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Khong Huy

1/2005

Chapter 2

GRE SENTENCE COMPLETION

Of all the GRE Verbal question types, sentence completions are probably the most student friendly. Unlike analogies and antonyms, sentence completions provide you with a context to help you figure out tough vocabulary. And unlike reading comprehension questions, they only require you to read one sentence at a time. As the name suggests, sentence completion questions test your ability to complete sentences that are missing one or two key words by selecting the appropriate answer choice.

The directions for this section look like this:

Directions: This sentence has one or more blank spaces. Each blank indicates that a word or phrase has been omitted. Of the five following words or sets of words, choose the one word or set that, when inserted in the sentence, best fits the meaning of the entire sentence.

The difficulty of the sentence completions you will see on the GRE depends on how many questions you get right. If you perform well on the Verbal section, you will find that the later sentence completions you encounter involve tougher vocabulary and more convoluted logic.

THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS

To improve your skill in answering GRE sentence completions, you'll need to familiarize yourself with the basic principles for approaching them — and you'll need some practice. The Four Fundamentals below will help you to increase your skills and confidence as you approach test day. And with skills and confidence, you'll be able to earn points on the GRE!

Every Clue Is Right in Front of You

Each sentence contains a few crucial clues that help you to determine the meaning of the missing word(s). Clues in the sentence limit the possible answers, and finding these clues will guide you to the correct answer.

What are the important clues in the following question?

1. Although she earned her fame for her striking murals, the artist felt that her sculpture merited greater _____.
- disdain
 - acclaim
 - deliberation
 - viewing
 - publicity

Here, the word *although* is a classic structural clue. It tells you that you can expect a change of direction in the sentence. The first half tells you that the artist became famous as a muralist, but that she thought her sculpture deserved more BLANK. The word *although* tells you that she must think her sculptures are even better than her murals, and that they merit more praise, or *acclaim*.

Look for What's Directly Implied and Expect Cliches

We're not dealing with poetry here. These sentences aren't excerpted from the works of Toni Morrison or William Faulkner. The correct answer is the one most directly implied by the meanings of the words in the sentence. Very often, for example, the definition of the missing word is provided in the sentence:

2. Because Gould's theory has been neither completely rejected nor completely accepted by the scientific community, its status remains _____.
- repudiated
 - sanctioned
 - quizzical
 - preferable
 - debatable

Here, choice (5), *debatable*, means "neither completely rejected nor completely accepted."

Sometimes you can choose the correct answer because the missing words are part of familiar-sounding phrases or because they simply sound right in the context of the sentence:

3. The increasing acceptance of the notion that the news media is not a(n) _____ commentator upon events, but rather, a mouthpiece for the vested interests of its powerful owners, demonstrates the public's growing _____ large corporations.
- disinterested...mistrust of
 - meddling...suspicion of
 - official...apprehension of
 - impartial...satisfaction with
 - manipulative...confusion with

In the above example, the correct answer, choice (1), works because the phrases *disinterested commentator* and *growing mistrust of* simply *sound* correct.

Look for "Structural Road Signs"

Some words such as *since*, *however*, or *because*--give clues to the structure of the sentence that will point you to the right answer. The following are road signs found in GRE CAT sentence completions:

Straight-Ahead Road Signs

These make one part of the sentence support or elaborate on another part. They continue the sentence in the same direction. Examples include: *and*, *similarly*, *in addition*, *since*, *also*, *thus*, *because*, ; (*semicolon*), and *likewise*.

Detour Road Signs

These words indicate a change in the direction of the sentence. They make one part of the sentence contradict or qualify another part. Examples include: *but*, *despite*, *yet*, *however*, *unless*, *rather*, *although*, *while*, *unfortunately*, and *nonetheless*.

Watch Out for Common Wrong-Answer Types

If you get stumped on any GRE CAT sentence completion, you **can** still earn points by using the process of elimination. Do this by ruling out as many wrong answer choices as you can, and then picking from the remaining choices. Here are some common **wrong** answer types to look out for:

Half-Right/Half-Wrong

In a sentence that contains two blanks, one of the two words provided in a given answer choice fits while the other one doesn't. Make sure that both words fit the context of the sentence!

Au Contraire

In a sentence that contains one blank, the word in the given answer choice means exactly the opposite of the word you're looking for.

Clunkers

The word(s) in a given answer choice simply do not sound right in the context of the sentence.

FILL IN THE BLANK

When working through a sentence completion question:

- *Look for clues in the sentence*
- *Focus on what's directly implied*
- *Pay attention to 'structural road signs'*

Drill

In the following examples, test your knowledge of sentence completion road signs by selecting the word that most correctly completes the sentence.

1. The singer's lyrics were quite lovely, but her vocal tone was extremely (harsh, melodious).
2. Fred was so annoyed with his publicist that he repeatedly (praised, lambasted) him in public.
3. Because Mabel had the reputation of being a mediocre cook, most believed her chances of winning the bake-off were (good, slim).
4. Despite the fact that the racehorse's performance in recent competitions had been disappointing, the oddsmakers were predicting a (win, disappointment) at the Derby.
5. Many felt the rules for the scholarship competition had been unfair and, furthermore, the judges were (biased, fair).
6. Although they appear quite cuddly, brown bears actually pose a large (threat, attraction) to tourists.

THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

Now that you have learned the basics, you're ready to learn Kaplan's strategic approach to sentence completions on the GRE CAT. Approaching sentence completions in a systematic manner is the best way to avoid common pitfalls and improve your score.

❶ Read the Whole Sentence

- Look for road signs to help you determine what type of word you're looking for.
- If the sentence is long or clumsy, rephrase the sentence in your own words.

❷ Predict an Answer

- In two-blank questions, try to predict for both **blanks**.
- Use the road signs and logic you found in Step 1 to determine the direction in which the sentence is heading.

Scan the Answer Choices, Choosing the One That Best Fits Your Prephrase

- Look for those that match your prediction.
- Eliminate answer choices that don't come close to your prediction.
- On two-blank sentences, work with one blank at a **time**, eliminating answer choices as you go.



❶ Read Your Selected Answer Choice Back into the Sentence

- If it makes sense, you have a winner.
- If it doesn't make sense, go back to the answer choices and find one that works better.
- If you get stuck, eliminate answer choices that you know are wrong and guess among the remaining choices.

Try It Out

Let's apply the Kaplan Four-Step Method for sentence completions to an example.

4. We will face the idea of old age with _____ as long as we believe that it invariably brings poverty, isolation, and illness.
- regret
 - apprehension
 - enlightenment
 - veneration
 - reverence

- ❶ Let's begin by reading the whole sentence strategically. Immediately note the structural clue *as long as*. This phrase will tell us what to expect when we prepare to fill in the blank. The sentence tells us that old age brings poverty, *isolation*, and *illness*. Naturally, therefore, we would face it with something like "fear."
- ❷ Now it's time to predict our answer. As we decided in Step 1, we should look in the answer choices for a word that means *fear*.
- ❸ Here's where we scan the answer choices and look for one that best fits our predicted answer. *Apprehension* means "fear," so choice (2) is our best answer. But let's eliminate some answers that we know are wrong, just to be sure. Choice 1, *regret*, is tempting, but you feel regret for something that has already happened, not for something you will face in the future. *Veneration* and *reverence* both mean "great respect," so we can eliminate choices 4 and 5, too.
- ❹ Now we'll plug our answer into the sentence: *We will face the idea of old age with apprehension as long as we believe that it invariably brings poverty, isolation, and illness.* This sentence certainly makes sense, *so* we have found our winner!

PRACTICE SET

Now try the following sentence completion questions on your own, using the Kaplan Four-Step Method. Time yourself: Give yourself a maximum of 30–45 seconds to do each example.

1. Despite much informed _____, the relationship between sunspot cycles and the earth's weather remains _____
 - argument ... decisive
 - confusion ... tenuous
 - conjecture ... ambiguous
 - evidence ... clear
 - analysis ... systematic
2. As a consequence of the Antarctic's _____ climate, the only forms of plant life to be found in the continent's interior are a few _____ lichens and mosses that cling to the frozen rocks.
 - frigid ... hardy
 - extreme ... mysterious
 - harsh ... luxuriant
 - freezing ... complex
 - changing ... tiny
3. Conflict between generations may be a problem that has persisted for centuries, but the nature and intensity of the conflict obviously _____ in response to changes in social and economic conditions.
 - increases
 - disappears
 - declines
 - varies
 - wanes

Think about how you solved these sentence completion questions. To maximize your score, it's important to start practicing the techniques we covered in this chapter. On the pages that follow, you'll find sets of **GRE** sentence completion practice questions that **will** help you to hone your skills with this question type. Try these practice sets under **testlike** conditions, **moving** from one question to the next at a rapid pace. Complete, strategic explanations to **all** of these questions follow so that you can check your answers **and** learn the most efficient means for completing each question correctly.

Chapter 3

GRE ANALOGIES

The first step towards testing your best on GRE analogies is to get familiar with the format. Analogies test your vocabulary and your ability to figure out the relationships between pairs of words. You're given a pair of capitalized words (for example, POTATO:VEGETABLE), and you're asked to determine their relationship, then **identify** the answer choice that has the same relationship.

The directions for this question type look like this:

Directions: In this question, a related pair of words is followed by five lettered pairs of words. Choose the one pair that best expresses a relationship similar to that expressed in the original pair.

On the GRE, the more questions you get right, the more difficult the analogies you encounter will become. If you perform well on GRE Verbal, you can expect to see analogies towards the end of the test that feature quite difficult, esoteric vocabulary.

THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS

To improve your skill in answering GRE analogy questions, you'll need to familiarize yourself with the basic principles for approaching them—and you'll need some practice. The Four Fundamentals below will help you to increase your skills and confidence as you approach the day of the test. And with skills and confidence, you'll be able to earn points on test day!

GRE Analogy Questions Consist of Two Words

The two words, called the stem **pair**, are followed by five answer choices, each consisting of two words that are also separated by colons. Analogy questions on the GRE CAT look like this:

1. LITER : VOLUME ::

- bottle : can
- knob : radio
- scale : height
- gram : weight
- juice : vitamin

There Will Always Be a Direct and Necessary Relationship between the Words in the Stem Pair

You can express the relationship between the two stem words by making a short sentence that we call a *bridge*. Your goals when you build an analogy bridge should be to keep it as short and as clear as possible.

For the analogy above, as strong bridge would be:

A LITER is by definition a measure of VOLUME.

WHAT'S A STEM PAIR?

Analogy questions consist of two words —the stem pair—that are separated by a colon. Stem pairs look like this:

PREPARATION : SUCCESS ::

Try to Build a "Bridge" before Looking at the Answer Choices

Because the GRE CAT is a standardized test, you'll find that certain kinds of bridges appear on the test over and over again. At Kaplan, we call these frequently appearing bridges Classic Bridges. Getting familiar with Classic Bridges now will help you quickly recognize these relationships when you encounter them on the GRE CAT.

WHAT'S A BRIDGE?

A bridge is a short sentence that connects the two words in the stem pair. You should always build a bridge before you look at the answer choices.

The Five Classic Bridges

1. *Definition* ("is always" or "is never")
2. *Function or Purpose*
3. *Lack*

4. *Characteristic Actions or Items*

5. *Degree* (sometimes to the point of excess)

Each of the five classic bridges are illustrated below.

The Definition Bridge

CYGNET : SWAN A CYGNET is a young SWAN.

The Function or Purpose Bridge

TRUSS : SUPPORT A TRUSS is used as a SUPPORT.

The Lack Bridge

LOUT : GRACE A LOUT lacks GRACE.

The Characteristic Actions or Items Bridge

SKUNK : SCENT A SKUNK defends itself with its SCENT.

The Degree Bridge (sometimes to the point of excess)

INTEREST : ENTHRALL To INTEREST greatly is to ENTHRALL.

Remember the five classic bridges and keep them in mind as you practice for the GRE.

WHAT MAKES A STRONG BRIDGE?

You might think that the words apple and pie have a strong bridge. Don't be fooled. You can make many things other than pies out of apples, such as apple juice and apple sauce. And there are many different types of pies. Apple and fruit, on the other hand, do have a strong bridge. An apple is a type of fruit. This is always true: It's a strong, definite relationship.

Watch Out for Common Wrong Answer Types

Because the bridges on GRE analogies are predictable, wrong answer types to these questions are also predictable. If you get stumped on any GRE analogy, you can earn points by ruling out as many wrong answer choices as you can and then picking from the remaining choices. Here are some of the typical wrong answer choices that appear on GRE analogies:

Unrelated Words

A pair of words with no strong relationship is a common wrong answer.

Same Subject Trap

The words in the answer choice are in the same fields (or have the same subject) as the words in the stem pair, but don't have the same bridge.

Verbal Practice Tests

"Both Are" Bridges

This involves words that aren't related to each other, but are both related to a third word. For instance, the words *bracelet*: *necklace* refer to pieces of jewelry. Yet a *bracelet* has no necessary connection to a *necklace*.

Context Traps

Words that often appear together in context, but don't have any relationship. For instance, *mitigating* : *circumstance*.

Reverse Analogy

The bridge would be right if the order of the words were reversed.

Au Contraire or Opposite Bridge

The bridge is the exact opposite of the bridge between the words in the stem pair.

Irrelevant Bridge

The bridge is strong, but it doesn't have anything to do with the bridge in the stem pair.

Drill

Identify the Classic Bridges in the following stem pairs.

1. MISER : CHEAP _____
2. BOOR : TACT _____
3. RULER : MEASURE _____
4. ELATED : HAPPY _____
5. BEAK : BIRD _____

Now build a bridge for each of the following stem pairs.

1. CHICKEN : POULTRY _____
2. FEAR : TERROR _____
3. LOOM : WEAVE _____
4. RECLUSE : SOLITARY _____
5. LANGUID : ENERGY _____

THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

Now that you have learned the basics for tackling analogies questions, you're ready for Kaplan's strategic approach to analogies on the GRE. Approaching analogies in a systematic manner is the best way to avoid common pitfalls and improve your score.

❶ Find a Strong Bridge between the Stem Words

- In most cases, the more precisely you can express the connection between the two words, the better. A precise formulation is more likely to help you find the right answer.

❷ Plug the Answer Choices into the Bridge

- Look for the answer choice pair that has the same relationship as the stem pair.
- Immediately eliminate answer choices that don't fit the bridge.
- Always try all the answer choices; you might find that more than one answer choice works with the bridge that you built.
- If only one answer choice works with the bridge you built, select that answer choice.

❸ Adjust the Bridge, if Necessary

- If more than one answer choice **works**, you'll have to narrow your bridge (make it more precise).
- If none of the answer choices work, you probably need to expand it (make it more general).
- Consider alternate definitions for the stem words. Perhaps your bridge uses the wrong definition of a word.

❹ If Stuck, Build Bridges between Answer Choice Pairs and Work Backwards

- Eliminate all answer choices that have no strong bridge.
- Eliminate all answer choices that have an identical bridge to another answer choice.
- Beware of answer choices that reverse the bridge.

Try It Out

Let's apply the Kaplan Four-Step Method for Analogies to an example.

2. HANGAR : AIRCRAFT ::

- orchestra : music
- vault : money
- hand : fingers
- farm : trees
- ecosystem : insect

Verbal Practice Tests

- ① Begin by building a bridge: A HANGAR is a place built to keep AIRCRAFT.
- ② Now plug each of our answer choices into our bridge "a BLANK is a place to keep BLANK."
- Is an orchestra a place built to keep *music*? No. Eliminate choice (1).
- Is a vault a place built to keep *money*? Yes, so keep choice (2).
- Is a *hand* a place built to keep a *fingers*? No, so eliminate this choice as well.
- Is a farm a place built to keep a *treas*? Maybe, maybe not. Eliminate choice (4).
- Is an ecosystem a place built to keep insects? No. Eliminate choice (5).
- There is no need to adjust the bridge, since only answer choice (2) worked.
- ④ If we needed to work backwards, we could have eliminated choices (4) and (5), since there is no strong bridge between the words in these pairs.

PRACTICE SET

Now try the following analogy questions on your own, using the Kaplan Four-Step Method. Give yourself a maximum of 30-45 seconds to do each example.

- LUCID : OBSCURITY ::
 - ambiguous : doubt
 - provident : planning
 - furtive : legality
 - economical : extravagance
 - secure : violence
- ATTENTIVE : RAPT ::
 - loyal : unscrupulous
 - critical : derisive
 - inventive : innovative
 - jealous : envious
 - kind : considerate
- CLEAVER : BUTCHER ::
 - palette : artist
 - stage : dancer
 - dictionary : poet
 - lock : burglar
 - chisel : sculptor

Think about how you solved these analogies questions. To maximize your score, it's important to start practicing these **skills** now. On the pages that follow, you'll **find** sets of GRE analogies practice questions that will help you to hone your **skills** with this question **type**. Try these practice sets under timed conditions, moving from one question to the next at a rapid pace. Complete, strategic explanations to all of these questions follow so that you can check your answers and learn the most efficient means for completing each question correctly.

The answers to this section appear on the next page.

Answer Key

Testlike Questions

1. (4)

2. (2)

Drill

1. Definition

2. Lack

3. Function

4. Degree

5. Characteristic Items/Actions

1. A CHICKEN is by definition a type of POULTRY.

2. To experience extreme FEAR is by definition to experience TERROR.

3. The purpose of a LOOM is by definition to WEAVE.

4. A RECLUSE is by definition SOLITARY.

5. Someone who's LANGUID is by definition lacking in EXERGY.

Practice Set

1. (4)

2. (2)

3. (5)

Chapter 4

GRE ANTONYMS

Antonyms make up about one fourth of the GRE verbal section. They are also the Verbal question type that many students find the most difficult to improve their performance on. Antonym questions are designed to test your vocabulary, so your first step in preparing for this question type is to start building your knowledge by using the GRE Vocabulary Builder section of this book. In this chapter, we'll give you some vocabulary skill-building pointers and show you how to answer Antonym questions strategically. If you approach antonyms strategically, you'll find that you'll get many questions right even if you don't know the exact definitions of the tested words.

The directions for these questions look like this:

Directions: This question consists of a capitalized word that is followed by five words or phrases. Choose the lettered word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly opposite to the meaning of the capitalized word. Because some questions require you to distinguish fine shades of meaning, it is advisable to consider all the choices before deciding on the best choice.

On the GRE, the more questions you get right, the harder the antonym questions you'll see. If you perform well on **GRE Verbal**, you'll find that using Kaplan's vocabulary strategies becomes increasingly important on later antonyms.

THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS

To improve your skills in answering GRE antonyms, you'll need to familiarize yourself with the basic principles for approaching them—and you'll need some practice. The Four Fundamentals below will help you to increase your **skills** and confidence as you approach the day of the test. And with the skills and confidence, you'll be able to earn points on test day!

Use Kaplan's Strategies for Decoding Difficult Vocabulary Words.

On hard antonyms, it might seem at first glance as if you don't know anything about the stem word. However, you need only a little bit of information to guess at a word's meaning. The following techniques can give you enough of an idea about what the stem word means to get solve the question.

Think of a Context in which You've Heard the Word Before

You might be able to figure out the meaning of a word from a familiar context: For example, "crimes and misdemeanors," "mitigating circumstances," or "abject poverty."

Look at Word Roots, Stems, and Suffixes

If you don't know what a particular word means, you might be able to guess its meaning based on your knowledge of one or more of the word's parts. If you don't know the meaning of benediction, for example, its prefix (bene, which means good) tells you that its opposite is likely to be something bad. Perhaps the answer will begin with *mal*, as in *malefaction*.

Use Your Knowledge of a Romance Language

You might be able to guess a word's meaning because it sounds like a word you might have learned in foreign language class. You might guess at the word credulous, for instance, because you know the Italian word *credere*; or you might notice that *moratorium* sounds like the French word *morte* or that the word *mundane* sounds like the Spanish word *munido*.

Use the Positive or Negative "Charges" of Words to Help You to Guess an Answer.

When all other vocabulary decoding strategies fail, use your ear. If you know a stem word sounds positive, for example, you know that its antonym must be negatively charged—and vice versa! This strategy can work wonders on harder questions. Here's a sample tough antonym question.

1. SCABROUS:

- thorny
- unblemished
- perplexing
- blank
- examined

Notice that SCABROUS sounds harsh—it has a negative (–) charge. Now let's check out the charges of the answer choices. Both thorny and perplexing are negatively charged, so choices (1) and (3) cannot be antonyms of the stem word. The words blank and examined are neutral, they are neither positive or negative. The only positively charged word here is choice (2), unblemished. This is our answer; SCABROUS means rough or covered with unwholesome patches

BE STRATEGIC

Antonyms are designed to test your vocabulary, but if you attack these questions strategically, you'll get many questions right even if you don't know the exact definition.

Watch Out for Common Wrong-Answer Types.

Even if you have no idea what the word in the stem means, don't panic! Eliminating answer choices that you know are wrong will give you a good chance of guessing the right answer. Typical wrong answer types on GRE antonyms are:

Words That Have No Clear Opposites

Such words as birthright and priority, and deserve, for example, can't be antonyms for any stem word!

Any Answer Choices That Have the Same Opposites as Each Other

If two or more of the answer choices have the same antonym, that choice can't be an antonym for the stem word because then there would be more than one correct answer to the question!

Au Contraire, or Opposite, Answers

These answers mean exactly the opposite of the word you're looking for. In other words, they are synonyms, rather than antonyms, for the stem word.

Drill

Each of the word lists below relates to two concepts that are opposite in meaning. Practice categorizing words relating to these opposites as a means for preparing for GRE antonyms. If you are unfamiliar with the meaning of any word, use the strategies for decoding tough vocabulary to decipher its meaning.

Write "harsh" next to those words that are harsh-sounding; write "pleasant" next to those words that are pleasant sounding.

CACOPHONOUS _____

DISCORDANT _____

DULCET _____

FRACAS _____

RAUCOUS _____

Verbal Practice Tests

SONOROUS _____

STRIDENT _____

Label each word according to its general meaning. Write either "caring" or "indifferent" in the lines provided.

APATHETIC _____

CONCERN _____

DESULTORY _____

DISINTEREST _____

REGARD _____

IMPASSIVITY _____

INQUISITIVE _____

INTRIGUE _____

LASSITUDE _____

THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

Now that **you** have learned the basics, you're ready to **learn** Kaplan's strategic approach to antonyms on the GRE CAT. **Approaching** antonyms in a systematic manner is the best way to avoid common traps on the test and improve your score.

❶ Define the Stem Word

- Even if you don't know the precise definition of the word, a general knowledge of the words is usually sufficient.
- Use Kaplan vocabulary strategies, such as looking for familiar roots, to try to get a rough definition of the word.

❷ Define Its Opposite and Prephrase an Answer

- Whenever possible, you should have an idea of what you're **looking** for before checking any answer choices.
- Consciously prephrasing an answer will reduce the chance that you'll select a choice that's a synonym.

❸ Find the Answer Choice That Best Matches Your Prephrase

- Sometimes one or more answer choices will be close to your prephrase. Check **all** the answer choices for the best fit.
Consider alternate definitions for the stem words. Perhaps you're using the wrong definition of a word.

❹ Use Guessing Strategies, If Necessary

- Eliminate any answer choices that have no clear opposite.
- Eliminate answer choices that are synonyms of one another.
- Use word charge and answer choice patterns to avoid other probable wrong answers.

Try It Out

Let's apply the Kaplan Four-Step Method for antonyms to an example.

2. TRAIL:
- age
 - depress
 - rule
 - wander
 - precede

Verbal Practice Tests

- ❶ Begin by defining our stem word, TRAIL. What does TRAIL mean? You will notice in this context that trail is a verb. It has to be, because choices (2), (3) and (4) can only be verbs, and the answer choices and the stem word must be the same part of speech. **As** a verb TRAIL means "to follow".
- ❷ Since TRAIL means "to follow": we need a word that means "to lead" or "come before."
- ❸ Choice (5), precede, means "to come before" so it is the best answer.
- ❹ If you had to guess, you could have eliminated age and rule, since they have no clear opposite.

PRACTICE SET

Now try the following Antonym questions on your own, using the Kaplan Four-Step Method. Time yourself: Give yourself a maximum of 30–45 seconds to do each example.

