. However, when Jack absentmindedly patted her on the sunburned shoulder, she couldn't maintain a *bland* disposition.

**blandishment** *n.* /阿谀奉承/flattery. Despite the salesperson's *blandishments*, the customer did not buy the outfit. **blare** *n.* /大声喊叫, 令人眩晕的强光/loud, harsh roar or screech; dazzling blaze of light. I don't know which is worse: the steady *blare* of a boom box deafening your ears or a sudden blare of flashbulbs dazzling your eyes.

**blasé** *ADJ.* /厌于享乐/bored with pleasure or dissipation. Although Beth was as thrilled with the idea of a trip to Paris as her classmates were, she tried to act super cool and *blasé*, as if she'd been abroad hundreds of times.

**blasphemy** *n.* /亵渎/irreverence; sacrilege; cursing. In my father's house, the Dodgers were the holiest of holies; to cheer for another team was to utter words of *blasphemy*.

blasphemous, *ADJ.*

**blatant** *ADJ.* /喧闹; 俗丽/flagrant; conspicuously obvious; loudly offensive. To the unemployed youth from Dublin, the "No Irish Need Apply" placard in the shop window was a *blatant* mark of prejudice.

**\*bleak** *ADJ.* /冷淡; 凄凉/cold or cheerless; unlikely to be favorable.

The frigid, inhospitable Aleutian Islands are *bleak* military outposts. It's no wonder that soldiers assigned there have a *bleak* attitude toward their posting.

**\*blighted** *ADJ.* /完蛋了的; 生病了的/suffering from a disease; destroyed. The extent of the *blighted* areas could be seen only when viewed from the air.

**blithe** *ADJ.* /欢乐, 高兴/gay; joyous; heedless. Shelley called the skylark a "*blithe* spirit" because of its happy song.

**bloated** *ADJ.* /浮肿/swollen or puffed as with water or air. Her *bloated* stomach came from drinking so much water. **bludgeon** *n.* /大头狼牙棒/club; heavy-headed weapon. Attacked by Dr. Moriarty, Holmes used his walking stick as a *bludgeon* to defend himself. "Watson," he said, "I fear I may have *bludgeoned* Moriarty to death."

**bluff** *ADJ.* /直率的/rough but good-natured. Jack had a *bluff* and hearty manner that belied his actual sensitivity; he never let people know how thin-skinned he really was.

**bluff** *n.* /虚伪; 欺骗; 悬崖/pretense (of strength); deception; high cliff. Claire thought Lord Byron's boast that he would swim the Hellespont was just a *bluff*; she was astounded when he dove from the high *bluff* into the waters below.

## Word List 7 blunder-canter

**blunder** *n.* /错误/error. The criminal's fatal *blunder* led to his capture. also *v.*

**blurt** *v.* /脱口而出/utter impulsively. Before she could stop him, he *blurted* out the news.

**bluster** *v.* /咆哮; 吓唬/blow in heavy gusts; threaten empty; bully. "Let the stormy winds bluster," cried Jack, "we'll set sail tonight." Jill let Jack *bluster*. she wasn't going anywhere, no matter what he said.

**bode** *v.* /预兆/foreshadow; portend. The gloomy skies and the sulphurous odors from the mineral springs seemed to *bode* evil to those who settled in the area.

**bogus** *ADJ.* /赝品/counterfeit; not authentic. The police quickly found the distributors of the *bogus* twenty-dollar bills.

**bohemian** *ADJ.* /不合习俗; 放荡不羁/unconventional (in an artistic way). Gertrude Stein ran off to Paris to live an eccentric, *bohemian* life with her writer friends. Oakland was not *bohemian*:

it was too bourgeois, too middle-class. **boisterous** *ADJ.* /狂暴; 喧嚣/violent; rough; noisy. The unruly crowd became even more *boisterous* when he tried to quiet them.

**bolster** *v.* /支持, 增援/support; reinforce. The debaters amassed file boxes full of evidence to *bolster* their arguments.

**bolt** *n.*/门闩; 螺钉; 布匹的长度/door bar; fastening pin or screw; length of fabric. The carpenter shut the workshop door,  
- 21 -

sliding the heavy metal *bolt* into place. He sorted through his toolbox for the nuts and bolts and nails he would need. Before he cut into the *bolt* of canvas, he measured how much fabric he would need.

**bolt** *v.*/猛冲, 上门闩, 囫圇吞下/dash or dart off; fasten (a door); gobble down. Jack was set to *bolt* out the front door, but Jill *bolted* the door. "Eat your breakfast," she said, "don't bolt your food."

**bombardment** *n.*/轰击(导弹)/attack with missiles. The enemy *bombardment* demolished the town. Members of the opposition party *bombarded* the prime minister with questions about the enemy attack.

**bombastic** *adj.*/夸张的/pompous; using inflated language. Puffed up with conceit, the orator spoke in such a *bombastic* manner that we longed to deflate him. bombast, *n.*

**booming** *adj.*/快速增长的, 欣欣向荣; 深刻的/deep and resonant; flourishing, thriving. "Who needs a microphone?" cried the mayor in his *booming* voice. Cheerfully he *boomed* out that, thanks to him, the city's economy was *booming*. boom, *v.*

**boon** *n.*/恩惠, 福利/blessing; benefit. The recent rains that filled our empty reservoirs were a *boon* to the whole community.

**boorish** *adj.*/粗鲁; 笨拙/rude; clumsy; ungentlemanly. Natasha was embarrassed by her fellow spy's *boorish* behavior. "If you cannot act like a gentleman, Boris, go back to Russia: espionage is no job for clumsy *boors*." boor, *n.* **boundless** *adj.*/无限的/unlimited; vast. Mike's energy was *boundless*: the greater the challenge, the more vigorously he tackled the job.

**bountiful** *adj.*/富足的; 慷慨的/abundant; graciously generous. Thanks to the good harvest, we had a *bountiful* supply of food and we could be as *bountiful* as we liked in distributing food to the needy.

**bourgeois** *adj.*/中产阶级; 平庸的/middle class; selfishly materialistic; dully conventional. Technically, anyone who belongs to the middle class is *bourgeois*, but, given the word's connotations, most people resent it if you call them that.

**bovine** *adj.*/牛的; 迟钝的; 耐心的/cowlike; placid and dull. Nothing excites Esther; even when she won the state lottery, she still preserved her air of *bovine* calm.

**bowdlerize** *v.*/删除/expurgate. After the film editors had *bowdlerized* the language in the script, the motion picture's rating was changed from "R" to "PG."

**boycott** *v.*/抵制/refrain from buying or using. To put pressure on grape growers to stop using pesticides that harmed the farm workers' health, Cesar Chavez called for consumers to *boycott* grapes.

**braggart** *n.*/自夸, 吹嘘/boaster. Modest by nature, she was no *braggart*, preferring to let her accomplishments speak for themselves.

**brandish** *v.*/挥舞/wave around; flourish. Alarmed, Doctor Watson wildly *brandished* his gun until Holmes told him to put the thing away before he shot himself.

**bravado** *n.*/虚张声势/swagger; assumed air of defiance. The *bravado* of the young criminal disappeared when he was confronted by the victims of his brutal attack.

**brawn** *n.*/强壮的肌肉/muscular strength; sturdiness. It takes *brawn* to become a champion weightlifter. brawny, *adj.*

**brazen** *adj.*/厚颜无耻; 傲慢/insolent. Her *brazen* contempt for authority angered the officials.

**breach** *n.*/违约; 突破/breaking of contract or duty; fissure or gap. Jill sued Jack for *breach* of promise, claiming he had broken his promise to marry her. They found a *breach* in the enemy's fortifications and penetrated their lines. also *v.*

**breadth** *n.*/宽度/width; extent. We were impressed by the *breadth* of her knowledge.

**brevity** *n.*/简短, 短暂/conciseness. *Brevity* is essential when you send a telegram or cablegram; you are charged for every word.

**brindled** *adj.*/有条纹或斑点的/tawny or grayish with streaks or spots. He was disappointed in the litter because the puppies were *brindled*; he had hoped for animals of a uniform color.

- 22 -

**bristling** *adj.*/竖立的/rising like bristles; showing irritation. The dog stood there, *bristling* with anger.

**brittle** *adj.*/易碎的; 困难的/easily broken; difficult. My employer's self-control was as *brittle* as an egg-shell. Her *brittle* personality made it difficult for me to get along with her.

**broach** *v.*/介绍, 提出, 引见/introduce; open up. Jack did not even try to *broach* the subject of religion with his in-laws. If you *broach* a touchy subject, it may cause a breach.

**brochure** *n.*/小册子/pamphlet. This *brochure* on farming was issued by the Department of Agriculture.

**brooch** *n.*/胸针/ornamental clasp. She treasured the *brooch* because it was an heirloom.

**browbeat** *v.*/吓唬/bully; intimidate. Billy resisted Ted's attempts *browbeat* him into handing over his lunch money. **browse** *v.*/吃草; 浏览/graze; skim or glance at casually. "How now, brown cow, *browsing* in the green, green grass." I remember lines of verse that I came across while *browsing* through the poetry section of the local bookstore.

**brunt** *n.*/冲击/main impact or shock. Tom Sawyer claimed credit for painting the fence, but the *brunt* of the work fell on others. However, he bore the *brunt* of Aunt Polly's complaints when the paint began to peel.

**brusque** *adj.*/唐突; 直率; 粗暴无礼/blunt; abrupt. Was Bruce too *brusque* when he brushed off Bob's request with a curt "Not now!"?

**buccaneer** *n.*/海盗/pirate. At Disneyland the Pirates of the Caribbean sing a song about their lives as bloody *buccaneers*.

**bucolic** *adj.*/田园的/rustic; pastoral. Filled with browsing cows and bleating sheep, the meadow was a charmingly *bucolic* sight.

**buffet** *n.*/自助餐/table with food set out for people to serve themselves; meal at which people help themselves to food that's been set out. Please convey the soufflé on the tray to the *buffet*. (Buffet rhymes with tray.)

**buffet** *v.*/殴打, 斗殴/slap; batter; knock about. To *buffet* something is to rough it up. (Buffet rhymes with Muffett.) Was Miss Muffett *buffeted* by the crowd on the way to the buffet tray?

**buffoonery** *n.*/滑稽的/clowning. In the Ace Ventura movies, Jim Carrey's *buffoonery* was hilarious: like Bozo the Clown, he's a natural *buffoon*.

**bullion** *n.*/金条, 银条/gold and silver in the form of bars. Much *bullion* is stored in the vaults at Fort Knox.

**bulwark** *n.*/壁垒/earthwork or other strong defense; person who defends. The navy is our principal *bulwark* against invasion.

**bumptious** *adj.*/盲目自大/self-assertive. His classmates called him a show-off because of his *bumptious* airs.

**bungalow** *n.*/小平房/small cottage. Every summer we rent a *bungalow* on Cape Cod for our vacation home. The rent is high, the roof is low-it's a basic *bungalow*.

**bungle** *v.*/搞砸/mismanage; blunder. Don't botch this assignment, Bumstead; if you *bungle* the job, you're fired!

**buoyant** *adj.*/可漂浮的, 乐观的/able to float; cheerful and optimistic. When the boat capsized, her *buoyant* life jacket kept Jody afloat. Scrambling back on board, she was still in a *buoyant* mood, certain that despite the delay she'd win the race.

**bureaucracy** *n.*/官僚机构/over-regulated administrative system marked by red tape. The Internal Revenue Service is the ultimate *bureaucracy*: taxpayers wasted so much paper filling out IRS forms that the IRS *bureaucrats* printed up a new set of rules requiring taxpayers to comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act.

**burgeon** *v.*/发芽, 成长/grow forth; send out buds. In the spring, the plants that *burgeon* are a promise of the beauty that is to come.

**burlesque** *v.*/作秀, 滑稽/give an imitation that ridicules. In *Spaceballs*, Rick Moranis *burlesques* Darth Vader of *Star Wars*, outrageously parodying Vader's stiff walk and hollow voice.

**burly** *adj.*/魁伟, 结实/husky; muscular. The *burly* mover lifted the packing crate with ease.

**burnish** *v.*/擦拭/make shiny by rubbing; polish. The maid *burnished* the brass fixtures until they reflected the lamplight.

- 23 -

**bustle** *v.*/喧嚣, 繁忙, 熙熙攘攘/move about energetically; teem. David and the children *bustled* about the house getting in each other's way as they tried to pack for the camping trip. The whole house *bustled* with activity.

**buttness** *v.*/支持/support; prop up. The attorney came up with several far-fetched arguments in a vain attempt to *buttness* his weak case. also *n.*

**buxom** *adj.*/丰满; 充满活力; 欢快/plump; vigorous; jolly. The soldiers remembered the *buxom* nurse who had always been so pleasant to them.

**cabal** *n.*/内阁/small group of persons secretly united to promote their own interests. The *cabal* was defeated when

their scheme was discovered.

**cache** *n.* /藏身之处/hiding place. The detectives followed the suspect until he led them to the *cache* where he had stored his loot. He had *cached* the cash in a bag for trash: it was a hefty sum.

**cacophonous** *adj.* /不和谐/discordant; inharmonious. Do the students in the orchestra enjoy the *cacophonous* sounds they make when they're tuning up? I don't know how they can stand the racket. *cacophony*, *n.*

**cadaver** *n.* /尸体/corpse. In some states, it is illegal to dissect *cadavers*.

**cadaverous** *adj.* /尸体似的, 苍白的/like a corpse; pale. By his *cadaverous* appearance, we could see how the disease had ravaged him.

**cadence** *n.* /平仄, 重音/rhythmic rise and fall (of words or sounds); beat. Marching down the road, the troops sang out, following the *cadence* set by the sergeant.

**cajole** *v.* /哄骗, 勾引/coax; wheedle. Diane tried to *cajole* her father into letting her drive the family car. *cajology*, *n.* **calamity** *n.* /灾难, 不幸/disaster; misery. As news of the *calamity* spread, offers of relief poured in to the stricken community.

**calculated** *adj.* /预先计划好的, 算好的; 合适的/deliberately planned; likely. Lexy's choice of clothes to wear to the debate tournament was carefully *calculated*. Her conventional suit was one *calculated* to appeal to the conservative judges. **caldron** *n.* /大锅/large kettle. "Why, Mr. Crusoe," said the savage heating the giant *caldron*, "we'd love to have you for dinner!"

**caliber** *n.* /能力; 品质/ability; quality. Einstein's cleaning the blackboards again? Albert, quit it! A man of your *caliber* shouldn't have to do such menial tasks.

**calligraphy** *n.* /漂亮的书法/beautiful writing; excellent penmanship. As we examine ancient manuscripts, we become impressed with the *calligraphy* of the scribes.

**callous** *adj.* /硬心肠的, 无情的/hardened; unfeeling. He had worked in the hospital for so many years that he was *callous* to the suffering in the wards. *callus*, *n.*

**callow** *adj.* /年幼, 稚嫩; 无经验/youthful; immature; inexperienced. As a freshman, Jack was sure he was a man of the world; as a sophomore, he made fun of freshmen as *callow* youths. In both cases, his judgment showed just how *callow* he was.

**calorific** *adj.* /产热的/heat-producing. Coal is much more *calorific* than green wood.

**calumny** *n.* /诽谤; 中伤/malicious misrepresentation; slander. He could endure his financial failure, but he could not bear the *calumny* that his foes heaped upon him.

**camaraderie** *n.* /友情/good-fellowship. What he loved best about his job was the sense of *camaraderie* he and his coworkers shared.

**cameo** *n.* /贝壳上的浮雕; 特写 (演员) /shell or jewel carved in relief; star's special appearance in a minor role in a film. Don't bother buying *cameos* from the street peddlers in Rome: the carvings they sell are clumsy jobs. Did you enjoy Bill Murray's *cameo* in Little Shop of Horrors? He was onscreen for only a minute, but he cracked me up.

**camouflage** *v.* /伪装/disguise; conceal. In order to rescue Han Solo, Princess Leia *camouflaged* herself in the helmet and cloak of a space bandit.

**candor** *n.* /开诚布公; 坦率/frankness; open honesty. Jack can carry *candor* too far: when he told Jill his honest opinion - 24 -

of her, she nearly slapped his face. *candid*, *adj.*

**canine** *adj.* /狗的/related to dogs; dog-like. Some days the *canine* population of Berkeley seems almost to outnumber the human population,

**canny** *adj.* /谨慎的; 节约的/shrewd; thrifty. The *canny* Scotsman was more than a match for the swindlers.

**cant** *n.* /伪善; 黑话/insincere expressions of piety; jargon of thieves. Shocked by news of the minister's extramarital love affairs, the worshippers dismissed his talk about the sacredness of marriage as mere *cant*. *Cant* is a form of hypocrisy: those who can, pray; those who cant, pretend.

**cantankerous** *adj.* /脾气坏; 易发怒/ill humored; irritable. Constantly complaining about his treatment and refusing to cooperate with the hospital staff, he was a *cantankerous* patient.

**cantata** *n.* /大合唱; 康塔塔/story set to music, to be sung by a chorus. The choral society sang the new *cantata* composed by its leader.

**canter** *n.* /慢跑/slow gallop. Because the racehorse had outdistanced its competition so easily, the reporter wrote that the race was won in a *canter*. also *v.*

## Word List 8 canto-chameleon

**canto** *n.* / (长诗的) 分篇/division of a long poem. Dante's poetic masterpiece The Divine Comedy is divided into *cantos*.

**canvass** *v.* /调查; 投票/determine votes, etc. After *canvassing* the sentiments of his constituents, the congressman was confident that he represented the majority opinion of his district. also *n.*

**capacious** *adj.* /宽敞的/spacious. In the *capacious* rotunda of the railroad terminal, thousands of travelers lingered while waiting for their train.

**capacity** *n.* /能力; 角色/mental or physical ability; role; ability to accommodate. Mike had the *capacity* to handle several jobs at once. In his *capacity* as president of SelecTronics he marketed an electronic dictionary with a *capacity* of 200,000 words.

**capitulate** *v.* /投降/surrender. The enemy was warned to *capitulate* or face annihilation.

**caprice** *n.* /反复无常; 一时幻想; 奇怪的想法/sudden, unexpected fancy; whim. On a *caprice*, Jack tried drag-racing, but paid the price-his father took his chevy *caprice* away from him.

**capricious** *adj.* /反复无常的/unpredictable; fickle. The storm was *capricious*: it changed course constantly. Jill was *capricious*, too: she changed boyfriends almost as often as she changed clothes.

**caption** *n.* /标题/title; chapter heading; text under illustration. The *captions* that accompany The Far Side cartoons are almost as funny as the pictures. also *v.*

**captivate** *v.* /迷住; 迷惑/charm or enthrall. Bart and Lisa were *captivated* by their new nanny's winning manner.

**carat** *n.* /克拉; 开; K/unit of weight for precious stones; measure of fineness of gold. He gave her a three-*carat* diamond mounted in an eighteen-*carat* gold band.

**cardinal** *adj.* /主要的/chief. If you want to increase your word power, the *cardinal* rule of vocabulary-building is to read.

**cardiologist** *n.* /心脏病专家/doctor specializing in the heart. When the pediatrician noticed Philip had a slight heart murmur, she referred him to a *cardiologist* for further tests.

**careen** *v.* /倾斜/lurch; sway from side to side. The taxicab *careened* wildly as it rounded the corner. **caricature** *n.* /歪曲; 漫画; 讽刺画/distortion; burlesque. The *caricatures* he drew always emphasized a personal weakness of the people he burlesqued. also *v.*

**carnage** *n.* /残杀; 大屠杀/destruction of life. The film The *Killing Fields* vividly depicts the *carnage* wreaked by Pol Pot's followers in Cambodia.

**carnal** *adj.* /肉体的; 欲望的/fleshy. Is the public more interested in *carnal* pleasures than in spiritual matters? Compare - 25 -

the number of people who read *Playboy* daily to the number of those who read the Bible or Koran every day. **carnivorous** *adj.* /食肉的/meat-eating. The lion's a *carnivorous* beast. A hunk of meat makes up his feast. A cow is not a *carnivore*. She likes the taste of grain, not gore.

**\*carping** *adj.* /挑剔的, 吹毛求疵/finding fault. A *carping* critic is a nit-picker: he loves to point out flaws. If you don't like this definition, feel free to *carp*.

**cartographer** *n.* /制图者, 制地图的人/map-maker. Though not a professional *cartographer*, Tolkien was able to construct a map of his fictional world.

**cascade** *n.* /小瀑布/small waterfall. We were too tired to appreciate the beauty of the many cascades because we had to detour around them to avoid being drenched by the water *cascading* down.

**castigate** *v.* /严厉批评; 惩罚/criticize severely; punish. When the teacher threatened that she would *castigate* the mischievous boys if they didn't behave, they shaped up in a hurry.

**casualty** *n.* /严重事故; 伤亡/serious or fatal accident. The number of automotive *casualties* on this holiday weekend was high.

**cataclysm** *n.* /巨变; 剧变; 灾难/upheaval; deluge. A *cataclysm* such as the French Revolution affects all countries. *cataclysmic*, *adj.*

**catalyst** *n.* /催化剂/agent which brings about a chemical change while it remains unaffected and unchanged. Many chemical reactions cannot take place without the presence of a *catalyst*.

**catapult** *n.* /弹弓; 弹射器/slingshot; a hurling machine. Airplanes are sometimes launched from battleships by *catapults*. also *v.*

**cataract** *n.*/大瀑布; 白内障/great waterfall; eye abnormality. She gazed with awe at the mighty *cataract* known as Niagara Falls.

**catastrophe** *n.*/灾难/calamity; disaster. The 1906 San Francisco earthquake was a *catastrophe* that destroyed most of the city. A similar earthquake striking today could have even more catastrophic results.

**catcall** *n.*/嘘声/shout of disapproval; boo. Every major league pitcher has off days during which he must learn to ignore the *catcalls* and angry hisses from the crowd.

**catechism** *n.*/教义问答手册; FAQ.Q&A/book for religious instruction; instruction by question and answer. He taught by engaging his pupils in a *catechism* until they gave him the correct answer.

**categorical** *adj.*/无条件; 直截了当/without exceptions; unqualified; absolute. Though the captain claimed he was never, never sick at sea, he finally had to qualify his *categorical* denial: he was "hardly ever" sick at sea.

**cater to** *v.*/迎合/supply something desired (whether good or bad). The chef was happy to *cater to* the tastes of his highly sophisticated clientele. Critics condemned the movie industry for catering to the public's ever-increasing appetite for violence.

**catharsis** *n.*/导泻, 通便; 疏泄/purging or cleansing of any passage of the body. Aristotle maintained that tragedy created a *catharsis* by purging the soul of base concepts.

**catholic** *adj.*/一般的, 普遍的; 天主教/broadly sympathetic; liberal. He was extremely *catholic* in his taste and read everything he could find in the library.

**caucus** *n.*/核心小组会议 (秘密) /private meeting of members of a party to select officers or determine policy. At the opening of Congress, the members of the Democratic Party held a *caucus* to elect the Majority Leader of the House and the Party Whip.

**caulk** *v.*/填; 补漏/make watertight by filling in cracks. Jack had to *caulk* the tiles in the shower stall to stop the leak into the basement below.

**causal** *adj.*/因果关系的/implicating a cause-and-effect relationship. The psychologist maintained there was a *causal* relationship between the nature of one's early childhood experiences and one's adult personality. causality, *n.*

**caustic** *adj.*/腐蚀; 挖苦/burning; sarcastically biting. The critic's *caustic* remarks angered the hapless actors who were

- 26 -

the subjects of his sarcasm.

**cavalcade** *n.*/队伍/procession; parade. As described by Chaucer, the *cavalcade* of Canterbury pilgrims was a motley group.

**cavalier** *adj.*/随便; 傲慢/offhand or casual; haughty. The disguised prince resented the *cavalier* way in which the palace guards treated him. How dared they handle a member of the royal family so unceremoniously!

**cavil** *v.*/挑剔/make frivolous objections. It's fine when you make sensible criticisms, but it really bugs me when you *cavil* about unimportant details. also *n.*

**cede** *v.*/放弃; 屈服于; 投降/yield (title, territory) to; surrender formally. Eventually the descendants of England's Henry II were forced to *cede* their French territories to the King of France.

**celebrated** *adj.*/名人/famous; well-known. Thanks to their race to break Roger Maris's home-run record, Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire are two of America's most *celebrated* baseball players. celebrity, *n.*

**celerity** *n.*/速度/speed; rapidity. Hamlet resented his mother's *celerity* in remarrying within a month after his father's death.

**celestial** *adj.*/天体的/heavenly. She spoke of the *celestial* joys that awaited virtuous souls in the hereafter.

**celibate** *adj.*/未婚的, 独身的/unmarried; abstaining from sexual intercourse. The perennial bachelor vowed to remain *celibate*. celibacy, *n.*

**censor** *n.*/审查/overseer of morals; person who reads to eliminate inappropriate remarks. Soldiers dislike having their mail read by a *censor* but understand the need for this precaution. also *v.*

**ensorious** *adj.*/批判的/critical. *Censorious* people delight in casting blame.

**censure** *v.*/责怪; 批评/blame; criticize. The senator was *censured* for behavior inappropriate to a member of Congress. also *n.*

**centigrade** *adj.*/华氏/measure of temperature used widely in Europe. On the *centigrade* thermometer, the freezing point of water is zero degrees.

**centrifugal** *adj.*/离心; 放射/radiating; departing from the center. Many automatic drying machines remove excess moisture from clothing by *centrifugal* force.

**centripetal** *adj.*/向心/tending toward the center. Does centripetal force or the force of gravity bring orbiting bodies to the earth's surface?

**centurion** *n.*/百夫长/Roman army officer. Because he was in command of a company of one hundred soldiers, he was called a *centurion*.

**cerebral** *adj.*/脑的; 智力的/pertaining to the brain or intellect. The content of philosophical works is *cerebral* in nature and requires much thought.

**cerebration** *n.*/思考/thought. Mathematics problems sometimes require much *cerebration*.

**ceremonious** *adj.*/隆重的/marked by formality. Ordinary dress would be inappropriate at so *ceremonious* an affair. **certitude** *n.*/确实/certainty. Though there was no *certitude* of his getting the job, Lou thought he had a good chance of doing so.

**cessation** *n.*/停止/stoppage. The airline's employees threatened a *cessation* of all work if management failed to meet their demands. cease, *v.*

**cession** *n.*/给与; 割让/yielding to another; ceding. The *cession* of Alaska to the United States is discussed in this chapter.

**chafe** *v.*/摩擦; 擦热/warm by rubbing; make sore (by rubbing). Chilled, he *chafed* his hands before the fire.

The collar of his school uniform *chafed* Tom's neck, but not as much the school's strict rules *chafed* his spirit. also *n.* **chaff** *n.*/废物; 糠; 假货; 开玩笑; 打趣/worthless products of an endeavor. When you separate the wheat from the *chaff*, be sure you throw out the *chaff*.

**chaffing** *adj.*/开玩笑/bantering; joking. Sometimes Chad's flippant, *chaffing* remarks annoy us. Still, Chad's *chaffing*

- 27 -

keeps us laughing. also *n.*

**chagrin** *n.*/伤自尊; 委屈/vexation (caused by humiliation or injured pride); disappointment. Embarrassed by his parents' shabby, working-class appearance, Doug felt their visit to his school would bring him nothing but *chagrin*. Someone filled with *chagrin* doesn't grin: he's too mortified.

**chalice** *n.*/圣餐杯/goblet; consecrated cup. In a small room adjoining the cathedral, many ornately decorated *chalices* made by the most famous European goldsmiths were on display.

**chameleon** *n.*/变色龙/lizard that changes color in different situations. Like the *chameleon*, he assumed the political thinking of every group he met.

## Word List 9 champion-colander

**champion** *v.*/拥护/support militantly. Martin Luther King, Jr., won the Nobel Peace Prize because he *championed* the oppressed in their struggle for equality.

**Chaotic** *adj.*/混乱/in utter disorder. He tried to bring order into the *chaotic* state of affairs. chaos, *n.* **charisma** *n.*/魅力/divine gift; great popular charm or appeal of a political leader Political commentators have deplored the importance of a candidate's *charisma* in these days of television campaigning.

**charlatan** *n.*/吹牛/quack; pretender to knowledge. When they realized that the Wizard didn't know how to get them back to Kansas, Dorothy and her companions were indignant that they'd been duped by a *charlatan*.

**chary** *adj.*/谨慎; 吝惜/cautious; sparing or restrained about giving. A prudent, thrifty, New Englander, DeWitt was as *chary* of investing money in junk bonds as he was *chary* of paying people unnecessary compliments.

**chasm** *n.*/深渊/abyss. They could not see the bottom of the *chasm*.

**chassis** *n.*/底盘/framework and working parts of an automobile. Examining the car after the accident, the owner discovered that the body had been ruined but that the *chassis* was unharmed.

**chaste** *adj.*/纯的/pure. Her *chaste* and decorous garb was appropriately selected for the solemnity of the occasion. chastity, *n.*

**chasten** *v.*/磨练/discipline; punish in order to correct. Whom God loves, God *chastens*.

**chastise** *v.*/惩罚/punish. I must *chastise* you for this offense.

**chauvinist** *n.*/盲目爱国主义/blindly devoted patriot. A chauvinist cannot recognize any faults in his country, no matter how flagrant they may be. Likewise, a male *chauvinist* cannot recognize his

bias in favor of his own sex, no matter how flagrant that may be. chauvinistic, **ADJ.**

**check** **V.**/控制；阻止/stop motion; curb or restrain. Thrusting out her arm, Grandma *checked* Bobby's lunge at his sister. "Young man," she said, "you'd better *check* your temper." (secondary meaning)

**checkered** **ADJ.**/多变的；像国际象棋棋盘一样的方格/marked by changes in fortune. During his *checkered* career he had lived in palatial mansions and in dreary boardinghouses.

**cherubic** **ADJ.**/天真无邪/angelic; innocent-looking. With her cheerful smile and rosy cheeks, she was a particularly *cherubic* child.

**chicanery** **N.**/强辩，狡辩；欺骗/trickery; deception. Those sneaky lawyers misrepresented what occurred, made up all sorts of implausible alternative scenarios to confuse the jurors, and in general depended on *chicanery* to win the case.

**chide** **V.**/斥责/scold. Grandma began to *chide* Steven for his lying.

**chimerical** **ADJ.**/不现实，空想/fantastically improbable; highly unrealistic; imaginative. As everyone expected, Ted's *chimerical* scheme to make a fortune by raising ermines in his back yard proved a dismal failure.

**chisel** **N.**/凿子/wedgelike tool for cutting. With his hammer and *chisel*, the sculptor chipped away at the block of marble.

- 28 -

**chisel** **V.**/欺骗/swindle or cheat; cut with a chisel. That crook *chiseled* me out of a hundred dollars when he sold me that "marble" statue he'd *chiseled* out of some cheap hunk of rock.

**Chivalrous** **ADJ.**/勇敢；诚实/courteous; faithful; brave. *Chivalrous* behavior involves noble words and good deeds.

**choleric** **ADJ.**/易发怒的；脾气坏/hot-tempered. His flushed, angry face indicated a *choleric* nature.

**choreography** **N.**/舞蹈术；舞蹈记谱/art of representing dances in written symbols; arrangement of dances. Merce Cunningham has begun to use a computer in designing *choreography*. a software program allows him to compose arrangements of possible moves and immediately view them onscreen.

**chortle** **V.**/得意的笑/chuckle with delight. When she heard that her rival had just been jailed for embezzlement, she *chortled* with joy. She was not a nice lady.

**chronic** **ADJ.**/慢性的/long established as a disease. The doctors were finally able to attribute his *chronic* headaches and nausea to traces of formaldehyde gas in his apartment.

**chronicle** **V.**/编年史/report; record (in chronological order). The gossip columnist was paid to *chronicle* the latest escapades of the socially prominent celebrities. also **N.**

**churlish** **ADJ.**/粗鲁的/boorish; rude. Dismayed by his *churlish* mapners at the party, the girls vowed never to invite him again.

**cipher** **N.**/密码/secret code. Lacking his code book, the spy was unable to decode the message sent to him in *cipher*.

**cipher** **N.**/不重要的人或物/nonentity; worthless person or thing. She claimed her ex-husband was a total *cipher* and wondered why she had ever married him.

**circuitous** **ADJ.**/迂回的/roundabout. To avoid the traffic congestion on the main highways, she took a *circuitous* route. circuit, **N.**

**\*circumlocution** **N.**/婉转曲折的表达/indirect or roundabout expression. He was afraid to call a spade a spade and resorted to *circumlocutions* to avoid direct reference to his subject.

**circumscribe** **V.**/限制/limit; confine. Although I do not wish to *circumscribe* your activities, I must insist that you complete this assignment before you start anything else.

**circumspect** **ADJ.**/慎重；周到/prudent; cautious. Investigating before acting, she tried always to be *circumspect*. **circumvent** **V.**/智取；包围/outwit; baffle. In order to *circumvent* the enemy, we will make two preliminary attacks in other sections before starting our major campaign.

**cistern** **N.**/水塔；水库/reservoir or water tank. The farmers were able to withstand the dry season by using rainwater they had stored in an underground *cistern*.

**citadel** **N.**/大本营/fortress. The *citadel* overlooked the city like a protecting angel.

**cite** **V.**/引用；掌握/quote; command. She could *cite* passages in the Bible from memory. citation, **N.**

**civil** **ADJ.**/民事的；国民的/having to do with citizens or the state; courteous and polite. Although Internal Revenue Service agents are *civil* servants, they are not always civil to suspected tax cheats.

**clairvoyant** **ADJ. N.**/预知；预言者/having foresight; fortuneteller. Cassandra's *clairvoyant* warning was not heeded by the Trojans. clairvoyance, **N.**

**clamber** **V.**/爬/climb by crawling. She *clambered* over the wall.

**clamor** **N.**/吵闹声；噪音/noise. The *clamor* of the children at play outside made it impossible for her to take a nap. also **V.**

**clandestine** **ADJ.**/秘密/secret. After avoiding their chaperon, the lovers had a *clandestine* meeting.

**clangor** **N.**/大声喧哗；持续的铿锵声/loud, resounding noise. The blacksmith was accustomed to the *clangor* of hammers on steel.

**clapper** **N.**/铃舌，钟舌/striker (tongue) of a bell. Wishing to be undisturbed by the bell, Dale wound his scarf around the *clapper* to muffle the noise of its striking.

**clasp** **N.**/扣合；紧密合作/fastening device; firm grip. When the clasp on Judy's bracelet broke, Fred repaired it, bending

- 29 -

the hook back into shape. He then helped her slip on the bracelet, holding it firm in the sure *clasp* of his hand.

**claustrophobia** **N.**/幽闭恐怖症/fear of being locked in. His fellow classmates laughed at his *claustrophobia* and often threatened to lock him in his room.

**cleave** **V.**/劈开；黏着；忠于/split or sever; cling to; remain faithful to. With her heavy cleaver, Julia Child can *cleave* a whole roast duck in two. Soaked through, the soldier tugged at the uniform that *cleaved* annoyingly to his body. He would *cleave* to his post, come rain or shine.

**cleft** **N.**/裂缝；开裂/split. Trying for a fresh handhold, the mountainclimber grasped the edge of a *cleft* in the sheer rockface. also **ADJ.**

**clemency** **N.**/温和；仁慈/disposition to be lenient; mildness, as of the weather. The lawyer was pleased when the case was sent to Judge Smith's chambers because Smith was noted for her

*clemency* toward first offenders. **clench** **V.**/牢牢抓住/close tightly; grasp. "Open wide," said the dentist, but Clint *clenched* his teeth even more tightly than before.

**cliché** **N.**/陈词滥调/phrase dulled in meaning by repetition. High school compositions are often marred by such *clichés* as "strong as an ox."

**clientele** **N.**/常客/body of customers. The rock club attracted a young, stylish *clientele*.

**climactic** **ADJ.**/顶点的，高潮的/relating to the highest point. When he reached the *climactic* portions of the book, he could not stop reading. climax, **N.**

**clime** **N.**/地域；气候/region; climate. His doctor advised him to move to a milder *clime*.

**clip** **N.**/剪辑/section of filmed material. Phil's job at Fox Sports involved selecting *clips* of the day's sporting highlights for later broadcast. also **V.**

**clique** **N.**/小圈子；同行/small exclusive group. Fitzgerald wished that he belonged to the *clique* of popular athletes and big men on campus who seemed to run Princeton's social life.

**cloister** **N.**/修道院/monastery or convent. The nuns lived a secluded life in the *cloister*.

**clout** **N.**/巨大的影响(政治/社会)/great influence (especially political or social). Gatsby wondered whether he had enough *clout* to be admitted to the exclusive club.

**clotyping** **ADJ.**/倒胃口；过度的/distasteful (because excessive); excessively sweet or sentimental. Disliking the *clotyping* sweetness of standard wedding cakes, Jody and Tom chose to have homemade carrot cake at the reception. cloy, **V.** **clump** **N.**/一丛，一团；沉重的脚步声；草丛，灌木丛/cluster or close group (of bushes, trees); mass; sound of heavy treading. Hiding behind the *clump* of bushes, the fugitives waited for the heavy clump of the soldiers' feet to fade away. **coagulate** **V.**/凝结/thicken; congeal; clot. Even after you remove the pudding from the burner, it will continue to *coagulate* as it stands; therefore, do not overcook the pudding, lest it become too thick.

**\*coalesce** **V.**/接合/combine; fuse. The brooks coalesce into one large river. When minor political parties *coalesce*, their coalescence may create a major coalition.

**coalition** **N.**/伙伴；同盟，集合/partnership; league; union. The Rainbow *Coalition* united people of all races in a common cause.

**coddle** **V.**/娇养，溺爱/to treat gently. Don't *coddle* the children so much; they need a taste of discipline.

**codicil** **N.**/遗嘱的附录/supplement to the body of a will. Miss Havisham kept her lawyers busy drawing up *codicils* to add to her already complicated will.

**codify** **V.**/编纂/arrange (laws, rules) as a code; classify. We need to take the varying rules and regulations of the different health agencies and *codify* them into a national health code.

**coercion** *n.* /威逼, 强迫/use of force to get someone to obey. The inquisitors used both physical and psychological *coercion* to force Joan of Arc to deny that her visions were sent by God. *coerce*, *v.*

**cogent** *adj.* /有说服力的/convincing. It was inevitable that David chose to go to Harvard: he had several *cogent* reasons for doing so, including a full-tuition scholarship. Katya argued her case with such cogency that the jury had

- 30 -

to decide in favor of her client.

**cogitate** *v.* /考虑/think over. *Cogitate* on this problem; the solution will come.

**cognate** *adj.* /同源的/related linguistically: allied by blood: similar or akin in nature. The English word "mother" is *cognate* to the Latin word "mater," whose influence is visible in the words "maternal" and "maternity." also *n.* **cognitive** *adj.* /认知的/having to do with knowing or perceiving; related to the mental processes. Though Jack was emotionally immature, his *cognitive* development was admirable; he was very advanced intellectually.

**cognizance** *n.* /认知/knowledge. During the election campaign, the two candidates were kept in full *cognizance* of the international situation.

**cohere** *v.* /粘住的/stick *together*. Solids have a greater tendency to *cohere* than liquids.

**cohesion** *n.* /内聚力; 黏度/tendency to keep together. A firm believer in the maxim "Divide and conquer," the evil emperor, by means of lies and trickery, sought to disrupt the *cohesion* of the federation of free nations.

**coiffure** *n.* /发型/hairstyle. You can make a statement with your choice of *coiffure*: in the sixties many African-Americans affirmed their racial heritage by wearing their hair in Afros.

**coin** *v.* /铸币; 发明; 杜撰/make coins; invent or fabricate. Mints *coin* good money; counterfeiters *coin* fakes. Slanderers *coin* nasty rumors; writers *coin* words. A neologism is an expression that's been newly-coined.

**coincidence** *n.* /巧合/two or more things occurring at the same time by chance. Was it just a *coincidence* that John and she had chanced to meet at the market for three days running, or was he deliberately trying to seek her out? *coincidental*, *adj.*

**colander** *n.* /过滤器/utensil with perforated bottom used for straining. Before serving the spaghetti, place it in a *colander* to drain it.

## Word List 10 collaborate - congenital

**collaborate** *v.* /协作, 合作/work together. Two writers *collaborated* in preparing this book.

**collage** *n.* /拼贴画/work of art put together from fragments. Scraps of cloth, paper doilies, and old photographs all went into her *collage*.

**collate** *v.* /校对, 整理/examine in order to verify authenticity; arrange in order. They *collated* the newly found manuscripts to determine their age.

**collateral** *n.* /抵押品/security given for loan. The sum you wish to borrow is so large that it must be secured by *collateral*.

**colloquial** *adj.* /口语的/pertaining to conversational or common speech. Some of the new, less formal reading passages on SAT I have a *colloquial* tone that is intended to make them more appealing to students. **collusion** *n.* /勾结/conspiring in a fraudulent scheme. The swindlers were found guilty of *collusion*.

**colossal** *adj.* /巨大/huge. Radio City Music Hall has a *colossal* stage.

**comatose** *adj.* /昏迷; 熟睡/a coma; extremely sleepy. The longwinded orator soon had his audience in a *comatose* state.

**\*combustible** *adj.* /易燃的/easily burned. After the recent outbreak of fires in private homes, the fire commissioner ordered that all *combustible* materials be kept in safe containers, also *n.* **comely** *adj.* /清秀, 美丽, 漂亮; 有吸引力的/attractive; agreeable. I would rather have a poor and *comely* wife than a rich and homely one.

**comeuppance** *n.* /报应/rebuke; deserts. After his earlier rudeness, we were delighted to see him get his *comeuppance*.

**commandeer** *v.* /征用, 招募/to draft for military purposes; to take for public use. The policeman *commandeered* the first car that approached and ordered the driver to go to the nearest hospital.

- 31 -

**commemorate** *v.* /纪念/honor the memory of. The statue of the Minute Man *commemorates* the valiant soldiers who fought in the Revolutionary War.

**commensurate** *adj.* /相当的, 相称的/equal in extent. Your reward will be *commensurate* with your effort.

**commiserate** *v.* /怜悯, 同情/feel or express pity or sympathy for.

Her friends *commiserated* with the widow. **commodious** *adj.* /宽敞, 舒适/spacious and comfortable. After sleeping in small roadside cabins, they found their hotel suite *commodious*.

**communal** *adj.* /公共的/held in common; of a group of people. When they were divorced, they had trouble dividing their *communal* property.

**compact** *n.* /合约, 合同/agreement; contract. The signers of the Mayflower *Compact* were establishing a form of government.

**compact** *adj.* /紧密的, 结实的/tightly packed; firm; brief. His short, *compact* body was better suited to wrestling than to basketball.

**comparable** *adj.* /相似的/similar. People whose jobs are comparable in difficulty should receive *comparable* pay.

**compatible** *adj.* /和谐的/harmonious; in harmony with. They were *compatible* neighbors, never quarreling over unimportant matters. *compatibility*, *n.*

**compelling** *adj.* /强制的/overpowering; irresistible in effect. The prosecutor presented a well-reasoned case, but the defense attorney's *compelling* arguments for leniency won over the jury.

**compensatory** *adj.* /补偿/making up for; repaying. Can a *compensatory* education program make up for the inadequate schooling he received in earlier years?

**compile** *v.* /聚集, 积累, 汇集/assemble; gather; accumulate. We planned to *compile* a list of the words most frequently used on SAT I examinations.

**complacency** *n.* /自满; 装模作样/self-satisfaction; smugness. Full of *complacency* about his latest victories, he looked smugly at the row of trophies on his mantelpiece. *complacent*, *adj.*

**complaisant** *adj.* /彬彬有礼; 殷勤/trying to please; obliging. The courtier obeyed the king's orders in a *complaisant* manner.

**complement** *v.* /补足; 完善/complete; consummate; make perfect. The waiter recommended a glass of port to *complement* the cheese. also *n.*

**\*complementary** *adj.* /补足的, 完善的/serving to complete something. John and Lisa's skills are *complementary*. he's good at following a daily routine, while she's great at improvising and handling emergencies. Together they make a great team.

**compliance** *n.* /顺从/readiness to yield; conformity in fulfilling requirements. Bullheaded Bill was not noted for easy *compliance* with the demands of others. As an architect, however, Bill recognized that his design for the new school had to be in *compliance* with the local building code.

**compliant** *adj.* /顺从/yielding. Because Joel usually gave in and went along with whatever his friends desired, his mother worried that he might be too *compliant*.

**complicity** *n.* /共犯, 共同/participation; involvement. You cannot keep your *complicity* in this affair secret very long; you would be wise to admit your involvement immediately.

**component** *n.* /成分/element; ingredient. I wish all the *components* of my stereo system were working at the same time.

**composure** *n.* /镇定, 沉着/mental calmness. Even the latest work crisis failed to shake her *composure*.

**compound** *v.* /混合; 组合; 增加/combine; constitute; pay interest; increase. The makers of the popular cold remedy *compounded* a nasal decongestant with an antihistamine. also *n.*

**comprehensive** *adj.* /全面的/thorough; inclusive. This book provides a *comprehensive* review of verbal and math skills for the SAT.

- 32 -

**compress** *v.* /压缩/close; squeeze; contract. She *compressed* the package under her arm.

**comprise** *v.* /包括/include; consist of. If the District of Columbia were to be granted statehood, the United States of America would *comprise* fifty-one states, not just fifty.

**compromise** *v.* /危害; 妥协/adjust or settle by making mutual concessions; endanger the interests or reputation of. Sometimes the presence of a neutral third party can help adversaries *compromise* their differences. Unfortunately, you're not neutral; therefore, your presence here *compromises* our chances of reaching an agreement. also *n.*

**compunction** *n.* /后悔/remorse. The judge was especially severe in his sentencing because he felt that the criminal



had shown no *compunction* for his heinous crime.

**compute** v./计算/reckon; calculate. He failed to *compute* the interest, so his bank balance was not accurate. computation, n.

**concave** ADJ./ 空的/hollow. The back-packers found partial shelter from the storm by huddling against the *concave* wall of the cliff.

**concede** v./勉强, 让步, 屈从/admit; yield. Despite all the evidence Monica had assembled, Mark refused to *concede* that she was right.

**conceit** n./自负, 自大; 离奇古怪的想法/vanity or self-love; whimsical idea; extravagant metaphor. Although Jack was smug and puffed up with *conceit*, he was an entertaining companion, always expressing himself in amusing *conceits* and witty turns of phrase.

**concentric** ADJ./同心/having a common center. The target was made of *concentric* circles.

**conception** n./开始, 构思/beginning; forming of an idea. At the first *conception* of the work, he was consulted. conceive, v.

**concerted** ADJ./协调的/mutually agreed on; done together. All the Girl Scouts made a *concerted* effort to raise funds for their annual outing. When the movie star appeared, his fans let out a *concerted* sigh.

**concession** n./让步/an act of yielding. Before they could reach an agreement, both sides had to make certain *concessions*.

**conciliatory** ADJ./抚慰, 调和/reconciling; soothing. She was still angry despite his *conciliatory* words. conciliate, v. **concise** ADJ./简练/brief and compact. When you define a new word, be *concise*: the shorter the definition, the easier it is to remember.

**conclusive** ADJ./确实的, 决定性的/decisive; ending all debate. When the stolen books turned up in John's locker, we finally had *conclusive* evidence of the indentity of the indentity of the mysterious thief.

**concoct** v./调合, 调制/prepare by combining; make up in concert. How did the inventive chef ever *concoct* such a strange dish? concoction, n.

**concomitant** n./伴随物/that which accompanies. Culture is not always a *concomitant* of wealth. also ADJ.

**concord** n./和谐, 一致/harmony; agreement between people or things. Watching Tweedledum and Tweedledee battle, Alice wondered at their lack of *concord*.

**concur** v./同时发生/agree. Did you *concur* with the decision of the court or did you find it unfair?

**concurrent** ADJ./并发的 /happening at the same time. In America, the colonists were resisting the demands of the mother country; at the *concurrent* moment in France, the middle class was sowing the seeds of rebellion.

**condemn** v./判刑, 声讨/censure; sentence; force or limit to a particular state. In *My Cousin Vinnie*, Vinnie's fiancée *condemned* Vinnie for mishandling his cousin Tony's defense. If Vinnie didn't do a better job defending Tony, the judge would *condemn* Tony to death, and Vinnie would be *condemn* ed to cleaning toilets for a living.

**condense** v./浓缩, 精简/make more compact or dense; shorten or abridge; reduce into a denser form. If you squeeze a slice of Wonder Bread, taking out the extra air, you can *condense* it into a pellet the size of a sugar cube. If you cut out the unnecessary words from your essay, you can *condense* it to a paragraph. As the bathroom cooled down, the steam from the shower *condensed* into droplets of water.

- 33 -

**condescend** v./谦逊, 屈尊 /act conscious of descending to a lower level; patronize. Though Jill had been a star softball player in college, when she played a pickup game at the park she never *condescended* to her less experienced teammates. condescension, n.

**condiments** n./调味品 /seasonings; spices. The chef seasoned the dish with so much garlic that we could hardly taste the other *condiments*.

**condole** v./慰问/express sympathetic sorrow. His friends gathered to *condole* with him over his loss. condolence, n.

**condone** v./宽恕 /overlook; forgive; give tacit approval; excuse. Unlike Widow Douglass, who *condoned* Huck's minor offenses, Miss Watson did nothing but scold.

**conductive** ADJ./有助于/contributive; tending to. Rest and proper diet are *conductive* to good health.

**conduit** n./管道, 导管/aqueduct; passageway for fluids. Water was brought to the army in the desert by an improvised *conduit* from the adjoining mountain.

**confidant** n./知己/trusted friend. He had no *confidants* with whom he could discuss his problems at home.

**confine** v./限制, 禁闭/shut in; restrict. The terrorists had *confined* their prisoner in a small room. However, they had not chained him to the wall or done anything else to *confine* his movements further. confinement, n.

**confirm** v./确定 /corroborate; verify; support. I have several witnesses who will *confirm* my account of what happened.

**confiscate** v./没收, 充公/seize; commandeer. The army *confiscated* all available supplies of uranium. **conflagration** n./大火 /great fire. In the *conflagration* that followed the 1906 earthquake, much of San Francisco was destroyed.

**confluence** n./汇合/flowing together; crowd. They built the city at the *confluence* of two rivers.

**conformity** n./一致, 符合/harmony; agreement. In *conformity* with our rules and regulations, I am calling a meeting of our organization.

**confound** v./使混淆/confuse; puzzle. No mystery could *confound* Sherlock Holmes for long.

**confrontation** n./面对 /act of facing someone or something; encounter, often hostile. Morris hoped to avoid any *confrontations* with his ex-wife, but he kept on running into her at the health club. How would you like to *confront* someone who can bench press 200 pounds? confront, v., confrontational, ADJ.

**congeal** v./冻结/freezing; coagulate. His blood *congealed* in his veins as he saw the dread monster rush toward him.

**congenial** ADJ./性格相似的/pleasant; friendly. My father loved to go out for a meal with *congenial* companions. **congenital** ADJ./天生的, 先天的 /existing at birth. Were you born stupid, or did you just turn out this way? In other words, is your idiocy acquired or *congenital*? Doctors are able to cure some *congenital* deformities such as cleft palates by performing operations on infants.

## Word List 11 conglomeration - countermand

**conglomeration** n./聚集, 混和物/mass of material sticking together. In such a *conglomeration* of miscellaneous statistics, it was impossible to find a single area of analysis.

**congruent** ADJ./适合的 /in agreement; corresponding. In formulating a hypothesis, we must keep it *congruent* with what we know of the real world; it cannot disagree with our experience.

**conifer** n./针叶树 /pine tree; cone-bearing tree. According to geologists, the *conifers* were the first plants to bear flowers.

**conjecture** v./推测, 猜想/surmise; guess. Although there was no official count, the organizers *conjectured* that more than 10,000 marchers took part in the March for Peace. also n.

**conjugal** ADJ./结婚的 /pertaining to marriage. Their dreams of *conjugal* bliss were shattered as soon as their temperaments clashed.

- 34 -

**conjure** v./施魔法, 变戏法 /summon a devil; practice magic; imagine or invent. Sorcerers *conjure* devils to appear. Magicians *conjure* white rabbits out of hats. Political candidates *conjure* up images of reformed cities and a world at peace.

**connivance** n./纵容, 默许 /assistance; pretense of ignorance of something wrong; permission to offend. With the *connivance* of his friends, he plotted to embarrass the teacher. connive, v.

**connoisseur** n./鉴赏家, 内行 /person competent to act as a judge of art, etc.; a lover of an art. She had developed into a *connoisseur* of fine china.

**connotation** n./含蓄, 内涵 /suggested or implied meaning of an expression. Foreigners frequently are unaware of the *connotations* of the words they use.

**connubial** ADJ./婚姻的, 配偶的 /pertaining to marriage or the matrimonial state. In his telegram, he wished the newlyweds a lifetime of *connubial* bliss.

**conscientious** ADJ./尽责的/scrupulous; careful. A *conscientious* editor, she checked every definition for its accuracy.

**consecrate** v./献给, 使神圣/dedicate; sanctify „ We shall *consecrate* our lives to this noble purpose.

**consensus** n./舆论, 一致同意 /general agreement. Every time the garden club members had nearly reached a *consensus* about what to plant, Mistress Mary, quite contrary, disagreed.

**consequential** ADJ./结果的/pompous; important; self-important. Convinced of his own importance, the actor strutted about the dressing room with a *consequential* air.

**conservatory** n./音乐学校/school of the fine arts (especially music or drama). A gifted violinist, Marya was selected

to study at the *conservatory*.

**consign** v./ 委托, 托运 /deliver officially; entrust; set apart. The court *consigned* the child to her paternal grandmother's care. consignment, n.

**consistency** n./ 连结, 结合 /absence of contradictions; dependability; uniformity; degree of thickness. Holmes judged puddings and explanations on their *consistency*; he liked his puddings without lumps and his explanations without improbabilities.

**console** v./ 安慰, 藉慰 /lessen sadness or disappointment; give comfort. When her father died, Marius did his best to *console* Cosette.

**consolidation** n./ 巩固, 合并 /unification; process of becoming firmer or stronger. The recent *consolidation* of several small airlines into one major company has left observers of the industry wondering whether room still exists for the "little guy" in aviation. consolidate, v.

**consonance** n./ 一致, 调和 /harmony; agreement. Her agitation seemed out of *consonance* with her usual calm.

**consort** v./ 陪伴, 结交 /associate with. We frequently judge people by the company with whom they *consort*. **consort** n./ 配偶, 伙伴 / husband or wife. The search for a *consort* for the young Queen Victoria ended happily. **conspicuous** adj./ 显著的 /easily seen; noticeable; striking. Janet was *conspicuous* both for her red hair and for her height.

**conspiracy** n./ 阴谋 /treacherous plot. Brutus and Cassius joined in the *conspiracy* to kill Julius Caesar. conspire, v. **constituent** n./ 委托人, 要素 /supporter. The congressman received hundreds of letters from angry *constituents* after the Equal Rights Amendment failed to pass.

**constraint** n./ 约束, 强制 /compulsion; repression of feelings. There was a feeling of *constraint* in the room because no one dared to criticize the speaker. constrain, v.

**construe** v./ 解释, 分析 /explain; interpret. If I *construe* your remarks correctly, you disagree with the theory already advanced.

**consummate** adj./ 圆满的, 完美的 /complete. I have never seen anyone who makes as many stupid errors as you do; what a *consummate* idiot you are! v.

**contagion** n./ 传染, 蔓延 /infection. Fearing *contagion*, they took great steps to prevent the spread of the disease.

- 35 -

**contaminate** v./ 污染 /pollute. The sewage system of the city so *contaminated* the water that swimming was forbidden.

**contemporary** n./ 同时代的人 /person belonging to the same period. Though Charlotte Bronte and George Eliot were *contemporaries*, the two novelists depicted their Victorian world in markedly different ways. also adj.

**contempt** n./ 轻视, 轻蔑 /scorn; disdain. The heavyweight boxer looked on Ordinary people with *contempt*, scorning them as weaklings who couldn't hurt a fly. We thought it was *contemptible* of him to be *contemptuous* of people for being weak.

**contend** v./ 斗争, 竞争 /struggle; compete; assert earnestly. Sociologist Harry Edwards *contends* that young black athletes are exploited by some college recruiters.

**contention** n./ 争夺, 争论 /claim; thesis. It is our *contention* that, if you follow our tactics, you will boost your score on the SAT. contend, v.

**contentious** adj./ 好争吵的, 争论的 /quarrelsome. Disagreeing violently with the referees' ruling, the coach became so *contentious* that they threw him out of the game.

**context** n./ 上下文 /writings preceding and following the passage quoted. Because these lines are taken out of *context*, they do not convey the message the author intended.

**contiguous** adj./ 邻近的, 接近的 /adjacent to; touching upon. The two countries are *contiguous* for a few miles; then they are separated by the gulf.

**continence** n./ 自制, 克制 /self-restraint; sexual chastity. At the convent, Connie vowed to lead a life of *continence*. The question was, could Connie be content with always being *continent*?

**contingent** adj./ 可能发生的, 附随的 /dependent on; conditional. Caroline's father informed her that any raise in her allowance was *contingent* on the quality of her final grades. contingency, n.

**contingent** n./ 代表团 /group that makes up part of a gathering. The New York *contingent* of delegates at the Democratic National Convention was a boisterous, sometimes rowdy lot.

**contortions** n./ 扭歪, 弯曲 /twistings; distortions. As the effects of the opiate wore away, the *contortions* of the patient became more violent and demonstrated how much pain she was enduring.

**contraband** n. adj./ 违法交易, 走私 /illegal trade; smuggling. The Coast Guard tries to prevent traffic in *contraband* goods.

**contract** v./ 合同, 契约 /compress or shrink; make a pledge; catch a disease. Warm metal expands; cold metal *contracts*.

**contravene** v./ 违反 /contradict; oppose; infringe on or transgress. Mr. Barrett did not expect his frail daughter Elizabeth to *contravene* his will by eloping with Robert Browning.

**contrite** adj./ 深感懊悔的 /penitent. Her *contrite* tears did not influence the judge when he imposed sentence. contrition, n.

**contrived** adj./ 做作的; 牵强的 /forced; artificial; not spontaneous. Feeling ill at ease with his new in-laws, James made a few *contrived* attempts at conversation and then retreated into silence.

**controvert** v./ 辩论; 反驳 /oppose with arguments; attempt to refute; contradict. The witness's testimony was so clear and her reputation for honesty so well-established that the defense attorney decided it was wiser to make no attempt to *controvert* what she said.

**contusion** n./ 擦伤; 撞伤 /bruise. Black and blue after her fall, Sue was treated for *contusions* and abrasions.

**conundrum** n./ (答案有双关意义的) 谜语, 难题 /riddle. During the long car ride, she invented *conundrums* to entertain the children.

**convene** v./ 召集, 集合 /assemble. Because much needed legislation had to be enacted, the governor ordered the legislature to *convene* in special session by January 15.

**convention** n./ 习俗, 惯例 /social or moral custom; established practice. Flying in the face of *convention*, George

Sand shocked society by taking lovers and wearing men's clothes.

**conventional** adj./ 典型的; 普通的 /ordinary; typical. His *conventional* upbringing left him wholly unprepared for his wife's eccentric family.

**converge** v./ 聚合; 接近 /approach; tend to meet; come together. African-American men from all over the United States *converged* on Washington to take part in the historic Million Men march.

**conversant** adj./ 亲近的, 有交情的 /familiar with. The lawyer is *conversant* with all the evidence.

**converse** n./ 相反的事物 /opposite. The inevitable *converse* of peace is not war but annihilation.

**converse** v./ 谈话, 交谈 /chat; talk informally. Eva was all ears while Lulu and Lola *conversed*. Wasn't it rude of her to eavesdrop on their *conversation*? conversation, n.

**convert** n./ 改变信仰者 /one who has adopted a different religion or opinion. On his trip to Japan, though the President spoke at length about the virtues of American automobiles, he made few *converts* to his beliefs. also v.

**convex** adj./ 凸起的 /curving outward. He polished the *convex* lens of his telescope.

**conveyance** n./ 运输, 运输工具 /vehicle; transfer. During the transit strike, commuters used various kinds of *conveyances*.

**conviction** n./ 定罪, 宣告有罪 /judgment that someone is guilty of a crime; strongly held belief. Even her *conviction* for murder did not shake Peter's *conviction* that Harriet was innocent of the crime.

**convivial** adj./ 欢乐的 /festive; gay; characterized by joviality. The *convivial* celebrators of the victory sang their college songs. convoke v. call together. Congress was *convoked* at the outbreak of the emergency. convocation, n. **convoluted** adj./ 旋绕的 /coiled around; involved; intricate. The new tax regulations are so *convoluted* that even accountants have trouble following their twists and turns.

**copious** adj./ 丰富的, 广识的 /plentiful. She had *copious* reasons for rejecting the proposal.

**coquette** n./ 卖弄风情的女子 /flirt. Because she refused to give him an answer to his proposal of marriage, he called her a *coquette*. also v.

**cordial** adj./ 热忱的, 诚恳的 /gracious; heartfelt. Our hosts greeted us at the airport with a *cordial* welcome and a hearty hug.

**cordon** *n.* /哨兵线, 警戒线/extended line of men or fortifications to prevent access or egress. The police *cordon* was so tight that the criminals could not leave the area. also *v.*

**cornucopia** *n.* /象征丰饶的羊角, 丰产的象征/horn overflowing with fruit and grain; symbol of abundance. The encyclopedia salesman claimed the new edition was a veritable *cornucopia* of information, an inexhaustible source of knowledge for the entire family.

**corollary** *n.* /必然的结果, 推论/consequence; accompaniment. Brotherly love is a complex emotion, with sibling rivalry its natural *corollary*.

**coronation** *n.* /加冕礼/ceremony of crowning a queen or king. When the witches told Macbeth he would be king, they failed to warn him he would lose his crown soon after his *coronation*.

**corporeal** *adj.* /肉体的, 物质的/bodily; material. The doctor had no patience with spiritual matters: his job was to attend to his patients' *corporeal* problems, not to minister to their souls.

**corpulent** *adj.* /肥胖的/very fat. The *corpulent* man resolved to reduce. *corpulence*, *n.*

**correlation** *n.* /相互关系/mutual relationship. He sought to determine the *correlation* that existed between ability in algebra and ability to interpret reading exercises. *correlate*, *v.*, *n.*

**corroborate** *v.* /使坚固, 确证/confirm; support. Though Huck was quite willing to *corroborate* Tom's story, Aunt Polly knew better than to believe either of them.