1. AMIABLE:
 - faithful
 - insulted
 - distasteful
 - indecent
 - unfriendly
2. ACUTE:
 - conspicuous
 - relevant
 - aloof
 - dull
 - distant
3. RECANT:
 - affirm
 - rectify
 - offend
 - ignore
 - withdraw

Think about how you attacked these antonym questions. To maximize your score, it's **important** to start practicing the techniques we covered in this chapter. On the pages that follow, you'll **find** sets of GRE Antonyms practice questions that will help you to hone your skills with this question type. Try these practice sets under **testlike** conditions, moving from one question to the next at a rapid pace. Complete, strategic explanations to **all** of these questions follow so that you can check your answers and learn the most efficient means **for** completing each question correctly.

Answer Key

Testlike Questions

1. (2)
2. (5)

Drill	
CACOPHONOUS	_____ harsh _____
DISCORDANT	_____ harsh _____
DULCET	_____ pleasant _____
FRACAS	_____ harsh _____
RAUCOUS	_____ harsh _____
SONOROUS	_____ pleasant _____
STRIDENT	_____ harsh _____

Verbal Practice Tests

APATHETIC	<u>indifferent</u>
CONCERN	<u>caring</u>
DESULTORY	<u>indifferent</u>
DISINTEREST	<u>indifferent</u>
REGARD	<u>caring</u>
IMPASSIVITY	<u>indifferent</u>
INQUISITIVE	<u>caring</u>
INTRIGUE	<u>caring</u>
LASSITUDE	<u>indifferent</u>

Practice Set

1. (5)
2. (4)
3. (1)

Chapter 5

GRE READING COMPREHENSION

Reading Comprehension is the only question type that appears on all major standardized tests, and the reason for this isn't too surprising. No matter what academic area you pursue, you'll have to make sense of some dense, unfamiliar material. The topics for GRE Reading Comp passages are taken from three areas: social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities. So in a way, Reading Comp is the most realistic of all the question types on the test. And right now is a good time to start shoring up your critical reading skills, both for the test and for future study in your field.

The directions for this question type look like this:

Directions: This passage in this test is accompanied by questions based on its content. After reading a selection, choose the best response to each question. Your replies are to be based on what is actually stated or implied in the passage.

On the GRE CAT you will see two to four Reading Comp passages, each with two to four questions. You will have to tackle the passage and questions as they are given to you.

THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS

To improve your Reading Comprehension skills, you'll need a lot of practice—and patience. You may not see dramatic improvement after only one drill. But with ongoing practice, the basic principles below will help you to increase your skill and confidence on this section by the day of the test.

ZOOM IN!

As you read the first third of the passage, try to zoom in on the main idea of the passage, first by getting a sense of the general topic, and then by pinning down the scope of the passage. Finally, zero in on the author's purpose in writing the passage.

Read Actively: Don't Just "Read" the Passage

To do well on this section of the test, you'll need to do more than just read the words on the page. You'll need to read actively. Active reading involves keeping your mind working at all times, while trying to anticipate where the author's points are leading. It means thinking about what you're reading as you read it. It means paraphrasing complicated-sounding ideas and jargon. Here are some pointers on reading a GRE passage actively.

- Identify the topic.
- Narrow it down to the precise scope that the author includes.
Make a hypothesis about why the author is writing and where he or she is going with it.
- As you're reading, ask yourself: "Why did the author include this paragraph?" "What shift did the author have in mind when moving on to this paragraph?" "What bearing does this paragraph have on the author's main idea?" "What's the author's main point here?" "What's the purpose of this paragraph? Of this sentence?"

DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME!

You don't have to memorize or understand every little thing as you read the passage. Remember, you can always refer back to the passage to clarify the meaning of any specific detail.

Read for Structure: Your Goal Is Not to Memorize Every Detail!

In their efforts to understand what the author says, test takers often ignore the less glamorous but important structural side of the passage—namely, how the author says it. One of the keys to success with reading comprehension is to understand not only the passage's purpose but also the structure of each passage. Why? Because the questions at the end of the passage ask both what the author says and how he or she says it. To ensure that you read for structure, remember to do the following:

- Always look for Keywords, the structural signals that authors use to indicate logical connections between sentences.
- Don't try to memorize details! Skim them until the questions demand them.
- Look for topic sentences to help you to determine the function of each paragraph.
- Be alert for comparisons and contrasts between:
 - Two thinkers or theories
 - Different points in time
 - The author's view and other views
- What's known and what's unknown
- Remember, GRE Reading Comp passages usually do one of the following:
 - Argue a position
 - Discuss a specific subject
 - Explain new findings or research

ATTACK THE PASSAGE!

You can be an active reader by:

- *Thinking about what you're reading*
- *Paraphrasing the complicated parts*
- *Asking yourself questions about the passage*
- *Jotting down notes*

Recognize the Most Common Question Types

GRE Reading Comprehension questions are predictable. The test writers put the same types of questions on the test year after year. Practicing identifying and answering the following question types will help you get ready for them on test day.

Global: Ask you to identify the central idea or primary purpose of the passage

Explicit Detail/Text: Ask you to find what is true "according to the passage" or what the passage states

Inference: Ask you to determine what the passage suggests, what it implies, what conclusion it supports, or a statement the author would be most likely to agree with

Logic: Ask why the author includes a particular example sentence or phrase, or ask you to determine the function of a paragraph

Vocabulary-in-Context: Ask you to define a word or phrase as it is used in the passage

Watch Out for Wrong Answer Types

Because the GRE Reading Comprehension question types are predictable, wrong answer types to these questions are also predictable. If you get stumped on any GRE Reading Comp question, you should rule out as many wrong answer choices as you can and then pick from the remaining choices. Typical wrong answers to look for on GRE Reading Comp are:

Au Contraire: Sounds very similar to the correct answer but directly contradicts the passage

Outside the Scope: Raises a topic that's never mentioned in the passage

Distortion: Distorts or twists the facts or the main idea; sounds superficially plausible because it incorporates words or phrases from the passage, but actually confuses the author's intended meaning

Faulty Use of Detail: Mentions true points not relevant to the question (often from the wrong paragraph)

Extreme: Sounds too positive or too negative; uses exaggerated-sounding language, e.g., *only*, *never*, or *always*

Half-Right, Half-Wrong: Present some information that is correct and some that is incorrect

WHERE DO THE PASSAGES COME FROM?

Topics for Reading Comp passages come from:

- The social sciences
- The natural sciences
- The humanities

Drill

The correct answers to GRE Reading Comp questions must be irrefutable. For this reason, answer choices that are extreme or too emotional tend to be wrong. Decide whether each of the following sentences sounds Extreme or Moderate.

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Reporters tend to focus on news stories which they believe will improve ratings. | Extreme / Moderate |
| 2. It is impossible that one person could have authored all of the plays we currently consider to have been written by Shakespeare. | Extreme / Moderate |
| 3. Scientists who refrain from making bold statements to their peers about the significance of their experiments often employ far less technical language in news releases. | Extreme / Moderate |
| 4. The melting of Antarctic ice sheets is one of several potential threats to the stability of the Earth's climate. | Extreme / Moderate |
| 5. Though Copernicus is generally associated with the discovery of the sun-centered universe, Aristarchus may have conceived of the idea in 200 B.C. | Extreme / Moderate |

Now, read the following GRE-like sentence:

Marathon running has become increasingly popular as people have become more and more concerned about their health.

Remember that on GRE Reading Comp, some answer choices will sound like they fit the passage, but will actually distort the author's point. Decide which of the three statements below agrees with the GRE-like sentence above.

1. Marathon running has become an international event that promotes friendship between cultures.
2. The fact that more people are running in marathons highlights the public's increasing interest in pursuing healthy activities.
3. The majority of people who take up marathon running do so because they are concerned about their health.

THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

Now that you have the basics for **tackling** Reading Comprehension questions, you're ready to learn Kaplan's strategic approach to Reading Comp on the GRE CAT. **As** is the case with all other GRE question types, approaching Reading Comp in a systematic manner is the best way to avoid common **pitfalls** and improve your score.

❶ Read the First Third

Identify topic and scope, zero in on the purpose of the passage, and predict where the passage will go.

Topic: The broad concept or idea addressed in the passage

Scope: The more narrow and specific area of the topic that is being discussed

Purpose: A hypothesis about why the author is writing and where he or she is going with the passage.

Here's a hypothetical example. Suppose you encounter a reading passage about the Battle of Gettysburg on the GRE. The broad topic of "The Battle of Gettysburg," for example, would be a lot to cover in a Reading Comp passage. So if you encountered such a passage, you would also need to ask yourself, "What is the scope of this author's passage?" or, in this case, "What specific aspect of the battle does the author address?" Whatever that chunk is—the prebattle scouting, how the battle was fought—is the passage's scope. Finally, you should also consider why the author is writing. For example, is the author writing to refute an established point of view (a common format on the GRE), or to contrast two interpretations of why the battle occurred? Being able to answer this question will tell you how the passage is organized.

❷ Read the Remaining Two Thirds

Create a brief "road map"—jot down some brief notes—as you read.

❸ Review Your "Road Map"

Confirm topic, scope and purpose.

❹ Attack the Questions

- Use the stem to plan your attack!
- Reread any relevant text.
- Predict an answer.
- Choose an answer.

PRACTICE SET

Now that you've got the fundamentals of GRE reading comp under your belt and you've had some practice in identifying reading comp wrong answer types, let's put your knowledge to use on the following testlike passage and questions.

Tsunamis are huge, fast-moving waves that are capable of causing enormous destruction and loss of life if they broach the shoreline on a populated coast. To communities that have been devastated by such an event, the tsunami often seems to come out of nowhere, and survivors are mystified as to why such a huge wave could appear with so little warning. The terrifying suddenness of a tsunami's arrival is a consequence of where and how they are created.

When submarine tectonic activity distorts the sea floor, it vertically displaces the overlying sea water. As the displaced water seeks equilibrium under the influence of gravity, waves form, and when the distortion is of sufficient magnitude, a tsunami can result. If the earthquake occurs near the shore, the tsunami may take only minutes to reach a populated coast.

Tsunamis attain their enormous heights through a process of decreasing speed and increasing height. The energy flux of a tsunami is constant, which leads to an inversely proportional relationship between the wave's speed and its height. Since speed is directly proportional to water depth, as the wave approaches shallower water, its speed decreases, causing its height to increase to compensate for the loss and thus maintain the wave's energy flux. Through this process, a barely perceptible deep ocean wave formed by an earthquake far from shore can rapidly transform into a tsunami that can exceed 30 meters at its final runup height, which it attains onshore above sea level.

1. The author is primarily concerned with
 - establishing that tsunamis are formed by submarine tectonic activity.
 - explaining why tsunamis can appear so suddenly and with so little warning.
 - arguing that a tsunami's energy flux results in its great height and destructive capacity.
 - demonstrating that devastating tsunamis must be formed by earthquakes close to shore.
 - challenging long held beliefs about the formation of deep ocean waves.

2. It may be inferred from the passage that a tsunami that entered deeper water would experience an increase in
 - destructive power.
 - speed.
 - energy flux.
 - visibility.
 - height

Think about how you attacked these Reading Comprehension questions. To maximize your score, it's important to start practicing the techniques we've covered in this chapter now. On the pages that follow, you'll find sets of GRE Reading Comp passages and practice questions that will help you to hone your skills with this question type. Try these practice sets under test-like conditions, moving from one question to the next at a rapid pace. Complete, strategic explanations to all of these questions follow so that you can check your answers and learn the most efficient means for completing each question correctly.

Answer Key

Drill

1. Moderate
2. Extreme
3. Moderate
4. Moderate
5. Moderate

Distortion Exercise

1. Distortion
2. Inference
3. Distortion

Practice Set

1. (2)
2. (2)

Chapter 7

INCREASING YOUR GRE VOCABULARY

BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

A strong vocabulary is the greatest asset that you can bring to the GRE verbal section. Antonyms, which make up a quarter of the verbal section, are a direct test of your vocabulary skills. The other types of short verbal questions (analogies and sentence completions) also require you to understand the meanings of a large number of words.

So, how do you start improving your vocabulary? Don't say to yourself, "I'm going to get ready for the GRE by opening the dictionary and starting on page 1." In real life, the dictionary is the single most useful verbal tool there is. But the GRE is not real life, and for the purposes of preparing for the GRE, the dictionary is *overkill*. It includes a lot more words than you need to look at, including all those everyday words you already know and all those esoteric words that will never appear on the GRE.

Building up a good vocabulary takes time, a lifetime for most people. However, you can increase your GRE vocabulary quickly. There are a couple of reasons for this.

1. The GRE tests the same words over and over again.

If you know the words that the GRE loves, you have a big head start in increasing your GRE vocabulary. We have included the words that appear most often on the GRE in chapter 10, "Top GRE Words." Start learning the meanings of these words as soon as you can.

2. The GRE does not test the exact definitions of words. If you have some idea of what the word means, you can usually get to the answer.

You don't need to know the exact definitions of words to get a good verbal score on the GRE. It's better to know something about ten words than everything about one word. This is why learning words in groups is such a powerful technique. We have included common word groups for the GRE in chapter 9, "GRE Word Groups."

Knowing the meanings of common word roots can be helpful in two ways. First of all, knowing the meaning of word roots can help you guess at the meanings of unfamiliar words you

encounter on the GRE. Second, when you're learning new **vocabulary**, it's more effective to study words in groups rather than one by one. Learning groups of words that are related by a common root will help you to learn more words faster. We have included a list of common GRE word roots in chapter 10.

Once you've looked over the top GRE words and the chapters on word roots and word groups, you can hone your skills using our opposite drills in chapter 11. Finally, we've included a mini-dictionary that gives you the definitions of thousands of GRE words. Use it whenever you encounter an unfamiliar word in your study.

BASICS OF VOCABULARY BUILDING

The way most people build their vocabulary is by reading words in context. Reading is ultimately the best way to increase your vocabulary, although it also takes the most time. Of course, some types of reading material contain more GRE **vocabulary** words than others. You should get into the habit of reading high-level publications, such as the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Economist*, and the *New York Times*. (Because you'll have to read from the computer screen on Test Day, we recommend that you read these publications online, if possible. And if you read lengthy articles that require scrolling through, so much the better.)

When you come across words you don't know and can't figure out from the context, look them up in the dictionary and make a note of them. It sounds tedious, but it's definitely worth the time and effort come Test Day. The words you encounter during your prep can be found in the GRE Minidictionary in chapter 12. This handy reference tool contains thousands of words that you might find on the GRE.

Note that you will find nothing on pronunciation in the Minidictionary. Pronunciation is not tested on the GRE, so we don't recommend spending study time learning how to pronounce words. Some people, however, find it much easier to remember the meaning of a word if they have the sound of the word in their heads. If you're such a person, then use the dictionary to figure out how to pronounce words you're not familiar with.

PARTS OF SPEECH

The GRE never directly tests your ability to classify words by part of speech, but you'll do better if you can distinguish nouns, adjectives, and verbs.

Nouns

A noun names a person, place, or thing. A noun answers the questions "who," "where," or "what." A noun can function as the subject ("The soliloquy was eloquent") or object of a verb ("He wrote an eloquent soliloquy").

If you know the meaning of the word, you can tell if it's a noun by thinking about the way it would be used in a sentence.

- If the word can function as the subject of a sentence, it's a noun.
- If it can be replaced by a pronoun like *he*, *she*, *it*, or *they*, it's a noun.
- If you can put an article like *the*, *a*, *an*, or *some* in front of it, it's a noun.
- If it has a plural **form** (usually the ending *-s*), it's a noun. If it has a possessive form (usually the ending *'s*), it's a noun.
- If you don't know the meaning of a word, but it has one of the following **suffixes**, then it's probably a noun.

-ACY	-HOOD	-OGY
-AGE	-ICE	-OR
-ANCE	-ICS	-RY
-ANCY	-ISM	-SHIP
-DOM	-IST	-SION
-ENCE	-ITY	-TION
-ENCY	-MENT	-TUDE
-ERY	-NESS	-URE

Adjectives

An adjective describes a noun, answering the questions "what kind," "which one," or "how many." In a sentence, you will generally find adjectives right in front of the nouns they describe ("The book is full of *sophomoric* humor") or after a form of the verb *be* or some other linking verb ("The book's humor is *sophomoric*").

If you know the meaning of a word, you can tell if it's an adjective by thinking about the way the word would be used in a sentence. If the word **can** be used to describe a noun, it's an adjective. Most adjectives have comparative and superlative forms (*rife*, *rifer*, *rifest* and *sanguine*, *more sanguine*, *most sanguine*). Most adjectives **can** be turned into adverbs by adding *-ly* (*intemperately*.)

If you don't know the meaning of a word, but it has one of the following suffixes, then it's probably an adjective.

-ABLE	-OUS	-ISH
-AL	-FUL	-IVE
-ANE	-IBLE	-LESS
-ANT	-IC	-OSE
-AR	-ILE	
-ENT	-INE	

Verbs

A verb is a word that represents an action or state of being. Every sentence must have at least one verb. The main verb usually comes right after the subject ("**They** squander their fortunes"), but sometimes is separated from the subject ("The contestant with the second highest vote total wins the consolation prize") and sometimes even precedes the subject ("Quickly *flow* the years.")

If you know the meaning of the word, you can tell if it's a verb by thinking about the way the word would be used in a sentence. If, with the addition of an *-s*, it can follow a pronoun like *he* or *it* and make a sentence, it's a verb ("Hepanders"). If it has a past form ending in *-ed* (pandered) and a progressive form ending in *-ing* (pandering), it's a verb.

If you don't know the meaning of a word, but it has one of the following **suffixes**, then it's probably a verb.

-EN	-IFY
-ESCE	-IZE

Split-Personality Words

Remember that many words in the English language can function as more than one part of speech. Here's a single word used as a noun, adjective, and verb:

As the test tube rested overnight, some precipitate formed. (noun)

It would be better to proceed with caution than to take precipitate action. (adjective)

Passage of the resolution could well precipitate rebellion. (verb)

When you see a word all by itself in an analogy or an antonym, with no sentence to show you the word in use, you may not be able to tell at **first** what part of speech it is. For example, if you see the word *brook* out of context, don't assume you're looking at a noun. It can also be a verb, as in: "She would brook no interference with her intentions." Instead, look at the answer choices or the other word in an analogy's stem. They should make it pretty clear what meaning they are testing.

Chapter 8

TOP GRE WORDS

Some words appear on the GRE more than others. The following words all turn up regularly on the test, although some turn up more than others. You should start by learning these words, and the groups of words that have similar meanings to them.

The top 12 words on the GRE are:

ANOMALY	ASSUAGE	ENIGMA
EQUIVOCAL	ERUDITE	FERVID
LUCID	OPAQUE	PLACATE
PRECIPITATE	PRODIGAL	ZEAL

The next 20 most popular words are:

ABSTAIN	ADULTEIWTE	APATHY
AUDACIOUS	CAPRICIOUS	CORROBORATE
DESICCATE	ENGENDER	EPIHEMERAL
GULLIBLE	HOMOGENOUS	LACONIC
LAUDABLE	LOQUACIOUS	MITIGATE
PEDANT	PRAGMATIC	PROPRIETY
VACILLATE	VOLATILE	

The next 20 most popular words after these are:

ADVOCATE	ANTIPATHY	BOLSTER
CACOPHONY	DERIDE	DISSONANCE
ENERVATE	EULOGY	GARRULOUS
INGENUOUS	LETHARGIC	MALLEABLE
MISANTHROPE	OBDURATE	OSTENTATION
PARADOX	PHILANTHROPIC	PREVARICATE
VENERATE	WAVER	

200 TOP GRE WORDS IN CONTEXT

ABATE: to reduce in amount, degree, or severity

As the hurricane's force **ABATED**, the winds dropped and the sea became calm.

Words with similar meanings:

EBB	LAPSE	LET UP
MODERATE	RELENT	SLACKEN
SUBSIDE	WANE	

ABSCOND: to leave secretly

The patron **ABSCONDED** from the restaurant without paying his bill by sneaking out the back door.

Words with similar meanings:

FLEE	DECAMP	ESCAPE
------	--------	--------

ABSTAIN: to choose not to do something:

During Lent, practicing Catholics **ABSTAIN** from eating meat.

Words with similar meanings:

FORBEAR	REFRAIN	WITHHOLD
---------	---------	----------

ABYSS: an extremely deep hole

The submarine dove into **the ABYSS** to chart the previously unseen depths.

Related words:

ABYSSAL: pertaining to great depth

ABYSMAL: extremely bad

Words with similar meanings:

CHASM	VOID
-------	------

ADULTERATE: to make impure

The restaurateur made his ketchup last longer by **ADULTERATING** it with water.

Related words:

UNADULTERATED: pure

ADULTERY an illicit relationship; an affair

Words with similar meanings:

DOCTOR

ADVOCATE: to speak in favor of

The vegetarian **ADVOCATED** a diet containing no meat.

Related words:

ADVOCACY: active support for

Words with similar meanings:

BACK CHAMPION SUPPORT

AESTHETIC: concerning the appreciation of beauty

Followers of the **AESTHETIC** Movement regarded the pursuit of beauty as the only true purpose of art.

Related words:

AESTHETE: someone unusually sensitive to beauty

AESTHETICISM: concern with beauty

Words with similar meanings:

ARTISTIC TASTEFUL

AGGRANDIZE: to increase in power, influence, and reputation

The supervisor sought to **AGGRANDIZE** himself by claiming that the achievements of his staff were actually his own.

Words with similar meanings:

AMPLIFY APOTHEOSIZE AUGMENT
DIGNIFY ELEVATE ENLARGE
ENNOBLE EXALT GLORIFY
MAGNIFY SWELL UPLIFT
WAX

ALLEVIATE: to make more bearable:

Taking aspirin helps to **ALLEVIATE** a headache.

Words with similar meanings:

ALLAY ASSUAGE COMFORT
EASE LESSEN LIGHTEN
MITIGATE PALLIATE RELIEVE

AMALGAMATE: to combine; to mix together

Giant Industries **AMALGAMATED** with Mega Products to form Giant-Mega Products Incorporated.

Vocabulary Builder

Related Words:

AMALGAM: a mixture, especially of two metals

Words with similar meanings:

ADMIX	BLEND	COMBINE
COMMINGLE	COMMIX	COMPOUND
FUSE	INTERMINGLE	INTERMIX
MERGE	MINGLE	MIX

AMBIGUOUS: doubtful or uncertain; able to be interpreted several ways

The directions he gave were so AMBIGUOUS that we disagreed on which way to turn.

Related Words:

AMBIGUITY: the quality of being ambiguous

Words with similar meanings:

CLOUDY	DOUBTFUL	DUBIOUS
EQUIVOCAL	NEBULOUS	INDETERMINATE
OBSCURE	UNCLEAR	VAGUE

AMELIORATE: to make better; to improve

The doctor was able to AMELIORATE the patient's suffering using painkillers.

Words with similar meanings:

AMEND	BETTER	IMPROVE
PACIFY	UPGRADE	

ANACHRONISM: something out of place in time

The aged hippie used ANACHRONISTIC phrases like *groovy* and *far out* that had not been popular for years.

Words with similar meanings:

ARCHAISM	INCONGRUITY
----------	-------------

ANALOGOUS: similar or alike in some way; equivalent to

In a famous argument for the existence of God, the universe is ANALOGOUS to a mechanical timepiece, the creation of a divinely intelligent “clockmaker.”

Related word..

ANALOGY: a similarity between things that are otherwise dissimilar

ANALOGUE: something that is similar in some way to something else

Words with similar meanings:

ALIKE	COMPARABLE	CORRESPONDING
EQUIVALENT	HOMOGENEOUS	PARALLEL
SIMILAR		

ANOMALY: deviation from what is normal

Albino animals may display too great **an ANOMALY** in their coloring to attract normally colored mates.

Related words:

ANOMALOUS: deviating from what is normal

Words with similar meanings:

ABERRANCE	ABERRATION	ABNORMALITY
DEVIANCE	DEVIATION	IRREGULARITY
PRETERNATURALNESS		

ANTAGONIZE: to annoy or provoke to anger

The child discovered that he could **ANTAGONIZE** the cat by pulling its tail.

Related Words:

ANTAGONISTIC: tending to provoke conflict

ANTAGONIST: someone who fights another

Words with similar meanings

CLASH	CONFLICT	INCITE
IRRITATE	OPPOSE	PESTER
PROVOKE	VEX	

ANTIPATHY: extreme dislike

The **ANTIPATHY** between the French and the English regularly erupted into open warfare.