**corrode** *v.* /使腐蚀, 侵蚀/destroy by chemical action. The girders supporting the bridge *corroded* so gradually that no one suspected any danger until the bridge suddenly collapsed. *corrosion*, *n.*

**corrosive** *adj.* /腐蚀的, 蚀坏的/eating away by chemicals or disease. Stainless steel is able to withstand the effects of - 37 -

*corrosive* chemicals. *corrode*, *v.*

**corrugated** *adj.* /缩成皱纹的, 使起波状的/wrinkled; ridged. She wished she could smooth away the wrinkles from his *corrugated* brow.

**cosmic** *adj.* /宇宙的/pertaining to the universe; vast. *Cosmic* rays derive their name from the fact that they bombard the earth's atmosphere from outer space. *cosmos*, *n.*

**cosmopolitan** *adj.* /世界性的, 全球的/sophisticated. Her years in the capitol had transformed her into a *cosmopolitan* young woman highly aware of international affairs.

**coterie** *n.* /同行, 圈内人/group that meets socially; select circle. After his book had been published, he was invited to join the literary *coterie* that lunched daily at the hotel.

**countenance** *v.* /支持, 赞助/approve; tolerate. He refused to *countenance* such rude behavior on their part.

**countenance** *n.* /面容, 脸色/face. When Jose saw his newborn daughter, a proud smile spread across his *countenance*.

**countermand** *v.* /取消, 撤消/cancel; revoke. The general *countermanded* the orders issued in his absence.

## Word List 12 counterpart-decelerate

**counterpart** *n.* /副体, 极相似的人或物/a thing that completes another; things very much alike. Night and day are *counterparts*, complementing one another.

**coup** *n.* /砰然而有效的一击, 妙计/highly successful action or sudden attack. As the news of his *coup* spread throughout Wall Street, his fellow brokers dropped by to congratulate him.

**couple** *v.* /连合, 结合/join; unite. The Flying Karamazovs *couple* expert juggling and amateur joking in their nightclub act.

**courier** *n.* /送快信的人/messenger. The publisher sent a special *courier* to pick up the manuscript.

**covenant** *n.* /契约, 盟约/agreement. We must comply with the terms of the *covenant*.

**covert** *adj.* /隐蔽的, 偷偷摸摸的/secret; hidden; implied. Investigations of the Central Intelligence Agency and other secret service networks reveal that such *covert* operations can get out of control.

**covetous** *adj.* /贪婪的, 妄美的/avaricious; eagerly desirous of. The child was *covetous* by nature and wanted to take the toys belonging to his classmates. *covet*, *v.*

**cow** *v.* /威吓/terrorize; intimidate. The little boy was so *cowed* by the hulking bully that he gave up his lunch money without a word of protest.

**cower** *v.* /畏缩, 退缩/shrink quivering, as from fear. The frightened child *cowered* in the corner of the room.

**coy** *adj.* /腼腆的, 怕羞的/shy; modest; coquettish. Reluctant to commit herself so early in the game, Kay was *coy* in her answers to Ken's offer.

**cozen** *v.* /欺骗, 瞒/cheat; hoodwink; swindle. He was the kind of individual who would *cozen* his friends in a cheap card game but remain eminently ethical in all business dealings.

**crabbed** *adj.* /乖戾的, 易怒的/sour; peevish. The *crabbed* old man was avoided by the children because he scolded them when they made noise.

**craftiness** *n.* /狡猾/slyness; trickiness. In many Native American legends, the coyote is the *clever* trickster, the embodiment of *craftiness*. *crafty*, *n.*

**crass** *adj.* /粗鲁的, 愚钝的/very unrefined; grossly insensible. The film critic deplored the *crass* commercialism of movie-makers who abandon artistic standards in order to make a quick buck.

**craven** *adj.* /怯懦的, 畏缩的/cowardly. Lillian's *craven* refusal to join the protest was criticized by her comrades, who had expected her to be brave enough to stand up for her beliefs.

**credence** *n.* /信任/belief. Do not place any *credence* in his promises.

- 38 -

**credibility** *n.* /可信性/believability. Because the candidate had made some pretty unbelievable promises, we began to question the *credibility* of everything she said.

**credo** *n.* /信条/creed. I believe we may best describe his *credo* by saying that it approximates the Golden Rule.

**credulity** *n.* /易信, 轻信/belief on slight evidence; gullibility; naiveté. Con artists take advantage of the *credulity* of inexperienced investors to swindle them out of their savings. *Credulous*, *adj.*

**creed** *n.* /信条/system of religious or *ethical belief*. Any loyal American's *creed* must emphasize love of democracy.

**crescendo** *n.* /声音渐增/increase in the volume or intensity, as in a musical passage; climax. The music suddenly shifted its mood, dramatically switching from a muted, contemplative passage to a *crescendo* with blaring trumpets and clashing cymbals.

**crest** *n.* /顶峰, 浪头/highest point of a hill; foamy top of a wave. Fleeing the tidal wave, the islanders scrambled to reach the *crest* of Mount Lucinda. With relief, they watched the *crest* of the wave break well below their vantage point.

**crestfallen** *adj.* /垂头丧气的/dejected; dispirited. We were surprised at his reaction to the failure of his project; instead of being *crestfallen*, he was busily engaged in planning new activities.

**crevice** *n.* (墙壁, 岩石等的) 裂缝/crack; fissure. The mountain climbers found footholds in the tiny *crevices* in the mountainside.

**cringe** *v.* /畏缩, 阿谀, 奉承/shrink back, as if in fear. The dog *cringed*, expecting a blow.

**criterion** *n.* (批评判断的) 标准, 准据/standard used in judging. What *criterion* did you use when you selected this essay as the prizewinner? *criteria*, *pl.*

**crop** *v.* /收割, 修剪, 种植/cut off unwanted parts of a photograph; graze. With care, David *cropped* the picture until its edges neatly framed the flock of sheep *cropping* the grass.

**crotchety** *adj.* /有怪想的, 反复无常的/eccentric; whimsical. Although he was reputed to be a *crotchety* old gentleman, I found his ideas substantially sound and sensible.

**crux** *n.* /症结/crucial point. This is the *crux* of the entire problem: everything centers on its being resolved.

**crypt** *n.* /地下室, 土窖/secret recess or vault, usually used for burial. Until recently, only bodies of rulers and leading statesmen were interred in this *crypt*.

**cryptic** *adj.* /秘密的, 含义模糊的/mysterious; hidden; secret. Thoroughly baffled by Holmes's *cryptic* remarks, Watson wondered whether Holmes was intentionally concealing his thoughts about the crime.

**cubicle** *n.* /小卧室/small compartment partitioned off; small bed-chamber. Hoping to personalize their workspace, the staff members decorated their tiny identical *cubicles* in markedly individual ways.

**cuisine** *n.* /烹饪, 烹调风格/style of cooking. French *cuisine* is noted for its use of sauces and wines.

**culinary** *adj.* /厨房用的, 烹调用的/relating to cooking. Many chefs attribute their *culinary* skill to the wise use of spices. **cull** *v.* /精选/pick out; reject. Every month the farmer *culls* the nonlaying hens from his flock and sells them to the local butcher. also *n.*

**culminate** *v.* /达到顶点/attain the highest point; climax. George Bush's years of service to the Republican Party *culminated* in his being chosen as the Republican candidate for the presidency. His

subsequent inauguration as President of the United States marked the *culmination* of his political career.

**culpable** ADJ. /该责备的, 不周到的 /deserving blame. Corrupt politicians who condone the activities of the gamblers are equally *culpable*.

**culvert** N. / 管路 /artificial channel for water. If we build a *culvert* under the road at this point, we will reduce the possibility of the road's being flooded during the rainy season.

**cumbersome** ADJ. /讨厌的, 麻烦的 /heavy; hard to manage. He was burdened down with *cumbersome* parcels.

**cumulative** ADJ. / 累积的 /growing by addition. Vocabulary building is a *cumulative* process: as you go through your flash cards, you will add new words to your vocabulary, one by one.

- 39 -

**cupidity** N. /贪心, 贪婪 /greed. The defeated people could not satisfy the *cupidity* of the conquerors, who demanded excessive tribute.

**curator** N. / 馆长, 监护人 /superintendent; manager. The members of the board of trustees of the museum expected the new *curator* to plan events and exhibitions that would make the museum more popular.

**curmudgeon** N. / 脾气坏的人, 爱争吵的家伙 /churlish, miserly individual. Although he was regarded by many as a *curmudgeon*, a few of us were aware of the many kindnesses and acts of charity that he secretly performed.

**cursive** ADJ. / 连接的 /flowing, running. In normal writing we run our letters together in *cursive* form; in printing, we separate the letters.

**cursor** ADJ. / 匆匆忙忙的, 粗略的 /casual; hastily done.

Because a *cursor* examination of the ruins indicates the possibility of arson, we believe the insurance agency should undertake a more extensive investigation of the fire's cause.

**curtail** V. /缩减, 减少 /shorten; reduce. When Herb asked Diane for a date, she said she was really sorry she couldn't go out with him, but her dad had ordered her to *curtail* her social life.

**cynical** ADJ. / 愤世嫉俗的 /skeptical or distrustful of human motives. *Cynical* from birth, Sidney was suspicious whenever anyone gave him a gift "with no strings attached." cynic, n.

**cynosure** N. / 目标 /the object of general attention. As soon as the movie star entered the room, she became the *cynosure* of all eyes.

**dabble** V. /把...作为兴趣, 涉足 /work at in a non-serious fashion; splash around The amateur painter *dabbled* at art, but seldom produced a finished piece. The children *dabbled* their hands in the bird bath, splashing one another gleefully. **dais** N. /讲台 /raised platform for guests of honor. When he approached the *dais*, he was greeted by cheers from the people who had come to honor him.

**dank** ADJ. /潮湿的 /damp. The walls of the dungeon were *dank* and slimy

**dapper** ADJ. / 整洁的, 整齐的 /neat and trim. In " the Odd Couple" TV show, Tony Randall played Felix Unger, an excessively *dapper* soul who could not stand to have a hair out of place.

**dappled** ADJ. /有斑点的 /spotted. The sunlight filtering through the screens created a *dappled* effect on the wall.

**daub** V. /涂抹 /smear (as with paint). From the way he *daubed* his paint on the canvas, I could tell knew nothing of oils. also n.

**daunt** V. / 沮丧 /intimidate; frighten. "Boast all you like of your prowess. Mere words cannot *daunt* me," the hero answered the villain.

**dauntless** ADJ. / 不屈不挠的, 大胆的 /bold. Despite the dangerous nature of the undertaking, the *dauntless* soldier volunteered for the assignment.

**dawdle** V. /游手好闲, 混日子 /loiter; waste time. We have to meet a deadline so don't *dawdle*; just get down to work.

**deadlock** N. / 僵局 /standstill; stalemate. Because negotiations had reached a *deadlock*, some of the delegates had begun to mutter about breaking off the talks. also v.

**deadpan** ADJ. /麻木的 /wooden; impersonal. We wanted to see how long he could maintain his *deadpan* expression.

**dearth** N. /缺乏 /scarcity. The *dearth* of skilled labor compelled the employers to open trade schools.

**debacle** N. /崩溃, 溃裂 /sudden downfall; complete disaster. In the *Air-plan* movies, every flight turns into a *debacle*, with passengers and crew members collapsing, engines falling apart, and carry-on baggage popping out of the overhead bins.

**debase** V. /贬低, 降低 /reduce in quality or value; lower in esteem; degrade. In *The King and I*, Anna refuses to kneel

down and prostrate herself before the king, for she feels that to do so would *debase* her position, and she will not submit to such *debasement*.

**debauch** V. /使堕落, 放荡 /corrupt; seduce from virtue. Did Socrates' teachings lead the young men of Athens to be virtuous citizens, or did they *debauch* the young men, causing them to question the customs of their fathers? Clearly,

- 40 -

Socrates' philosophical talks were nothing like the wild *debauchery* of the toga parties in *AnimalHouse*.

**debilitate** V. /使衰弱, 使虚弱 /weaken; enfeeble. Michael's severe bout of the flu *debilitated* him so much that he was too tired to go to work for a week.

**debonair** ADJ. /殷勤的, 有礼貌的 /friendly; aiming to please. The *debonair* youth was liked by all who met him, because of his cheerful and obliging manner.

**debris** N. /碎片, 残骸 /rubble. A full year after the earthquake in Mexico City, they were still carting away the *debris*. **debunk** V. /揭穿, 暴露 /expose as false, exaggerated, worthless, etc; ridicule. Pointing out that he consistently had voted against strengthening anti-pollution legislation, reporters *debunked* the candidate's claim that he was a fervent environmentalist.

**debutante** N. /初次参加社交活动的 /young woman making formal entrance into society. As a *debutante*, she was often mentioned in the society columns of the newspapers

**decadence** N. /颓废 /decay. The moral *decadence* of the people was reflected in the low literature of the period.

**decapitate** V. /斩首 /behead. They did not hang Lady Jane Grey; they *decapitated* her. "Off with her head!" cried the Duchess, eager to *decapitate* poor Alice.

**decelerate** V. /减速 /slow down. Seeing the emergency blinkers in the road ahead, he *decelerated* quickly.

## Word List 13 deciduous-dermatologist

**deciduous** ADJ. /落叶的 /falling off as of leaves. The oak is a *deciduous* tree; in winter it looks quite bare. **decimate** V. /残杀 (十个里面杀一个) /kill, usually one out of ten. We do more to *decimate* our population in automobile accidents than we do in war.

**decipher** V. /破译, 解密 /interpret secret code. Lacking his code book, the spy was unable to *decipher* the scrambled message sent to him from the KGB.

**declivity** N. /下坡 /downward slope. The children loved to ski down the *declivity*.

**decollete** ADJ. /低肩露颈的服装 /having a low-necked dress. Current fashion decrees that evening gowns be *decollete* this season; bare shoulders are again the vogue.

**decomposition** N. /瓦解; 腐烂 /decay. Despite the body's advanced state of *decomposition*, the police were able to identify the murdered man.

**decorum** N. /礼貌; 温文尔雅 /propriety; orderliness and good taste in manners. Even the best-mannered students have trouble behaving with *decorum* on the last day of school.

decorous, ADJ.

**decoy** N. /引诱 /lure or bait. The wild ducks were not fooled by the *decoy*. also v.

**decrepit** ADJ. /老化, 磨损 /worn out by age. The *decrepit* car blocked traffic on the highway.

**decrepitude** N. /衰老; 老耄 /state of collapse caused by illness or old age. I was unprepared for the state of *decrepitude* in which I had found my old friend; he seemed to have aged twenty years in six months. **decry** V. /强烈反对 /express strong disapproval of; disparage. The founder of the Children's Defense Fund, Marian Wright Edelman, strongly *decries* the lack of financial and moral support for children in America today.

**deducible** ADJ. /可推导的, 可推论的 /derived by reasoning. If we accept your premise, your conclusions are easily *deducible*.

**deface** V. /丑化 /mar; disfigure. If you *deface* a library book, you will have to pay a hefty fine.

**defame** V. /丑化; 诽谤 /harm someone's reputation; malign; slander. If you try to *defame* my good name, my lawyers will see you in court. If rival candidates persist in *defaming* one another, the voters may conclude that all politicians are crooks.

defamation, n.

**default** N. /不作为, 无动于衷 /failure to act. When the visiting team failed to show up for the big game, they lost the game by *default*. When Jack failed to make the payments on his Jaguar, the dealership took back the car because

- 41 -

he had *defaulted* on his debt.

**defeatist** *ADJ.* /失败主义者/attitude of one who is ready to accept defeat as a natural outcome. If you maintain your *defeatist* attitude, you will never succeed. also *N.*

**defection** *N.* /缺点; 逃跑, 叛逃/desertion. The children, who had made him an idol, were hurt most by his *defection* from our cause.

**defer** *V.* /推迟, 延期/delay till later; exempt temporarily. In wartime, some young men immediately volunteer to serve; others *defer* making plans until they hear from their draft boards. During the Vietnam War, many young men, hoping to be *deferred*, requested student *deferments*.

**defer** *V.* /听从/give in respectfully; submit. When it comes to making decisions about purchasing software, we must *defer* to Michael, our computer guru; he gets the final word. Michael, however, can *defer* these questions to no one; only he can decide.

**deference** *N.* /尊重的, 尊重他人的/courteous regard for another's wish. In *deference* to the minister's request, please do not take photographs during the wedding service.

**defiance** *N.* /抵抗; 不屈服/refusal to yield; resistance. When John reached the "terrible two's," he responded to every parental request with howls of *defiance*. *defy, V.*

**defile** *V.* /污染; 亵渎/pollute; profane. The hoodlums *defiled* the church with their scurrilous writing.

**definitive** *ADJ.* /完全的; 最终的/final; complete. Carl Sandburg's *Abraham Lincoln* may be regarded as the *definitive* work on the life of the Great Emancipator.

**deflect** *V.* /反射, 偏转/turn aside. His life was saved when his cigarette case *deflected* the bullet.

**defoliate** *V.* /落叶/destroy leaves. In Vietnam the army made extensive use of chemical agents to *defoliate* the woodlands.

**defray** *V.* /偿付/pay the costs of. Her employer offered to *defray* the costs of her postgraduate education.

**deft** *ADJ.* /灵巧的, 敏锐地/neat; skillful. The *deft* waiter uncorked the champagne without spilling a drop.

**defunct** *ADJ.* /死的; 不存在的, 报废的/dead; no longer in use or existence. The lawyers sought to examine the books of the *defunct* corporation.

**defuse** *V.* /拆弹; 化解(危机)/remove the fuse of a bomb; reduce or eliminate a threat. Police negotiators are trained to *defuse* dangerous situations by avoiding confrontational language and behavior.

**degenerate** *V.* /恶化/become worse; deteriorate. As the fight dragged on, the champion's style *degenerated* until he could barely keep on his feet.

**degradation** *N.* /降级; 降格; 退化/humiliation; debasement; degeneration. Some secretaries object to fetching the boss a cup of coffee because they resent the *degradation* of being made to do such lowly tasks. *degrade, V.* **dehydrate** *V.* /脱水/remove water from; dry out. Running under a hot sun quickly *dehydrates* the body; joggers soon learn to carry water bottles and to drink from them frequently.

**deify** *V.* /神化/turn into a god; idolize. Admire Elvis Presley all you want; just don't *deify* him.

**deign** *V.* /屈服, 屈尊/condescend; stoop. The celebrated fashion designer would not *deign* to speak to a mere seamstress; his overburdened assistant had to convey the master's wishes to the lowly workers assembling his great designs.

**delectable** *ADJ.* /使人愉快的/delightful; delicious. We thanked our host for a most *delectable* meal.

**delete** *V.* /删除/erase; strike out. Less is more: if you *delete* this paragraph, your whole essay will have greater appeal.

**deleterious** *ADJ.* /有害的/harmful. If you believe that smoking is *deleterious* to your health (and the Surgeon General certainly does), then quit!

**deliberate** *V.* /深思熟虑的; 商讨/consider; ponder. Offered the new job, she asked for time to *deliberate* before she told them her decision,

- 42 -

**delineate** *V.* /描绘; 描述/portray; depict; sketch. Using only a few descriptive phrases, Austen *delineates* the character of Mr. Collins so well that we can predict his every move. *delineation, N.*

**delirium** *N.* /精神错乱/mental disorder marked by confusion. In his *delirium*, the drunkard saw pink panthers and talking pigs. Perhaps he wasn't *delirious*: he might just have wandered into a movie.

**delude** *V.* /蛊惑/deceive. His mistress may have *deluded* herself into believing that he would leave his wife and marry her.

**deluge** *N.* /冲(水)(刺)/flood; rush. When we advertised the position, we received a *deluge* of applications.

**delusion** *N.* /错觉/false belief; hallucination. Don suffers from *delusions* of grandeur: he thinks he's a world-famous author when he's published just one paperback book.

**delve** *V.* /挖掘; 调查/dig; investigate. *Delving* into old books and manuscripts is part of a researcher's job.

**demagogue** *N.* /煽动政治家/person who appeals to people's prejudice; false leader of people. He was accused of being a *demagogue* because he made promises that aroused futile hopes in his listeners.

**demean** *V.* /降级; 贬低/degrade; humiliate. Standing on his dignity, he refused to *demean* himself by replying to the offensive letter. If you truly believed in the dignity of labor, you would not think it would *demean* you to work as a janitor.

**demeanor** *N.* /风度; 行为/behavior; bearing. His sober *demeanor* quieted the noisy revelers.

**demented** *ADJ.* /疯狂的/insane. Doctor Demento was a lunatic radio personality who liked to act as if he were truly *demented*. If you're *demented*, your mental state is out of whack; in other words, you're wacky.

**demise** *N.* /死/death. Upon the *demise* of the dictator, a bitter dispute about succession to power developed. **demolition** *N.* /拆除/destruction. One of the major aims of the air force was the complete *demolition* of all means of transportation by bombing of rail lines and terminals. *demolish, V.*

**demoniac** *ADJ.* /魔鬼的/fiendish. The Spanish Inquisition devised many *demoniac* means of torture. *demon, N.* **demur** *V.* /反对; 犹豫/object (because of doubts, scruples); hesitate. When offered a post on the board of directors, David *demurred*: he had scruples about taking on the job because he was unsure he could handle it in addition to his other responsibilities.

**demure** *ADJ.* /端庄的; 认真的; 腼腆的/grave; serious; coy. She was *demure* and reserved, a nice modest girl whom any young man would be proud to take home to his mother.

**demystify** *V.* /澄清; 揭秘/clarify; free from mystery or obscurity. Helpful doctors *demystify* medical procedures by describing them in everyday language, explaining that a myringotomy, for example, is an operation involving making a small hole in one's eardrum.

**denigrate** *V.* /抹黑/blacken. All attempts to *denigrate* the character of our late president have failed; the people still love him and cherish his memory.

**denizen** *N.* /居民; 常客/inhabitant or resident; regular visitor. In *The Untouchables*, Eliot Ness fights Al Capone and the other *denizens* of Chicago's underworld. Ness's fight against corruption was the talk of all the *denizens* of the local bars.

**denotation** *N.* /指示; 根据名字区别/meaning; distinguishing by name. A dictionary will always give us the *denotation* of a word; frequently, it will also give us the connotations. *denote, V.* **denouement** *N.* /结局; 结果/outcome; final development of the plot of a play. The play was childishly written; the *denouement* was obvious to sophisticated theatergoers as early as the middle of the first act.

**denounce** *V.* /咒骂; 批评/condemn; criticize. The reform candidate *denounced* the corrupt city officers for having betrayed the public's trust. *denunciation, N.*

**depict** *V.* /描述/portray. In this sensational exposé, the author *depicts* Beatle John Lennon as a drug-crazed neurotic. Do you question the accuracy of this *depiction* of Lennon?

**deplete** *V.* /耗尽; 减少/reduce; exhaust. We must wait until we *deplete* our present inventory before we order

- 43 -

replacements.

**deplore** *V.* /悔恨/regret; disapprove of. Although I *deplore* the vulgarity of your language, I defend your right to express yourself freely.

**deploy** *V.* /散开; 部署/spread out [troops] in an extended though shallow battle line. The general ordered the battalion to *deploy* in order to meet the enemy offensive.

**depose** *V.* /革职/dethrone; remove from office. The army attempted to *depose* the king and set up a military government.

**deposition** *N.* /宣言, 誓言/testimony under oath. He made his *deposition* in the judge's chamber.

**depravity** *N.* /堕落, 腐坏/extreme corruption; wickedness. The *depravity* of Caligula's behavior came to sicken even those who had willingly participated in his earlier, comparatively innocent orgies.

**deprecate** v./抗议；蔑视/express disapproval of; protest against; belittle. A firm believer in old-fashioned courtesy, Miss Post *deprecated* the modern tendency to address new acquaintances by their first names. *deprecatory*, *ADJ.*

**depreciate** v./折旧/lessen in value. If you neglect this property, it will *depreciate*.

**depredation** n./掠夺/plundering. After the *depredations* of the invaders, the people were penniless.

**deranged** *ADJ.*/不理智/insane. He had to be institutionalized because he was mentally *deranged*.

**derelict** *ADJ.*/遗弃的；废弃的/abandoned; negligent. The *derelict* craft was a menace to navigation. Whoever abandoned it in the middle of the harbor was derelict in living up to his responsibilities as a boat owner. also n. **deride** v./打趣；取消/ridicule; make fun of. The critics *derided* his pretentious dialogue and refused to consider his play seriously. *derision*, n.

**derivative** *ADJ.*/派生的/unoriginal; derived from another source. Although her early poetry was clearly *derivative* in nature, the critics thought she had promise and eventually would find her own voice.

**dermatologist** n./皮肤病专家/one who studies the skin and its diseases. I advise you to consult a *dermatologist* about your acne.

## Word List 14 derogatory - disgruntle

**derogatory** *ADJ.*/贬低的，贬损的/expressing a low opinion. I resent your *derogatory* remarks.

**descant** v./全面而详细的讨论/discuss fully. He was willing to *descant* upon any topic of conversation, even when he knew very little about the subject under discussion. also n.

**descry** v./看到/catch sight of. In the distance, we could barely *descry* the enemy vessels.

**desecrate** v./亵渎/profane; violate the sanctity of. Shattering the altar and trampling the holy objects underfoot, the invaders *desecrated* the sanctuary.

**desiccate** v./弄干/dry up. A tour of this smokehouse will give you an idea of how the pioneers used to *desiccate* food in order to preserve it.

**desolate** *ADJ.*/荒无人烟的/unpopulated. After six months in the crowded, bustling metropolis, David was so sick of people that he was ready to head for the most *desolate* patch of wilderness he could find.

**desolate** v./放弃/rob of joy; lay waste to; forsake. The bandits *desolated* the countryside, burning farms and carrying off the harvest.

**despise** v./look on with scorn; regard as worthless or distasteful. Mr. Bond, I *despise* spies; I look down on them as mean, *despicable*, honorless men, whom I would wipe from the face of the earth with as little concern as I would scrape dog droppings from the bottom of my shoe.

**despoil** v./掠夺/plunder. If you do not yield, I am afraid the enemy will *despoil* the countryside.

**despondent** *ADJ.*/忧郁的；沮丧的/depressed; gloomy. To the dismay of his parents, William became seriously *despondent* after he broke up with Jan; they despaired of finding a cure for his gloom. *despondency*, n.

- 44 -

**despot** n./暴君/tyrant; harsh, authoritarian ruler. How could a benevolent king turn overnight into a *despot*? **destitute** *ADJ.*/一贫如洗/extremely poor. Because they had no health insurance, the father's costly illness left the family *destitute*.

**desultory** *ADJ.*/漫无目的的；断断续续的/aimless; haphazard; digressing at random. In prison Malcolm X set himself the task of reading straight through the dictionary; to him, reading was purposeful, not *desultory*.

**detached** *ADJ.*/分离的/emotionally removed; calm and objective; physically unconnected. A psychoanalyst must maintain a *detached* point of view and stay uninvolved with his or her patients' personal lives. To a child growing up in an apartment or a row house, to live in a *detached* house was an unattainable dream.

**detergent** n./洗洁精；洗涤剂/cleansing agent. Many new *detergents* have *replaced* soap.

**determination** n./决定；测量；计算；解决/resolve; *measurement* or calculation; decision. Nothing could shake his *determination* that his children would get the best education that money could buy. Thanks to my pocket calculator, my *determination* of the answer to the problem took only seconds of my time.

**deterrent** n./挫败；使气馁/something that discourages; hindrance. Does the threat of capital punishment serve as a

*deterrent* to potential killers? *deter*, v.

**detonation** n./引爆，爆炸/explosion. The *detonation* of the bomb could be heard miles away.

**detraction** n./诽谤/slandering; aspersion. He is offended by your frequent *detractions* of his ability as a leader. **detrimental** *ADJ.*/有害的/harmful; damaging. The candidate's acceptance of major financial contributions from a wellknown racist ultimately proved *detrimental* to his campaign, for he lost the backing of many of his early grassroots supporters. *detriment*, n.

**deviate** v./背离/turn away from (a principle, norm); depart; diverge. Richard never *deviated* from his daily routine: every day he set off for work at eight o'clock, had his sack lunch (peanut butter on whole wheat) at 12:15, and headed home at the stroke of five.

**devious** *ADJ.*/拐弯抹角的；偏僻的/roundabout; erratic; not straightforward. The Joker's plan was so *devious* that it was only with great difficulty we could follow its shifts and dodges.

**devise** v./设计；发明/think up; invent; plan. How clever he must be to have *devised* such a devious plan! What ingenious inventions might he have *devised* if he had turned his mind to science and not to crime.

**devoid** *ADJ.*/缺乏的/lacking. You may think her mind is a total void, but she's actually not *devoid* of intelligence. She just sounds like an airhead.

**devotee** n./热心的追随者/enthusiastic follower. A *devotee* of the opera, he bought season tickets every year.

**devout** *ADJ.*/虔诚的；诚恳的/pious. The *devout* man prayed daily.

**dexterous** *ADJ.*/灵巧的；右撇子/skillful. The magician was so *dexterous* that we could not follow him as he performed his tricks.

**diabolical** *ADJ.*/恶魔的/devilish. "What a fiend I am, to devise such a *diabolical* scheme to destroy Gotham City," chortled the Joker gleefully.

**diagnosis** n./诊断/art of identifying a disease; analysis of a condition. In medical school Margaret developed her skill at *diagnosis*, learning how to read volumes from a rapid pulse or a hacking cough. *diagnose*, v.; *diagnostic*, *ADJ.* **discomfit** v./扰乱/put to rout; defeat; disconcert. This ruse will *discomfit* the enemy. *discomfiture*, n. *discomfited*, *ADJ.* **discomposure** n./心乱；不安/agitation; loss of poise. Perpetually poised, Agent 007 never exhibited a moment's *discomposure*.

**disconcert** v./迷惑；扰乱；使难堪/confuse; upset; embarrass. The lawyer was *disconcerted* by the evidence produced by her adversary.

**disconsolate** *ADJ.*/悲伤；沮丧/sad. The death of his wife left him *disconsolate*.

**discord** n./冲突的；不和谐的/conflict; lack of harmony. Watching Tweedledum battle Tweedledee, Alice wondered what had caused this pointless *discord*.

- 45 -

**discordant** *ADJ.*/不和谐的；冲突的/not harmonious; conflicting. Nothing is quite so *discordant* as the sound of a junior high school orchestra tuning up.

**discount** v./漠视；解散/disregard; dismiss. Be prepared to *discount* what he has to say about his ex-wife.

**discourse** n./演讲；谈话/formal discussion; conversation. The young Plato was drawn to the Agora to hear the philosophical *discourse* of Socrates and his followers. also n.

**discredit** v./不信任；丢脸/defame; destroy confidence in; disbelieve. The campaign was highly negative in tone; each candidate tried to *discredit* the other.

**discrepancy** n./相差；缺乏一致/lack of consistency; difference. The police noticed some *discrepancies* in his description of the crime and did not believe him.

**discrete** *ADJ.*/分离；没有关系的/separate; unconnected. The universe is composed of *discrete* bodies.

**discretion** n./判断力；审慎的/prudence; ability to adjust actions to circumstances. Use your *discretion* in this matter and do not discuss it with anyone. *discreet*, *ADJ.*

**discriminating** *ADJ.*/有识别能力的；有偏见的/able to see differences; prejudiced. A superb interpreter of Picasso, she was sufficiently *discriminating* to judge the most complex works of modern art. (secondary meaning) *discrimination*, n. **discursive** *ADJ.*/散漫的；不得要领的/digressing; rambling. As the lecturer wandered from topic to topic, we wondered what if any point there was to his *discursive* remarks.

**disdain** v./蔑视/view with scorn or contempt. In the film *FunnyFace*, the bookish heroine *disdained* fashion models for their lack of intellectual interests. also n.



**disembark** v./登陆; 靠岸/go ashore; unload cargo from a ship. Before the passengers could *disembark*, they had to pick up their passports from the ship's purser.

**disenfranchise** v./剥夺(公民权)/deprive of a civil right. The imposition of the poll tax effectively *disenfranchised* poor Southern blacks, who lost their right to vote.

**disengage** v./脱离; 分离/uncouple; separate; disconnect. A standard movie routine involves the hero's desperate attempt to *disengage* a railroad car from a moving train.

**disfigure** v./诬陷, 抹黑, 诽谤/mar in beauty; spoil. An ugly frown *disfigured* his normally pleasant face.

**disgorge** v./吐出, 涌出, 呕吐/surrender something; eject; vomit. Unwilling to *disgorge* the cash he had stolen from the pension fund, the embezzler tried to run away.

**disgruntle** v./使郁闷/make discontented. The passengers were *disgruntled* by the numerous delays.

## Word List 15 dishearten-duplicity

**dishearten** v./挫败/discourage; cause to lose courage or hope. His failure to pass the bar exam *disheartened* him. **disheveled** ADJ./邋遢, 肮脏/untidy. Your *disheveled* appearance will hurt your chances in this interview.

**disinclination** n./不情愿, 厌恶/unwillingness. Some mornings I feel a great *disinclination* to get out of bed. **disingenuous** ADJ./不诚恳的/lacking genuine candor; insincere. Now that we know the mayor and his wife are engaged in a bitter divorce fight, we find their earlier remarks regretting their lack of time together remarkably *disingenuous*.

**disinter** v./挖出, 出土/dig up; unearth. They *disinterred* the body and held an autopsy.

**disinterested** ADJ./公允的/unprejudiced. Given the judge's political ambitions and the lawyers' financial interest in the case, the only *disinterested* person in the courtroom may have been the court reporter.

**disjointed** ADJ./断开/disconnected. His remarks were so *disjointed* that we could not follow his reasoning.

**dislodge** v./强制移除/remove (forcibly). Thrusting her fist up under the choking man's lower ribs, Margaret used the Heimlich maneuver to *dislodge* the food caught in his throat.

**dismantle** v./拆除/take apart. When the show closed, they *dismantled* the scenery before storing it.

- 46 -

**dismay** v./使沮丧; 使害怕/discourage; frighten. The huge amount of work she had left to do *dismayed* her. also n. **dismember** v./分解, 肢解/cut into small parts. When the Austrian Empire was *dismembered*, several new countries were established.

**dismiss** v./拒绝; 排除/put away from consideration; reject. Believing in John's love for her, she *dismissed* the notion that he might be unfaithful. (secondary meaning)

**disparage** v./忽略, 轻视/belittle. A doting mother, Emma was more likely to praise her son's crude attempts at art than to *disparage* them.

**disparate** ADJ./大相径庭的; 没关系的/basically different; unrelated. Unfortunately, Tony and Tina have *disparate* notions of marriage: Tony sees it as a carefree extended love affair, while Tina sees it as a solemn commitment to build a family and a home.

**disparity** n./不同; 差距/difference; condition of inequality. Their *disparity* in rank made no difference at all to the prince and Cinderella.

**dispassionate** ADJ./平静的; 公平的/calm; impartial. Known in the company for his cool judgment, Bill could impartially examine the causes of a problem, giving a *dispassionate* analysis of **what** had gone wrong, and go on to suggest how to correct the mess.

**dispatch** n./急速; 急件/speediness; prompt execution; message sent with all due speed. Young Napoleon defeated the enemy with all possible *dispatch*; he then sent a *dispatch* to headquarters informing his commander of the great victory. also v. **dispel** v./散开; 分裂; 消失/scatter; drive away; cause to vanish. The bright sunlight eventually *dispelled* the morning mist.

**disperse** v./散开/scatter. The police fired tear gas into the crowd to *disperse* the protesters. dispersion, n. **dispirited** ADJ./没情绪的, 沮丧的/lacking in spirit. The coach used all the tricks at his command to buoy up the enthusiasm of his team, which had become *dispirited* at the loss of the star player.

**disputatious** ADJ./好辩的/argumentative; fond of arguing. Convinced he knew more than his lawyers, Alan was a *disputatious* client, ready to argue about the best way to conduct the case. disputant, n.

**disquiet** v./使焦虑, 使难受/make uneasy or anxious. Holmes's absence for a day, slightly *disquieted* Watson; after a week with no word, however, Watson's uneasiness about his missing friend had grown into a deep fear for his safety. *disquietude*, n.

**dissection** n./分析; 解剖/analysis; cutting apart in order to examine. The *dissection* of frogs in the laboratory is particularly unpleasant to some students.

**dissemble** v./伪装, 做作, 掩饰/disguise; pretend. Even though John tried to *dissemble* his motive for taking modern dance, we all knew he was there not to dance but to meet girls.

**disseminate** v./分发, 扩散, 散布/distribute; spread; scatter (like seeds). By their use of the Internet, propagandists have been able to *disseminate* their pet doctrines to new audiences around the globe.

**dissent** v./反对/disagree. In the recent Supreme Court decision, Justice O'Connor *dissented* from the majority opinion. also n.

**dissertation** n./论文(博士生)/formal essay. In order to earn a graduate degree from many of our universities, a candidate is frequently required to prepare a *dissertation* on some scholarly subject.

**dissident** ADJ./持不同意见的; 难于对付的/dissenting; rebellious. In the purge that followed the student demonstrations at Tiananmen Square, the government hunted down the *dissident* students and their supporters. also n. **dissimulate** v./伪装, 做作, 掩饰/pretend; conceal by feigning. She tried to *dissimulate* her grief by her exuberant attitude.

**dissipate** v./驱散, 消散; 浪费/squander; waste; scatter. He is a fine artist, but I fear he may *dissipate* his gifts if he keeps wasting his time playing games.

- 47 -

**dissolute** ADJ./放纵, 挥霍/loose in morals. The *dissolute* life led by the ancient Romans is indeed shocking. **dissolution** n./解散; 终止; 解体/breaking of a union; decay; termination. Which caused King Lear more suffering: the *dissolution* of his kingdom into warring factions, or the *dissolution* of his aged, failing body?

**dissonance** n./不和谐的(声音)/discord. Composer Charles Ives often used *dissonance-clashing* or unresolved chords -for special effects in his musical works.

**dissuade** v./劝阻; 使灰心/persuade not to do; discourage. Since Tom could not *dissuade* Huck from running away from home, he decided to run away with him. dissuasion, n.

**distant** ADJ./冷漠的; 远离的/reserved or aloof; cold in manner. His *distant* greeting made me feel unwelcome from the start. (secondary meaning)

**distend** v./扩大; 扩张/expand; swell out. I can tell when he is under stress by the way the veins *distend* on his forehead.

**distill** v./蒸馏; 萃取, 提炼/extract the essence; purify; refine. A moonshiner *distills* mash into whiskey; an epigrammatist *distills* thoughts into quips.

**distinction** n./出名; 出格/honor; contrast; discrimination. A holder of the Medal of Honor, George served with great *distinction* in World War II. He made a *distinction*, however, between World War II and Vietnam, which he considered an immoral conflict.

**distort** v./扭曲, 歪曲/distort out of shape. It is difficult to believe the newspaper accounts of the riots because of the way some reporters *distort* and exaggerate the actual events. distortion, n.

**distraught** ADJ./使悲伤; 使焦虑/upset; distracted by anxiety. The *distraught* parents frantically searched the ravine for their lost child.

**diurnal** ADJ./日常的/daily. A farmer cannot neglect his *diurnal* tasks at any time; cows, for example, must be milked regularly.

**diva** n./著名女歌唱家, 天后; 歌剧女主角/operatic singer; prima donna. Although world famous as a *diva*, she did not indulge in fits of temperament.

**diverge** v./多样的; 各异的/vary; go in different directions from the same point. The spokes of the wheel *diverge* from the hub.

**divergent** ADJ./分歧的/differing; deviating. Since graduating from medical school, the two doctors have taken *divergent* paths, one going on to become a nationally prominent surgeon, the other dedicating himself to a small family practice in his home town. divergence, n.

**diverse** ADJ./丰富多样的/differing in some characteristics; various. The professor suggested *diverse* ways of approaching the assignment and recommended that we choose one of them. diversity, n.

**diversion** *n.* /转移; 解闷/act of turning aside; pastime. After studying for several hours, he needed a *diversion* from work. divert, *v.*

**diversity** *n.* /多样性/variety; dissimilitude. The *diversity* of colleges in this country indicates that many levels of ability are being cared for.

**divest** *v.* /剥夺/strip; deprive. He was *divested* of his power to act and could no longer govern. divestiture, *n.*

**divine** *v.* /运用直觉, 超能力; 预见/perceive intuitively; foresee the future. Nothing infuriated Tom more than Aunt Polly's ability to *divine* when he was telling the truth.

**divulge** *v.* /揭开, 暴露/reveal. No lover of gossip, Charlotte would never *divulge* anything that a friend told her in confidence.

**docile** *adj.* /驯服的, 听话的; 善良的/obedient; easily managed. As *docile* as he seems today, that old lion was once a ferocious, snarling beast. docility, *n.*

**doctrinaire** *adj.* /教条的; 顽固的/unable to compromise about points of doctrine; dogmatic; unyielding. Weng had hoped that the student-led democracy movement might bring about change in China, but the repressive response of - 48 -

the *doctrinaire* hard-liners crushed his dreams of democracy.

**doctrine** *n.* /教育; 学说/teachings, in general; particular principle (religious, legal, etc.) taught. He was so committed to the *doctrines* of his faith that he was unable to evaluate them impartially.

**document** *v.* /书面证明/provide written evidence. She kept all the receipts from her business trip in order to *document* her expenses for the firm. also *n.*

**doff** *v.* /脱/take off. A gentleman used to *doff* his hat to a lady.

**dogged** *adj.* /顽固的; 顽强的/determined; stubborn. *Les Misérables* tells of Inspector Javert's long, *dogged* pursuit of the criminal Jean Valjean.

**doggerel** *n.* /打油诗/poor verse. Although we find occasional snatches of genuine poetry in her work, most of her writing is mere *doggerel*.

**dogmatic** *adj.* /独断的, 教条的, 固执的/opinionated; arbitrary; doctrinal. We tried to discourage Doug from being so *dogmatic*, but never could convince him that his opinions might be wrong.

**doldrums** *n.* /忧郁, 悲伤/blues; listlessness; slack period. Once the excitement of meeting her deadline was over, she found herself in the *doldrums*.

**doleful** *adj.* /悲伤/sorrowful. He found the *doleful* lamentations of the bereaved family emotionally disturbing and he left as quickly as he could.

**dolt** *n.* /愚蠢的人, 蠢货/stupid person. I thought I was talking to a mature audience; instead, I find myself addressing a pack of *dolts* and idiots.

**domicile** *n.* /家/home. Although his legal *domicile* was in New York City, his work kept him away from his residence for many years. also *v.*

**domineer** *v.* /暴力压制/rule over tyrannically. Students prefer teachers who guide, not ones who *domineer*.

**don** *v.* /穿上/put on. When Clark Kent has to *don* his Superman outfit, he changes clothes in a convenient phone booth.

**doodle** *v.* /涂鸦; 浪费时间/scribble or draw aimlessly; waste time. Art's teachers scolded him when he *doodled* all over the margins of his papers.

**dormant** *adj.* /睡着的; 隐匿的/sleeping; lethargic; latent. At fifty her long *dormant* ambition to write flared up once more; within a year she had completed the first of her great historical novels.

**dormer** *n.* /天窗/window projecting from roof. In remodeling the attic into a bedroom, we decided that we needed to put in *dormers* to provide sufficient ventilation for the new room.

**dossier** *n.* /档案, 资料/file of documents on a subject. Ordered by J. Edgar Hoover to investigate the senator, the FBI compiled a complete *dossier* on him.

**dote** *v.* /疼爱; 溺爱/be excessively fond of; show signs of mental decline. Not only grandmothers bore you with stories about their brilliant grandchildren; grandfathers *dote* on the little rascals, too. Poor old Alf clearly *doted*: the senile old *dotard* was past it; in fact, he was in his *dotage*.

**douse** *v.* /浸泡; 弄湿; 弄灭/plunge into water; drench; extinguish. They *doused* each other with hoses and water balloons.

**dowdy** *adj.* /邋遢的; 衣衫不整/slovenly; untidy. She tried to change her *dowdy* image by buying a new fashionable wardrobe.

**downcast** *adj.* /沮丧/disheartened; sad. Cheerful and optimistic by nature, Beth was never *downcast* despite the difficulties she faced.

**drab** *adj.* /迟钝的; 单调的/dull; lacking color; cheerless. The Dutch woman's *drab* winter coat contrasted with the distinctive, colorful native costume she wore beneath it.

**draconian** *adj.* /极其严重/extremely severe. When the principal canceled the senior prom because some seniors had been late to school that week, we thought the *draconian* punishment was far too harsh for such a minor violation of - 49 -

the rules.

**dregs** *n.* /沉淀物; 残渣/sediment; worthless residue. David poured the wine carefully to avoid stirring up the *dregs*. **drivel** *n.* /胡言乱语; 愚蠢/nonsense; foolishness. Why do I have to spend my days listening to such idiotic *drivel*? Drivel is related to *dribble*: think of a dribbling, *driving* idiot.

**droll** *adj.* /滑稽可笑; 离奇古怪, 怪里怪气/queer and amusing. He was a popular guest because his *droll* anecdotes were always entertaining.

**drone** *n.* /闲人; 雄蜂/idle person; male bee. Content to let his wife support him, the would-be writer was in reality nothing but a *drone*.

**drone** *v.* /嗡嗡声; 语气呆板的声音/talk dully; buzz or murmur like a bee. On a gorgeous day, who wants to be stuck in a classroom listening to the teacher *drone*?

**dross** *n.* /渣滓, 废物/waste matter; worthless impurities. Many methods have been devised to separate the valuable metal from the *dross*.

**drudgery** *n.* /苦差事, 苦工/menial work. Cinderella's fairy godmother rescued her from a life of *drudgery*. **dubious** *adj.* /可疑的/questionable; filled with doubt. Many critics of SAT I contend the test is of *dubious* worth. Jay claimed he could get a perfect 1600 on SAT I, but Ellen was *dubious*: she knew he hadn't cracked a book in three years.

**ductile** *adj.* /柔软的, 有韧性/malleable; flexible; pliable. Copper is an extremely *ductile* material: you can stretch it into the thinnest of wires, bend it, even wind it into loops.

**dulcet** *adj.* /甜美的 (声音) /sweet sounding. The *dulcet* sounds of the birds at dawn were soon drowned out by the roar of traffic passing our motel.

**dumbfound** *v.* /使人惊讶/astonish. Egbert's perfect 1600 on his SAT I exam *dumbfounded* his classmates, who had always found him to be perfectly dumb.

**dupe** *n.* /易被开涮的人/someone easily fooled. While the gullible Watson often was made a *dupe* by unscrupulous parties, Sherlock Holmes was far more difficult to fool. also *v.*

**duplicit** *n.* /奸诈, 狡猾; 伪善; 两面三刀, 两面派 /double-dealing; hypocrisy. When Tanya learned that Mark had been two-timing her, she was furious at his *duplicit*.

## Word List 16 duration - encroachment

**duration** *n.* /持续时间/length of time something lasts. Because she wanted the children to make a good impression on the dinner guests, Mother promised them a treat if they'd behave for the *duration* of the meal.

**duress** *n.* / (非法的) 限制, 关押/forcible restraint, especially unlawfully. The hostages were held under *duress* until the prisoners' demands were met.

**dutiful** *adj.* /恭敬的; 尊重的/respectful; obedient. When Mother told Billy to kiss Great-Aunt Hattie, the boy obediently gave the old woman a *dutiful* peck on her cheek.

**dwarf** *v.* /使看上去矮小/cause to seem small. The giant redwoods and high cliffs *dwarfed* the elegant Ahwahnee Hotel, making it appear a modest lodge rather than an imposing hostelry.

**dwindle** *v.* /缩水; 减少/shrink; reduce. The food in the life boat gradually *dwindled* away to nothing; in the end, they ate the ship's cook.

**dynamic** *adj.* /充满活力的/energetic; vigorously active. The dynamic aerobics instructor kept her students on the run; she was a little *dynamo*.

**earthy** *adj.* /粗糙的; 未加工的/unrefined; coarse. His *earthy* remarks often embarrassed the women in his audience.

**ebb** *v.* /衰退/recede; lessen. Sitting on the beach, Mrs. Dalloway watched the tide *ebb*: the waters receded, drawing away from her as she sat there all alone. also *n.*

**ebullient** ADJ./热情的, 激动的/showing excitement; overflowing with enthusiasm. Amy's *ebullient* nature could not be repressed; she' was always bubbling over with excitement. ebullience, n.

**eccentric** ADJ./古怪的, 奇怪的/irregular; odd; whimsical; bizarre. The comet veered dangerously close to the earth in its *eccentric* orbit. People came up with some *eccentric* ideas for dealing with the emergency: someone even suggested tying a knot in the comet's tail!

**eccentricity** n./怪僻, 古怪; 特性/oddity; idiosyncrasy. Some of his friends tried to account for his rudeness to strangers as the *eccentricity* of genius.

**ecclesiastic** ADJ./神职的/pertaining to the church. The minister donned his *ecclesiastic* garb and walked to the pulpit. also n.

**eclectic** ADJ./折衷的/composed of elements drawn from disparate sources. His style of interior decoration was *eclectic*: bits and pieces of furnishings from widely divergent periods, strikingly juxtaposed to create a unique decor. eclecticism, n.

**eclipse** v./超越; 衰落; 失色/darken; extinguish; surpass. The new stock market high *eclipsed* the previous record set in 1995.

**ecologist** n./生态学家/a person concerned with the interrelationship between living organisms and their environment. The *ecologist* was concerned that the new dam would upset the natural balance of the creatures living in Glen Canyon.

**economy** n./俭省节约的, 经济的/efficiency or conciseness in using something. Reading the epigrams of Pope, I admire the *economy* of his verse: in few words he conveys worlds of meaning. (secondary meaning)

**ecstasy** n./全神贯注, 入迷, 高兴/rapture; joy; any overpowering emotion. When Allison received her long-hoped-for letter of acceptance from Harvard, she was in *ecstasy*. ecstatic, ADJ.

**eddy** n./漩涡/swirling current of water, air, etc. The water in the tide pool was still, except for an occasional *eddy*.

**edict** n./法令, 号令; 布告/decree (especially issued by a sovereign); official command. The emperor issued an *edict* decreeing that everyone should come see him model his magnificent new clothes.

**edify** v./教导; 启迪, 陶冶/instruct; correct morally. Although his purpose was to *edify* and not to entertain his audience, many of his listeners were amused rather than enlightened.

**eerie** ADJ./怪异的/weird. In that *eerie* setting, it was easy to believe in ghosts and other supernatural beings.

**efface** v./抹掉/rub out. The coin had been handled so many times that its date had been *effaced*.

**effectual** ADJ./有效的/able to produce a desired effect; valid. Medical researchers are concerned because of the development of drug-resistant strains of bacteria; many once useful antibiotics are no longer effectual in curing bacterial infections.

**effervescence** n./沸腾, 沸腾; 兴奋, 活泼/inner excitement or exuberance; bubbling from fermentation or carbonation. Nothing depressed Sue for long; her natural *effervescence* soon reasserted itself. Soda that loses its *effervescence* goes flat. effervescent, ADJ. effervesce, v.

**efficacy** n./功效/power to produce desired effect. The *efficacy* of this drug depends on the regularity of the dosage. efficacious, ADJ.

**effigy** n./假人(被人憎恨的, 如秦桧)/dummy. The mob showed its irritation by hanging the judge in *effigy*.

**effrontery** n./厚颜无耻/shameless boldness. She had the *effrontery* to insult the guest.

**effusive** ADJ./激情澎湃的/pouring forth; gushing. Her *effusive* manner of greeting her friends finally began to irritate them. effusion, n.

**egoism** n./自我中心, 利己主义/excessive interest in one's self; belief that one should be interested in one's self rather than in others. His *egoism* prevented him from seeing the needs of his colleagues.

**egotistical** ADJ./极度自我中心; 自以为是, 逞能/excessively self-centered; self-important; conceited. Typical *egotistical* remark: "But enough of this chit-chat about you and your little problems. Let's talk about what's really important: *Me!*" - 51 -

**egregious** ADJ./及其令人痛恨的, 声名狼藉; 令人吃惊的/notorious; conspicuously bad or shocking. She was an *egregious* liar; we all knew better than to believe a word she said. Ed's housekeeping was egregious: he let his dirty dishes pile up so long that they were stuck together with last week's food.

**egress** n./出口/exit. Barnum's sign "To the *Egress*" fooled many people who thought they were going to see an animal and instead found themselves in the street.

**ejaculation** n./迸出; 惊叹/exclamation. He could not repress an *ejaculation* of surprise when he heard the news. **elaboration** n./细节; 复杂/addition of details; intricacy. Tell what happened simply, without any *elaboration*. elaborate, v.

**elated** ADJ./过分高兴的; 兴高采烈/overjoyed; in high spirits. Grinning from ear to ear, Bonnie Blair was clearly *elated* by her fifth Olympic gold medal. elation, n.

**elegy** n./挽歌, 悲歌/poem or song expressing lamentation. On the death of Edward King, Milton composed the *elegy* "Lycidas." elegiacal, ADJ.

**elicit** v./得出/draw out by discussion. The detectives tried to *elicit* where he had hidden his loot.

**elixir** n./包治百病, 万能药/cure-all; something invigorating. The news of her chance to go abroad acted on her like an *elixir*.

**ellipsis** n./省略/omission of words from a text. Sometimes an *ellipsis* can lead to a dangling modifier, as in the sentence "Once dressed, you should refrigerate the potato salad."

**elliptical** ADJ./椭圆的; 有意模棱两可的/oval; ambiguous, either purposely or because key words have been left out. An *elliptical* billiard ball wobbles because it is not perfectly round; an elliptical remark baffles because it is not perfectly clear.

**eloquence** n./雄辩; 修辞/expressiveness; persuasive speech. The crowds were stirred by Martin Luther King's *eloquence*. eloquent, ADJ.

**elucidate** v./解释; 启迪/explain; enlighten. He was called upon to *elucidate* the disputed points in his article. **elusive** ADJ./难懂的, 难捉摸的; 令人困惑的/evasive; baffling; hard to grasp. Trying to pin down exactly when the contractors would be finished remodeling the house, Nancy was frustrated by their *elusive* replies. elude, v.

**emaciated** ADJ./瘦弱的, 脆弱的/thin and wasted. His long period of starvation had left him *emaciated*.

**emanate** v./散发, 发出/issue forth. A strong odor of sulphur *emanated* from the spring.

**emancipate** v./释放, 解放/set free. At first, the attempts of the Abolitionists to *emancipate* the slaves were unpopular in New England as well as in the South.

**embargo** n./禁运/ban on commerce or other activity. As a result of the *embargo*, trade with the colonies was at a standstill.

**embark** v./开始旅程, 开始, 登机, 上船, 上车/commence; go on board a boat or airplane; begin a journey. In devoting herself to the study of gorillas, Dian Fossey *embarked* on a course of action that was to cost her her life.

**embed** v./封装, 嵌入, 插入/enclose; place in something. Tales of actual historical figures like King Alfred have become *embedded* in legends.

**embellish** v./装饰/adorn; ornament. The costume designer *embellished* the leading lady's ball gown with yards and yards of ribbon and lace.

**embezzlement** n./偷窃, 侵占/stealing. The bank teller confessed his *embezzlement* of the funds.

**embody** v./具体化; 包含, 收录/personify; make concrete; incorporate. Cheering on his rival Mark McGwire's efforts to break Roger Maris's home run record, Sammy Sosa *embodied* the spirit of true sportsmanship.

**embrace** v./拥抱; 接受, 包含/hug; adopt or espouse; accept readily; encircle; include. Claspng Maid Marian in his arms, Robin Hood *embraced* her lovingly. In joining the outlaws in Sherwood Forest, she had openly *embraced* their cause.

**embroider** v./镶边, 绣花; 添油加醋/decorate with needlework; ornament with fancy or fictitious details. For her

- 52 -

mother's birthday, Beth *embroidered* a lovely design on a handkerchief. When asked what made her late getting home, Jo *embroidered* her account with tales of runaway horses and rescuing people from a ditch. embroidery, n.

**embroil** v./连累, 牵连; 使其混乱, 麻烦缠身/throw into confusion; involve in strife; entangle. He became *embroiled* in the heated discussion when he tried to arbitrate the dispute.

**embryonic** ADJ./胚胎的; 未开发的, 原始的/undeveloped; rudimentary. The CEO reminisced about the good old days when the computer industry was still in its *embryonic* state and start-up companies were founded in family garages. **emend** v./修订, 校勘/correct; correct by a critic. The critic *emended* the book by selecting the passages which he thought most appropriate to the text.

**emendation** n./改进; 修订/correction of errors; improvement. Please initial all the *emendations* you have made in this contract.

**eminent** ADJ./高的/high; lofty. After his appointment to this *eminent* position, he seldom had time for his former friends.

**emissary** N./代理; 信使, 使者/agent; messenger. The secretary of state was sent as the president's special *emissary* to the conference on disarmament.

**emollient** N./缓和, 安抚/soothing or softening remedy. The nurse applied an *emollient* to the inflamed area. also **ADJ. empathy** N./移情作用, 心入/ability to identify with another's feelings, ideas, etc. What made Ann such a fine counselor was her *empathy*, her ability to put herself in her client's place and feel his emotions as if they were her own.

empathize, v.

**empirical** ADJ./经验主义/based on experience. He distrusted hunches and intuitive flashes; he placed his reliance entirely on *empirical* data.

**emulate** V./仿效; 抗衡/imitate; rival. In a brief essay, describe a person you admire, someone whose virtues you would like to *emulate*.

**enamored** ADJ./爱情的; 坠入爱河的/in love. Narcissus became *enamored* of his own beauty.

**encipher** V./编码/encode; convert a message into code. One of Bond's first lessons was how to *encipher* the messages he sent to Miss Money Penny so that none of his other lady friends could decipher them.

**enclave** N./飞地/territory enclosed within an alien land. The Vatican is an independent *enclave* in Italy.

**encomium** N./赞美之词/high praise; eulogy. Uneasy with the *encomiums* expressed by his supporters, Tolkien felt unworthy of such high praise.

**encompass** V./包围/surround. Although we were *encompassed* by enemy forces, we were cheerful for we were well stocked and could withstand a siege until our allies joined us.

**encroachment** N./侵蚀; “和平演变”/gradual intrusion. The *encroachment* of the factories upon the neighborhood lowered the value of the real estate.

## Word List 17 encumber-etymology

**encumber** V./拖累, 负担/burden. Some people *encumber* themselves with too much luggage when they take short trips.

**endearment** N./爱慕; 爱的表示/fond statement. Your gifts and *endearments* cannot make me forget your earlier insolence.

**endemic** ADJ./地方的; 小范围内流行/prevailing among a specific group of people or in a specific area or country. This disease is *endemic* in this part of the world; more than 80 percent of the population are at one time or another affected by it.

**endorse** V./认可, 默许; 支持/approve; support. Everyone waited to see which one of the rival candidates for the city council the mayor would *endorse*. (secondary meaning)

endorsement, n.

- 53 -

**enduring** ADJ./持久的; 不朽的/lasting; surviving. Keats believed in the *enduring* power of great art, which would outlast its creators' brief lives.

**energize** V./鼓舞/invigorate; make forceful and active. Rather than exhausting Maggie, dancing *energized* her.

**enervate** V./使变弱/weaken. She was slow to recover from her illness; even a short walk to the window would *enervate* her.

**enfranchise** V./赋予公民权(投票权) /to admit to the rights of citizenship (especially the right to vote). Although Blacks were *enfranchised* shortly after the Civil War, women did not receive the right to vote until 1920.

**engage** V./吸引; 雇佣; 答应; 结合; 订婚/attract; hire; pledge oneself; confront. "Your case has *engaged* my interest, my lord," said Holmes. "You may *engage* my services."

**engaging** ADJ./有魅力的, 有吸引力的/charming; attractive. Everyone liked Nancy's pleasant manners and *engaging* personality.

**engender** V./产生, 导致/cause; produce. To receive praise for real accomplishments *engenders* self-confidence in a child.

**engross** V./独占/occupy fully. John was so *engrossed* in his studies that he did not hear his mother call.

**enhance** V./增加; 改进/increase; improve. You can *enhance* your chances of being admitted to the college of your choice by learning to write well; an excellent essay can *enhance* any application.

**enigma** N./谜/puzzle; mystery. "What do women want?" asked Dr. Sigmund Freud. Their behavior was an *enigma* to him.

**enigmatic** ADJ./朦胧的; 谜一样的/obscure; puzzling. Many have sought to fathom the *enigmatic* smile of the *Mona Lisa*.

**enmity** N./憎恨; 仇恨/ill will; hatred. At Camp David, President Carter labored to bring an end to the *enmity* that prevented the peaceful coexistence of Egypt and Israel.

**ennui** N./厌倦/boredom. The monotonous routine of hospital life induced a feeling of *ennui* that made him moody and irritable.

**enormity** N./巨大的, 严重的, 极恶劣/hugeness (in a bad sense). He did not realize the *enormity* of his crime until he saw what suffering he had caused.

**enrapture** V./使其狂喜/please intensely. The audience was *enraptured* by the freshness of the voices and the excellent orchestration.

**ensconce** V./安排妥当/settle comfortably. Now that their children were *ensconced* safely in the private school, the jet-setting parents decided to leave for Europe.

**ensemble** N./全体; 歌舞团; 套装/group of (supporting) players; organic unity; costume. As a dancer with the Oakland Ballet, Benjamin enjoyed being part of the *ensemble*. Having acted with one another for well over a decade, the cast members have developed a true sense of ensemble: They work together seamlessly. Mitzi wore a charming two-piece *ensemble* designed by Donna Karan.

**entail** V./要求, 需要; 牵涉到/require; necessitate; involve. Building a college-level vocabulary will *entail* some work on your part.

**enterprising** ADJ./有魄力/full of initiative. By coming up with fresh ways to market the company's products, Mike proved himself to be an *enterprising* businessman.

**enthrall** V./俘获/capture; enslave. From the moment he saw her picture, he was *enthralled* by her beauty.

**entice** V./吸引; 引诱/lure; attract; tempt. She always tried to *entice* her baby brother into mischief.

**entitlement** N./权利/right to claim something; right to benefits. While Bill was *entitled* to use a company car while he worked for the firm, the company's lawyers questioned his *entitlement* to the vehicle once he'd quit his job.

**entity** N./实体/real being. As soon as the Charter was adopted, the United Nations became an *entity* and had to be considered as a factor in world diplomacy.

- 54 -

**entomology** N./昆虫学/study of insects. Kent found *entomology* the most annoying part of his biology course; studying insects bugged him.

**entourage** N./随从, 随行人员/group of attendants; retinue. Surrounded by the members of his *entourage*, the mayor hurried into city hall, shouting a brusque "No comment!" to the reporters lining the steps.