Words with similar meanings:

ANIMOSITY	ANIMUS	ANTAGONISM
AVERSION	ENMITY	HOSTILITY
REPELLENCE		

APATHY: lack of interest or emotion

The **APATHY** of voters is so great that less than half the people **who** are eligible to vote actually bother to do so.

Words with similar meanings:

COOLNESS	DISINTEREST	DISREGARD
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Vocabulary Builder

IMPASSIVITY	INDIFFERENCE	INSENSIBILITY
LASSITUDE	LETHARGY	LISTLESSNESS
PHLEGM	STOLIDITY	UNCONCERN
UNRESPONSIVENESS		

ARBITRATE: to judge a dispute between two opposing parties

Since the couple could not come to agreement, a judge was forced to **ARBITRATE** their divorce proceedings.

Related words:

ARBITRATION: a process by which a conflict is resolved

ARBITRATOR: a judge

Words with similar meanings:

ADJUDGE	ADJUDICATE	DECIDE
DETERMINE	JUDGE	MODERATE
REFEREE	RULE	

ARCHAIC: ancient, old-fashioned

Her **ARCHAIC** Commodore computer could not run the latest **software**.

Related words:

ARCHAISM: an outdated word or phrase

Words with similar meanings:

ANCIENT	ANTEDILUVIAN	ANTIQUE
BYGONE	DATED	DOWDY
FUSTY	OBSOLETE	OLD-FASHIONED
OUTDATED	OUTMODED	PASSÉ
PREHISTORIC	STALE	SUPERANNUATED
SUPERSEDED	VINTAGE	

ARDOR: intense and passionate feeling

Bishop's **ARDOR** for landscape was evident when he passionately described the beauty of the scenic Hudson Valley.

Related words:

ARDENT: expressing ardor; passionate

Words with similar meanings:

DEVOTION	ENTHUSIASM	FERVENCY
FERVIDITY	FERVIDNESS	FERVOR
FIRE	PASSION	ZEAL
ZEALOUSNESS		

ARTICULATE: able to speak clearly and expressively

She is such an ARTICULATE defender of labor that unions are among her strongest supporters.

Words with similar meanings

ELOQUENT	EXPRESSIVE	FLUENT
LUCID	SILVER-TONGUED	SMOOTH-SPOKEN

ASSUAGE: to make something unpleasant less severe

Like many people, Philip Larkin used alcohol to ASSUAGE his sense of meaninglessness and despair.

Words with similar meanings:

ALLAY	ALLEVIATE	APPEASE
COMFORT	CONCILIATE	EASE
LIGHTEN	MITIGATE	MOLLIFY
PACIFY	PALLIATE	PLACATE
PROPITIATE	RELIEVE	SOOTHE
SWEETEN		

ATTENUATE: to reduce in force or degree; to weaken

The Bill of Rights ATTENUATED the traditional power of government to change laws at will.

Words with similar meanings:

DEBILITATE	DEVITALIZE	DILUTE
ENERVATE	ENFEEBLE	RAREFY
SAP	THIN	UNDERMINE
UNDO	UNNERVE	WATER
WEAKEN		

AUDACIOUS: fearless and daring

"And you, your majesty, may kiss my bum!" replied the AUDACIOUS peasant.

Related words:

AUDACITY: the quality of being audacious

Words with similar meanings:

ADVENTURESOME	AGGRESSIVE	ASSERTIVE
BOLD	BRAVE	COURAGEOUS
DARING	DAUNTLESS	DOUGHTY
FEARLESS	GALLANT	GAME
HEROIC	INTREPID	METTLESOME
PLUCKY	STOUT	STOUTHEARTED

Vocabulary Builder

UNAFRAID
VALOROUS

UNDAUNTED
VENTURESOME

VALIANT
VENTUROUS

AUSTERE: severe or stern in appearance; undecorated

The lack of decoration makes Zen temples seem AUSTERE to the untrained eye.

Related words:

AUSTERITY: severity, especially poverty

Words with similar meanings:

BLEAK
HARD

DOUR
HARSH

GRIM
SEVERE

BANAL: predictable, clichéd, boring

He used BANAL phrases like Have a nice day, or Another day, another dollar.

Related words:

BANALITY: the quality of being banal

Words with similar meanings:

BLAND
COMMONPLACE
INNOCUOUS
MUSTY
QUOTIDIAN
STEREOTYPIC
TIRED
WORN-OUT

BROMIDIC
FATUOUS
INSIPID
PLATITUDINOUS
SHOPWORN
THREADBARE
TRITE

CLICHÉD
HACKNEYED
JEJUNE
PROSAIC
STALE
TIMEWORN
VAPID

BOLSTER: to support; to prop up

The presence of giant footprints BOLSTERED the argument that Sasquatch was in the area.

Words with similar meanings:

BRACE
SUPPORT
UPHOLD

BUTTRESS
SUSTAIN

PROP
UNDERPIN

BOMBASTIC: pompous in speech and manner

Mussolini's speeches were mostly BOMBASTIC; his boasting and outrageous claims had no basis in fact.

Related words:

BOMBAST: pompous speech or writing

Words with similar meanings:

BLOATED	DECLAMATORY	FUSTIAN
GRANDILOQUENT	GRANDIOSE	HIGH-FLOWN
MAGNILOQUENT	OROTUND	PRETENTIOUS
RHETORICAL	SELF-IMPORTANT	

CACOPHONY: harsh, *chaos, gong, who die, lain my de mark* jarring noise

The junior high orchestra created an almost unbearable CACOPHONY as they tried to tune their instruments.

Words with similar meanings:

DISCORD	CHAOS	DISHARMONY
NOISE	CLAMOR	DIN

CANDID: impartial and honest in speech

The observations of a child can be charming since they are CANDID and unpretentious.

Words with similar meanings:

DIRECT	FORTHRIGHT	FRANK
HONEST	OPEN	SINCERE
STRAIGHT	STRAIGHTFORWARD	UNDISGUISED

CAPRICIOUS: changing one's mind quickly and often

Queen Elizabeth I was quite CAPRICIOUS; her courtiers could never be sure which of their number would catch her fancy.

Related words:

CAPRICE: whim, sudden fancy

Words with similar meanings:

ARBITRARY	CHANCE	CHANGEABLE
ERRATIC	FICKLE	INCONSTANT
MERCURIAL	RANDOM	WHIMSICAL
WILLFUL		

CASTIGATE: to punish or criticize harshly

Americans are amazed at how harshly the authorities in Singapore CASTIGATE perpetrators of what would be considered minor crimes in the United States.

Words with similar meanings:

ADMONISH	CHASTISE	CHIDE
REBUKE	REPRIMAND	REPROACH

Vocabulary Builder

REPROVE
UPBRAID

SCOLD

TAX

CATALYST: something that brings about a change in something else

The imposition of harsh taxes was the CATALYST that finally brought on the revolution.

Related Words:

CATALYZE: to bring about a change in something else

CAUSTIC: biting in wit

Dorothy Parker gained her reputation for CAUSTIC wit from her cutting, yet clever, insults.

Words with similar meanings:

ACERBIC
TRENCHANT

BITING

MORDANT

CHAOS: great disorder or confusion

In most religious traditions, God created an ordered universe from CHAOS.

Related Words:

CHAOTIC: jumbled, confused

Words with similar meanings:

CLUTTER
DISARRAY
DISORGANIZATION
MUDDLE
TOPSY-TURVINESS

CONFUSION
DISORDER
JUMBLE
SCRAMBLE
TURMOIL

DISARRANGEMENT
DISORDERLINESS
MESS
SNARL

CHAUVINIST: someone prejudiced in favor of a group to which he or she belongs

The attitude that men are inherently superior to women and therefore must be obeyed is common among male CHAUVINISTS.

Words with similar meanings:

PARTISAN

CHICANERY: deception by means of craft or guile

Dishonest used car salesmen often use CHICANERY to **sell** their beat-up old cars.

Words with similar meanings:

ARTIFICE

CONNMNG

CRAFTINESS

DECEPTION	DEVIIOUSNESS	MISREPRESENTATION
PETTIFOGGERY	SHADINESS	SNEAKINESS
SOPHISTRY	SUBTERFUGE	UNDERHANDEDNESS

COGENT: convincing and well reasoned

Swayed by the COGENT argument of the defense, the jury had no choice but to acquit the defendant.

Related words:

COGITATE: to think deeply

Words with similar meanings:

CONVINCING	PERSUASIVE	SOLID
SOUND	TELLING	VALID

CONDONE: to overlook, pardon, or disregard

Some theorists believe that failing to prosecute minor crimes is the same as CONDONING an air of lawlessness.

Words with similar meanings:

EXCULPATE	EXCUSE	PARDON
REMIT		

CONVOLUTED: intricate and complicated

Although many people bought A *Brief History of Time*, few could follow its CONVOLUTED ideas and theories.

Words with similar meanings:

BYZANTINE	COMPLEX	ELABORATE
INTRICATE	KNOTTY	LABYRINTHINE
PERPLEXING	TANGLED	

CORROBORATE: to provide supporting evidence

Fingerprints CORROBORATED the witness's testimony that he saw the defendant in the victim's apartment.

Words with similar meanings:

AUTHENTICATE	BACK	BEAR OUT
BUTTRESS	CONFIRM	SUBSTANTIATE
VALIDATE	VERIFY	

Vocabulary Builder

CREDULOUS: too trusting; gullible

Although some 4-year-olds believe in the Easter Bunny, only the most CREDULOUS 9-year-olds also believe in him.

Related words:

CREDULITY the quality of being credulous

Words with similar meanings:

NAIVE SUSCEPTIBLE TRUSTING

CRESCENDO: steadily increasing volume or force

The CRESCENDO of tension became unbearable as **Evel** Knievel prepared to jump his motorcycle over the school buses.

DECORUM: appropriateness of behavior or conduct; propriety

The countess complained that the vulgar peasants lacked the DECORUM appropriate for a visit to the palace.

Related words:

DECOROUS: conforming to acceptable standards

Words with similar meanings:

CORRECTNESS DECENCY ETIQUETTE
MANNERS MORES PROPRIETY
SEMLINESS

DEFERENCE: respect, courtesy

The respectful young law **clerk** treated the Supreme **Court** justice with the utmost DEFERENCE.

Related words:

DEFER: to delay; to show someone deference

DEFERENT: courteous and respectful

Words with similar meanings:

COURTESY HONOR HOMAGE
OBEISANCE RESPECT REVERENCE
VENERATION

DERIDE: to speak of or treat with contempt; to mock

The awkward child was often DERIDED by his "cooler" peers.

Related words:

DERISION: mockery and **taunts**

DERISIVE: in a **mocking** manner

Words with similar meanings:

GIBE	JEER	MOCK
RIDICULE	SCOFF	SNEER
TAUNT		

DESICCATE: to dry out thoroughly

After a few weeks of lying on the desert's baking sands, the cow's carcass became completely **DESICCATED**.

Related words:

DESICCANT: something that removes water from another substance

Words with similar meanings:

DRY	PARCH	DEHYDRATE
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DESULTORY: jumping from one thing to another; disconnected

Diane had a **DESULTORY** academic record; she had changed majors 12 times in 3 years.

Words with similar meanings:

AIMLESS	DISCONNECTED	ERRATIC
HAPHAZARD	INDISCRIMINATE	OBJECTLESS
PURPOSELESS	RANDOM	STRAY
UNCONSIDERED	UNPLANNED	

DIATRIBE: an abusive, condemnatory speech

The trucker bellowed a **DIATRIBE** at the driver who had cut him off.

Words with similar meanings:

FULMINATION	HARANGUE	INVECTIVE
JEREMIAD	MALEDICTION	OBLOQUY
TIRADE		

DIFFIDENT: **lacking** self-confidence

Steve's **DIFFIDENT** manner during the job interview stemmed from his nervous nature and lack of experience in the field.

Words with similar meanings:

BACKWARD	BASHFUL	COY
DEMURE	MODEST	RETIRING
SELF-EFFACING	SHY	TIMID

Vocabulary Builder

DILATE: to make larger; to expand

When you enter a darkened room, the pupils of your eyes DILATE to let in more light.

Words with similar meanings:

AMPLIFY	DEVELOP	ELABORATE
ENLARGE	EXPAND	EXPATiate

DILATORY: intended to delay

The congressman used DILATORY measures to delay the passage of the bill.

Words with similar meanings:

DRAGGING	FLAGGING	LAGGARD
LAGGING	SLOW	SLOW-FOOTED
SLOW-GOING	SLOW-PACED	TARDY

DILETTANTE: someone with an amateurish and superficial interest in a topic

Jerry's friends were such DILETTANTES that they seemed to have new jobs and hobbies every week.

Words with similar meanings:

AMATEUR	DABBLER	SUPERFICIAL
TYRO		

DIRGE: a funeral hymn or mournful speech

Melville wrote the poem A DIRGE for James McPherson for the funeral of a Union general who was killed in 1864.

Words with similar meanings:

ELEGY	LAMENT
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DISABUSE: to set right; to free from error

Galileo's observations DISABUSED scholars of the notion that the Sun revolved around the Earth.

Words with similar meanings:

CORRECT	UNDECEIVE
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DISCERN: to perceive; to recognize

It is easy to DISCERN the difference between butter and butter-flavored topping.

Related words:

DISCERNMENT: taste and cultivation

Words with similar meanings:

CATCH	DESCRY	DETECT
DIFFERENTIATE	DISCRIMINATE	DISTINGUISH
ESPY	GLIMPSE	KNOW
SEPARATE	SPOT	SPY
TELL		

DISPARATE: fundamentally different; entirely unlike

Although the twins appear to be identical physically, their personalities are DISPARATE.

Words with similar meanings:

DIFFERENT	DISSIMILAR	DIVERGENT
DIVERSE	VARIANT	VARIOUS

DISSEMBLE: to present a false appearance; to disguise one's real intentions or character

The villain could DISSEMBLE to the police no longer—he admitted the deed and tore up the floor to reveal the body of the old man.

Words with similar meanings:

ACT	AFFECT	ASSUME
CAMOUFLAGE	CLOAK	COUNTERFEIT
COVER UP	DISGUISE	DISSIMULATE
FAKE	FEIGN	MASK
MASQUERADE	POSE	PRETEND
PUT ON	SHAM	SIMULATE

DISSONANCE: a harsh and disagreeable combination, often of sounds

Cognitive DISSONANCE is the inner conflict produced when long-standing beliefs are contradicted by new evidence.

Words with similar meanings:

CLASH	CONTENTION	DISCORD
DISSENSION	DISSENT	DISSIDENCE
FRICTION	STRIFE	VARIANCE

Vocabulary Builder

DOGMA: a firmly held opinion, often a religious belief

Linus' central **DOGMA** was that children who believed in the Great Pumpkin **would** be rewarded.

Words with similar meanings:

CREED
TENET

DOCTRINE

TEACHING

DOGMATIC: dictatorial in one's opinions

The dictator was **DOGMATIC**—**he**, and only he, was right.

Words with similar meanings:

AUTHORITARIAN
DOCTRINAIRE
MAGISTERIAL
PEREMPTORY

BOSSY
DOMINEERING
MASTERFUL

DICTATORIAL
IMPERIOUS
OVERBEARING

DUPE: to deceive; a person who is easily deceived

Bugs Bunny was able to **DUPE** Elmer Fudd by dressing up as a lady rabbit.

Words with similar meanings:

BEGUILE
COZEN
FOOL
MISLEAD

BETRAY
DECEIVE
HOODWINK
TAKE IN

BLUFF
DELUDE
HUMBUG
TRICK

ECLECTIC: selecting from or made up from a variety of sources

Budapest's architecture is an **ECLECTIC** mix of eastern and western styles.

Words with similar meanings:

SELECTIVE

CATHOLIC

BROAD

EFFICACY: effectiveness

The **EFFICACY** of penicillin was unsurpassed when it was first introduced; the drug completely eliminated almost all bacterial infections for which it was administered.

Related Words:

EFFICACIOUS: effective; productive

Words with similar meanings:

DYNAMISM
FORCE
PROFICIENCY

EFFECTIVENESS
POWER
STRENGTH

EFFICIENCY
PRODUCTIVENESS
VIGOR

ELEGY: a sorrowful poem or speech

Although Thomas Gray's "ELEGY Written in a Country Churchyard" is about death and loss, it urges its readers to endure this life, and to trust in spirituality.

Related Words:

ELEGIAC: like an elegy; mournful

Words with similar meanings:

DIRGE LAMENT

ELOQUENT: persuasive and moving, especially in speech

The **Gettysburg** Address is moving not only because of its lofty sentiments but also because of its ELOQUENT words.

Words with similar meanings:

ARTICULATE EXPRESSIVE FLUENT
MEANINGFUL SIGNIFICANT SMOOTH-SPOKEN

EMULATE: to copy; to try to equal or excel

The graduate student sought to EMULATE his professor in every way, copying not only how she taught, but also how she conducted herself outside of class.

Words with similar meanings:

APE IMITATE SIMULATE

ENERVATE: to reduce in strength

The guerrillas hoped that a series of surprise attacks would ENERVATE the regular army.

Related Words:

UNNERVE: to deprive of strength or courage

Words with similar meanings:

DEBILITATE ENFEEBLE SAP
WEAKEN

ENGENDER: to produce, cause, or bring about

His fear and hatred of clowns was ENGENDERED when he witnessed the death of his father at the hands of a clown.

Words with similar meanings:

BEGET GENERATE PROCREATE
PROLIFERATE REPRODUCE SPAWN

Vocabulary Builder

ENIGMA: a puzzle; a mystery

Speaking in riddles and dressed in old robes, the artist gained a reputation as something of an ENIGMA.

Words with similar meanings:

CONUNDRUM PERPLEXITY

ENUMERATE: to count, list, or itemize

Moses returned from the mountain with tablets on which the commandments were ENUMERATED.

Words with similar meanings:

CATALOG INDEX TABULATE

EPHEMERAL: lasting a short time

The lives of mayflies seem EPHEMERAL to us, since the flies' average life span is a matter of hours.

Words with similar meanings:

EVANESCENT FLEETING MOMENTARY
TRANSIENT

EQUIVOCATE: to use expressions of double meaning in order to mislead

When faced with criticism of his policies, the politician EQUIVOCATED and left all parties thinking he agreed with them.

Related Words:

EQUIVOCAL: undecided; trying to deceive

EQUIVOCATION: the act or state of equivocating

Words with similar meanings:

AMBIGUOUS EVASIVE WAFFLING

ERRATIC: wandering and unpredictable

The plot seemed predictable until it suddenly took a series of ERRATIC turns that surprised the audience.

Related Words:

ERRANT: straying, mistaken, roving

Words with similar meanings:

CAPRICIOUS INCONSTANT IRRESOLUTE
WHIMSICAL

ERUDITE: learned, scholarly, bookish

The annual meeting of philosophy professors was a gathering of the most ERUDITE, well-published individuals in the field.

Related Words:

ERUDITION: extensive knowledge or learning

Words with similar meanings:

SCHOLASTIC LEARNED WISE

ESOTERIC: known or understood by only a few

Only a handful of experts are knowledgeable about the ESOTERIC world of particle physics.

Words with similar meanings:

ABSTRUSE ARCANE OBSCURE

ESTIMABLE: admirable

Most people consider it ESTIMABLE that Mother Teresa spent her life helping the poor of India.

Related Words:

ESTEEM: high regard

Words with similar meanings:

ADMIRABLE COMMENDABLE CREDITABLE
HONORABLE LAUDABLE MERITORIOUS
PRAISEWORTHY RESPECTABLE VENERABLE
WORTHY

EULOGY: speech in praise of someone

His best friend gave the EULOGY, outlining his many achievements and talents.

Words with similar meanings:

COMMEND EXTOL LAUD

EUPHEMISM: use of an inoffensive word or phrase in place of a more distasteful one

The funeral director preferred to use the EUPHEMISM "sleeping" instead of the word "dead."

Words with similar meanings:

CIRCUMLOCUTION WHITEWASH

Vocabulary Builder

EXACERBATE: to make worse

It is unwise to take **aspirin** to try to relieve heartburn; instead of providing relief, the drug will only **EXACERBATE** the problem.

Words with similar meanings:

ANNOY	AGGRAVATE	INTENSIFY
IRRITATE	PROVOKE	

EXCULPATE: to clear from blame; prove innocent

The adversarial legal system is intended to convict those who are guilty and to **EXCULPATE** those who are innocent.

Words with similar meanings:

ABSOLVE	ACQUIT	CLEAR
EXONERATE	VINDICATE	

EXIGENT: urgent; requiring immediate action

The patient was losing blood so rapidly that it was **EXIGENT** to stop the source of the bleeding.

Words with similar meanings:

CRITICAL	IMPERATIVE	NEEDED
URGENT		

EXONERATE: to clear of blame

The fugitive was **EXONERATED** when another criminal confessed to committing the crime.

Words with similar meanings:

ABSOLVE	ACQUIT	CLEAR
EXCULPATE	VINDICATE	

EXPLICIT: clearly stated or shown; forthright in expression

The owners of the house left a list of **EXPLICIT** instructions detailing their house-sitters' duties, **including** a schedule for watering the house plants.

Related Words:

EXPLICABLE: capable of being explained

EXPLICATE: to give a detailed explanation

Words with similar meanings:

CANDID	FRANK	STRAIGHTFORWARD
UNEQUIVOCAL		

Vocabulary Builder

FRUGALITY: a tendency to be thrifty or cheap

Scrooge McDuck's FRUGALITY was so great that he accumulated enough wealth to fill a giant storehouse with money.

Words with similar meanings:

ECONOMICAL PARSIMONY PRUDENCE
SPARING

GARRULOUS: tending to talk a lot

The GARRULOUS parakeet distracted its owner with its continuous talking.

Words with similar meanings:

EFFUSIVE LOQUACIOUS

GREGARIOUS: outgoing, sociable

She was so GREGARIOUS that when she found herself alone she felt quite sad.

Words with similar meanings:

AFFABLE CONGENIAL COMMUNICATIVE
SOCIABLE

GUILE: deceit or trickery

Since he was not fast enough to catch the roadrunner on foot, the coyote resorted to GUILE in an effort to trap his enemy.

Related Words:

GUILELESS: innocent, without trickery

Words with similar meanings:

ARTIFICE CHICANERY CONNIVERY
DUPLICITY

GULLIBLE: easily deceived

The con man pretended to be a bank officer so as to fool GULLIBLE bank customers into giving him their account information.

Related Words:

GULL: a person who is easily tricked

Words with similar meanings:

CREDULOUS EXPLOITABLE NAIVE

HOMOGENOUS: of a **similar** kind

The class was fairly HOMOGENOUS, since almost **all** of the students were senior journalism majors.

Related Words:

HOMOGENIZED: thoroughly **mixed** together

Words with similar meanings:

CONSISTENT STANDARDIZED UNIFORM
UNVARYING

ICONOCLAST: one who opposes established beliefs, customs, and institutions

His lack of regard for traditional beliefs soon established him as an ICONOCLAST.

Words with similar meanings:

MAVERICK NONCONFORMIST REBEL
REVOLUTIONARY

IMPERTURBABLE: not capable of being disturbed

The counselor had **so** much experience dealing with distraught children that she seemed IMPERTURBABLE, even when faced with the wildest tantrums.

Related Words:

PERTURB: to disturb greatly

Words with similar meanings:

COMPOSED DISPASSIONATE IMPASSIVE
SERENE STOICAL

IMPERVIOUS: impossible to penetrate; incapable of being affected

A good raincoat will be IMPERVIOUS to moisture.

Words with similar meanings:

RESISTANT IMPREGNABLE

IMPETUOUS: quick to **act** without thinking

It is not good for an investment broker to be IMPETUOUS, since much thought should be given to all the possible options.

Related Words:

IMPETUS: impulse

Vocabulary Builder

Words with similar meanings:

IMPULSIVE PRECIPITATE RASH
RECKLESS SPONTANEOUS

IMPLACABLE: unable to be calmed down or made peaceful

His rage at the betrayal was so great that he remained **IMPLACABLE** for weeks.

Related Words:

PLACATE: to make peaceful

Words with similar meanings:

INEXORABLE INTRANSIGENT IRRECONCILABLE
RELENTLESS REMORSELESS UNFORGIVING
UNRELENTING

INCHOATE: not fully formed; disorganized

The ideas expressed in **Nietzsche's** mature work also appear in an **INCHOATE** form in his earliest writing.

Words with similar meanings:

AMORPHOUS INCOHERENT INCOMPLETE
UNORGANIZED

INGENUOUS: showing innocence or childlike simplicity

She was so **INGENUOUS** that her friends feared that her innocence and trustfulness would be exploited when she visited the big city.

Related Words:

INGÈNUË: a naive girl or young woman

DISINGENUOUS: giving a false impression of innocence

Words with similar meanings:

ARTLESS GUILLESS INNOCENT
NAIVE SIMPLE UNAFFECTED

INIMICAL: hostile, unfriendly

Even though a cease-fire had been in place for months, the two sides were still **INIMICAL** to each other.

Words with similar meanings:

ADVERSE ANTAGONISTIC DISSIDENT
RECALCITRANT

INNOCUOUS: harmless

Some snakes are poisonous, but most species are INNOCUOUS and pose no danger to humans.

Words with similar meanings:

BENIGN HARMLESS INOFFENSIVE

INSIPID: lacking interest or flavor

The critic claimed that the painting was INSIPID, containing no interesting qualities at all.

Words with similar meanings:

BANAL BLAND DULL
STALE VAPID

INTRANSIGENT: uncompromising; refusing to be reconciled

The professor was INTRANSIGENT on the deadline, insisting that everyone turn the assignment in at the same time.

Words with similar meanings:

IMPLACABLE INEXORABLE IRRECONCILABLE
OBDURATE OBSTINATE REMORSELESS
RIGID UNBENDING UNRELENTING
UNYIELDING

INUNDATE: to overwhelm; to cover with water

The tidal wave INUNDATED Atlantis, which was lost beneath the water.

Words with similar meanings:

DELUGE DROWN ENGULF
FLOOD SUBMERGE

IRASCIBLE: easily made angry

Attila the Hun's IRASCIBLE and violent nature made all who dealt with him fear for their lives.

Related Words:

IRATE: angry

Words with similar meanings:

CANTANKEROUS IRRITABLE ORNERY
TESTY

Vocabulary Builder

LACONIC: using few words

She was a LACONIC poet who built her reputation on using words as sparingly as possible.

Words with similar meanings:

CONCISE	CURT	PITHY
TERSE	TACITURN	

LAMENT: to express sorrow; to grieve

The children continued to LAMENT the death of the goldfish weeks after its demise.

Words with similar meanings:

BEWAIL	DEPLORE	GRIEVE
MOURN		

LAUD: to give praise; to glorify

Parades and fireworks were staged to LAUD the success of the rebels.

Related Words:

LAUDABLE: worth of praise

LAUDATORY: expressing praise

Words with similar meanings:

ACCLAIM	APPLAUD	COMMEND
COMPLIMENT	EXALT	EXTOL
HAIL	PRAISE	

LAVISH: to give unsparingly (v.); extremely generous or extravagant (adj.)

She LAVISHED the puppy **with** so many treats that it soon become overweight and spoiled.

Words with similar meanings:

BESTOW	CONFER	EXUBERANT
EXTRAVAGANT	OPULENT	PROFUSE
PRODIGAL,	LUXURIANT	SUPERABUNDANT

LETHARGIC: acting in an indifferent or slow, sluggish manner

The clerk was so LETHARGIC that, even when the store **was** slow, he always had a long line in front of him.

Words **with** similar meanings:

APATHETIC	LANGUID	LACKADAISICAL
LISTLESS	TORPID	

LOQUACIOUS: talkative

She was naturally LOQUACIOUS, which was a problem in situations in which listening was more important than talking.

Related Words:

ELOQUENCE: powerful, convincing speaking

LOQUACITY: the quality of being loquacious

Words with similar meanings:

EFFUSIVE

GARRULOUS

VERBOSE

LUCID: clear and easily understood

The explanations were written in a simple and LUCID manner so that students were immediately able to apply what they learned.

Related Words:

LUCIDITY: clarity

LUCENT: glowing with light

Words with similar meanings:

CLEAR

COHERENT

EXPLICIT

INTELLIGIBLE

LIMPID

LUMINOUS: bright, brilliant, glowing

The park was bathed in LUMINOUS sunshine which warmed the bodies and the souls of the visitors.

Related Words:

ILLUMINATE: to shine light on

LUMINARY: an inspiring person

Words with similar meanings:

INCANDESCENT

LUCENT

LUSTROUS

RADIANT

RESPLENDENT

MALINGER: to evade responsibility by pretending to be ill

A common way to avoid the draft was by MALINGERING—pretending to be mentally or physically ill so as to avoid being taken by the Army.

Related Words:

LINGER: to be slow in leaving

Words with similar meanings:

SHIRK

SLACK

Vocabulary Builder

MALLEABLE: capable of being shaped

Gold is the most MALLEABLE of precious metals; it can easily be formed into almost any shape.

Words with similar meanings:

ADAPTABLE

DUCTILE

PLASTIC

PLIABLE

PLIANT

METAPHOR: a figure of speech comparing two different things; a symbol

The METAPHOR "a sea of troubles" suggests a lot of troubles by comparing their number to the vastness of the sea.

Related Words:

METAPHORICAL: standing as a symbol for something else

Words with similar meanings:

ANALOGY

COMPARISON

METICULOUS: extremely careful about details

To find **all** the clues at the crime scene, the investigators METICULOUSLY examined every inch of the area.

Words with similar meanings:

CONSCIENTIOUS

PRECISE

SCRUPULOUS

MISANTHROPE: a person who dislikes others

The character Scrooge in **A Christmas** Carol is such a MISANTHROPE that even the sight of children **singing** makes him angry.

MITIGATE: to soften; to lessen

A judge may MITIGATE a sentence if she decides that a person committed a crime out of need.

Words with similar meanings:

ALLAY

ALLEVIATE

ASSUAGE

EASE

LIGHTEN

MODERATE

MOLLIFY

PALLIATE

TEMPER

MOLLIFY: to calm or make less severe

Their argument was **so** intense that it was difficult to believe any compromise would MOLLIFY them.

Words with similar meanings:

APPEASE ASSUAGE CONCILIATE
PACIFY

MONOTONY: lack of variation

The MONOTONY of the sound of the dripping faucet almost drove the research assistant crazy.

Related Words:

MONOTONE: a sound that is made at the same tone or pitch

Words with similar meanings:

DRONE TEDIUM

NAIVE: lacking sophistication or experience

Having never traveled before, the **hillbillies** were more NAIVE than the people they met in Beverly Hills.

Related Words:

NAIVETÉ: the state of being naive

Words with similar meanings:

ARTLESS CREDULOUS GUILELESS
INGENUOUS SIMPLE UNAFFECTED

OBDURATE: hardened in feeling; resistant to persuasion

The President was completely OBDURATE on the issue, and no amount of persuasion would change his **mind**.

Words with similar meanings:

INFLEXIBLE INTRANSIGENT RECALCITRANT
TENACIOUS UNYIELDING

OBSEQUIOUS: overly submissive and eager to please

The OBSEQUIOUS new associate made sure to compliment her supervisor's tie and agree with him on every issue.

Related Words:

OBEISANCE: a physical show of respect or submission, such as a bow

Words with similar meanings:

COMPLIANT DEFERENTIAL SERVILE
SUBSERVIENT

Vocabulary Builder

OBSTINATE: stubborn, unyielding

The OBSTINATE child could not be made to eat any food that he disliked.

Words with similar meanings:

INTRANSIGENT	MULISH	PERSISTENT
PERTINACIOUS	STUBBORN	TENACIOUS

OBVIATE: to prevent; to make unnecessary

The river was shallow enough to wade across at many points, which OBVIATED the need for a bridge.

Words with similar meanings:

FORESTALL	PRECLUDE	PROHIBIT
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OCCLUDE: to stop up; to prevent the passage of

A shadow is thrown across the Earth's surface during a solar eclipse, when the light from the sun is OCCLUDED by the moon.

Words with similar meanings:

BARRICADE	BLOCK	CLOSE
OBSTRUCT		

ONEROUS: troublesome and oppressive; burdensome

The assignment was so extensive and difficult to manage that it proved ONEROUS to the team in charge of it.

Words with similar meanings:

ARDUOUS	BACKBREAKING	BURDENSOME
CUMBERSOME	DIFFICULT	EXACTING
FORMIDABLE	HARD	LABORIOUS
OPPRESSIVE	RIGOROUS	TAXING
TRYING		

OPAQUE: impossible to see through; preventing the passage of light

The heavy buildup of dirt and grime on the windows almost made them OPAQUE.

Related Words:

OPACITY the quality of being obscure and indecipherable

Words with similar meanings:

OBSCURE

OPPROBRIUM: public disgrace

After the scheme to **embezzle** the elderly was made public, the treasurer resigned in utter **OPPROBRIUM**.

Words with similar meanings:

DISCREDIT	DISGRACE	DISHONOR
DISREPUTE	IGNOMINY	INFAMY
OBLOQUY	SHAME	

OSTENTATION: excessive showiness

The **OSTENTATION** of the Sun King's court is evident in the lavish decoration and luxuriousness of his palace at **Versailles**.

Related Words:

OSTENSIBLE: apparent

Words with similar meanings:

CONSPICUOUSNESS	FLASHINESS	PRETENTIOUSNESS
SHOWINESS		

PARADOX: a contradiction or dilemma

It is a **PARADOX** that those most in need of medical attention are often those least able to obtain it.

Words with similar meanings:

INCONGRUITY	AMBIGUITY
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PARAGON: model of excellence or perfection

She is the **PARAGON** of what a judge should be: honest, intelligent, hardworking, and just.

Words with similar meanings:

APOTHEOSIS	IDEAL	QUINTESSENCE
STANDARD		

PEDANT: someone who shows off learning

The graduate instructor's tedious and excessive commentary on the subject soon gained her a reputation as a **PEDANT**.

Related Words:

PEDANTIC: making an excessive display of learning

Vocabulary Builder

PERFIDIOUS: willing to betray one's trust

The actress's **PERFIDIOUS** companion revealed all of her intimate secrets to the gossip columnist.

Related Words:

PERFIDY: deceit, treachery

Words with similar meanings:

DISLOYAL

FAITHLESS

TREACHEROUS

TRAITOROUS

PERFUNCTORY: done in a routine way; indifferent

The machinelike bank teller processed the transaction and gave the waiting customer a **PERFUNCTORY** smile.

Words with similar meanings:

APATHETIC

AUTOMATIC

MECHANICAL

PERMEATE: to penetrate

This miraculous new **cleaning** fluid is able to **PERMEATE** stains and dissolve them in minutes!

Related Words:

IMPERMEABLE: unable to be permeated

Words with similar meanings:

IMBUE

INFUSE

SUFFUSE

PHILANTHROPY: charity; a desire or effort to promote goodness

New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art owes much of its collection to the **PHILANTHROPY** of private collectors who **willed** their estates to the museum.

Related Words:

PHILANTHROPIST: someone who is generous and desires to promote goodness

Words with similar meanings:

HUMANITARIANISM

ALTRUISM

PLACATE: to soothe or pacify

The burglar tried to **PLACATE** the snarling dog by saying, "Nice doggy," and offering it a **treat**

Related Words:

PLACID: tolerant; calm

IMPLACABLE: unable to be made peaceful

Words with similar meanings:

APPEASE CONCILIATE MOLLIFY

PLASTIC: able to be molded, altered, or bent

The new material was very PLASTIC and could be formed into products of vastly different shape.

Words with similar meanings:

ADAPTABLE DUCTILE MALLEABLE
PLIANT

PLETHORA. excess

Assuming that more was better, the defendant offered the judge a PLETHORA of excuses.

Words with similar meanings:

GLUT OVERABUNDANCE SUPERFLUITY
SURFEIT

PRAGMATIC: practical as opposed to idealistic

While daydreaming gamblers think they can get rich by frequenting casinos, PRAGMATIC gamblers realize that the odds are heavily stacked against them.

Related Words:

PRAGMATISM: a practical approach to problem solving

Words with similar meanings:

REALISTIC RATIONAL

PRECIPITATE: to throw violently or bring about abruptly; lacking deliberation

Upon learning that the couple married after knowing each other only two months, friends and family members expected such a PRECIPITATE marriage to end in divorce.

Related Words:

PRECIPITOUS: very steep

PRECIPICE: a steep cliff

PRECIPITATION: weather phenomena, like rain or snow, that fall from the sky

Words with similar meanings:

ABRUPT HASTY HEADLONG
HURRIED ILL-CONSIDERED IMPETUOUS
IMPULSIVE PROMPT RASH
RECKLESS SUDDEN

Vocabulary Builder

PREVARICATE: to lie or deviate from the truth

Rather than admit that he had overslept again, the employee PREVARICATED and claimed that heavy traffic had prevented him from arriving at work on time.

Words with similar meanings:

EQUIVOCATE LIE PERJURE

PRISTINE: fresh and clean; uncorrupted

Since concerted measures had been taken to prevent looting, the archeological site was still PRISTINE when researchers arrived.

Words with similar meanings:

INNOCENT UNDAMAGED

PRODIGAL: lavish, wasteful

The PRODIGAL Son quickly wasted all of his inheritance on a lavish lifestyle devoted to pleasure.

Related Words:

PRODIGALITY: excessive or reckless spending

Words with similar meanings:

EXTRAVAGANT LAVISH PROFLIGATE
SPENDTHRIFT WASTEFUL

PROLIFERATE: to increase in number quickly

Although he only kept two guinea pigs initially, they PROLIFERATED to such an extent that he soon had dozens.

Related Words:

PROLIFIC: very productive or highly able to reproduce rapidly

Words with similar meanings:

BREED MULTIPLY PROCREATE
PROPAGATE REPRODUCE SPAWN

PROPITIATE: to conciliate; to appease

The management PROPITIATED the irate union by agreeing to raise wages for its members.

Related Words:

PROPITIOUS: advantageous, favorable

Words with similar meanings:

APPEASE CONCILIATE MOLLIFY
PACIFY PLACATE

PROPRIETY: correct behavior; obedience to rules and customs

The aristocracy maintained a high level of **PROPRIETY**, adhering to even the most minor social rules.

Related Words:

APPROPRIATE: suitable for a particular occasion or place

Words with similar meanings:

DECENCY DECORUM MODESTY
SEMLINESS

PRUDENCE: wisdom, caution, or restraint

The college student exhibited **PRUDENCE** by obtaining practical experience along with her studies, which greatly strengthened her **résumé**.

Related Words:

PRUDE: someone who is excessively concerned with propriety

PRUDISH: prissy and puritanical

Words with similar meanings:

ASTUTENESS CIRCUMSPECTION DISCRETION
FRUGALITY JUDICIOUSNESS PROVIDENCE
THRIFT

PUNGENT: sharp and irritating to the senses

The smoke from the burning tires was extremely **PUNGENT**.

Words with similar meanings:

ACRID CAUSTIC PIQUANT
POIGNANT STINGING

QUIESCENT: motionless

Many animals are **QUIESCENT** over the winter months, minimizing activity in order to conserve energy.

Related Words:

QUIESCENCE: state of rest or inactivity

Words with similar meanings:

LATENT DORMANT

Vocabulary Builder

RAREFY: to make thinner or sparser

Since the atmosphere **RAREFIES** as altitudes increase, the air at the top of very tall mountains is too thin to breathe.

Related Words:

RAREFACTION: the process of making something less dense

Words with similar meanings:

ATTENUATE THIN

REPUDIATE: to reject the validity of

The old woman's claim that she was Russian royalty was **REPUDIATED** when DNA tests showed she was of no relation to them.

Words with similar meanings:

DENY DISAVOW DISCLAIM
DISOWN RENOUNCE

RETICENT: silent, reserved

Physically small and **RETICENT** in her speech, Joan Didion often went unnoticed by those upon whom she was reporting.

Words with similar meanings:

COOL INTROVERTED LACONIC
STANDOFFISH TACITURN UNDEMONSTRATIVE

RHETORIC: effective writing or speaking

Lincoln's talent for **RHETORIC** was evident in his beautifully expressed Gettysburg Address.

Words with similar meanings:

ELOQUENCE ORATORY

SATIATE: to satisfy fully or overindulge

His desire for power was so great that nothing less than complete control of the country could **SATIATE** it.

Related Words:

SATE: to fully satisfy or overindulge

INSATIABLE:

incapable of being satisfied

Words with similar meanings:

CLOY GLUT GORGE
SURFEIT

SOPORIFIC: causing sleep or lethargy

The movie proved to be so SOPORIFIC that soon loud snores were heard throughout the theater.

Related Words:

SOPOR: deep sleep

Words with similar meanings:

HYPNOTIC NARCOTIC SLUMBEROUS
SOMNOLENT

SPECIOUS: deceptively attractive; seemingly plausible but fallacious

The student's SPECIOUS excuse for being late sounded legitimate, but was proved otherwise when his teacher called his home.

Words with similar meanings:

ILLUSORY OSTENSIBLE PLAUSIBLE
SPURIOUS SOPHISTICAL

STIGMA: a mark of shame or discredit

In *The Scarlet Letter*, Hester Prynne was required to wear the letter "A" on her clothes as a public STIGMA for her adultery.

Related Words:

STIGMATIZE: to disgrace; to label with negative terms or reputation

Words with similar meanings:

BLEMISH BLOT OPPROBRIUM
STAIN TAIN

STOLID: unemotional; lacking sensitivity

The prisoner appeared STOLID and unaffected by the judge's harsh sentence.

Words with similar meanings:

APATHETIC IMPASSIVE INDIFFERENT
PHLEGMATIC STOICAL UNCONCERNED

Vocabulary Builder

SUBLIME: lofty or grand

The music was so **SUBLIME** that it transformed the rude surroundings into a special place.

Related Words:

SUBLIMATE: to elevate or convert into something of higher worth

SUBLIMINAL: existing outside conscious awareness

Words with similar meanings:

AUGUST	EXALTED	GLORIOUS
GRAND	MAGNIFICENT	MAJESTIC
NOBLE	REGAL	RESPLENDENT
SUPERB		

TACIT: done without using words

Although not a word had been said, everyone in the room knew that a **TACIT** agreement had been made about which course of action to take.

Related Words:

TACITURN: silent, not talkative

Words with similar meanings:

IMPLICIT	IMPLIED	UNDECLARED
UNSAID	UNUTTERED	

TACITURN: silent, not talkative

The clerk's **TACITURN** nature earned him the nickname "Silent Bob."

Related Words:

TACIT: done without using words

Words with similar meanings:

LACONIC	RETICENT
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TIRADE: long, harsh speech or verbal attack

Observers were shocked at the manager's **TIRADE** over such a minor mistake.

Words with similar meanings:

DIATRIBE	FULMINATION	HARANGUE
OBLOQUY	REVILEMENT	VILIFICATION

TORPOR: extreme mental and **physical** sluggishness

After surgery, the patient experienced **TORPOR** until the anesthesia wore off.

Related Words:

TORPID: sluggish, lacking movement

Words with similar meanings:

APATHY

LANGUOR

TRANSITORY: temporary, lasting a brief time

The reporter lived a TRANSITORY life, staying in one place only long enough to cover the current story.

Related Words:

TRANSIT: to pass through; to change or make a transition

TRANSIENT: passing quickly in and out of existence; one who stays a short time

Words with similar meanings:

EPHEMERAL

EVANESCENT

FLEETING

IMPERMANENT

MOMENTARY

VACILLATE: to sway physically; to be indecisive

The customer held up the line as he VACILLATED between ordering chocolate chip or rocky road ice cream.

Words with similar meanings:

DITHER

FALTER

FLUCTUATE

OSCILLATE

WAVER

VENERATE: to respect deeply

In a traditional Confucian society, the young VENERATE their elders, deferring to the elders' wisdom and experience.

Related Words:

VENERABLE: old, worthy of respect

Words with similar meanings:

ADORE

HONOR

IDOLIZE

REVERE

VERACITY: filled with truth and accuracy

She had a reputation for VERACITY, so everyone trusted her description of events.

Related Words:

VERITY: truth

VERACIOUS: truthful, accurate

Vocabulary Builder

Words with similar meanings:

CANDOR EXACTITUDE FIDELITY
PROBITY

VERBOSE: wordy

The professor's answer was so **VERBOSE** that his student forgot what the original question had been.

Related Words:

VERBALIZE: to put into words

VERBATIM: to quote using the exact words, word for word

VERBIAGE: lots of words that are **usually** superfluous

Words with similar meanings:

LONG-WINDED LOQUACIOUS PROLIX
SUPERFLUOUS

VEX: to annoy

The old man who loved his peace and quiet **was** **VEXED** by his neighbor's loud music.

Related Words:

VEXATION: a feeling of irritation

Words with similar meanings:

ANNOY BOTHER CHAFE
EXASPERATE IRK NETTLE
PEEVE PROVOKE

VOLATILE: easily aroused or changeable; lively or explosive

His **VOLATILE** personality made it difficult to predict his reaction to anything.

Words with similar meanings:

CAPRICIOUS ERRATIC FICKLE
INCONSISTENT INCONSTANT MERCURIAL
TEMPERAMENTAL

WAVER: to fluctuate between choices

If you **WAVER** too long before making a decision about which testing site to register for, you may not get your first choice.

Words with similar meanings:

DITHER FALTER FLUCTUATE
OSCILLATE VACILLATE

WHIMSICAL: acting in a fanciful or capricious manner; unpredictable

The ballet ~~was~~ **WHIMSICAL**, delighting the children with its imaginative characters and unpredictable **sets**.

Related Words:

WHIM: a fancy or sudden notion

Words with similar meanings:

CAPRICIOUS
FLIPPANT

ERRATIC

FRIVOLOUS

ZEAL: passion, excitement

She brought her typical **ZEAL** to the project, sparking enthusiasm in the other team members.

Related Words:

ZEALOT: a fanatic

Words with similar meanings:

ARDENCY
PASSION

FERVOR

FIRE

Chapter 9

GRE WORD GROUPS

Learning words in groups is an efficient way of increasing your **GRE** vocabulary, since the GRE often tests only that you have a general sense of what a word means. Say you saw the following question on the test:

DENOUNCE:

- blaspheme
- acclaim
- permit
- gather
- assist

If you looked up *denounce* in a dictionary, you'd see something like this:

de•nounce (di-nouns') *transitive verb*, **de•nounced**, **de•nounc•ing**, **de•nounc•es** [Middle English: *denouncen*, *denonsen*, fr. Latin *denoncier*, fr. *de* + *nuntiare* to report, announce, fr. *nuntius* messenger]

1. To declare (a **person**, an idea, behavior, a philosophy) to be censurable or evil; stigmatize or accuse, especially publicly and indignantly; inveigh against openly
2. *archaic* to announce in a public, formal and solemn manner: to declare or publish something disastrous
3. to inform against: declare or expose a lawbreaker to the authorities
- 4a. *obsolete* to indicate or portend
- 4b. *archaic* to announce in a warning or threatening manner
5. to proclaim formally and publicly the ending of a treaty or pact
6. *Mexican Law* to offer for record legal notice of a claim for a mining concession on land held by the government

Synonym see CRITICIZE

Vocabulary Builder

Do you need to know **all** this to answer the question? No—all you need to know is that *denounce* means something like criticize. And in the time it took you to learn the meaning of denounce from the dictionary, you could have memorized a whole list of other words that also mean something like *criticize* (*aspersion, belittle, berate, calumny, castigate, decry, defamation, denounce, deride/derisive, diatribe, rebuke*, etcetera).

And the answer to the above question? Well, that would be drawn from the list of words that mean *praise* (*acclaim, accolade, aggrandize, encomium, eulogize, extol, fawn, laud/laudatory, venerate/veneration*, etcetera.)

This is why learning words in groups is a better general strategy for beefing up your GRE vocabulary than working slowly through the dictionary.

Just remember, the categories in which these words are listed are GENERAL and not to be taken for the exact definitions of the words.