**entrance** V./使其着迷; 使其神志恍惚/put under a spell; carry away with emotion. Shafts of sunlight on a wall could *entrance* her and leave her spellbound.

**entreat** V./恳求/plead; ask earnestly. She *entreated* her father to let her stay out till midnight.

**entrepreneur** N./商人, 企业家, 承包人/businessman; contractor. Opponents of our present tax program argue that it discourages *entrepreneurs* from trying new fields of business activity.

**enumerate** V./枚举/list; mention one by one. Huck hung his head in shame as Miss Watson *enumerated* his many flaws.

**enunciate** V./阐明/speak distinctly. Stop mumbling! How will people understand you if you do not *enunciate*?

**eon** N./时代/long period of time; an age. It has taken *eons* for our civilization to develop.

**ephemeral** ADJ./朝生暮死, 短暂, 短命/short-lived; fleeting. The mayfly is an *ephemeral* creature: its adult life lasts little more than a day.

**epic** N./史诗; 剧作/long heroic poem, or similar work of art. Kurosawa's film *Seven Samurai* is an *epic* portraying the struggle of seven warriors to destroy a band of robbers. also ADJ.

**epicure** N./老饕; 享乐主义者/connoisseur of food and drink. *Epicures* frequent this restaurant because it features exotic wines and dishes. epicurean, ADJ.

**epigram** N./警句; 讽刺民谣/witty thought or saying, usually short. Poor Richard's *epigrams* made Benjamin Franklin famous.

**epilogue** N./尾声; 收场白/short speech at conclusion of dramatic work. The audience was so disappointed in the play that many did not remain to hear the *epilogue*.

**episodic** ADJ. /插曲式的/loosely connected; divided into incidents. Though he tried to follow the plot of Gravity's Rainbow, John found the novel too *episodic*; he enjoyed individual passages, but had trouble following the work as a whole.

**epistolary** ADJ. /书信的/consisting of letters. Mark Harris's *Wake Up, Stupid!* is a modern epistolary novel that uses letters, telegrams, and newspaper clippings to tell the hero's story. The movie *You've Got Mail* tells a story using e-mail; does that make it an *epistolary* movie? *epistle*, n.

**epitaph** n. /墓志铭, 挽联/inscription in memory of a dead person. In his will, he dictated the epitaph he wanted placed on his tombstone.

**epithet** n. /绰号/word or phrase characteristically used to describe a person or thing. So many kings of France were named Charles that you could tell them apart only by their epithets: Charles the Wise was someone far different from Charles the Fat.

**epitome** n. /典型, 摘要/perfect example or embodiment. Singing "I am the very model of a modern Major-General," in *The Pirates of Penzance*, Major-General Stanley proclaimed himself the *epitome* of an officer and a gentleman.

**epoch** n. /时代/period of time. The glacial *epoch* lasted for thousands of years.

**equable** ADJ. /平静的, 均衡的, 稳定的/tranquil; steady; uniform. After the hot summers and cold winters of New England, he found the climate of the West Indies *equable* and pleasant.

**equanimity** n. /镇定/calmness of temperament; composure. Even the inevitable strains of caring for an ailing mother did not disturb Bea's *equanimity*.

**equestrian** n. /骑手/ rider on horseback. These paths in the park are reserved for *equestrians* and their steeds. also ADJ.

**equilibrium** n. /平衡/balance. After the divorce, he needed some time to regain his *equilibrium*.  
- 55 -

**equine** ADJ. /似马的/resembling a horse. His long, bony face had an *equine* look to it.

**equinox** n. /昼夜平分点, 春分, 秋分/period of equal days and nights; the beginning of Spring and Autumn n. The vernal *equinox* is usually marked by heavy rainstorms.

**equitable** ADJ. /公平的, 公允的/fair; impartial. I am seeking an *equitable* solution to this dispute, one that will be fair and acceptable to both sides.

**equity** n. /公平, 公正/fairness; justice. Our courts guarantee *equity* to all.

**equivocal** ADJ. /蓄意误导; 含混, 模棱两可/ambiguous; intentionally misleading. Rejecting the candidate's *equivocal* comments on tax reform, the reporters pressed him to state clearly where he stood on the issue. *equivocate*, v. **equivocate** v. /撒谎; 误导/lie; mislead; attempt to conceal the truth. The audience saw through his attempts to *equivocate* on the subject under discussion and ridiculed his remarks.

**erode** v. /侵蚀/ eat away. The limestone was *eroded* by the dripping water until only a thin shell remained. *erosion*, n.

**erotic** ADJ. /激情的/pertaining to passionate love. The *erotic* passages in this novel should be removed as they are merely pornographic.

**erratic** ADJ. /奇怪的; 不可预测的/odd; unpredictable. Investors become anxious when the stock market appears *erratic*.

**erroneous** ADJ. /错误/mistaken; wrong. I thought my answer was correct, but it was *erroneous*.

**erudite** ADJ. /博学的/learned; scholarly. Though his fellow students thought him *erudite*, Paul knew he would have to spend many years in serious study before he could consider himself a scholar.

**escapade** n. /胡闹; 奇怪、出格的行为/prank; flighty conduct. The headmaster could not regard this latest *escapade* as a boyish joke and expelled the young man.

**escapism** n. /逃避现实, 纸醉金迷/avoiding reality by diverting oneself with amusements. Before you criticize her constant reading as mere *escapism*, note how greatly her vocabulary has improved since she began spending her days buried in books.

**eschew** v. /避免/avoid. Hoping to present himself to his girlfriend as a totally reformed character, he tried to *eschew* all the vices, especially chewing tobacco and drinking bathtub gin.

**esoteric** ADJ. /难以理解的, 深奥的/hard to understand; known only to the chosen few. The New Yorker short stories often include *esoteric* allusions to obscure people and events: the implication is, if you are in the in-crowd, you'll get the reference; if you come from Cleveland, you won't.

**espionage** n. /间谍行为/Spying. In order to maintain its power, the government developed a system of *espionage* that penetrated every household.

**espouse** v. /接受, 支持/adopt; support. She was always ready to *espouse* a worthy cause.

**esteem** v. /尊重; 估价/respect; value. Jill *esteemed* Jack's taste in music, but she deplored his taste in clothes.

**estranged** ADJ. /分离的; 孤立的/separated; alienated. The *estranged* wife sought a divorce. *estrangement*, n.

**ethereal** ADJ. /轻的, 空气的; 像天堂的/light; heavenly; unusually refined. In Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, the spirit Ariel is an *ethereal* creature, too airy and unearthly for our mortal world.

**ethnic** ADJ. /种族的/relating to races. Intolerance between *ethnic* groups is deplorable and usually is based on lack of information.

**ethos** n. /社会精神特质, 思潮, 风气; 气质/underlying character of a culture, group, etc. Seeing how tenderly ordinary Spaniards treated her small daughter made author Barbara Kingsolver aware of how greatly children were valued in the Spanish *ethos*.

**etymology** n. /语源学/study of word parts. A knowledge of *etymology* can help you on many English tests: if you know what the roots and prefixes mean, you can determine the meanings of unfamiliar words.

- 56 -

## Word List 18 eulogy - faculty

**eulogy** n. /颂词; 赞美词/expression of praise, often on the occasion of someone's death. Instead of delivering a spoken *eulogy* at Genny's memorial service, Jeff sang a song he had written in her honor.

**euphemism** n. /委婉的表达/mild expression in place of an unpleasant one. The expression "he passed away" is a *euphemism* for "he died."

**euphonious** ADJ. /悦耳的/pleasing in sound. *Euphonious* even when spoken, the Italian language is particularly pleasing to the ear when sung. *euphony*, n.

**euphoria** n. /非常愉快; 病态的愉快, 愉悦症/feeling of great happiness and well-being (sometimes exaggerated). Delighted with her SAT scores, sure that the university would accept her, Allison was filled with *euphoria*. *euphoric*, ADJ.

**evanescent** ADJ. /消散的; 凋零的/fleeting; vanishing. Brandon's satisfaction in his new job was *evanescent*, for he immediately began to notice its many drawbacks. *evanescence*, n.

**evasive** ADJ. /逃避的/not frank; eluding. Your *evasive* answers convinced the judge that you were withholding important evidence. *evade*, v.

**evenhanded** ADJ. /公平的/impartial; fair. Do men and women receive *evenhanded* treatment from their teachers, or, as recent studies suggest, do teachers pay more attention to male students than to females?

**evinced** v. /表示/show clearly. When he tried to answer the questions, he *evinced* his ignorance of the subject matter.

**evocative** ADJ. /唤起的/tending to call up (emotions, memories). Scent can be remarkably evocative: the aroma of pipe tobacco *evokes* the memory of my father; a whiff of talcum powder calls up images of my daughter as a child. **ewe** n. /母羊/female sheep. The flock of sheep was made up of dozens of *ewes*, together with only a handful of rams. **exacerbate** v. /恶化, 加剧/worsen; embitter. The latest bombing *exacerbated* England's already existing bitterness against the IRA, causing the prime minister to break off the peace talks abruptly.

**exacting** ADJ. /苛刻的/extremely demanding. Cleaning the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel was an *exacting* task, one that demanded extremely meticulous care on the part of the restorers. *exaction*, n.

**exalt** v. /晋升; 赞扬/raise in rank or dignity; praise. The actor Alec Guinness was *exalted* to the rank of knighthood by the queen.

**exasperate** v. /激怒/vex. Johnny often *exasperates* his mother with his pranks.

**exceptionable** ADJ. /不可的, 可反对的/objectionable. Do you find the punk rock band Green Day a highly *exceptionable*, thoroughly distasteful group, or do you think they are exceptionally talented performers?

**excerpt** n. /摘抄, 摘录/selected passage (written or musical). The cinematic equivalent of an *excerpt* from a novel is a clip from a film. also v.

**excise** v. /去除/cut away; cut out. When you *excise* the dead and dying limbs of a tree, you not only improve its

appearance but also enhance its chances of bearing fruit.

excision. n.

**exclaim** v./呼喊, 大叫/cry out suddenly. "Watson! Behind you!" Holmes *exclaimed*, seeing the assassin hurl himself on his friend.

**excoriate** v./责难, 挖苦, 批判; 揭露/scold with biting harshness; strip the skin off. Seeing the holes in Bill's new pants, his mother furiously *excoriated* him for ruining his good clothes. The tight, starched collar chafed and *excoriated* his neck, rubbing it raw.

**exculpate** v./开脱, 洗脱/clear from blame. He was *exculpated* of the crime when the real criminal confessed.

**execrable** adj./非常糟糕的/very bad. The anecdote was in such execrable taste that it revolted the audience. **execute** v./执行, 完成/put into effect; carry out. The choreographer wanted to see how well she could *execute* a pirouette. (secondary meaning) execution, n.

**exegesis** n./解释, 注解, 通译/explanation; interpretation, especially of a biblical text. The minister based her sermon - 57 -

on her *exegesis* of a difficult passage from the book of Job. exegetical, adj.

**exemplary** adj./出色的; 典范的; (杀鸡儆猴的) 例子/serving as a model; outstanding. At commencement the dean praised Ellen for her *exemplary* behavior as class president.

**exemplify** v./作为典型; 具体化/serve as an example of; embody. For a generation of balletgoers, Rudolf Nureyev *exemplified* the ideal of masculine grace.

**exempt** adj./被免除的/not subject to a duty, obligation. Because of his tall feet, Foster was *exempt* from serving in the armed forces. also v.

**exertion** n./努力, 尽力/effort; expenditure of much physical work. The *exertion* spent in unscrewing the rusty bolt left her exhausted.

**exhaustive** adj./彻底的, 完全的/thorough; comprehensive. We have made an *exhaustive* study of all published SAT tests and are happy to share our research with you.

**exhilarating** adj./爽快的, 使人愉快的/invigorating and refreshing; cheering. Though some of the hikers found tramping through the snow tiring, Jeffrey found the walk on the cold, crisp day *exhilarating*.

**exhort** v./劝诫, 忠告/urge. The evangelist *exhorted* all the sinners in his audience to reform. exhortation, n.

**exhume** v./出土, 发掘/dig out of the ground; remove from the grave. Could evidence that might identify the serial killer have been buried with his victim? To answer this question, the police asked the authorities for permission to *exhume* the victim's body.

**exigency** n./紧急情况/urgent situation. In this *exigency*, we must look for aid from our allies.

**exodus** n./离开, 启程/departure. The *exodus* from the hot and stuffy city was particularly noticeable on Friday evenings.

**exonerate** v./开脱, 免罪/acquit; exculpate. The defense team feverishly sought fresh evidence that might *exonerate* their client.

**exorbitant** adj./过度的/excessive. The people grumbled at his *exorbitant* prices but paid them because he had a monopoly.

**exorcise** v./驱邪/drive out evil spirits. By incantation and prayer, the medicine man sought to *exorcise* the evil spirits which had taken possession of the young warrior.

**exotic** adj./陌生的, 外来的, 奇异的, 异国情调/not native; strange. Because of his *exotic* headdress, he was followed in the streets by small children who laughed at his strange appearance.

**expansive** adj./扩张的; 爽快的; 广阔的/outgoing and sociable; broad and extensive; able to increase in size. Mr. Fezziwig was in an *expansive* humor, cheerfully urging his guests to join in the Christmas feast. Looking down on his *expansive* paunch, he sighed: if his belly *expanded* any further, he'd need an *expansive* waistline for his pants. **expatriate** n./放逐; 被放逐者/exile; someone who has withdrawn from his native land. Henry James was an American *expatriate* who settled in England.

**expedient** adj./合适的, 有利的; 策略性的/suitable; practical; politic. A pragmatic politician, he was guided by what was *expedient* rather than by what was ethical. expediency, n.

**expedite** v./加速, 催促/hasten. Because we are on a tight schedule, we hope you will be able to *expedite* the delivery of our order. The more *expeditious* your response is, the happier we'll be.

**expenditure** n./支出, 花费/payment or expense; output. When you are operating on an expense account, you must keep receipts for all your *expenditures*. If you don't save your receipts, you won't get repaid without the *expenditure*

of a lot of energy arguing with the firm's accountants.

**expertise** n./专业知识, 技能/specialized knowledge; expert skill. Although she was knowledgeable in a number of fields, she was hired for her particular *expertise* in computer programming.

**expiate** v./赎罪/make amends for (a sin). He tried to *expiate* his crimes by a full confession to the authorities.

**expletive** n./感叹词; 咒骂/interjection; profane oath. The sergeant's remarks were filled with *expletives* that offended - 58 -

the new recruits.

**explicate** v./解释, 澄清/explain; interpret; clarify. Harry Levin *explicated* James Joyce's often bewildering novels with such clarity that even *Finnegan's Wake* seemed comprehensible to his students.

**explicit** adj./清晰的; 坦率的/totally clear; definite; outspoken. Don't just hint around that you're dissatisfied: be *explicit* about what's bugging you.

**exploit** n./壮举/deed or action, particularly a brave deed. Raoul Wallenberg was noted for his *exploits* in rescuing Jews from Hitler's forces.

**exploit** v./开发, 开拓/make use of, sometimes unjustly. Cesar Chavez fought attempts to *exploit* migrant farmworkers in California. exploitation, n. exploitative, adj.

**expository** adj./解释性的/explanatory; serving to explain. The manual that came with my VCR was no masterpiece of *expository* prose: its explanations were so garbled that I couldn't even figure out how to rewind a tape. exposition, n.

**exposure** n./曝光, 揭露; 暴露 (于疾病、恶劣的环境等) 的状态/risk, particularly of being exposed to disease or to the elements; unmasking; act of laying something open. *Exposure* to sun and wind had dried out her hair and weathered her face. She looked so changed that she no longer feared exposure as the notorious Irene Adler, onetime antagonist of Sherlock Holmes.

**expropriate** v./没收, 剥夺, 征用/take possession of. He questioned the government's right to *expropriate* his land to create a wildlife preserve.

**expunge** v./取消, 去除, 排除/cancel; remove. If you behave, I will *expunge* this notation from your record.

**expurgate** v./清除, 净化/clean; remove offensive parts of a book. The editors felt that certain passages in the book had to be *expurgated* before it could be used in the classroom.

**extant** adj./现存的/still in existence. Although the book is out of print, some copies are still *extant*. Unfortunately, all of them are in libraries or private collections; none are for sale.

**extent** n./范围; 程度/degree; magnitude; scope. What is the *extent* of the patient's injuries? If they are not too *extensive*, we can treat him on an outpatient basis.

**extenuate** v./弱化; 减轻/weaken; mitigate. It is easier for us to *extenuate* our own shortcomings than those of others. **extol** v./赞美/praise; glorify. The president *extolled* the astronauts, calling them the pioneers of the Space Age. **extort** v./敲诈, 勒索/wring from; get money by threats, etc. The blackmailer *extorted* money from his victim. **extradition** n./引渡/surrender of prisoner by one state to another. The lawyers opposed the *extradition* of their client on the grounds that for more than five years he had been a model citizen.

**extraneous** adj./肤浅的, 不重要的/not essential; superfluous. No wonder Ted can't think straight! His mind is so cluttered up with *extraneous* trivia, he can't concentrate on the essentials.

**extrapolation** n./推测, 推断/projection; conjecture. Based on their *extrapolation* from the results of the primaries on Super Tuesday, the networks predicted that Bob Dole would be the Republican candidate for the presidency. extrapolate, v.

**extricate** v./解脱, 放出, 释放/free; disentangle. Icebreakers were needed to *extricate* the trapped whales from the icy floes that closed them in.

**extrinsic** adj./外部的, 不重要的; 外来的/external; not essential; extraneous. A critically acclaimed *extrinsic* feature of the Chrysler Building is its ornate spire. The judge would not admit the testimony, ruling that it was *extrinsic* to the matter at hand.

**extrovert** n./性格外向的人/person interested mostly in external objects and actions. A good salesman is usually an *extrovert*, who likes to mingle with people.

**extrude** v./挤压, 逼/force or push out. Much pressure is required to *extrude* these plastics.

**exuberance** n./富得流油的; 精力充沛; 浪费, 过度/overflowing abundance; joyful enthusiasm; flamboyance; lavishness. I - 59 -



was bowled over by the *exuberance* of Amy's welcome. What an enthusiastic greeting!

**exude** v./卸下, 流出/discharge; give forth. We get maple syrup from the sap that *exudes* from the trees in early spring.

exudation, n.

**exult** v./高兴, 兴高采烈/rejoice. We *exulted* when our team won the victory.

**fabricate** v./制造; 编造 (谎言) /build; lie. If we fabricate the buildings in this project out of standardized sections, we can reduce construction costs considerably. Because of Jack's tendency to *fabricate*, Jill had trouble believing a word he said.

**facade** n./正面的; 表面的, 肤浅的/front (of building); superficial or false appearance. The ornate *facade* of the church was often photographed by tourists, who never bothered to walk around the building to view its other sides. Susan seemed super-confident, but that was just a facade she put on to hide her insecurity.

**facet** n./ (宝石的) 琢面; 方面/small plane surface (of a gem); a side. The stonemason decided to improve the rough diamond by providing it with several *facets*.

**facetious** ADJ./不合时宜的玩笑; 幽默/joking (often inappropriately); humorous. I'm serious about this project; I don't need any *facetious*, smartalecky cracks about do-gooder little rich girls.

**facile** ADJ./充足的; 容易完成的; 肤浅的/easily accomplished; ready or fluent; superficial. Words came easily to Jonathan: he was a *facile* speaker and prided himself on being ready to make a speech at a moment's notice.

**facilitate** v./促进; 帮助; 使变容易/help bring about; make less difficult. Rest and proper nourishment should *facilitate* the patient's recovery.

**facsimile** n./复制品/COPY. Many museums sell *facsimiles* of the works of art on display.

**faction** n./派别; 内讧; 纠纷/party; clique; dissension. The quarrels and bickering of the two small *factions* within the club disturbed the majority of the members.

**faculty** n./才能; 教职员/mental or bodily powers; teaching staff. As he grew old, Professor Twiggly feared he might lose his *faculties* and become unfit to teach. However, he had tenure: whether or not he was in full possession of his *faculties*, the school couldn't kick him off the *faculty*.

## Word List 19 fallacious-flinch

**fallacious** ADJ./假的; 误导的/false; misleading. Paradoxically, *fallacious* reasoning does not always yield erroneous results: even though your logic may be faulty, the answer you get may nevertheless be correct. fallacy, n.

**fallible** ADJ./容易犯错的/liable to err. I know I am *fallible*, but I feel confident that I am right this time.

**fallow** ADJ./休耕地; 潜伏的; 不活跃的/plowed but not sowed; uncultivated. Farmers have learned that it is advisable to permit land to lie *fallow* every few years.

**falter** v./犹豫; 踌躇/hesitate. When told to dive off the high board, she did not *falter*, but proceeded at once.

**fanaticism** n./狂热的, 盲目的/excessive zeal; extreme devotion to a belief or cause. When Islamic fundamentalists demanded the death of Salman Rushdie because his novel questioned their faith, world opinion condemned them for their *fanaticism*.

**fancy** n./爱好; 奇特; 想象/notion; whim; inclination. Martin took a *fancy* to paint his toenails purple. Assuming he would outgrow such fanciful behavior, his parents ignored his *fancy* feet. also ADJ.

**fanfare** n./号角声/call by bugles or trumpets. The exposition was opened with a *fanfare* of trumpets and the firing of cannon.

**farce** n./闹剧; 嘲笑/broad comedy; mockery. Nothing went right; the entire interview degenerated into a *farce*. farcical, ADJ.

**fastidious** ADJ./挑剔的; 难伺候的/difficult to please; squeamish. Bobby was such a *fastidious* eater that he would eat a - 60 -

sandwich only if his mother first cut off every scrap of crust.

**fatalism** n./宿命论/belief that events are determined by forces beyond one's control. With *fatalism*, he accepted the hardships that beset him. fatalistic, ADJ.

**fathom** v./领会; 调查, 测量/comprehend; investigate. I find his motives impossible to *fathom*; in fact, I'm totally clueless about what goes on in his mind.

**fatuous** ADJ./愚蠢的; 不可理喻的; 不理智的/foolish; inane. He is far too intelligent to utter such *fatuous* remarks.

**fauna** n./动物志/animals of a period or region. The scientist could visualize the *fauna* of the period by examining the skeletal remains and the fossils.

**fawning** ADJ./奉承/Courting favor by cringing and flattering. She was constantly surrounded by a group of *fawning* admirers who hoped to win some favor. fawn, v.

**faze** v./折磨, 打击/disconcert; dismay. No crisis could *faze* the resourceful hotel manager.

**feasible** ADJ./可行的/practical. Is it *feasible* to build a new stadium for the Yankees on New York's West Side? Without additional funding, the project is clearly unrealistic.

**fecundity** n./丰饶/fertility; fruitfulness. The *fecundity* of his mind is illustrated by the many vivid images in his poems.

**feign** v./假装; 捏造/pretend. Lady Macbeth *feigned* illness although she was actually healthy.

**feint** n./假的, 淡的, 不鲜明的; 佯攻/trick; shift; sham blow. The boxer was fooled by his opponent's *feint* and dropped his guard. also v.

**felicitous** ADJ./措辞巧妙的; 精巧的/apt; suitably expressed; well chosen. He was famous for his *felicitous* remarks and was called upon to serve as master-of-ceremonies at many a banquet. felicity, n.

**felicity** n./欢乐; 适当/happiness; appropriateness (of a remark, choice, etc.). She wrote a note to the newlyweds wishing them great *felicity* in their wedded life.

**fell** ADJ./凶猛的, 致命的/cruel; deadly. The newspapers told of the tragic spread of the *fell* disease.

**fell** v./放倒, 打倒/cut or knock down; bring down (with a missile). Crying "Timber!" Paul Bunyan felled the mighty redwood tree. Robin Hood loosed his arrow and *felled* the king's deer.

**felon** n./重罪犯/person convicted of a grave crime. A convicted *felon* loses the right to vote.

**feral** ADJ./野生的, 未驯服的/not domestic; wild. Abandoned by their owners, dogs may revert to their *feral* state, roaming the woods in packs.

**ferment** n./激怒; 挑起骚动、暴乱/agitation; commotion. With the breakup of the Soviet Union, much of Eastern Europe was in a state of *ferment*.

**ferret** v./侦查; 搜出; 赶出/drive or hunt out of hiding. She *ferreted* out their secret.

**fervent** ADJ./多热的/ardent; hot. She felt that the *fervent* praise was excessive and somewhat undeserved.

**fervid** ADJ./多热的/ardent. Her *fervid* enthusiasm inspired all of us to undertake the dangerous mission.

**fervor** n./热情; 激情/glowing ardor; intensity of feeling. At the protest rally, the students cheered the strikers and booed the dean with equal *fervor*.

**fester** v./使溃烂, 化脓/rankle; produce irritation or resentment. Joe's insult *festered* in Anne's mind for days, and made her too angry to speak to him.

**festive** ADJ./欢乐; 庆祝/joyous; celebratory. Their wedding in the park was a *festive* occasion.

**fetid** ADJ./恶臭的/malodorous. The neglected wound became *fetid*.

**fetter** v./羁绊/shackle. The prisoner was *fettered* to the wall.

**fiasco** n./彻底失败/total failure. Our ambitious venture ended in a *fiasco* and we were forced to flee.

**fickle** ADJ./变化无常的; 薄情的/changeable; faithless. As soon as Romeo saw Juliet, he forgot all about his old girlfriend Rosaline. Was Romeo *fickle*?

**fictitious** ADJ./想象的/imaginary. Although this book purports to be a biography of George Washington, many of the incidents are *fictitious*.

- 61 -

**fidelity** n./忠诚/loyalty. A dog's *fidelity* to its owner is one of the reasons why that animal is a favorite household pet. **figment** n./发明; 臆造的事务/invention; imaginary thing. That incident never took place; it is a *figment* of your imagination.

**figurative** ADJ./比喻/not literal, but metaphorical; using a figure of speech. "To lose one's marbles" is a *figurative* expression; if you're told that Jack has lost his marbles, no one expects you to rush out to buy him a replacement set. **figurine** n./小雕像/small ornamental statuette. In The Maltese Falcon, Sam Spade was hired to trace the missing *figurine* of a black bird.

**filament** n./灯丝; 精细的织物或线/fine thread or fiber; threadlike structure within a light bulb. A ray of sunlight illuminated the *filaments* of the spider web, turning the web into a net of gold.

**filch** v./偷/steal. The boys *filched* apples from the fruit stand.

**filial** *ADJ.* /子女的/pertaining to a son or daughter. Many children forget their *filial* obligations and disregard the wishes of their parents.

**filibuster** *v.* /（发表长篇演讲来）阻挠法案通过/to block legislation by making long speeches. Even though we disapproved of Senator Foghorn's political goals, we were impressed by his ability to *filibuster* endlessly to keep an issue from coming to a vote.

**finale** *n.* /结论，结尾，结局/conclusion. It is not until we reach the *finale* of this play that we can understand the author's message.

**finesse** *n.* /精密的技巧/delicate skill. The *finesse* and adroitness with which the surgeon wielded her scalpel impressed all the observers in the operating room.

**finicky** *ADJ.* /过分讲究；鸡毛蒜皮/too particular; fussy. The little girl was *finicky* about her food, leaving over anything that wasn't to her taste.

**firebrand** *n.* /总惹麻烦的人，惹事生非者，捣乱人/hothead: troublemaker. The police tried to keep track of all the local *firebrands* when the President came to town.

**fissure** *n.* /裂缝；分歧/crevice. The mountain climbers secured footholds in tiny *fissures* in the rock.

**fitful** *ADJ.* /断断续续；间歇/spasmodic; intermittent. After several *fitful* attempts, he decided to postpone the start of the project until he felt more energetic.

**flabbergasted** *ADJ.* /大吃一惊；目瞪口呆/astounded; astonished; overcome with surprise. In the film Flubber, the hero invents a remarkable substance whose amazing properties leave his coworkers *flabbergasted*. flabbergast, *v.*

**flaccid** *ADJ.* /软弱的；无活力的/flabby. His sedentary life had left him with *flaccid* muscles.

**flag** *v.* /萎缩；衰退/droop; grow feeble. When the opposing hockey team scored its third goal only minutes into the first quarter, the home team's spirits *flagged*. flagging, *ADJ.*

**flagrant** *ADJ.* /非常坏的；残忍的；恶名昭著的/conspicuously wicked; blatant; outrageous. The governor's appointment of his brother-in-law to the State Supreme Court was a *flagrant* violation of the state laws against nepotism (favoritism based on kinship).

**flair** *n.* /才能/talent. She has an uncanny flair for discovering new artists before the public has become aware of their existence.

**flamboyant** *ADJ.* /华丽的/orbate. Modern architecture has discarded the *flamboyant* trimming on buildings and emphasizes simplicity of line.

**flaunt** *v.* /招摇；炫耀/display ostentatiously. Mae West saw nothing wrong with showing off her considerable physical charms, saying, "Honey, if you've got it, *flaunt* it!"

**fleck** *v.* /使起斑点/spot. Her cheeks, *flecked* with tears, were testimony to the hours of weeping.

**fledgling** *ADJ.* /无经验的/inexperienced. While it is necessary to provide these *fledgling* poets with an opportunity to present their work, it is not essential that we admire everything they write. also *n.*

**fleece** *n.* /羊毛外套/wool coat of a sheep. They shear sheep of their *fleece*, which they then comb into separate - 62 -

strands of wool.

**fleece** *v.* /抢劫；诈骗/rob; plunder. The tricksters *fleeced* him of his inheritance.

**flick** *n.* /轻弹；轻打/light stroke as with a whip. The horse needed no encouragement; one *flick* of the whip was all the jockey had to apply to get the animal to run at top speed.

**flinch** *v.* /畏首畏尾，退缩；犹豫/hesitate, shrink. He did not *flinch* in the face of danger but fought back bravely.

## Word List 20 flippant-gaffe

**flippant** *ADJ.* /轻率的，没礼貌的，嬉皮笑脸的/lacking proper seriousness. When Mark told Mona he loved her, she dismissed his earnest declaration with a flippant "Oh, you say that to all the girls!" flippancy, *n.*

**flit** *v.* /掠过/fly; dart lightly; pass swiftly by. Like a bee flitting from flower to flower, Rose flitted from one boyfriend to the next.

**floe** *n.* /浮冰冰块；大浮冰/mass of floating ice. The ship made slow progress as it battered its way through the ice *floes*. **flora** *n.* /植物志/plants of a region or era. Because she was a botanist, she spent most of her time studying the *flora* of the desert.

**florid** *ADJ.* /华丽的；红润的/ruddy; reddish; flowery. If you go to Florida and get a sunburn, your complexion will look

*florid*.

**flounder** *v.* /挣扎，辗转；困难地奋斗/struggle and thrash about; proceed clumsily or falter. Up to his knees in the bog, Floyd *floundered* about, trying to regain his footing. Bewildered by the new software, Flo *floundered* until Jan showed her how to get started.

**flourish** *v.* /生长；繁荣；装饰/grow well; prosper; decorate with ornaments. The orange trees *flourished* in the sun.

**flout** *v.* /轻视；嘲笑；愚弄/reject; mock. The headstrong youth *flouted* all authority; he refused to be curbed. **fluctuate** *v.* /波动的；起伏的，摇摆不定的/waver; shift. The water pressure in our shower *fluctuates* wildly; you start rinsing yourself off with a trickle, and, two minutes later, a blast of water nearly knocks you down.

**fluency** *n.* /（语言）流利/smoothness of speech. He spoke French with *fluency* and ease.

**fluke** *n.* /意外；小概率事件/unlikely occurrence; stroke of fortune. When Dou- glas defeated Tyson for the heavyweight championship, some sportscasters dismissed his victory as a *fluke*.

**fluster** *v.* /使混乱，使迷惑/confuse. The teacher's sudden question *flustered* him and he stammered his reply.

**flux** *n.* /变迁；流动/flowing; series of changes. While conditions are in such a state of *flux*, I do not wish to commit myself too deeply in this affair.

**fodder** *n.* /粗饲料；饲养/coarse food for cattle, horses, etc. One of Nancy's chores at the ranch was to put fresh supplies of *fodder* in the horses' stalls.

**foible** *n.* /缺点；弱点/weakness; slight fault. We can overlook the *foibles* of our friends; no one is perfect.

**foil** *n.* /烘托；衬托/contrast. In Star Wars, dark, evil Darth Vader is a perfect *foil* for fair-haired, naive Luke Skywalker.

**foil** *v.* /打击；打败，挫败/defeat; frustrate. In the end, Skywalker is able to *foil* Vader's diabolical schemes.

**foliage** *n.* /树叶/masses of leaves. Every autumn before the leaves fell he promised himself he would drive through New England to admire the colorful fall *foliage*.

**foment** *v.* /鼓动，煽动/stir up; instigate. Cheryl's archenemy Heather spread some nasty rumors that *fomented* trouble in the club. Do you think Cheryl's foe meant to *foment* such discord?

**foolhardy** *ADJ.* /愚勇的；傻大胆儿/rash. Don't be *foolhardy*. Get the advice of experienced people before undertaking this venture.

**fop** *n.* /花花公子；过分注意衣着的男人/dandy; man excessively concerned with his clothes. People who dismissed young Mizrahi as a *fop* felt chagrined when he turned into one of the top fashion designers of his day. foppish, *ADJ.*

**forbearance** *n.* /耐心/patience. We must use *forbearance* in dealing with him because he is still weak from his - 63 -

illness.

**ford** *n.* /津；浅滩/place where a river can be crossed on foot. Rather than risk using the shaky rope bridge, David walked a halfmile downstream until he came to the nearest *ford*. also *v.*

**forebears** *n.* /前人；祖先/ancestors. Reverence for one's *forebears* (sometimes referred to as ancestor worship) plays an important part in many Oriental cultures.

**foreboding** *n.* /不详的预感/premonition of evil. Suspecting no conspiracies against him, Caesar gently ridiculed his wife's *forebodings* about the Ides of March.

**forensic** *ADJ.* /法院的；适于法庭的/suitable to debate or courts of law. In her best *forensic* manner, the lawyer addressed the jury. forensics, *n.*

**foreshadow** *v.* /预言；预测/give an indication beforehand; portend; prefigure. In retrospect, political analysts realized that Yeltsin's defiance of the attempted coup *foreshadowed* his emergence as the dominant figure of the new Russian republic.

**foresight** *n.* /洞察力/ability to foresee future happenings; prudence. A wise investor, she had the *foresight* to buy land just before the current real estate boom.

**forestall** *v.* /预防/prevent by taking action in advance. By setting up a prenuptial agreement, the prospective bride and groom hoped to *forestall* any potential arguments about money in the event of a divorce.

**forgo** *v.* /放弃/give up; do without. Determined to lose weight for the summer, Ida decided to *forgo* dessert until she could fit into a size eight again.

**forlorn** *ADJ.* /孤苦的，凄凉的/sad and lonely; wretched. Deserted by her big sisters and her friends, the *forlorn* child sat

sadly on the steps awaiting their return.

**formality** *N.* /仪式；礼节/ceremonious quality; something done just for form's sake. The president received the visiting heads of state with due *formality*: flags waving, honor guards standing at attention, anthems sounding at full blast. Signing this petition is a mere formality; it does not obligate you in any way.

**formidable** *ADJ.* /威胁的，险恶的/menacing; threatening. We must not treat the battle lightly for we are facing a *formidable* foe.

**forsake** *V.* /放弃/desert; abandon; renounce. No one expected Foster to *forsake* his wife and children and run off with another woman.

**forswear** *V.* /放弃/renounce; abandon. The captured knight could escape death only if he agreed to *forswear* Christianity and embrace Islam as the one true faith.

**forte** *N.* /强项，特殊才能/strong point or special talent. I am not eager to play this rather serious role, for my *forte* is comedy.

**forthright** *ADJ.* /坦率的；豪爽的/outspoken; straightforward; frank. Never afraid to call a spade a spade, she was perhaps too *forthright* to be a successful party politician.

**fortitude** *N.* /勇敢的/bravery; courage. He was awarded the medal for his *fortitude* in the battle.

**fortuitous** *ADJ.* /偶然的/accidental; by chance. Though he pretended their encounter was *fortuitous*, he'd actually been hanging around her usual haunts for the past two weeks, hoping she'd turn up.

**forum** *N.* /论坛/place of assembly to discuss public concerns; meeting for discussion. The film opens with a shot of the ancient *Forum* in Rome, where several senators are discussing the strange new sect known as Christians. At the end of the movie, its director presided over a *forum* examining new fashions in filmmaking.

**foster** *V.* /养育，培养；鼓励/rear; encourage. According to the legend, Romulus and Remus were *fostered* by a she-wolf who raised the abandoned infants with her own cubs. also *ADJ.*

**founder** *V.* /完全失败；沉默/fail completely; sink. After hitting the submerged iceberg, the Titanic started taking in water rapidly and soon *foundered*.

**founder** *N.* /创办人/person who establishes (an organization, business). Among those drowned when the *Titanic*

- 64 -

sank was the *founder* of the Abraham & Straus department store.

**fracas** *N.* /争吵；混战/brawl, melee. The military police stopped the

*fracas* in the bar and arrested the belligerents. **fractious** *ADJ.* /蛮横倔强的/unruly; disobedient; irritable. Bucking and kicking, the

*fractious* horse unseated its rider. **frail** *ADJ.* /弱的/weak. The delicate child seemed too *frail* to lift the heavy carton. frailty, *N.*

**franchise** *N.* /公民权；营业执照/right granted by authority; right to vote; business licensed to sell a product in a particular territory. The city issued a *franchise* to the company to operate surface transit lines on the streets for ninety-nine years. For most of American history women lacked the right to vote: not until the early twentieth century

was the *franchise* granted to women. Stan owns a Carvel's ice cream *franchise* in Chinatown.

**frantic** *ADJ.* /狂乱/wild. At the time of the collision, many people became *frantic* with fear.

**fraternize** *V.* /友善/associate in a friendly way. After the game, the members of the two teams *fraternized* as cheerfully as if they had never been rivals.

**fraudulent** *ADJ.* /欺骗的/cheating; deceitful. The government seeks to prevent *fraudulent* and misleading advertising.

**fraught** *ADJ.* /满的/filled. Since this enterprise is *fraught* with danger, I will ask for volunteers who are willing to assume the risks.

**fray** *N.* /争吵/brawl. The three musketeers were in the thick of the *fray*.

**frenetic** *ADJ.* /发狂的/frenzied; frantic. His *frenetic* activities convinced us that he had no organized plan of operation.

**frenzied** *ADJ.* /狂乱的/madly excited. As soon as they smelled smoke, the *frenzied* animals milled about in their cages. **fresco** *N.* /壁画/painting on plaster (usually fresh). The cathedral is visited by many tourists who wish to admire the *frescoes* by Giotto.

**fret** *V.* /被激怒/to be annoyed or vexed. To *fret* over your poor grades is foolish; instead, decide to work harder in the future.

**friction** *N.* /摩擦/clash in opinion; rubbing against. At this time when harmony is essential, we cannot afford to have any *friction* in our group.

**frigid** *ADJ.* /刺骨寒/intensely cold. Alaska is in the *frigid* zone.

**frivolous** *ADJ.* /轻佻的；嬉皮笑脸的/lacking in seriousness; self-indulgently carefree; relatively unimportant. Though Nancy enjoyed Bill's *frivolous*, lighthearted companionship, she sometimes wondered whether he could ever be serious. frivolity, *N.*

**frolicsome** *ADJ.* /闹着玩的；嬉戏的/prankish; gay. The *frolicsome* puppy tried to lick the face of its master.

**frond** *N.* /棕榈叶；蕨叶/fern leaf; palm or banana leaf. After the storm the beach was littered with the *fronds* of palm trees.

**frugality** *N.* /俭省节约/thrift; economy. In economically hard times, anyone who doesn't learn to practice *frugality* risks bankruptcy. frugal, *ADJ.*

**fruition** *N.* /享用；成就；实现/bearing of fruit; fulfillment; realization. This building marks the *fruition* of all our aspirations and years of hard work.

**frustrate** *V.* /阻碍；挫败/thwart; defeat. We must *frustrate* this dictator's plan to seize control of the government.

**fugitive** *ADJ.* /短暂的，易变的；流动的/fleeting or transitory; roving. The film brought a few *fugitive* images to her mind, but on the whole it made no lasting impression upon her.

**fulcrum** *N.* /（杠杆的）支点/support on which a lever rests. If we use this stone as a *fulcrum* and the crowbar as a lever, we may be able to move this boulder.

**fulsome** *ADJ.* /过分的/disgustingly excessive. His *fulsome* praise of the dictator revolted his listeners. **fundamental** *V.* /基本的，基础的/basic; primary; essential. The committee discussed all sorts of side issues without ever getting down to addressing the *fundamental* problem.

**furlough** *N.* /休假/leave of absence; vacation granted a soldier or civil servant. Dreaming of her loved ones back in the States, the young soldier could hardly wait for her upcoming *furlough*.

- 65 -

**furor** *N.* /非常激动/frenzy; great excitement. The story of her embezzlement of the funds created a *furor* on the Stock Exchange.

**furtive** *ADJ.* /隐秘的；偷偷摸摸，鬼祟/stealthy; sneaky. Noticing the *furtive* glance the customer gave the diamond bracelet on the counter, the jeweler wondered whether he had a potential shoplifter on his hands.

**fusion** *N.* /熔合；熔接/union; coalition. The opponents of the political party in power organized a *fusion* of disgruntled groups and became an important element in the election.

**futile** *ADJ.* /没出息；无望，没效果的/useless; hopeless; ineffectual. It is *futile* for me to try to get any work done around here while the telephone is ringing every thirty seconds. futility, *N.*

**gadfly** *N.* /牛蝇；招人烦的人/animal-biting fly; an irritating person. Like a *gadfly*, he irritated all the guests at the hotel; within forty-eight hours, everyone regarded him as an annoying busybody.

**gaffe** *N.* /失态；出丑/social blunder. According to Miss Manners, to call your husband by your lover's name is worse than a mere *gaffe*; it is a tactical mistake.

## Word List 21 gainsay-gory

**gainsay** *V.* /否认，拒绝/deny. She was too honest to *gainsay* the truth of the report.

**gait** *N.* /步态，步法；速度/manner of walking or running; speed. The lame man walked with an uneven *gait*.

**galaxy** *N.* /星系；一群显赫的人；一系列重要的人或物/large, isolated system of stars, such as the Milky Way; any collection of brilliant personalities. Science fiction stories speculate about the possible existence of life in other galaxies. The deaths of such famous actors as John Candy and George Burns tells us that the *galaxy* of Hollywood superstars is rapidly disappearing.

**gale** *N.* /大风；一阵感情的爆发/windstorm; gust of wind; emotional outburst (laughter, tears). The Weather Channel warned viewers about a rising *gale*, with winds of up to sixty miles per hour.

**gall** *N.* /痛苦；烦恼；恼怒/bitterness; nerve. The knowledge of his failure filled him with *gall*.

**gall** *V.* /惹恼；侮辱/annoy; chafe. Their taunts *galled* him.

**galleon** *N.* /大帆船/large sailing ship. The Spaniards pinned their hopes on the *galleon*, the large warship; the British, on the smaller and faster pinnacle.

**galvanize** *V.* /电镀；刺激，激励/stimulate by shock; stir up; revitalize. News that the prince was almost at their door *galvanized* the ugly stepsisters into a frenzy of combing and primping.

**gambit** *N.* /弃子抢先/opening in chess in which a piece is sacrificed. The player was afraid to accept his opponent's *gambit*

because he feared a trap which as yet he could not see. gambol v. skip; leap playfully. Watching children *gambol-ing* in the park is a pleasant experience. also n.

**gamely** ADV. /勇敢的, 有精神的/bravely; with spirit. Because he had fought *gamely* against a much superior boxer, the crowd gave him a standing ovation when he left the arena.

**gamut** N. /整个领域/entire range. In this performance, the leading lady was able to demonstrate the complete *gamut* of her acting ability.

**gape** V. /张着嘴呆看; 裂缝/open widely; stare open-mouthed. The huge pit gaped before him; if he stumbled, he would fall in. Slackjawed in wonder, Huck *gaped* at the huge stalactites hanging down from the ceiling of the limestone cavern.

**garbled** ADJ. /混淆/mixed up; jumbled; distorted. A favorite party game involves passing a whispered message from one person to another until, by the time it reaches the last player, the message is totally *garbled*.

**gargantuan** ADJ. /巨大的/huge; enormous. The *gargantuan* wrestler was terrified of mice.

**garish** ADJ. /俗气; 颜色太杂/over-bright in color; gaudy. She wore a gaudy rhinestone necklace with an excessively *garish* gold lame dress.

**garner** V. /收集, 储存/gather; store up. She hoped to *garner* the world's literature in one library.

- 66 -

**garnish** V. /装饰/decorate. Parsley was used to *garnish* the boiled potato. also n.

**garrulous** ADJ. /贫嘴/loquacious; wordy; talkative. My Uncle Henry can out-talk any three people I know. He is the most *garrulous* person in Cayuga County. garrulity, n.

**gauche** ADJ. /粗笨的, 粗糙的/clumsy; coarse and uncouth. Compared to the sophisticated young ladies in their elegant gowns, tomboyish Jo felt *gauche* and out of place.

**gaudy** ADJ. /华而不实的/flashy; showy. The newest Trump skyscraper is typically *gaudy*, covered in gilded panels that gleam in the sun.

**gaunt** ADJ. /瘦骨嶙峋, 憔悴; 荒芜/lean and angular; barren. His once round face looked surprisingly *gaunt* after he had lost weight.

**gavel** N. /棒槌/hammerlike tool; mallet. "Sold!" cried the auctioneer, banging her *gavel* on the table to indicate she'd accepted the final bid.

**gawk** V. /张着嘴呆看/stare foolishly; look in open-mouthed awe. The country boy *gawked* at the skyscrapers and neon lights of the big city.

**genealogy** N. /家谱/record of descent; lineage. He was proud of his *genealogy* and constantly referred to the achievements of his ancestors.

**generality** N. /一般性/vague statement. This report is filled with *generalities*; be more specific in your statements.

**generate** V. /产生; 创造/cause; produce; create. In his first days in office, President Clinton managed to *generate* a new mood of optimism; we just hoped he could generate some new jobs.

**generic** ADJ. /普通的/characteristic of an entire class or species. Sue knew so many computer programmers who spent their spare time playing fantasy games that she began to think that playing Dungeons & Dragons was a *generic* trait.

**genesis** N. /发源, 源头/beginning; origin. Tracing the *genesis* of a family is the theme of *Roots*.

**geniality** N. /亲切; 同情/cheerfulness; kindness; sympathy. This restaurant is famous and popular because of the *geniality* of the proprietor who tries to make everyone happy.

**genre** N. /风格 (文学、艺术) /particular variety of art or literature. Both a short story writer and a poet, Langston Hughes proved himself equally skilled in either *genre*.

**genteel** ADJ. /上流的/Well-bred; elegant. We are looking for a man with a *genteel* appearance who can inspire confidence by his cultivated manner.

**gentility** N. /有教养, 文雅/those of gentle birth; refinement. Her family was proud of its *gentility* and elegance. **gentry** N. /贵族/ people of standing; class of people just below nobility. The local *gentry* did not welcome the visits of the summer tourists and tried to ignore their presence in the community.

**germane** ADJ. /密切相关/pertinent; bearing upon the case at hand. The judge refused to allow the testimony to be heard by the jury because it was not *germane* to the case.

**germinal** ADJ. /未成熟的, 幼芽的/pertaining to a germ; creative. Such an idea is *germinal*, I am certain that it will influence thinkers and philosophers for many generations.

**germinate** V. /发芽/cause to sprout; sprout. After the seeds *germinate* and develop their permanent leaves, the plants may be removed from the cold frames and transplanted to the garden.

**gesticulation** N. /动作; 手势/motion; gesture. Operatic performers are trained to make exaggerated *gesticulations* because of the large auditoriums in which they appear.

**ghastly** ADJ. /恐怖的/horrible. The murdered man was a ghastly sight.

**gibberish** N. /胡话; 嘟囔/nonsense; babbling. Did you hear that fool boy spouting *gibberish* about monsters from outer space? gibber, v.

**gibe** V. /嘲笑/mock. As you *gibe* at their superstitious beliefs, do you realize that you, too, are guilty of similarly foolish thoughts?

- 67 -

**giddy** ADJ. /眼花缭乱/light-hearted; dizzy. He felt his *giddy* youth was past.

**gingerly** ADV. /小心翼翼地/very carefully. To separate egg whites, first crack the egg *gingerly*.

**girth** N. /方圆; 周围环境/distance around something; circumference. It took an extra-large cummerbund to fit around Andrew Carnegie's considerable *girth*.

**gist** N. /精华/essence. She was asked to give the *gist* of the essay in two sentences.

**glacial** ADJ. /冰河的, 冰川的/like a glacier; extremely cold. Never a warm person, when offended John could seem positively *glacial*.

**glaring** ADJ. /耀眼的/highly conspicuous; harshly bright. *Glaring* spelling or grammatical errors in your resume will unfavorably impress potential employers.

**glaze** V. /上釉/cover with a thin and shiny surface. The freezing rain *glazed* the streets and made driving hazardous. also n.

**glib** ADJ. /光滑, 柔顺; 口齿伶俐, 圆滑/fluently; facile; slick. Keeping up a steady patter to entertain his customers, the kitchen gadget salesman was a *glib* speaker, never at a loss for a word.

**glimmer** V. /闪烁/shine erratically; twinkle. In the darkness of the cavern, the glowworms hanging from the cavern roof *glimmered* like distant stars,

**gloat** V. /垂涎; 幸灾乐祸, 洋洋得意/express evil satisfaction; view malevolently. As you *gloat* over your ill-gotten wealth, do you think of the many victims you have defrauded?

**glossary** N. /词汇表/brief explanation of words used in the text. I have found the *glossary* in this book very useful; it has eliminated many trips to the dictionary.

**gloss over** V. /掩盖/explain away. No matter how hard he tried to talk around the issue, President Bush could not *gloss over* the fact that he had raised taxes after all.

**glossy** ADJ. /光滑有光泽的/smooth and shining. I want this photograph printed on *glossy* paper, not matte.

**glower** V. /瞪着, 愤怒的看着/scowl. The angry boy *glowered* at his father.

**glut** V. /充斥; 过量/overstock; fill to excess. The many manufacturers *glutted* the market and could not find purchasers for the excess articles they had produced. also n.

**glutton** N. /暴饮暴食者, 饭桶/someone who eats too much. When Mother saw that Bobby had eaten all the cookies, she called him a little *glutton*. gluttonous, ADJ.

**gnarled** ADJ. /扭曲/twisted. The *gnarled* oak tree had been a landmark for years and was mentioned in several deeds.

**gnome** N. /地精; 小矮人; 土地公公/dwarf; underground spirit. In medieval mythology, *gnomes* were the special guardians and inhabitants of subterranean mines.

**goad** V. /刺激; 激励; 驱策/urge on. He was *goaded* by his friends until he yielded to their wishes. also n. **gorge** N. /峡谷/small, steep-walled canyon. The white-water rafting guide warned us about the rapids farther downstream, where the river cut through a narrow *gorge*.

**gorge** V. /狼吞虎咽/stuff oneself. The gluttonous guest *gorged* himself with food as though he had not eaten for days.

**gory** ADJ. /血腥的/bloody. The audience shuddered as they listened to the details of the *gory* massacre.

## Word List 22 gouge - hiatus

**gouge** V. /挖出; 撕下/tear out. In that fight, all the rules were forgotten; the adversaries bit, kicked, and tried to *gouge* each other's eyes out.

**gourmand** N. /老饕/epicure; person who takes excessive pleasure in food and drink. *Gourmands* lack self-restraint; if they enjoy a particular cuisine, they eat far too much of it.

**gourmet** *N.*/品学家；美食比赛的评委/connoisseur of food and drink. The *gourmet* stated that this was the best onion soup she had ever tasted.

- 68 -

**graduated** *ADJ.*/分级；排序/arranged by degrees (of height, difficulty, etc.). Margaret loved her *graduated* set of Russian hollow wooden dolls; she spent hours happily putting the smaller dolls into their larger counterparts.

**graft** *N.*/移植；移植物；嫁接/piece of transplanted tissue; portion of plant inserted in another plant. After the fire, Greg required skin *grafts* to replace the badly damaged areas on his forearms. also *v.*

**grandeur** *N.*/庄严，伟大，威严/impressiveness; stateliness; majesty. No matter how often he hiked through the mountains, David never failed to be struck by the *grandeur* of the Sierra Nevada range.

**grandiloquent** *ADJ.*/语言夸张的；词藻浮华的/pompous; bombastic; using high-sounding language. The politician could never speak simply; she was always *grandiloquent*.

**grandiose** *ADJ.*/自命不凡；堂皇；夸张的/*pretentious*; high-flown; ridiculously exaggerated; impressive. The aged matinee idol still had *grandiose* notions of his supposed importance in the theatrical world.

**granulate** *v.*/粒化/form into grains. Sugar that has been *granulated* dissolves more readily than lump sugar. granule,

**graphic** *ADJ.*/图像的；图画的/pertaining to the art of delineating; vividly described. I was particularly impressed by the *graphic* presentation of the storm.

**grapple** *v.*/格斗，摔跤/wrestle; come to grips with. He *grappled* with the burglar and overpowered him.

**grate** *v.*/磨碎；惹恼；因摩擦发出的刺耳声音/make a harsh noise; have an unpleasant effect; shred. The screams of the quarreling children *grated* on her nerves.

**gratify** *v.*/取悦/please. Lori's parents were *gratified* by her successful performance on the SAT.

**gratis** *ADJ.*/免费的/free. The company offered to give one package *gratis* to every purchaser of one of their products. also *ADJ.*

**gratuitous** *ADJ.*/无条件的；无理由的；免费的/given freely; unwarranted; uncalled for. Quit making *gratuitous* comments about my driving; no one asked you for your opinion.

**gravity** *N.*/重力；严重，庄严，严肃/seriousness. We could tell we were in serious trouble from the *gravity* of the principal's expression. (secondary meaning) grave, *ADJ.*

**gregarious** *ADJ.*/社交的；群居/sociable. Typically, partygoers are *gregarious*; hermits are not.

**grievance** *N.*/委屈；冤情；不平/cause of complaint. When her supervisor ignored her complaint, she took her *grievance* to the union.

**grill** *v.*/盘问/question severely. In violation of the Miranda law, the police *gri* led the suspect for several hours before reading him his rights. (secondary meaning)

**grimace** *N.*/扭曲的脸；做鬼脸/a facial distortion to show feeling such as pain, disgust, etc. Even though he remained silent, his *grimace* indicated his displeasure. also *v.*

**grisly** *ADJ.*/毛骨悚然的；恐怖的，可怕的/ghastly. She shuddered at the *grisly* sight.

**grouse** *v.*/发牢骚/complain; fuss. Students traditionally *grouse* about the abysmal quality of "mystery meat" and similar dormitory food.

**grotesque** *ADJ.*/稀奇古怪的；怪异/fantastic; comically hideous. On Halloween people enjoy wearing *grotesque* costumes.

**grove** *N.*/小树林/group of trees (smaller than a forest); orchard. To the child, the small *grove* of oaks was as vast as Sherwood Forest, in which he played that legendary hero, Robin Hood.

**grovel** *v.*/匍匐/crawl or creep on ground; remain prostrate. Even though we have been defeated, we do not have to *grovel* before our conquerors.

**grudging** *ADJ.*/不情愿；勉强/unwilling; reluctant; stingy. We received only *grudging* support from the mayor despite his earlier promises of aid.

**gruel** *v.*/稀粥；极度紧张/liquid food made by boiling oatmeal, etc., in milk or water. Our daily allotment of *gruel* made the meal not only monotonous but also unpalatable.

- 69 -

**grueling** *ADJ.*/重罚；使其筋疲力尽/exhausting. The marathon is a *grueling* race.

**gruesome** *ADJ.*/可怕的/grisly; horrible. His face was the stuff of nightmares: all the children in the audience screamed when

Freddy Kruger's *gruesome* countenance was flashed on the screen.

**gruff** *ADJ.*/粗糙的；粗暴的/rough-mannered. Although he was blunt and *gruff* with most people, he was always gentle with children.

**guffaw** *N.*/狂笑，哄笑/boisterous laughter. The loud *guffaws* that came from the closed room indicated that the members of the committee had not yet settled down to serious business. also *v.*

**guile** *N.*/奸诈狡猾；诡计/deceit; duplicity; wiliness; cunning. Iago uses considerable *guile* to trick Othello into believing that Desdemona has been unfaithful.

**guileless** *ADJ.*/诚实的/without deceit. He is naive, simple, and *guileless*; he cannot be guilty of fraud.

**guise** *N.*/外观；装束/appearance; costume. In the *guise* of a plumber, the detective investigated the murder case. **gullible** *ADJ.*/易受骗的/easily deceived. Overly *gullible* people have only themselves to blame if they fall for con artists repeatedly. As the saying goes, "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on *me*."

**gustatory** *ADJ.*/味觉的/affecting the sense of taste. The Thai restaurant offered an unusual *gustatory* experience for those used to a bland cuisine.

**gusto** *N.*/爱好，嗜好；喜欢/enjoyment; enthusiasm. He accepted the assignment with such *gusto* that I feel he would have been satisfied with a smaller salary.

**gusty** *ADJ.*/多风的/windy. The *gusty* weather made sailing precarious.

**hackneyed** *ADJ.*/常见的；不希罕，陈腐/commonplace; trite. When the reviewer criticized the movie for its *hackneyed* plot, we agreed; we had seen similar stories hundreds of times before.

**haggard** *ADJ.*/枯槁的；憔悴的/wasted away; gaunt. After his long illness, he was pale and *haggard*.

**haggle** *v.*/讨价还价/argue about prices. I prefer to shop in a store that has a one-price policy because, whenever I *haggle* with a shopkeeper, I am never certain that I paid a fair price for the articles I purchased.

**hallowed** *ADJ.*/神圣化的/blessed; consecrated. Although the dead girl's parents had never been active churchgoers, they insisted that their daughter be buried in *hallowed* ground.

**hallucination** *N.*/幻觉，幻想/delusion. I think you were frightened by a *hallucination* you created in your own mind.

**halting** *ADJ.*/犹豫的/hesitant; faltering. Novice extemporaneous speakers often talk in a *halting* fashion as they grope for the right words.

**hamper** *v.*/阻挡，牵制，妨碍/obstruct. The new mother didn't realize how much the effort of caring for an infant would *hamper* her ability to keep an immaculate house.

**haphazard** *ADJ.*/随机的/random; by chance. His *haphazard* reading left him unacquainted with the authors of the books.

**harangue** *N.*/夸大的讲话/noisy speech. In her lengthy *harangue*, the principal berated the offenders. also *v.*

**harass** *v.*/烦恼/to annoy by repeated attacks. When he could not pay his bills as quickly as he had promised, he was *harassed* by his creditors.

**harbinger** *N.*/先驱/forerunner. The crocus is an early *harbinger* of spring.

**harbor** *v.*/庇护；隐藏/provide a refuge for; hide. The church *harbored* illegal aliens who were political refugees. **hardy** *ADJ.*/艰苦的；勇敢的/sturdy; robust; able to stand inclement weather. We asked the gardening expert to recommend particularly *hardy* plants that could withstand our harsh New England winters.

**harrowing** *ADJ.*/痛苦；悲怆/agonizing; distressing; traumatic. At first the former prisoner did not wish to discuss his *harrowing* months of captivity as a political hostage.

**haughtiness** *N.*/傲慢；不逊/pride; arrogance. When she realized that Darcy believed himself too good to dance with his inferiors, Elizabeth took great offense at his *haughtiness*.

**hazardous** *ADJ.*/危险的/angerous. Your occupation is too *hazardous* for insurance companies to consider your

- 70 -

application.

**hazy** *ADJ.*/朦胧的；模糊的/slightly obscure. In *hazy* weather, you cannot see the top of this mountain.

**headlong** *ADJ.*/轻率的/hasty; rash. The slave seized the unexpected chance to make a *headlong* dash across the border to freedom.

**headstrong** *ADJ.*/硬脖子；任性；不屈/stubborn; willful; unyielding. Because she refused to marry the man her parents

had chosen for her, everyone scolded Minna and called her a foolish *headstrong* girl.

**heckler** *n.*/质问者/person who harasses others. The *heckler* kept interrupting the speaker with rude remarks. heckle, *v.*

**hedonist** *n.*/享乐主义者/one who believes that pleasure is the sole aim in life. A thoroughgoing *hedonist*, he considered only his own pleasure and ignored any claims others had on his money or time.

**heed** *v.*/注意, 关注, 留意/pay attention to; consider. We hope you *heed* our advice and get a good night's sleep before the test. also *n.*

**heedless** *adj.*/轻蔑的; 不理睬的/not noticing; disregarding. He drove on, *heedless* of the danger warnings placed at the side of the road.

**heinous** *adj.*/可恶的, 令人深恶痛绝/atrocious; hatefully bad. Hitler's *heinous* crimes will never be forgotten. **herbivorous** *adj.*/吃粮食的 (动物) /grain-eating. Some *herbivorous* animals have two stomachs for digesting their food.

**heresy** *n.*/少数意见, 异端/opinion contrary to popular belief; opinion contrary to accepted religion. Galileo's assertion that the earth moved around the sun directly contradicted the religious teachings of his day; as a result, he was tried for *heresy*. heretic, *n.*

**hermetic** *adj.*/密封的, 气密的/sealed by fusion so as to be airtight. After you sterilize the bandages, place them in a container and seal it with a *hermetic* seal to protect them from contamination by airborne bacteria.

**hermitage** *n.*/隐居的居所/home of a hermit. Even in his remote *hermitage* he could not escape completely from the world.

**heterodox** *adj.*/非主流; 异端/unorthodox; unconventional. To those who upheld the belief that the earth did not move, Galileo's theory that the earth circled the sun was disturbingly *heterodox*.

**heterogeneous** *adj.*/异类, 异种; 不纯/dissimilar; mixed. This year's entering class is a remarkably *heterogeneous* body: it includes students from forty different states and twenty-six foreign countries, some the children of billionaires, others the offspring of welfare families. heterogeneity, *n.*

**heyday** *n.*/鼎盛时期/time of greatest success; prime. In their *heyday*, the San Francisco Forty-Niners won the Super Bowl two years running.

**hiatus** *n.*/缝隙; 短暂的空白/gap; interruption in duration or continuity; pause. During the summer *hiatus*, many students try to earn enough money to pay their tuition for the next school year.

## Word List 23 hiberna-imbibe

**hibernal** *adj.*/冬天的/wintry. Bears prepare for their long *hibernal* sleep by overeating.

**hibernate** *v.*/冬眠/sleep throughout the winter. Bears are one of the many species of animals that *hibernate*. hibernation, *n.*

**hierarchy** *n.*/分级, 排序了的/arrangement by rank or standing; authoritarian body divided into ranks. To be low man on the totem pole is to have an inferior place in the *hierarchy*.

**hilarity** *n.*/狂欢, 欢闹/boisterous mirth. This *hilarity* is improper on this solemn day of mourning.

**hindrance** *n.*/障碍物/block; obstacle. Stalled cars along the highway are a *hindrance* to traffic that tow trucks should remove without delay. hinder, *v.*

- 71 -

**histrionic** *adj.*/戏剧性的/theatrical. He was proud of his *histrionic* ability and wanted to play the role of Hamlet, histrionics, *n.*

**hoard** *v.*/储藏/stockpile; accumulate for future use. Whenever there are rumors of a food shortage, many people are tempted to *hoard* food. also *n.*

**hoary** *adj.*/灰白的/white with age. The man was *hoary* and wrinkled when he was 70.

**hoax** *n.*/伎俩; 小聪明/trick; practical joke. Embarrassed by the hoax, he reddened and left the room. also *v.* **hodgepodge** *n.*/大杂烩/jumble; mixture of ill-suited elements. The reviewer roundly condemned the play as a *hodgepodge* of random and purposeless encounters carried out by a cast lacking any uniformity of accent or style. **holster** *n.*/手枪套/pistol case. Even when he was not in uniform, he carried a *holster* and pistol under his arm.

**homage** *n.*/敬意/honor; tribute. In her speech she tried to pay *homage* to a great man.

**homogeneous** *adj.*/同类的/of the same kind. Because the student body at Elite Prep was so *homogeneous*, Sara and

James decided to send their daughter to a school that offered greater cultural diversity. homogenize, *v.*

**hone** *v.*/磨尖/sharpen. To make shaving easier, he *honed* his razor with great care.

**hoodwink** *v.*/欺骗, 迷惑, 蛊惑/deceive; delude. Having been *hoodwinked* once by the fast-talking salesman, he was extremely cautious when he went to purchase a used car.

**horde** *n.*/拥挤/crowd. Just before Christmas the stores are filled with *hordes* of shoppers.

**horticultural** *adj.*/园艺的/pertaining to cultivation of gardens. When he bought his house, he began to look for flowers and decorative shrubs, and began to read books dealing with *horticultural* matters.

**host** *n.*/很多; 主人; 宿主/great number; person entertaining guests; animal or plant from which a parasite gets its nourishment. You must attend to a *host* of details if you wish to succeed as *host* of a formal dinner party. Leeches are parasites that cling to their *hosts* and drink their hosts' blood.

**hostility** *n.*/不友好, 敌意/unfriendliness; hatred. A child who has been the sole object of his parents' affection often feels *hostility* toward a new baby in the family, resenting the newcomer who has taken his place.

**hovel** *n.*/小屋/shack; small, wretched house. He wondered how poor people could stand living in such a *hovel*.

**hover** *v.*/逗留; 盘旋; 等待/hang about; wait nearby. The police helicopter *hovered* above the accident.

**hue** *n.*/色调/color; aspect. The aviary contained birds of every possible *hue*.

**hulking** *adj.*/大量的, 巨大的/massive; bulky; great in size. Despite his *hulking* build, the heavyweight boxing champion was surprisingly light on his feet. hulk, *n.*

**humane** *adj.*/仁慈/marked by kindness or consideration. It is ironic that the *Humane* Society sometimes must show its compassion toward mistreated animals by killing them to put them out of their misery.

**humdrum** *adj.*/单调的/dull; monotonous. After his years of adventure, he could not settle down to a *humdrum* existence.

**humid** *adj.*/潮湿的/damp. She could not stand the *humid* climate and moved to a drier area.

**humility** *n.*/谦逊/humbleness of spirit. He spoke with a *humility* and lack of pride that impressed his listeners.

**hurtle** *v.*/冲击; 碰撞; 急冲/crash; rush. The runaway train *hurtled* toward disaster.

**husband** *v.*/节约/use sparingly; conserve; save. Marathon runners must *husband* their energy so that they can keep going for the entire distance.

**hybrid** *n.*/混合的, 混血的/mongrel; mixed breed. Mendel's formula explains the appearance of *hybrids* and pure species in breeding. also *adj.*

**hydrophobia** *n.*/恐水症; 狂犬病/rabies; fear of water. A dog that bites a human being must be observed for symptoms of *hydrophobia*.

**hyperbole** *n.*/夸张/exaggeration; overstatement. As far as I'm concerned, Apple's claims about the new computer are pure *hyperbole*: no machine is that good!

**hypercritical** *adj.*/及其夸张/excessively exacting. You are *hypercritical* in your demands for perfection; we all make

- 72 -

mistakes.

**hypochondriac** *n.*/无病呻吟; 忧郁症/person unduly worried about his health; worrier without cause about illness. The doctor prescribed chocolate pills for his patient who was a *hypochondriac*.

**hypocritical** *adj.*/伪善; 欺骗/pretending to be virtuous; deceiving. Believing Eddie to be interested only in his own advancement, Greg resented his *hypocritical* posing as a friend. hypocrisy, *n.*

**hypothetical** *adj.*/基于假设的, 设想的, 假想的/based on assumptions or hypotheses; supposed. Suppose you are accepted by Harvard, Stanford, and Brown. Which one would you choose to attend? Remember, this is only a *hypothetical* situation. hypothesis, *n.*

**ichthyology** *n.*/鱼类学/study of fish. Jacques Cousteau's programs about sea life have advanced the cause of *ichthyology*.

**icon** *n.*/偶像, 象征; 图标/religious image; idol. The *icons* on the walls of the church were painted in the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

**iconoclastic** *adj.*/打破旧习/attacking cherished traditions. Deeply



**iconoclastic**, Jean Genet deliberately set out to shock conventional theatergoers with his radical plays.

**ideology** *n.*/意识形态/system of ideas of a group. For people who had grown up believing in the communist *ideology*, it was hard to adjust to capitalism.

**idiom** *n.*/习语; 成语/expression whose meaning as a whole differs from the meanings of its individual words; distinctive style. The phrase "to lose one's marbles" is an *idiom*: if I say that Joe's lost his marbles, I'm not as king you to find some for him. I'm telling you idiomatically that he's crazy.

**idiosyncrasy** *n.*/特性, 特质; 古怪的, 离心的/individual trait, usually odd in nature; eccentricity. One of Richard Nixon's little idiosyncrasies was his liking for ketchup on cottage cheese. One of Hannibal Lecter's little *idiosyncrasies* was his liking for human flesh. *idiosyncratic*, *adj.*

**idolatry** *n.*/过度崇拜/worship of idols; excessive admiration. Such *idolatry* of singers of country music is typical of the excessive enthusiasm of youth.

**ignite** *v.*/点燃/kindle; light. When Desi crooned, "Baby, light my fire," literal-minded Lucy looked around for some paper to *ignite*.

**ignoble** *adj.*/不高贵的; 不光彩的/of lowly origin; unworthy. This plan is inspired by *ignoble* motives and I must, therefore, oppose it.

**ignominy** *n.*/丢脸; 抹黑; 耻辱/deep disgrace; shame or dishonor. To lose the Ping-Pong match to a trained chimpanzee! How could Rollo stand the *ignominy* of his defeat? *ignominious*, *adj.*

**illicit** *adj.*/非法的/illegal. The defense attorney maintained that his client had never performed any *illicit* action.

**illimitable** *adj.*/无限/infinite. Man, having explored the far corners of the earth, is now reaching out into *illimitable* space.

**illuminate** *v.*/照亮; 明朗; 澄清/brighten; clear up or make understandable; enlighten *n.* Just as a lamp can *illuminate* a dark room, a perceptive comment can illuminate a knotty problem.

**illusion** *n.*/幻觉/misleading vision. It is easy to create an optical *illusion* in which lines of equal length appear different.

**illusory** *adj.*/虚幻的, 不真实的/deceptive; not real. Unfortunately, the costs of running the lemonade stand were so high that Tom's profits proved *illusory*.

**imbalance** *n.*/不平衡, 不成比例/lack of balance or symmetry; disproportion. To correct racial *imbalance* in the schools, school boards have bussed black children into white neighborhoods and white children into black ones.

**imbibe** *v.*/吸收/drink in. The dry soil *imbibed* the rain quickly.  
- 73 -

## Word List 24 immaculate - incessant

**immaculate** *adj.*/无暇的/spotless; flawless; absolutely clean. Ken and Jessica were wonderful tenants and left the apartment in *immaculate* condition when they moved out.

**imminent** *adj.*/即将到来, 逼近的/near at hand; impending. Rosa was such a last-minute worker that she could never start writing a paper till the deadline was *imminent*.

**immobility** *n.*/无法移动, 不可移动的/state of being immovable. Modern armies cannot afford the luxury of *immobility*, as they are vulnerable to attack while standing still.

**immune** *adj.*/免疫; 抵抗/resistant to; free or exempt from. Fortunately, Florence had contracted chicken pox as a child and was *immune* to it when her baby broke out in spots.

**immutable** *adj.*/不可动摇的, 不能改变的/unchangeable. All things change over time; nothing is *immutable*.

**impair** *v.*/伤害/injure; hurt. Drinking alcohol can *impair* your ability to drive safely; if you're going to drink, don't drive.

**impale** *v.*/刺穿/Pierce. He was *impaled* by the spear hurled by his adversary.

**impalpable** *adj.*/难以明了, 难以觉察的/imperceptible; intangible. The ash is so fine that it is *impalpable* to the touch but it can be seen as a fine layer covering the window ledge.

**impart** *v.*/赋予; 告诉/reveal or tell; grant. Polly begged Grandma to *impart* her recipe for rugelach, but her grandmother wouldn't say a word.

**impartial** *adj.*/公平的/not biased; fair. Knowing she could not be *impartial* about her own child, Jo refused to judge any match in which Billy was competing.

**impassable** *adj.*/无路可通的; 没法通行/not able to be traveled or crossed. A giant redwood had fallen across the highway, blocking all four lanes: the road was *impassable*.

**impasse** *n.*/走投无路; 僵局/predicament from which there is no escape; deadlock. In this *impasse*, all turned to prayer as their last hope.

**impassive** *adj.*/冷漠的/without feeling; imperturbable; stoical. Refusing to let the enemy see how deeply shaken he was by his capture, the prisoner kept his face *impassive*.

**impeach** *v.*/控告, 检举; 弹劾/charge with crime in office; indict. The angry congressman wanted to *impeach* the president for his misdeeds.

**impeccable** *adj.*/没有缺点/faultless. The uncrowned queen of the fashion industry, Diana was acclaimed for her *impeccable* taste.

**impecunious** *adj.*/身无分文的/without money. Though Scrooge claimed he was too *impecunious* to give alms, he easily could have afforded to be charitable.

**impede** *v.*/阻止; 拖延/hinder; block; delay. A series of accidents *impeded* the launching of the space shuttle.

**impediment** *n.*/妨碍; 障碍物/hindrance; stumbling-block. She had a speech *impediment* that prevented her speaking clearly.

**impel** *v.*/驱使/drive or force onward. A strong feeling of urgency *impelled* her; if she failed to finish the project right then, she knew that she would never get it done.

**impenetrable** *adj.*/难以进入的; 难以渗透的; 不可理解的/not able to be pierced or entered; beyond understanding. How could the murderer have gotten into the locked room? To Watson, the mystery, like the room, was *impenetrable*. **impending** *adj.*/接近的; 附近的/nearing; approaching. The entire country was saddened by the news of his *impending* death.

**impenitent** *adj.*/执迷不悟的/not repentant. We could see from his tough guy attitude that he was *impenitent*.

**imperative** *adj.*/及其重要, 及其关键/absolutely necessary; critically important. It is *imperative* that you be extremely agreeable to Great Aunt Maud when she comes to tea: otherwise she might not leave you that million dollars in her will. also *n.*  
- 74 -

**imperceptible** *adj.*/察觉不到的/unnoticeable; undetectable.

Fortunately, the stain on the blouse was *imperceptible* after the blouse had gone through the wash.

**imperial** *adj.*/帝王的; 皇帝的/like an emperor; related to an empire. When hotel owner Leona Helmsley appeared in ads as Queen Leona standing guard over the Palace Hotel, her critics mocked her *imperial* fancies.

**imperious** *adj.*/专横的/domineering; haughty. Jane rather liked a man to be masterful, but Mr. Rochester seemed so bent on getting his own way that he was actually *imperious*!

**impermeable** *adj.*/不能渗透的/impervious; not permitting passage through its substance. This new material is *impermeable* to liquids.

**impertinent** *adj.*/不相干的; 鲁莽的/insolent; rude. His neighbors' *impertinent* curiosity about his lack of dates angered Ted. It was downright rude of them to ask him such personal questions.

**imperturbable** *adj.*/沉着冷静; 平静/calm; placid; composed. In the midst of the battle, the Duke of Wellington remained *imperturbable* and in full command of the situation despite the hysteria and panic all around him. *imperturbability*, *n.*

**Impervious** *adj.*/不会被损的; 不能渗透的/impenetrable; incapable of being damaged or distressed. The carpet salesman told Simone that his most expensive brand of floor covering was warranted to be *impervious* to ordinary wear and tear. Having read so many negative reviews of his acting, the movie star had learned to ignore them, and was now *impervious* to criticism.

**impetuous** *adj.*/冲动的, 鲁莽的/violent; hasty; rash. "Leap before you look" was the motto suggested by one particularly *impetuous* young man.

**impetus** *n.*/动力; 动机/incentive; stimulus; moving force. A new federal highway program would create jobs and give added *impetus* to our economic recovery.

**impiety** *n.*/不敬(对神); 不虔诚/irreverence; lack of respect for God. When members of the youth group draped the church in toilet paper one Halloween, the minister reprimanded them for their *impiety*.

**impinge** *v.*/撞击; 碰撞/infringe; touch; collide with. How could they be married without *impinging* on one another's freedom?

**impious** *adj.*/不敬的; 不礼貌的/irreverent. The congregation was offended by her *impious* remarks.

**implacable** *adj.*/不能平静的/incapable of being pacified. Madame Defarge was the *implacable* enemy of the Evremonde family.

**implausible** ADJ. /难以置信的；不像是真的/unlikely; unbelievable. Though her alibi seemed *implausible*, it in fact turned out to be true.

**implement** V. /贯彻，实现；用工具实现/put into effect; supply with tools. The mayor was unwilling to *implement* the plan until she was sure it had the governor's backing. also N.

**implicate** V. /牵连，牵扯（犯罪）；暗示 /incriminate; show to be involved. Here's the deal: if you agree to take the witness stand and *implicate* your partners in crime, the prosecution will recommend that the judge go easy in sentencing you.

**implication** N. /含义；暗示/something hinted at or suggested. When Miss Watson said she hadn't seen her purse since the last time Jim was in the house, the *implication* was that she suspected Jim had taken it. *imply*, V.

**implicit** ADJ. /会意的，意会而不言传；暗示的/understood but not stated. Jack never told Jill he adored her; he believed his love was *implicit* in his actions.

**implore** V. /恳求/beg. He *implored* her to give him a second chance.

**imply** V. /暗示；表示/suggest a meaning not expressed; signify. When Aunt Millie said, "My! That's a big piece of pie, young man!" was she *implying* that Bobby was being a glutton in helping himself to such a huge piece? **importunate** ADJ. /胡搅蛮缠的；苛刻的/urging; demanding. He tried to hide from his *importunate* creditors until his allowance arrived.

**importune** V. /强求；不停的求/beg persistently. Democratic and Republican phone solicitors *importuned* her for  
- 75 -

contributions so frequently that she decided to give nothing to either party.

**impostor** N. /冒充者；冒名顶替的人/someone who assumes a false identity. Holmes exposed the doctor as an *impostor*. **impotent** ADJ. /无能的；弱的/weak; ineffective. Although he wished to break the nicotine habit, he found himself *impotent* in resisting the craving for a cigarette.

**impoverished** ADJ. /穷/poor. The loss of their farm left the family *impoverished* and without hope.

**impregnable** ADJ. /不 受 影 响 的 ； 无 敌 的/invulnerable. Until the development of the airplane as a military weapon, the fort was considered *impregnable*.

**impromptu** ADJ. /一时冲动的；即兴的/without previous preparation; off the cuff; on the spur of the moment. The judges were amazed that she could make such a thorough, well-supported presentation in an *impromptu* speech. **impropriety**

N. /不合适，不恰当/impropriety; unsuitableness. Because of the *impropriety* of the punk rocker's slashed T-shirt and jeans, the management refused to admit him to the hotel's very formal

dining room. **improvident** ADJ. /浪费的/thriftless. He was constantly being warned to mend his *improvident* ways and begin to "save for a rainy day." *improvidence*, N.

**improvise** V. /临时准备；即席创作，现编/compose on the spur of the moment. She would sit at the piano and *improvise* for hours on themes from Bach and Handel.

**imprudent** ADJ. /轻率的，判断错误的/lacking caution; injudicious. It is *imprudent* to exercise vigorously and become overheated when you are unwell.

**impudence** N. /无礼；厚颜无耻/impertinence; insolence. Kissed on the cheek by a perfect stranger, Lady Catherine exclaimed, "Of all the nerve! Young man, I should have you horse-whipped for your *impudence*."

**impugn** V. /打击；挑战/dispute or contradict (often in an insulting way); challenge; gainsay. Our treasurer was furious when the finance committee's report *impugned* the accuracy of his financial records and recommended that he should take bonehead math.

**impunity** N. /免受惩罚/freedom from punishment or harm. A 98-pound weakling can't attack a beachfront bully with *impunity*. the poor, puny guy is sure to get mashed.

**inadvertently** ADV. / 不 经 意 的/unintentionally; by oversight; carelessly. Judy's great fear was that she might *inadvertently* omit a question on the exam and mismark her whole answer sheet.

**inalienable** ADJ. /无可取代的；不能给与的/not to be taken away; nontransferable. The Declaration of Independence mentions the *inalienable* rights that all of us possess.

**inane** ADJ. /傻；粗心/silly; senseless. There's no point to what you're saying. Why are you bothering to make such *inane* remarks?

**inanimate** ADJ. /了无生气的，死气沉沉的/lifeless. She was asked to identify the still and *inanimate* body.

**inarticulate** ADJ. /不善于表达的；口齿不清的/speechless; producing indistinct speech. He became *inarticulate* with rage and uttered sounds without meaning.

**inaugurate** V. /开始；开幕；开幕式/start; initiate; install in office.

The airline decided to *inaugurate* its new route to the Far East with a special reduced fare offer. *inaugural*, ADJ.

**incandescent** ADJ. /白炽的/strikingly bright; shining with intense heat. If you leave on an *incandescent* light bulb, it quickly grows too hot to touch.

**incantation** N. /咒语/singing or chanting of magic spells; magical formula. Uttering *incantations* to make the brew more potent, the witch doctor stirred the liquid in the caldron.

**incapacitate** V. /使其无能力/disable. During the winter, many people were *incapacitated* by respiratory ailments. **incarcerate** V. /囚禁/imprison. The civil rights workers were willing to be arrested and even *incarcerated* if by their imprisonment they could serve the cause.

**incarnation** N. /化身；具人形/act of assuming a human body and human nature. The *incarnation* of Jesus Christ is a basic tenet of Christian theology.

- 76 -

**incendiary** N. /纵火者/arsonist. The fire spread in such an unusual manner that the fire department chiefs were certain that it had been set by an *incendiary*. also ADJ.

**incense** V. /激怒/enrage; infuriate. Cruelty to defenseless animals *incensed* Kit: the very idea brought tears of anger to her eyes.

**incentive** N. /刺激，驱动/spur; motive. Mike's strong desire to outshine his big sister was all the *incentive* he needed to do well in school.

**inception** N. /开始，开端/start; beginning. She was involved with the project from its *inception*.

**incessant** ADJ. /不停的/uninterrupted; unceasing. In a famous TV commercial, the frogs' *incessant* croaking goes on and on until eventually it turns into a single word: "Bud-weis -er."

## Word List 25 inchoate - ingenious

**inchoate** ADJ. /未成型的，早期的，刚开始的，发展中的/recently begun; rudimentary; elementary. Before the Creation, the world was an *inchoate* mass.

**incidence** N. /发生；发生率；影响的范围、频度；入射角；关联，相结合，对接/rate of occurrence; particular occurrence. Health professionals expressed great concern over the high *incidence* of infant mortality in major urban areas. **incidental** ADJ. /不重要的；少数的/not essential; minor. The scholarship covered his major expenses at college and some of his *incidental* expenses as well.

**incipient** ADJ. /开始；早期的/beginning; in an early stage. I will go to sleep early for I want to break an *incipient* cold.

**incisive** ADJ. /尖锐；深刻，激烈/cutting; sharp. His *incisive* remarks made us see the fallacy in our plans.

**incite** V. /煽动，刺激，驱使/arouse to action; goad; motivate; induce to exist. In a fiery speech, Mario *incited* his fellow students to go out on strike to protest the university's anti-affirmative action stand.

**inclement** ADJ. /险恶的；严酷的/stormy; unkind. In *inclement* weather, I like to curl up on the sofa with a good book and listen to the storm blowing outside.

**incline** N. /倾斜，斜面/slope; slant. The architect recommended that the nursing home's ramp be rebuilt because its *incline* was too steep for wheelchairs.

**inclined** ADJ. /倾向；倾向于，弯曲/tending or leaning toward; bent. Though I am *inclined* to be skeptical, the witness's manner *inclines* me to believe his story. also V.

**inclusive** ADJ. /包揽一切的/tending to include all. The comedian turned down the invitation to join the Players' Club, saying any club that would let him in was too *inclusive* for him.

**incoherent** ADJ. /缺乏逻辑的，不聪明的；陈腐的/unintelligible; muddled; illogical. The excited fan blushed and stammered, her words becoming almost *incoherent* in the thrill of meeting her favorite rock star face to face. incoherence, N. **incompatible** ADJ. /不和谐；不兼容/inharmonious. The married couple argued incessantly and finally decided to separate because they were *incompatible*. incompatibility, N.

**incongruous** ADJ. /不调和的；荒谬的/not fitting; absurd. Dave saw nothing *incongruous* about wearing sneakers with his tuxedo; he couldn't understand why his date took one look at him and started to laugh. incongruity, N. **inconsequential** ADJ. /不合理的，不重要的/insignificant; unimportant. Brushing off Ali's apologies for having broken the wineglass, Tamara said, "Don't worry about it; it's *inconsequential*."

**inconsistency** *n.* /不一致的, 自相矛盾的/state of being self-contradictory; lack of uniformity or steadiness. How are lawyers different from agricultural inspectors? While lawyers check *inconsistencies* in witnesses' statements, agricultural inspectors check *inconsistencies* in Grade A eggs. inconsistent, *adj.*

**incontinent** *adj.* /缺乏自制力, 放肆/lacking self-restraint; licentious. His *incontinent* behavior off stage so shocked many people that they refused to attend the plays and movies in which he appeared.

**incontrovertible** *adj.* /无疑的, 无可争议的/indisputable; not open to question. Unless you find the evidence against my

- 77 -

client absolutely *incontrovertible*, you must declare her not guilty of this charge.

**incorporate** *v.* /合并, 联合/introduce something into a larger whole; combine; unite. Breaking with precedent, President Truman ordered the military to *incorporate* blacks into every branch of the armed services. also *adj.* **incorporeal** *adj.* /非物质的, 无形的: 无实体的/lacking a material body; insubstantial. While Casper the friendly ghost is an *incorporeal* being, nevertheless he and his fellow ghosts make quite an impact on the physical world. **incorrigible** *adj.* /不可救药/not correctable. Though Widow Douglass hoped to reform Huck, Miss Watson called him *incorrigible* and said he would come to no good end.

**incredulous** *adj.* /怀疑的/withholding belief; skeptical. When Jack claimed he hadn't eaten the jelly doughnut, Jill took an *incredulous* look at his smeared face and laughed. incredulity, *n.*

**increment** *n.* /增加/increase. The new contract calls for a 10 percent *increment* in salary for each employee for the next two years.

**incriminate** *v.* /控告/accuse. The evidence gathered against the racketeers *incriminates* some high public officials as well.

**incrustation** *n.* /驻扎/hard coating or crust. In dry dock, we scraped off the *incrustation* of dirt and barnacles that covered the hull of the ship.

**incubate** *v.* /孵卵/hatch; scheme. Inasmuch as our supply of electricity is cut off, we shall have to rely on the hens to *incubate* these eggs.

**inculcate** *v.* /谆谆教导/teach; instill. In an effort to *inculcate* religious devotion, the officials ordered that the school day begin with the singing of a hymn *n.*

**incumbent** *adj.* /义不容辞的, 职责在身的/obligatory; currently holding an office. It is *incumbent* upon all *incumbent* elected officials to keep accurate records of expenses incurred in office. also *n.*

**incur** *v.* /招致/bring upon oneself. His parents refused to pay any future debts he might *incur*.

**incursion** *n.* /袭击/temporary invasion. The nightly *incursions* and hit-and-run raids of our neighbors across the border tried the patience of the country to the point where we decided to retaliate in force.

**indefatigable** *adj.* /疲倦/tireless. Although the effort of taking out the garbage tired Wayne out for the entire morning, when it came to partying, he was *indefatigable*.

**indelible** *adj.* /去不掉的; 不可磨灭的/not able to be erased. The *indelible* ink left a permanent mark on my shirt. Young Bill Clinton's meeting with President Kennedy made an *indelible* impression on the youth.

**indentation** *n.* /槽; 小开口/notch; deep recess. You can tell one tree from another by examining their leaves and noting the differences in the *indentations* along the edges of the leaves. indent, *v.*

**indenture** *v.* /契约/bind as servant or apprentice to master. Many immigrants could come to America only after they had *indentured* themselves for several years. also *n.*

**indeterminate** *adj.* /不确定/uncertain; not clearly fixed; indefinite. That interest rates shall rise appears certain; when they will do so, however, remains *indeterminate*.

**indicative** *adj.* /预示的/suggestive; implying. A lack of appetite may be *indicative* of a major mental or physical disorder.

**indices** *n. PL.* /符号; 暗示/signs; indications. Many college admissions officers believe that SAT scores and high school grades are the best *indices* of a student's potential to succeed in college. *N. SG. index.*

**indict** *v.* /控告; 起诉/charge. The district attorney didn't want to *indict* the suspect until she was sure she had a strong enough case to convince a jury. indictment, *n.*

**indifferent** *adj.* /普通的, 无关紧要的/unmoved or unconcerned by; mediocre. Because Ann felt no desire to marry, she was *indifferent* to Carl's constant proposals. Not only was she *indifferent* to him personally, but she felt that, given his general silliness, he would make an *indifferent* husband.

**indigenous** *adj.* /native. Cigarettes are made of tobacco, a plant *indigenous* to the New World.

- 78 -

**indigent** *adj.* /穷困的/poor; destitute. Someone who is truly *indigent* can't even afford to buy a pack of cigarettes. [Don't mix up *indigent* and *indigenous*. See previous sentence.]

**indignation** *n.* /义愤; 愤慨/anger at an injustice. He felt *indignation* at the ill-treatment of helpless animals.

**indignity** *n.* /侮辱/offensive or insulting treatment. Although he seemed to accept cheerfully the *indignities* heaped upon him, he was inwardly very angry.

**indiscretion** *n.* /轻率; 莽撞/lack of tactfulness or sound judgment. Terrified that the least *indiscretion* could jeopardize his political career, the novice politician never uttered an unguarded word. indiscreet, *adj.* **indiscriminate** *adj.* /随意的; 不分青红皂白的/choosing at random; confused. She disapproved of her son's *indiscriminate* television viewing and decided to restrict him to educational programs.

**indisputable** *adj.* /没有争论余地; 非常清楚的/too certain to be disputed. In the face of these *indisputable* statements, I withdraw my complaint.

**indissoluble** *adj.* /不能分解的; 永久的/permanent. The *indissoluble* bonds of marriage are all too often being dissolved.

**indoctrinate** *v.* /教导; 灌输/instruct in a doctrine or ideology. Cuban Americans resisted sending Elian Gonzalez back to Cuba because he would be *indoctrinated* there with Communist principles.

**indolent** *adj.* /懒惰/lazy. Couch potatoes lead an *indolent* life lying back on their Lazyboy recliners watching Tv. indolence, *n.*

**indomitable** *adj.* /不屈服的; 不可被征服的/unconquerable; unyielding. Focusing on her game despite all her personal problems, tennis champion Steffi Graf proved she had an *indomitable* will to win.

**indubitable** *adj.* /不容置疑的; 无疑的/unable to be doubted; unquestionable. Auditioning for the chorus line, Molly was an *indubitable* hit: the director fired the leading lady and hired Molly in her place!

**induce** *v.* /劝诱; 导致, 引起/persuade; bring about. After the quarrel, Tina said nothing could *induce* her to talk to Tony again. inducement, *n.*

**indulgent** *adj.* /宽容, 纵容, 溺爱/humoring; yielding; lenient. Jay's mom was *excessively indulgent* she bought him every Nintendo cartridge and video game on the market. She *indulged* Jay so much, she spoiled him rotten. **industrious** *adj.* /勤奋的, 努力的 / diligent; hard-working. Look busy when the boss walks by your desk; it never hurts to appear *industrious*. industry, *n.*

**inebriated** *adj.* /醉的/habitually intoxicated; drunk. Abe was *inebriated* more often than he was sober. Because of his *inebriety*, he was discharged from his job as a bus driver.

**ineffable** *adj.* /不可言喻的, 无法用语言表达的; 不能说的, 避讳的 / unutterable; cannot be expressed in speech. Such *ineffable* joy must be experienced; it cannot be described.

**ineffectual** *adj.* /无效的, 弱的/not effective; weak. Because the candidate failed to get across his message to the public, his campaign was *ineffectual*.

**inefficacious** *adj.* /无能的, 无效的/not effective; unable to produce a desired result. All Lois's coaxing and urging was *inefficacious*: Clark still refused to join her and Superman for dinner. inefficacy, *n.*

**inept** *adj.* /不相称的, 不合适的, 不称职的/lacking skill; unsuited; incompetent. The *inept* glovemaker was all thumbs. **inequity** *n.* /不公平/unfairness. In demanding equal pay for equal work, women protest the basic *inequity* of a system that gives greater financial rewards to men.

**inert** *adj.* /惰性的, 不活跃的/inactive; lacking power to move. "Get up, you lazybones," she cried to her husband, who lay in bed *inert*. inertia, *n.*

**inevitable** *adj.* /不可避免地/unavoidable. Though death and taxes are both supposedly *inevitable*, some people avoid paying taxes for years.

**inexorable** *adj.* /无情的; 残酷的/relentless; unyielding; implacable. After listening to the pleas for clemency, the judge was *inexorable* and gave the convicted man the maximum punishment allowed by law.

- 79 -

**infallible** ADJ./一贯正确的/unerring. We must remember that none of us *is infallible*; we all make mistakes.

**infamous** ADJ./臭名昭著的, 恶名远扬的/notoriously bad. Charles Manson and Jeffrey Dahmer are both *infamous* killers.

**infantile** ADJ./婴儿的, 幼稚的/childish. When will he outgrow such *infantile* behavior?

**infer** v./推导, 总结/deduce; conclude. From the students' glazed looks, it was easy for me to *infer* that they were bored out of their minds. *inference*, N.

**infernal** ADJ./魔鬼的, 地狱的/pertaining to hell; devilish. Batman was baffled: he could think of no way to hinder the Joker's *infernal* scheme to destroy the city.

**infidel** N./异教徒, 异端; 不信宗教的/unbeliever. The Saracens made war against the *infidels*.

**infiltrate** v./渗透/pass into or through; penetrate (an organization) sneakily. In order to be able to *infiltrate* enemy lines at night without being seen, the scouts darkened their faces and wore black coveralls. infiltrator, N. **infinitesimal** ADJ./微小的/very small. In the twentieth century, physicists have made their greatest discoveries about the characteristics of *infinitesimal* objects like the atom and its parts.

**infirmity** N./弱点/weakness. Her greatest *infirmity* was lack of willpower.

**inflated** ADJ./夸张的, 虚华的, 被放大的/exaggerated; pompous; enlarged (with air or gas). His claims about the new product were *inflated*, it did not work as well as he had promised.

**influx** N./注入, 流入/flowing into. The *influx* of refugees into the country has taxed the relief agencies severely.

**informal** ADJ./非正式的; 不拘礼节的/absence of ceremony; casual. The English teacher preferred *informal* discussions to prepared lectures.

**infraction** N./打破 (常规) /violation (of a rule or regulation); breach. When Dennis Rodman butted heads with that referee, he committed a clear *infraction* of NBA rules.

**infuriate** v./激怒, 热火/enrage; anger. Her big brother's teasing always *infuriated* Margaret; no matter how hard she tried to keep her temper, he always got her goat.

**infusion** N./灌输; 浸泡; 注入/act of introducing or instilling a quality; liquid solution. The rookie quarterback brought an *infusion* of new life and vigor to the tired team. *infuse*, v.

**ingenious** ADJ./聪明的/clever; resourceful. Kit admired the *ingenious* way that her computer keyboard opened up to reveal the built-in CD-ROM below. *ingenuity*, N.

## Word List 26 ingenue - invigorate

**ingenue** N./天真无邪的少女; 扮演天真无邪的少女的女演员/an artless girl; an actress who plays such parts. Although she was forty, she still insisted that she be cast as an *ingenue* and refused to play more mature roles.

**ingenuous** ADJ./心无城府的; 天真的; 幼稚的; 可信的/naive and trusting; young; unsophisticated. The woodsman had not realized how *ingenuous* Little Red Riding Hood was until he heard that she had gone off for a walk in the woods with the Big Bad Wolf.

**ingrained** ADJ./牢固的; 深深扎根的; 深入人心的/deeply established; firmly rooted. Try as they would, the missionaries were unable to uproot the *ingrained* superstitions of the natives.

**ingrate** N./忘恩负义者; 不领情的人/ungrateful person. That *ingrate* Bob sneered at the tie I gave him.

**ingratiate** v./迎合, 讨好; 流行开来/become popular with. He tried to *ingratiate* himself into her parents' good graces. **inherent** ADJ./固有的, 内在的; 与生俱来的/firmly established by nature or habit. Katya's *inherent* love of justice caused her to champion anyone she considered treated unfairly by society.

**inhibit** v./限制, 防止; 阻碍 /restrain; retard or prevent. Only two things *inhibited* him from taking a punch at Mike Tyson: Tyson's left hook, and Tyson's right jab. The protective undercoating on my car *inhibits* the formation of rust. **inimical** ADJ./不友好的; 敌意的; 有害的 /unfriendly; hostile; harmful; detrimental. I've always been friendly to Martha. Why is she so *inimical* to me?

- 80 -

**inimitable** ADJ./独一无二的, 独特的; 防伪的, 难以模仿的/matchless; not able to be imitated. We admire Auden for his *inimitable* use of language; he is one of a kind.

**iniquitous** ADJ./邪恶的/wicked; immoral; unrighteous. Whether or not King Richard III was responsible for the murder of the two young princes in the Tower, it was an *iniquitous* deed. *iniquity*, N.

**initiate** v./开始, 发源 /begin; originate; receive into a group. The college is about to *initiate* a program in reducing math anxiety among students.

**injurious** ADJ./有害的 /harmful. Smoking cigarettes can be *injurious* to your health.

**inkling** N./暗示, 提示/hint. This came as a complete surprise to me as I did not have the slightest *inkling* of your plans.

**innate** ADJ./先天的, 天生的/inborn. Mozart's parents soon recognized young Wolfgang's *innate* talent for music.

**innocuous** ADJ./无害的, 无辜的/harmless. An occasional glass of wine with dinner is relatively *innocuous* and should have no ill effect on you.

**innovation** N./发明; 变革 /change; introduction of something new. Although Richard liked to keep up with all the latest technological *innovations*, he didn't always abandon tried and true techniques in favor of something new. *innovate*, v.

**innovative** ADJ./新奇的; 创新的/novel; introducing a change. The establishment of our SAT I computer data base has enabled us to come up with some *innovative* tactics for doing well on the SAT.

**innuendo** N./暗示, 旁侧敲击; 暗讽; 讽刺, 冷嘲热讽/hint; insinuation. I can defend myself against direct accusations; *innuendos* and oblique attacks on my character are what trouble me.

**inopportune** ADJ./不合时宜的/untimely; poorly chosen. A rock concert is an *inopportune* setting for a quiet conversation.

**inordinate** ADJ./紊乱的; 不受限制的/unrestrained; excessive. She had an *inordinate* fondness for candy, eating two or three boxes in a single day.

**inquisitor** N./调查者; 盘问者/questioner (especially harsh); investigator. Fearing being grilled ruthlessly by the secret police, Masha faced her *inquisitors* with trepidation.

**insalubrious** ADJ./有害的/unwholesome; not healthful. The mosquito-ridden swamp was an *insalubrious* place, a breeding ground for malarial contagion.

**insatiable** ADJ./不容易伺候的; 贪食的/not easily satisfied; unquenchable; greedy. David's appetite for oysters was *insatiable*: he could easily eat four dozen at a single sitting.

**inscrutable** ADJ./不可渗透的; 不可理解的, 谜/impenetrable; not readily understood; mysterious. Experienced poker players try to keep their expressions *inscrutable*, hiding their reactions to the cards behind a so-called "poker face." **insensible** ADJ./迟钝的; 硬心肠的/unconscious; unresponsive. Sherry and I are very different; at times when I would be covered with embarrassment, she seems *insensible* to shame.

**insidious** ADJ./阴险的, 奸诈的, 狡猾的; 鬼鬼祟祟的/treacherous; stealthy; sly. The fifth column is *insidious* because it works secretly within our territory for our defeat.

**insightful** ADJ./有洞察力的/discerning; perceptive. Sol thought he was very *insightful* about human behavior, but he was actually clueless as to why people acted the way they did.

**insinuate** v./暗示, 含沙射影; 慢慢的夺取, 巧妙的迂回 (进入) /hint; imply; creep in. When you said I looked robust, did you mean to *insinuate* that I'm getting fat?

**insipid** ADJ./索然无味的; 单调的/lacking in flavor; dull. Flat prose and flat ginger ale are equally *insipid*: both lack sparkle.

**insolence** N./傲慢/impudent disrespect; haughtiness. How dare you treat me so rudely! The manager will hear of your *insolence*. *insolent*, ADJ.

**insolvent** ADJ./破产/bankrupt; unable to repay one's debts. Although young Lord Widgeon was *insolvent*, he had no fear of being thrown into debtors' prison, for he was sure that if his creditors pressed him for payment his wealth

- 81 -

parents would repay what he owed. *insolvency*, N.

**insomnia** N./失眠/wakefulness; inability to sleep. He refused to join us in a midnight cup of coffee because he claimed it gave him *insomnia*.

**instigate** v./驱使; 激励, 鼓动/urge; start; provoke. Rumors of police corruption led the mayor to *instigate* an investigation into the department's activities.

**insubordination** N./反抗, 不屈/disobedience; rebelliousness. At the slightest hint of *insubordination* from the sailors of the Bounty, Captain Bligh had them flogged; finally, they mutinied.

**insubstantial** ADJ./无实体的, 虚无的; 脆弱的, 不坚固的/lacking substance; insignificant; frail. His hopes for a career in acting proved *insubstantial*; no one would cast him, even in an *insubstantial* role.

**insularity** N./与外界隔绝; 僵化; 思想狭窄/narrow-mindedness; isolation. The *insularity* of the islanders manifested itself in their suspicion of anything foreign. *insular*, ADJ.

**insulated** ADJ./分离；隔离/set apart; isolated. A well-to-do bachelor, James spent his money freely, *insulated* from the cares of his friends, who had families to support.

**insuperable** ADJ./不可战胜的，不能克服的/insurmountable; unbeatable. Though the odds against their survival seemed *insuperable*, the Apollo 13 astronauts reached earth safely.

**insurgent** ADJ./造反的，起义的/rebellious. Because the *insurgent* forces had occupied the capital and had gained control of the railway lines, several of the war correspondents covering the uprising predicted a rebel victory.

**insurmountable** ADJ./不能克服的，不能超越的/overwhelming; unbeatable; insuperable. Faced by almost *insurmountable* obstacles, the members of the underground maintained their courage and will to resist.

**insurrection** N./谋反的，造反的/rebellion; uprising. In retrospect, given how badly the British treated the American colonists, the eventual *insurrection* seems inevitable.

**intangible** ADJ./难以明了的，无形的；暧昧的，模糊的/not able to be perceived by touch; vague. Though the financial benefits of his Oxford post were meager, Lewis was drawn to it by its *intangible* rewards: prestige, intellectual freedom, the fellowship of his peers.

**integral** ADJ./一体的，完整的/complete; necessary for completeness. Physical education is an *integral* part of our curriculum; a sound mind and a sound body are complementary.

**integrate** V./整合，合并/make whole; combine; make into one unit. She tried to *integrate* all their activities into one program.

**integrity** N./完整性/uprightness; wholeness. Lincoln, whose personal integrity has inspired millions, fought a civil war to maintain the *integrity* of the Republic, that these United States might remain undivided for all time.

**intellect** N./智力/higher mental powers. He thought college would develop his *intellect*.

**intelligentsia** N./知识分子；知识界/the intelligent and educated classes [often used derogatorily]. She preferred discussions about sports and politics to the literary conversations of the *intelligentsia*.

**intemperate** ADJ./过度的；极端的；放纵的/immoderate; excessive; extreme. In a temper, Tony refused to tone down his *intemperate* remarks.

**inter** V./埋葬/bury. They are going to *inter* the body tomorrow at Broadlawn Cemetery.

**interim** N./临时的；间歇的/meantime. The company will not consider our proposal until next week; in the *interim*, let us proceed as we have in the past.

**interloper** N./闯入者；干涉者/intruder; unwanted meddler. The merchant thought of his competitors as *interlopers* who were stealing away his trade.

**interment** N./埋葬/burial. *Interment* will take place in the church cemetery at 2 P.M. Wednesday.

**interminable** ADJ./无尽的/endless. Although his speech lasted for only twenty minutes, it seemed *interminable* to his bored audience.

**intermittent** ADJ./间歇的；断断续续的/periodic; on and off. The outdoor wedding reception had to be moved indoors to

avoid the *intermittent* showers that fell on and off all afternoon.

**interrogate** V./审问；讯问/question closely; cross-examine. Knowing that the Nazis would *interrogate* him about his background, the secret agent invented a cover story that would help him meet their questions.

**intervene** V./干预；干涉/come between. When two close friends get into a fight, be careful if you try to *intervene*; they may join forces to gang up on you.

**intimacy** N./亲密；隐私/closeness, often affectionate; privacy; familiarity. In a moment of rare *intimacy*, the mayor allowed the reporters a glimpse of his personal feelings about his family.

**intimate** V./私下的，秘密的，亲密的；宣告/hint; suggest. Was Dick *intimating* that Jane had bad breath when he asked if she'd like a breath mint?

**intimidate** V./使害怕/frighten. I'll learn karate and then those big bullies won't be able to *intimidate* me any more.

**intractable** ADJ./难以处理的/unruly; stubborn; unyielding. Charlie Brown's friend Pigpen was *intractable*: he absolutely refused to take a bath.

**intransigence** N./不妥协；不让步/refusal of any compromise; stubbornness. The negotiati ng team had not expected such *intransigence* from the striking workers, who rejected any hint of a compromise.

**intrepid** ADJ./无畏的/fearless. For her *intrepid* conduct nursing the wounded during the war, Florence

Nightingale was honored by Queen Victoria.

**intricate** ADJ./复杂的；错综的/complex; knotty; tangled. Philip spent many hours designing mazes so *intricate* that none of his classmates could solve them.

**intrinsic** ADJ./内在的；固有的/essential; inherent; built-in. Although my grandmother's china has little *intrinsic* value, I shall always cherish it for the memories it evokes.

**introspective** ADJ./内省的；反省的/looking within oneself. Though young Francis of Assisi led a wild and worldly life, even then he had *introspective* moments during which he examined his soul.

**introvert** N./性格内向的人/one who is introspective; inclined to think more about oneself. In his poetry, he reveals that he is an *introvert* by his intense interest in his own problems.

**intrude** V./强挤入，侵入；强加于人/trespass; enter as an uninvited person. She hesitated to *intrude* on their conversation.

**intuition** N./直觉/immediate insight; power of knowing without reasoning. Even though Tony denied that anything was wrong, Tina trusted her *intuition* that something was bothering him.

**inundate** V./淹没；吞并/overwhelm; flood; submerge. This semester I am *inundated* with work: You should see the piles of paperwork flooding my desk. Until the great dam was built, the waters of the Nile used to *inundate* the river valley like clockwork every year.

**inured** ADJ./习惯了的，适应了的/accustomed; hardened. She became *inured* to the Alaskan cold.

**invalidate** V./摧毁；使无效；弱化/weaken; destroy. The relatives who received little or nothing sought to *invalidate* the will by claiming that the deceased had not been in his right mind when he had signed the document.

**invasive** ADJ./入侵的/tending to spread aggressively; intrusive. Giving up our war with the *invasive* blackberry vines that had taken over the back yard, we covered the lawn with concrete.

**invective** N./谩骂；非难；恶言相加/abuse. He had expected criticism but not the *invective* that greeted his proposal.

**inverse** ADJ./倒转的/opposite. There is an *inverse* ratio between the strength of light and its distance.

**invert** V./倒转，翻转/turn upside down or inside out. When he *inverted* his body in a handstand, he felt the blood rush to his head.

**inveterate** ADJ. deep-rooted; habitual. An inveterate smoker, Bob cannot seem to break the habit, no matter how hard he tries.

**invidious** ADJ./易招嫉妒的；不公平的/designed to create ill will or envy. We disregarded her *invidious* remarks because we realized how jealous she was.

**invigorate** V./激发；鼓舞/energize; stimulate. A quick dip in the pool *invigorated* Meg, and with renewed energy she got back to work.

**Word List 27 invincible-laggard**

**invincible** ADJ./无敌的/unconquerable. Superman is *invincible*.

**inviolable** ADJ./无敌的；神圣不可褻渎的/secure from corruption, attack, or violation; unassailable. Batman considered his oath to keep the people of Gotham City *inviolable*: nothing on earth could make him break this promise.

**invocation** N./祈祷/prayer for help; calling upon as a reference or support. The service of Morning Prayer opens

with an *invocation* during which we ask God to hear our prayers.

**invoke** V./恳请，借助于，找来，调用/call upon; ask for. She *invoked* her advisor's aid in filling out her financial aid forms.

**invulnerable** ADJ./无懈可击的/incapable of injury. Achilles was *invulnerable* except in his heel.

**iota** N./极少量的/very small quantity. She hadn't an *iota* of common sense.

**irascible** ADJ./易怒的；暴躁的/irritable; easily angered. Miss Minchin's *irascible* temper intimidated the younger schoolgirls, who feared she'd burst into a rage at any moment.

**irate** ADJ./愤怒的；生气的/angry. When John's mother found out he had overdrawn his checking account for the third month in a row, she was so *irate* she could scarcely speak to him.

**ire** N./怒气/anger. The waiter tried unsuccessfully to placate the *ire* of the diner who had found a cockroach in her soup.

**iridescent** ADJ./虹彩的/exhibiting rainbowlike colors. She admired the *iridescent* hues of the oil that floated on the surface of the water.

**irksome** ADJ./令人厌恶的；冗长乏味的/annoying; tedious. He found working on the assembly line *irksome* because of the monotony of the operation he had to perform.

**ironic** ADJ./讽刺性的/resulting in an unexpected and contrary outcome. It is *ironic* that his success came when he least wanted it.

**irony** N./反话；讽刺/hidden sarcasm or satire; use of words that seem to mean the opposite of what they actually mean. Gradually his listeners began to realize that the excessive praise he was lavishing on his opponent was actually *irony*, he was in fact ridiculing the poor fool.

**irrational** ADJ./无理的，缺乏逻辑的；不理智的/illogical; lacking reason; insane. Many people have such an *irrational* fear of snakes that they panic at the sight of a harmless garden snake.

**irreconcilable** ADJ./不相容的；矛盾的/incompatible; not able to be resolved. Because the separated couple were *irreconcilable*, the marriage counselor recommended a divorce.

**irrefutable** ADJ./不可否认的；不能驳倒的/indisputable; incontrovertible; undeniable. No matter how hard I tried to find a good comeback for her argument, I couldn't think of one: her logic was *irrefutable*.

**irrelevant** ADJ./不相关的，不照号的/not applicable; unrelated. No matter how *irrelevant* the patient's mumbblings may seem, they give us some indications of what he has on his mind.

**irremediable** ADJ./不能挽回的；不能治愈的/incurable; uncorrectable. The error she made was *irremediable*; she could see no way to repair it.

**irreparable** ADJ./不能弥补的，不能修复的；无可挽救的/not able to be corrected or repaired. Your apology cannot atone for the *irreparable* damage you have done to her reputation.

**irrepressible** ADJ./压不住的，抑制不住的/unable to be restrained or held back. My friend Kitty's curiosity was *irrepressible*: she poked her nose into everybody's business and just laughed when I warned her that curiosity killed the cat.

**irreproachable** ADJ./无可指责的；没有缺点的/blameless; impeccable. Homer's conduct at the office party was - 84 -

*irreproachable*; even Marge didn't have anything bad to say about how he behaved.

**irresolute** ADJ./犹豫不决的/uncertain how to act; weak. Once you have made your decision, don't waver; a leader should never appear *irresolute*.

**irretrievable** ADJ./不能复原的；不能挽回的/impossible to recover or regain; irreparable. The left fielder tried to retrieve the ball, but it flew over the fence, bounced off a wall, and fell into the sewer: it was *irretrievable*.

**irreverence** N./不尊敬的/lack of proper respect. Some audience members were amused by the *irreverence* of the comedian's jokes about the Pope; others felt offended by his lack of respect for their faith. irreverent, ADJ. **irrevocable** ADJ./不能取消的；不能变更的/unalterable; irreversible. As Sue dropped the "Dear John" letter into the mailbox, she suddenly had second thoughts and wanted to take it back, but she could not: her action was *irrevocable*.

**itinerant** ADJ./巡回的/wandering; traveling. He was an *itinerant* peddler and traveled through Pennsylvania and Virginia selling his wares. also N.

**itinerary** N./旅行计划；路线/plan of a trip. Disliking sudden changes in plans when she traveled abroad, Ethel refused to make any alterations in her *itinerary*.

**jabber** V./快速的说，含混不清的说/chat rapidly or unintelligibly. Why does the fellow insist on *jabbering* away in French when I can't understand a word he says?

**jaded** ADJ./疲倦的/fatigued; surfeited. He looked for exotic foods to stimulate his *jaded* appetite.

**jargon** N./黑话，行话，胡话/language used by a special group; technical terminology; gibberish. The computer salesman at the store used a *jargon* of their own that we simply couldn't follow; we had no idea what they were jabbering about.

**jaundiced** ADJ./患黄疸病的；有偏见的/prejudiced (envious, hostile or resentful); yellowed. Because Sue disliked Carolyn, she looked at Carolyn's paintings with a *jaundiced* eye, calling them formless smears. Newborn infants afflicted with *jaundice* look slightly yellow: they have *jaundiced* skin.

**jaunt** N./短途旅行/trip; short journey. He took a quick *jaunt* to Atlantic City.

**jaunty** ADJ./无忧无虑的，快乐的，轻松的/lighthearted; animated; easy and carefree. In *An American in Paris*, Gene Kelly sang and danced his way through "Singing in the Rain" in a properly *jaunty* style.

**jeopardize** V./置于危险之中/endanger; imperil; put at risk. You can't give me a D in chemistry: you'll *jeopardize* my chances of getting into M.I.T. jeopardy, N.

**jettison** V./投弃货物/throw overboard. In order to enable the ship to ride safely through the storm, the captain had to *jettison* much of his cargo.

**jingoi** N./狂热好战分子；侵略主义者/extremely aggressive and militant patriot; warlike chauvinist. Always bellowing "America first!", the congressman was such a *jingoi* you could almost hear the sabers rattling as he marched down the halls. jingoism, N.

**jocose** ADJ./诙谐的/given to joking. The salesman was so *jocose* that many of his customers suggested that he become a "stand-up" comic.

**jocular** ADJ./诙谐的/said or done in jest. Although Bill knew the boss hated jokes, he couldn't resist making one *jocular* remark.

**jollity** N./高兴的；欢乐的/gaiety; cheerfulness. The festive Christmas dinner was a merry one, and old and young alike joined in the general *jollity*.

**jostle** V./推，挤；撞/shove; bump. In the subway he was *jostled* by the crowds.

**jovial** ADJ./天性善良的；好的；高兴的，愉快的/good-natured; merry. A frown seemed out of place on his invariably *jovial* face.

**jubilant** N./庆祝/rejoicing. There was great *jubilant* when the armistice was announced. jubilant, ADJ.

**judicious** ADJ./公平的/sound in judgment; wise. At a key moment in his life, he made a *judicious* investment that was - 85 -

the foundation of his later wealth.

**juncture** N./危机，转折点；关键点/crisis; joining point. At this critical *juncture*, let us think carefully before determining the course we shall follow.

**junta** N./小集团；政治团伙/group of men joined in political intrigue; cabal. As soon as he learned of its existence, the dictator ordered the execution of all of the members of the *junta*.

**jurisprudence** N./法学/science of law. He was more a student of *jurisprudence* than a practitioner of the law. **justification** N./有理，正当；辩护；释罪/good or just reason; defense; excuse. The jury found him guilty of the more serious charge because they could see no possible *justification* for his actions,

**kaleidoscope** N./万花筒/tube in which patterns made by the reflection in mirrors of colored pieces of glass, etc., produce interesting symmetrical effects. People found a new source of entertainment while peering through the *kaleidoscope*; they found the ever-changing patterns fascinating.

**kernel** N./核心的/central or vital part; whole seed (as of corn).

"Watson, buried within this tissue of lies there is a *kernel* of truth; when I find it, the mystery will be solved."

**killjoy** N./扫兴的人；煞风景/grouch; spoilsport. At breakfast we had all been enjoying our bacon and eggs until that *killjoy* John started talking about how bad animal fats were for our health.

**kindle** V./点燃，照亮，激起/start a fire; inspire. One of the first things Ben learned in the Boy Scouts was how to *kindle* a fire by rubbing two dry sticks together. Her teacher's praise for her

poetry *kindled* a spark of hope inside Maya. **kindred** ADJ./同族的，同类的；血缘的/related; belonging to the same family. Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn were two *kindred* spirits. also N.

**kinetic** ADJ./运动的；运动学的/producing motion. Designers of the electric automobile find that their greatest obstacle lies in the development of light and efficient storage batteries, the source of the *kinetic* energy needed to propel the vehicle.

**kleptomaniac** N./偷窃狂；盗窃癖/person who has a compulsive desire to steal. They discovered that the wealthy customer was a *kleptomaniac* when they caught her stealing some cheap trinkets.

**knave** N./流氓；无赖；恶棍/untrustworthy person; rogue; scoundrel. Any politician nicknamed Tricky Dick clearly has the reputation of a *knave*. knavery, N.

**knit** V./编织；结合/contract into wrinkles; grow together. Whenever David worries, his brow *knits* in a frown. When he broke his leg, he sat around the house all day waiting for the bones to *knit*.

**knoll** N./小山包/little round hill. Robert Louis Stevenson's grave is on a *knoll* in Samoa; to reach the grave site, you must climb uphill and walk a short distance along a marked path.

**knotty** ADJ./复杂的，错综的；精细的/intricate; difficult; tangled. What to Watson had been a *knotty* problem, to Sherlock Holmes was simplicity itself.

**kudos** N./名望，声誉/honor; glory; praise. The singer complacently received *kudos* from his entourage on his performance.



**laborious** ADJ./艰苦的, 勤劳的/demanding much work or care; tedious. In putting together his dictionary of the English language, Doctor Johnson undertook a *laborious* task.

**labyrinth** N./迷宫/maze. Hiding from Indian Joe, Tom and Becky soon lost themselves in the *labyrinth* of secret underground caves. *labyrinthine*, ADJ.

**laceration** N./破口/torn, ragged wound. The stock car driver needed stitches to close up the *lacerations* he received in the car crash.

**lachrymose** ADJ./爱哭的/producing tears. His voice has a *lachrymose* quality more appropriate to a funeral than a class reunion.

**lackadaisical** ADJ./懒洋洋的, 没上进心的/lacking purpose or zest; halfhearted; languid. Because Gatsby had his mind more on his love life than on his finances, he did a very *lackadaisical* job of managing his money.

- 86 -

**lackluster** ADJ./暗淡的, 无光的; 单调的/dull. We were disappointed by the *lackluster* performance.

**laconic** ADJ./简洁的/brief and to the point. Many of the characters portrayed by Clint Eastwood are *laconic* types: strong men of few words.

**laggard** ADJ./缓慢的, 迟缓的/slow; sluggish. The sailor had been taught not to be *laggard* in carrying out orders. *lag*, N., V.

## Word List 28 lament- low

**lament** V./悲伤, 恸哭/grieve; express sorrow. Even advocates of the war *lamented* the loss of so many lives in combat. *lamentation*, N.

**lampoon** V./讽刺的/ridicule. This article *lampoons* the pretensions of some movie moguls. also N.

**languid** ADJ./疲倦的, 无精打采的/weary; sluggish; listless. Her siege of illness left her *languid* and pallid.

**languish** V./无力的, 憔悴的/lose animation; lose strength. Left at Miss Minchin's school for girls while her father went off to war, Sarah Crewe refused to *languish*; instead, she hid her grief and actively befriended her less fortunate classmates.

**languor** N./衰弱, 萧条/lassitude; depression. His friends tried to overcome the *languor* into which he had fallen by taking him to parties and to the theater.

**lap** V./舔食, 泼溅/take in food or drink with one's tongue; splash gently. The kitten neatly *lapped* up her milk. The waves softly *lapped* against the pier.

**larceny** N./盗窃/theft. Because of the prisoner's record, the district attorney refused to reduce the charge from grand larceny to petty *larceny*.

**larder** N./食品室; 储藏室/pantry; place where food is kept. The first thing Bill did on returning home from school was to check what snacks his mother had in the *larder*.

**largess** N./赠送; 赠礼/generous gift. Lady Bountiful distributed *largess* to the poor.

**lassitude** N./疲乏/languor; weariness. After a massage and a long soak in the hot tub, I gave in to my growing *lassitude* and lay down for a nap.

**latent** ADJ./潜在的/potential but undeveloped; dormant; hidden. Polaroid pictures are popular at parties, because you can see the *latent* photographic image gradually appear before your eyes.

**lateral** ADJ./侧面的, 侧向的/coming from the side. In order to get good plant growth, the gardener must pinch off all *lateral* shoots.

**latitude** N./范围/freedom from narrow limitations. I think you have permitted your son too much *latitude* in this matter. **laud** V./赞美/praise. The NFL *lauded* Boomer Esiason's efforts to raise money to combat cystic fibrosis. *laudable*, *laudatory*, ADJ.

**lavish** ADJ./浪费的, 大方的/liberal; wasteful. The actor's *lavish* gifts pleased her. also V.

**lax** ADJ./粗心/careless. We dislike restaurants where the service *is lax* and inattentive.

**leaven** V./发酵/cause to rise or grow lighter; enliven. As bread dough is *leavened*, it puffs up, expanding in volume. **lechery** N./好色; 动机不纯/lustfulness; impurity in thought and deed. In his youth he led a life of *lechery* and debauchery; he did not mend his ways until middle age. *lecherous*, ADJ.

**leery** ADJ./机敏的; 狡猾的/suspicious; cautious. Don't eat the sushi at this restaurant; I'm a bit *leery* about how fresh the raw fish is.

**legacy** N./遗赠/a gift made by a will. Part of my *legacy* from my parents is an album of family photographs.

**legend** N./图例/explanatory list of symbols on a map. The *legend* at the bottom of the map made it clear which symbols stood for

rest areas along the highway and which stood for public camp sites. (secondary meaning)

**legerdemain** N./戏法; 花招/sleight of hand. The magician demonstrated his renowned *legerdemain*.

- 87 -

**leniency** N./温和; 宽大, 仁慈/mildness; permissiveness.

Considering the gravity of the offense, we were surprised by the *leniency* of the sentence.

**lethal** ADJ./致命的/deadly. It is unwise to leave *lethal* weapons where children may find them.

**lethargic** ADJ./昏睡的; 瞌睡的/drowsy; dull. The stuffy room made her *lethargic*: she felt as if she was about to nod off. **levitate** V./升空漂浮 (魔法)/float in the air (especially by magical means). As the magician passed his hands over the recumbent body of his assistant, she appeared to rise and *levitate* about three feet above the table.

**levity** N./轻佻, 轻浮/lack of seriousness; lightness. Stop giggling and wriggling around in the pew: such *levity* is improper in church.

**levy** V./征收/impose (a fine); collect (a payment). Crying "No taxation without representation," the colonists demonstrated against England's power to *levy* taxes.

**lewd** ADJ./淫荡的, 下流的, 好色的; 猥褻的/lustful. They found his *lewd* stories objectionable.

**lexicographer** N./字典编纂者/compiler of a dictionary. The new dictionary is the work of many *lexicographers* who spent years compiling and editing the work.

**lexicon** N./字典/dictionary. I cannot find this word in any *lexicon* in the library.

**liability** N./责任; 缺点; 债/drawback; debts. Her lack of an extensive vocabulary was a *liability* that she was eventually able to overcome.

**liaison** N./联络; 连音/contact keeping parts of an organization in communication; go-between; secret love affair. As the *liaison* between the American and British forces during World War II, the colonel had to ease tensions between the leaders of the two armies. Romeo's romantic *liaison* with Juliet ended in tragedy.

**libel** N./诽谤; 中伤/defamatory statement; act of writing something that smears a person's character. If Batman wrote that the Joker was a dirty, 'rotten, mass-murdering criminal, could the Joker sue Batman for *libel*?

**liberator** N./解放者/one who sets free. Simon Bolivar, who led the South American colonies in their rebellion against Spanish rule, is known as the great *liberator*. *liberate*, V.

**libretto** N./歌词, 剧本 (舞剧, 歌剧的)/text of an opera. The composer of an opera's music is remembered more frequently than the author of its *libretto*.

**licentious** ADJ./不道德的; 下流的; 放纵的/amoral; lewd and lascivious; unrestrained. Unscrupulously seducing the daughter of his host, Don Juan felt no qualms about the immorality of his *licentious* behavior.