BOLD

audacious	courageous	dauntless
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CHANGING QUICKLY

capricious	mercurial	volatile
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HESITATE

dither	oscillate	teeter
vacillate	waver	

ACT QUICKLY

apace	abrupt	headlong
impetuous	precipitate	

INNOCENT/INEXPERIENCED

credulous	gullible	naive
ingenuous	novitiate	tyro

DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND

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

EASY TO UNDERSTAND

articulate	cogent	eloquent
evident	limpid	lucid
pellucid		

SMART/LEARNED

astute	canny	erudite
perspicacious		

CRITICIZE/CRITICISM

aspersion	belittle	berate
calumny	castigate	decry
defamation	denounce	derideldersive
diatribe	disparage	excoriate
gainsay	harangue	impugn
inveigh	lambaste	obloquy
objurgate	opprobrium	pillory
remonstrate	rebuke	reprehend
reprove	revile	tirade
vituperate		

CAROUSAL

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

TRUTH

candor candid	fealty	frankness
indisputable	indubitable	legitimate
probity	sincere	veracious
verity		

Vocabulary Builder

FALSEHOOD

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

BITING (as in wit or temperament)

acerbic	acidulous	acrimonious
asperity	caustic	mordant
mordacious	trenchant	

PRAISE

acclaim	accolade	aggrandize
encomium	eulogize	extol
fawn	laud/laudatory	venerate

HARMFUL

baleful	baneful	deleterious
inimical	injurious	insidious
minatory	perfidious	pernicious

TIMID/TIMIDITY

craven	diffident	pusillanimous
recreant	timorous	trepidation

BORING

banal	fatuous	hackneyed
insipid	mundane	pedestrian
platitude	prosaic	quotidian
trite		

WEAKEN

adulterate	enervate	exacerbate
inhibit	obviate	stultify
undermine	vitiate	

ASSIST

abet
bolster
espouse
proponent

advocate
corroborate
mainstay
stalwart

ancillary
countenance
munificent
sustenance

HOSTILE

antithetic
irascible
truculent

churlish
malevolent
vindictive

curmudgeon
misanthropic

STUBBORN

implacable
intransigent
recalcitrant
untoward

inexorable
obdurate
refractory
vexing

intractable
obstinate
renitent

BEGINNING/YOUNG

burgeoning
inchoate

callow
incipient

engender
nascent

GENEROUS/KIND

altruistic
largess
philanthropic

beneficent
magnanimous
unstinting

clement
munificent

GREEDY

avaricious
miserly
rapacious

covetous
penurious

mercenary
venal

TERSE

compendious
pithy

curt
succinct

laconic
taciturn

Vocabulary Builder

OVERBLOWN/WORDY

bombastic
grandiloquent
prolix
verbose

circumlocution
loquacious
rhetoric

garrulous
periphrastic
turgid

DICTATORIAL

dogmatic
hegemonic
peremptory

authoritarian
hegemony
tyrannical

despotic
imperious

HATRED

abhorrence
antipathy
loathing
rancor

antagonism
detestation
malice

anathema
enmity
odium

BEGINNER/AMATEUR

dilettante
novitiate

fledgling
proselyte

neophyte
tyro

LAZYISLUGGISH

indolent
languid
phlegmatic
torpid

inert
lassitude
quiescent

lackadaisical
lethargic
slothful

PACINISATISN

ameliorate
defer
placate
slake

appease
mitigate
propitiate

assuage
mollify
satiare

FORGIVE

absolve
exonerate
redress

acquit
expiate
vindicate

exculpate
palliate

POOR

destitute
impecunious

esurient

indigent

FAVORING/NOT IMPARTIAL

ardor/ardent
partisan

doctrinaire
tendentious

fervid
zealot

DENYING OF SELF

abnegate
Spartan

abstain
stoic

ascetic
temperate

WALKING ABOUT

ambulatory

itinerant

peripatetic

INSINCERE

disingenuous
ostensible

dissemble
unctuous

fulsome

PREVENT/OBSTRUCT

discomfit
forfend
inhibit

encumber
hinder
occlude

fetter
impede

ECCENTRIC/DISSIMILAR

aberrant
eclectic
iconoclast

anomalous
esoteric

anachronism
discrete

FUNNY

chortle
flippant
levity
riposte

droll
gibe
ludicrous
simper

facetious
jocular
raillery

Vocabulary Builder

SORROW

disconsolate
elegiac
lugubrious
plaintive

doleful
forlorn
melancholy
threnody

dolor
lament
morose

DISGUSTING/OFFENSIVE

defile
noisome
rebarbative

fetid
odious

invidious
putrid

WITHDRAWAL/RETREAT

abeyance
abortive
demur
remission
retrograde

abjure
abrogate
recant
renege

abnegation
decamp
recidivism
rescind

DEATH/MOURNING

bereave
demise
knell
moribund
wraith

cadaver
dolorous
lament
obsequies

defunct
elegy
macabre
sepulchral

COPY

counterpart
factitious
quintessence

emulate
paradigm
simulated

facsimile
precursor
vicarious

EQUAL

equitable

equity

tantamount

UNUSUAL

aberration
idiosyncrasy

anomaly

iconoclast

WANDERING

discursive	expatiate	forage
itinerant	peregrination	peripatetic
sojourn		

GAPS/OPENINGS

abatement	aperture	fissure
hiatus	interregnum	interstice
lull	orifice	rent
respite	rift	

HEALTHY

beneficial	salubrious	salutary
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ABBREVIATED COMMUNICATION

abridge	compendium	cursory
curtail	syllabus	synopsis
terse		

WISDOM

adage	aphorism	apothegm
axiom	bromide	dictum
epigram	platitude	sententious
truism		

FAMILY

conjugal	consanguine	distaff
endogamous	filial	fratricide
progenitor	scion	

NOT A STRAIGHT LINE

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

Vocabulary Builder

INVESTIGATE

appraise	ascertain	assay
descry	peruse	

TIME/ORDER/DURATION

anachronism	antecede	antedate
anterior	archaic	diurnal
eon	ephemeral	epoch
fortnight	millennium	penultimate
synchronous	temporal	

BAD MOOD

bilious	dudgeon	irascible
petulant	pettish	pique
querulous	umbrage	waspish

EMBARRASS

abash	chagrin	compunction
contrition	diffidence	expiate
foible	gaucherie	rue

HARDHEARTED

asperity	baleful	dour
fell	malevolent	mordant
sardonic	scathing	truculent
vitriolic	vituperation	

NAG

admonish	cavil	belabor
enjoin	exhort	harangue
hector	martinet	remonstrate
reproof		

PREDICT

augur	auspice	fey
harbinger	portentous	presage
prescient	prognosticate	

LUCK

adventitious
fortuitous
optimum
propitious

amulet
kismet
portentous
providential

auspicious
nemesis
propitiate
talisman

NASTY

fetid

noisome

noxious

HARSH-SOUNDING

assonance
dissonant

cacophony
raucous

din
strident

PLEASANT-SOUNDING

euphonious
sonorous

harmonious

melodious

Chapter 10

WORD ROOT LIST

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD ROOT LIST

The following list presents some of the commonest word roots—mostly Greek and Latin—that appear in English. Learning to recognize these word roots is a great help in expanding your vocabulary. Many seemingly difficult words yield up their meanings easily when you recognize the word roots that make them up. *Excrescence*, for example, contains the roots **ex-**, meaning out or out of, and **cresc-**, meaning to grow; once you know this, the meaning of *excrescence*, an outgrowth (whether normal, such as hair, or abnormal, such as a wart) is easily deduced.

The list concentrates on Latin and Greek roots because these are the most frequently used to form compound words in English, and because they tend not to be self-explanatory to the average reader. Each entry gives the root in the most common form or forms in which it appears in English, with a very brief definition. (The definition does not cover all the shades of meaning of the given root, only the most important or the most broadly applicable.) The rest of the entry is a list of some of the common English words derived from this root; this list is only intended to provide a few examples of such words, and not even to come close to being exhaustive. Some words will naturally be found under more than one entry. The words themselves are not defined. We hope the Word Root List will encourage you to turn to the GRE Minidictionary or, better yet, to a good dictionary.

Vocabulary Builder

- A, AN** NOT, WITHOUT
amoral, anarchy, anomalous, anonymous, aseptic, asexual, atheism, atrophy, averse
- AB** FROM, AWAY, APART
abdicate, abduct, abhor, abject, abnormal, abrupt, absent, abuse
- ABLE, IBLE** CAPABLE OF, WORTHY OF
changeable, durable, laudable, indubitable, inevitable, infallible, irreducible, tolerable, variable
- AC, ACR** SHARP, SOUR
acerbic, acetate, acid, acid, acrimony, acumen, acute
- ACOU** HEARING
acoustic
- AD, A** TO
(Often d is dropped and the first letter to which a is prefixed is doubled.)
adapt, adequate, adumbrate, advocate, accede, adduce, affiliate, aggregate, allocate, annunciation, appall, arrest, assiduous, attract
- AMBI, AMPHI** BOTH, ON BOTH SIDES, AROUND
ambidextrous, ambient, ambiguous, ambition, ambivalent, amphibian, amphitheater
- AMBL, AMBUL** WALK
amble, ambulance, ambulatory, perambulator, preamble
- ANIM** MIND, SPIRIT, BREATH
animadversion, animal, animate, animosity, equanimity, magnanimity, pusillanimous, unanimity,
- ANT, ANTE** BEFORE
antecedent, antechamber, antediluvian, anterior, anticipate, antiquity, ancient
- ANTI, ANT** AGAINST, OPPOSITE
anticlimax, antidote, antipathy, antiphony, antipodes, antithesis, antagonism
- AQUA, AQUE** WATER
aquamarine, aquarium, aquatic, aquatint, aqueduct, subaqueous

ARD, ASS	<p>BURN <i>giang cháy</i></p> <p><u>ardent</u>, <u>ardor</u>, <u>arson</u></p>
AUTO, AUT	<p>SELF <i>Nhật huyết</i></p> <p>autobiography, <u>autocracy</u>, autograph, automaton, autonomous, autopsy, autism</p>
BEL, BELL	<p>BEAUTIFUL</p> <p>belle, <u>embellish</u></p>
BELL, BELLI	<p>WAR <i>warlike hay giang, giang hay</i></p> <p>antebellum, <u>bellicose</u>, <u>belligerent</u>, <u>rebellion</u></p>
BEN, BEN	<p>WELL, GOOD <i>(whole to)</i></p> <p><u>benediction</u>, benefactor, benevolent, benign</p>
BI, BIN	<p>TWO <i>2 trong chon tra, 2 mat</i></p> <p><i>characterized</i> <u>bicameral</u>, bicycle, bifocals, bifurcate, bilateral, <u>binoculars</u>, binomial, <i>hau</i> ← biped, combination, <u>biennial</u> <i>2 mat</i></p>
BON, BOUN	<p>GOOD, GENEROUS <i>phong ky</i></p> <p>bonus, <u>bountiful</u>, bounty, debonair</p>
BREW, BRID, brw	<p>SHORT, SMALL <i>tiểu</i></p> <p>abbreviate, abridge, brevet, <u>breviary</u>, <u>breviloquent</u>, <u>brevity</u>, brief</p>
BURS	<p>PURSE, MONEY <i>phai out repay hoi an, hai (tiểu)</i></p> <p><u>bursar</u>, <u>bursary</u>, <u>disburse</u>, reimburse <i>tu vi, HB</i></p>
CARN	<p>FLESH ← <i>thịt</i></p> <p>carnage, carnal, carnival, carnivorous, charnel, <u>incarnate</u></p>
CAUS, CAUT	<p>BURN</p> <p>caustic, <u>cauterize</u>, cautery, encaustic, <u>holocaust</u></p>
CED, CESS	<p>YIELD, GO <i>advent yield</i></p> <p>abscess, accede, access, accessory, ancestor, antecedent, cession, <u>concede</u>, exceed, excess, intercede, precede, proceed, recede, recess, recession, <u>secede</u>, succeed <i>tiểu</i></p>
CELER	<p>SPEED</p> <p>accelerate, celerity, <u>decelerate</u></p>

Vocabulary Builder

CENT	HUNDRED, HUNDREDTH cent, centennial, bicentennial, centigrade, centigram, centiliter, centimeter, centipede, century, percent
CHROM	COLOR chromatic, chrome, chromosome, monochromatic
CHRON	TIME anachronism, chronic, chronicle, chronological, chronometer, synchronize
CIRCUM	AROUND circumference, circumlocution, circumnavigate, circumspect, circumstance
CO, COM, CON	WITH, TOGETHER coeducation, coefficient, coincide, communicate, communist, compare, concert, concubine, conflict, cooperate, correspond
CONTRA, CONTRO, COUNTER	AGAINST contradict, contrary, controversy, counter, counteract, counterattack, counterfeit, countermand, counterpart, counterpoint, encounter
CORD, CARD	HEART accord, cardiac, cardiograph, cardiology, concord, cordial, discord, record
CORP, CORS	BODY corporate, corps, corpse, corpulent, corpus, corpuscle, corset, incorporation
COSM	ORDER, UNIVERSE, WORLD cosmetic, cosmic, cosmology, cosmonaut, cosmopolitan, cosmos, microcosm
CRED	TRUST, BELIEVE accredit, credentials, credible, credit, creditable, credo, credulity, creed, incredible, incredulous
CRYPT	HIDE crypt, cryptic, cryptography, apocryphal
CULP	FAULT, BLAME culpable, culprit, inculcate, exculpate
CUMB, CUB	LIE DOWN concubine, cubicle, incubate, incubus, incumbent, recumbent, succubus, succumb

Word Root List

CYN, CAN	DOG <u>canine</u> , cynic
DE	DOWN, OUT, AWAY FROM, APART dehydrate, deject, depend, depress, deport, descend, describe, devalue
DELE	ERASE dele, delete, indelible
DEXT	RIGHT HAND, RIGHT SIDE <u>ambidextrous</u> , <u>dexterity</u> , <u>dexterous</u>
DI	DAY dial, diary, dismal, <u>diurnal</u> , meridian, <u>quotidian</u>
DIA	THROUGH, ACROSS diadem, diagnosis, diagonal, diagram, dialect, dialogue, diameter, diaphanous, diaphragm, diarrhea, diatribe <i>diagnosis/diagnose</i>
DIC, DICT, DIT	SPEAK abdicate, <u>addict</u> , benediction, condition, contradict, dedicate, dictate, dictator, diction, dictionary, <u>dictum</u> , ditto, <u>dictate</u> , indict, interdict, malediction, <u>predicament</u> , <u>predicate</u> , predict, valedictorian, verdict <i>dictum: statement</i>
DI, DIS	AWAY, APART disagreeable, discard, discern, disdain, dismay, dismiss, distant, diverge
DOL	GRIEVE <i>bow</i> condole, <u>condolence</u> , doleful, dolor, <u>indolent</u>
DORM	SLEEP <u>dormant</u> , <u>dormitory</u>
DORS	BACK dorsal, <u>endorse</u>
DUC, DUCT	LEAD <i>conduce, conduit, deduce, duct, duke, educate, induction, misconduct, produce, reduce, seduce, traduce, viaduct</i> <i>ductile, flexible, phable</i>
DULC	SWEET dulcet, dulcified, <u>dulcimer</u> <i>sw</i>

Vocabulary Builder

- DUR** **HARD, LASTING** *độc lập, bền vững*
trên bền, đứng dour, durable, duration, duress, during, endure, obdurate, perdurable
- EI EX. EC, EF** **om** *tiên, sau* *đi ra (đi ra)*
eliminate, emanate, eradicate, erase, evade, evict, evince, exact, excavate,
except, excerpt, Xid excite, exclusive, excommunicate, excrescence, execute,
exhale, exile, exit
- EGO** **SELF** *∈ cái tôi*
ego, egocentric, egoism, egotist
- EQU** **EQUAL**
adequate, equable, equal, equation, equator, equilibrium, equinox, equivocate
- ERR** **WANDER** *(lạc thng, lảm lạc) đi lạc, vụng*
aberration, err, errant, erratic, erroneous, error
- EU** **WELL, GOOD**
eugenics, eulogy, euphemism, euphony, euphoria, euthanasia
- FAL** **LIABLE TO ERR TO DECEIVE**
default, fail, fallacy false, faux pas, infallible
- FATU** **FOOLISH**
fatuity, fatuous, infatuate
- FERN** **BOIL** *(chuiet %A, luyet)*
effervescent, fervent, fervid, fervor → *chuiet thn, thn* *ly, %A thn*
- FID, FI** **FAITH** *(tuoi) trung thn*
ly, ly , affiance, affidavit, confidant, fealty, fidelity, fiducial, fiduciary
- FLAGR, FULG, FULM** **BURN, SHINE** *đốt, cháy, sáng*
đốt, cháy, sáng conflagration, effulgent, flagrant, fulgent, fulminate, refulgent *đốt, cháy, sáng*
- FLECT, FLEX** **BEND, TURN**
circumflex, deflect, flex, flexible, inflection, reflect
- FUG** **FLEE** *(trn)*
centrifuge, fugitive, fugue, refuge, refugee, subterfuge
- FUM** **SMOKE**
fume, fumigate, perfume

GEN BIRTH, CLASS, **KIN**
 gender, gene, general, generation, generosity, genesis, genetics, genial, **geni-**
 tal, genius, gentle, gentile, gentility, gentry, congenital, degenerate, **engender**
 eugenics, ingenious, ingenuity, ingenuous, progeny, progenitor, regenerate

GNO, GNI, **KNOW**
COGN, agnostic, **cognition**, cognizance, diagnosis, gnomonic, ignore, **incognito**,
CONN prognosis, quaint, recognize, reconnaissance ~ econnoiter

GRAM, GRAPH **WRITE, DRAW**
 anagram, diagram, epigram, epigraph, grammar, grammarian, gramophone,
 graph, graphic, graphite, phonograph, photograph, program, telegram

GREG **FLOCK**
 aggregate, congregate, **egregious**, gregarious, segregate

HAP **BY CHANCE**
 haphazard, hapless, happen, happily, happy, mayhap, mishap

HEMI **HALF**
 hemiptera, hemisphere, hemistich

HETERO **OTHER**
 heterodox, heterodyne, heterogeneous, heterosexual

HOL **WHOLE**
 catholic, holocaust, hologram, holograph, holistic

HOMO **SAME** (from Greek)
 homogeneous, homogenize, homologue, homonym, homophone,
 homoptera, homosexual, **homotype**

HUM **EARTH**
 exhumed, humble, humility, posthumous

ICON **IMAGE, IDOL**
 icon, iconic, iconoclast, iconography, iconology

IM, IN **NOT**
 immature, immutable, imperfect, improvident, indigestible, inhospitable,
 innocuous, intolerant

Vocabulary Builder

IN, IM, I	IN, ON (Often <i>n</i> is dropped and the first letter to which <i>i</i> is prefixed is doubled.) illuminate, incantation, induct, infer, imbibe, immigrate, impact, irrigate
f INTER	BETWEEN, AMONG intercept, interchange, interfere, interject, interpret, interval
INTRA	INSIDE, WITHIN intramural, intrastate, intravenous
IT, ITER	WAY, JOURNEY ambition, circuit, initial, <u>itinerant</u> , <u>itinerary</u> , reiterate, transit
JOC	JOKE jocose, jocular, jocularity, jocund, joke
JOUR	DAY adjourn, journey, journal, adjourn
JUD	JUDGE adjudicate, judiciary, judicious, prejudice
JUNCT, JUG	JOIN adjunct, conjugal conjunction, injunction, junction, junta, subjugate, sub-junctive
JUR	LAW abjure, adjure, conjure, injure, juridical, jurisdiction, jurisprudence, jurist, jury, perjury
JUV	YOUNG juvenile, juvenilia, rejuvenate
LAUD	PRAISE applaud, cum laude, laud, laudable, laudatory, <u>plaudits</u>
LAV, LAU, LU	WASH ablution, laundry, lava, lavatory, lave
LAX, LAK, LEAS, LES	LOOSE lax, laxative, laxity, lease, leash, lessee, lessor, relax, release
LEG, LEC, LEX	READ, SPEAK dialect, <u>lectern</u> , lecture, <u>legend</u> , legible, lesson, lexicographer, lexicon

LEV	LIGHT <i>nhe</i> <i>in' son</i> <i>bay h' kee the' tang</i> alleviation, elevate, <u>leaven</u> , lever, <u>levitate</u> , <u>levity</u> , <u>levy</u> , relieve
LIBER	FREE <i>like of freedom</i> <i>-> impeller</i> <i>to' in' po' -></i> delivery, illiberal, liberal, liberality, liberate, <u>libertine</u> , <u>livery</u> <i>is the' day' thing' lae' in' the' do' the'</i>
LIG, LI	TIE, BIND <i>equal' from</i> <i>-> city</i> ally, league, liaison, liable, lien, ligament, ligature, oblige, religion, rely
LING, LANG	TONGUE bilingual, language, linguistics
LITH	STONE acrolith, lithography, lithoid, lithology, lithotomy, megalith, monolith
LOG, LOQU	SPEECH, THOUGHT biology, <u>circumlocution</u> , colloquial, dialogue, ecology, elocution, eloquent, geology, grandiloquent, interlocutor, locution, logic, <u>loquacious</u> , monologue, obloquy, soliloquy, ventriloquism, zoology
LUX, LUC	LIGHT <i>sa' don' n'g' vat' f</i> elucidate, lucid, lucubrate, luster, pellucid, <u>translucent</u>
MACRO	GREAT, LONG macrobiotics, macrocephalous, <u>macrocosm</u>
MAG, MAX, MAJ, MAS	GREAT <i>mag' n'g' -> in' the' mag' so</i> magistrate, <u>magnanimous</u> , <u>magnate</u> , magnificent, magnify, <u>magniloquent</u> , <u>magnitude</u> , <u>majesty</u> , major, majority, master, maxim, <u>maximum</u> , mistress <i>in' the' mag' so</i>
MAL	BAD <i>in' the' mal'</i> <u>maladroit</u> , malady, <u>malediction</u> , malefactor, malevolence, malice, malingering
MAN, MANU	HAND <i>man' u' -> in' the' man'</i> amanuensis, <u>emancipation</u> , manacle, manage, maneuver, manifest, manipulate, manner, manual, manufacture, manuscript <i>man' u' -> in' the' man'</i>
MAND, MEND	COMMAND, ORDER <i>man' u' -> in' the' man'</i> command, <u>countermand</u> , demand, mandate, <u>mandatory</u> , recommend, remand, reprimand
MEDI	MIDDLE <u>immediate</u> , intermediate, mean, media, median, mediate, medieval, mediocre, medium medius

Vocabulary Builder

MEGA	LARGE, GREAT megalithic, megalomania, megalopolis, megaphone, megaton
MICRO	VERY SMALL microbe, microcosm, micron, microorganism, microphone, microscope
MIS	BAD, WRONG, HATE misadventure, misanthropist, misapply, miscarry, mischance, mischief, misconstrue, miscount, misfit, misinterpret
MOLL	SOFT emollient, mild, mollify, mollusk, <i>mollusc, mollusk, mollify</i>
MON, MONO	ONE monarchy, monastic, monism, monk, monochord, monograph, monogram, monograph, monolithic, monologue, monomania, monosyllable, monotonous <i>monotonous, monotonous</i>
MOR, MORT	DEATH amortize, immortal, morbid, moribund, mortality, mortgage, mortification, mortuary <i>amortize, mortal, morbid, moribund, mortality, mortgage, mortification, mortuary</i>
MOT, MOV, MOM, MOB	MOVE automobile, demote, immovable, locomotion, mob, mobile, mobility, mobilize, momentous, momentum, motion, motive, motor, move, mutiny, promote, removable
MULT	MANY multiplex, multiply, multitudinous, <i>multiplex, multiply, multitudinous, multiplex, multiply</i>
MUT	CHANGE commute, immutable, mutability, mutation, mutual, permutation, transmute
NASC, NAT, GNA	BIRTH cognate, innate, nascent, natal, native, natural, nature, pregnant, Renaissance <i>cognate, innate, nascent, natal, native, natural, nature, pregnant, Renaissance</i>
NAU, NAV	SHIP, SAILOR astronaut, cosmonaut, circumnavigate, nauseous, nautical, naval, nave, navy <i>astronaut, cosmonaut, circumnavigate, nauseous, nautical, naval, nave, navy</i>
NEO	NEW neolithic, neologism, neophyte, neoplasm <i>neolithic, neologism, neophyte, neoplasm</i>
NIHIL	NOTHING, NONE annihilate, nihilism, <i>annihilate, nihilism</i>

Word Root List

NOCT, NOX	NIGHT <u>equinox</u> , <u>noctambulent</u> , <u>nocturnal</u> , nocturne
NOX, NOC	HARM innocent, <u>innocuous</u> , <u>internecine</u> , <u>noxious</u> , nuisance, <u>obnoxious</u> , <u>pernicious</u> . <i>= offensive & harmful, go to n</i>
NOM, NYM NEC	NAME anonymous, antonym, cognomen, denominator, <u>homonym</u> , <u>misnomer</u> , nomenclature, nominal, nominate, noun, pronoun, <u>pseudonym</u> , renowned, synonym . . . <i>very destructive, very strong</i> <i>in the same way, not with</i>
NON	NOT nonconformist, <u>nONENTITY</u> , nonpareil, nonpartisan
NOV	NEW innovate, nova, <u>novel</u> , <u>novelty</u> , <u>novice</u> , novitiate, <u>renovate</u>
NULL	NOTHING annul, null, nullify, nullity
OB	AGAINST <u>obdurate</u> , obliterate, oblong, obloquy, object, obstacle, obstreperous, obstruct
OMNI	ALL omnibus, <u>omnipresent</u> , <u>omnipotent</u> , <u>omniscient</u> , <u>omnivorous</u>
ONER	BURDEN <u>exonerate</u> , <u>onerous</u> , <u>onus</u>
OSS, OSTE	BONE <u>osseous</u> , ossicle, ossiferous, <u>ossify</u> , ossuary, osstectomy, osteopathy <i>bone, eye - on the chair, room, etc.</i>
PALP	FEEL <u>palpable</u> , palpate, <u>palpitation</u> <i>palpation, palpable</i>
PAN, PANT	ALL panacea, <u>pandemic</u> , <u>pandemonium</u> , <u>panegyric</u> , <u>panoply</u> , panorama, pantheon, pantomime <i>all, melt each other into one</i>
PATH	SUFFER, FEEL apathy, antipathy, empathy, <u>pathetic</u> , <u>pathology</u> , <u>pathos</u> , sympathy <i>path, pain, feel</i>
PEC	MONEY impecunious, speculation, <u>pecuniary</u> <i>4 here</i>

Vocabulary Builder

PED, POD	FOOT arthropod, <u>expedient</u> , impede, pedal, pedestal, pedestrian, pediment, pedigree, tripod
PED	CHILD, EDUCATION encyclopedia, <u>pedagogue</u> , pedant, pediatrician
PEL	DRIVE, PUSH appellate, appellation, compel, dispel, expel, impel, propel
PENE, PEN	ALMOST antepenult, peninsula, penult, penultimate, penumbra
PERI	AROUND pericardium, perihelion, perimeter, perineum, periphery, periscope
PHIL	LOVE bibliophile, necrophilia, philanthropy, philately, philharmonic, <u>philogyny</u> , philology, philosophy
PHOB	FEAR claustrophobia, hydrophobia, phobia, phobic, xenophobia
PHON	SOUND antiphony, euphony, megaphone, phonetics, phonograph, polyphony, saxophone, symphony, telephone
PLAC	PLEASE complacent, implacable, placate, placebo, placid
PLEN, PLET, PLE	FILL, FULL accomplishment, complement, complete, deplete, implement, plenary, plenipotentiary, <u>plenitude</u> , plenty, replenish, replete, supplement
POLY	MANY polyandry, polygamy, polyglot, polygon, polyhedron, polynomial, polysyllable, polytechnic, polytheism
PORT	CARRY <u>comport</u> , deportment, <u>disport</u> , export, import, important, portable, portage, porter, portfolio, portly, <u>purport</u> , rapport, reporter, supportive, transport
POST	BEHIND, AFTER posterior, posterity, postern, <u>posthumous</u> , postmeridian, postmortem, <u>postpone</u> , <u>postprandial</u> , postscript, postwar, <u>preposterous</u>

POT	DRINK <u>potable</u> , <u>potation</u> , <u>potion</u>
PRE	BEFORE, IN FRONT <u>preamble</u> , <u>precaution</u> , <u>preclude</u> , <u>precocity</u> , <u>precursor</u> , <u>predecessor</u> , <u>predict</u> , <u>preface</u> , <u>prefigure</u> , <u>prelate</u> , <u>premonition</u> , <u>prescribe</u> , <u>president</u>
PRIM, PRI	FIRST <u>prime</u> , <u>primary</u> , <u>primal</u> , <u>primeval</u> , <u>primordial</u> , <u>pristine</u>
PRO	IN FRONT, BEFORE <u>problem</u> , <u>proboscis</u> , <u>procedure</u> , <u>proceed</u> , <u>proclaim</u> , <u>proclivity</u> , <u>procrasti-</u> <u>nate</u> , <u>procure</u> , <u>propound</u> , <u>prostrate</u> , <u>protest</u>
PROP, PROX	NEAR <u>approximate</u> , <u>propinquity</u> , <u>proximate</u> , <u>proximity</u>
PROTO, PROT	FIRST <u>protagonist</u> , <u>protocol</u> , <u>prototype</u> , <u>protozoan</u>
PSEUDO, PSEUD	FALSE <u>pseudepigrapha</u> , <u>pseudoclassic</u> , <u>pseudomorph</u> , <u>pseudonym</u> , <u>pseudopod</u> , <u>pseudoscientific</u>
PUG, PUN	HIT, PRICK <u>expunge</u> , <u>impugn</u> , <u>poignant</u> , <u>pugilist</u> , <u>pugnacious</u> , <u>punch</u> , <u>punctual</u> , <u>punc-</u> <u>tuate</u> , <u>pungent</u> , <u>repugnant</u>
PYR	FIRE <u>pyre</u> , <u>pyromania</u> , <u>pyromania</u> , <u>pyrometer</u> , <u>pyrosis</u> , <u>pyrotechnic</u>
QUAD, QUAR, QUAT	FOUR <u>quadrant</u> , <u>quadrille</u> , <u>quadrinomial</u> , <u>quadruple</u> , <u>quadruplets</u> , <u>quart</u> , <u>quar-</u> <u>ter</u> , <u>quaternary</u>
QUIE, QUIT	QUIET, TEST <u>acquiesce</u> , <u>acquit</u> , <u>coy</u> , <u>disquiet</u> , <u>quiescent</u> , <u>quiet</u> , <u>quietude</u> , <u>quietus</u> , <u>quit</u> , <u>requiem</u> , <u>requital</u> , <u>tranquil</u>
QUINT, QUIN	FIVE <u>quincunx</u> , <u>quinquennial</u> , <u>quintessence</u> , <u>quintile</u> , <u>quintillion</u> , <u>quintuple</u>
RADI, RACI, RAMI	ROOT, BRANCH <u>deracinate</u> , <u>eradicate</u> , <u>radical</u> , <u>radish</u> , <u>ramification</u> , <u>ramiform</u> , <u>ramify</u>

Vocabulary Builder

RE	BACK, AGAIN recline, refer, regain, remain, reorganize, repent, request
RECT	STRAIGHT, RIGHT correct, direct, erect, rectangle, rectify, rectilinear, <u>rectitude</u> , rector
REG	KING, RULE interregnum, realm, regal, regent, regicide, regime, regiment, region, regular, regulate —
RETRO	BACKWARD <u>retroactive</u> , retroflex, retrograde, retrospective
RUB, RUD	RED rouge, rubella, rubicund, <u>rubric</u> , ruby, ruddy, russet
RUD	CRUDE <i>Two so, ny / chāt</i> erudite, rude, rudimentary, rudiments
SACER, SACR, SANCT	HOLY consecration, desecrate, execrate, sacerdotal, sacrament, sacred, sacrifice, sacrilege, sacristy, sacrosanct, saint, sanctify, sanctimonious, sanction, sanctity, sanctuary, sanctum
SAL	SALT salary, <u>saline</u>
SAG, SAP, SAV	TASTE, THINK insipid, sagacious, sagacity, sage, <u>sapid</u> , sapient, savant, savor
SALU, SALV	HEALTH, SAVE safe, <u>salubrious</u> , salutary, salute, salvage, salvation, salve, savior
SAN	HEALTHY sane, sanitarium, sanitation, sanity
SANG	BLOOD consanguinity, <u>sanguinary</u> , sanguine
SAT	ENOUGH asset, dissatisfied, insatiable, sate, satiate, satisfy, saturate

- SCRIB, SCRIV, SCRIPT** WRITE
scribere
ascribe, circumscription, conscript, describe, indescribable, inscription, postscript, prescribe, proscribe, scribble, scribe, script, scripture, scrivener, subscribe, transcription
- SE** DOWN, OUT, AWAY, APART
se
secede, seclude, secret, secrete, secure, sedition, seduce, segregate, select, separate
- SED, SID** SIT
sedere
assiduous, dissident, insidious, preside, reside, residue, seance, sedate, sedative, sedentary, sediment, sedulous, session, siege, subside, supersede
- SEM** SEED, SOW
semen
disseminate, semen, seminal, seminar, seminary
- SEMI** HALF
semis
semicircle, semicolon, semiconscious, semifluid
- SEN** OLD
senex
senate, senescent, senile, senior, sire
- SEQU, SECU, SUE, SUI** FOLLOW
sequi
consecutive, consequent, execute, executive, non sequitur, obsequious, obsequy, persecute, prosecution, pursue, sequel, sequence, subsequent, sue, suitable, suite, suitor
- SINU, SIN** BEND, FOLD
sinuere
cosine, insinuate, sine, sinuous, sinus
- SOL** SUN
solaris
parasol, solar, solarium, solstice
- SOL** ALONE
solus
desolate, isolate, sole, soliloquize, solipsism, solitude, solo
- SOMN** SLEEP
 dormire
insomnia, somnambulist, somniferous, somniloquist, somnolent
- SOPH** WISDOM
sophos
philosopher, sophism, sophist, sophisticated, sophistry, sophomore

Vocabulary Builder

SPEC, SPIC	LOOK, SEE aspect, <u>auspicious</u> , <u>circumspect</u> , <u>conspicuous</u> , despicable, <u>expect</u> , <u>inspect</u> , <u>introspection</u> , perspective, <u>perspicacious</u> , <u>perspicuous</u> , <u>prospectus</u> , respectable, retrospect, specimen, spectacle, spectator, specter, <u>spectrum</u> , suspect, suspicious
SPIR	BREATH aspire, <u>conspire</u> , <u>expire</u> , inspire, perspire, respirator, spirit, spiritual, sprightly, sprite, suspire, <u>transpire</u>
STRICT, STRING, TIGHT	
STRAN	<u>astringency</u> , <u>constrain</u> , constrict, district, restriction, strain, strait, strangle, strict, <u>stringent</u>
SUA	PLEASE assuage, <u>dissuade</u> , persuade, persuasive, suasion, suave, sweet
SUB	UNDER subdivide, subdue, subjugate, subjunctive, sublunary, submarine, submerge, <u>subordinate</u> , subpoena, subscribe, subside, substitute, subterfuge, subterranean, suburb
SUMM	HIGHEST consummate, sum, summary, summit
SUPER, SUR	ABOVE insuperable, superabound, superannuated, superb, supercharge, supercilious, superficial, <u>superfluous</u> , <u>superior</u> , <u>superlative</u> , supernatural, <u>supernumerary</u> , supervise, <u>surmount</u> , <u>surpass</u> , surrealism, <u>survey</u>
SURG, SOURC, SURRECT	RISE <u>insurgent</u> , <u>insurrection</u> , resource, <u>resurge</u> , resurrection, source, surge
SYM, SYN	TOGETHER <u>ymbiosis</u> , <u>symmetry</u> , sympathy, symposium, synonym, synthesis
TACIT	SILENT reticent, <u>tacit</u> , <u>taciturn</u>
TACT, TAG, TAM, TANG	TOUCH contact, <u>contagious</u> , <u>contamination</u> , <u>contiguous</u> , cotangent, intact, intangible, integral tact, <u>tactile</u> , <u>tangent</u> , <u>tangential</u>

TEST	BEAR WITNESS attest, contest, detest, intestate, protest, testament, <u>testify</u> , <u>testimonial</u> , <i>testimon</i>
THERM	HEAT diathermy, thermal, thermesthesia, thermometer, thermonuclear, <u>thermophilic</u> , <u>thermos</u> , thermostat
TIM	FEAR <u>intimidate</u> , <u>timid</u> , timidity, <u>timorous</u>
TORP	STIFF, NUMB <i>tim, tē, tēt</i> torpedo, torpid, <u>torpor</u> - <i>torpor</i>
TORQ, TORT, TOR	TWIST <i>torq, tort, tor</i> <u>contort</u> , <u>distort</u> , <u>extort</u> , <u>retort</u> , torch, torment, torque, torsion, tort, tortuous, torture
TOX	POISON antitoxin, intoxication, toxemia, toxic, toxicology, toxin
* TRANS	ACROSS, BEYOND <u>intransigent</u> , <u>transcend</u> , transcontinental, <u>transcribe</u> , <u>transient</u> , transmit, transpire, transport
ULT	LAST, BEYOND penultimate, ulterior, ultimate, <u>ultimatum</u> , ultramarine, ultramontane, ultraviolet
UMBR	SHADOW adumbrate, penumbra, <u>somber</u> , umber, <u>umbrage</u> , umbrella
UN	NOT unaccustomed, unruly, unseen, untold, unusual
UND	WAVE abound, abundance, inundate, redundant, <u>undulant</u> , <u>undulate</u>
UNI, UN	ONE reunion, unanimous, unicorn, uniform, union, <u>unison</u> , unit, unite, unity, universe
URB	CITY exurbanite, suburban, urban, urbane, urbanity, urbanization

Vocabulary Builder

VAL, VAIL	STRENGTH, USE, WORTH <u>ambivalent</u> , avail, convalescent, countervailing, equivalent, evaluate, invalid, prevalent, valediction, valiant, <u>valid</u> , <u>valor</u> , value
VER	TRUE aver, <u>veracious</u> , verdict, verify, verily, <u>verisimilitude</u> , verity, very
VERB	WORD adverb, proverb, verb, verbal, <u>verbalize</u> , <u>verbatim</u> , verbose, verbiage
VERD	GREEN verdant, verdigris, <u>verdure</u>
VIL	BASE, MEAN revile, vile, vilify, <u>vilification</u>
VIRU	POISON virulence, virulent, <u>viruliferous</u> , virus
VIT, VIV	LIFE <u>convivial</u> , revival, revive, survive, vital, vitality, vivacious, vivid, viviparous, vivisection
VOC, VOU	CALL, WORD advocacy, advocate, <u>avow</u> , convocation, convoke, equivocal, evoke, invocation, invoke, provoke, revoke, vocabulary, vocal, vocalist, vocation, <u>vociferous</u> , vouch, vouchsafe
VOL	FLY volant, volatile, volley
VOLU, VOLV	ROLL, TURN circumvolve, convolution, <u>devolve</u> , evolve, involution, revolt, revolve, voluble, volume, voluminous, volute

Chapter 11

OPPOSITE DRILLS

Each of the word lists below relates to two concepts that are opposite in meaning. The words in each list relate to one of the concepts or its opposite. Try to sort out which category each word belongs in. For each word, check the oval under the appropriate concept. If you don't know the meaning of a word, make your best guess, using roots, charge (whether the word sounds "good" or "bad"), **prefixes**, or context to help you.

No definitions are provided. Look up words that you are unsure of in the GRE Minidictionary.

HAPPY

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- BLITHE
- DISCONSOLATE
- DISPIRITED
- DOLDRUMS
- DOLOROUS
- EBULLIENT
- EUPHORIC
- FELICITY
- PROVIDENT
- RUE
- WOE

SAD

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Answer key on page 289.

Vocabulary Builder

TRUE

FALSE

TRUE

FALSE

<input type="radio"/>	APOCRYPHAL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	FRANKNESS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CALUMNY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	GUILE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CANARD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	INDISPUTABLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CANDOR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	INDUBITABLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CHICANERY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	LEGITIMATE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISSEMBLE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	MALINGER	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISSIMULATE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	MENDACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DUPE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	MENDACITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DUPLICITY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PERFIDY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	EQUIVOCATE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PREVARICATE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ERRONEOUS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PROBITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ERSATZ	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	SINCERE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FALLACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	SPECIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FEALTY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	SPURIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FEIGNED	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VERACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FOIST	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VERITY	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 290.

AGREEMENT		DISAGREEMENT		AGREEMENT		DISAGREEMENT
<input type="radio"/>	ACCORD	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	DETRACTOR	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ALTERCATE	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	DIFFER	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ALTERCATION	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	DISPARAGE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ANTITHETIC	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	DISPUTE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ASKANCE	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	DISSENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ASSENT	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	EXCORIATE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	AVERSE	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	FEUD	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BICKER	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	HARMONY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CAVIL	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	INIMICAL	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONCORD	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	MOOT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONCUR	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	POLEMIC	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONSENSUS	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	QUIBBLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONSONANCE	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	RAPPORT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONTENTION	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SQUABBLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONTENTIOUS	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	UNANIMITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONTRADICT	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	WRANGLE	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 291.

Vocabulary Builder

**ATTRACTION
OR LIKE**

**REPULSION
OR DISLIKE**

**ATTRACTION
OR LIKE**

**REPULSION
OR DISLIKE**

<input type="radio"/>	ABHOR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	ENCHANT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ABOMINATE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	ENTICE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	AFFINITY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	ESCHEW	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ALLURE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	INVEIGLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ANATHEMA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	LOATH	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ANTIPATHY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PARRY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BANE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PENCHANT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BEGUILE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PREDILECTION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BENT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PROCLIVITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CHARM	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PROPENSITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISSUADE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RANCOR	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DRAW	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	REVILE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ELICIT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	SPURN	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 292.

BRAVERY OR CONFIDENCE

FEAR OR CAUTION

<input type="radio"/>	APLOMB	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	APPREHENSION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	AUDACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	AUDACITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CHARY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CIRCUMSPECTION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CRAVEN	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DAUNTLESS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DOUGHTY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GALLANTRY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GAME	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INTREPID	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	METTLESOME	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	MISGIVING	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PLUCKY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PUSILLANIMOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TEMERITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TREPIDATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	UNDAUNTED	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	VALIANT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	VALOROUS	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 293.

Vocabulary Builder

CALMNESS

AGITATION

CALMNESS

AGITATION

<input type="radio"/>	BECALM	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	NONCHALANT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BLUSTER	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PERTURB	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	COLLECTED	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PLACID	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	COMPOSED	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	QUIESCENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	COMPOSURE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RAGING	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DETACHED	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RAIL	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISCOMPOSED	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	REPOSE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISPASSIONATE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	ROIL	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISQUIETED	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RUFFLED	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISTRAUGHT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	SEDENTARY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FLURRIED	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	SERENE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FLUSTER	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	STAID	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FRENETIC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	STEADY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FULMINATE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	TRANQUIL	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FUROR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	TUMULTUOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IMPERTURBABLE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	TURBID	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INDOLENT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	TURBULENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INSURGENT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	UNRUFFLED	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	KINETIC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VEHEMENCE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	LANGUOR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VERVE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	LULL	<input type="radio"/>			

Answer key on page 294.

CHANGE

LACK OF CHANGE

<input type="radio"/>	CATALYST	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	COMMUTATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONSISTENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONSTANT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DETERMINATE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ENTRENCHED	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FIXITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IMMUTABLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IMPERVIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INERT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INGRAINED	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INNOVATIVE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INVARIABLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INVIOATE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	LODGED	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	METAMORPHOSIS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	MUTABLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ROOTED	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	STEADFAST	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TRANSFIGURATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TRANSFORMATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TRANSLATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TRANSMOGRIFY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TRANSMUTATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	UNFAILING	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 295.

Vocabulary Builder

GOODNESS
OR MORALITY

EVIL
OR IMMORALITY

GOODNESS
OR MORALITY

EVIL
OR IMMORALITY

<input type="radio"/>	ALTRUISM	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	INVIDIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BACCHANALIAN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	LASCIVIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BEATIFIC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	LICENTIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BENEFICENT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	LURID	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BENIGN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	MISCREANT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BENISON	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	NEFARIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CLEMENT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	NOBLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONTINENCE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PERFIDIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DEBAUCH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PROBITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DECADENCE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PROFLIGATE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ELEVATED	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PRURIENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ETHICAL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RAPACITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	EXEMPLARY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RECTITUDE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FIENDISH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	REPROBATE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ILLICIT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RIGHTEOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INFERNAL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	TEMPERANCE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INIQUITOUS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	TURPITUDE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INTEGRITY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VIRTUE	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 296.

LARGE AMOUNT OR EXCESS		SMALL AMOUNT OR SHORTAGE		LARGE AMOUNT OR EXCESS		SMALL AMOUNT OR SHORTAGE
<input type="radio"/>	CAPACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	MYRIAD	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CAVALCADE	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	OPULENCE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CLOYING	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	OVERABUNDANCE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CORNUCOPIA	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PAUCITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DEARTH	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PLETHORA	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DEFECT	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	POVERTY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DEFICIENT	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PREPONDERANCE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DILATE	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PRIVATION	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISTEND	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PRODIGIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	EFFUSIVE	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PROFUSION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FAMINE	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	REPLETE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FRAUGHT	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SCANTINESS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GLUT	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SCARCITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INSUFFICIENCY	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	STINTING	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	MANIFOLD	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SUPERABUNDANCE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	MEAGER	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SUPEREROGATORY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	MULTIFARIOUS	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SUPERFLUITY	<input type="radio"/>
				<input type="radio"/>	SURFEIT	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 297.

Vocabulary Builder

GROW

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- ABATE
- ACCRETE
- AGGRANDIZE
- AMPLIFY
- APPEND
- AUGMENT
- BURGEON
- CONSTRIC
- CORRODE
- DWINDLE
- EBB
- ERODE
- ESCALATE
- UPSURGE
- WAX
- WANE

SHRINK

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Answer key on page 298.

GRAND AND IMPORTANT		PETTY OR UNIMPORTANT		GRAND AND IMPORTANT		PETTY OR UNIMPORTANT
<input type="radio"/>	ABJECT	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	MOMENTOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	APOTHEOSIS	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	NEGLIGIBLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ASTRAL	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	NIGGLING	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	AUGUST	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	NONENTITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONSEQUENTIAL	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	OVERWEENING	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONSIDERABLE	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PALTRY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DEBASED	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PICAYUNE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ELEVATED	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PIDDLING	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ELOQUENT	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PRETENTIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	EXALTED	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	REGAL	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FRIVOLOUS	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SALIENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GRANDIOSE	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SERVILE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IGNOBLE	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SPLENDID	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INCONSEQUENTIAL	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	STATELY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INGLORIOUS	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SUBLIME	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	LOFTY	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SUBSTANTIAL	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	MEANINGFUL	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	WEIGHTY	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 299.

YOUTH OR IMMATURITY

OLD AGE OR MATURITY

<input type="radio"/>	ABIDING	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ANTEDELUVIAN	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CALLOW	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DOTAGE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GERIATRIC	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GREEN	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	HOARY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INVETERATE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	JUVENILE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	NEOPHYTE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PUERILE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	SENESCENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	SOPHOMORIC	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	STRIPLING	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	SUPERANNUATED	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TYRO	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 301.

Vocabulary Builder

PRAISE

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | ACCLAIM | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | ACCOLADE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | ADULATORY | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | APPLAUSE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | APPROBATION | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | BOUQUET | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | CELEBRATE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | CENSURE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | COMMEND | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | DEFAME | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | DEMEAN | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | DENIGRATE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | DENOUNCE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | DENUNCIATE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | DEPRECATE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | ENCOMIUM | <input type="radio"/> |

CRITICISM

PRAISE

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | EULOGIZE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | EXALT | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | EXTOL | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | HAIL | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | HOMAGE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | HONOR | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | IMPUGN | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | KUDOS | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | LAUD | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | PAEAN | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | PANEGYRIC | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | PEJORATIVE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | PLAUDIT | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | TRIBUTE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | VENERATE | <input type="radio"/> |

CRITICISM

Answer key on page 302.

SWIFTNES OR BRIEFNESS

DELAY OR SLOWNESS

<input type="radio"/>	ALACRITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CELERITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CURSORY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DALLY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DILATORY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	EPHEMERAL	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	EVANESCENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	EXTEMPORANEOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IMPROMPTU	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	LAGGARD	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	MERCURIAL	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PERFUNCTORY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PERPETUITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PRECIPITOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PROCRASTINATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PROTRACTED	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	RETARD	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	SLUGGISH	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TORPID	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TRANSIENT	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 303.