**lilliputian** ADJ./极小的/extremely small. Tiny and delicate, the model was built on a *lilliputian* scale. also N.

**limber** ADJ./柔韧的; 可塑的/flexible. Hours of ballet classes kept him *limber*.

**limerick** N./五行打油诗/humorous short verse. The *limerick* form is the best; its meter is pure anapest. A *limerick's* fun for most everyone, and the word may occur on your test.

**limpid** ADJ./清澈/clear. A *limpid* stream ran through his property.

**linchpin** N./关键/something that holds or links various parts together. The *linchpin* in the district attorney's case was a photograph showing the defendant shaking hands with the hired killer.

**lineage** N./血统/descent; ancestry. He traced his *lineage* back to Mayflower days.

**linger** V./逗留; 闲逛; 流连/loiter or dawdle; continue or persist. Hoping to see Juliet pass by, Romeo *lingered* outside the Capulet house for hours. Though Mother made stuffed cabbage on Monday, the smell *lingered* around the house for days.

**linguistic** ADJ./语言的/pertaining to language. The modern tourist will encounter very little linguistic difficulty as English has become an almost universal language.

**liniment** N./药膏; 擦油/ointment; lotion; salve. The trainer carefully applied the *liniment* to the quarterback's bruise, gently rubbing it into the skin.

**lionize** V./奉为名人; 游览名胜/treat as a celebrity. She enjoyed being *lionized* and adored by the public.

**liquidate** V./清算/settle accounts; clearup. He was able to *liquidate* all his debts in a short period of time.

**list** v./倾斜/tilt; lean over. That flagpole should be absolutely vertical; instead, it *lists* to one side. (secondary meaning)  
**listless** ADJ./倦怠的, 冷漠的/lacking in spirit or energy. We had expected him to be full of enthusiasm and were surprised by his *listless* attitude.

**litany** n./连续虔诚的祈祷/supplicatory prayer. On this solemn day, the congregation responded to the prayers of the priest during the *litany* with fervor and intensity.

**lithe** ADJ./柔软的/flexible; supple. Her figure was *lithe* and willowy.

**litigation** n./诉讼/lawsuit. Try to settle this amicably; I do not want to become involved in *litigation*. litigant, n.

**livid** ADJ./铅灰色的; 青一块紫一块的; 暴怒的/lead-colored; black and blue; enraged. His face was so *livid* with rage that we were afraid that he might have an attack of apoplexy.

**loath** ADJ./不情愿的; 勉强/reluctant; disinclined. Romeo and Juliet were both *loath* for him to go.

**loathe** v./厌恶; 憎武/detest. Booing and hissing, the audience showed how much they *loathed* the wicked villain. **lofty** ADJ./高高在上的/very high. Though Barbara Jordan's fellow students used to tease her about her *lofty* ambitions, she rose to hold one of the highest positions in the land.

**log** n./日志; 圆木/record of a voyage or flight; record of day to day activities. "Flogged two seamen today for insubordination" wrote Captain Bligh in the Bounty's *log*. To see how much work I've accomplished recently, just take a look at the number of new files listed on my computer *log*.

**loiter** v./闲逛; 徘徊/hang around; linger. The policeman told him not to *loiter* in the alley.

**loll** v./懒洋洋的坐或靠/lounge about. They *loll*ed around in their chairs watching television.

**longevity** n./长命不老/long life. When he reached ninety, the old man was proud of his *longevity*.

**loom** v./织布机/appear or take shape (usually in an enlarged or distorted form). The shadow of the gallows *loomed* threateningly above the small boy.

**lope** v./慢跑/gallop slowly. As the horses *loped* along, we had an opportunity to admire the ever-changing scenery. loquacious ADJ. talkative. Though our daughter barely says a word to us these days, put a phone in her hand and see how loquacious she can be: our phone bills are out of sight! loquacity, n.

**lout** n./笨人, 呆子/clumsy person. That awkward *lout* dropped my priceless vase!

**low** v./牛叫, 哞/moo. From the hilltop, they could see the herd like ants in the distance; they could barely hear the cattle *low*.

## Word List 29 lucid-maul

**lucid** ADJ./明晰的; 聪明的/easily understood; clear; intelligible. Ellen makes an excellent teacher: her explanations of technical points are *lucid* enough for a child to grasp.

**lucrative** ADJ./有利的/profitable. He turned his hobby into a *lucrative* profession.

**ludicrous** ADJ./可笑的, 滑稽的; 不重要的/laughable; trifling. Let us be serious; this is not a *ludicrous* issue.

**lugubrious** ADJ./悲哀的/mournful. The *lugubrious* howling of the dogs added to our sadness.

**lull** n./平静, 安静, 暂停, 短暂的平息/moment of calm. Not wanting to get wet, they waited under the awning for a *lull* in the rain.

**lull** v./安抚, 平静; 换取信任, 使其失去警惕/soothe; cause one to relax one's guard; subside. The mother's gentle song *lulled* the child to sleep. Malcolm tried to come up with a plausible story to *lull* his mother's suspicions, but she didn't believe a word he said.

**lumber** v./笨重的往前走/move heavily or clumsily. Still somewhat torpid after its long hibernation, the bear *lumbered* through the woods.

**luminary** n./名气, 尊严/celebrity; dignitary. A leading light of the American stage, Ethel Barrymore was a theatrical *luminary* whose name lives on.

- 89 -

**luminous** ADJ./发光的, 闪耀的/shining; issuing light. The sun is a *luminous* body.

**lummock** n./大而笨重的 (通常指人) /big, clumsy, often stupid person. Because he was highly overweight and looked ungainly, John Candy often was cast as a slow-witted *lummock*.

**lunar** ADJ./月亮的/pertaining to the moon. *Lunar* craters can plainly seen with the aid of a small telescope.

**lunge** v./突进, 刺, 冲/quick forward dive or reach; thrust. The wide receiver *lunged* forward to grab the football. With his sword, Dartagnan *lunged* at his adversary.

**lurid** ADJ./耸人听闻的; 可怕的; 惨白的; 血红的/wild; sensational; graphic; gruesome. Do the *lurid* cover stories in the Enquirer actually attract people to buy that trashy tabloid?

**lurk** v./埋伏/stealthily lie in waiting; slink; exist unperceived. "Who knows what evil *lurks* in the hearts of men? The Shadow knows."

**luscious** ADJ./美味的, 甜美的/pleasing to taste or smell. The ripe peach was *luscious*.

**luster** n./光泽; 光彩/shine; gloss. The soft *luster* of the silk in the dim light was pleasing.

**lustrous** ADJ./闪耀的/shining. Her large and *lustrous* eyes lent a touch of beauty to an otherwise plain face. **luxuriant** ADJ./丰富的, 富足的; 丰富多彩; 肥沃的/abundant; rich and splendid; fertile. Lady Godiva was completely covered by her *luxuriant* hair.

**machinations** n./阴谋, 诡计/evil schemes or plots. Fortunately, Batman saw through the wily *machinations* of the Riddler and saved Gotham City from destruction by the forces of evil.

**madrigal** n./小曲; 牧歌/pastoral song. His program of folk songs included several *madrigals* which he sang to the accompaniment of a lute.

**maelstrom** n./漩涡/whirlpool. The canoe was tossed about in the *maelstrom*.

**magnanimous** ADJ./宽宏大量的/generous; great-hearted. Philanthropists by definition are *magnanimous*; misers, by definition, are not. Cordelia was too *magnanimous* to resent her father's unkindness to her; instead, she generously forgave him. magnanimity, n.

**magnate** n./富豪, 要人; 突出的人物, XX大王/person of prominence or influence. Growing up in Pittsburgh, Annie Dillard was surrounded by the mansions of the great steel and coal *magnates* who set their mark on that city. **magnitude** n./巨大的, 大数量级的/ greatness; extent. It is difficult to comprehend the *magnitude* of his crime. **maim** v./伤害/mutilate; injure. The hospital could not take care of all who had been wounded or *maimed* in the railroad accident.

**maladroit** ADJ./搞砸的; 笨拙的/clumsy; bungling. How *maladroit* it was of me to mention seeing you out partying last night! From the look on his face, I take it that your boyfriend thought you were otherwise occupied.

**malady** n./疾病/illness. A mysterious *malady* swept the country, filling doctors' offices with feverish, purple-spotted patients.

**malaise** n./不适, 欠佳/uneasiness; vague feeling of ill health. Feeling slightly queasy before going onstage, Carol realized that this touch of *malaise* was merely stage fright.

**malapropism** n./可笑的用词错误/comic misuse of a word. When Mrs. Malaprop accuses Lydia of being "as headstrong as an allegory on the banks of the Nile," she confuses "allegory" and "alligator" in a typical *malapropism*.

**malcontent** n./不满的; 不满现状的/person dissatisfied with existing state of affairs. One of the few *malcontents* in Congress, he constantly voiced his objections to the presidential program. also ADJ.

**malediction** n./诅咒/curse. When the magic mirror revealed that Snow White was still alive, the wicked queen cried out in rage and uttered dreadful *maledictions*.

**malefactor** n./犯罪分子/evildoer; criminal. Mighty Mouse will save the day, hunting down *malefactors* and rescuing innocent mice from peril.

**malevolent** ADJ./坏心肠的/wishing evil. Iago is a *malevolent* villain who takes pleasure in ruining Othello.

**malfeasance** n./渎职; 不法行为/wrongdoing. The authorities did not discover the campaign manager's *malfeasance*

- 90 -

until after he had spent most of the money he had embezzled.

**malicious** ADJ./恶毒的/hateful; spiteful. Jealous of Cinderella's beauty, her *malicious* stepsisters expressed their spite by forcing her to do menial tasks. malice, n.

**malign** v./毒辣的言语; 诽谤/speak evil of; bad-mouth; defame. Putting her hands over her ears, Rose refused to listen to Betty *malign* her friend Susan.

**malignant** ADJ./恶性的, 伤害的; 致命的/injurious; tending to cause death; aggressively malevolent. Though many tumors are benign, some are *malignant*, growing out of control and endangering the life of the patient.

**malingering** *n.* /装病的人；假病号/one who feigns illness to escape duty. The captain ordered the sergeant to punish all *malingerers* and force them to work. *malingering*, *v.*

**malleable** *adj.* /有延展性的；可锻的/capable of being shaped by pounding; impressionable. Gold is a *malleable* metal, easily shaped into bracelets and rings. Fagin hoped Oliver was a malleable lad, easily shaped into a thief. **malodorous** *adj.* /恶臭的/foul-smelling. The compost heap was most *malodorous* in summer.

**mammal** *n.* /哺乳动物/a vertebrate animal whose female suckles its young. Many people regard the whale as a fish and do not realize that it is a *mammal*.

**mammoth** *adj.* /巨大的/gigantic; enormous. To try to memorize every word on this vocabulary list would be a *mammoth* undertaking; take on projects that are more manageable in size.

**mandate** *n.* /委任；命令/order; charge. In his inaugural address, the president stated that he had a *mandate* from the people to seek an end to social evils such as poverty. also *v.*

**mandatory** *adj.* /强制的，命令的；义不容辞的/obligatory. These instructions are *mandatory*, any violation will be severely punished.

**maniacal** *adj.* /疯狂的；无理智的/raging mad; insane. Though Mr. Rochester had locked his mad wife in the attic, he could still hear her *maniacal* laughter echoing throughout the house.

**manifest** *adj.* /明白的，显然的；证明，表现/evident; visible; obvious. Digby's embarrassment when he met Madonna was *manifest*: his ears turned bright pink, he kept scuffing one shoe in the dirt, and he couldn't look her in the eye. **manifesto** *n.* /声明/declaration; statement of policy. The Communist *Manifesto* by Marx and Engels proclaimed the principles of modern communism.

**manipulate** *v.* /操作/operate with one's hands; control or play upon (people, forces, etc.) artfully. Jim Henson understood how to *manipulate* the Muppets. Madonna understands how to manipulate men (and publicity). **mannered** *adj.* /做作的，矫饰的/affected; not natural. Attempting to copy the style of his wealthy neighbors, Gatsby adopted a *mannered*, artificial way of speech.

**marital** *adj.* /婚姻的/pertaining to marriage. After the publication of his book on *marital* affairs, he was often consulted by married people on the verge of divorce.

**maritime** *adj.* /海事的，海运的，海上的/bordering on the sea; nautical. The *Maritime* Provinces depend on the sea for their wealth.

**marked** *adj.* /值得注意的；报仇的目标/noticeable or pronounced; targeted for vengeance. He walked with a *marked* limp, a souvenir of an old I.R.A. attack. As British ambassador, he knew he was a *marked* man, for he knew the Irish Republican Army wanted him dead.

**marquee** *n.* /建筑物入口处的雨棚，遮蔽物/canopy above an entrance, under which one can take shelter; rooflike shelter above a theater entrance. On stormy days, the hotel doorman keeps dry by standing directly beneath the *marquee*. The title of Arthur Kopit's play *Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Momma's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Feeling So Sad* was too long to fit on the *marquee*.

**marred** *adj.* /受损的/damaged; disfigured. She had to refinish the *marred* surface of the table. *mar*, *v.*

**marshal** *v.* /排序；整理/put in order. At a debate tournament, extemporaneous speakers have only a minute or two to *marshal* their thoughts before they address their audience. - 91 -

**marsupial** *n.* /有袋哺乳动物（袋鼠、袋熊、袋狼）/one of a family of mammals that nurse their offspring in a pouch. The most common *marsupial* in North America is the opossum.

**martial** *adj.* /好战的；尚武的/warlike. The sound of *martial* music inspired the young cadet with dreams of military glory.

**martinet** *n.* /严格纪律的人/strict disciplinarian. No talking at meals! No mingling with the servants! Miss Minchin was a *martinet* who insisted that the schoolgirls in her charge observe each regulation to the letter.

**martyr** *n.* /殉道者；殉教者；烈士/one who voluntarily suffers death for his or her religion or cause; great sufferer. By burning her at the stake, the English made Joan of Arc a martyr for her faith. Mother played the *martyr* by staying home cleaning the house while the rest of the family went off to the beach.

**masochist** *n.* /受虐狂/person who enjoys his own pain. The *masochist* begs, "Hit me." The sadist smiles and says, "I won't."

**material** *adj.* /物质的；重要的/made of physical matter; unspiritual; important. Probing the mysteries of this *material* world has always fascinated physicist George Whitesides. Reporters nicknamed Madonna the *Material* Girl because, despite her name, she seemed wholly uninterested in spiritual values. Lexy's active participation made a *material* difference to the success of the fund-raiser.

**materialism** *n.* /唯物主义/preoccupation with physical comforts and things. By its nature, *materialism* is opposed to idealism, for where the materialist emphasizes the needs of the body, the idealist emphasizes the needs of the soul. **maternal** *adj.* /母性的/motherly. Many animals display *maternal* instincts only while their offspring are young and helpless.

**matriarch** *n.* /女家长；掌管全家的老太婆/woman who rules a family or larger social group. The *matriarch* ruled her gypsy tribe with a firm hand.

**matriculate** *v.* /入学/enroll (in college or graduate school). Incoming students formally *matriculate* at our college in a special ceremony during which they sign the official register of students.

**maudlin** *adj.* /多愁善感/effusively sentimental. Whenever a particularly *maudlin* tearjerker was playing at the movies, Marvin would embarrass himself by weeping copiously.

**maul** *v.* /粗手粗脚的处理/handle roughly. The rock star was *mauled* by his over-excited fans.

## Word List 30 maverick-misrepresent

**maverick** *n.* /没打烙印的动物；闹独立的人；非国教徒；造反者/rebel; nonconformist. To the masculine literary establishment, George Sand with her insistence on wearing trousers and smoking cigars was clearly a *maverick* who fought her proper womanly role.

**mawkish** *adj.* /过分多愁善感；感情脆弱到令人作呕的/mushy and gushy; icky-sticky sentimental; maudlin. Whenever Gigi and her boyfriend would sigh and get all lovey-dovey, her little brother would shout, "Yuck!" protesting their *mawkish* behavior.

**maxim** *n.* /至理名言；格言/proverb; a truth pithily stated. Aesop's fables illustrate moral *maxims*.

**meager** *adj.* /瘦的；贫乏的，不足的/scanty; inadequate. Still hungry after his *meager* serving of porridge, Oliver Twist asked for a second helping.

**meander** *v.* /弯曲；蜿蜒/wind or turn in its course. Needing to stay close to a source of water, he followed every twist and turn of the stream as it *meandered* through the countryside.

**meddlesome** *adj.* /爱管闲事的；好事的；好插手的/interfering. He felt his marriage was suffering because of his *meddlesome* mother-in-law.

**mediate** *v.* /调解；仲裁/settle a dispute through the services of an outsider. King Solomon was asked to *mediate* a dispute between two women, each of whom claimed to be the mother of the same child.

**mediocre** *adj.* /普通的，一般的/ordinary; commonplace. We were disappointed because he gave a rather *mediocre* - 92 -

performance in this role.

**meditation** *n.* /沉思冥想/reflection; thought. She reached her decision only after much *meditation*.

**medley** *n.* /混合/mixture. To avoid boring dancers by playing any one tune for too long, bands may combine three or four tunes into a *medley*.

**meek** *adj.* /谦卑的，驯服的；温和的；顺从的/quiet and obedient; spiritless. Can Lois Lane see through Superman's disguise and spot the superhero hiding behind the guise of *meek*, timorous Clark Kent? Mr. Barrett never expected his *meek* daughter would dare to defy him by eloping with her suitor.

**melancholy** *adj.* /忧郁/gloomy; morose; blue. To Eugene, stuck in his small town, a train whistle was a *melancholy* sound, for it made him think of all the places he would never get to see.

**mellifluous** *adj.* /优美的；流畅的；蜜一样的/sweetly or smoothly flowing; melodious. Italian is a *mellifluous* language, especially suited to being sung.

**membrane** *n.* (/动植物的)膜，薄膜/thin soft sheet of animal or vegetable tissue. Each individual section of an orange is covered with a thin, transparent *membrane*. membranous, *adj.*

**memento** *n.* /有象征意义的物品；纪念品/token; reminder. Take this book as a *memento* of your visit.

**menagerie** *n.* /动物园/collection of wild animals. Whenever the children run wild around the house, Mom shouts, "Calm down! I'm not running a *menagerie*!"

**mendacious** *adj.* /撒谎成性的；撒谎的，假的/lying; habitually dishonest. Distrusting Huck from the start, Miss Watson

assumed he was *mendacious* and refused to believe a word he said.

**mendicant** *n.*/乞丐/beggar. "O noble sir, give alms to the poor," cried Aladdin, playing the *mendicant*.

**menial** *ADJ.*/仆人的; 卑贱的/suitable for servants; lowly; mean. Her wicked stepmother forced Cinderella to do *menial* tasks around the house while her ugly stepsisters lolled around painting their toenails.

**mentor** *n.*/门特; 顾问; 导师/teacher. During this very trying period, she could not have had a better *mentor*, for the teacher was sympathetic and understanding.

**mercenary** *ADJ.*/唯利是图/interested in money or gain. Andy's every act was prompted by *mercenary* motives: his first question was always "What's in it for me?"

**mercurial** *ADJ.*/善变的; 无常的/capricious; changing; fickle. Quick as quicksilver to change, he was *mercurial* in nature and therefore unreliable.

**merger** *n.*/合并; 吞并/combination (of two business corporations). When the firm's president married the director of financial planning, the office joke was that it wasn't a marriage, it was a *merger*.

**mesmerize** *v.*/施催眠术/hypnotize. The incessant drone seemed to *mesmerize* him and place him in a trance. **metallurgical** *ADJ.*/冶金的/pertaining to the art of removing metals from ores. During the course of his *metallurgical* research, the scientist developed a steel alloy of tremendous strength.

**metamorphosis** *n.*/变形/change of form; major transformation. The *metamorphosis* of caterpillar to butterfly is typical of many such changes in animal life. metamorphose, *v.*

**metaphor** *n.*/隐喻/implied comparison. "He soared like an eagle" is an example of a simile; "He is an eagle in flight," a *metaphor*.

**metaphysical** *ADJ.*/形而上学的/pertaining to speculative philosophy. The modern poets have gone back to the fanciful poems of the *metaphysical* poets of the seventeenth century for many of their images. metaphysics, *n.* **methodical** *ADJ.*/方法论的; 系统化的/systematic. An accountant must be *methodical* and maintain order among his financial records.

**meticulous** *ADJ.*/小心翼翼的/excessively careful; painstaking; scrupulous. Martha Stewart was a *meticulous* housekeeper, fussing about each and every detail that went into making up her perfect home.

**metropolis** *n.*/大都会/large city. Every evening the terminal is filled with thousands of commuters going from this *metropolis* to their homes in the suburbs.

- 93 -

**mettle** *n.*/勇气; 精神/courage; spirit. When challenged by the other horses in the race, the thoroughbred proved its *mettle* by its determination to hold the lead.

**miasma** *n.*/沼气; 瘴气; 毒气; 天然气/swamp gas; heavy, vaporous atmosphere, often emanating from decaying matter; pervasive corrupting influence. The smog hung over Victorian London like a dark cloud; noisome, reeking of decay, it was a visible *miasma*.

**microcosm** *n.*/微观世界/small world; the world in miniature. The small village community that Jane Austen depicts serves as a *microcosm* of English society in her time, for in this small world we see all the social classes meeting and mingling.

**migrant** *ADJ.*/移居的; 候鸟的/changing its habitat; wandering. These *migrant* birds return every spring. also *n.*

**migratory** *ADJ.*/迁徙的; 流浪的/wandering. The return of the *migratory* birds to the northern sections of this country is a harbinger of spring. migrate, *v.*

**milieu** *n.*/环境; (社会)背景/environment; means of expression. Surrounded by smooth preppies and arty bohemians, the country boy from Smalltown, USA, felt out of his milieu. Although he has produced excellent oil paintings and lithographs, his proper *milieu* is watercolor.

**militant** *ADJ.*/好战的/combative; bellicose. Although at this time he was advocating a policy of neutrality, one could usually find him adopting a more *militant* attitude. also *n.*

**mimicry** *n.*/模仿/imitation. Her gift for *mimicry* was so great that her friends said that she should be in the theater.

**mincing** *ADJ.*/装腔作势的/affectedly dainty. Yum-Yum walked across the stage with *mincing* steps.

**minuscule** *ADJ.*/极小的/extremely small. Why should I involve myself with a project with so *minuscule* a chance for success?

**minute** *ADJ.*/极小的/extremely small. The twins resembled one another closely; only *minute* differences set them apart.

**minutiae** *n.*/细节; 细微之处/petty details. She would have liked to ignore the *minutiae* of daily living.

**mirage** *n.*/曲解; 海市蜃楼; 虚影/unreal reflection; optical illusion. The lost prospector was fooled by a *mirage* in the desert.

**mire** *v.*/陷入(泥塘); 麻烦缠身/entangle; stick in swampy ground. Their rear wheels became *mired* in mud. also *n.*

**mirth** *n.*/欢笑/merriment; laughter. Sober Malvolio found Sir Toby's *mirth* improper.

**misanthrope** *n.*/厌恶人类的人; 憎人者/one who hates mankind. In Gulliver's Travels, Swift portrays an image of humanity as vile, degraded beasts; for this reason, various critics consider him a *misanthrope*.

**misapprehension** *n.*/错误; 误解/error; misunderstanding. To avoid *misapprehension*, I am going to ask all of you to repeat the instructions I have given.

**miscellany** *n.*/杂记/mixture of writings on various subjects. This is an interesting *miscellany* of nineteenth-century prose and poetry.

**mischance** *n.*/霉运; 不幸/ill luck. By *mischance*, he lost his week's salary.

**misconception** *n.*/误解/mistaken idea. "Sir, you are suffering from a *misconception*. I do not wish to marry you in the least!"

**misconstrue** *v.*/曲解/interpret incorrectly; misjudge. She took the passage seriously rather than humorously because she *misconstrued* the author's ironic tone.

**misdeemeanor** *n.*/轻罪/minor crime. The culprit pleaded guilty to a *misdeemeanor* rather than face trial for a felony. **miserly** *ADJ.*/吝啬的; 贪婪的; 坏的/stingy; mean. Transformed by his vision on Christmas Eve, mean old Scrooge ceased being *miserly* and became a generous, kind old man.

**misgivings** *n.*/担忧, 疑虑/doubts. Hamlet described his *misgivings* to Horatio but decided to fence with Laertes despite his foreboding of evil.

**mishap** *n.*/意外, 灾难/accident. With a little care you could have avoided this *mishap*.

- 94 -

**misnomer** *n.*/错误的名字; 写错名字; 用词不当/wrong name; incorrect designation. His tyrannical conduct proved to all that his nickname, King Eric the Just, was a *misnomer*.

**misrepresent** *v.*/误传; 有意制造误解/give a false or incorrect impression, often deliberately; serve unsatisfactorily as a representative. In his job application, Milton *misrepresented* his academic background: he was fired when his employers discovered the truth. The reformers accused Senator Gunbucks of mis - representing his constituents and claimed he took bribes from the NRA.

## Word List 31 missile-natty

**missile** *n.*/投掷物/object to be thrown or projected. After carefully folding his book report into a paper airplane, Beavis threw the *missile* across the classroom at Butthead. Rocket scientists are building guided *missiles*; Beavis and Butthead can barely make unguided ones.

**missive** *n.*/信件/letter. The ambassador received a *missive* from the secretary of state.

**mite** *n.*/小东西; 小硬币/very small object or creature; small coin. Gnats are annoying *mites* that sting.

**mitigate** *v.*/减轻; 减缓; 中和/appease; moderate. Nothing Jason did could *mitigate* Medea's anger; she refused to forgive him for betraying her.

**mnemonic** *ADJ.*/记忆的/pertaining to memory. He used *mnemonic* tricks to master new words.

**mobile** *ADJ.*/移动的/movable; not fixed. The *mobile* blood bank operated by the Red Cross visited our neighborhood today. mobility, *n.*

**mock** *v.*/嘲弄, 嘲笑/ridicule; imitate, often in derision. It is unkind to *mock* anyone; it is stupid to *mock* anyone significantly bigger than you. mockery, *n.*

**mode** *n.*/时尚; 方式; 模式/prevaling style; manner; way of doing something. The rock star had to have her hair done in the latest mode: frizzed, with occasional moussed spikes for variety. Henry plans to adopt a simpler *mode* of life: he is going to become a mushroom hunter and live off the land.

**modicum** *n.*/少量/limited quantity. Although his story is based on a *modicum* of truth, most of the events he describes are fictitious.

**modulate** *v.*/控制; 调制到标准; 调制(信号)/tone down in intensity; regulate; change from one key to another. Always singing at the top of her lungs, the budding Brunhilde never learned to *modulate* her voice.

**molecule** *n.*/分子/the smallest particle (one or more atoms) of a substance, having all the properties of that substance. In chemistry, we study how atoms and *molecules* react to form new substances.

**mollify** *v.*/平息; 安抚/soothe. The airline customer service representative tried to *mollify* the angry passenger by offering her a seat in first class.

**molt** *v.*/换毛; 褪毛/shed or cast off hair or feathers. When Molly's canary *molted*, he shed feathers all over the house. **molten** *adj.*/融化了的/melted. The city of Pompeii was destroyed by volcanic ash rather than by *molten* lava flowing from Mount Vesuvius.

**momentous** *adj.*/非常重要的/very important. When Marie and Pierre Curie discovered radium, they had no idea of the *momentous* impact their discovery would have upon society.

**momentum** *n.*/动量; 动力/quantity of motion of a moving body; impetus. The car lost *momentum* as it tried to ascend the steep hill.

**monarchy** *n.*/君主制; 君主整体/government under a single ruler. Though England today is a *monarchy*, there is some question whether it will be one in twenty years, given the present discontent at the prospect of Prince Charles as king.

**monastic** *adj.*/僧侣的; 遁入空门的, 不问世事/related to monks or *monasteries*; removed from worldly concerns. Withdrawing from the world, Thomas Merton joined a contemplative religious order and adopted the monastic life.

- 96 -

**monetary** *adj.*/金融的/pertaining to money. Jane held the family purse strings: she made all *monetary* decisions affecting the household.

**monochromatic** *adj.*/单色的/having only one color. Most people who are color blind actually can distinguish several colors; some, however, have a truly *monochromatic* view of a world all in shades of gray.

**monolithic** *adj.*/单片的, 单块的; 一体不动摇的/solidly uniform; unyielding. Knowing the importance of appearing resolute, the patriots sought to present a *monolithic* front.

**monosyllabic** *adj.*/单音节的/having only one syllable. No matter what he was asked, the taciturn New Englander answered with a *monosyllabic* "Yep" or "Nope." monosyllable, *n.*

**monotony** *n.*/千篇一律的/sameness leading to boredom. What could be more deadily dull than the *monotony* of punching numbers into a computer hour after hour?

**montage** *n.*/蒙太奇/photographic composition combining elements from different sources. In one early *montage*, Beauchamp brought together pictures of broken mannequins and newspaper clippings about the Vietnam War.

**monumental** *adj.*/雄伟的; 厚重的; 结实的; 纪念的/massive. Writing a dictionary is a *monumental* task.

**moodiness** *n.*/闷闷不乐/fits of depression or gloom. Her recurrent *moodiness* left her feeling as if she had fallen into a black hole.

**moratorium** *n.*/延期偿还/legal delay of payment. If we declare a *moratorium* and delay collection of debts for six months, I am sure the farmers will be able to meet their bills.

**morbid** *adj.*/病态的, 恐怖的; 喜怒无常的; 不成熟的/given to unwholesome thought; moody; characteristic of disease. People who come to disaster sites just to peer at the grisly wreckage are indulging their *morbid* curiosity.

**mores** *n.*/风俗习惯/conventions; moral standards; customs. In America, Benazir Bhutto dressed as Western women did; in Pakistan, however, she followed the *mores* of her people, dressing in traditional veil and robes.

**moribund** *adj.*/垂死的/dying. Hearst took a *moribund*, failing weekly newspaper and transformed it into one of the liveliest, most profitable daily papers around.

**morose** *adj.*/郁闷的; 乖僻的/ill-humored; sullen; melancholy. Forced to take early retirement, Bill acted *morose* for months; then, all of a sudden, he shook off his sullen mood and was his usual cheerful self.

**mortician** *n.*/殡仪业者/undertaker. The *mortician* prepared the corpse for burial.

**mortify** *v.*/侮辱; 体罚/humiliate; punish the flesh. She was so *mortified* by her blunder that she ran to her room in tears.

**mosaic** *n.*/马赛克/picture made of colorful small inlaid tiles. The mayor compared the city to a beautiful *mosaic* made up of people of every race and religion on earth.

**mote** *n.*/小半点/small speck. The tiniest *mote* in the eye is very painful.

**motif** *n.*/主旨, 本意; 动机/theme. This simple *motif* runs throughout the entire score.

**motley** *adj.*/多彩的, 杂色的; 混合的/multi-colored; mixed. The jester wore a motley tunic, red and green and blue and gold all patched together haphazardly. Captain Ahab had gathered a *motley* crew to sail the vessel: old sea dogs and runaway boys, pillars of the church and drunkards, even a tattooed islander who terrified the rest of the crew.

**mottled** *adj.*/有斑点的; 弄脏的/blotched in coloring; spotted. When old Falstaff blushed, his face was *mottled* with embarrassment, all pink and purple and red.

**muddle** *v.*/迷惑的; 搞乱了的, 混淆了的/confuse; mix up. His thoughts were *muddled* and chaotic. also *n.*

**muggy** *adj.*/又热又潮的(天气)/warm and damp. August in New York City is often *muggy*.

**multifaceted** *adj.*/多面的/having many aspects. A *multifaceted* composer, Roger Davidson has recorded original pieces that range from ragtime tangos to choral masses.

**multifarious** *adj.*/多样的; 各式各样的/varied; greatly diversified. A career woman and mother, she was constantly busy with the *multifarious* activities of her daily life.

**multiform** *adj.*/多态的/having many forms. Snowflakes are *multiform* but always hexagonal.

- 96 -

**multilingual** *adj.*/多语种的/having many languages. Because they are bordered by so many countries, the Swiss people are *multilingual*.

**multiplicity** *n.*/多样性/state of being numerous. He was appalled by the *multiplicity* of details he had to complete before setting out on his mission.

**mundane** *adj.*/世俗的; 日常的/worldly as opposed to spiritual; everyday. Uninterested in philosophical or spiritual discussions, Tom talked only of *mundane* matters such as the daily weather forecast or the latest basketball results. **munificent** *adj.*/宽宏大量的; 慷慨大方的/very generous. Shamelessly fawning over a particularly generous donor, the dean kept on referring to her as "our *munificent* benefactor." munificence, *n.*

**mural** *n.*/壁画/wall painting. The walls of the Chicano Community Center are covered with *murals* painted in the style of Diego Rivera, the great Mexican artist.

**murky** *adj.*/暗的, 模糊的, 暧昧的/dark and gloomy; thick with fog; vague. The *murky* depths of the swamp were so dark that one couldn't tell the vines and branches from the snakes.

**muse** *v.*/沉思/ponder. For a moment he *mused* about the beauty of the scene, but his thoughts soon changed as he recalled his own personal problems. also *n.*

**mushroom** *v.*/膨胀, 迅速生长/expand or grow rapidly. Between 1990 and 1999, the population of Silicon Valley *mushroomed*; with the rapidly increasing demand for housing, home prices skyrocketed as well. **musky** *adj.*/麝香味儿的/having the odor of musk. She left a trace of *musky* perfume behind her.

**muster** *v.*/收集; 集合/gather; assemble. Washington *mustered* his forces at Trenton. also *n.* **musty** *adj.*/陈腐的, 变质的; 时间长损失品质的/stale; spoiled by age. The attic was dark and *musty*.

**mutability** *n.*/变化能力/ability to change in form; fickleness. Going from rags to riches, and then back to rags again, the bankrupt financier was a victim of the *mutability* of fortune.

**muted** *adj.*/静默的; 静音的/silent; muffled; toned down. Thanks to the thick, sound-absorbing walls of the cathedral, only *muted* traffic noise reached the worshippers within.

**mutinous** *adj.*/反抗的; 暴动的/unruly; rebellious. The captain had to use force to quiet his *mutinous* crew. mutiny, *n.*

**myopic** *adj.*/鼠目寸光; 缺乏远见/nearsighted; lacking foresight. Stumbling into doors despite the coke bottle lenses on his glasses, the nearsighted Mr. Magoo is markedly *myopic*. In playing all summer long and ignoring to store up food for winter, the grasshopper in Aesop's fable was *myopic* as well.

**myriad** *n.*/无数, 非常多/very large number. *Myriads* of mosquitoes from the swamps invaded our village every twilight. also *adj.*

**mystify** *v.*/迷惑, 蛊惑/bewilder purposely. When doctors speak in medical jargon, they often *mystify* their patients, who have little knowledge of medical terminology.

**nadir** *n.*/谷底, 最低点; 天底/lowest point. Although few people realized it, the Dow-Jones averages had reached their *nadir* and would soon begin an upward surge.

**naiveté** *n.*/天真烂漫的, 简单的/quality of being unsophisticated; simplicity; artlessness; gullibility. Touched by the *naiveté* of sweet, convent-trained Cosette, Marius pledges himself to protect her innocence. naive, *adj.*

**narcissist** *n.* /自我陶醉的人；逞能的人/conceited person; someone in love with his own image. A *narcissist* is her own best friend.

**narrative** *adj.* /解说的/related to telling a story. A born teller of tales, Tillie Olsen used her impressive *narrative* skills to advantage in her story "I Stand Here Ironing." narrate, *v.*

**nascent** *adj.* /初生的/incipient; coming into being. If we could identify these revolutionary movements in their *nascent* state, we would be able to eliminate serious trouble in later years.

**natty** *adj.* /穿着整齐干净的/neatly or smartly dressed. Priding himself on being a *natty* dresser, the gangster Bugsy Siegel collected a wardrobe of imported suits and ties.

- 97 -

## Word List 32 *nauseate-obsessive*

**nauseate** *v.* /令人作呕的/cause to become sick; fill with disgust. The foul smells began to *nauseate* him.

**nautical** *adj.* /航海的/pertaining to ships or navigation. The Maritime Museum contains many models of clipper ships, logbooks, anchors and many other items of a *nautical* nature.

**navigable** *adj.* /可以通航的/wide and deep enough to allow ships to pass through; able to be steered. So much sand had built up at the bottom of the canal that the waterway was barely *navigable*.

**nebulous** *adj.* /暧昧的，混浊不清的/vague; hazy; cloudy. After twenty years, she had only a *nebulous* memory of her grandmother's face.

**necromancy** *n.* /巫术，妖术，招魂术/black magic; dealings with the dead. The evil sorcerer performed feats of *necromancy*, calling on the spirits of the dead to tell the future.

**nefarious** *adj.* /十恶不赦的/very wicked. The villain's crimes, though various, were one and all *nefarious*.

**negate** *v.* /拒绝，否定，取消/cancel out; nullify; deny. A sudden surge of adrenalin can *negate* the effects of fatigue: there's nothing like a good shock to wake you up.

**negligence** *n.* /疏忽，没能尽力的/neglect; failure to take reasonable care. Tommy failed to put back the cover on the well after he fetched his pail of water; because of his *negligence*, Kitty fell in.

**negligible** *adj.* /可忽略不计的/so small, trifling, or unimportant that it may be easily disregarded. Because the damage to his car had been *negligible*, Michael decided he wouldn't bother to report the matter to his insurance company. **nemesis** *n.* /复仇的人；寻衅者/someone seeking revenge. Abandoned at sea in a small boat, the vengeful Captain Bligh vowed to be the *nemesis* of Fletcher Christian and his fellow mutineers.

**neologism** *n.* /新生词/new or newly coined word or phrase. As we invent new techniques and professions, we must also invent *neologisms* such as "microcomputer" and "astronaut" to describe them.

**neophyte** *n.* /新入教者；新信徒/recent convert; beginner. This mountain slope contains slides that will challenge experts as well as *neophytes*.

**nepotism** *n.* /偏袒的人（亲戚）/favoritism (to a relative). John left his position with the company because he felt that advancement was based on *nepotism* rather than ability.

**nettle** *v.* /烦恼；激怒；荨麻/annoy; vex. Do not let him *nettle* you with his sarcastic remarks.

**neutral** *adj.* /中立的；自然的；中庸的，公允的/impartial; not supporting one side over another. Reluctant to get mixed up in someone else's quarrel, Bobby tried to remain *neutral*, but eventually he had to take sides.

**nicety** *n.* /准确，精密/precision; minute distinction. I cannot distinguish between such *niceties* of reasoning.

**nihilist** *n.* /虚无主义者/one who believes traditional beliefs to be groundless and existence meaningless; absolute skeptic; revolutionary terrorist. In his final days, Hitler revealed himself a power-mad *nihilist*, ready to annihilate all of Western Europe, even to destroy Germany itself, in order that his will might prevail. The root of the word *nihilist* is nihil, Latin for nothing. nihilism, *n.*

**nip** *v.* /夹，捏；剪断；阻止/stop something's growth or development; snip off; bite; make numb with cold. The twins were plotting mischief, but Mother intervened and *nipped* that plan in the bud. The gardener *nipped* off a lovely rose and gave it to me. Last week a guard dog *nipped* the postman in the leg; this week the extreme chill *nipped* his fingers till he could barely hold the mail.

**nirvana** *n.* /涅槃/in Buddhist teachings, the ideal state in which the individual loses himself in the attainment of an impersonal beatitude. Despite his desire to achieve *nirvana*, the young

Buddhist found that even the buzzing of a fly could distract him from his meditation.

**nocturnal** *adj.* /夜的/done at night. Mr. Jones obtained a watchdog to prevent the *nocturnal* raids on his chicken coops.

**noisome** *adj.* /有害的，有毒的；恶臭的/foul-smelling; unwholesome. The *noisome* atmosphere downwind of the oil - 98 -

refinery not only stank, it damaged the lungs of everyone living in the area.

**nomadic** *adj.* /游牧的/wandering. Several *nomadic* tribes of Indians would hunt in this area each year. **nomenclature** *n.* /命名法；术语学/terminology; system of names. Sharon found Latin word parts useful in translating medical *nomenclature*: when her son had to have a bilateral myringotomy, she figured out that he just needed a hole in each of his eardrums to end the earaches he had.

**nominal** *adj.* /有名无实的，名存实亡的；名义上的/in name only; trifling. He offered to drive her to the airport for only a *nominal* fee.

**nonchalance** *n.* /冷淡/indifference; lack of concern; composure. Cool, calm, and collected under fire, James Bond shows remarkable *nonchalance* in the face of danger.

**noncommittal** *adj.* /不明朗的，不表态的；中庸的，未决的/neutral; unpledged; undecided. We were annoyed by his *noncommittal* reply for we had been led to expect definite assurances of his approval.

**nondescript** *adj.* /普通的/undistinctive; ordinary. The private detective was a short, *nondescript* fellow with no outstanding features, the sort of person one would never notice in a crowd.

**nonentity** *n.* /不存在/person of no importance; nonexistence. Because the two older princes dismissed their youngest brother as a *nonentity*, they did not realize that he was quietly plotting to seize the throne.

**nonplus** *v.* /使迷惑；使为难；混淆/bring to halt by confusion; perplex. Jack's uncharacteristic rudeness *nonplussed* Jill, leaving her uncertain how to react.

**nostalgia** *n.* /想家；乡愁/homesickness; longing for the past. My grandfather seldom spoke of life in the old country; he had little patience with *nostalgia*. nostalgic, *adj.*

**notable** *adj.* /显著的；值得注意的/conspicuous; important; distinguished. Normally *notable* for his calm in the kitchen, today the head cook was shaking, for the *notable* chef Julia Child was coming to dinner.

**notoriety** *n.* /臭名昭著的/disrepute; ill fame. To the starlet, any publicity was good publicity: if she couldn't have a good reputation, she'd settle for *notoriety*. notorious, *adj.*

**novelty** *n.* /新奇/something new; newness. The computer is no longer a *novelty* at work; every desk in our office has one. novel, *adj.*

**novice** *n.* /新手/beginner. Even a *novice* at working with computers can install Barron's Computer Study Program for the SAT by following the easy steps outlined in the user's manual.

**noxious** *adj.* /有害的/harmful. We must trace the source of these *noxious* gases before they asphyxiate us. **nuance** *n.* /细微差别/shade of difference in meaning or color; subtle distinction. Jody gazed at the Monet landscape for an hour, appreciating every subtle *nuance* of color in the painting.

**nullify** *v.* /使无效/to make invalid. Once the contract was *nullified*, it no longer had any legal force.

**numismatist** *n.* /硬币收藏家/person who collects coins. The *numismatist* had a splendid collection of antique coins. **nuptial** *adj.* /婚姻的/related to marriage. Reluctant to be married in a traditional setting, they decided to hold their *nuptial* ceremony at the carousel in Golden Gate Park.

**nurture** *v.* /养育；教育/nourish; educate; foster. The Head Start program attempts to *nurture* pre-kindergarten children so that they will do well when they enter public school. also *n.*

**nutrient** *n.* /营养品/nourishing substance. As a budding nutritionist, Kim has learned to design diets that contain foods rich in important basic *nutrients*.

**oaf** *n.* /愚蠢的人/stupid, awkward person. "Watch what you're doing, you clumsy *oaf*!" Bill shouted at the waiter who had drenched him with iced coffee.

**obdurate** *adj.* /执拗的；顽固的/stubborn. He was *obdurate* in his refusal to listen to our complaints.

**obese** *adj.* /肥胖的/fat. It is advisable that *obese* people try to lose weight.

**obfuscate** *v.* /迷惑，困惑；增加不必要的复杂性/confuse; muddle; cause confusion; make needlessly complex. Was the president's



spokesman trying to clarify the Whitewater mystery, or was he trying to *obfuscate* the issue so the voters

- 99 -

would never figure out what went on?

**obituary** ADJ./讣告/death notice. I first learned of her death when I read the *obituary* column in the newspaper. also **objective** ADJ./不为情所动的; 公平的/not influenced by emotions; fair. Even though he was her son, she tried to be *objective* about his behavior.

**objective** N./目标/goal; aim. A degree in medicine was her ultimate *objective*.

**obligatory** ADJ./必须的/binding; required. It is *obligatory* that books borrowed from the library be returned within two weeks.

**oblique** ADJ./间接的; 倾斜的; 无诚意的/indirect; slanting (deviating from the perpendicular or from a straight line).

Casting a quick, *oblique* glance at the reviewing stand, the sergeant ordered the company to march "*Oblique Right*."

**obliterate** V./彻底摧毁/destroy completely. The tidal wave *obliterated* several island villages,

**oblivion** N./遗忘; 赦免/obscurity; forgetfulness. After a decade of popularity, Hurston's works had fallen into *oblivion*; no one bothered to read them any more.

**oblivious** ADJ./遗忘的; 出神的/inattentive or unmindful; wholly absorbed. Deep in her book, Nancy was *oblivious* to the noisy squabbles of her brother and his friends.

**obnoxious** ADJ./讨厌的; 冒犯的/offensive. I find your behavior *obnoxious*; please mend your ways.

**obscure** ADJ./模糊的, 不明了的, 暗淡的/dark; vague; unclear. Even after I read the poem a fourth time, its meaning was still *obscure*. *obscurity*, N.

**obscure** V./使模糊; 使暗淡/darken; make unclear. At times he seemed purposely to *obscure* his meaning, preferring mystery to clarity.

**obsequious** ADJ./谄媚的; 拍马屁的; 奴性的/slavishly attentive; servile; sycophantic. Helen liked to be served by people who behaved as if they respected themselves; nothing irritated her more than an excessively *obsequious* waiter or a fawning salesclerk.

**obsessive** ADJ./强迫性的, 入迷的; 出神的/related to thinking about something constantly; preoccupying. Ballet, which had been a hobby, began to dominate his life: his love of dancing became *obsessive*. *obsession*, N.

## Word List 33 *obsolete-pacifist*

**obsolete** ADJ./过时的; 无用的/no longer useful; outmoded; antiquated. The invention of the pocket calculator made the slide rule used by generations of engineers *obsolete*.

**obstetrician** N./妇产科医师/physician specializing in delivery of babies. In modern times, the delivery of children has passed from the midwife to the more scientifically trained *obstetrician*,

**obstinate** ADJ./坚定的, 倔强的/stubborn; hard to control or treat. We tried to persuade him to give up smoking, but he was *obstinate* and refused to change. Blackberry stickers are the most *obstinate* weeds I know; once established in a yard, they're extremely hard to root out. *obstinacy*, N.

**obstreperous** ADJ./喧闹的, 喧嚣的; 任性的/boisterous; noisy. What do you do when an *obstreperous* horde of drunken policemen goes carousing through your hotel, crashing into potted plants and singing vulgar songs?

**obtrude** V./插手, 强入, 冲出/push (oneself or one's ideas) forward or intrude; butt in; stick out or extrude. Because Fanny was reluctant to *obtrude* her opinions about child-raising upon her daughter-in-law, she kept a close watch on her tongue. *obtrusive*, ADJ.

**obtuse** ADJ./钝的, 迟钝的; 愚蠢的/blunt; stupid. What can you do with somebody who's so *obtuse* that he can't even tell that you're insulting him?

**obviate** V./消除; 排除; 避免/make unnecessary; get rid of. I hope this contribution will *obviate* any need for further collections of funds.

**odious** ADJ./可恨的; 可耻的/hateful; vile. Cinderella's ugly stepsisters had the *odious* habit of popping their zits in

- 100 -

public.

**odium** N./讨厌; 憎恶/detestation; hatefulness; disrepute. Prince Charming could not express the *odium* he felt toward Cinderella's stepsisters because of their mistreatment of poor Cinderella.

**odorous** ADJ./有气味的/having an odor. This variety of hybrid tea rose is more *odorous* than the one you have in your garden.

**odyssey** N./长期的冒险旅行/long, eventful journey. The refugee's journey from Cambodia was a terrifying *odyssey*.

**offensive** ADJ./攻击的; 冒犯的/attacking; insulting; distasteful. Getting into street brawls is no minor matter for professional boxers, who are required by law to restrict their *offensive* impulses to the ring.

**offhand** ADJ./即时的; 随意的/casual; done without prior thought. Expecting to be treated with due propriety by her hosts, Great-Aunt Maud was offended by their *offhand* manner.

**officious** ADJ./多管闲事的/meddlesome; excessively pushy in offering one's services. Judy wanted to look over the new computer models on her own, but the *officious* salesman kept on butting in with "helpful" advice until she was ready to walk out of the store.

**ogle** V./抛媚眼; 送秋波/look at amorously; make eyes at. At the coffee house, Walter was too shy to *ogle* the pretty girls openly; instead, he peeked out at them from behind a rubber plant.

**olfactory** ADJ./嗅觉的/concerning the sense of smell. A wine taster must have a discriminating palate and a keen *olfactory* sense, for a good wine appeals both to the taste buds and to the nose.

**oligarchy** N./寡头政治/government by a privileged few. One small clique ran the student council: what had been intended as a democratic governing body had turned into an *oligarchy*.

**ominous** ADJ./有威胁的; 恶兆的/threatening. Those clouds are *ominous*; they suggest a severe storm is on the way.

**omnipotent** ADJ./无所不能的; 全能的/all-powerful. The monarch regarded himself as *omnipotent* and responsible to no one for his acts.

**omnipresent** ADJ./无所不在的/universally present; ubiquitous. On Christmas Eve, Santa Claus is *omnipresent*.

**omniscient** ADJ./无所不知的/all-knowing. I do not pretend to be *omniscient*, but I am positive about this fact. **omnivorous** ADJ./无所不吃的; 杂食的/eating both plant and animal food; devouring everything. Some animals, including man, are *omnivorous* and eat both meat and vegetables; others are either carnivorous or herbivorous. **onerous** ADJ./范忠德/burdensome. He asked for an assistant because his work load was too *onerous*.

**onset** N./开始, 发作, 肇端; 攻击/beginning; attack. Caught unprepared by the sudden onset of the storm, we rushed around the house closing windows and bringing the garden furniture into shelter. Caught unprepared by the enemy *onset*, the troops scrambled to take shelter.

**onus** N./负担; 责任/burden; responsibility. The emperor was spared the *onus* of signing the surrender papers; instead, he relegated the assignment to his generals.

**opalescent** ADJ./乳白的/iridescent; lustrous. The oil slick on the water had an *opalescent*, rainbow-like sheen.

**opaque** ADJ./暗的; 不透明的/dark; not transparent. The *opaque* window shade kept the sunlight out of the room. *opacity*, N.

**opiate** N./鸦片剂; 安眠的, 止痛的/medicine to induce sleep or deaden pain; something that relieves emotions or causes inaction. To say that religion is the *opiate* of the people is to condemn religion as a drug that keeps the people quiet and submissive to those in power.

**opportune** ADJ./世纪恰巧的; 刚好的/timely; well-chosen. Sally looked at her father struggling to balance his checkbook; clearly this would not be an *opportune* moment to ask him for a raise in her allowance.

**opportunist** N./机会主义者/individual who sacrifices principles for expediency by taking advantage of circumstances. Joe is such an *opportunist* that he tripled the price of bottled water at his store as soon as the earthquake struck. Because it can break water pipes, an earthquake is, to most people, a disaster; to Joe, it was an opportunity.

**optician** N./眼镜商/maker and seller of eyeglasses. The patient took the prescription given him by his oculist to the

- 101 -

*optician*.

**optimist** N./乐观者/person who looks on the good side. The pessimist says the glass is half-empty; the *optimist* says it is half-full.

**optimum** ADJ./最优的/most favorable. If you wait for the *optimum* moment to act, you may never begin your project. also N.

**optional** ADJ./可选的/not obligatory; left to one's choice. Most colleges require applicants to submit SAT I scores; at some colleges, however, submitting SAT I scores is *optional*.

**opulence** N./奢华; 巨富; 富裕, 富足/extreme wealth; luxuriousness; abundance. The glitter and *opulence* of the

ballroom took Cinderella's breath away. opulent, ADJ.

**opus** N./作品/work. Although many critics hailed his Fifth Symphony as his major work, he did not regard it as his major *opus*.

**oracular** ADJ./神一样的; 谜一样的; 超自然的, 无法理解的/prophetic; uttered as if with divine authority; mysterious or ambiguous. Like many others who sought divine guidance from the oracle at Delphi, Oedipus could not understand the enigmatic *oracular* warning he received.

**orator** N./演讲者/public speaker. The abolitionist Frederick Douglass was a brilliant *orator* whose speeches brought home to his audience the evils of slavery.

**ordain** V./指定; 规定; 任命; 命令/decreed or command; grant holy orders; predestine. The king *ordained* that no foreigner should be allowed to enter the city. The Bishop of Michigan *ordained* David a deacon in the Episcopal Church. The young lovers felt that fate had *ordained* their meeting.

**ordeal** N./严酷的考验; 折磨/severe trial or affliction. June was so painfully shy that it was an *ordeal* for her to speak up when the teacher called on her in class.

**ordinance** N./法令; 政令/decreed. Passing a red light is a violation of a city *ordinance*.

**ordination** N./圣职授任; 委任/ceremony making someone a minister. At the young priest's *ordination*, the members of the congregation presented him with a set of vestments. ordain, V.

**orgy** N./放荡, 旷野; 纵酒狂欢/wild, drunken revelry; unrestrained indulgence in a tendency. The Roman emperor's *orgies* were far wilder than the toga party in the movie Animal House. When her income tax refund check finally arrived, Sally indulged in an orgy of shopping.

**orient** V./确定方向; 校准/get one's bearings; adjust. Philip spent his first day in Denver *orienting* himself to the city.

**orientation** N./定位 (在社会上) /act of finding oneself in society. Freshman *orientation* provides the incoming students with an opportunity to learn about their new environment and their place in it.

**ornate** ADJ./华丽的; 过分装饰的/excessively or elaborately decorated. With its elaborately carved, convoluted lines, furniture of the Baroque period was highly *ornate*.

**ornithologist** N./鸟类学家/scientific student of birds. Audubon's drawings of American bird life have been of interest not only to the *ornithologists* but also to the general public.

**ornithology** N./鸟类学/study of birds. Audubon's studies of American birds greatly influenced the course of *ornithology*.

**orthodox** ADJ./传统的; 保守的/traditional; conservative in belief. Faced with a problem, he preferred to take an *orthodox* approach rather than shock anyone. orthodoxy, N.

**oscillate** V./振荡/vibrate pendulumlike; waver. It is interesting to note how public opinion *oscillates* between the extremes of optimism and pessimism.

**ossify** V./硬化; 骨化; 化石化/change or harden into bone. When he called his opponent a "bonehead," he implied that his adversary's brain had *ossified* to the point that he was incapable of clear thinking.

**ostensible** ADJ./显然的; 虚假的/apparent; professed; pretended. Although the *ostensible* purpose of this expedition is to discover new lands, we are really interested in finding new markets for our products.

- 102 -

**ostentatious** ADJ./卖弄的; 企图惹人注意的; 哗众取宠的/showy; pretentious; trying to attract attention. Donald Trump's latest casino in Atlantic City is the most *ostentatious* gambling palace in the East: it easily outglitters its competitors. ostentation, N.

**ostracize** V./放逐/exclude from public favor; ban. As soon as the newspapers carried the story of his connection with the criminals, his friends began to *ostracize* him. ostracism, N.

**oust** V./剥夺; 驱逐/expel; drive out. The world wondered if Aquino would be able to *oust* Marcos from office. ouster, N. **outlandish** ADJ./奇异的; 偏僻的; 前卫的/bizarre; peculiar; unconventional. The eccentric professor who engages in markedly *outlandish* behavior is a stock figure in novels with an academic setting.

**outmoded** ADJ./过时的/longer stylish; old-fashioned. Unconcerned about keeping in style, Lenore was perfectly happy to wear *outmoded* clothes as long as they were clean and unfrayed.

**outskirts** N./边界; 郊区; 外围/fringes; outer borders. We lived, not in central London, but in one of those peripheral suburbs that spring up on the *outskirts* of a great city.

**outspoken** ADJ./坦率直言的/candid; blunt. The candidate was too *outspoken* to be a successful politician; he had not yet learned to weigh his words carefully.

**outstrip** V./超过/surpass; outdo. Jesse Owens easily *outstripped* his white competitors to win the gold medal at the Olympic Games.

**outwit** V./欺骗; 瞒骗/outsmart; trick. By disguising himself as an old woman, Holmes was able to *outwit* his pursuers and escape capture.

**ovation** N./热情洋溢的喝彩/enthusiastic applause. When the popular tenor Placido Domingo came on stage in the first act of *La Boheme*, he was greeted by a tremendous *ovation*.

**overbearing** ADJ./傲慢专横的/bossy and arrogant; decisively important. Certain of her own importance, and of the unimportance of everyone else, Lady Bracknell was intolerably *overbearing* in her manner. "In choosing a husband," she said, "good birth is of *overbearing* importance; compared to that, neither wealth nor talent signifies."

**overt** ADJ./明显的; 公然的/open to view. According to the United States Constitution, a person must commit an *overt* act before he may be tried for treason.

**overwrought** ADJ./歇斯底里的/extremely agitated; hysterical. When Kate heard the news of the sudden tragedy, she became too *overwrought* to work and had to leave the office early.

**pachyderm** N./皮厚的动物 (如大象) /thick-skinned animal. The elephant is probably the best-known *pachyderm*.

**pacifist** N./和平主义者/one opposed to force; antimilitarist. Shooting his way through the jungle, Rambo was clearly not a *pacifist*.

## Word List 34 pacify - peccadillo

**pacify** V./安抚; 平静/soothe; make calm or quiet; subdue. Dentists criticize the practice of giving fussy children sweets to *pacify* them.

**pact** N./和约; 条约/agreement; treaty. Tweedledum and Tweedledee made a *pact* not to quarrel anymore.

**paeon** N./欢乐歌; 赞美歌/song of praise or joy. *Paeans* celebrating the victory filled the air.

**painstaking** ADJ./辛勤的/showing hard work; taking-Dreat care. The new high-frequency word list is the result of *painstaking* efforts on the part of our research staff.

**palatable** ADJ./可接受的; 美味的/agreeable; pleasing to the taste. Neither Jack's underbaked opinions nor his overcooked casseroles were *palatable* to Jill.

**paleontology** N./古生物学/study of prehistoric life. The *paleontology* instructor had a superb collection of fossils.

**palette** N./调色板/board on which painter mixes pigments. At the present time, art supply stores are selling a paper *palette* that may be discarded after use.

- 103 -

**pall** V./厌烦, 腻味/grow tiresome. The study of word lists can eventually *pall* and put one to sleep.

**palliate** V./减轻/lessen the violence of (a disease); alleviate; moderate intensity; gloss over with excuses. Not content merely to *palliate* the patient's sores and cankers, the researcher sought a means of wiping out the disease. palliative, ADJ.

**pallid** ADJ./苍白的, 惨淡的/pale; wan. Because his job required that he work at night and sleep during the day, he had an exceptionally *pallid* complexion.

**palpable** ADJ./易于领会的; 明显的/tangible; easily perceptible; unmistakable. The patient's enlarged spleen was *palpable*: even the first year medical student could feel it.

**palpitate** V./拍动; 跳动; 搏动/throb; flutter. As he became excited, his heart began to *palpitate* more and more erratically.

**paltry** ADJ./不显著的; 微小的/insignificant; petty; trifling. One hundred dollars for a genuine imitation Rolex watch! Lady, this is a *paltry* sum to pay for such a high-class piece of jewelry.

**pan** V./剧烈批评; 猛烈抨击/criticize harshly. Hoping for a rave review of his new show, the playwright was miserable when the critics *panned* it unanimously.

**panacea** N./包治百病的药, 灵丹妙药/cure-all; remedy for all diseases. The rich youth cynically declared that the *panacea* for all speeding tickets was a big enough bribe.

**panache** N./华丽/flair; flamboyance. Many performers imitate Noel Coward, but few have his *panache* and sense of style.

**pandemic** ADJ./广泛传播的, 流行的/widespread; affecting the majority of people. They feared the AIDS epidemic would soon reach *pandemic* proportions.

**pandemonium** *n.* /喧嚣；混乱/wild tumult. When the ships collided in the harbor, *pandemonium* broke out among the passengers.

**pander** *v.* /低级趣味的；拉皮条/cater to the low desires of others. The reviewer accused the makers of Lethal Weapon of *pandering* to the masses' taste for violence.

**panegyric** *n.* /推崇之至/formal praise. Blushing at all the praise heaped upon him by the speakers, the modest hero said, I don't deserve such *panegyrics*."

**panoramic** *adj.* /全景的/related to an unobstructed and comprehensive view. On a clear day, from the top of the World Trade Center you can get a *panoramic* view of New York City and parts of New Jersey and Long Island. *panorama, n.*

**pantomime** *n.* /演哑剧/acting without dialogue. Because he worked in *pantomime*, the clown could be understood wherever he appeared. *also v.*

**papyrus** *n.* /纸草；草纸（古代的）/ancient paper made from stem of papyrus plant. The ancient Egyptians were among the first to write on *papyrus*.

**parable** *n.* /寓言/short, simple story teaching a moral. Let us apply to our own conduct the lesson that this *parable* teaches.

**paradigm** *n.* /典范；模式/model; example; pattern. Pavlov's experiment in which he trains a dog to salivate on hearing a bell is a *paradigm* of the conditioned-response experiment in behavioral psychology. Barron's How to Prepare for College Entrance Examinations was a paradigm for all the SAT-prep books that followed.

**paradox** *n.* /悖论；佯谬/something apparently contradictory in nature; statement that looks false but is actually correct.

Richard presents a bit of a *paradox*, for he is a card-carrying member of both the National Rifle Association and the relatively pacifist American Civil Liberties Union.

**paragon** *n.* /模范/model of perfection. Her fellow students disliked Lavinia because Miss Minchin always pointed her out as a *paragon* of virtue.

**parallelism** *n.* /平行状态；相似的/state of being parallel; similarity. Although the twins were separated at birth and grew

up in different adoptive families, a striking *parallelism* exists between their lives.

**paramount** *adj.* /极其重要的/foremost in importance; supreme. Proper nutrition and hygiene are of *paramount* importance in adolescent development and growth.

**paranoia** *n.* /妄想狂；偏执狂/psychosis marked by delusions of grandeur or persecution. Suffering from *paranoia*, Don claimed everyone was out to get him; ironically, his claim was accurate: even *paranoids* have enemies. **paraphernalia** *n.* /琐碎的东西；零碎的随身物品/equipment; odds and ends. His desk was cluttered with paper, pen, ink, dictionary and other *paraphernalia* of the writing craft.

**paraphrase** *v.* /解释；批注；注释 /restate a passage in one's own words while retaining thought of author. In 250 words or less, *paraphrase* this article. *also n.*

**parasite** *n.* /寄生；寄生体/animal or plant living on another; toady; sycophant. The tapeworm is an example of the kind of *parasite* that may infest the human body.