Vocabulary Builder

SUBTLE OR SLIGHT

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BLATANT
EGREGIOUS
FLAGRANT
GOSSAMER
MANIFEST
MODICUM
NUANCE
OSTENTATIOUS
OVERT
PATENT
RAREFY
REFINED
SCINTILLA

OBVIOUS

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Answer key on page 304.

Vocabulary Builder

INTELLIGENCE AND ABILITY

STUPIDITY AND CLUMSINESS

INTELLIGENCE AND ABILITY

STUPIDITY AND CLUMSINESS

<input type="radio"/>	ACUMEN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	INGENIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ASININE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	KEN	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ASTUTE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	MALADROIT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DERANGED	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	OMNISCIENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DOLTISH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PERCIPIENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FATUOUS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PERSPICACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FINESSE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PRECOCIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FLAIR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PUNDIT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GAUCHE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	SAGACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GULLIBLE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	SAPIENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IGNORAMUS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	SIMPLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IMPOLITIC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	UNWITTING	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INANE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VACUOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INCISIVE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VAPID	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 306.

**LOUD, LONG,
OR A LOT OF SPEECH**

**QUIET, SHORT,
OR ABSENCE OF SPEECH**

<input type="radio"/>	BOMBAST	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CURT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DUMB	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ELOQUENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GARRULOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GRANDILOQUENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	LACONIC	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	LOQUACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	MUTE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	OROTUND	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PLANGENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PROLIX	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	RETICENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	STENTORIAN	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	SUCCINCT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TACIT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TACITURN	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TERSE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TURGID	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	VERBOSE	<input type="radio"/>

Answer key on page 307.

Vocabulary Builder

CLEAN

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- ABLUTION
- BESMEAR
- BESPATTER
- DEFILE
- GRIMY
- GRUBBY
- IMMACULATE
- PRISTINE
- SLOVENLY
- SMUTTY
- SULLY
- UNSOILED
- UNSULLIED
- VIRGINAL

DIRTY

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Answer key on page 308.

**TOGETHER
OR CONTINUOUS****SEPARATE
OR DISCONTINUOUS****TOGETHER
OR CONTINUOUS****SEPARATE
OR DISCONTINUOUS**

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|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | ABUT | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | DISCRETE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | AGGREGATION | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | DISJOINTED | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | ASUNDER | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | DISPERSE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | BIFURCATE | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | DISSIPATE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | CABAL | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | DIVERGE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | COLLATE | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | ESTRANGE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | COLLOQUY | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | HIATUS | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | COLLUSION | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | INCONGRUOUS | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | CONCATENATE | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | INTERREGNUM | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | CONCOMITANT | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | INTERSTICE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | CONFLUENCE | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | RIFT | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | CONJOIN | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | SCHISM | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | CONSENSUS | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | SEQUESTERED | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | CONSONANCE | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | SYNCHRONOUS | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | COTERIE | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | SYNTHESIS | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | DIFFUSE | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | TANDEM | <input type="radio"/> |

Answer key on page 309.

Vocabulary Builder

STUBBORN

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- ACCEDE
- ACCOMMODATING
- ACQUIESCE
- AMENABLE
- CAPITULATE
- COMPLY
- CONCEDE
- CONTUMACIOUS
- DOGMATIC
- HIDEBOUND
- INTRANSIGENT
- OBDURACY
- OBLIGING
- OBSTINATE
- OSSIFIED
- PERTINACIOUS
- RECALCITRANT
- REFRACTORY
- UNBENDING
- UNSWAYABLE

AGREEABLE

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Answer key on page 310.

Opposite Drill Answer Keys

HAPPY



SAD



BLITHE
DISCONSOLATE
DISPIRITED
DOLDRUMS
DOLOROUS
EBULLIENT
EUPHORIC
FELICITY
PROVIDENT
RUE
WOE

DIS means "not," so here the two *DIS* words mean "not consolate" and "not spirited," that is, "sad." Also, *DOL* means, "pain," so *dolorous* and *doldrums* also mean "sad."

Vocabulary Builder

TRUE		FALSE		TRUE		FALSE
<input type="radio"/>	APOCRYPHAL	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	FRANKNESS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CALUMNY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	GUILE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CANARD	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	INDISPUTABLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CANDOR	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	INDUBITABLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CHICANERY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	LEGITIMATE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISSEMBLE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	MALINGER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISSIMULATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	MENDACIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DUPE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	MENDACITY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DUPLICITY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PERFIDY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	EQUIVOCATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PREVARICATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ERRONEOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PROBITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ERSATZ	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	SINCERE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FALLACIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SPECIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	FEALTY	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SPURIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FEIGNED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	VERACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FOIST	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	VERITY	<input type="radio"/>

Notice that *veracious* and *verity* both have to do with truthfulness. (The root VER is from the Latin word for truth.) Perhaps you know that Yale's motto is "**Lux** et veritas," or "light and **truth**."

AGREEMENT		DISAGREEMENT		AGREEMENT		DISAGREEMENT
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ACCORD	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	DETRACTOR	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ALTERCATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	DIFFER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ALTERCATION	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	DISPARAGE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ANTITHETIC	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	DISPUTE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ASKANCE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	DISSENT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ASSENT	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	EXCORIATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	AVERSE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	FEUD	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BICKER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	HARMONY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CAVIL	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	INIMICAL	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CONCORD	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	MOOT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CONCUR	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	POLEMIC	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CONSENSUS	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	QUIBBLE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CONSONANCE	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	RAPPORT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONTENTION	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	SQUABBLE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONTENTIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	UNANIMITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONTRADICT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	WRANGLE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Notice that all the words that began with *DIS* had to do with disagreement.

Vocabulary Builder

ATTRACTION OR LIKE



ABHOR



ABOMINATE



AFFINITY



ALLURE



ANATHEMA



ANTIPATHY



BANE



BEGUILE



BENT



CHARM



DISSUADE



DRAW



ELICIT

REPULSION OR DISLIKE



ENCHANT



ENTICE



ESCHEW



INVEIGLE



LOATHE



PARRY



PENCHANT



PREDILECTION



PROCLIVITY



PROPENSITY



RANCOR



REVILE



SPURN

ATTRACTION OR LIKE



ENCHANT



ENTICE



ESCHEW



INVEIGLE



LOATHE



PARRY



PENCHANT



PREDILECTION



PROCLIVITY



PROPENSITY



RANCOR



REVILE



SPURN

REPULSION OR DISLIKE



ENCHANT



ENTICE



ESCHEW



INVEIGLE



LOATHE



PARRY



PENCHANT



PREDILECTION



PROCLIVITY



PROPENSITY



RANCOR



REVILE



SPURN

When you talk about the pros and cons of a situation, you're talking about the positives and negatives. Notice that the words with PRO mean "attraction" or "like."

BRAVERY OR CONFIDENCE

FEAR OR CAUTION

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	APLOMB	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	APPREHENSION	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	AUDACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	AUDACITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CHARY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CIRCUMSPECTION	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CRAVEN	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	DAUNTLESS	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	DOUGHTY	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	GALLANTRY	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	GAME	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	INTREPID	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	METTLESOME	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	MISGIVING	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PLUCKY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PUSILLANIMOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TEMERITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TREPIDATION	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	UNDAUNTED	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	VALIANT	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	VALOROUS	<input type="radio"/>

Notice that there are several words in this list with the same roots. For instance, *valiant* and *valorous* both use the root VAL. If *intrepid* means "fearless," then *trepidation* must be "fear." And *dauntless* and *undaunted* both mean the same thing.

Vocabulary Builder

CALMNESS

AGITATION

CALMNESS

AGITATION

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	BECALM	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	NONCHALANT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BLUSTER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PERTURB	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	COLLECTED	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PLACID	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	COMPOSED	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	QUIESCENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	COMPOSURE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RAGING	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	DETACHED	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RAIL	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISCOMPOSED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	REPOSE	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	DISPASSIONATE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	ROIL	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DISQUIETED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	RUFFLED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FLURRIED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	SEDENTARY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FLUSTER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	SERENE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FRENETIC	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	STCID	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FULMINATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	STEADY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FUROR	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TRANQUIL	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	IMPERTURBABLE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	TUMULTUOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	INDOLENT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	TURBID	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INSURGENT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	TURBULENT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	KINETIC	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	UNRUFFLED	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	LANGUOR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VEHEMENCE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	LULL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VERVE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

On this list, you can use "charge" to answer many of these words. Words like *fluster*, *frenetic*, *furor*, *kinetic*, *perturb*, and *tumultuous* sound agitating, while *becalm*, *serene*, and *tranquil* all sound calm.

CHANGE

LACK OF CHANGE

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CATALYST	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	COMMUTATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONSISTENT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CONSTANT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DETERMINATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ENTRENCHED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FIXITY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IMMUTABLE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IMPERVIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INERT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INGRAINED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	INNOVATIVE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INVARIABLE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INVIOULATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	LODGED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	METAMORPHOSIS	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	MUTABLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ROOTED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	STEADFAST	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TRANSFIGURATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TRANSFORMATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TRANSLATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TRANSMOGRIFY	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TRANSMUTATION	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	UNFAILING	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

TRANS means "across," so the five words in this list which begin with this root are all words that have to do with change.

Vocabulary Builder

GOODNESS OR MORALITY		EVIL OR IMMORALITY		GOODNESS OR MORALITY		EVIL OR IMMORALITY
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ALTRUISM	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	INVIDIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	BACCHANALIAN	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	LASCIVIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	BEATIFIC	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	LICENTIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	BENEFICENT	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	LURID	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	BENIGN	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	MISCREANT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	BENISON	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	NEFARIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CLEMENT	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	NOBLE	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CONTINENCE	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PERFIDIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DEBAUCH	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PROBITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DECADENCE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PROFLIGATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ELEVATED	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	PRURIEST	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ETHICAL	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	RAPACITY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	EXEMPLARY	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	RECTITUDE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FIENDISH	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	REPROBATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ILLICIT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	RIGHTEOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INFERNAL	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TEMPERANCE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INIQUITOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	TURPITUDE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	INTEGRITY	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	VIRTUE	<input type="radio"/>

The root BEN means "good." Notice that the three words in this list that include this root all mean something having to do with goodness or morality.

LARGE AMOUNT OR EXCESS		SMALL AMOUNT OR SHORTAGE	LARGE AMOUNT OR EXCESS		SMALL AMOUNT OR SHORTAGE
●	CAPACIOUS	○	●	MYRIAD	○
●	CAVALCADE	○	●	OPULENCE	○
●	CLOYING	○	●	OVERABUNDANCE	○
●	CORNUCOPIA	○	○	PAUCITY	●
○	DEARTH	●	●	PLETHORA	○
○	DEFECT	●	○	POVERTY	●
○	DEFICIENT	●	●	PREPONDERANCE	○
●	DILATE	○	○	PRIVATION	●
●	DISTEND	○	●	PRODIGIOUS	○
●	EFFUSIVE	○	●	PROFUSION	○
○	FAMINE	●	●	REPLETE	○
●	FRAUGHT	○	○	SCANTINESS	●
●	GLUT	○	○	SCARCITY	●
○	INSUFFICIENCY	●	○	STINTING	●
●	MANIFOLD	○	●	SUPERABUNDANCE	○
○	MEAGER	●	●	SUPEREROGATORY	○
●	MULTIFARIOUS	○	●	SUPERFLUITY	○
			●	SURFEIT	○

Notice that all the words that start with SUPER have to do with excess.

Vocabulary Builder

GROW



SHRINK



ABATE
ACCRETE
AGGRANDIZE
AMPLIFY
APPEND
AUGMENT
BURGEON
CONSTRICT
CORRODE
DWINDE
EBB
ERODE
ESCALATE
UPSURGE
WAX
WANE

Here you might want to think of clichéd phrases. For instance, an *ebb tide* is a tide that's going out. A *burgeoning debt* is a debt that's increasing at a healthy rate. And the moon has *waxing* (growing) and *waning* (shrinking) phases.

GRAND AND IMPORTANT		PETTY OR UNIMPORTANT		GRAND AND IMPORTANT		PETTY OR UNIMPORTANT
○	ABJECT	●		●	MOMENTOUS	○
●	APOTHEOSIS	○		○	NEGLIGIBLE	●
●	ASTRAL	○		○	NIGGLING	●
●	AUGUST	○		○	NONENTITY	●
●	CONSEQUENTIAL	○		●	OVERWEENING	○
●	CONSIDERABLE	○		○	PALTRY	●
○	DEBASED	●		○	PICAYUNE	●
●	ELEVATED	○		○	PIDDLING	●
●	ELOQUENT	○		●	PRETENTIOUS	○
●	EXALTED	○		●	REGAL	○
○	FRIVOLOUS	●		●	SALIENT	○
●	GRANDIOSE	○		○	SERVILE	●
○	IGNOBLE	●		●	SPLENDID	○
○	INCONSEQUENTIAL	●		●	STATELY	○
○	INGLORIOUS	●		●	SUBLIME	○
●	LOFTY	○		●	SUBSTANTIAL	○
●	MEANINGFUL	○		●	WEIGHTY	○

This is another list in which common phrases can help you figure out the meaning of words. For instance, if someone makes a *salient point*, it's central to an argument. In physics, certain forces, such as air resistance, are often considered *negligible*, or ignored.

Vocabulary Builder

UNLIMITED OR FREE

LIMITED OR CLOSED

<input type="radio"/>	CIRCUMSCRIBED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DURESS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	EMANCIPATED	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ENCUMBRED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FETTERED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	HERMETIC	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IMMURE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INCOMMUNICADO	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INDENTURE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INSULAR	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	LATITUDE	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	LAXITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	LICENSE	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	MANUMISSION	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	MAVERICK	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	OCCLUSION	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	STRICTURE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	STYMIE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	THRALL	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TRAMMELED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	UNBRIDLED	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	UNFETTERED	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	UNTRAMMELED	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	YOKE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Notice that *trammeled* and *fettered* are joined on this list by *untrammeled* and *unfettered*. Also, notice that all the words with *UN* are free.

YOUTH OR IMMATURITY

OLD AGE OR MATURITY

<input type="radio"/>	ABIDING	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ANTEDELUVIAN	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CALLOW	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DOTAGE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GERIATRIC	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	GREEN	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	HOARY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INVETERATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	JUVENILE	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	NEOPHYTE	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PUERILE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	SENESCENT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	SOPHOMORIC	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	STRIPLING	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	SUPERANNUATED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TYRO	<input type="radio"/>

This list is full of roots to help you figure things out: *NEO* means "new." *GERI* means "old." *Senescent* comes from the Latin *senex*, which means "old man." *Superannuated* has to do with lots of years.

Vocabulary Builder

PRAISE

CRITICISM

PRAISE

CRITICISM

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ACCLAIM	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	EULOGIZE	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ACCOLADE	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	EXALT	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ADULATORY	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	EXTOL	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	APPLAUSE	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	HAIL	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	APPROBATION	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	HOMAGE	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	BOUQUET	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	HONOR	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CELEBRATE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	IMPUGN	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CENSURE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	KUDOS	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	COMMEND	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	LAUD	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DEFAME	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PAEAN	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DEMEAN	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PANEGYRIC	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DENIGRATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PEJORATIVE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DENOUNCE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PLAUDIT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DENUNCIATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TRIBUTE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DEPRECATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	VENERATE	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ENCOMIUM	<input type="radio"/>			

In this exercise, every word that uses *DE*, which can mean "down," as a prefix is negative. For instance, *denounce* means "to speak down" or "to criticize."

SWIFTNESS OR BRIEFNESS

DELAY OR SLOWNESS

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ALACRITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CELERITY	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CURSORY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DALLY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DILATORY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	EPHEMERAL	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	EVANESCENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	EXTEMPORANEOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	IMPROMPTU	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	LAGGARD	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	MERCURIAL	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PERFUNCTORY	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PERPETUITY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PRECIPITOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PROCRASTINATION	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PROTRACTED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	RETARD	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	SLUGGISH	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TORPID	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TRANSIENT	<input type="radio"/>

Mercurial is a word based on a mythological figure. Mercury was the messenger of the gods who traveled with winged sandals. Thus, *mercurial* is fast.

Vocabulary Builder

SUBTLE OR SLIGHT



BLATANT



EGREGIOUS



FLAGRANT



GOSSAMER



MANIFEST



MODICUM



NUANCE



OSTENTATIOUS



OVERT



PATENT



RAREFY



REFINED



SCINTILLA



OBVIOUS

This list has several words that you can probably recognize from when they are used in context. For instance, people often refer to an "*egregious* error" or a "*modicum* of respect."

RUDENESS

POLITENESS

●	ASOCIAL	○
●	BOORISH	○
●	CHEEKY	○
●	CHURLISH	○
○	CIVIL	●
●	CRASS	○
○	DEFERENTIAL	●
○	DEMURE	●
●	EARTHY	○
●	EFFRONTERY	○
○	GALLANT	●
○	GENTEEL	●
○	OBEISANCE	●
○	OBLIGING	●
●	OBSTREPEROUS	○
●	PHILISTINE	○
○	PUNCTILIOUS	●
●	RAW	○
●	SCABROUS	○
○	SOLICITOUS	●
○	TACTFUL	●
●	UNGRACIOUS	○
●	UNPOLISHED	○
●	WLGAR	○

The word *Philistine* comes from a reference to the ancient people of Philistia. These people had a reputation for being smug and ignorant, particularly in the area of art and culture.

Vocabulary Builder

INTELLIGENCE AND ABILITY		STUPIDITY AND CLUMSINESS	INTELLIGENCE AND ABILITY		STUPIDITY AND CLUMSINESS
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ACUMEN	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	INGENIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	ASININE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	KEN	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ASTUTE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	MALADROIT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DERANGED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	OMNISCIENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DOLTISH	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PERCIPIENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FATUOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PERSPICACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	FINESSE	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PRECOCIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	FLAIR	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PUNDIT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GAUCHE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	SAGACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	GULLIBLE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	SAPIENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IGNORAMUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	SIMPLE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	IMPOLITIC	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	UNWITTING	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	INANE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VACUOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	INCISIVE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	VAPID	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Many of these words have roots that can lead you to the answer. MAL means "bad," so *maladroit* deals with clumsiness. OMNI means "all," and SCI means "knowing," so *omniscient* means "all-knowing."

**LOUD, LONG,
OR A LOT OF SPEECH**

**QUIET, SHORT,
OR ABSENCE OF SPEECH**

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	BOMBAST	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	CURT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	DUMB	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	ELOQUENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	GARRULOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	GRANDILOQUENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	LACONIC	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	LOQUACIOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	MUTE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	OROTUND	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PLANGENT	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PROLIX	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	RETICENT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	STENTORIAN	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	SUCCINCT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TACIT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TACITURN	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	TERSE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	TURGID	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	VERBOSE	<input type="radio"/>

Notice that there are three different words with the root *LOQU* in this list. *LOQU* means "word, speech," so these three words all have to do with a lot of speech.

Vocabulary Builder

CLEAN



ABLUTION

BESMEAR

BESPATTER

DEFILE

GRIMY

GRUBBY

IMMACULATE

PRISTINE

SLOVENLY

SMUTTY

SULLY

UNSOILED

UNSULLIED

VIRGINAL

DIRTY



In this case, the sound of the words tell you a lot about the words themselves. If the word sounds dirty, as the words *besmear*, *bespatter*, *defile*, or *slovenly* do, you can bet that's what it means.

Opposite Drills

TOGETHER OR CONTINUOUS		SEPARATE OR DISCONTINUOUS		TOGETHER OR CONTINUOUS		SEPARATE OR DISCONTINUOUS	
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		ABUT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		DISCRETE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		AGGREGATION	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		DISJOINTED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>		ASUNDER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		DISPERSE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>		BIFURCATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		DISSIPATE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		CABAL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		DIVERGE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		COLLATE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		ESTRANGE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		COLLOQUY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		.. TUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		COLLUSION	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		INCONGRUOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		CONCATENATE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		INTERREGNUM	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		CONCOMITANT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		INTERSTICE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		CONFLUENCE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		RIFT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		CONJOIN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		SCHISM	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		CONSENSUS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		SEQUESTERED	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		CONSONANCE	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		SYNCHRONOUS	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>		COTERIE	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		SYNTHESIS	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>		DIFFUSE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		TANDEM	<input type="radio"/>

This list is full of roots. *SYN* means "same"; *CON*, *COM*, and *COLL* mean "with"; and *DIS* means "away from" or "apart." Use your knowledge of these roots to make your decisions.

Vocabulary Builder

STUBBORN

AGREEABLE

UN means "not," so *unswayable* and *unbending* both mean "stubborn."

Chapter 12

GRE MIN-IDICTIONARY

This Minidictionary provides you with the definitions of many common GRE words. Use this list not only when you work with the vocabulary exercises but whenever you encounter an unfamiliar word anywhere—such as in released tests or everyday reading.