**parched** *adj.* /干旱的；干渴的/extremely dry; very thirsty. The *parched* desert landscape seemed hostile to life.

**pariah** *n.* /贱民；被社会遗弃的人/social outcast. If everyone ostracized singer Mariah Carey, would she then be Mariah the *pariah*?

**parity** *n.* /相等；势均力敌；奇偶/equality in status or amount; close resemblance. Unfortunately, some doubt exists whether women's salaries will ever achieve *parity* with men's.

**parochial** *adj.* /狭小的，地方的/narrow in outlook; provincial; related to parishes. Although Jane Austen sets her novels in small rural communities, her concerns are universal, not *parochial*.

**parody** *n.* /拙劣的模仿/humorous imitation; spoof; takeoff; travesty. The show Forbidden Broadway presents *parodies* spoofing the year's new productions playing on Broadway.

**paroxysm** *n.* /突然一阵的，突发的（痛苦，笑，愤怒）/fit or attack of pain, laughter, rage. When he heard of his son's misdeeds, he was seized by a *paroxysm* of rage.

**parry** *v.* /躲避/ward off a blow; deflect. Unwilling to injure his opponent in such a pointless clash, D'Artagnan simply tried to *parry* his rival's thrusts. What fun it was to watch Katherine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy parry each other's verbal thrusts in their classic screwball comedies!

**parsimony** *n.* /过度俭省；吝啬/stinginess; excessive frugality. Furious because her father wouldn't let her buy out the clothing store, Annie accused him of *parsimony*.

**partial** *adj.* /不完善的；偏爱的/incomplete; having a liking for something. In this issue we have published only a *partial* list of contributors because we lack space to acknowledge everyone. I am extremely partial to chocolate eclairs. **partiality** *n.* /倾向；偏见/inclination; bias. As a judge, not only must I be unbiased, but I must also avoid any evidence of *partiality* when I award the prize.

**partisan** *adj.* /一边倒的/one-sided; prejudiced; committed to a party. On certain issues of principle, she refused to take a *partisan* stand, but let her conscience be her guide. Rather than joining forces to solve our nation's problems, the Democrats and Republicans spend their time on partisan struggles. *also n.*

**partition** *v.* /分裂开来/divide into parts. Before their second daughter was born, Jason and Lizzie decided each child needed a room of her own, and so they *partitioned* a large bedroom into two small but separate rooms. *also n.* **passive** *adj.* /被动的/not active; acted upon. Mahatma Gandhi urged his followers to pursue a program of *passive* resistance as he felt that it was more effective than violence and acts of terrorism.

**passport** *n.* /护照/legal document identifying the bearer as a citizen of a country and allowing him or her to travel abroad. In arranging your first trip abroad, be sure to allow yourself enough time to apply for and receive your *passport* you won't be allowed to travel without one.

**pastiche** *n.* /摹写；模仿/imitation of another's style in musical composition or in writing. We cannot even say that her music is a *pastiche* of this composer or that; it is, rather, reminiscent of many musicians.

**pastoral** *adj.* /田园的；乡下的/rural. Simple and peaceful; idyllic; related to shepherds. Tired of the stress of life in the

city, Dana dreamed of moving to the country and enjoying a simple *pastoral* life.

**patent** *adj.* /显而易见的；公开查阅的/open for the public to read; obvious. It was *patent* to everyone that the witness spoke the truth. *also n.*

**pathetic** *adj.* /可怜的，触动人心的/causing sadness, compassion, pity; touching. Everyone in the auditorium was weeping by the time he finished his *pathetic* tale about the orphaned boy.

**pathological** *adj.* /病理学/related to the study of disease; diseased or markedly abnormal. Jerome's *pathological* fear of germs led him to wash his hands a hundred times a day. *pathology, n.*

**pathos** *n.* /痛苦，悲怆，哀婉/tender sorrow; pity; quality in art or literature that produces these feelings. The quiet tone of *pathos* that ran through the novel never degenerated into the maudlin or the overly sentimental.

**patina** *n.* /铜绿；光泽；古色/green crust on old bronze works; tone slowly taken by varnished painting. Judging by the *patina* on this bronze statue, we can conclude that this is the work of a medieval artist.

**patriarch** *n.* /长者，家长；酋长，族长/father and ruler of a family or tribe. In many primitive tribes, the leader and lawmaker was the *patriarch*.

**patrician** *adj.* /贵族的/noble; aristocratic. We greatly admired her well-bred, *patrician* elegance. *also n.*

**patronize** *v.* /资助；支持/support; act superior toward; be a customer of. Penniless artists hope to find some wealthy art-lover who *will patronize* them. If some condescending wine steward *patronized* me because he saw I knew nothing about fine wine, I'd refuse to *patronize* his restaurant.

**paucity** *n.* /少量；缺乏 /scarcity. They closed the restaurant because the *paucity* of customers made it uneconomical to operate.

**pauper** *n.* /叫花子；非常可怜的人/very poor person. Though Widow Brown was living on a reduced income, she was by no means a *pauper*.

**peccadillo** *n.* /轻罪，轻微冒犯/slight offense. When Peter Piper picked a peck of Polly Potter's pickles, did Pete commit a major crime or just a *peccadillo*?

## Word List 35 pecuniary - philanderer

**pecuniary** *adj.* /钱的，货币的/pertaining to money. Seldom earning enough to cover their expenses, folk dance teachers work because they love dancing, not because they expect any *pecuniary* reward.

**pedagogy** *n.* /教育学/teaching; art of education. Though Maria Montessori gained fame for her innovations in

**pedagogy**, it took years before her teaching techniques were common practice in American schools.

**pedant** *n.* /学究式人物/scholar who overemphasizes book learning or technicalities. Her insistence that the book be memorized marked the teacher as a *pedant* rather than a scholar.

**pedantic** *adj.* /书生气的/showing off learning; bookish. Leavening his decisions with humorous, down-to-earth anecdotes, Judge Walker was not at all the *pedantic* legal scholar. *pedant, pedantry, n.*

**pedestrian** *adj.* /没有想象力的, 普通的/ordinary; unimaginative. Unintentionally boring, he wrote page after page of *pedestrian* prose.

**pediatrician** *n.* /儿科专家/expert in children's diseases. The family doctor advised the parents to consult a *pediatrician* about their child's ailment.

**peerless** *adj.* /不可比较的, 不相衡的, 无可匹敌的/having no equal; incomparable. The reigning operatic tenor of his generation, to his admirers Luciano Pavarotti was *peerless*: no one could compare with him.

**pejorative** *adj.* /轻蔑; 蔑视的/negative in connotation; having a belittling effect. Instead of criticizing Clinton's policies, the Republicans made *pejorative* remarks about his character.

**pellucid** *adj.* /透明; 清澈; 明白的/transparent; limpid; easy to understand. After reading these stodgy philosophers, I find Bertrand Russell's *pellucid* style very enjoyable.

- 106 -

**penchant** *n.* /倾向; 趣味/strong inclination; liking. Dave has a *penchant* for taking risks: one semester he went steady with three girls, two of whom were stars on the school karate team.

**pendant** *n.* /装饰品; 首饰/ornament (hanging from a necklace, etc.) The grateful team presented the coach with a silver chain and *pendant* engraved with the school's motto.

**penitent** *adj.* /悔过的/repentant. When he realized the enormity of his crime, he became remorseful and *penitent*, also *n.*

**pensive** *adj.* /沉思默想的; 忧心忡忡的/dreamily thoughtful; thoughtful with a hint of sadness; contemplative. The *pensive* lover gazed at the portrait of his beloved and deeply sighed.

**penury** *n.* /一贫如洗; 穷困潦倒/severe poverty; stinginess. When his pension fund failed, George feared he would end his days in *penury*. He became such a penny pincher that he turned into a closefisted, penurious miser.

**perceptive** *adj.* /有洞察力的, 警觉的; 智慧的/insightful; aware; wise. Although Maud was a generally *perceptive* critic, she had her blind spots: she could never see flaws in the work of her friends.

**percussion** *adj.* /打击/striking one object against another sharply.

The drum is a *percussion* instrument. also *n.* **perdition** *n.* /毁灭/ damnation; complete ruin. Praying for salvation, young Steven Daedalus feared he was damned to eternal *perdition*.

**peregrination** *n.* /旅程; 旅行/journey. Auntie Mame was a world traveler whose *peregrinations* took her from Tijuana to Timbuctoo.

**peremptory** *adj.* /专制的; 强硬的, 专横的/demanding and leaving no choice. From Jack's *peremptory* knock on the door, Jill could tell he would not give up until she let him in.

**perennial** *n.* /终年的; 永久的/something that is continuing or recurrent. These plants are hardy *perennials* and will bloom for many years. also *adj.*

**perfidious** *adj.* /背信弃义的; 不忠的/treacherous; disloyal. When Caesar realized that Brutus had betrayed him, he reproached his *perfidious* friend. *perfidy, n.*

**perforate** *v.* /打孔/pierce; put a hole through. Before you can open the aspirin bottle, you must first *perforate* the plastic safety seal that covers the cap.

**perfunctory** *adj.* /肤浅的, 不投入的; 漠不关心的/superficial; not thorough; lacking interest, care, or enthusiasm. The auditor's *perfunctory* inspection of the books overlooked many errors. Giving the tabletop only a *perfunctory* swipe with her dust cloth, Betty promised herself she'd clean it more thoroughly tomorrow.

**perimeter** *n.* /周长/outer boundary. To find the perimeter of any quadrilateral, we add the lengths of the four sides.

**peripheral** *adj.* /外围的/marginal; outer. We lived, not in central London, but in one of those *peripheral* suburbs that spring up on the outskirts of a great city.

**periphery** *n.* / (圆形的) 边缘/edge, especially of a round surface. He sensed that there was something just beyond the *periphery* of his vision.

**perjury** *n.* /伪誓/false testimony while under oath. Rather than lie under oath and perhaps be indicted for *perjury*, the witness chose to take the Fifth Amendment, refusing to answer any questions on the grounds that he might incriminate himself.

**permeable** *adj.* /可渗透的, 可学习的/penetrable; porous; allowing liquids or gas to pass through. If your jogging clothes weren't made out of *permeable* fabric, you'd drown in your own perspiration (figuratively speaking).

**permeate** *v.* /传播; 流传/pass through; spread. The odor of frying onions *permeated* the air.

**pernicious** *adj.* /具毁灭性的/very destructive. Crack cocaine has had a *pernicious* effect on urban society: it has destroyed families, turned children into drug dealers, and increased the spread of violent crimes.

**perpetrate** *v.* /犯/commit an offense. Only an insane person could *perpetrate* such a horrible crime.

**perpetual** *adj.* /永久的/everlasting. Ponce de Leon hoped to find the legendary fountain of *perpetual* youth.

**perpetuate** *v.* /保护免于灭绝/make something last; preserve from extinction. Some critics attack *The Adventures of* - 107 -

Huckleberry Finn because they believe Twain's book *perpetuates* a false image of Blacks in this country. **perquisite** *n.* /津贴, 补贴; 奖金/any gain above stipulated salary. The *perquisites* attached to this job make it even more attractive than the salary indicates.

**persona** *n.* /角色/public personality or facade. Offstage the comedian was a sullen, irritable grumbler, a far cry from his ever-cheerful adopted stage *persona*.

**personable** *adj.* /有吸引力的/attractive. The man I am seeking to fill this position must be *personable* since he will be representing us before the public.

**perspicacious** *adj.* /洞察一切的, 渗透的; 机敏的/having insight; penetrating; astute. The brilliant lawyer was known for his *perspicacious* deductions. *perspicacity, n.*

**pert** *adj.* /爱管闲事的, 无理的/impertinent; forward. I think your *pert* and impudent remarks call for an apology. **pertinacious** *adj.* /不屈服; 反抗/stubborn; persistent. He is bound to succeed because his *pertinacious* nature will not permit him to quit.

**pertinent** *adj.* /说到点子上的; 中肯的; 有关的/To the point; relevant. Virginia Woolf's words on women's rights are as *pertinent* today as they were when she wrote them nearly a century ago.

**perturb** *v.* /感到不安/disturb greatly. The thought that electricity might be leaking out of the empty light bulb sockets *perturbed* my aunt so much that at night she crept about the house screwing fresh bulbs in the vacant spots. *perturbation, n.*

**peruse** *v.* /细读/read with care. After the conflagration that burned down her house, Joan closely *perused* her home insurance policy to discover exactly what benefits her coverage provided her. *perusal, n.*

**pervasive** *adj.* /深入人心的; 普遍的/pervading; spread throughout every part. Despite airing them for several hours, Martha could not rid her clothes of the *pervasive* odor of mothballs that clung to them. *pervade, v.*

**perverse** *adj.* /不正当的, 邪恶的, 做作的; 硬脖子的/stubbornly wrongheaded; wicked and perverted. When Jack was in a perverse mood, he would do the opposite of whatever Jill asked him. When Hannibal Lecter was in a *perverse* mood, he ate the flesh of his victims. Jack acted out of perversity. Hannibal's act proved his perversion.

**pessimism** *n.* /悲观主义者/belief that life is basically bad or evil; gloominess. Considering how well you have done in the course so far, you have no real reason for such *pessimism* about your final grade.

**petrify** *v.* /石化/turn to stone. His sudden and unexpected appearance seemed to *petrify* her.

**petty** *adj.* /微小的, 不重要的/trivial; unimportant; very small. She had no major complaints to make about his work, only a few *petty* quibbles that were almost too minor to state.

**petulant** *adj.* /脾气坏的/touchy; peevish. If you'd had hardly any sleep for three nights and people kept phoning and waking you up, you'd sound pretty *petulant*, too.

**phenomena** *n.* /现象/observable facts; subjects of scientific investigation. We kept careful records of the *phenomena* we noted in the course of these experiments.

**philanderer** *n.* /调情; 轻佻的人/faithless lover; flirt. Swearing he had never so much as looked at another woman, Ralph assured Alice he was no *philanderer*.

## Word List 36 philanthropist-precedent

**philanthropist** *n.* /慈善家/lover of mankind; doer of good. In his role as *philanthropist* and public benefactor, John D. Rockefeller, Sr., donated millions to charity; as an individual, however, he was a tight-fisted old man.

**philistine** *n.*/俗气的人，无教养的人；心胸狭窄的人/narrow-minded person, uncultured and exclusively interested in material gain. We need more men of culture and enlightenment; we have too many *philistines* among us.

**philology** *n.*/语言学/study of language. The professor of *philology* advocated the use of Esperanto as an international language.

- 108 -

**phlegmatic** *adj.*/冷静的；平静的；不易被激起的/calm; not easily disturbed. The nurse was a cheerful but *phlegmatic* person, unexcited in the face of sudden emergencies.

**phobia** *n.*/恐怖/morbid fear. Her fear of flying was more than mere nervousness; it was a real *phobia*.

**phoenix** *n.*/凤凰（象征不死和重生、涅槃）/symbol of immortality or rebirth. Like the legendary *phoenix* rising from its ashes, the city of San Francisco rose again after its destruction during the 1906 earthquake.

**phylum** *n.*/门；语群/major class of plants; primary branch of animal kingdom; division. In sorting out her hundreds of packets of seeds, Katya decided to file them by *phylum*.

**physiological** *adj.*/生理学的/pertaining to the science of the function of living organisms. To understand this disease fully, we must examine not only its *physiological* aspects but also its psychological elements.

**picaresque** *adj.*/以歹徒为题材的文学作品的/pertaining to rogues in literature. Tom Jones has been hailed as one of the best *picaresque* novels in the English language.

**piebald** *adj.*/花斑的；斑驳的/mottled; spotted. You should be able to identify Polka Dot in this race; it is the only *piebald* horse running.

**piecemeal** *adv.*/一次一个的，逐个的；渐渐的；碎的/one piece at a time; gradually. Tolstoy's War and Peace is too huge to finish in one sitting; I'll have to read it *piecemeal*.

**pie** *adj.*/杂色的；斑驳的/variegated; multicolored. The *Pied* Piper of Hamelin got his name from the multicolored clothing he wore.

**piety** *n.*/虔诚；孝行/religious devotion; godliness. The nuns in the convent were noted for their *piety*; they spent their days in worship and prayer. Pious, *adj.*

**pigment** *n.*/色素/coloring matter. Van Gogh mixed various *pigments* with linseed oil to create his paints.

**pillage** *v.*/掠夺/plunder. The enemy *pillaged* the quiet village and left it in ruins.

**pine** *v.*/消瘦，憔悴；渴望；松树/languish, decline; long for, yearn. Though she tried to be happy living with Clara in the city, Heidi *ined* for the mountains and for her gruff but loving grandfather.

**pinnacle** *n.*/顶尖；顶点/peak. We could see the morning sunlight illuminate the *pinnacle* while the rest of the mountain lay in shadow.

**pious** *adj.*/尽职的；虔诚的/devout; religious. The challenge for church people today is how to be *pious* in the best sense, that is, to be devout without becoming hypocritical or sanctimonious. piety, *n.*

**piquant** *adj.*/开胃的；辛辣的；刺激的；淘气顽皮的/pleasantly tart-tasting; stimulating. The *piquant* sauce added to our enjoyment of the meal. piquancy, *n.*

**pique** *n.*/愤怒；不满/irritation; resentment. She showed her *pique* at her loss by refusing to appear with the other contestants at the end of the competition. also *v.*

**pique** *v.*/激起，煽动；激怒/provoke or arouse; annoy. "I know something you don't know," said Lucy, trying to *pique* Ethel's interest.

**pitfall** *n.*/缺陷/hidden danger; concealed trap. Her parents warned young Sophie against the many *pitfalls* that lay in wait for her in the dangerous big city.

**pithy** *adj.*/精炼的；抓住灵魂的/concise; meaningful; substantial; meaty. While other girls might have gone on and on about how uncool Elton was, Liz summed it up in one *pithy* remark: "He's bogus!"

**pittance** *n.*/微薄的薪水/a small allowance or wage. He could not live on the *pittance* he received as a pension and had to look for an additional source of revenue.

**pivotal** *adj.*/关键的/crucial; key; vital. The new "smart weapons" technology played a *pivotal* role in the quick resolution of the war with Iraq.

**placate** *v.*/安抚/pacify; conciliate. The store manager tried to *placate* the angry customer, offering to replace the damaged merchandise or to give back her money right away.

**placebo** *n.*/安慰剂/harmless substance prescribed as a dummy pill. In a controlled experiment, fifty volunteers were

- 109 -

given aspirin tablets; the control group received only *placebos*.

**placid** *adj.*/平静的/peaceful; calm. After his vacation in this *placid* section, he felt soothed and rested.

**plagiarism** *n.*/剽窃/theft of another's ideas or writings passed off as original. The editor recognized the *plagiarism* and rebuked the culprit who had presented the manuscript as original.

**plagiarize** *v.*/剽窃/steal another's ideas and pass them off as one's own. The teacher could tell that the student had *plagiarized* parts of his essay; she could recognize whole paragraphs straight from Barron's Book Notes.

**plaintive** *adj.*/哀伤的/mournful. The dove has a *plaintive* and melancholy call.

**plasticity** *n.*/塑性/ability to be molded. When clay dries out, it loses its *plasticity* and becomes less malleable. **platitude** *n.*/陈词滥调/trite remark; commonplace statement. In giving advice to his son, old Polonius expressed himself only in *platitudes*; every word out of his mouth was a commonplace.

**plaudit** *n.*/喝彩/enthusiastically worded approval; round of applause. The theatrical company reprinted the *plaudits* of the critics in its advertisements. plauditory, *adj.*

**plausible** *adj.*/似是而非的/having a show of truth but open to doubt; specious. Your mother made you stay home from school because she needed you to program the VCR? I'm sorry, you'll have to come up with a more *plausible* excuse than that.

**plenitude** *n.*/充分，富足/abundance; completeness. Looking in the pantry, we admired the *plenitude* of fruits and pickles we had preserved during the summer.

**plethora** *n.*/过剩；过多/excess; overabundance. She offered a *plethora* of excuses for her shortcomings.

**pliable** *adj.*/圆滑的；柔韧的；易弯曲的/flexible; yielding; adaptable. In remodeling the bathroom, we have replaced all the old, rigid lead pipes with new, *pliable* copper tubing.

**pliant** *adj.*/顺从的/flexible; easily influenced. Pinocchio's disposition was *pliant*, he was like putty in his tempters' hands.

**plight** *n.*/情况，状况；困境/condition, state (especially a bad state or condition); predicament. Many people feel that the federal government should do more to alleviate the *plight* of the homeless. Loggers, unmoved by the plight of the spotted owl, plan to continue logging whether or not they ruin the owl's habitat.

**plumb** *adj.*/垂直；铅锤；用铅锤量/checking perpendicularity; vertical. Before hanging wallpaper it is advisable to drop a *plumb* line from the ceiling as a guide. also *n.* and *v.*

**plumage** *n.*/鸟类的羽毛/feathers of a bird. Bird watchers identify different species of bird by their characteristic songs and distinctive *plumage*.

**plummet** *v.*/垂直落下/fall sharply. Stock prices *plummeted* as Wall Street reacted to the crisis in the economy.

**plutocracy** *n.*/富豪统治/society ruled by the wealthy. From the way the government caters to the rich, you might think our society is a *plutocracy* rather than a democracy.

**podiatrist** *n.*/足病医生/doctor who treats ailments of the feet. He consulted a *podiatrist* about his fallen arches.

**podium** *n.*/指挥台；检阅台/pedestal; raised platform. The audience applauded as the conductor made his way to the *podium*.

**poignancy** *n.*/强烈的；感人的；尖锐的/quality of being deeply moving; keenness of emotion. Watching the tearful reunion of the long-separated mother and child, the social worker was touched by the *poignancy* of the scene. poignant, *adj.*

**polarize** *v.*/极化；分化；两极分化/split into opposite extremes or camps. The abortion issue has *polarized* the country into pro-choice and anti-abortion camps. polarization, *n.*

**polemical** *adj.*/辩论的，好辩的/aggressive in verbal attack; disputatious. Lexy was a master of *polemical* rhetoric; she should have worn a T-shirt with the slogan "Born to Debate."

**politic** *adj.*/精明的；明智的；诡计多端的；谨慎的/expedient; prudent; well advised. Even though he was disappointed by the size of the bonus he was offered, he did not think it *politic* to refuse it.

- 110 -

**polygamist** *n.*/多配偶/one who has more than one spouse at a time. He was arrested as a *polygamist* when his two wives filed complaints about him.

**polyglot** *adj.*/多语言/speaking several languages. New York City is a *polyglot* community because of the thousands of immigrants who settle there.

**pomposity** *n.*/夸大, 华丽; 浮夸; 自大/self-important behavior; acting like a stuffed shirt. Although the commencement speaker had some good things to say, we had to laugh at his *pomposity* and general air of parading his own dignity. pompous, *adj.*

**ponderous** *adj.*/沉重的; 笨重的; 呆板的; 冗长的/weighty; unwieldy. His humor lacked the light touch; his jokes were always *ponderous*.

**pontifical** *adj.*/教皇的; 主教的/pertaining to a bishop or pope; pompous or pretentious. From his earliest days at the seminary, John seemed destined for a high pontifical office. However, he sounded so pompous when he *pontificated* that he never was chosen *pontiff* after all.

**pore** *v.*/沉思; 考察; 深思熟虑; 小孔, 细口/study industriously; ponder; scrutinize. Determined to become a physician, Beth spent hours *poring* over her anatomy text.

**porous** *adj.*/筛子似的/full of pores; like a sieve. Dancers like to wear *porous* clothing because it allows the ready passage of water and air.

**portend** *v.*/预示/foretell; presage. The king did not know what these omens might *portend* and asked his soothsayers to interpret them.

**portent** *n.*/征兆/sign; omen; forewarning. He regarded the black cloud as a *portent* of evil.

**portly** *adj.*/健壮的; 肥胖的; 魁梧的/stately; stout. The overweight gentleman was referred to as *portly* by the polite salesclerk.

**poseur** *n.*/装模作样的人; 邯郸学步/person who pretends to be sophisticated, elegant, etc., to impress others. Some thought Salvador Dali was a brilliant painter; others dismissed him as a *poseur*.

**posterity** *n.*/子孙; 后裔/descendants; future generations. We hope to leave a better world to *posterity*. **posthumous** *adj.*/身后的; 遗腹的(书出版于作者死后, 孩子生于父亲死后)/after death (as of child born after father's death or book published after author's death). The critics ignored his works during his lifetime; it was only after the *posthumous* publication of his last novel that they recognized his great talent.

**postulate** *n.*/前提; 基于的假定/essential premise; underlying assumption. The basic *postulate* of democracy, set forth in the Declaration of Independence, is that all men are created equal.

**potable** *adj.*/可饮用的/suitable for drinking. The recent drought in the Middle Atlantic states has emphasized the need for extensive research in ways of making sea water *potable*. also *n.*

**potent** *adj.*/有效的/powerful; persuasive; greatly influential. Looking at the expiration date on the cough syrup bottle, we wondered whether the medication would still be *potent*. potency, *n.*

**potentate** *n.*/当权者/monarch; sovereign. The *potentate* spent more time at Monte Carlo than he did at home on his throne.

**potential** *adj.*/潜在的/expressing possibility; latent. This juvenile delinquent is a *potential* murderer. also *n.* **potion** *n.*/剂量/dose (of liquid). Tristan and Isolde drink a love *potion* in the first act of the opera.

**practicable** *adj.*/可行的/feasible. The board of directors decided that the plan was *practicable* and agreed to undertake the project.

**practical** *adj.*/有用的; 经验的; 实践证明的/based on experience; useful. He was a *practical* man, opposed to theory.

**practitioner** *n.*/从业者/someone engaged in a profession (law, medicine). In need of a hip replacement, Carl sought a *practitioner* with considerable experience performing this particular surgery.

**pragmatic** *adj.*/实际的; 注重实效的/practical (as opposed to idealistic); concerned with the practical worth or impact of something. This coming trip to France should provide me with a *pragmatic* test of the value of my conversational - 111 -

French class.

**pragmatist** *n.*/爱管闲事的人; 实用主义者/practical person. No *pragmatist* enjoys becoming involved in a game he can never win.

**prank** *n.*/胡闹; 打扮/mischievous trick. Is tipping over garbage cans on Halloween merely a childish *prank*, or is it vandalism?

**prate** *v.*/空谈/speak foolishly; boast idly. Let us not *prate* about our good qualities; rather, let our virtues speak for themselves.

**prattle** *v.*/闲聊; 胡说; 废话; 唠叨/babble. Baby John *prattled* on and on about the cats and his ball and the Cookie Monster.

**preamble** *n.*/导言; 介绍词/introductory statement. In the *Preamble* to the Constitution, the purpose of the document is set forth.

**precarious** *adj.*/不确定的; 冒风险/uncertain; risky. Saying the stock would be a *precarious* investment, the broker advised her client against purchasing it.

**precedent** *n.*/先例/something preceding in time that may be used as an authority or guide for future action. If I buy you a car for your sixteenth birthday, your brothers will want me to buy them cars when they turn sixteen, too; I can't afford to set such an expensive *precedent*. The law professor asked Jill to state which famous case served as a *precedent* for the court's decision in *Brown I*.

## Word List 37 precept-propitiate

**precept** *n.*/规则/practical rule guiding conduct. "Love thy neighbor as thyself" is a worthwhile *precept*. **precinct** *n.*/行政区/district or division of a city. Ed McBain's detective novels set in the 87th *precinct* provide an exciting picture of police work.

**precipice** *n.*/悬崖; 危险的位置/cliff; dangerous position. Suddenly Indiana Jones found himself dangling from the edge of a *precipice*.

**precipitate** *adj.*/匆忙的; 突然的; 未成熟的; 草率的/rash; premature; hasty; sudden. Though I was angry enough to resign on the spot, I had enough sense to keep myself from quitting a job in such a *precipitate* fashion.

**precipitate** *v.*/下降; 下坠/throw headlong; haste *n.* The removal of American political support appears to have *precipitated* the downfall of the Marcos regime.

**precipitous** *adj.*/陡峭的; 急躁的/steep; overhasty. This hill is difficult to climb because it is so *precipitous*; one slip, and our descent will be precipitous as well.

**précis** *n.*/大纲; 摘要/concise summing up of main points. Before making her presentation at the conference, Ellen wrote up a neat *précis* of the major elements she would cover.

**precise** *adj.*/精确的/exact. If you don't give me *precise* directions and a map, I'll never find your place.

**preclude** *v.*/消灭; 杜绝/make impossible; eliminate. The fact that the band was already booked to play in Hollywood on New Year's Eve *precluded* their accepting the New Year's Eve gig in London they were offered.

**precocious** *adj.*/早熟的/advanced in development. Listening to the grown-up way the child discussed serious topics, we couldn't help remarking how *precocious* she was. precocity, *n.*

**precursor** *n.*/领跑者, 先驱/forerunner. Though Gray and Burns share many traits with the Romantic poets who followed them, most critics consider them *precursors* of the Romantic Movement, not true Romantics.

**predator** *n.*/捕食者/creature that seizes and devours another animal; person who robs or exploits others. Not just cats, but a wide variety of *predators*-owls, hawks, weasels, foxes catch mice for dinner. A carnivore is by definition predatory, for he preys on weaker creatures.

**predecessor** *n.*/前任; 前辈/former occupant of a post. I hope I can live up to the fine example set by my late - 112 -

*predecessor* in this office.

**predetermine** *v.*/预定; 预先确定/predestine; settle or decide beforehand; influence markedly. Romeo and Juliet believed that Fate had *predetermined* their meeting. Bea gathered estimates from caterers, florists, and stationers so that she could predetermine the costs of holding a catered buffet. Philip's love of athletics *predetermined* his choice of a career in sports marketing.

**predicament** *n.*/困境; 危险的境地; 两难/tricky or dangerous situation; dilemma. Tied to the railroad tracks by the villain, Pauline strained against her bonds. How would she escape from this terrible *predicament*?

**predilection** *n.*/偏爱; 偏好/partiality; preference. Although I have written all sorts of poetry over the years, I have a definite *predilection* for occasional verse.

**predispose** *v.*/预先安排, 使其偏向于/give an inclination toward; make susceptible to. Oleg's love of dressing up his big sister's Barbie doll may have *predisposed* him to become a fashion designer. Genetic influences apparently *predispose* people to certain forms of cancer.

**preeminent** *adj.*/出色的; 出类拔萃的/outstanding; superior. The king traveled to Boston because he wanted the *preeminent* surgeon in the field to perform the operation.



**preempt** v./排挤，代替；阻止；抢占；先发制人/head off; forestall by acting first; appropriate for oneself; supplant. Hoping to

**preempt** any attempts by the opposition to make educational reform a hot political issue, the candidate set out her own plan to revitalize the public schools. preemptive, ADJ.

**preen** v./把自己打扮漂亮；自我满足；鸟类用嘴梳理羽毛/make oneself tidy in appearance; feel self-satisfaction. As Kitty **preened** before the mirror, carefully smoothing her shining hair, she couldn't help **preening** over how pretty she looked.

**prehensile** ADJ./可以得到的；可以抓住的/capable of grasping or holding. Monkeys use not only their arms and legs but also their **prehensile** tails in traveling through the trees.

**prelate** n./高级教士/church dignitary. The archbishop of Moscow and other high-ranking **prelates** visited the Russian Orthodox seminary.

**prelude** n./序；先驱；先导/introduction; forerunner. I am afraid that this border raid is the **prelude** to more serious attacks.

**premeditate** v./预谋，预先考虑/plan in advance. She had **premeditated** the murder for months, reading about common poisons and buying weed killer that contained arsenic.

**premise** n./假定，假设；前提/assumption; postulate. Based on the **premise** that there's no fool like an old fool, P. T. Barnum hired a ninety-year-old clown for his circus.

**premonition** n./前兆/forewarning. We ignored these **premonitions** of disaster because they appeared to be based on childish fears.

**preposterous** ADJ./荒唐的/absurd; ridiculous. When he tried to downplay his youthful experiments with marijuana by saying he hadn't inhaled, we all thought, "What a **preposterous** excuse!"

**prerogative** n./特权/privilege; unquestionable right. The president cannot levy taxes; that is the **prerogative** of the legislative branch of government.

**presage** v./预示/foretell. The vultures flying overhead **presaged** the discovery of the corpse in the desert. **prescience** n./预示能力/ability to foretell the future. Given the current wave of Japan-bashing, it does not take **prescience** for me to foresee problems in our future trade relations with Japan.

**presentiment** n./预感/feeling something will happen; anticipatory fear; premonition. Saying goodbye at the airport, Jack had a sudden **presentiment** that this was the last time he would see Jill.

**prestige** n./声望；威信/impression produced by achievements or reputation. Many students want to go to Harvard College not for the education offered but for the **prestige** of Harvard's name.

**presumptuous** ADJ./自大；轻狂；专横/overconfident; impertinently bold; taking liberties. Matilda thought it was

somewhat **presumptuous** of the young man to have addressed her without first having been introduced. Perhaps manners were freer here in the New World.

**pretentious** ADJ./自命不凡；华而不实；自大/ostentatious; pompous; making unjustified claims; overly ambitious. None of the other prize winners are wearing their medals; isn't it a bit **pretentious** of you to wear yours?

**preternatural** ADJ./超自然的/beyond what is normal in nature. Malcolm's mother's total ability to tell when he was lying struck him as almost **preternatural**.

**pretext** n./借口；托辞/excuse. He looked for a good **pretext** to get out of paying a visit to his aunt.

**prevail** v./导致，促使；击败；盛行/induce; triumph over. He tried to **prevail** on her to type his essay for him. **prevalent** ADJ./普遍的；流行的/widespread; generally accepted. A radical committed to social change, Reed had no patience with the conservative views **prevalent** in the America of his day.

**prevaricate** v./撒谎；支吾，搪塞；糊弄/lie. Some people believe that to **prevaricate** in a good cause is justifiable and regard such a statement as a "white lie."

**prey** n./猎物；受害人，牺牲品/target of a hunt; victim. In *Stalking the Wild Asparagus*, Euell Gibbons has as his **prey** not wild beasts but wild plants. also v.

**prim** ADJ./整洁的；精准的，精确的/very precise and formal; exceedingly proper. Many people commented on the contrast between the **prim** attire of the young lady and the inappropriate clothing worn by her escort.

**primordial** ADJ./原始的；与时间同在的/existing at the beginning (of time); rudimentary. The Neanderthal Man is one of our **primordial** ancestors.

**primp** v./打扮/groom oneself with care; adorn oneself. The groom stood by idly while his nervous bride-to-be

**primped** one last time before the mirror.

**pristine** ADJ./史前的；质朴的/characteristic of earlier times; primitive; unspoiled. This area has been preserved in all its **pristine** wildness.

**privation** n./困难，困苦；短缺，缺少/hardship; want. In his youth, he knew hunger and **privation**.

**probe** v./探测/explore with tools. The surgeon **probed** the wound for foreign matter before suturing it. also n. **problematic** ADJ./忧郁的；忧心忡忡的；心存疑虑的；有疑问的/doubtful; unsettled; questionable; perplexing. Given the way building costs have exceeded estimates for the job, whether the arena will ever be completed is **problematic**. **proclivity** n./倾向；自然倾向/inclination; natural tendency. Watching the two-year-old voluntarily put away his toys, I was amazed by his **proclivity** for neatness.

**procrastinate** v./推迟；延期/postpone; delay or put off. Looking at four years of receipts and checks he still had to sort through, Bob was truly sorry he had **procrastinated** for so long and not finished filing his taxes long ago.

**prod** v./刺；刺激；激励/poke; stir up; urge. If you **prod** him hard enough, he'll eventually clean his room.

**prodigal** ADJ./浪费的/wasteful; reckless with money. Don't be so **prodigal** spending my money; when you've earned some money yourself, you can waste it as much as you want! also n.

**prodigious** ADJ./巨大的/marvelous; enormous. Watching the champion weight lifter heave the weighty barbell to shoulder height and then boost it overhead, we marveled at his **prodigious** strength.

**prodigy** n./奇才；天才/marvel; highly gifted child. Menuhin was a **prodigy**, performing wonders on his violin when he was barely eight years old.

**profane** v./亵渎/violate; desecrate; treat unworthily. The members of the mysterious Far Eastern cult sought to kill the British explorer because he had **profaned** the sanctity of their holy goblet by using it as an ashtray. also ADJ. **profligate** ADJ./放荡的；放肆的；不检点的/dissipated; wasteful; wildly immoral. Although surrounded by wild and **profligate** companions, she nevertheless managed to retain some sense of decency.

**profound** ADJ./深刻的/deep; not superficial; complete. Freud's remarkable insights into human behavior caused his fellow scientists to honor him as a **profound** thinker. profundity, n.

**profusion** n./过量；过剩/overabundance; lavish expenditure; excess. Freddy was so overwhelmed by the **profusion**

- 114 -

of choices on the menu that he knocked over his wine glass and soaked his host. He made profuse apologies to his host, the waiter, the bus boy, the people at the next table, and the attendant handing out paper towels.

**progenitor** n./祖先/ancestor. The Roth family, whose **progenitors** emigrated from Germany early in the nineteenth century, settled in Peru, Illinois.

**progeny** n./后裔/children; offspring. He was proud of his **progeny** in general, but regarded George as the most promising of all his children.

**prognosis** n./预言；疾病警告/forecasted course of a disease; prediction. If the doctor's **prognosis** is correct, the patient will be in a coma for at least twenty-four hours.

**projectile** n./发射；导弹/missile. Man has always hurled **projectiles** at his enemy whether in the form of stones or of highly explosive shells.

**proletarian** n./无产阶级的；蓝领的/member of the working class; blue collar person. "Workers of the world, unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains" is addressed to **proletarians**, not preppies. So is Blue Collar Holler. proletariat, n.

**proliferation** n./迅速增长，倍增；扩散/rapid growth; spread; multiplication. Times of economic hardship inevitably encourage the **proliferation** of countless get-rich-quick schemes. proliferate, v. **prolific** ADJ./多产的；丰富的/abundantly fruitful. My editors must assume I'm a **prolific** writer: they expect me to revise six books this year!

**prolixity** n./冗长的；啰嗦的/tedious wordiness; verbosity. A writer who suffers from **prolixity** tells his readers everything they never wanted to know about his subject (or were too bored to ask). prolix, ADJ.

**prologue** n./序（诗歌，歌剧的）/introduction (to a poem or play). In the **prologue** to *Romeo and Juliet*, Shakespeare introduces the audience to the feud between the Montagues and the Capulets.

**prolong** v./拖延/make longer; draw out; lengthen. In their determination to discover ways to *prolong* human life, doctors fail to take into account that longer lives are not always happier ones.

**prominent** ADJ./显著的; 突出的; 卓越的/conspicuous; notable; sticking out. Have you ever noticed that Prince Charles's *prominent* ears make him look like the big-eared character in *Mad* comics?

**promiscuous** ADJ./随意混合的; 打乱的; 随便的/mixed indiscriminately; haphazard; irregular, particularly sexually. In the opera *La Bohème*, we get a picture of the *promiscuous* life led by the young artists of Paris.

**promontory** n./岬; 海角/headland. They erected a lighthouse on the *promontory* to warn approaching ships of their nearness to the shore.

**promote** v./提升; 促进/help to flourish; advance in rank; publicize. Founder of the Children's Defense Fund, Marian Wright Edelman ceaselessly *promotes* the welfare of young people everywhere.

**prompt** v./提示; 鼓动; 迅速及时的 /cause; provoke; provide a cue for an actor. Whatever *prompted* you to ask for such a big piece of cake when you're on a diet?

**promulgate** v./发布; 公布/proclaim a doctrine or law; make known by official publication. When Moses came down from the mountain top all set to *promulgate* God's commandments, he freaked out on discovering his followers worshipping a golden calf.

**prone** ADJ./倾向于/inclined to; prostrate. She was prone to sudden fits of anger during which she would lie *prone* on the floor, screaming and kicking her heels.

**propagate** v./迅速增长, 传播, 扩散/multiply; spread. Since bacteria *propagate* more quickly in unsanitary environments, it is important to keep hospital rooms clean.

**propellants** n./推进剂/substances that propel or drive forward. The development of our missile program has forced our scientists to seek more powerful *propellants*.

**propensity** n./自然倾向/natural inclination. Convinced of his own talent, Sol has an unfortunate *propensity* to belittle the talents of others.

- 115 -

**prophetic** ADJ./预言的/foretelling the future. I have no magical *prophetic* powers; when I predict what will happen, I base my predictions on common sense. prophesy, v.

**propinquity** n./亲近; 血缘/nearness; kinship. Their relationship could not be explained as being based on mere *propinquity*; they were more than relatives, they were true friends.

**propitiate** v./劝解; 平静; 安抚/appease. The natives offered sacrifices to *propitiate* the gods.

## Word List 38 propitious-quarry

**propitious** ADJ./吉利的; 有利的/favorable; fortunate; advantageous. Chloe consulted her horoscope to see whether Tuesday would be a *propitious* day to dump her boyfriend.

**proponent** n./支持者; 建议者/supporter; backer; opposite of opponent. In the Senate, *proponents* of the universal health care measure lobbied to gain additional support for the controversial legislation.

**propound** v./提出/put forth for analysis. In your discussion, you have *propounded* several questions; let us consider each one separately.

**propriety** n./适当/fitness; correct conduct. Miss Manners counsels her readers so that they may behave with due *propriety* in any social situation and not embarrass themselves.

**propulsive** ADJ./推进的; 有推进力的/driving forward. The jet plane has a greater *propulsive* power than the engine-driven plane.

**prosaic** ADJ./事实的; 平淡的; 缺乏想象力的 /dull and unimaginative; matter-of-fact; factual. Though the ad writers came up with an original way to publicize the product, the head office rejected it for a more *prosaic*, ordinary slogan. **proscribe** v./禁止/ ostracize; banish; outlaw. Antony, Octavius, and Lepidus *proscribed* all those who had conspired against Julius Caesar.

**proselytize** v./劝其改宗; 改宗/convert to a religion or belief. In these interfaith meetings, there must be no attempt to *proselytize*; we must respect all points of view.

**prosperity** n./繁荣; 好运/good fortune; financial success; physical well-being. Promising to stay together "for richer, for poorer," the newlyweds vowed to be true to one another in *prosperity* and hardship alike.

**prostrate** v./弄倒; 降伏/stretch out full on ground. He prostrated himself before the idol. also ADJ.

**protean** ADJ./变化多端的/versatile; able to take on many shapes. A remarkably *protean* actor, Alec Guinness could take on any role.

**protégé** n./被保护人/person receiving protection and support from a patron. Born with an independent spirit, Cyrano de Bergerac refused to be a *protégé* of Cardinal Richelieu.

**protocol** n./协议/diplomatic etiquette. We must run this state dinner according to *protocol* if we are to avoid offending any of our guests.

**prototype** n./原型/original work used as a model by others. The crude typewriter on display in this museum is the *prototype* of the elaborate machines in use today.

**protract** v./延长/prolong. Seeking to delay the union members' vote, the management team tried to *protract* the negotiations endlessly.

**protrude** v./突出/stick out. His fingers *protruded* from the holes in his gloves. protrusion, n.

**protuberance** n./隆起; 突出; 瘤/protrusion; bulge. A ganglionic cyst is a fluid-filled tumor that develops near a joint membrane or tendon sheath, and that bulges beneath the skin, forming a *protuberance*.

**provident** ADJ./有远见的/displaying foresight; thrifty; preparing for emergencies. In his usual *provident* manner, he had insured himself against this type of loss.

**provincial** ADJ./省级的; 视野不宽的; 简单的/pertaining to a province; limited in outlook; unsophisticated. As *provincial* governor, Sir Henry administered the Queen's law in his remote corner of Canada. Caught up in local problems, out

- 116 -

of touch with London news, he became sadly provincial.

**provisional** ADJ./临时的/tentative. Kim's acceptance as an American Express card holder was *provisional*: before issuing her a card, American Express wanted to check her employment record and credit history.

**provocative** ADJ./煽动的; 刺激的; 激怒的/arousing anger or interest; annoying. In a typically *provocative* act, the bully kicked sand into the weaker man's face.

**provoke** v./激怒; 惹; 煽动; 挑起/stir to anger; cause retaliation. In order to prevent a sudden outbreak of hostilities, we must not *provoke* our foe. provocation, n.; provocative, ADJ.

**prowess** n./非常勇猛/extraordinary ability; military bravery. Performing triple axels and double lutzes at the age of six, the young figure skater was world famous for her *prowess* on the ice.

**proximity** n./接近; 亲近/nearness. Blind people sometimes develop a compensatory ability to sense the *proximity* of objects around them.

**proxy** n./代理/authorized agent. Please act as my *proxy* and vote for this slate of candidates in my absence.

**prude** n./规矩的人; 正经人; 故作正经的人/excessively modest person. The X-rated film was definitely not for *prudes*. prudish, ADJ.

**prudent** ADJ./谨慎的/cautious; careful. A miser hoards money not because he is *prudent* but because he is greedy. prudence, n.

**prune** v./切掉; 修剪/cut away; trim. With the help of her editor, she was able to *prune* her overlong manuscript into publishable form.

**prurient** ADJ./好色的; 渴望的 /having or causing lustful thoughts and desires. Aroused by his *prurient* impulses, the dirty old man leered at the sweet young thing and offered to give her a sample of his "prowess."

**pseudonym** n./假名; 笔名/pen name. Samuel Clemens' *pseudonym* was Mark Twain.

**psyche** n./灵魂/soul; mind. It is difficult to delve into the *psyche* of a human being.

**pterodactyl** n./翼龙/extinct flying reptile. The remains of pterodactyls indicate that these flying reptiles had a wingspan of as much as twenty feet.

**puerile** ADJ./幼稚的, 孩子气的/childish. His *puerile* pranks sometimes offended his more mature friends.

**pugilist** n./拳击家/boxer. The famous *pugilist* Cassius Clay changed his name to Muhammed Ali.

**pugnacity** n./好斗的/combativeness; disposition to fight. "Put up your dukes!" he cried, making a fist to show his *pugnacity*. pugnacious, ADJ.

**pulchritude** n./美丽; 标致/beauty; comeliness. I do not envy the judges who have to select this year's Miss America from this collection of female *pulchritude*.

**pulverize** v./磨碎; 粉碎/crush or grind into dust. Before sprinkling the dried herbs into the stew, Michael first *pulverized* them into a fine powder.

**pummel** v./用拳头打/beat or pound with fists. Swinging wildly, Pam *pummeled* her brother around the head and shoulders.

**punctilious** ADJ./谨小慎微的；一丝不苟的/laying stress on niceties of conduct or form; minutely attentive to fine points (perhaps too much so). Percy is *punctilious* about observing the rules of etiquette whenever Miss Manners invites him to stay. punctiliousness.n.

**pundit** n./博学者；梵文学家/authority on a subject; learned person; expert. Some authors who write about SAT I as if they are *pundits* actually know very little about the test.

**pungent** ADJ./刺激的；辛辣的；尖锐的/stinging; sharp in taste or smell; caustic. The *pungent* odor of ripe Limburger cheese appealed to Simone but made Stanley gag.

**punitive** ADJ./惩罚的/punishing. He asked for *punitive* measures against the offender.

**puny** ADJ./不显著的；不明显的；细微的/insignificant; tiny; weak. Our *puny* efforts to stop the flood were futile.

**purchase** n./赢得；换得；努力争取得；购买/firm grasp or footing. The mountaineer struggled to get a proper *purchase* on - 117 -

the slippery rock. (secondary meaning)

**purge** v./净化；清除；拉肚子/remove or get rid of something unwanted; free from blame or guilt; cleanse or purify. When the Communist government *purged* the party to get rid of members suspected of capitalist sympathies, they sent the disloyal members to labor camps in Siberia.

**purported** ADJ./传说的；谣传的/alleged; claimed; reputed or rumored. The *purported* Satanists sacrificing live roosters in the park turned out to be a party of Shriners holding a chicken barbecue.

**purse** v./折叠；褶皱；钱包；手提包（女式）/pucker; contract into wrinkles. Miss Wats on *pursed* her lips to show her disapproval of Huck's bedraggled appearance.

**purveyor** n./承办商/furnisher of foodstuffs; caterer. As *purveyor* of rare wines and viands, he traveled through France and Italy every year in search of new products to sell.

**pusillanimous** ADJ./懦弱的；优柔寡断的/cowardly; fainthearted. You should be ashamed of your *pusi lanimous* conduct during this dispute.

**putrid** ADJ./恶臭的；腐烂的/foul; rotten; decayed. The gangrenous condition of the wound was indicated by the *putrid* smell when the bandages were removed. putrescence, n.

**pyromaniac** n./纵火狂/person with an insane desire to set things on fire. The detectives searched the area for the *pyromaniac* who had set these costly fires.

**quack** n./骗子；吹嘘的人/charlatan; impostor. Do not be misled by the exorbitant claims of this *quack*; he cannot cure you.

**quadruped** n./四足动物/four-footed animal. Most mammals are *quadrupeds*.

**quaff** v./一饮而尽/drink with relish. As we *quaffed* our ale, we listened to the lively songs of the students in the tavern.

**quagmire** n./沼泽；湿地/soft wet boggy land; complex or dangerous situation from which it is difficult to free oneself. Up to her knees in mud, Myra wondered how on earth she was going to extricate herself from this *quagmire*.

**quail** v./懦弱；胆怯/cower; lose heart. The Cowardly Lion was afraid that he would *quail* in the face of danger. **quaint** ADJ./离奇古怪的；做的精巧的；过时的/odd; old-fashioned; picturesque. Her *quaint* clothes and old-fashioned language marked her as an eccentric.

**qualified** ADJ./有资格的；有限制的；被限制的/limited; restricted. Unable to give the candidate full support, the mayor gave him only a *qualified* endorsement. (secondary meaning)

**qualms** n./担心，害怕；担惊受怕；愧对良心/misgivings; uneasy fears, especially about matters of conscience. I have no *qualms* about giving this assignment to Helen; I know she will handle it admirably.

**quandary** n./两难的困境/dilemma. When both Harvard and Stanford accepted Laura, she was in a *quandary* as to which school she should attend.

**quarantine** n./隔离/isolation of person or ship to prevent spread of infection. We will have to place this house under *quarantine* until we determine the exact nature of the disease. also v.

**quarry** n./猎物；受害者/victim; object of a hunt. The police closed in on their *quarry*.

**quarry** v./挖掘出，寻找出/dig into. They *quarried* blocks of marble out of the hillside. also n.

*Word List 39 quay-recurrent*

**quay** n./码头/dock; landing place. Because of the captain's carelessness, the ship crashed into the *quay*.

**queasy** ADJ./神经质的，洁癖的；易呕吐的/easily nauseated; squeamish. Remember that great chase movie, the one with the carsick passenger? That's right: *Queasy Rider*!

**quell** v./扑灭；镇压；平息/extinguish; put down; quiet. Miss Minchin's demeanor was so stern and forbidding that she could *quell* any unrest among her students with one intimidating glance.

**quench** v./弄湿；扑灭；熄灭；淬火/douse or extinguish; assuage or satisfy. No matter how much water the hiker drank, - 118 -

she could not *quench* her thirst.

**querulous** ADJ./鸣不平的；易发牢骚的/fretful; whining. Even the most agreeable toddlers can begin to act *querulous* if they miss their nap.

**query** n./问询；质问/inquiry; question. In her column "Ask Beth," the columnist invites young readers to send her their *queries* about life and love.

**quibble** n./遁词；狡辩；支吾；吹毛求疵/minor objection or complaint. Aside from a few hundred teensy-weensy *quibbles* about the set, the script, the actors, the director, the costumes, the lighting, and the props, the hypercritical critic loved the play. also v.

**quiescent** ADJ./睡眠的；休息的；暂停活动的/at rest; dormant; temporarily inactive. After the great eruption, fear of Mount Etna was great; people did not return to cultivate its rich hillside lands until the volcano had been *quiescent* for a full two years. quiescence, n.

**quietude** n./平静；宁静/tranquility. He was impressed by the air of *quietude* and peace that pervaded the valley.

**quintessence** n./精粹；精华/purest and highest embodiment. Noel Coward displayed the *quintessence* of wit.

**quip** n./嘲弄；讽刺/taunt. You are unpopular because you are too free with your *quips* and sarcastic comments. also v. **quirk** n./反复无常；怪僻/startling twist; caprice. By a *quirk* of fate, he found himself working for the man whom he had discharged years before.

**quiver** v./振动的；颤抖的；敏捷的/tremble; shake. The bird dog's nose twitched and his whiskers *quivered* as he strained eagerly against the leash. also n.

**quiver** n./射箭的/case for arrows. Robin Hood reached back and plucked one last arrow from his *quiver*. (secondary meaning)

**quixotic** ADJ./空想的；狂想的/idealistic but impractical. Constantly coming up with quixotic, unworkable schemes to save the world, Simon has his heart in the right place, but his head somewhere in the clouds.

**quizzical** ADJ./古怪的；嘲弄的；令人好奇的/teasing; bantering; mocking; curious. When the skinny teenager tripped over his own feet stepping into the bullpen, Coach raised one *quizzical* eyebrow, shook his head, and said, "Okay, kid. You're here, let's see what you've got."

**quorum** n./法定人数/number of members necessary to conduct a meeting. The senator asked for a roll call to determine whether a *quorum* was present.

**rabid** ADJ./狂暴的；激烈的/like a fanatic; furious. He was a *rabid* follower of the Dodgers and watched them play whenever he could go to the ball park.

**raconteur** n./善谈的人；满肚子故事的人/storyteller. My father was a gifted *raconteur* with an unlimited supply of anecdotes.

**rail** v./责骂；斥责；咆哮/scold; rant. You may *rail* at him all you want; you will never change him.

**raiment** n./衣服/clothing. "How can I go to the ball?" asked Cinderella. "I have no *raiment* fit to wear."

**rally** v./复原，恢复；召集，集合/call up or summon (forces, vital powers, etc.); revive or recuperate. Washington quickly rallied his troops to fight off the British attack. The patient had been sinking throughout the night, but at dawn she *rallied* and made a complete recovery.

**ramble** v./游荡；漫无目的游荡/wander aimlessly (physically or mentally). Listening to the teacher *ramble*, Judy wondered whether he'd ever get to his point.

**ramification** n./分支；分叉/branching out; subdivision. We must examine all the *ramifications* of this problem. **ramify** v./分支；分开/divide into branches or subdivisions. When the plant begins to *ramify*, it is advisable to nip off most of the new branches.

**ramp** *n.* /斜面; 斜坡/slope; inclined plane. The house was built with *ramps* instead of stairs in order to enable the man in the wheelchair to move easily from room to room and floor to floor.

**rampant** *ADJ.* /猖獗的; 滋生的; 猛烈的/growing in profusion; unrestrained. The *rampant* weeds in the garden choked the - 119 -

flowers until they died.

**ramshackle** *ADJ.* /摇摆的; 摇摇欲坠的/rickety; falling apart. The boys propped up the *ramshackle* clubhouse with a couple of boards.

**rancid** *ADJ.* /油脂一样腐臭的/having the odor of stale fat. A *rancid* odor filled the ship's galley and nauseated the crew.

**rancor** *n.* /苦难/bitterness; hatred. Thirty years after the war, she could not let go of the past but was still consumed with *rancor* against the foe.

**random** *ADJ.* /随机的/without definite purpose, plan, or aim; haphazard. Although the sponsor of the raffle claimed all winners were chosen at *random*, people had their suspicions when the grand prize went to the sponsor's brother-in-law.

**rankle** *v.* /激怒; 溃烂; 化脓/irritate; fester. The memory of having been jilted *rankled* him for years.

**rant** *v.* /咆哮; 激昂的演说; 斥责/rave; talk excitedly; scold; make a grandiloquent speech. When he heard that I'd totaled the family car, Dad began to *rant* at me like a complete madman.

**rapacious** *ADJ.* /极度贪婪的; 捕食的; 掠夺的/excessively greedy; predatory. The *rapacious* brigands stripped the villagers of all their possessions. rapacity, *n.*

**rapproach** *n.* /情感的亲近; 和谐/emotional closeness; harmony. In team teaching, it is important that all teachers in the group have good *rapproach* with one another.

**rapt** *ADJ.* /迷住的; 全神贯注的/absorbed; enchanted. Caught up in the wonder of the storyteller's tale, the *rapt* listeners sat motionless, hanging on his every word.

**rarefied** *ADJ.* /稀释 (气体) /made less dense (of a gas). The mountain climbers had difficulty breathing in the *rarefied* atmosphere. rarefy, *v.*

**raspy** *ADJ.* /刺耳的; 焦躁的/grating; harsh. The sergeant's *raspy* voice grated on the recruits' ears.

**ratify** *v.* /批准, 认可/approve formally; confirm; verify. Party leaders doubted that they had enough votes in both houses of Congress to *ratify* the constitutional amendment.

**ratiocination** *n.* /推理; 推论/reasoning; act of drawing conclusions from premises. While Watson was a man of average intelligence, Holmes was a genius, whose gift for *ratiocination* made him a superb detective. **rational** *n.* /基础科学; 基本原理/fundamental reason or justification; grounds for an action. Her need to have someplace to hang her earring collection was Dora's *rational* for piercing fifteen holes in each ear.

**rationalize** *v.* /合理化/give a plausible reason for an action in place of a true, less admirable one; offer an excuse. When David told gabby Gabrielle he couldn't give her a ride to the dance because he had no room in the car, he was *rationalizing*; actually, he couldn't stand being cooped up in a car with anyone who talked as much as she did. **raucous** *ADJ.* /沙哑的/harsh and shrill; disorderly and boisterous. The *raucous* crowd of New Year's Eve revelers got progressively noisier as midnight drew near.

**rave** *n.* /咆哮/overwhelmingly favorable review. Though critic John Simon seldom has a good word to say about most contemporary plays, his review of All in the Timing was a total *rave*.

**ravel** *v.* /使混乱; 解开混乱, 解决混乱/fall apart into tangles; unravel or untwist; entangle. A single thread pulled loose, and the entire scarf started to *ravel*.

**ravenous** *ADJ.* /饥饿的/extremely hungry. The *ravenous* dog upset several garbage pails in its search for food.

**raz** *v.* /彻底摧毁/destroy completely. Spelling is important: to raise a building is to put it up; to *raze* a building is to tear it down.

**reactionary** *ADJ.* /反作用的/recoiling from progress; politically ultraconservative. Opposing the use of English in worship services, *reactionary* forces in the church fought to reinstate the mass in Latin.

**realm** *n.* /领域/kingdom; field or sphere. In the animal *realm*, the lion is the king of beasts.

**reaper** *n.* /收割者; 收割机/one who harvests grain. Death, the Grim *Reaper*, cuts down mortal men and women, just as a farmer cuts down the ripened grain. reap, *v.*

- 120 -

**rebuff** *v.* /回绝/snub; beat back. She *rebuffed* his invitation so smoothly that he did not realize he had been snubbed. also *n.*

**rebu** *v.* /严厉批评; 猛烈的训斥/scold harshly; criticize severely. No matter how sharply Miss Watson *rebu*ed Huck for his misconduct, he never talked back but just stood there like a stump. also *n.*

**rebuttal** *n.* /驳斥; 举反证/refutation; response with contrary evidence. The defense lawyer confidently listened to the prosecutor sum up his case, sure that she could answer his arguments in her *rebuttal*.

**recalcitrant** *ADJ.* /反抗的; 顽抗的/obstinately stubborn; determined to resist authority; unruly. Which animal do you think is more *recalcitrant*, a pig or a mule?

**recant** *v.* /放弃; 宣布放弃/disclaim or disavow; retract a previous statement; openly confess error. Those who can, keep true to their faith; those who can't, recant. Hoping to make Joan of Arc *recant* her sworn testimony, her English captors tried to convince her that her visions had been sent to her by the Devil.

**recapitulate** *v.* /概括; 总结/summarize. Let us *recapitulate* what has been said thus far before going ahead.

**recast** *v.* /重建/reconstruct (a sentence, story, etc.); fashion again. Let me *recast* this sentence in terms your feeble brain can grasp: in words of one syllable, you are a fool.

**receptive** *ADJ.* /善于接受的/quick or willing to receive ideas, suggestions, etc. Adventure-loving Huck Finn proved a *receptive* audience for Tom's tales of buried treasure and piracy.

**recession** *n.* /撤退/withdrawal; retreat; time of low economic activity. The slow *recession* of the flood waters created problems for the crews working to restore power to the area. recede, *v.*

**recidivism** *n.* /累犯; 惯犯/habitual return to crime. Prison reformers in the United States are disturbed by the high rate of *recidivism*; the number of men serving second and third terms in prison indicates the failure of prisons to rehabilitate the inmates.

**recipient** *n.* /接受的东西; 容器/receiver. Although he had been the *recipient* of many favors, he was not grateful to his benefactor.

**reciprocal** *ADJ.* /互相的; 互动的; 互惠的/mutual; exchangeable; interacting. The two nations signed a *reciprocal* trade agreement.

**reciprocate** *v.* /互给; 呼唤; 酬答/repay in kind. If they attack us, we shall be compelled to *reciprocate* and bomb their territory. reciprocity, *n.*

**recluse** *n.* /隐遁者; 寂寞者/hermit; loner. Disappointed in love, Miss Emily became a *recluse*; she shut herself away in her empty mansion and refused to see another living soul. reclusive, *ADJ.*

**reconcile** *v.* /抛弃前嫌; 不打不相识; 结为好友; 化解冲突/correct inconsistencies; become friendly after a quarrel. Each month when we try to reconcile our checkbook with the bank statement, we quarrel. However, despite these monthly lovers' quarrels, we always manage to *reconcile*.

**reconnaissance** *n.* /侦查/survey of enemy by soldiers; reconnoitering. If you encounter any enemy soldiers during your *reconnaissance*, capture them for questioning.

**recount** *v.* /解说, 告诉; 重新数/narrate or tell; count over again. A born storyteller, my father loved to *recount* anecdotes about his early years in New York.

**recourse** *n.* /求助; 求援/resorting to help when in trouble. The boy's only *recourse* was to appeal to his father for aid.

**recrimination** *n.* /反责; 反击/countercharges. Loud and angry *recriminations* were her answer to his accusations. **rectify** *v.* /纠正/set right; correct. You had better send a check to *rectify* your account before American Express cancels your credit card.

**rectitude** *n.* /垂直; 正直; 公正/uprightness; moral virtue; correctness of judgment. The Eagle Scout was a model of *rectitude*.

**recumbent** *ADJ.* /靠着的; 斜躺的; 不动的; 休息的/reclining; lying down completely or in part. The command "AT EASE" does not permit you to take a *recumbent* position.

- 121 -

**recuperate** *v.* /恢复/recover. The doctors were worried because the patient did not *recuperate* as rapidly as they had expected.

**recurrent** *ADJ.* /一遍又一遍发生的; 循环发生的/occurring again and again. Richard's *recurrent* asthma attacks disturbed us and we consulted a physician.

## Word List 40 redolent-rescind

**redolent** *ADJ.* /有味道的; 有香味的/fragrant; odorous; suggestive of an odor. Even though it is February, the air is *redolent* of spring.

**redoubtable** *ADJ.* /可怕的/ formidable; causing fear. During the Cold War period, neighboring countries tried not to offend the Russians because they could be *redoubtable* foes.

**redress** *N.* /补偿; 赔偿/ remedy; compensation. Do you mean to tell me that I can get no *redress* for my injuries? also *v.*

**redundant** *ADJ.* /冗余的; 多余的/ superfluous; repetitious; excessively wordy. The bottle of wine I brought to Bob's was certainly *redundant* how was I to know Bob owned a winery? In your essay, you repeat several points unnecessarily; try to be less *redundant* in the future. redundancy, *N.*

**reek** *v.* /散发 (气味) / emit (odor). The room *reeked* with stale tobacco smoke. also *N.*

**refraction** *N.* / (光线的) 折射, 弯曲/ bending of a ray of light. When you look at a stick inserted in water, it looks bent because of the *refraction* of the light by the water.

**refractory** *ADJ.* /按不住的; 不服气的; 倔强的/ stubborn; unmanageable. The *refractory* horse was eliminated from the race when he refused to obey the jockey.

**refrain** *v.* /抵制; 抵抗; 远离, 节制/ abstain from; resist. Whenever he heard a song with a lively chorus, Sol could never *refrain* from joining in on the *refrain*.

**refurbish** *v.* /刷新; 修复; 擦亮/ renovate; make bright by polishing. The flood left a deposit of mud on everything; we had to *refurbish* our belongings.

**refute** *v.* /反驳/ disprove. The defense called several respectable witnesses who were able to *refute* the false testimony of the prosecution's sole witness. refutation, *N.*

**regal** *ADJ.* /皇家的/ royal. Prince Albert had a *regal* manner.

**regale** *v.* /取悦, 娱乐, 享受/ entertain. John *regaled* us with tales of his adventures in Africa.

**regime** *N.* /政体/ method or system of government. When the French mention the Old *Regime*, they refer to the government existing before the revolution.

**regimen** *N.* /摄生法/ prescribed diet and habits. I doubt whether the results warrant our living under such a strict *regimen*.

**rehabilitate** *v.* /恢复; 复原/ restore to proper condition. We must *rehabilitate* those whom we send to prison.

**reimburse** *v.* /偿还/ repay. Let me know what you have spent and I will *reimburse* you.

**reiterate** *v.* /重申; 重复/ repeat. He *reiterated* the warning to make sure everyone understood it.

**rejoinder** *N.* /反驳; 回应/ retort; comeback; reply. When someone has been rude to me, I find it particularly satisfying to come up with a quick *rejoinder*.

**rejuvenate** *v.* /返老还童; 青春重回/ make young again. The charlatan claimed that his elixir would *rejuvenate* the aged and weary.

**relegate** *v.* /指派; 下放; 贬/ banish to an inferior position; delegate; assign. After Ralph dropped his second tray of drinks that week, the manager swiftly *relegated* him to a minor post cleaning up behind the bar.

**relent** *v.* /变宽厚; 变温和/ give in. When her stern father would not *relent* and allow her to marry Robert Browning, Elizabeth Barrett eloped with her suitor. relentless, *ADJ.*

**relevant** *ADJ.* /有关的; 相对的/ pertinent; referring to the case in hand. How *relevant* Virginia Woolf's essays are to  
- 122 -

women writers today! It's as if Woolf in the 1930s foresaw our current literary struggles. relevancy, *N.*

**relic** *N.* /纪念物; 废墟, 遗留/ surviving remnant; memento. Egypt's Department of Antiquities prohibits tourists from taking mummies and other ancient relics out of the country. Mike keeps his photos of his trip to Egypt in a box with other *relics* of his travels.

**relinquish** *v.* /不情愿的屈服, 放弃 (某物) / give up something with reluctance; yield. Denise never realized how hard it would be for her to *relinquish* her newborn son to the care of his adoptive parents. Once you get used to fringe benefits like expense account meals and a company car, it's very hard to *relinquish* them.

**relish** *v.* /品味; 享受/ savor; enjoy. Watching Peter enthusiastically chow down, I thought, "Now there's a man who *relishes* a good dinner!" also *N.*

**remediable** *ADJ.* /可挽回的/ repairable. Let us be grateful that the damage is *remediable*.

**remedial** *ADJ.* /治疗的, 补救的/ curative; corrective. Because he was a slow reader, he decided to take a course in *remedial* reading.

**reminiscence** *N.* /怀旧; 回想/ recollection. Her *reminiscences* of her experiences are so fascinating that she ought to write a book.

**remiss** *ADJ.* /玩忽职守的, 粗心大意的/ negligent. The guard was accused of being *remiss* in his duty when the prisoner escaped.

**remission** *N.* /减轻, 缓解; 宽恕/ temporary moderation of disease symptoms; cancellation of a debt; forgiveness or pardon. Though the senator had been treated for cancer, his symptoms were in *remission*, and he was considered fit enough to handle the strains of a presidential race.

**remnant** *N.* /残留物/ remainder. I suggest that you wait until the store places the *remnants* of these goods on sale.

**remonstrance** *N.* /抗议/ protest; objection. The authorities were deaf to the pastor's *remonstrances* about the lack of police protection in the area. remonstrate, *v.*

**remorse** *N.* /懊悔, 自责/ guilt; self-reproach. The murderer felt no *remorse* for his crime.

**remunerative** *ADJ.* /有利益的; 有报酬的/ compensating; rewarding. I find my new work so *remunerative* that I may not return to my previous employment. remuneration, *N.*

**rend** *v.* /分开; 撕开/ split; tear apart. In his grief, he tried to *rend* his garments. rent, *N.*

**render** *v.* /呈递; 开账单; 给予; 还以, 报以; 放弃, 投降投降或交出; 放弃; 描写以文字形式表现, 描绘; 以图像或绘画表现; 演奏, 诠释; 翻译; 正式宣布; 裁决; 使成为; 熔解, 精炼; 打底/ deliver; provide; represent. He *rendered* aid to the needy and indigent. **rendition** *N.* /表演, 诠释; 翻译/ translation; artistic interpretation of a song, etc. The audience cheered enthusiastically as she completed her *rendition* of the aria.

**renegade** *N.* /变节者/ deserter; traitor. Because he had abandoned his post and joined forces with the Indians, his fellow officers considered the hero of *Danceswith Wolves* a *renegade*. also *ADJ.*

**renege** *v.* /食言; 反悔; 否认; 翻供/ deny; go back on. He *reneged* on paying off his debt.

**renounce** *v.* /放弃; 断绝关系/ abandon; disown; repudiate. Even though she knew she would be burned at the stake as a witch, Joan of Arc refused to *renounce* her belief that her voices came from God. renunciation, *N.*

**renovate** *v.* /革新; 刷新; 修复/ restore to good condition; renew. They claim that they can *renovate* worn shoes so that they look like new ones.

**renown** *N.* /名望/ fame. For many years an unheralded researcher, Barbara McClintock gained international *renown* when she won the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine. renowned, *ADJ.*

**rent** *N.* /撕; 裂口/ rip; split. Kit did an excellent job of mending the rent in the lining of her coat.

**reparable** *ADJ.* /可修复的/ capable of being repaired. Fortunately, the damages we suffered in the accident were *reparable* and our car looks brand new.

**reparation** *N.* /修订; 弥补; 补偿/ amends; compensation. At the peace conference, the defeated country promised to pay *reparations* to the victors.

- 123 -

**repast** *N.* /餐; 宴会/ meal; feast; banquet. The caterers prepared a delicious *repast* for Fred and Judy's wedding day. **repeal** *v.* /废除; 撤除/ revoke; annul. What would the effect on our society be if we decriminalized drug use by *repealing* the laws against the possession and sale of narcotics?

**repel** *v.* /撤退; 退却/ drive away; disgust. At first, the Beast's ferocious appearance *repelled* Beauty, but she came to love the tender heart hidden behind that beastly exterior.

**repellent** *ADJ.* /排斥的/ driving away; unattractive. Mosquitoes find the odor so *repellent* that they leave any spot where this liquid has been sprayed. also *N.*

**repercussion** *N.* /反弹; 弹回/ rebound; reverberation; reaction. I am afraid that this unfortunate incident will have serious *repercussions*.

**repertoire** *N.* /节目表; 保留节目/ list of works of music, drama, etc., a performer is prepared to present. The opera company decided to include Madame Butterfly in its *repertoire* for the following season.

**replenish** *v.* /补充/ fill up again. Before she could take another backpacking trip, Carla had to *replenish* her stock of freeze-dried foods.

**replete** *ADJ.* /充满的; 充足的/ filled to the brim or to the point of being stuffed; abundantly supplied. The movie star's memoir was *replete* with juicy details about the love life of half of Hollywood.

**replica** *n.*/复制/copy. Are you going to hang this *replica* of the Declaration of Independence in the classroom or in the auditorium?

**replicate** *v.*/复制/reproduce; duplicate. Because he had always wanted a palace, Donald decided to *replicate* the Tai Mahal in miniature on his estate.

**repository** *n.*/仓库; 知识库; 智囊团/storehouse. Libraries are *repositories* of the world's best thoughts. **reprehensible** *ADJ.*/应  
该谴责的/deserving blame. Shocked by the viciousness of the bombing, politicians of every party uniformly condemned the terrorists' *reprehensible* deed.

**repress** *v.*/压迫; 压制; 压/restrain; crush; oppress. Anne's parents tried to curb her impetuosity without *repressing* her boundless high spirits.

**reprieve** *n.*/暂缓; 缓刑/temporary stay. During the twenty-four-hour *reprieve*, the lawyers sought to make the stay of execution permanent. also *v.*

**reprimand** *v.*/谴责/reprove severely; rebuke. Every time Ermengarde made a mistake in class, she was afraid that Miss Minchin would *reprimand* her and tell her father how badly she was doing in school. also *n.*

**reprisal** *n.*/报复/retaliation. I am confident that we are ready for any *reprisals* the enemy may undertake.

**reprise** *n.*/年金; 重奏; 重复的行动/musical repetition; repeat performance; recurrent action. We enjoyed the soprano's solo in Act I so much that we were delighted by its *reprise* in the finale.

**reproach** *v.*/表示失望; 责备/express disapproval or disappointment. He never could do anything wrong without imagining how the look on his mother's face would *reproach* him afterwards. reproachful, *ADJ.*

**reprobate** *n.*/有重罪的人; 道德败坏的人, 无耻的人/person hardened in sin, devoid of a sense of decency. I cannot understand why he has so many admirers if he is the *reprobate* you say he is.

**reprove** *v.*/责备/censure; rebuke. The principal severely *reproved* the students whenever they talked in the halls.

**repudiate** *v.*/批判/disown; disavow. On separating from Tony, Tina announced that she would *repudiate* all debts incurred by her soon-to-be ex-husband.

**repugnant** *ADJ.*/不一致的; 令人讨厌的/loathsome; hateful. She found the snake *repugnant* and looked on it with loathing and fear.

**repulsion** *n.*/排斥; 反致/distaste; act of driving back. Hating bloodshed, she viewed war with *repulsion*. Even defensive battles distressed her, for the *repulsion* of enemy forces is never accomplished bloodlessly.

**reputable** *ADJ.*/著名的; 令人尊敬的/respectable. If you want to buy antiques, look for a *reputable* dealer; far too many dealers today pass off fakes as genuine antiques.

- 124 -

**reputed** *ADJ.*/名誉好的; 有名气的; 名誉的/supposed. Though he is the *reputed* father of the child, no one can be sure. *repute*, *n.*

**requiem** *n.*/安灵弥撒; 安灵歌, 挽歌/mass for the dead; dirge. They played Mozart's *Requiem* at the funeral.

**requisite** *n.*/必须品; 必要的/necessary requirement. Many colleges state that a student must offer three years of a language as a *requisite* for admission.

**requite** *v.*/报答; 酬谢/repay; revenge. The wretch *requited* his benefactors by betraying them.

**rescind** *v.*/取消/cancel. Because of the public outcry against the new taxes, the senator proposed a bill to *rescind* the unpopular financial measure.

## Word List 41 resentment-sacrosanct

**resentment** *n.*/怨恨; 愤恨/indignation; bitterness; displeasure. Not wanting to appear a sore loser, Bill tried to hide his *resentment* of Barry's success.

**reserve** *n.*/自我控制; 疏远/self-control; formal but distant manner. Although some girls were attracted by Mark's air of *reserve*, Judy was put off by it, for she felt his aloofness indicated a lack of openness. reserved, *ADJ.*

**residue** *n.*/残留物; 余额/remainder; balance. In his will, he requested that after payment of debts, taxes, and funeral expenses, the *residue* be given to his wife. residual, *ADJ.*

**resigned** *ADJ.*/认命, 顺从; 听天由命/accepting one's fate; unresisting; patiently submissive. *Resigned* to his downtrodden existence, Bob Cratchit was too meek to protest Scrooge's bullying. resignation, *n.*

**resilient** *ADJ.*/弹性的/elastic; having the power of springing back. Highly *resilient*, steel makes excellent bedsprings. resilience, *n.*

**resolution** *n.*/坚定; 决心; 决定/determination; resolve. Nothing could shake his *resolution* that his children would get the best education that money could buy. resolute, *ADJ.*

**resolve** *n.*/决心; 解决/determination; firmness of purpose. How dare you question my *resolve* to take up sky-diving! Of course I haven't changed my mind!

**resolve** *v.*/决定; 安排/decide; settle; solve. Holmes *resolved* to travel to Bohemia to resolve the dispute between Irene Adler and the king.

**resonant** *ADJ.*/共鸣的/echoing; resounding; deep and full in sound. The deep, *resonant* voice of the actor James Earl Jones makes him particularly effective when he appears on stage.

**respiration** *n.*/呼吸; 呼吸作用; 呼气/breathing; exhalation. The doctor found that the patient's years of smoking had adversely affected both his lung capacity and his rate of *respiration*.

**respite** *n.*/暂缓/interval of relief; time for rest; delay in punishment. After working nonstop on this project for three straight months. I need a *respite*! For David, the two weeks vacationing in New Zealand were a delightful respite from the pressures of his job.

**resplendent** *ADJ.*/辉煌的; 光辉的/dazzling; glorious; brilliant. While all the adults were commenting how glorious the emperor looked in his *resplendent* new clothes, one little boy was heard to say, "But he's naked!" **responsiveness** *n.*/响应的/state of reacting readily to appeals, orders, etc. The audience cheered and applauded, delighting the performers by its *responsiveness*. **restitution** *n.*/归还; 补偿/reparation; indemnification. He offered to make *restitution* for the window broken by his son.

**restive** *ADJ.*/焦躁不安的; 难以压抑的/restlessly impatient; obstinately resisting control. Waiting impatiently in line to see Santa Claus, even the best-behaved children grow *restive* and start to fidget.

**restraint** *n.*/抑制; 控制/moderation or self-control; controlling force; restriction. Control yourself. young lady! Show - 125 -

some *restraint*!

**resumption** *n.*/恢复; 重新开始/taking up again;

recommencement. During summer break, Don had not realized how much he missed university life: at the *resumption* of classes, however, he felt marked excitement and pleasure. resume, *v.*

**resurge** *v.*/复活/rise again; flow to and fro. It was startling to see the spirit of nationalism *resurge* as the Soviet Union disintegrated into a loose federation of ethnic and national groups. resurgence, *n.*

**retain** *v.*/保持; 使用/keep; employ. Fighting to *retain* his seat in Congress, Senator Foghorn *retained* a new manager to head his reelection campaign.

**retaliation** *n.*/报仇/repayment in kind (usually for bad treatment). Because everyone knew the Princeton Band had stolen Brown's mascot, the whole Princeton student body expected some sort of *retaliation* from Brown. retaliate, *v.*

**retentive** *ADJ.*/保持的; 记性好的/holding; having a good memory. The pupil did not need to spend much time studying, for he had a *retentive* mind and remembered all he read.

**reticence** *n.*/不动声色的; 深藏不露的; 沉默寡言的/reserve; uncommunicativeness; inclination to silence. Fearing his competitors might get advance word about his plans from talkative staff members, Hughes preferred *reticence* from his employees to loquacity. reticent, *ADJ.*

**retinue** *n.*/随行人员; 扈从/following; attendants. The queen's *retinue* followed her down the aisle.

**retiring** *ADJ.*/退休的; 谦虚的, 害羞的/modest; shy. Given Susan's *retiring* personality, no one expected her to take up public speaking; surprisingly enough, she became a star of the school debate team,

**retort** *n.*/反驳; 曲颈甑/quick sharp reply. Even when it was advisable for her to keep her mouth shut, she was always ready with a quick retort. also *v.*

**retract** *v.*/撤回, 撤退/withdraw; take back. When I saw how Fred and his fraternity brothers had trashed the frat house, I decided to *retract* my offer to let them use our summer cottage for the weekend. retraction, *n.*

**retrench** *v.*/裁减, 削减; 紧缩, 节约/cut down; economize. In order to be able to afford to send their children to college, they would have to *retrench*. retrenchment, *n.*

**retribution** *n.*/复仇; 补偿; 惩罚/vengeance; compensation; punishment for offenses. The evangelist maintained that an angry deity would exact *retribution* from the sinners.



**retrieve** v./重新得到；找回/recover; find and bring in. The dog was intelligent and quickly learned to *retrieve* the game killed by the hunter.

**retroactive** ADJ./反动的；（法律）追溯的（由制定之日前的某一天生效）/of a law that dates back to a period before its enactment. Because the law was *retroactive* to the first of the year, we found she was eligible for the pension. **retrograde** v./倒退的/go backwards; degenerate. instead of advancing, our civilization seems to have *retrograded* in ethics and culture. also ADJ.

**retrospective** ADJ./回顾的/looking back on the past. The Museum of Graphic Arts is holding a *retrospective* showing of the paintings of Michael Whelan over the past two decades.

**revelry** n./狂欢/boisterous merrymaking. New Year's Eve is a night of *revelry*

**reverent** ADJ./尊敬的；可敬的/respectful; worshipful. Though I bow my head in church and recite the prayers, sometimes I don't feel properly *reverent*. *revere*.v.

**reverie** n./冥想；发呆；白日梦/daydream; musing. He was awakened from his *reverie* by the teacher's question.

**revert** v./回复；故态复萌/relapse; backslide; turn back to. Most of the time Andy seemed sensitive and mature, but occasionally he would *revert* to his smart-alecky, macho, adolescent self.

**revile** v./辱骂，谩骂，诽谤/attack with abusive language; vilify. Though most of his contemporaries *reviled* Captain Kidd as a notorious, bloody-handed pirate, some of his fellow merchant-captains believed him innocent of his alleged crimes.

**revoke** v./撤回；取消/cancel; retract. Repeat offenders who continue to drive under the influence of alcohol face - 126 -

having their driver's licenses permanently *revoked*.

**revulsion** n./剧变（情感的）；抽回；收手/sudden violent change of feeling; reaction. Many people in this country who admired dictatorships underwent a *revulsion* when they realized what Hitler and Mussolini were trying to do. **rhapsodize** v./狂热地描述；写狂想文，作狂想曲/to speak or write in an exaggeratedly enthusiastic manner. She greatly enjoyed her Hawaiian vacation and *rhapsodized* about it for weeks.

**rhetoric** n./说话的学问；花言巧语/art of effective communication; insincere language. All writers, by necessity, must be skilled in *rhetoric*.

**rhetorical** ADJ./修饰色彩的；花言巧语的/pertaining to effective communication; insincere in language. To win his audience; the speaker used every *rhetorical* trick in the book.

**ribald** ADJ./下流的；放荡的；褻渎的/wanton; profane. He sang a *ribald* song that offended many of the more prudish listeners.

**riddle** v./刺出无数窟窿，打排孔；充斥，弥漫；通过粗眼筛子过滤；谜语；解决，解释；提出，解谜/pierce with holes; permeate or spread throughout. With his machine gun, Tracy *riddled* the car with bullets till it looked like a slice of Swiss cheese. During the proofreaders' strike, the newspaper was *riddled* with typos.

**rider** n./附文；扶手/amendment or clause added to a legislative bill. Senator Foghorn said he would support Senator Filibuster's tax reform bill only if Filibuster agreed to add an antipollution *riderto* the bill.

**rife** ADJ./普遍的/abundant; current. In the face of the many rumors of scandal, which are *rife* at the moment, it is best to remain silent.

**rift** n./裂缝；破口/opening; break. The plane was lost in the stormy sky until the pilot saw the city through a *rift* in the clouds.

**rig** v./配备；装备/fix or manipulate. The ward boss was able to *rig* the election by bribing people to stuff the ballot boxes with ballots marked in his candidate's favor.

**rigid** ADJ./刚硬的；不屈的/stiff and unyielding; strict; hard and unbending. By living with a man to whom she was not married, George Eliot broke Victorian society's most *rigid* rule of respectable behavior.

**rigor** n./严格，苛刻；精确/severity. Many settlers could not stand the rigors of the New England winters.

**rigorous** ADJ./严峻的；严格的；严厉的/severe; harsh; demanding; exact. Disliked by his superiors, the officer candidate in An Officer and a Gentleman endured an extremely *rigorous* training program.

**rile** v./激怒/vex; irritate; muddy. Red had a hair-trigger temper: he was an easy man to *rile*.

**riveting** ADJ./迷人的/absorbing; engrossing. The reviewer described Byatt's novel *Possession* as a *riveting* tale, one so absorbing that he had finished it in a single night.

**rivulet** n./小溪/small stream. As the rains continued, the small trickle of water running down the hillside grew into a *rivulet* that threatened to wash away a portion of the slope.

**robust** ADJ./健壮的/vigorous; strong. After pumping iron and taking karate for six months, the little old lady was so *robust* that she could break a plank with her fist.

**roil** v./搅动（使水变浑）；激怒/to make liquids murky by stirring up sediment. Be careful when you pour not to *roil* the wine; if you stir up the sediment you'll destroy the flavor.

**roster** n./列表/list. They print the *roster* of players in the season's program.

**rostrum** n./演讲台；讲道坛/platform for speech-making; pulpit. The crowd murmured angrily and indicated that they did not care to listen to the speaker who was approaching the *rostrum*.

**rote** n./生搬硬套；死记硬背/repetition. He recited the passage by *rote* and gave no indication he understood what he was saying.

**rotundity** n./圆形，球状；洪亮的演讲/roundness; sonorousness of speech. Washington Irving emphasized the *rotundity* of the governor by describing his height and circumference.

**rousing** ADJ./活跃的；煽动的/lively; stirring. "And now, let's have a rousing welcome for TV's own Roseanne Barr, who'll lead us in a rousing *rendition* of 'The Star-Spangled Banner.'"

- 127 -

**rout** v./吓跑；赶出；击退/stampede; drive out. The reinforcements were able to *rout* the enemy. also n.

**rubble** n./碎片/broken fragments. Ten years after World War II, some of the *rubble* left by enemy bombings could still be seen.

**ruddy** ADJ./红的；红润的，白里透红的；健康的/reddish; healthy-looking. Santa Claus's *ruddy* cheeks nicely complement Rudolph the Reindeer's bright red nose.

**rudimentary** ADJ./原始的；最初的；原来的/not developed; elementary; crude. Although my grandmother's English vocabulary was limited to a few *rudimentary* phrases, she always could make herself understood.

**rue** v./懊悔；后悔；感伤/regret; lament; mourn. Tina *rued* the night she met Tony and wondered how she ever fell for such a jerk. *rueful*, ADJ.

**ruffian** n./流氓；恶棍；痞子/bully; scoundrel. The *ruffians* threw stones at the police.

**ruminate** v./反复咀嚼；消化；深思；反刍/chew over and over (mentally, or, like cows, physically); mull over; ponder. Unable to digest quickly the baffling events of the day, Reuben *ruminated* about them till four in the morning. **rummage** v./到处翻寻/ransack; thoroughly search. When we *rummaged* through the trunks in the attic, we found many souvenirs of our childhood days. also n.

**ruse** n./技巧；策略，计谋/trick; stratagem. You will not be able to fool your friends with such an obvious *ruse*.

**rustic** ADJ./乡村的；笨拙的，不舒服的/pertaining to country people; uncouth. The backwoodsman looked out of place in his *rustic* attire.

**ruthless** ADJ./无情的/pitiless; cruel. Captain Hook was a dangerous, *ruthless* villain who would stop at nothing to destroy Peter Pan.

**saboteur** n./破坏分子；怠工者/one who commits sabotage; destroyer of property. Members of the Resistance acted as *saboteurs*, blowing up train lines to prevent supplies from reaching the Nazi army.

**saccharine** ADJ./糖精的；代糖的；极甜的/cloyingly sweet. She tried to ingratiate herself, speaking sweetly and smiling a *saccharine* smile.

**sacrilegious** ADJ./褻渎的，天谴的/desecrating; profane. His stealing of the altar cloth was a very *sacrilegious* act.

**sacrosanct** ADJ./非常神圣的/most sacred; inviolable. The brash insurance salesman invaded the *sacrosanct* privacy of the office of the president of the company.

## Word List 42 sadistic-sentinel

**sadistic** ADJ./虐待狂的；残忍成性的/inclined to cruelty. If we are to improve conditions in this prison, we must first get rid of the *sadistic* warden.

**saga** n./斯堪的纳维亚的传说；传奇/Scandinavian myth; any legend. This is a *saga* of the sea and the men who risk their lives on it.

**sagacious** ADJ./有洞察力的/perceptive; shrewd; having insight. My father was a *sagacious* judge of character: he could spot a phony a mile away. *sagacity*, n.

**sage** n./智者；圣人/person celebrated for wisdom. Hearing tales of a mysterious Master of All Knowledge who lived in

the hills of Tibet, Sandy was possessed with a burning desire to consult the legendary *sage*. also *ADJ.*

**salacious** *ADJ.*/好色的；淫荡的/lascivious; lustful. Chaucer's monk is not pious but *salacious*. a teller of lewd tales and ribald jests.

**salient** *ADJ.*/显著的；突出的；卓越的/prominent. One of the *salient* features of that newspaper is its excellent editorial page.

**salubrious** *ADJ.*/对健康有益的，利于养生的/healthful. Many people with hay fever move to more *salubrious* sections of the country during the months of August and September.

**salutary** *ADJ.*/有用的；有益的/tending to improve; beneficial; wholesome. The punishment had a *salutary* effect on the boy, as he became a model student.

- 128 -

**salvage** *v.*/补救；抢救；打捞；营救/rescue from loss. All attempts to *salvage* the wrecked ship failed. also *n.*

**salvo** *n.*/解除武装；敬礼；保留条款/discharge of firearms; military salute. The boom of the enemy's opening *salvo* made the petrified private jump.

**sanctimonious** *ADJ.*/假正经的；假装神圣的/displaying ostentatious or hypocritical devoutness. You do not have to be so *sanctimonious* to prove that you are devout.

**sanction** *v.*/批准，许可/approve; ratify. Nothing will convince me to *sanction* the engagement of my daughter to such a worthless young man.

**sanctuary** *n.*/避难所/refuge; shelter; shrine; holy place. The tiny attic was Helen's *sanctuary* to which she fled when she had to get away from the rest of her family.

**sanguine** *ADJ.*/高兴的；有希望的；乐天的/cheerful; hopeful. Let us not be too *sanguine* about the outcome; something could go wrong.

**sap** *v.*/减少；破坏/diminish; undermine. The element kryptonite has an unhealthy effect on Superman: it *saps* his strength.

**sarcasm** *n.*/挖苦；讽刺/scornful remarks; stinging rebuke.

Though Ralph pretended to ignore the mocking comments of his supposed friends, their *sarcasm* wounded him deeply.

**sardonic** *ADJ.*/讽刺的/disdainful; sarcastic; cynical. The *sardonic* humor of nightclub comedians who satirize or ridicule patrons in the audience strikes some people as amusing and others as rude.

**sartorial** *ADJ.*/裁缝的；缝纫机的；缝匠肌的/pertaining to tailors. He was as famous for the *sartorial* splendor of his attire as he was for his acting.

**sate** *v.*/使心满意足；使过度满足；使腻/satisfy to the full; cloy. Its hunger *sated*, the lion dozed.

**satellite** *n.*/卫星/small body revolving around a larger one. During the first few years of the Space Age, hundreds of *satellite* were launched by Russia and the United States.

**satiate** *v.*/完全满足/satisfy fully. Having stuffed themselves until they were *satiated*, the guests were so full they were ready for a nap.

**satire** *n.*/讽刺的/form of literature in which irony, sarcasm, and ridicule are employed to attack vice and folly.

Gulliver's Travels, which is regarded by many as a tale for children, is actually a bitter *satire* attacking man's folly. **satirical** *ADJ.*/嘲弄的/mocking. The humor of cartoonist Gary Trudeau often is *satirical*; through the comments of the Doonesbury characters, Trudeau ridicules political corruption and folly.

**saturate** *v.*/湿透/soak thoroughly. *Saturate* your sponge with water until it can't hold any more.

**saturnine** *ADJ.*/阴郁的/gloomy. Do not be misled by his *saturnine* countenance; he is not as gloomy as he looks. **saunter** *v.*/漫步；闲逛/stroll slowly. As we *sauntered* through the park, we stopped frequently to admire the spring flowers.

**savant** *n.*/专家，学者/scholar. Our faculty includes many worldfamous *savants*.

**savor** *v.*/有滋有味儿的；享受这种滋味/enjoy; have a distinctive flavor, smell, or quality. Relishing his triumph, the actor especially *savored* the chagrin of the critics who had predicted his failure.

**savory** *ADJ.*/有味道的；吸引人的/tasty; pleasing, attractive, or agreeable. Julia Child's recipes enable amateur chefs to create *savory* delicacies for their guests.

**scabbard** *n.*/剑鞘/case for a sword blade; sheath. The drill master told the recruit to wipe the blood from his sword before slipping it back into the *scabbard*.

**scad** *n.*/大批的，许多/a great quantity. Refusing Dave's offer to lend him a shirt, Phil replied, "No, thanks, I've got *scads* of clothes."

**scaffold** *n.*/脚手架；绞刑架/temporary platform for workers; bracing framework; platform for execution. Before painting the house, the workers put up a *scaffold* to allow them to work on the second story.

**scale** *v.*/爬升；升高/climb up; ascend. In order to locate a book on the top shelf of the stacks, Lee had to *scale* an - 129 -

exceptionally rickety ladder.

**scamp** *n.*/流氓，无赖/rascal. Despite his mischievous behavior, Malcolm was such an engaging *scamp* that his mother almost lacked the heart to punish him.

**scanty** *ADJ.*/缺乏的；稀疏的/meager; insufficient. Thinking his helping of food was *scanty*, Oliver Twist asked for more.

**scapegoat** *n.*/替罪羊/someone who bears the blame for others. After the Challenger disaster, NASA searched for *scapegoats* on whom they could cast the blame.

**scavenge** *v.*/腐食；打扫/hunt through discarded materials for usable items; search, especially for food. If you need car parts that the dealers no longer stock, try *scavenging* for odd bits and pieces at the auto wreckers' yards. scavenger, *n.*

**scenario** *n.*/情节；剧本大纲；（电影、歌剧）剧本/plot outline; screenplay; opera libretto. Scaramouche startled the other actors in the commedia troupe when he suddenly departed from their customary *scenario* and began to improvise. **schematic** *ADJ.*/示例的；示意性的/relating to an outline or diagram; using a system of symbols. In working out the solution to this logic puzzle, you may find it helpful to construct a simple *schematic* diagram outlining the order of events.

**schism** *n.*/分离/division; split. Let us not widen the *schism* by further bickering.

**scintillate** *v.*/迸出火花；发出闪烁/sparkle; flash. I enjoy her dinner parties because the food is excellent and the conversation *scintillates*.

**scoff** *v.*/嘲弄，奚落/mock; ridicule. He *scoffed* at dentists until he had his first toothache.

**scourge** *n.*/鞭答；蹂躏/lash; whip; severe punishment. They feared the plague and regarded it as a deadly *scourge*. also *v.*

**scruple** *v.*/踌躇；忧郁/fret about; hesitate, for ethical reasons. Fearing that her husband had become involved in an affair, she did not *scruple* to read his diary. also *n.*

**scrupulous** *ADJ.*/小心翼翼的；谨慎的/conscientious; extremely thorough. Though Alfred is *scrupulous* in fulfilling his duties at work, he is less conscientious about his obligations to his family and friends.

**scrutinize** *v.*/明察/examine closely and critically. Searching for flaws, the sergeant *scrutinized* every detail of the private's uniform.

**scuffle** *v.*/徘徊（思考问题）；混战/struggle confusedly; move off in a confused hurry. The twins briefly *scuffled*, wrestling to see which of them would get the toy. When their big brother yelled, "Let go of my Gameboy!" they *scuffled* off down the hall. *scurilous* *ADJ.* obscene; indecent. Your *scurilous* remarks are especially offensive because they are untrue.

**scurry** *v.*/轻快的；活泼的移动/move briskly. The White Rabbit had to *scurry* to get to his appointment on time.

**scurvy** *ADJ.*/下流的；卑鄙的；无理的；坏血病/despicable; contemptible. Peter Pan sneered at Captain Hook and his *scurvy* crew.

**scuttle** *v.*/迈着碎步轻快的走/scurry; run with short, rapid steps. The bug *scuttled* rapidly across the floor.

**scuttle** *v.*/沉没/sink. The sailors decided to *scuttle* their vessel rather than surrender it to the enemy.

**seamy** *ADJ.*/丑恶的；露出嘴脸的/sordid; unwholesome. In The Godfather, Michael Corleone is unwilling to expose his wife and children to the *seamy* side of his life as the son of a Mafia don.

**sear** *v.*/烤焦，凋谢，干枯/char or burn; brand. Accidentally brushing against the hot grill, she *seared* her hand badly.

**seasoned** *ADJ.*/老练的/experienced. Though pleased with her new batch of rookies, the basketball coach wished she had a few more *seasoned* players on the team.

**secession** *n.*/撤退；脱离/withdrawal. The *secession* of the Southern states provided Lincoln with his first major problem after his inauguration. secede, *v.*

**seclusion** *n.*/隔离/isolation; solitude. One moment she loved crowds; the next, she sought *seclusion*. seclude, *v.*

**secrete** *v.*/隐匿；藏匿；分泌/hide away; produce and release a substance into an organism. The pack rat *secretes*

- 130 -

odds and ends in its nest; the pancreas secretes insulin in the islets of Langerhans.

**sect** *n.* /宗教, 教派/separate religious body; faction. As university chaplain, she sought to address universal religious issues and not limit herself to concerns of any one *sect*.

**sectarian** *ADJ.* /宗派主义的; 地区主义的; 宗派主义者; 狭窄的/relating to a religious faction or subgroup; narrow-minded; limited. Far from being broad-minded, the religious leader was intolerant of new ideas, paying attention only to purely *sectarian* interests. *sect. n.*

**secular** *ADJ.* /世俗的; 现世的; 永久的/worldly; not pertaining to church matters; temporal. The church leaders decided not to interfere in *secular* matters.

**sedate** *ADJ.* /安静的; 稳重的; 低沉的/composed; grave. The parents were worried because they felt their son was too quiet and *sedate*.

**sedentary** *ADJ.* /久坐的; 坐惯的/requiring sitting. Disliking the effect of her *sedentary* occupation on her figure, Stacy decided to work out at the gym every other day.

**sedition** *n.* /抵抗当局; 反抗; 暴动/resistance to authority; insubordination. His words, though not treasonous in themselves, were calculated to arouse thoughts of *sedition*.

**sedulous** *ADJ.* /勤奋的; 勤勤恳恳的/diligent; hardworking. After weeks of patient and *sedulous* labor, we completed our detailed analysis of every published SAT examination.

**seedy** *ADJ.* /破烂不堪的; 褴褛的; 不合适的/run-down; decrepit; disreputable. I would rather stay in dormitory lodgings in a decent youth hostel than have a room of my own in a *seedy* downtown hotel.

**seemly** *ADJ.* /适宜的, 合适的/proper; appropriate. Lady Bracknell did not think it was *seemly* for Ernest to lack a proper family: no baby abandoned on a doorstep could grow up to be a fit match for her daughter.

**seep** *v.* /渗出; 渗漏/ooze; trickle. During the rainstorm, water *seeped* through the crack in the basement wall and damaged the floor boards. *seepage, n.*

**seethe** *v.* /扰乱的; 沸腾/be disturbed; boil. The nation was *seething* with discontent as the noblemen continued their arrogant ways.

**seismic** *ADJ.* /地震的/pertaining to earthquakes. The Richter scale is a measurement of *seismic* disturbances.

**seminary** *n.* /神学院; 学院; 发祥地/school for training future ministers; academy for young women. Sure of his priestly vocation, Terrence planned to pursue his theological training at the local Roman Catholic *seminary*.

**sensual** *ADJ.* /感官的; 肉欲的; 感官论的/devoted to the pleasures of the senses; carnal; voluptuous. I cannot understand what caused him to abandon his *sensual* way of life and become so ascetic.

**sententious** *ADJ.* /简洁的; 警句式的, 格言式的/terse; concise; aphoristic. After reading so many redundant speeches, I find his *sententious* style particularly pleasing.

**sentinel** *n.* /哨兵/sentry; lookout. Though camped in enemy territory, Bledsoe ignored the elementary precaution of posting *sentinels* around the encampment.

## Word List 43 sequester - solvent

**sequester** *v.* /隐退; 隔离/isolate; retire from public life; segregate; seclude. Banished from his kingdom, the wizard Prospero *sequestered* himself on a desert island. To prevent the jurors from hearing news broadcasts about the case, the judge decided to sequester the jury.

**serendipity** *n.* /有发现意外之财的运气/gift for finding valuable or desirable things by accident; accidental good fortune or luck. Many scientific discoveries are a matter of *serendipity*. Newton was not sitting under a tree thinking about gravity when the apple dropped on his head.

**serenity** *n.* /平静/calmness; placidity. The sound of air raid sirens pierced the *serenity* of the quiet village of Pearl Harbor.

- 131 -

**serpentine** *ADJ.* /蜿蜒的/winding; twisting. The car swerved at every curve in the *serpentine* road.

**serrated** *ADJ.* /锯齿状的/having a sawtoothed edge. The beech tree is one of many plants that have *serrated* leaves. **servile** *ADJ.* /奴隶的; 奴性的/slavish; cringing. Constantly fawning on his employer, humble Uriah Heap was a *servile* creature.

**servitude** *n.* /奴隶身份; 苦工/slavery; compulsory labor. Born a slave, Frederick Douglass resented his life of *servitude* and plotted to escape to the North.

**sever** *v.* /切断/cut; separate. The released prisoner wanted to begin a new life and sever all connections with his criminal past. Dr. Guillotin invented a machine that could neatly *sever* an aristocratic head from its equally aristocratic body. Unfortunately, he couldn't collect any severance pay. *severance, n.*

**severity** *n.* /严肃; 严格; 激烈/harshness; intensity; sternness; austerity. The *severity* of Jane's migraine attack was so great that she took to her bed for a week.

**shackle** *v.* /手铐; 枷锁; 脚镣/chain; fetter. The criminal's ankles were *shackled* to prevent his escape. also *n.*

**sham** *v.* /佯装; 假的; 赝品/pretend. He *shammed* sickness to get out of going to school. also *n.*

**shambles** *n.* /混乱的地方; 肉铺/wreck; mess. After the hurricane, the Carolina coast was a *shambles*. After the New Year's Eve party, the apartment was a *shambles*.

**shard** *n.* /碎片(陶瓷的)/fragment, generally of pottery. The archaeologist assigned several students the task of reassembling earthenware vessels from the *shards* he had brought back from the expedition.

**sheaf** *n.* /捆; 扎(秸秆)/bundle of stalks of grain; any bundle of things tied together. The lawyer picked up a *sheaf* of papers as he rose to question the witness.

**shear** *v.* /剪; 修剪/cut or clip (hair, fleece); strip of something. You may not care to cut a sheep's hair, but Sarah *shears* sheep for Little Bo Peep.

**sheathe** *v.* /插入鞘/place into a case. As soon as he recognized the approaching men, he *sheathed* his dagger and hailed them as friends.

**sheer** *ADJ.* /纯粹的, 绝对的; 透明的; 陡峭的; 避开, 躲避; 偏航, 避开/very thin or transparent; very steep; absolute. Wearing nothing but an almost *sheer* robe, Delilah draped herself against the *sheer* temple wall. Beholding her, Samson was overcome by her *sheer* beauty. Then she sheared his hair.

**shimmer** *v.* /微光/glimmer intermittently. The moonlight *shimmered* on the water as the moon broke through the clouds for a moment. also *n.*

**shirk** *v.* /逃避, 推卸; 避免/avoid (responsibility, work, etc.); malingering. Brian has a strong sense of duty; he would never *shirk* any responsibility.

**shoddy** *ADJ.* /以次充好的; 赝品/sham; not genuine; inferior. You will never get the public to buy such *shoddy* material. **shrewd** *ADJ.* /精明; 敏锐/clever; astute. A *shrewd* investor, he took clever advantage of the fluctuations of the stock market.

**shroud** *v.* /裹尸; 隐藏/hide from view; wrap for burial. Fog *shrouded* Dracula's castle, hiding the ruined tower beneath sheets of mist.

**shun** *v.* /避免/keep away from. Cherishing his solitude, the recluse *shunned* the company of other human beings.

**shyster** *n.* /讼棍; 政界的奸诈之徒/lawyer using questionable methods. On L.A. *Law*, Brackman is horrified to learn that his newly-discovered half brother is nothing but a cheap *shyster*.

**sibling** *n.* /兄弟姐妹/brother or sister. We may not enjoy being *siblings*, but we cannot forget that we still belong to the same family.

**simian** *ADJ.* /像猴的/monkeylike. Lemurs are nocturnal mammals and have many *simian* characteristics, although they are less intelligent than monkeys.

**simile** *n.* /明喻; 比较/comparison of one thing with another, using the word like or as. "My love is like a red, red rose" is a *simile*.

- 132 -

**simper** *v.* /痴笑; 傻笑/smirk; smile affectedly. Complimented on her appearance, Stella self-consciously *simpered*. **simplistic** *ADJ.* /过分单纯化的/oversimplified. Though Jack's solution dealt adequately with one aspect of the problem, it was *simplistic* in failing to consider various complications that might arise.

**simulate** *v.* /模仿; 冒充/feign. He *simulated* insanity in order to avoid punishment for his crime.

**sinecure** *n.* /闲职, 报纸茶水的工作/well-paid position with little responsibility. My job is no *sinecure*; I work long hours and have much responsibility.

**sinevy** *ADJ.* /结实; 硬朗的/tough; strong and firm. The steak was too *sinevy* to chew.

**singular** *ADJ.* /奇的; 独一无二的/unique; extraordinary; odd. Though the young man tried to understand Father William's *singular* behavior, he still found it odd that the old man incessantly stood on his head. *singularity, n.*

**sinister** *ADJ.* /邪恶的/evil. We must defeat the *sinister* forces that seek our downfall.

**sinuous** ADJ. /蜿蜒的；弯曲复杂的；不老实的/winding; bending in and out; not morally honest. The snake moved in a *sinuous* manner.

**skeptic** N. /怀疑论者/doubter; person who suspends judgment until the evidence supporting a point of view has been examined. I am a *skeptic* about the new health plan; I want some proof that it can work. skepticism, N.

**skiff** N. /小船/small, light sailboat or rowboat. Tom dreamed of owning an ocean-going yacht but had to settle for a *skiff* he could sail in the bay.

**skimp** V. /节约的使用/provide scantily; live very economically. They were forced to *skimp* on necessities in order to make their limited supplies last the winter.

**skinflint** N. /守财奴；吝啬鬼/stingy person; miser. Scrooge was an ungenerous old *skinflint* until he reformed his ways and became a notable philanthropist.

**skirmish** N. /小规模战争；小打小闹/minor fight. Custer's troops expected they might run into a *skirmish* or two on maneuvers; they did not expect to face a major battle. also V.

**skulk** V. /偷偷；偷偷的移动/move furtively and secretly. He *skulked* through the less fashionable sections of the city in order to avoid meeting any of his former friends.

**slacken** V. /放松；放慢/slow up; loosen. As they passed the finish line, the runners *slackened* their pace.

**slag** N. /矿渣；炉渣；渣滓/residue from smelting metal; dross; waste matter. The blast furnace had a special opening at the bottom to allow the workers to remove the worthless *slag*.

**slake** V. /结束；平息；消除；伺候舒服/quench; sate. When we reached the oasis, we were able to *slake* our thirst.

**slander** N. /诽谤/defamation; utterance of false and malicious statements. Considering the negative comments politicians make about each other, it's a wonder that more of them aren't sued for *slander*. also V.

**slapdash** ADJ. /匆促的/haphazard; careless; sloppy. From the number of typos and misspellings I've found in it, it's clear that Mario proofread the report in a remarkably *slapdash* fashion.

**sleeper** N. /睡眠；卧铺；枕木；冬眠的动物/something originally of little value or importance that in time becomes very valuable. Unnoticed by the critics at its publication, the eventual Pulitzer Prize winner was a classic *sleeper*. **sleight** N. /灵巧的/dexterity. The magician amazed the audience with his *sleight* of hand.

**slight** N. /怠慢；斥责；侮辱/insult to one's dignity; snub. Hypersensitive and ready to take offense at any discourtesy, Bertha was always on the lookout for real or imaginary *slights*. also V.

**slipshod** ADJ. /邋遢的；慢吞吞的；漫不经心的/untidy or slovenly; shabby. As a master craftsman, the carpenter prided himself on not doing *slipshod* work.

**slither** V. /滑动/slip or slide. During the recent *ice* storm, many people *slithered* down this hill as they walked to the station.

**slothful** ADJ. /懒的/lazy. Lying idly on the sofa while others worked, Reggie denied he was *slothful*: "I just supervise better lying down."

**slough** V. /脱落；蜕皮/cast off. Each spring, the snake *sloughs* off its skin.

- 133 -

**slovenly** ADJ. /邋遢的；漫不经心的/untidy; careless in work habits. Unshaven, sitting around in his bathrobe all afternoon, Gus didn't seem to care about the slovenly appearance he presented. The dark ring around the bathtub and the spider webs hanging from the beams proved what a *slovenly* housekeeper she was.

**sluggard** N. /懒人/lazy person. "You are a *sluggard*, a drone, a parasite," the angry father shouted at his lazy son.

**sluggish** ADJ. /行动迟缓的/Slow; lazy; lethargic. After two nights without sleep, she felt *sluggish* and incapable of exertion.

**slur** V. /模糊不清的说/speak indistinctly; mumble. When Sol has too much to drink, he starts to *slur* his words: "Washamatter? Cansh you undershtand what I shay?"

**slur** N. /诽谤；侮辱/insult to one's character or reputation; slander. Polls revealed that the front-runner's standing had been badly damaged by the *slurs* and innuendoes circulated by his opponent's staff. also V. (secondary meaning) **smelt** V. /冶炼；精炼/melt or blend ores, changing their chemical composition. The furnaceman *smelts* tin with copper to create a special alloy used in making bells.

**smirk** N. /傻笑/conceited smile. Wipe that *smirk* off your face! also V.

**smolder** V. /闷烧；随时准备爆发/burn without flame; be liable to break out at any moment. The rags *smoldered* for hours before they burst into flame.

**snicker** N. /窃笑/half-stifled laugh. The boy could not suppress a *snicker* when the teacher sat on the tack. also V.

**snivel** V. /流鼻涕；啜泣；鼻子一把泪一把/run at the nose; snuffle; whine. Don't you come *sniveling* to me complaining about your big brother. sobriety N. moderation (especially regarding indulgence in alcohol); seriousness. Neither falling-down drunks nor stand-up comics are noted for sobriety. sober, ADJ.

**sodden** ADJ. /湿透的/soaked; dull, as if from drink. He set his *sodden* overcoat near the radiator to dry.

**sojourn** N. /逗留/temporary stay. After his *sojourn* in Florida, he began to long for the colder climate of his native New England home.

**solace** N. /安慰/comfort in trouble. I hope you will find *solace* in the thought that all of us share your loss.

**solder** V. /焊接/repair or make whole by using a metal alloy. The plumber fixed the leak in the pipes by *soldering* a couple of joints from which water had been oozing.

**solecism** N. /语法错误；谬误/construction that is flagrantly incorrect grammatically. I must give this paper a failing mark because it contains many *solecisms*.

**solemnity** N. /严肃的；一本正经的/seriousness; gravity. The minister was concerned that nothing should disturb the *solemnity* of the marriage service. solemn, ADJ.

**solicit** V. /恳求/request earnestly; seek. Knowing she needed to have a solid majority for the budget to pass, the mayor telephoned all the members of the city council to *solicit* their votes.

**solicitous** ADJ. /担心的；关切的；期望的/worried; concerned. The employer was very *solicitous* about the health of her employees as replacements were difficult to get.

**soliloquy** N. /自言自语；独白/talking to oneself. The *soliloquy* is a device used by the dramatist to reveal a character's innermost thoughts and emotions.

**solitude** N. /独身/state of being alone; seclusion. Much depends on how much you like your own company. What to one person seems fearful isolation to another is blessed *solitude*.

**soluble** ADJ. /可溶解的；可解决的/able to be dissolved; able to be explained. Sugar is *soluble* in water; put a sugar cube in water and it will quickly dissolve.

**solvent** ADJ. /有偿付能力的/able to pay all debts. By dint of very frugal living, he was finally able to become *solvent* and avoid bankruptcy proceedings.

## Word List 44 somber - sublime

- 134 -

**somber** ADJ. /阴森的；昏暗的；抑郁的/gloomy; depressing; dark; drab. From the doctor's grim expression, I could tell he had *somber* news. Dull brown and charcoal gray are pretty *somber* colors; can't you wear something bright?

**somnambulist** N. /梦游症患者/sleepwalker. The most famous *somnambulist* in literature is Lady Macbeth; her monologue in the sleepwalking scene is one of the highlights of Shakespeare's play.

**somnolent** ADJ. /催眠的；半睡半醒的/half asleep. The heavy meal and the overheated room made us all *somnolent* and indifferent to the speaker.

**sonorous** ADJ. /醒目的/resonant. His *sonorous* voice resounded through the hall.

**sophisticated** ADJ. /世故的；复杂的/worldly-wise and urbane; complex. When Sophie makes wisecracks, she thinks she sounds *sophisticated*, but instead she sounds sophomoric. The new IBM laptop with the butterfly keyboard and the built-in quadspeed FAX modem is a pretty *sophisticated* machine.

**sophistry** N. /似真似假的/seemingly plausible but fallacious reasoning. Instead of advancing valid arguments, he tried to overwhelm his audience with a flood of *sophistries*.

**sophomoric** ADJ. /一知半解的；不成熟的/immature; half-baked, like a sophomore. Even if you're only a freshman, it's no compliment to be told your humor is *sophomoric*. The humor in Dumb and Dumber is sophomoric at best.

**soporific** ADJ. /催眠的/sleep-causing; marked by sleepiness. Professor Pringle's lectures were so *soporific* that even he fell asleep in class. also N.

**sordid** ADJ. /肮脏；卑鄙/filthy; base; vile. The social worker was angered by the *sordid* housing provided for the homeless.

**sovereign** *ADJ.* /君主的；至高无上的/efficacious; supreme or paramount; selfgoverning. Professor Pennywhistle claimed his panacea was a *sovereign* cure for all chronic complaints. In medicine the *sovereign* task of the doctor is to do no harm. Rebelling against the mother country, the onetime colony now proclaimed itself a *sovereign* state. also *N.*

**spangle** *N.* /衣服上亮晶晶的小金属饰件/small metallic piece sewn to clothing for ornamentation. The thousands of *spangles* on her dress sparkled in the glare of the stage lights. **sparse** *ADJ.* /稀少的；稀疏的/not thick; thinly scattered; scanty. No matter how carefully Albert combed his hair to make it look as full as possible, it still looked *spare*.

**spartan** *ADJ.* /刚毅的；朴素的；纪律严格的；斯巴达的/avoiding luxury and comfort; sternly disciplined. Looking over the bare, unheated room, with its hard cot, he wondered what he was doing in such *spartan* quarters. Only his *spartan* sense of duty kept him at his post.

**spasmodic** *ADJ.* /断断续续的；间歇的/fitful; periodic. The *spasmodic* coughing in the auditorium annoyed the performers.

**spat** *N.* /争论；口角；扇巴掌/squabble; minor dispute. What had started out as a mere *spat* escalated into a full-blown argument.

**spate** *N.* /爆发；大洪水；一大群的/sudden flood or strong outburst; a large number or amount. After the *spate* of angry words that came pouring out of him, Mary was sure they would never be reconciled.

**spatial** *ADJ.* /空间的/relating to space. NASA is engaged in an ongoing program of spatial exploration. When Jay says he's studying *spatial* relations, that doesn't mean he has relatives in outer space.

**spatula** *N.* /压舌板；抹刀；批灰刀/broad-bladed instrument used for spreading or mixing. The manufacturers of this frying pan recommend the use of a rubber *spatula* to avoid scratching the specially treated surface.

**spawn** *V.* /孵化；下蛋/lay eggs. Fish ladders had to be built in the dams to assist the salmon returning to *spawn* in their native streams. also *N.*

**specious** *ADJ.* /似是而非的/seemingly reasonable but incorrect; misleading (often intentionally). To claim that, because houses and birds both have wings, both can fly, is extremely *specious* reasoning.

**spectrum** *N.* /光谱/colored band produced when beam of light passes through a prism. The visible portion of the

*spectrum* includes red at one end and violet at the other.

**spendthrift** *N.* /挥霍的人/someone who wastes money. Easy access to credit encourages people to turn into *spendthrifts* who shop till they drop.

**sphinx-like** *ADJ.* /谜的/enigmatic; mysterious. The Mona Lisa's *sphinx-like* expression has intrigued and mystified art lovers for centuries.

**splice** *V.* /绑定的；联合的/fasten together; unite. Before you *splice* two strips of tape together, be sure to line them up evenly. also *N.*

**spontaneity** *N.* /自发的；自然的；无预谋的/lack of premeditation; naturalness; freedom from constraint. When Anne and Amy met, Amy impulsively hugged her new colleague, but Anne drew back, unprepared for such spontaneity. The cast over-rehearsed the play so much that the eventual performance lacked any *spontaneity*. spontaneous, *ADJ.*

**sporadic** *ADJ.* /零星的/occurring irregularly. Although you can still hear *sporadic* outbursts of laughter and singing outside, the big Halloween parade has passed; the party's over till next year.

**sportive** *ADJ.* /嬉戏的；玩闹的/playful. Such a *sportive* attitude is surprising in a person as serious as you usually are. **spry** *ADJ.* /充满生气的；活泼的；敏捷的/vigorously active; nimble. She was eighty years old, yet still *spry* and alert. **spurious** *ADJ.* /伪造的，欺骗的/false; counterfeit; forged; illogical. The antique dealer hero of Jonathan Gash's mystery novels gives the reader tips on how to tell spurious antiques from the real thing. Natasha's claim to be the lost heir of the Romanoffs was *spurious*: the only thing Russian about her was the vodka she drank!

**spurn** *V.* /放弃；拒绝/reject; scorn. The heroine *spurned* the villain's advances.

**squabble** *N.* /争吵/minor quarrel; bickering. Children invariably get involved in petty *squabbles*; wise parents know when to interfere and when to let the children work things out on their own.

**squalor** *N.* /肮脏；悲惨；贫穷/filth; degradation; dirty, neglected state. Rusted, broken-down cars in its yard, trash piled up on the porch, tar paper peeling from the roof, the shack was the picture of *squalor*. squalid, *ADJ.*

**squander** *V.* /浪费/waste. If you *squander* your allowance on candy and comic books, you won't have any money left to buy the new box of crayons you want.

**squat** *ADJ.* /矮壮的；又短又厚的；蹲着的/sto cky; short and thick. Tolkien's hobbits are somewhat *squat*, sturdy little creatures, fond of good ale, good music, and good mushrooms.

**staccato** *ADJ.* /断奏；断唱/played in an abrupt manner; marked by abrupt sharp sound. His *staccato* speech reminded one of the sound of a machine gun.

**stagnant** *ADJ.* /静止的；单调的/motionless; stale; dull. Mosquitoes commonly breed in ponds of *stagnant* water. Mike's career was *stagnant*; it wasn't going anywhere, and neither was he! stagnate, *V.*

**staid** *ADJ.* /沉静的；安静的/sober; sedate. Her conduct during the funeral ceremony was *staid* and solemn. **stalemate** *N.* /僵局/deadlock. Negotiations between the union and the employers have reached a *stalemate*; neither side is willing to budge from previously stated positions.

**stalwart** *ADJ.* /坚定的；强壮的/strong, brawny; steadfast. His consistent support of the party has proved that he is a *stalwart* and loyal member. also *N.*

**stamina** *N.* /毅力；意志力/strength; staying power. I doubt that she has the *stamina* to run the full distance of the marathon race.

**stanch** *V.* /止血；血流变检测/check flow of blood. It is imperative that we *stanch* the gushing wound before we attend to the other injuries.

**stanza** *N.* /节；段落（诗的）；盘（棋的）/division of a poem. Do you know the last *stanza* of "The Star-Spangled Banner"?

**static** *ADJ.* /静态的/unchanging; lacking development. Why watch chess on TV? I like watching a game with action, not something *static* where nothing seems to be going on.

**statute** *N.* /法令；条例/law enacted by the legislature. The *statute* of limitations sets the limits on how long you have to

take legal action in specific cases.

**steadfast** *ADJ.* /坚定的；不渝的；忠诚的/loyal; unswerving. Penelope was *steadfast* in her affections, faithfully waiting for Ulysses to return from his wanderings.

**stealth** *N.* /隐秘；隐藏；隐藏行动/slyness; sneakiness; secretiveness. Fearing detection by the sentries on duty, the scout inched his way toward the enemy camp with great *stealth*.

**steep** *V.* /浸泡，弄湿；陡坡；悬崖/soak; saturate. Be sure to *steep* the fabric in the dyebath for the full time prescribed.

**stellar** *ADJ.* /星体的；恒星的/pertaining to the stars. He was the *stellar* attraction of the entire performance.

**stem** *V.* /制止流出/check the flow. The paramedic used a tourniquet to *stem* the bleeding from the slashed artery.

**stem from** *V.* /起因于/arise from. Milton's problems in school *stemmed from* his poor study habits.

**stereotype** *N.* /老套；一成不变；铅版/fixed and unvarying representation; standardized mental picture, often reflecting prejudice. Critics object to the character of Jim in The Adventures of Huckle berry Finn because he seems to reflect the *stereotype* of the happy, ignorant slave.

**stifle** *V.* /使窒息；扑灭/suppress; extinguish; inhibit. Halfway through the boring lecture, Laura gave up trying to *stifle* her yawns.

**stigma** *N.* /耻辱；耻辱的标记；柱头；气门/token of disgrace; brand. I do not attach any *stigma* to the fact that you were accused of this crime; the fact that you were acquitted clears you completely.

**stigmatize** *V.* /打烙印；污蔑/brand; mark as wicked. I do not want to *stigmatize* this young offender for life by sending her to prison.

**stilted** *ADJ.* /夸大的；充气的；虚胖的；蹩高跷的/bombastic; inflated. His *stilted* rhetoric did not impress the college audience; they were immune to bombastic utterances.

**stint** *N.* /供应；分配；限量分配/supply; allotted amount; assigned portion of work. He performed his daily *stint* cheerfully and willingly. also *V.*

**stint** *V.* /紧缩，节省/be thrifty; set limits. "Spare no expense," the bride's father said, refusing to *stint* on the wedding arrangements.

**stipend** *N.* /薪金；津贴/pay for services. There is a nominal *stipend* for this position.

**stipulate** v./规定；明细化/make express conditions; specify. Before agreeing to reduce American military forces in Europe, the president *stipulated* that NATO inspection teams be allowed to inspect Soviet bases.

**stodgy** ADJ./乏味的；保守的/stuffy; boringly conservative. For a young person, Winston seems remarkably *stodgy*: you'd expect someone his age to show a little more life.

**stoic** ADJ./impassive; unmoved by joy or grief. I wasn't particularly *stoic* when I had my flu shot; I squealed like a stuck pig. also n.

**stoke** v./填饱；司炉/stir up a fire; feed plentifully. As a Scout Marisa learned how to light a fire, how to *stoke* it if it started to die down, and how to extinguish it completely.

**stolid** ADJ./乏味的；单调的；冷漠的/dull; impassive. The earthquake shattered Stuart's usual *stolid* demeanor; trembling, he crouched on the no longer stable ground.

**stratagem** n./计谋；战略/deceptive scheme. We saw through his clever *stratagem*.

**stratify** v./分门别类；分类；分层/divide into classes; be arranged into strata. As the economic gap between the rich and the poor increased, Roman society grew increasingly *stratified*.

**stratum** n./地层；社会阶层/layer of earth's surface; layer of society. Unless we alleviate conditions in the lowest *stratum* of our society, we may expect grumbling and revolt.

**strew** v./散开；随意散开；散播/spread randomly; sprinkle; scatter. Preceding the bride to the altar, the flower girl will *strew* rose petals along the aisle.

**striated** ADJ./有细条纹的/marked with parallel bands; grooved. The glacier left many *striated* rocks. *striate*, v.

**stricture** n./责难；非难；限制/restriction; adverse criticism. Huck regularly disobeyed Miss Watson's rules and *strictures* upon his behavior: he wouldn't wear shoes, no matter what she said.

- 137 -

**strident** ADJ./刺耳的；尖锐的；坚持不懈的/loud and harsh; insistent. Whenever Sue became angry, she tried not to raise her voice; she had no desire to appear *strident*.

**stringent** ADJ./严厉的；迫切的/binding; rigid. I think these regulations are too *stringent*.

**strut** n./大摇大摆；高视阔步/pompous walk; swagger. Looking at his self-important *strut* as he swaggered about the parade ground, I could tell Colonel Blimp thought highly of himself. also v.

**strut** n./支柱/supporting bar. The engineer calculated that the *strut* supporting the rafter needed to be reinforced. (secondary meaning)

**studied** ADJ./有计划的；故意的；有想法的/not spontaneous; deliberate; thoughtful. Given Jill's previous slights, Jack felt that the omission of his name from the guest list was a *studied* insult.

**stultify** v./使徒劳；使显得愚笨；拆台，办难堪/cause to appear or become stupid or inconsistent; frustrate or hinder. His long hours in the blacking factory left young Dickens numb and incurious, as if the menial labor had *stultified* his brain.

**stupefy** v./使麻木；使大吃一惊/make numb; stun; amaze. Disapproving of drugs in general, Laura refused to take sleeping pills or any other medicine that might *stupefy* her. *stupefaction*, n.

**stupor** n./冷漠；漠不关心/state of apathy; daze; lack of awareness. In his *stupor*, the addict was unaware of the events taking place around him.

**stymie** v./从中作梗；桩子；障碍物/present an obstacle; stump. The detective was *stymied* by the contradictory evidence in the robbery investigation. also n.

**suavity** n./柔和；愉快；温和/banity; polish. The elegant actor is particularly good in roles that require suavity and sophistication.

**subdued** ADJ./屈服的；柔和的；减弱的/less intense; quieter. Bob liked the subdued lighting at the restaurant because he thought it was romantic. I just thought it was dimly lit.

**subjective** ADJ./主观的；个人的/occurring or taking place within the subject; unreal. Your analysis is highly *subjective*; you have permitted your emotions and your opinions to color your thinking.

**subjugate** v./征服/conquer; bring under control. It is not our aim to *subjugate* our foe; we are interested only in establishing peaceful relations.

**sublime** ADJ./庄严的；崇高的；壮观的/exalted or noble and uplifting; utter. Lucy was in awe of Desi's *sublime* musicianship, while he was in awe of her sublime naiveté.

*Word List 45 subliminal - tantamount*

**subliminal** ADJ./低于极限的；下意识的/below the threshold. We may not be aware of the *subliminal* influences that affect our thinking.

**submissive** ADJ./屈服的；胆怯的/yielding; timid. When he refused to permit Elizabeth to marry her poet, Mr. Barrett

expected her to be properly *submissive*; instead, she eloped! **subordinate** ADJ./低级的；下级的；次要的/occupying a lower rank; inferior; submissive. Bishop Proudie's wife expected all the *subordinate* clergy to behave with great deference to the wife of their superior.

**suborn** v./教唆/persuade to act unlawfully (especially to commit perjury). In *The Godfather*, the mobsters used bribery and threats to *suborn* the witnesses against Don Michael Corleone.

**subpoena** n./传票/writ summoning a witness to appear. The prosecutor's office was ready to serve a *subpoena* on the reluctant witness. also v.

**subsequent** ADJ./后来的；接下来的/following; later. In *subsequent* lessons, we shall take up more difficult problems.

**subservient** ADJ./奴隶似的；奴性的/behaving like a slave; servile; obsequious. He was proud and dignified; he refused to be *subservient* to anyone.

**subside** v./下沉；平息；减退/settle down; descend; grow quiet. The doctor assured us that the fever would eventually

- 138 -

*subside*.

**subsidiary** ADJ./次要的；辅助的/subordinate; secondary. This information may be used as *subsidiary* evidence but is not sufficient by itself to prove your argument. also n.

**subsidy** n./政府的补助/direct financial aid by government, etc. Without this *subsidy*, American ship operators would not be able to compete in world markets.

**subsistence** n./存在；生存/existence; means of support; livelihood. In these days of inflated prices, my salary provides a mere *subsistence*.

**substantial** ADJ./坚实的；充实的/ample; solid; in essentials. The generous scholarship represented a *substantial* sum of money.

**substantiate** v./证实；验证/establish by evidence; verify; support. These endorsements from satisfied customers *substantiate* our claim that Barron's *How to Prepare for the SAT I* is the best SAT-prep book on the market. **substantive** ADJ./真实的；有实质的；大量的/essential; pertaining to the substance. Although the delegates were aware of the importance of the problem, they could not agree on the *substantive* issues.

**subterfuge** n./借口；托辞/pretense; evasion. As soon as we realized that you had won our support by a *subterfuge*, we withdrew our endorsement of your candidacy.

**subtlety** n./精明；稀薄；微妙/perceptiveness; ingenuity; delicacy. Never obvious, she expressed herself with such *subtlety* that her remarks went right over the heads of most of her audience. *subtle*, ADJ.

**subversive** ADJ./颠覆性的；破坏性的/tending to overthrow; destructive. At first glance, the notion that styrofoam cups may actually be more ecologically sound than paper cups strikes most environmentalists as *subversive*.

**succinct** ADJ./简洁的；紧身的/brief; terse; compact. Don't bore your audi even with excess verbiage: be *succinct*.

**succor** v./救援；援助/aid; assist; comfort. If you believe that con man has come here to *succor* you in your hour of need, you're an even bigger sucker than I thought. also n.

**succulent** ADJ./多汁的/juicy; full of richness. To some people, Florida citrus fruits are more *succulent* than those from California. also n.

**succumb** v./屈服；屈从；死/yield; give in; die. I *succumb* to temptation whenever I see chocolate.

**suffragist** n./扩大参政权；扩大妇女参政权/advocate of voting rights (for women). In recognition of her efforts to win the vote for women, Congress authorized coining a silver dollar honoring the *suffragist* Susan B. Anthony

**sully** v./弄脏；玷污/tarnish; soil. He felt that it was beneath his dignity to *sully* his hands in such menial labor.

**sultry** ADJ./闷热的，酷热的；放荡的；粗暴的/sweltering. He could not adjust himself to the *sultry* climate of the tropics. **summation** n./结算；累计；总结/act of finding the total; summary. In his *summation*, the lawyer emphasized the testimony given by the two witnesses.

**summit** n./巅峰；顶点/utmost height or pinnacle; highest point (of a mountain, etc.) The summit of the amateur mountain climber's aspirations was someday to reach the *summit* of Mount Everest.



**sumptuous** ADJ./奢侈的；华丽的/lavish; rich. I cannot recall when I have had such a *sumptuous* Thanksgiving feast.

**sunder** v./分裂/separate; part. Northern and southern Ireland are politically and religiously *sundered*. **supercilious** ADJ./自大的；傲慢的/arrogant; condescending; patronizing. The *supercilious* headwaiter sneered at customers whom he thought did not fit in at a restaurant catering to an ultrafashionable crowd.

**superficial** ADJ./肤浅的；浅薄的/trivial; shallow. Since your report gave only a *superficial* analysis of the problem, I cannot give you more than a passing grade.

**superfluous** ADJ./不必要的；多余的/unnecessary; excessive; overabundant. Betsy lacked the heart to tell June that the wedding present she brought was superfluous; she and Bob had already received five toasters. Please try not to include so many *superfluous* details in your report; just give me the facts. *superfluity*, n.

**superimpose** v./添加/place over something else. Your attempt to *superimpose* another agency in this field will merely increase the bureaucratic nature of our government.

- 139 -

**supersede** v./取代；推迟/cause to be set aside; replace; make obsolete. The new bulk mailing postal regulation *supersedes* the old one. If you continue to follow the old regulation, your bulk mailing will be returned to you. **supplant** v./篡位；取代/replace; usurp. Bolingbroke, later to be known as King Henry IV, fought to *supplant* his cousin, Richard III, as King of England.

**supple** ADJ./柔顺的；顺从的；柔韧的/flexible; pliant. Years of yoga exercises made Grace's body *supple*.

**supplicate** v./恳求；祈祷/petition humbly; pray to grant a favor.

We *supplicate* Your Majesty to grant him amnesty. **supposition** n./假定；假想/hypothesis; the act of supposing. I based my decision to confide in him on the *supposition* that he would be discreet. *suppose*, v.

**suppress** v./镇压；抑制；查禁/stifle; overwhelm; subdue; inhibit. Too polite to laugh in anyone's face, Roy did his best to *suppress* his amusement at Ed's inane remark.

**surfeit** v./饮食过度；恶心/satiate; stuff; indulge to excess in anything. Every Thanksgiving we are *surfeited* with an overabundance of holiday treats. also n.

**surly** ADJ./粗暴的；阴沉的；板着脸的；无礼的/rude; cross. Because of his *surly* attitude, many people avoided his company.

**surmise** v./猜测/guess. I *surmise* that he will be late for this meeting. also n.

**surmount** v./克服/overcome. Could Helen Keller, blind and deaf since childhood, *surmount* her physical disabilities and lead a productive life?

**surpass** v./超越/exceed. Her SAT I scores *surpassed* our expectations.

**surreptitious** ADJ./暗中的；秘密的/secret; furtive; sneaky; hidden. Hoping to discover where his mom had hidden the Christmas presents, Timmy took a *surreptitious* peek into the master bedroom closet.

**surrogate** n./代理；代替/substitute. For a fatherless child, a male teacher may become a father *surrogate*. **surveillance** n./监视；监督/watching; guarding. The FBI kept the house under constant *survei lance* in the hope of capturing all the criminals at one time,

**susceptible** ADJ./易受影响的；易感动的；易患病的/impressionable; easily influenced; having little resistance, as to a disease; receptive to. Said the patent medicine man to his very *susceptible* customer: "Buy this new miracle drug, and you will no longer be *susceptible* to the common cold."

**sustain** v./支撑；延续/experience; support; nourish. He *sustained* such a severe injury that the doctors feared he would be unable to work to sustain his growing family.

**sustenance** n./食物；生计/means of support, food, nourishment. In the tropics, the natives find *sustenance* easy to obtain, due to all the fruit trees.

**suture** n./缝合；缝合处/stitches sewn to hold the cut edges of a wound or incision; material used in sewing. We will remove the *sutures* as soon as the wound heals. also v.

**swagger** v./大摇大摆；自大/behave arrogantly or pompously; strut or walk proudly. The conquering hero didn't simply stride down the street; he *swaggered*. also n.

**swarm** n./一大群；挤满，占满，蜂拥/dense moving crowd; large group of honeybees. At the height of the city hall scandals, a constant *swarm* of reporters followed the mayor everywhere. also v.

**swarthy** ADJ./暗的；有雾的/dark; dusky. Despite the stereotypes, not all Italians are *swarthy*, many are fair and blond. **swathe** v./包裹物；绷带/wrap around; bandage. When I visited him in the

hospital, I found him *swathed* in bandages. **swelter** v./闷热；中暑/be oppressed by heat. I am going to buy an air conditioning unit for my apartment as I do not intend to *swelter* through another hot and humid summer.

**swerve** v./转向；突然转向/deviate; turn aside sharply. The car *swerved* wildly as the driver struggled to regain control of the wheel.

**swill** v./痛饮/drink greedily. Singing "Yo, ho, ho, and a bottle of rum," Long John Silver and his fellow pirates *swi led* their grog.

**swindler** n./骗子/cheat. She was gullible and trusting, an easy victim for the first *swindler* who came along.

- 140 -

**sybarite** n./纵情逸乐之徒/lover of luxury. Rich people are not always *sybarites*; some of them have little taste for a life of luxury.

**sycophant** n./马屁精；阿谀奉承者/servile flatterer; bootlicker; yes man. Fed up with the toadies and flunkies who made up his entourage, the star cried, "Get out, all of you! I'm sick of *sycophants*!" *sycophancy*, n.

**symbiosis** n./共生现象/interdependent relationship (between groups, species), often mutually beneficial. Both the crocodile bird and the crocodile derive benefit from their *symbiosis*: pecking away at food particles embedded in the crocodile's teeth, the bird receives nourishment; the crocodile, meanwhile, receives proper dental hygiene.

*symbiotic*, ADJ.

**symmetry** n./对称；匀称/arrangement of parts so that balance is obtained; congruity. Something lopsided by definition lacks *symmetry*.

**synoptic** ADJ./概要的/providing a general overview; summary. The professor turned to the latest issue of Dissertation Abstracts for a *synoptic* account of what was new in the field. *synopsis*, n.

**synthesis** n./合成/combining parts into a whole. Now that we have succeeded in isolating this drug, our next problem is to plan its *synthesis* in the laboratory. *synthesize*, v.

**table** v./搁置/set aside a resolution or proposal for future consideration. Because we seem unable to agree on this issue at the moment, let us *table* the motion for now and come back to it at a later date.

**tacit** ADJ./默许的；会意的/understood; not put into words. We have a *tacit* agreement based on only a handshake. **taciturn** ADJ./沉默寡言的/habitually silent; talking little. The stereotypical cowboy is a *taciturn* soul, answering lengthy questions with a "Yep" or "Nope."

**tactile** ADJ./触觉的/pertaining to the organs or sense of touch. His callused hands had lost their *tactile* sensitivity.

**taint** v./污染，感染；污点/contaminate; cause to lose purity; modify with a trace of something bad. One speck of dirt on your utensils may contain enough germs to *taint* an entire batch of preserves.

**talisman** n./护身符；避邪物/charm to bring good luck and avert misfortune. Joe believed the carved pendant he found in Vietnam served him as a *talisman* and brought him safely through the war.

**talon** n./鸟爪/claw of bird. The falconer wore a leather gauntlet to avoid being clawed by the hawk's talons. **tangential** ADJ./外围的；切线的/peripheral; only slightly connected; digressing. Despite Clark's attempts to distract her with *tangential* remarks, Lois kept on coming back to her main question: why couldn't he come out to dinner with Superman and her?

**tangible** ADJ./可触摸的；真实的/able to be touched; real; palpable. Although Tom did not own a house, he had several *tangible* assets - a car, a television, a PC-that he could sell if he needed cash.

**tanner** n./皮革工人；6便士/person who turns animal hides into leather. Using a solution of tanbark, the *tanner* treated the cowhide, transforming it into supple leather.

**tantalize** v./逗弄；使其干着急/tease; torture with disappointment. Tom loved to *tantalize* his younger brother with candy; he knew the boy was forbidden to have it.

**tantamount** ADJ./同等的/equivalent in effect or value. Though Rudy claimed his wife was off visiting friends, his shriek of horror when she walked into the room was *tantamount* to a confession that he believed she was dead.

## Word List 46 tantrum-tonic

**tantrum** n./发脾气；暴怒/fit of petulance; caprice. The child learned that he could have almost anything if he had a *tantrum*.

**tarantula** *n.*/毒蜘蛛/venomous spider. We need an antitoxin to counteract the bite of the *tarantula*. **tarry** *v.*/等候; 逗留; 混日子/delay; dawdle. We can't *tarry* if we want to get to the airport on time. **taut** *adj.*/紧张的; 整洁的/tight; ready. The captain maintained that he ran a *taut* ship.  
- 141 -

**tautological** *adj.*/同义反复的/needlessly repetitious. In the sentence "It was visible to the eye," the phrase "to the eye" is *tautological*.

**tautology** *n.*/同义反复/unnecessary repetition. "Joyful happiness" is an illustration of *tautology*.

**tawdry** *adj.*/俗丽的; 便宜且华而不实/cheap and gaudy. He won a few *tawdry* trinkets in Coney Island.

**tedious** *adj.*/令人厌倦的/boring; tiring. The repetitious nature of work on the assembly line made Martin's job very *tedious*. *tedium*, *n.*

**temerity** *n.*/鲁莽的/boldness; rashness. Do you have the *temerity* to argue with me?

**temper** *v.*/中和; 回火; 调剂; 锻炼/moderate; tone down or restrain; toughen (steel). Not even her supervisor's grumpiness could *temper* Nancy's enthusiasm for her new job.

**temperament** *n.*/气质; 性情/characteristic frame of mind; disposition; emotional excess. Although the twins look alike, they differ markedly in *temperament*: Todd is calm, but Rod is excitable.

**temperate** *adj.*/节制的; 自我控制的/restrained; self-controlled; moderate in respect to temperature. Try to be *temperate* in your eating this holiday season; if you control your appetite, you won't gain too much weight. **tempestuous** *adj.*/有暴风雨的; 暴乱的/stormy; impassioned; violent. Racketthrowing tennis star John McEnroe was famed for his displays of *tempestuous* temperament.

**tempo** *n.*/节奏, 乐曲的速度/speed of music. I find the band's *tempo* too slow for such a lively dance.

**temporal** *adj.*/暂时的/not lasting forever; limited by time; secular. At onetime in our history, *temporal* rulers assumed that they had been given their thrones by divine right.

**temporize** *v.*/拖延时间; 见风使舵/avoid committing oneself; gain time. I cannot permit you to *temporize* any longer; I must have a definite answer today.

**tenacious** *adj.*/顽强的/holding fast. I had to struggle to break his *tenacious* hold on my arm.

**tenacity** *n.*/坚韧/firmness; persistence. Jean Valjean could not believe the *tenacity* of Inspector Javert. Here all Valjean had done was to steal a loaf of bread, and the inspector had pursued him doggedly for twenty years! **tendentious** *adj.*/偏见的; 有目标的; 预计好的/having an aim; biased; designed to further a cause. The editorials in this periodical are *tendentious* rather than truth-seeking.

**tender** *v.*/提供; 扩充/offer; extend. Although no formal charges had been made against him, in the wake of the recent scandal the mayor felt he should *tender* his resignation.

**tenet** *n.*/原则; 信条/doctrine; dogma. The agnostic did not accept the *tenets* of their faith.

**tensile** *adj.*/可伸展的; 可拉长的/capable of being stretched. Mountain climbers must know the *tensile* strength of their ropes.

**tentative** *adj.*/试验性的, 试探的/hesitant; not fully worked out or developed; experimental; not definite or positive. Unsure of his welcome at the Christmas party, Scrooge took a *tentative* step into his nephew's drawing room.

**tenuous** *adj.*/纤细的/thin; rare; slim. The allegiance of our allies is held by rather *tenuous* ties.

**tenure** *n.*/任期; (土地的)使用期限/holding of an office; time during which such an office is held. He has permanent *tenure* in this position and cannot be fired.

**tepid** *adj.*/冷淡的; 微热的/lukewarm. During the summer, I like to take a *tepid* bath, not a hot one.

**termination** *n.*/结束/end. Though the time for *termination* of the project was near, we still had a lot of work to finish before we shut up shop. *terminate*, *v.*

**terminology** *n.*/术语学/terms used in a science or art. The special *terminology* developed by some authorities in the field has done more to confuse the layman than to enlighten him. *terminus* *n.* last stop of railroad. After we reached the railroad *terminus*, we continued our journey into the wilderness on saddle horses.

**terrestrial** *adj.*/地的; 地球的/earthly (as opposed to celestial); pertaining to the land. In many science fiction films, alien invaders from outer space plan to destroy all *terrestrial* life.

**terse** *adj.*/简洁; 扼要的/concise; abrupt; pithy. There is a fine line between speech that is *terse* and to the point and  
- 142 -

speech that is too abrupt.

**testy** *adj.*/易怒的/irritable; short-tempered. My advice is to avoid discussing this problem with him today as he is rather *testy* and may shout at you.

**tether** *v.*/用绳子绑; 范围/tie with a rope. Before we went to sleep, we *tethered* the horses to prevent their wandering off during the night.

**thematic** *adj.*/主题的; 主题相关的/relating to a unifying motif or idea. Those who think of Moby Dick as a simple adventure story about whaling miss its underlying *thematic* import.

**theocracy** *n.*/神权政治/government run by religious leaders. Though some Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower favored the establishment of a *theocracy* in New England, many of their fellow voyagers preferred a nonreligious form of government.

**theoretical** *adj.*/理论的/not practical or applied; hypothetical. Bob was better at applied engineering and computer programming than he was at theoretical physics and math. While I can still think of some *theoretical* objections to your plan, you've convinced me of its basic soundness.

**therapeutic** *adj.*/治疗的; 治疗学的/curative. Now better known for its racetrack, Saratoga Springs first gained attention for the *therapeutic* qualities of its famous "healing waters."  
*therapy*, *n.*

**thermal** *adj.*/热的; 热学的/pertaining to heat. The natives discovered that the hot springs made excellent *thermal* baths and began to develop their community as a health resort.  
also *n.*

**thespian** *adj.*/戏剧的/pertaining to drama. Her success in the school play convinced her she was destined for a *thespian* career. also *n.*

**threadbare** *adj.*/褴褛的; 破烂不堪的/worn through till the threads show; shabby and poor. The poor adjunct professor hid the *threadbare* spots on his jacket by sewing leather patches on his sleeves.

**thrifty** *adj.*/节省的; 抠包的/careful about money; economical. A *thrifty* shopper compares prices before making major purchases.

**thrive** *v.*/繁荣; 昌盛/prosper; flourish. Despite the impact of the recession on the restaurant trade, Philip's café *thrived*.

**throes** *n.*/剧痛/violent anguish. The *throes* of despair can be as devastating as the spasms accompanying physical pain.

**throng** *n.*/聚集/crowd. *Throngs* of shoppers jammed the aisles.  
also *v.*

**thwart** *v.*/阻碍; 挫败/baffle; frustrate. He felt that everyone was trying to *thwart* his plans and prevent his success. **tightwad** *n.*/吝啬鬼/excessively frugal person; miser. Jill called Jack a *tightwad* because he never picked up the check.

**tiller** *n.*/舵柄; 农夫/handle used to move boat's rudder (to steer). Fearing the wind might shift suddenly and capsize the skiff, Tom kept one hand on the *tiller* at all times.

**timidity** *n.*/胆怯/lack of self-confidence or courage. If you are to succeed as a salesman, you must first lose your *timidity* and fear of failure.

**timorous** *adj.*/害怕的/fearful; demonstrating fear. His *timorous* manner betrayed the fear he felt at the moment. **tirade** *n.*/长篇慷慨激昂的演说/extended scolding; denunciation; harangue. Every time the boss holds a meeting, he goes into a lengthy *tirade*, scolding us for everything from tardiness to padding our expenses.

**titanic** *adj.*/巨大的/gigantic. *Titanic* waves beat against the majestic S.S. Titanic, driving it against the concealed iceberg.

**title** *n.*/名字; 等级; 拥有权/right or claim to possession; mark of rank; name (of a book, film, etc.). Though the penniless Duke of Ragwort no longer held title to the family estate, he still retained his *title* as head of one of England's oldest families.

**titter** *n.*/神经质的笑/nervous laugh. Her aunt's constant *titter* nearly drove her mad. also *v.*  
- 143 -

**titular** *adj.*/有名无实的/nominal holding of title without obligations. Although he was the *titular* head of the company, the real decisions were made by his general manager.

**toady** *n.*/谄媚的人; 马屁精/servile flatterer; yes man. Never tell the boss anything he doesn't wish to hear: he doesn't want an independent adviser, he just wants a *toady*. also *v.*

**tome** *n.*/册; 卷/large volume. He spent much time in the libraries poring over ancient *tomes*.

**tonic** *ADJ.*/精神充沛的/invigorating; refreshing. The tart homemade ginger ale had a *tonic* effect on Kit: she perked right up. also *n.*

## Word List 47 topography-ubiquitous

**topography** *n.*/拓扑学/physical features of a region. Before the generals gave the order to attack, they ordered a complete study of the *topography* of the region.

**torpor** *n.*/迟钝; 麻木; 不活泼/lethargy; sluggishness; dormancy. Throughout the winter, nothing aroused the bear from his *torpor*: he would not emerge from hibernation until spring. torpid, *ADJ.*

**torrent** *n.*/急流; 洪水/rushing stream; flood. Day after day of heavy rain saturated the hillside until the water ran downhill in *torrents*. torrential, *ADJ.*

**torrid** *ADJ.*/有激情的; 热带的/passionate; hot or scorching. Harlequin Romances publish torrid tales of love affairs, some set in *torrid* climates.

**torso** *n.*/未完成的; 残缺的/trunk of statue with head and limbs missing; human trunk. This *torso*, found in the ruins of Pompeii, is now on exhibition in the museum in Naples.

**tortuous** *ADJ.*/曲折的, 蜿蜒的/winding; full of curves. Because this road is so *tortuous*, it is unwise to go faster than twenty miles an hour on it.

**totter** *v.*/摇摆; 摇摇欲坠/move unsteadily; sway, as if about to fall. On unsteady feet, the drunk *tottered* down the hill to the nearest bar.

**touchstone** *n.*/试金石; 准绳; 标准; 尺度/stone used to test the fineness of gold alloys; criterion. What *touchstone* can be used to measure the character of a person?

**touchy** *ADJ.*/暴躁的; 难以处理的; 易上火的/sensitive; irascible. Do not mention his bald spot; he's very *touchy* about it.

**tout** *v.*/吹捧/publicize; praise excessively. I lost confidence in my broker after he *touted* some junk bonds to me that turned out to be a bad investment.

**toxic** *ADJ.*/有毒的/poisonous. We must seek an antidote for whatever *toxic* substance he has eaten. toxicity, *n.*

**tract** *n.*/地域; 小册子/region of land (often imprecisely described); pamphlet. The king granted William Penn a *tract* of land in the New World. Penn then printed a tract in which he encouraged settlers to join his colony.

**tractable** *ADJ.*/驯良的; 温顺的; 易处理的/docile; easily managed. Although Susan seemed a *tractable* young woman, she had a stubborn streak of independence that occasionally led her to defy the powers -that-be when she felt they were in the wrong.

**traduce** *v.*/诽谤; 中伤/expose to slander. His opponents tried to *traduce* the candidate's reputation by spreading rumors about his past.

**trajectory** *n.*/弹道; 轨迹; 抛物线/path taken by a projectile. The police tried to locate the spot from which the assassin had fired the fatal shot by tracing the *trajectory* of the bullet.

**tranquillity** *n.*/平静; 冷静/calmness; peace. After the commotion and excitement of the city, I appreciate the *tranquillity* of these fields and forests.

**transcendent** *ADJ.*/卓越的; 非比寻常的/surpassing; exceeding ordinary limits; superior. For the amateur chef, dining at the four-star restaurant was a *transcendent* experience: the meal surpassed his wildest dreams.

**transcribe** *v.*/复制/copy. When you *transcribe* your notes, please send a copy to Mr. Smith and keep the original for  
- 144 -

our files. transcription, *n.*

**transgression** *n.*/犯罪/violation of a law; sin. Forgive us our *transgressions*; we know not what we do.

**transient** *ADJ.*/暂时的/momentary; temporary; staying for a short time. Lexy's joy at finding the perfect Christmas gift for Phil was *transient*, she still had to find presents for the cousins and Uncle Bob. Located near the airport, this hotel caters to a largely *transient* trade. transience, *n.*

**transition** *n.*/过渡; 转换; 跃迁/going from one state of action to another. During the period of *transition* from oil heat to gas heat, the furnace will have to be shut off.

**transitory** *ADJ.*/短时间的/impermanent; fleeting. Fame is *transitory*: today's rising star is all too soon tomorrow's washed-up has-been. transitoriness, *n.*

**translucent** *ADJ.*/半透明的/partly transparent. We could not recognize the people in the next room because of the *translucent* curtains that separated us.

**transmute** *v.*/改变/change; convert to something different. He was unable to *transmute* his dreams into actualities.

**transparent** *ADJ.*/透明的; 容易检测的, 明晰的/easily detected; permitting light to pass through freely. John's pride in his son is *transparent*; no one who sees the two of them together can miss it.

**transport** *n.*/运输; 狂喜/strong emotion. Margo was a creature of extremes, at one moment in *transports* of joy over a vivid sunset, at another moment in transports of grief over a dying bird. also *v.*(secondary meaning)

**trappings** *n.*/服饰; 装饰/outward decorations; ornaments. He loved the *trappings* of success: the limousines, the stock options, the company jet.

**traumatic** *ADJ.*/外伤的/pertaining to an injury caused by violence. In his nightmares, he kept on recalling the *traumatic* experience of being wounded in battle.

**travail** *n.*/辛苦劳作/painful labor. How long do you think a man can endure such *travail* and degradation without rebelling?

**traverse** *v.*/穿过/go through or across. When you *traverse* this field, be careful of the bull.

**travesty** *n.*/滑稽化; 滑稽模仿/comical parody; treatment aimed at making something appear ridiculous. The ridiculous decision the jury has reached is a *travesty* of justice.

**treacly** *ADJ.*/甜蜜的/sticky sweet; cloyingly sentimental. Irritatingly cheerful, always looking on the bright side, Pollyanna speaks nothing but *treacly* sentimentalities. treacle, *n.*

**treatise** *n.*/论文/article treating a subject systematically and thoroughly. He is preparing a *treatise* on the Elizabethan playwrights for his graduate degree.

**trek** *n.*/旅行/travel; journey. The tribe made their *trek* farther north that summer in search of game. also *v.*

**tremor** *n.*/振动的/trembling; slight quiver. She had a nervous *tremor* in her right hand.

**tremulous** *ADJ.*/震荡的/trembling; wavering. She was *tremulous* more from excitement than from fear.

**trenchant** *ADJ.*/锋利的/cutting; keen. I am afraid of his *trenchant* wit for it is so often sarcastic.

**trepidation** *n.*/惧怕/fear; nervous apprehension. As she entered the office of the dean of admissions, Sharon felt some *trepidation* about how she would do in her interview.

**trespass** *v.*/过失; 侵入/unlawfully enter the boundaries of some else's property. The wicked baron flogged any poacher who *trespassed* on his private hunting grounds. also *n.*

**tribute** *n.*/贡品; 殷勤; 颂词; 礼物/tax levied by a ruler; mark of respect. The colonists refused to pay *tribute* to a foreign despot.

**trifling** *ADJ.*/不重要的/trivial; unimportant. Why bother going to see a doctor for such a *trifling*, everyday cold?

**trigger** *v.*/引起; 触发; 扳机/set off. John is touchy today; say one word wrong and you'll *trigger* an explosion. **trinket** *n.*/小玩意儿; 密谋/knickknack; bauble. Whenever she traveled abroad, Ethel would pick up costume jewelry and other *trinkets* as souvenirs.

**trite** *ADJ.*/陈腐的/hackneyed; commonplace. The trite and predictable situations in many television programs turn off  
- 145 -

many viewers, who, in turn, turn off their sets.

**trivial** *ADJ.*/不重要的/unimportant; trifling. Too many magazines ignore newsworthy subjects and feature *trivial* affairs. trivia, *n.*

**trough** *n.*/槽; 低谷/container for feeding farm animals; lowest point (of a wave, business cycle, etc.) The hungry pigs struggled to get at the fresh swill in the trough. The surfer rode her board, coasting along in the *trough* between two waves.

**truculence** *n.*/野蛮; 粗鲁/aggressiveness; ferocity. Tynan's reviews were noted for their caustic attacks and general tone of *truculence*. truculent, *ADJ.*

**truism** *n.*/真实性/self-evident truth. Many a *truism* is summed up in a proverb; for example, "Marry in haste, repent at leisure."

**truncate** *v.*/截去尖端/cut the top off. The top of a cone that has been *truncated* in a plane parallel to its base is a circle.

**tryst** *n.*/约会; 幽会/meeting. The lovers kept their *tryst* even though they realized their danger.

**tumult** *n.*/吵闹; 混乱/commotion; riot; noise. She could not make herself heard over the *tumult* of the mob.

**tundra** *n.*/苔原; 冻土/rolling, treeless plain in Siberia and arctic North America. Despite the cold, many geologists are trying to discover valuable mineral deposits in the *tundra*.

**turbid** *ADJ.*/浑浊的; 搅动了沉淀物的/muddy; having the sediment disturbed. The water was *turbid* after the children had waded through it.

**turbulence** *n.* /湍流; 骚乱; 动荡/state of violent agitation. Warned of approaching *turbulence* in the atmosphere, the pilot told the passengers to fasten their seat belts.

**turgid** *ADJ.* /肿胀的/swollen; distended. The *turgid* river threatened to overflow the levees and flood the countryside.

**turmoil** *n.* /骚动; 混乱/great commotion and confusion. Lydia running off with a soldier! Mother fainting at the news! The Bennet household was in *turmoil*.

**turncoat** *n.* /叛徒; 叛逆者/traitor. The British considered Benedict Arnold a loyalist; the Americans considered him a *turncoat*.

**turpitude** *n.* /奸恶; 卑鄙/depravity. A visitor may be denied admittance to this country if she has been guilty of moral *turpitude*.

**tutelage** *n.* /监护/guardianship; training. Under the *tutelage* of such masters of the instrument, she made rapid progress as a virtuoso.

**tycoon** *n.* /大亨/wealthy leader. John D. Rockefeller was a prominent *tycoon*.

**typhoon** *n.* /台风/tropical hurricane or cyclone. If you liked *Twister*, you'll love *Typhoon*!

**tyranny** *n.* /暴政; 专制/oppression; cruel government. Frederick Douglass fought against the *tyranny* of slavery throughout his life.

**tyro** *n.* /新手/beginner; novice. For a mere *tyro*, you have produced some wonderfully expert results.

**ubiquitous** *ADJ.* /无所不在的/being everywhere; omnipresent. That Christmas "The Little Drummer Boy" seemed *ubiquitous*; David heard the tune everywhere.

## Word List 48 ulterior - vehement

**ulterior** *ADJ.* /将来的; 隐蔽的 /situated beyond; unstated. You must have an *ulterior* motive for your behavior, since there is no obvious reason for it.

**ultimate** *ADJ.* /终极的/final; not susceptible to further analysis. Scientists are searching for *ultimate* truths.

**unaccountable** *ADJ.* /无责任的; 无法解释的/inexplicable; unreasonable or mysterious. I have taken an *unaccountable* dislike to my doctor: "I do not love thee, Doctor Fell. The reason why, I cannot tell."

- 146 -

**unanimity** *n.* /全体同意; 全体一致/complete agreement. We were surprised by the *unanimity* with which members of both parties accepted our proposals. unanimous, *ADJ.*

**unassailable** *ADJ.* /攻不破的/not subject to question; not open to attack. Penelope's virtue was *unassailable*; while she waited for her husband to come back from the war, no other man had a chance.

**unassuming** *ADJ.* /谦逊的/modest. He is so *unassuming* that some people fail to realize how great a man he really is.

**unbridled** *ADJ.* /放肆的; 肆虐的/violent. She had a sudden fit of *unbridled* rage.

**uncanny** *ADJ.* /离奇的/strange; mysterious. You have the *uncanny* knack of reading my innermost thoughts. **unconscionable** *ADJ.* /不合理的; 不道德的; 过度的/unscrupulous; excessive. She found the loan shark's demands *unconscionable* and impossible to meet.

**uncouth** *ADJ.* /笨拙的; 粗俗的/outlandish; clumsy; boorish. Most biographers portray Lincoln as an *uncouth* and ungainly young man.

**unctuous** *ADJ.* /油的; 油质的; 松软肥沃的/oily; bland; insincerely suave. Uriah Heep disguised his nefarious actions by *unctuous* protestations of his "humility."

**underlying** *ADJ.* /根本的; 在下面的; 潜在的/fundamental; lying below. The *underlying* cause of the student riot was not the strict curfew rule but the moldy cafeteria food. Miss Marple seems a sweet little old lady at first, but there's an iron will *underlying* that soft and fluffy facade.

**undermine** *v.* /破坏/weaken; sap. The recent corruption scandals have *undermined* many people's faith in the city government. The recent torrential rains have washed away much of the cliffside; the deluge threatens to *undermine* the pillars supporting several houses at the edge of the cliff.

**underscore** *v.* /强调/emphasize. Addressing the jogging class, Kim *underscored* the importance to runners of good nutrition.

**undulating** *ADJ.* /波浪的/moving with a wavelike motion. The Hilo Hula Festival was an *undulating* sea of grass skirts.

**unearth** *v.* /出土; 发掘/dig up. When they *unearthed* the city, the archeologists found many relics of an ancient civilization.

**unequivocal** *ADJ.* /明白清楚的/plain; obvious; unmistakable. My answer to your proposal is an *unequivocal* and absolute "No."

**unerringly** *ADJ.* /正确无误的/infallibly. My teacher *unerringly* pounced on the one typographical error in my essay.

**unfathomable** *ADJ.* /不可理解的; 不能渗透的/incomprehensible; impenetrable. Unable to get to the bottom of the mystery, Watson declared it was *unfathomable*.

**unfetter** *v.* /解放/liberate; free from chains. Chained to the wall for months on end, the hostage despaired that he would ever be *unfettered*.

**unfrock** *v.* /解除神职/to strip a priest or minister of church authority. To disbar a lawyer, to *unfrock* a priest, to suspend a doctor's license to practice-these are extreme steps that the authorities should take only after careful consideration. **ungainly** *ADJ.* /糟糕的; 笨拙的/awkward; clumsy; unwieldy. "If you want to know whether Nick's an *ungainly* dancer, check out my bruised feet," said Nora. Anyone who has ever tried to carry a bass fiddle knows it's an *ungainly* instrument.

**uniformity** *n.* /一致性; 同样/sameness; monotony. At *Persons* magazine, we strive for *uniformity* of style; as a result, all our writers wind up sounding exactly alike.

**unimpeachable** *ADJ.* /无懈可击的/blameless and exemplary. Her conduct in office was *unimpeachable* and her record is spotless.

**uninhibited** *ADJ.* /放荡不羁的; 不受限制的/unrepressed. The congregation was shocked by her *uninhibited* laughter during the sermon.

**unintimidating** *ADJ.* /无惧的/unfrightening. Though Phil had expected to feel overawed when he met Steve Young, - 147 -

he found the famous quarterback friendly and *unintimidating*.

**unique** *ADJ.* /独一无二的/without an equal; single in kind. You have the *unique* distinction of being the only student whom I have had to fail in this course.

**universal** *ADJ.* /通用的/characterizing or affecting all; present everywhere. At first, no one shared Christopher's opinions; his theory that the world was round was met with *universal* disdain.

**unkempt** *ADJ.* /蓬乱的; 粗野的; 不洁的/disheveled; uncared for in appearance. Jeremy hated his neighbor's *unkempt* lawn: he thought its neglected appearance had a detrimental effect on neighborhood property values. **unmitigated** *ADJ.* /未缓和的; 绝对的/unrelieved or immoderate; absolute. After four days of *unmitigated* heat, I was ready to collapse from heat prostration. The congresswoman's husband was an *unmitigated* jerk: not only did he abandon her, he took her campaign funds, too!

**unobtrusive** *ADJ.* /不显眼的; 朴素的/inconspicuous; not blatant. Reluctant to attract notice, the governess took a chair in a far corner of the room and tried to be as *unobtrusive* as possible.

**unpalatable** *ADJ.* /厌恶的; 不好吃的; 味道糟糕的/distasteful; disagreeable. "I refuse to swallow your conclusion," said she, finding his logic *unpalatable*.

**unprecedented** *ADJ.* /空前的/novel; unparalleled. For a first novel, Margaret Mitchell's novel *Gone with the Wind* was an *unprecedented* success.

**unprepossessing** *ADJ.* /不吸引人的/unattractive. During adolescence many attractive young people somehow acquire the false notion that their appearance is *unprepossessing*.

**unravel** *v.* /拆开; 解决/disentangle; solve. With equal ease Miss Marple *unraveled* tangled balls of yarn and baffling murder mysteries.

**unrequited** *ADJ.* /不报答的, 不回复的/not reciprocated. Suffering the pangs of *unrequited* love, Olivia rebukes Cesario for his hardheartedness.

**unruly** *ADJ.* /不服从的; 倔强的/disobedient; lawless. The only way to curb this *unruly* mob is to use tear gas.

**unscathed** *ADJ.* /没有受伤的/unharmful. They prayed he would come back from the war *unscathed*.

**unseemly** *ADJ.* /不体面的/unbecoming; indecent; in poor taste. When he put whoopie cushions on all the seats in the funeral parlor, his conduct was most *unseemly*.

**unsightly** *ADJ.* /难看的/ugly. Although James was an experienced emergency room nurse, he occasionally became queasy when faced with a particularly *unsightly* injury.

**unstinting** *ADJ.* /慷慨的; 无保留的/giving generously; not holding back. The dean praised the donor of the new science building for her *unstinting* generosity.

**untenable** *ADJ.* /防不住的; 防不胜防的; 站不住的/indefensible; not able to be maintained. Wayne is so contrary that, the more *untenable* a position is, the harder he'll try to defend it.

**unwarranted** ADJ./莫名其妙的；没来由的；冤枉的/unjustified; groundless; undeserved. Your assumption that I would accept your proposal is *unwarranted*, sir; I do not want to marry you at all. We could not understand Martin's *unwarranted* rudeness to his mother's guests.

**unwieldy** ADJ./糟糕的；笨拙的/awkward; cumbersome; unmanageable. The large carton was so *unwieldy* that the movers had trouble getting it up the stairs.

**unwitting** ADJ./不知情的/unintentional; not knowing. She was the *unwitting* tool of the swindlers.

**upbraid** v./责备/severely scold; reprimand. Not only did Miss Minchin *upbraid* Ermengarde for her disobedience, but she hung her up by her braids from a coat rack in the classroom.

**uproarious** ADJ. marked by commotion; extremely funny; very noisy. The *uproarious* comedy hit Ace Ventura: Pet Detective starred Jim Carrey, whose comic mugging provoked gales of uproarious laughter from audiences coast to coast.

**upshot** n./结果/outcome. The *upshot* of the rematch was that the former champion proved that he still possessed all the skills of his youth.

- 148 -

**urbane** ADJ./文雅的；高雅的；彬彬有礼的/suave; refined; elegant. The courtier was *urbane* and sophisticated. urbanity, **n.** **usurp** v./篡取/seize another's power or rank. The revolution ended when the victorious rebel general succeeded in his attempt to *usurp* the throne.

**utopia** n./乌托邦/ideal place, state, or society. Fed up with this imperfect universe, Don would have liked to run off to Shangri-la or some other imaginary *utopia*. utopian, ADJ.

**vacillate** v./犹豫不定/waver; fluctuate. Uncertain which suitor she ought to marry, the princess vacillated, saying now one, now the other. The big boss likes his people to be decisive: when he asks you for your opinion, whatever you do, don't *vaci late*. vacillation, n.

**vacuous** ADJ./空虚的；空的/empty; inane. The *vacuous* remarks of the politician annoyed the audience, who had hoped to hear more than empty platitudes.

**vagabond** n./流浪者/wanderer; tramp. In summer, college students wander the roads of Europe like carefree *vagabonds*. also ADJ.

**vagrant** n./无家可归的流浪者/a homeless wanderer. Because he was a stranger in town with no visible means of support, Martin feared he would be jailed as a *vagrant*. vagrancy, n.

**valedictory** ADJ./告别的/pertaining to farewell. I found the *valedictory* address too long; leave-taking should be brief.

**valid** ADJ./正当的；有效的/logically convincing; sound; legally acceptable. You're going to have to come up with a better argument if you want to convince me that your reasoning is *valid*.

**validate** v./批准；确认/confirm; ratify. I will not publish my findings until I *validate* my results.

**valor** n./英勇；勇猛/bravery. He received the Medal of Honor for his *valor* in battle.

**vampire** n.吸血鬼/ghostly being that sucks the blood of the living. Children were afraid to go to sleep because of the many legends of *vampires* roaming at night.

**vanguard** n./先驱；先锋/forerunners; advance forces. We are the *vanguard* of a tremendous army that is following us.

**vantage** n./优势/position giving an advantage. They fired upon the enemy from behind trees, walls and any other point of *vantage* they could find.

**vapid** ADJ./平淡单调的；索然无味的；缺乏想象力的/dull and unimaginative; insipid and flavorless. "Bor-ing!" said Jessica, as she suffered through yet another *vapid* lecture about Dead White Male Poets.

**\*vaporize** v./蒸发/turn into vapor (steam, gas, fog, etc.). "Zap!" went Super Mario's atomic ray gun as he *vaporized* another deadly foe.

**variegated** ADJ./杂色的/many-colored. Without her glasses, Gretchen saw the fields of tulips as a *variegated* blur.

**veer** v./转向/change in direction. After what seemed an eternity, the wind *veered* to the east and the storm abated.

**vehement** ADJ./激烈的；热烈的/forceful; intensely emotional; with marked vigor. Alfred became so *vehement* in describing what was wrong with the Internal Revenue Service that he began jumping up and down and frothing at the mouth. vehemence, n.

*Word List 49 velocity-vogue*

**velocity** n./速度/speed. The train went by at considerable *velocity*.

**venal** ADJ./贪污的/capable of being bribed. The *venal* policeman cheerfully accepted the bribe offered him by the speeding motorist whom he had stopped.

**vendetta** n./深仇；世仇/blood feud. The rival mobs engaged in a bitter *vendetta*.

**vendor** n./卖主/seller. The fruit *vendor* sold her wares from a stall on the sidewalk.

**veneer** n./薄板；外表/thin layer; cover. Casual acquaintances were deceived by his *veneer* of sophistication and failed to recognize his fundamental shallowness.

- 149 -

**venerable** ADJ./庄严的；值得尊重的/deserving high respect. We do not mean to be disrespectful when we refuse to follow the advice of our *venerable* leader.

**venerate** v./崇敬/revere. In Tibet today, the common people still *venerate* their traditional spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama.

**venial** ADJ./可宽恕的/forgivable; trivial. When Jean Valjean stole a loaf of bread to feed his starving sister, he committed a *venial* offense.

**venom** n./毒液；恶毒/poison; hatred. Bitten by a rattlesnake on his ankle, the cowboy contortionist curled up like a pretzel and s ucked the *venom* out of the wound.

**vent** n./出口，出路/a small opening; outlet. The wine did not flow because the air *vent* in the barrel was clogged.

**vent** v./表达；发泄/express; utter. The angry teacher *vented* his wrath on his class.

**ventriloquist** n./口技表演者/someone who can make his or her voice seem to come from another person or thing. This *ventriloquist* does an act in which she has a conversation with a wooden dummy.

**venturesome** ADJ./冒险的/bold. A group of *venturesome* women were the first to scale Mt. Annapurna.

**veracity** n./真 实；准确性/truthfulness. Asserting his *veracity*, young George Washington proclaimed, "Father, I cannot tell a lie!"

**verbalize** v./描述/put into words. I know you don't like to talk about these things, but please try to *verbalize* your feelings.

**verbatim** ADV./逐字的/word for word. He repeated the message *verbatim*. also ADJ.

**verbiage** n./空话；大话/pompous array of words. After we had waded through all the *verbiage*, we discovered that the writer had said very little.

**verbose** ADJ./冗长的/wordy. Someone mute can't talk; someone *verbose* can hardly stop talking.

**verdant** ADJ./翠绿的；生疏的；无经验的/green; lush in vegetation. Monet's paintings of the *verdant* meadows were symphonies in green.

**verge** n./边界/border; edge. Madame Curie knew she was on the *verge* of discovering the secrets of radioactive elements. also v.

**verisimilitude** n./逼真/appearance of truth; likelihood. Critics praised her for the *verisimilitude* of her performance as Lady Macbeth. She was completely believable.

**verity** n./真实；真理；真实的陈述/quality of being true; las ting truth or principle. Did you question the *verity* of Kato Kaelin's testimony about what he heard the night Nicole Brown Simpson was slain? To the skeptic, everything was relative: there were no eternal *verities* in which one could believe.

**vernacular** n./母语；本国；本来的东西/living language; natural style. Cut out those old-fashioned thee's and thou's and write in the *vernacular*. also ADJ.

**versatile** ADJ./万能的；通用的；多面手的/having many talents; capable of working in many fields. She was a *versatile athlete*, earning varsity letters in basketball, hockey, and track.

**vertex** n./顶点/summit. Let us drop a perpendicular line from the *vertex* of the triangle to the base.

**vertigo** n./晕眩/severe dizziness. When you test potential airplane pilots for susceptibility to spells of *vertigo*, be sure to hand out air-sickness bags.

**verve** n./神韵；活力；热情/enthusiasm; liveliness. She approached her studies with such *verve* that it was impossible for her to do poorly.

**vestige** n./遗迹；痕迹；残留物/trace; remains. We discovered *vestiges* of early Indian life in the cave. vestigial, ADJ.

**vex** *N.*/激怒；惹恼/annoy; distress. Please try not to vex your mother; she is doing the best she can.

**viable** *ADJ.*/能养活的；可行的/practical or workable; capable of maintaining life. That idea won't work. Let me see whether I can come up with a *viable* alternative.

**vicarious** *ADJ.*/代理的；代理人的/acting as a substitute; done by a deputy. Many people get a *vicarious* thrill at the  
- 150 -

movies by imagining they are the characters on the screen.

**vicissitude** *N.*/转运/change of fortune. Humbled by life's *vicissitudes*, the last emperor of China worked as a lowly gardener in the palace over which he had once ruled.

**vie** *V.*/竞争/contend; compete. Politicians *vie* with one another, competing for donations and votes.

**vigilance** *N.*/警惕/watchfulness. Eternal *vigilance* is the price of liberty.

**vignette** *N.*/小插图/picture; short literary sketch. The *New Yorker* published her latest *vignette*.

**vigor** *N.*/活力/active strength. Although he was over seventy years old, Jack had the *vigor* of a man in his prime. vigorous, *ADJ.*

**vilify** *V.*/诽谤；辱骂/slander. Waging a highly negative campaign, the candidate attempted to *vilify* his opponent's reputation. vilification, *N.*

**vindicate** *V.*/辩护；维护/clear from blame; exonerate; justify or support. The lawyer's goal was to *vindicate* her client and prove him innocent on all charges. The critics' extremely favorable reviews *vindicate* my opinion that *The Madness of King George* is a brilliant movie.

**vindictive** *ADJ.*/报复性的/out for revenge; malicious. I think it's unworthy of Martha to be so *vindictive*; she shouldn't stoop to such petty acts of revenge.

**viper** *N.*/毒蛇/poisonous snake. The habitat of the horned *viper*, a particularly venomous snake, is in sandy regions like the Sahara or the Sinai peninsula.

**virile** *ADJ.*/男子的；男子气概的/manly. I do not accept the premise that a man proves he's *virile* by being belligerent.

**virtual** *ADJ.*/有效的；实质的；虚的/in essence; for practical purposes. She is a *virtual* financial wizard when it comes to money matters.

**virtue** *N.*/美德/goodness, moral excellence; good quality. *Virtue* carried to extremes can turn into vice: humility, for example, can degenerate into servility and spinelessness.

**virtuoso** *N.*/艺术品鉴赏家/highly skilled artist. The child prodigy Yehudi Menuhin grew into a *virtuoso* whose violin performances thrilled millions. virtuosity, *N.*

**virulent** *ADJ.*/剧毒的/extremely poisonous; hostile; bitter. Laid up with a virulent case of measles, Vera blamed her doctors because her recovery took so long. In fact, she became quite *virulent* on the subject of the quality of modern medical care.

**virus** *N.*/病毒/disease communicator. The doctors are looking for a specific medicine to control this *virus*.

**visceral** *ADJ.*/内脏的/felt in one's inner organs. She disliked the *visceral* sensations she had whenever she rode the roller coaster.

**viscid** *ADJ.*/粘合的/adhesive; gluey. The trunk of the maple tree was *viscid* with sap.

**viscous** *ADJ.*/粘的/sticky; gluey. Melted tar is a *viscous* substance. Viscosity, *N.*

**vise** *N.*/老虎钳/tool for holding work in place. Before filing its edges, the locksmith took the blank key and fixed it firmly between the jaws of a *vise*.

**visionary** *ADJ.*/幻想的/produced by imagination; fanciful; mystical. She was given to *visionary* schemes that never materialized. also *N.*

**vital** *ADJ.*/重要的；生命的；生机的/vibrant and lively; critical; living, breathing. The *vital*, highly energetic first aid instructor stressed that it was vital in examining accident victims to note their vital signs.

**vitriolic** *ADJ.*/腐蚀的；硫酸的；讽刺的/corrosive; sarcastic. Such *vitriolic* criticism is uncalled for.

**vituperative** *ADJ.*/责骂的/abusive; scolding. He became more *vituperative* as he realized that we were not going to grant him his wish.

**vivacious** *ADJ.*/生动的/animated; lively. She had always been *vivacious* and sparkling.

**vociferous** *ADJ.*/喊叫的；吵闹的/clamorous; noisy. The crowd grew *vociferous* in its anger and threatened to take the law into its own hands.  
- 151 -

**vogue** *N.*/时尚/popular fashion. Jeans became the *vogue* on many college campuses.

## Word List 50 volatile-zephyr

**volatile** *ADJ.*/挥发的；飞行的；可变的；爆炸的/changeable; explosive; evaporating rapidly. The political climate today is extremely *volatile*: No one can predict what the electorate will do next. Maria Callas's temper was extremely *volatile*: The only thing you could predict was that she was sure to blow up. Acetone is an extremely volatile liquid: It evaporates instantly.

**volition** *N.*/意志/act of making a conscious choice. She selected this dress of her own *volition*.

**voluble** *ADJ.*/口齿伶俐的；爱说话的/fluent; glib; talkative. The excessively *voluble* speaker suffers from logorrhea: he runs off at the mouth a lot!

**voluminous** *ADJ.*/庞大的/bulky; large. A caftan is a *voluminous* garment; most people wearing one look as if they're draped in a small tent.

**voluptuous** *ADJ.*/令人满足的/gratifying the senses. The nobility during the Renaissance led *voluptuous* lives.

**voracious** *ADJ.*/贪婪的；狼吞虎咽的/ravenous. The wolf is a *voracious* animal, its hunger never satisfied.

**vortex** *N.*/漩涡；漩涡中心；（争斗、讨论的）中心/whirlwind; whirlpool; center of turbulence; predicament into which one is inexorably plunged. Sucked into the *vortex* of the tornado, Dorothy and Toto were carried from Kansas to Oz. **vouchsafe** *V.*/允许；赐予/grant; choose to give in reply; permit. Occasionally the rock star would drift out onto the balcony and *vouchsafe* the crowd below a glimpse of her celebrated features. The professor *vouchsafed* not a word to the students' questions about what would be covered on the test.

**voyeur** *N.*/偷窥者/Peeping Tom. Nancy called her brother a *voyeur* when she caught him aiming his binoculars at an upstairs window of the house of the newlyweds next door.

**vulnerable** *ADJ.*/易受攻击的/susceptible to wounds. His opponents could not harm Achilles, who was *vulnerable* only in his heel.

**waffle** *V.*/闲聊；胡扯/speak equivocally about an issue. When asked directly about the governor's involvement in the savings and loan scandal, the press secretary *waffled*, talking all around the issue.

**waft** *V.*/飘荡；信号/moved gently by wind or waves. Daydreaming, he gazed at the leaves that *wafted* past his window.

**waggish** *ADJ.*/滑稽的；爱开玩笑的/mischievous; humorous; tricky. He was a prankster who, unfortunately, often overlooked the damage he could cause with his *waggish* tricks. wag, *N.*

**waif** *N.*/流浪儿童；流浪者/homeless child or animal. Although he already had eight cats, he could not resist adopting yet another feline *waif*.

**waive** *V.*/暂时放弃；屈从/give up temporarily; yield. I will *waive* my rights in this matter in order to expedite our reaching a proper decision.

**wake** *N.*/尾迹；痕迹/trail of ship or other object through water; path of something that has gone before. The *wake* of the swan gliding through the water glistened in the moonlight. Reporters and photographers converged on South Carolina in the *wake* of the hurricane that devastated much of the eastern seaboard.

**wallow** *V.*/打滚；沉湎；堕落/roll in; indulge in; become helpless. The hippopotamus loves to *wallow* in the mud.

**wan** *ADJ.*/苍白的/having a pale or sickly color; pallid. Suckling asked, "Why so pale and *wan*, fond lover?"

**wane** *V.*/减少；变弱/decrease in size or strength; draw gradually to an end. When lit, does a wax candle *wane*? **wanton** *ADJ.*/荒唐的；挥霍的；放荡的；不受限制的/unrestrained; willfully malicious; unchaste. Pointing to the stack of bills, Sheldon criticized Sarah for her *wanton* expenditures. In response, Sarah accused Sheldon of making an unfounded, *wanton* attack.

**warble** *V.*/颤声轻唱；鸟鸣/sing; babble. Every morning the birds *warbled* outside her window. also *N.*

**warrant** *V.*/授权；证明；批准/justify; authorize. Before the judge issues the injunction, you must convince her this action

- 152 -

is *warranted*.

**warranty** *N.*/担保；保证/guarantee; assurance by seller. The purchaser of this automobile is protected by the manufacturer's



**warranty** that the company will replace any defective part for five years or 50,000 miles.

**wary** ADJ. /机警的；小心的/very cautious. The spies grew *wary* as they approached the sentry.

**wastrel** N. /废物；饭桶；放荡的人/profligate. His neighbors denounced him as a *wastrel* who had dissipated his inheritance.

**watershed** N. /分水岭/crucial dividing point. The invention of the personal computer proved a historic *watershed*, for it opened the way to today's Information Age.

**wax** V. /增长/increase; grow. With proper handling, his fortunes waxed and he became rich.

**waylay** V. /埋伏；伏击；抢劫/ambush; lie in wait. They agreed to *waylay* their victim as he passed through the dark alley going home.

**wean** V. /断奶；丢弃/acclustom a baby to not nurse; give up a cherished activity. He decided he would *wean* himself away from eating junk food and stick to fruits and vegetables.

**weather** V. /侵蚀；风化/endure the effects of weather or other forces. He *weathered* the changes in his personal life with difficulty, as he had no one in whom to confide.

**welter** N. /翻滚；挣扎；骚乱；搅乱/turmoil; bewildering jumble. The existing *welter* of overlapping federal and state programs cries out for immediate reform.

**wheedle** V. /哄骗；诱骗/cajole; coax; deceive by flattery. She knows she can *wheedle* almost anything she wants from her father.

**whelp** N. /幼兽/young wolf, dog, tiger, etc. This collie *whelp* won't do for breeding, but he'd make a fine pet.

**whet** V. /锐化；刺激/sharpen; stimulate. The odors from the kitchen are *whetting* my appetite; I will be ravenous by the time the meal is served.

**whiff** N. /一吹；一喷/puff or gust (of air, scent, etc.); hint. The slightest *whiff* of Old Spice cologne brought memories of George to her mind.

**whimsical** ADJ. /无常的；古怪的/capricious; fanciful. In Mrs. Doubtfire, the hero is a playful, *whimsical* man who takes a notion to dress up as a woman so that he can look after his children, who are in the custody of his ex-wife. whimsy, N.

**whinny** V. /马嘶/ neigh like a horse. When he laughed through his nose, it sounded as if he *whinnied*.

**whittle** V. /切；削；损害/pare; cut off bits. As a present for Aunt Polly, Tom *whittled* some clothespins out of a chunk of wood.

**willful** ADJ. /顽固的；故意的/intentional; headstrong. Donald had planned to kill his wife for months; clearly, her death was a case of deliberate, *willful* murder, not a crime of passion committed by a hasty, willful youth unable to foresee the consequences of his deeds.

**wily** ADJ. /狡猾的/cunning; artful. She is as *wily* as a fox in avoiding trouble.

**wince** V. /退缩/shrink back; flinch. The screech of the chalk on the blackboard made her *wince*.

**windfall** N. /横财/unexpected lucky event. This huge tax refund is quite a *windfall*.

**winnow** V. /扬谷；分出好坏/sift; separate good parts from bad. This test will *winnow* out the students who study from those who don't bother.

**winsome** ADJ. /迷人的/agreeable; gracious; engaging. By her *winsome* manner, she made herself liked by everyone who met her.

**wispy** ADJ. /纤细的；脆弱的/thin; slight; barely discernible. Worried about preserving his few *wispy* tufts of hair, Walter carefully massaged his scalp and applied hair restorer every night.

**wistful** ADJ. /渴望的/vaguely longing; sadly thoughtful. With a last *wistful* glance at the happy couples dancing in the hall, Sue headed back to her room to study for her exam.

- 153 -

**withdrawn** ADJ. /内向的；孤僻的/introverted; remote. Rebuffed by his colleagues, the initially outgoing young researcher became increasingly *withdrawn*.

**wither** V. /凋谢；枯萎/shrivel; decay. Cut flowers are beautiful for a day, but all too soon they *wither*.

**withhold** V. /拒给；保留/refuse to give; hold back. The tenants decided to *withhold* a portion of the rent until the landlord kept his promise to renovate the building.

**withstand** V. /抵抗；经受住/stand up against; successfully resist. If you can *withstand* all the peer pressure in high school to cut classes and goof off, you should survive college just fine.

**witless** ADJ. /无知的；轻率的/foolish; idiotic. If Beavis is a half-wit, then Butthead is totally *witless*.

**witticism** N. /俏皮话/witty saying; wisecrack. I don't mean any criticism, but that last *witticism* totally hurt my feelings.

**wizardry** N. /巫术，魔术/sorcery; magic. Merlin the Magician amazed the knights with his *wizardry*.

**woe** N. /悲哀的/deep, inconsolable grief; affliction; suffering. Pale and wan with grief, Wanda was bowed down beneath the burden of her *woes*.

**worldly** ADJ. /世俗的/engrossed in matters of this earth; not spiritual. You must leave your *worldly* goods behind you when you go to meet your Maker.

**wrath** N. /恼火；愤怒/anger; fury. She turned to him, full of *wrath*, and said, "What makes you think I'll accept lower pay for this job than you get?"

**wrench** V. /扭曲；扭伤；曲解；折磨；拉/pull; strain; twist. She *wrenched* free of her attacker and landed a powerful kick to his kneecap.

**writhe** V. /翻腾/twist in coils; contort in pain. In Dances with Snakes, the snake dancer wriggled sinuously as her boa constrictor *writhed* around her torso.

**wry** ADJ. /歪曲的；扭曲的/twisted; with a humorous twist. We enjoy Dorothy Parker's verse for its *wry* wit.

**xenophobia** N. /惧外的/fear or hatred of foreigners. When the refugee arrived in America, he was unprepared for the *xenophobia* he found there.

**yen** N. /渴望；瘾/longing; urge. She had a *yen* to get away and live on her own for a while.

**yield** V. /屈服；放弃/give in; surrender. The wounded knight refused to *yield* to his foe.

**yield** N. /产出；（投资的）回报/amount produced; crop; income on investment. An experienced farmer can estimate the annual *yield* of his acres with surprising accuracy. also V.

**yoke** V. /结合；连接/join together, unite. I don't wish to be *yoked* to him in marriage, as if we were cattle pulling a plow. also N.

**yore** N. /往昔/time past. He dreamed of the elegant homes of *yore*, but gave no thought to their inelegant plumbing.

**zany** ADJ. /滑稽的；疯狂的/crazy; comic. I can watch the Marx brothers' *zany* antics for hours.

**zeal** N. /热心；热诚/eager enthusiasm. Katya's *zeal* was contagious; soon all her fellow students were busily making posters, inspired by her ardent enthusiasm for the cause. zealous, ADJ.

**zealot** N. /狂热者/fanatic; person who shows excessive zeal. Though Glenn was devout, he was no *zealot*, he never tried to force his beliefs on his friends.

**zenith** N. /顶点/point directly overhead in the sky; summit. When the sun was at its *zenith*, the glare was not as strong as at sunrise and sunset.

**zephyr** N. /和风；徐风/gentle breeze; west wind. When these zephyrs blow, it is good to be in an open boat under a full sail.