A

ABANDON (n) total lack of inhibition

ABASE to humble, disgrace

ABASH to embarrass

ABATEMENT decrease, reduction

ABDICATE to give up a position, right, or power

ABERRANT atypical, not normal

ABERRATION something different from the usual or normal

ABET to aid, act as accomplice

ABEYANCE temporary suppression or suspension

ABHOR to loathe, detest

ABIDING enduring, continuing

ABJECT miserable, pitiful

ABJURE to reject, abandon formally

ABLUTION act of **cleansing**

ABNEGATE to deny, renounce

ABOLITIONIST one who opposes the practice of slavery

ABOMINATE to hate

ABORTIVE interrupted while incomplete

ABRIDGE to condense, shorten

ABROGATE to abolish or invalidate by authority

ABRUPT sudden, unexpected

ABSCOND to depart secretly

ABSOLVE to forgive, free from blame

ABSTAIN to refrain deliberately from something

ABSTEMIOUS moderate in appetite

ABSTRACT (adj) theoretical; complex, difficult

ABSTRUSE difficult to comprehend

ABUT to touch, to be in contact with

ABYSS an extremely great depth

ACCEDE to express approval; agree to

ACCESSIBLE attainable, available; approachable

ACCESSORY attachment, ornament; accomplice, partner

ACCLAIM praise

ACCOLADE praise, distinction

ACCOMMODATING helpful

ACCORD to reconcile, come to an agreement

ACCOST to approach and speak to someone

ACCRETION growth in size or increase in amount

ACCRUE to accumulate, grow by additions

- ACERBIC bitter, sharp in taste or temper
- ACIDULOUS sour in taste or manner
- ACME highest point, summit
- ACQUIESCE to agree, comply quietly
- ACQUITTAL release from blame
- ACRID harsh, bitter
- ACRIMONY bitterness, animosity
- ACUITY sharpness
- ACUMEN sharpness of insight
- ACUTE sharp, pointed
- ADAGE old saying or proverb
- ADAMANT uncompromising, unyielding
- ADAPT to accommodate, adjust
- ADHERE to cling or to **follow** without deviation
- ADJACENT next to
- ADJUNCT something added, attached, or joined
- ADMONISH to caution or reprimand
- ADROIT skillful, accomplished, highly competent
- ADULATION high praise
- ADULTERATE to corrupt or make impure
- ADUMBRATE to sketch, outline in a shadowy way
- ADVANTAGEOUS favorable, useful
- ADVENTITIOUS accidental
- ADVERSARIAL antagonistic, competitive
- ADVERSE unfavorable, unlucky, harmful
- ADVOCATE to speak in favor of
- AERIAL having to do with the air
- AERIE nook or nest built high in the air
- AERODYNAMIC relating to objects moving through the air
- AESTHETIC pertaining to beauty or art
- AFFABLE friendly, easy to approach
- AFFECTED (adj) pretentious, phony
- AFFINITY fondness, liking; similarity
- AFFLUENT rich, abundant
- AFFRONT (n) personal offense, insult
- AGENDA plan, schedule
- AGGRANDIZE to make larger or greater in power
- AGGREGATE (n) collective mass or sum; total
- AGGRIEVE to afflict, distress
- AGILE well coordinated, nimble
- AGITATION commotion, excitement; uneasiness
- AGNOSTIC one doubting that people can know God
- AGRARIAN relating to farming or rural matters
- ALACRITY** cheerful willingness, eagerness; speed
- ALCHEMY medieval chemical philosophy based on quest to change metal into gold
- ALGORITHM **mechanical** problem-solving procedure
- ALIAS assumed name
- ALIENATED distanced, estranged
- ALIGNED precisely adjusted; committed to one side or **party**
- ALLAY to lessen, ease, or soothe
- ALLEGORY symbolic representation
- ALLEVIATE to relieve, improve partially
- ALLITERATION repetition of the beginning sounds of words
- ALLOCATION allowance, portion, share
- ALLURE (v) to entice by charm; attract
- ALLUSION indirect reference
- ALLUSIVENESS quality of making many indirect references
- ALOOF detached, indifferent
- ALTERCATION noisy dispute
- ALTRUISM unselfish concern for others' welfare
- AMALGAM** mixture, combination, alloy
- AMBIDEXTROUS able to use both hands equally well
- AMBIGUOUS uncertain; subject to multiple interpretations
- AMBIVALENCE attitude of **uncertainty**; conflicting emotions
- AMBULATORY itinerant; related to walking around
- AMELIORATE** to ~~make~~ better, improve

- AMENABLE **agreeable**, cooperative
- AMEND to improve or correct **flaws** in
- AMENITY pleasantness; something increasing comfort
- AMIABLE friendly, pleasant, likable
- AMICABLE friendly, agreeable
- AMITY friendship
- AMORAL unprincipled, unethical
- AMOROUS strongly attracted to love; showing love
- AMORPHOUS having no definite form
- AMORTIZE to diminish by installment payments
- AMPHIBIAN (n) creature equally at home on land or in water
- AMPHITHEATER arena theater with ruing tiers around a central open space
- AMPLE abundant, plentiful
- AMPLIFY to increase, intensify
- AMULET ornament worn as a charm against evil spirits
- ANACHRONISM something **chronologically** inappropriate
- ANACHRONISTIC outdated
- ANALGESIA a lessening of pain
- ANALOGOUS comparable, parallel
- ANARCHY absence of government or law; chaos
- ANATHEMA ban, curse; something shunned or disliked
- ANCILLARY accessory, subordinate, helping
- ANECDOTE short, usually funny account of an event
- ANGULAR characterized by sharp angles; lean and gaunt
- ANIMATION enthusiasm, excitement
- ANIMOSITY hatred, hostility
- ANNUL to cancel, nullify, **declare** void, or make **legally** invalid
- ANODYNE something that **calms** or soothes pain
- ANOINT to apply oil to, **esp.** as a sacred rite
- ANOMALY irregularity or deviation from the norm
- ANONYMITY condition of having no name or an unknown name
- ANTAGONIST foe, opponent, adversary
- ANTECEDENT (adj) coming before in place or time
- ANTEDATE dated prior to **the** actual occurrence
- ANTEDILUVIAN prehistoric, ancient beyond measure
- ANTEPENULTIMATE third from last
- ANTERIOR preceding, previous, before, prior (to)
- ANTHOLOGY collection of literary works
- ANTHROPOMORPHIC **attributing** human qualities to nonhumans
- ANTIPATHY dislike, hostility; extreme opposition or aversion
- ANTIQUATED outdated, obsolete
- ANTIQUITY ancient times; the quality of being old or ancient
- ANTITHESIS exact opposite or direct contrast
- APACE done **quickly**
- APATHETIC indifferent, unconcerned
- APATHY lack of feeling or emotion
- APERTURE an opening or hole
- APHASIA inability to speak or use words
- APHELION point in a planet's orbit that is farthest from the sun
- APHORISM old saying or short **pithy** statement
- APLOMB poise, confidence
- APOCRYPHAL not genuine; **fictional**
- APOSTATE (n) one who renounces a religious faith
- APOSTROPHE speech to the reader or someone not present; a superscript sign (')
- APOTHEGM a short, instructive saying
- APOTHEOSIS glorification; glorified ideal
- APPEASE to satisfy, placate, **calm**, pacify
- APPEND to attach
- APPLAUSE praise
- APPRAISE to evaluate the value of something
- APPREHENSION the act of comprehending; fear, foreboding
- APPRISE to give notice of; inform

approbation

- APPROBATION praise; **official** approval
- APPROPRIATE (v) to take possession of
- AQUATIC belonging or living in water
- ARABLE suitable for cultivation
- ARBITRARY depending **solely** on individual will; inconsistent
- ARBITRATOR mediator, negotiator
- ARBOREAL relating to trees; **living** in trees
- ARBORETUM place where trees are displayed and studied
- ARCANE secret, obscure, known only to a few
- ARCHAIC antiquated, from an earlier time; outdated
- ARCHIPELAGO large group of islands
- ARDENT passionate, enthusiastic, fervent
- ARDOR great emotion or passion
- ARDUOUS extremely difficult, laborious
- ARID extremely dry or deathly boring
- ARRAIGN to call to court to answer a charge
- ARROGATE to demand, claim arrogantly
- ARSENAL ammunition storehouse
- ARTICULATE (adj) well-spoken, expressing oneself clearly
- ARTIFACT historical relic, item made by human craft
- ARTISAN craftsman; expert
- ARTLESS open and honest
- ASCEND to rise or climb
- ASCENDANCY state of rising, ascending; power or control
- ASCERTAIN to **determine**, discover, make certain of
- ASCETIC (adj) self-denying, abstinent, austere
- ASCRIBE to attribute to, assign
- ASHEN resembling ashes; deathly pale
- ASININE lacking intelligence or sound judgment
- ASKANCE scornfully
- ASKEW crooked, tilted
- ASOCIAL unable or **unwilling** to interact socially
- ASPERITY harshness, roughness
- ASPERSION false **rumor**, damaging report, slander
- ASPIRE to have great hopes; to **aim** at a **goal**
- ASSAIL to attack, **assault**
- ASSAY to analyze or estimate
- ASSENT (v) to express agreement
- ASSERT to affirm, attest
- ASSIDUOUS diligent, persistent, hardworking
- ASSIGNATION appointment for lovers' meeting; assignment
- ASSIMILATION act of **blending** in, becoming similar
- ASSONANCE resemblance in sound, especially in vowel sounds; partial rhyme
- ASSUAGE to make less severe, ease, relieve
- ASTRAL exalted, elevated in position; relating to the stars
- ASTRINGENT harsh, severe, stem
- ASTUTE having good judgment
- ASUNDER (adv) into different **parts**
- ASYMMETRICAL not corresponding in size, shape, position, etcetera
- ATONE to make amends for a wrong
- ATROCIOUS monstrous, **shockingly** bad, wicked
- ATROPHY (v) to waste away, wither from disuse
- ATTAIN to accomplish, gain
- ATTENUATE to make thin or slender; weaken
- ATTEST to testify, stand as proof of, bear witness
- AUDACIOUS bold, daring, fearless
- AUDIBLE capable of being heard
- AUDIT (n) formal **examination** of financial records
- AUDITORY having to do **with** hearing
- AUGMENT to expand, extend
- AUGURY (adj) prophecy, prediction of **events**
- AUGUST dignified, awe-inspiring, venerable
- AUSPICIOUS having favorable prospects, promising
- AUSTERE stern, strict, unadorned
- AUTHORITARIAN extremely **strict**, bossy
- AUTOCRAT dictator
- AUTONOMOUS separate, independent

AUXILIARY supplementary, reserve
 AVARICE greed
 AVENGE to retaliate, take revenge for an injury or crime
 AVER to declare to be true, **affirm**
 AVERSE being disinclined toward something
 AVERSION intense dislike
 AVERT to turn (something) away; prevent
 AVIARY large **enclosure** housing birds
 AVOW to state openly or **declare**
 AWRY crooked, askew, amiss
 AXIOM premise, postulate, self-evident truth

B

BACCHANALIAN drunkenly festive
 BALEFUL harmful, with evil intentions
 BALK (v) to refuse, shirk; prevent
 BALLAD folk song, narrative poem
 BALM soothing, healing influence
 BAN (v) to forbid, outlaw
 BANAL trite and overly common
 BANE something causing ruin, death, or destruction
 BANTER playful conversation
 BASE being of low value or position
 BASTION fortification, stronghold
 BAY (v) to bark, especially in a deep, prolonged way
 BEATIFIC appearing to be saintly, angelic
 BECALM to make calm or still; keep motionless by lack of wind
 BECLOUD to confuse; darken with clouds
 BEGUILE to deceive, mislead; charm
 BEHEMOTH huge creature
 BELABOR to insist repeatedly or harp on
 BELATED late
 BELEAGUER to harass, plague
 BELFRY bell tower, room in which a bell is hung
 BELIE to misrepresent; expose as false
BELITTLE to represent as unimportant, make light of
 BELLICOSE warlike, aggressive
 BELLIGERENT hostile, tending to fight
 BELLOW to roar, shout
 BEMUSE to confuse, stupefy; plunge deep into thought
 BENCHMARK standard of measure
 BENEFACTOR someone giving aid or money
 BENEFICIAL advantageous
 BENEFICENT kindly, charitable; doing good deeds; producing good effects
 BENIGHTED unenlightened
 BENIGN kindly, gentle or harmless
 BENISON blessing
 BENT a natural inclination toward something
 BEQUEATH to give or leave through a will; to hand down
 BERATE to **scold** harshly
 BEREAVED suffering the death of a loved one
 BESEECH to beg, plead, implore
 BESMEAR to smear
 BESPATTER to spatter
 BESTIAL beastly, animal-like
 BESTOW to give as a gift
 BETOKEN to indicate, signify, give evidence of
 BEVY group
BIAS prejudice, slant
 BIBLIOGRAPHY list of books
 BIBLIOPHILE book lover
 BICKER to have a petty argument
 BIFURCATE divide into two parts
 BILATERAL two-sided
 BILIOUS bad-natured
 BILK to cheat, defraud
 BILLET board and lodging for troops
 BIPED two-footed animal

bisect

BISECT to cut into two (**usually** equal) parts
BLANCH to pale; take the color out of
BLANDISH to coax with flattery
BLASPHEMOUS cursing, profane, irreverent
BLATAST glaring, obvious, showy
BLIGHT (v) to afflict, destroy
BLITHE joyful, cheerful, or without appropriate thought
BLUDGEON to hit as with a short heavy club
BLUSTER to boast or make threats loudly
BOISTEROUS rowdy, loud, unrestrained
BOLSTER to support; reinforce
BOMBASTIC using high-sounding but meaningless language
BONANZA extremely large amount; something profitable
BONHOMIE good-natured geniality; atmosphere of good cheer
BOOK blessing, something to be thankful for
BOOR crude person, one lacking manners or taste
BOTANIST scientist who **studies** plants
BOUNTIFUL plentiful
BOUQUET a bunch of cut flowers
BOURGEOIS middle-class
BOVINE relating to cows
BRAZEN bold, shameless, impudent; of or like brass
BREACH act of breaking, violation
BREVITY the quality of being brief in time
BRIGAND bandit, **outlaw**
BROACH to mention or suggest for the first time
BROMIDE a dull, commonplace person **or** idea
BRUSQUE rough and abrupt in manner
BUFFET (v) to strike, hit
BUFFOON **clown** or fool
BULWARK defense wall; anything serving as defense
BURGEON to sprout or flourish
BURLY brawny, husky

BURNISH to polish, make smooth and bright
BURSAR treasurer
BUSTLE commotion, energetic activity
BUTT person or thing that is object of ridicule
BUTTRESS (v) to reinforce or support
BYWAY back road

C

CABAL a secret group seeking to overturn something
CACOPHONOUS jarring, unpleasantly noisy
CADAVER dead body
CADENCE rhythmic flow of poetry; marching beat
CAJOLE to flatter, coax, persuade
CALAMITOUS disastrous, catastrophic
CALLOUS thick-skinned, insensitive
CALLOW immature, lacking sophistication
CALUMNY false and malicious accusation, misrepresentation, slander
CANARD a lie
CANDID frank or fair
CANDOR honesty of expression
CANNY smart; founded on common sense
CANONIZE to **declare** a person a saint; raise to highest honors
CANVASS to examine **thoroughly**; conduct a poll
CAPACIOUS large, roomy; **extensive**
CAPITULATE to submit completely, surrender
CAPRICIOUS impulsive, **whimsical**, without much thought
CARDIOLOGIST physician specializing in diseases of the heart
CAREEN to lean to one side
CARICATURE exaggerated portrait, cartoon
CARNAL of the flesh
CARNIVOROUS meat-eating
CAROM to strike and rebound
CARP (v) to **find** fault, complain constantly

CARTOGRAPHY	science or art of making maps	CHARM	compelling attractiveness
CAST (n)	copy, replica	CHARY	watchful, cautious, extremely shy
CAST (v)	to fling , to throw	CHASTISE	to punish, discipline, xold
CASTIGATE	to punish, chastise , criticize severely	CHATTEL	piece of personal property
CATAclysmic	disastrous	CHAUVINIST	someone prejudiced in the belief of their kind's superiority
CATALYST	something causing change without being changed	CHEEKY	lacking prudence or discretion
CATEGORICAL	absolute, without exception	CHERUBIC	sweet, innocent, resembling a cherub angel
CATHARSIS	purification, cleansing	CHICANERY	trickery, fraud, deception
CATHOLIC	universal; broad and comprehensive	CHIDE	to xold, express disapproval
CAUCUS	smaller group within an organization; a meeting of such a group	CHIMERICAL	fanciful, imaginary, visionary; impossible
CAULK	to make watertight	CHOICE (adj)	specially selected, preferred
CAUSALITY	cause-and-effect relationship	CHOLERIC	easily angered, short-tempered
CAUSTIC	biting, sarcastic; able to burn	CHORTLE	to chuckle
CAVALCADE	a procession	CHROMATIC	relating to color
CAVALIER (adj)	carefree, happy; with lordly disdain	CHRONICLER	one who keeps records of historical events
CAVIL	to raise trivial objections	CHURLISH	rude
CAVORT	to frolic, frisk	CIRCUITOUS	roundabout
CEDE	to surrender possession of something	CIRCUMFERENCE	boundary or distance around a circle or sphere
CELEBRITY	fame, widespread acclaim	CIRCUMLOCUTION	roundabout, lengthy way of saying something
CELERITY	quick moving or acting	CIRCUMNAVIGATE	to sail completely around
CENSORIOUS	severely critical	CIRCUMSCRIBE	to encircle; set limits on, confine
CENSURE	to criticize or find fault with	CIRCUMSPECT	cautious, wary
CENTRIPETAL	directed or moving toward the center	CIRCUMVENT	to go around; avoid
CERTITUDE	assurance, certainty	CISTERN	tank for rainwater
CESSATION	temporary or complete halt	CITADEL	fortress or stronghold
CESSION	act of surrendering something	CIVIL	polite; relating to citizens
CHAGRIN	shame, embarrassment, humiliation	CMLITY	courtesy, politeness
CHALICE	goblet, cup	CLAIRVOYANT (adj)	having ESP, psychic
CHAMP (v)	chew noisily	CLAMOR (n)	noisy outcry
CHAMPION (v)	to defend or support	CLAMOR (v)	to make a noisy outcry
CHAOS	confusion	CLANDESTINE	secretive, concealed for a darker purpose
CHAOTIC	extremely disorderly	CLARITY	dearness; clear understanding
CHARLATAN	quack, fake	CLAUSTROPHOBIA	fear of small, confined places

cleave

- CLEAVE to split or separate; to stick, cling, adhere
- CLEMENCY merciful leniency
- CLEMENT mild
- CLOISTER (v) to confine, seclude
- CLOYING indulging to excess
- COAGULATE to clot or change from a liquid to a solid
- COALESCE to grow together or cause to unite as one
- CODDLE to baby, treat indulgently
- COERCE to compel by force or intimidation
- COFFER strongbox, large chest for money
- COGENT logically forceful, compelling, convincing
- COGNATE related, similar, akin
- COGNITION mental process by which knowledge is acquired
- COGNOMEN family name; any name, especially a **nickname**
- COHABIT to live together
- COHERENT intelligible, lucid, understandable
- COLLATE to arrange in an order
- COLLATERAL accompanying
- COLLECTED acting calm and composed
- COLLOQUIAL characteristic of informal speech
- COLLOQUY dialogue or conversation, conference
- COLLUSION collaboration, complicity, conspiracy
- COMELINESS physical grace and beauty
- COMMEND to compliment, praise
- COMMENSURATE proportional
- COMMISSION fee payable to an agent; authorization
- COMMODIOUS roomy, spacious
- COMMONPLACE ordinary, found every day
- COMMUNICABLE transmittable
- COMMUTE to change a penalty to a less severe one
- COMPATRIOT fellow countryman
- COMPELLING (adj) having a powerful and irresistible effect
- COMPENDIOUS summarizing completely and briefly
- COMPENSATE to repay or reimburse
- COMPLACENT self-satisfied, smug, affable
- COMPLAISANT agreeable, friendly
- COMPLEMENT to complete, perfect
- COMPLIANT submissive and yielding
- COMPLICITY knowing partnership in wrongdoing
- COMPOSED acting calm
- COMPOSURE a calm manner or appearance
- COMPOUND (adj) complex; composed of **several** parts
- COMPOUND (v) to combine, add to
- COMPRESS (v) to reduce, squeeze
- COMPULSIVE obsessive, fanatic
- COMPUNCTIOUS feeling guilty or having misgivings
- COMPUNCTION feeling of uneasiness caused by guilt or regret
- CONCATENATE linked together
- CONCAVE curving inward
- CONCEDE to yield, admit
- CONCEPTUALIZE to envision, imagine
- CONCERN a matter of importance or worthy of consideration
- CONCERTO musical composition for orchestra and **soloist(s)**
- CONCILIATORY overcoming distrust or hostility
- CONCOMITANT accompanying something
- CONCORD agreement
- CONCUR to agree
- CONDONE to pardon or forgive; overlook, justify, or excuse a fault
- CONDUIT tube, pipe, or similar passage
- CONFECTION something sweet to eat
- CONFISCATE to appropriate, **seize**
- CONFLAGRATION big, destructive fire
- CONFLUENCE meeting place; meeting of two streams
- CONFOUND to baffle, perplex
- CONGEAL to become thick or solid, as a liquid freezing

- CONGENIAL similar in **tastes** and habits
- CONGENITAL existing since birth
- CONGLOMERATE collected group of varied things
- CONGRESS formal meeting or assembly
- CONGRUITY correspondence, harmony, agreement
- CONJECTURE speculation, **prediction**
- CONJOIN to join together
- CONJUGAL pertaining to marriage
- CONJURE to **evoke** a spirit, cast a spell
- CONNIVE to conspire, scheme
- CONNOISSEUR a person with refined taste
- CONSANGUINEOUS of the same origin; related by blood
- CONSCIENTIOUS governed by conscience; careful and thorough
- CONSECRATE to declare sacred; dedicate to a goal
- CONSENSUS unanimity, **agreement** of opinion or attitude
- CONSEQUENTIAL important
- CONSIDERABLE significant, worth considering
- CONSIGN to commit, entrust
- CONSISTENT containing no **contradictions**, being harmonious
- CONSOLATION something providing comfort or solace for a loss or hardship
- CONSOLIDATE to combine, incorporate
- CONSONANT (adj) consistent with, in agreement with
- CONSTANT completely uniform and unchanging
- CONSTITUENT component, part; citizen, voter
- CONSTRAINED forced, compelled; confined, restrained
- CONSTRAINT something that forces or compels; something that restrains or confines
- CONSTRIC to inhibit
- CONSTRUE to explain or interpret
- CONSUMMATE (adj) accomplished, complete, perfect
- CONSUMMATE (v) to complete, fulfill
- CONTEND to battle, clash; compete
- CONTENTIOUS quarrelsome, **disagreeable**, belligerent
- CONTINENCE self-control, self-restraint
- CONTRADICT** to deny or oppose
- CONTRAVENE to contradict, deny, act contrary to
- CONTRITE deeply **sorrowful** and repentant for a wrong
- CONTUMACIOUS rebellious
- CONTUSION bruise
- CONUNDRUM riddle, puzzle or problem with no solution
- CONVALESCENCE gradual recovery after an **illness**
- CONVENE to meet, come together, assemble
- CONVENTIONAL typical, customary, commonplace
- CONVEX curved outward
- CONVIVIAL sociable; fond of eating, drinking, and people
- CONVOKE to call together, summon
- CONVOLUTED twisted, complicated, involved
- COPIOUS abundant, plentiful
- COQUETTE woman who flirts
- CORNUCOPIA abundance
- CORPOREAL having to do with the body; tangible, material
- CORPULENCE obesity, fatness, bulkiness
- CORRELATION association, mutual relation of two or more things
- CORROBORATE to confirm, verify
- CORRODE to weaken or destroy
- CORRUGATE to mold in a shape with parallel grooves and ridges
- COSMETIC (adj) relating to beauty; affecting the surface of something
- COSMOGRAPHY science that deals with the nature of the universe
- COSMOPOLITAN sophisticated, free from local prejudices
- COSSET to pamper, treat with great care
- COTERIE group of people with a common interest or purpose
- COTERIE small group of persons with a similar purpose
- COUNTENANCE (n) facial expression; look of approval or support
- COUNTENANCE (v) to favor, support

countermand

COUNTERMAND to annul, cancel, make a contrary order

COUNTERVAIL to counteract, to exert force **against**

COVEN group of witches

COVERT hidden; secret

COVET to strongly desire something possessed by another

COWER to cringe in fear

CRASS crude, unrefined

CRAVEN cowardly

CREDENCE acceptance of something as true or **real**

CREDIBLE plausible, believable

CREDULOUS gullible, trusting

CREED statement of belief or principle

CRESCENDO gradual increase in volume of sound

CRINGE to shrink in fear

CRITERION standard for judging, rule for testing

CRYPTIC puzzling

CUISINE characteristic style of **cooking**

CULMINATION climax, final stage

CULPABLE guilty, responsible for wrong

CULPRIT guilty person

CUMULATIVE resulting from gradual increase

CUPIDITY greed

CURATOR caretaker and overseer of an exhibition, esp. in a museum

CURMUDGEON cranky person

CURSORY hastily done, superficial

CURT abrupt, blunt

CURTAIL to shorten

CUTLERY cutting instruments; tableware

CYGNET young swan

CYNIC person who distrusts the motives of others

D

DALLY to act playfully or waste time

DAUNT to discourage, intimidate

DEARTH lack, scarcity, insufficiency

DEBASE to degrade or lower in quality or stature

DEBAUCH to corrupt, seduce from virtue or duty; indulge

DEBILITATE to weaken, enfeeble

DEBUNK to discredit, disprove

DEBUTANTE young woman making debut in high society

DECADENCE **decline** or decay, deterioration

DECAMP to leave suddenly

DECAPITATE to behead

DECATHLON athletic contest with ten events

DECIDUOUS losing leaves in the fall; short-lived, temporary

DECLIVITY downward slope

DECOROUS proper, tasteful, **socially** correct

DECORUM proper behavior, etiquette

DECRY to belittle, openly condemn

DEFACE to mar the appearance of, vandalize

DEFAMATORY slanderous, injurious to the reputation

DEFAME to disgrace or slander

DEFECT an imperfection or **shortcoming**

DEFENDANT person required to answer a legal action or suit

DEFER to submit or yield

DEFERENCE respect, honor

DEFERENTIAL respectful and polite in a submissive way

DEFICIENT defective, not meeting a normal standard

DEFILE to make unclean or dishonor

DEFINITIVE clear-cut, **explicit** or decisive

DEFLATION decrease, depreciation

DEFORM to **disfigure**, distort

DEFT skillful, dexterous

DEFUNCT no longer **existing, dead**, extinct

DELECTABLE	appetizing, delicious	DEROGATE	to belittle, disparage
DELEGATE (v)	to give powers to another	DESCRY	to discover or reveal
DELETERIOUS	harmful, destructive, detrimental	DESECRATE	to abuse something sacred
DELINEATION	depiction, representation	DESICCATE	to dry completely, dehydrate
DELTA	tidal deposit at the mouth of a river	DESIST	to stop doing something
DELUGE (n)	flood	DESPONDENT	feeling discouraged and dejected
DELUGE (v)	to submerge, overwhelm	DESPOT	tyrannical ruler
DEMAGOGUE	leader or rabble-rouser who usually uses appeals to emotion or prejudice	DESTITUTE	very poor, poverty-stricken
DEMARICATION	borderline; act of defining or marking a boundary or distinction	DESULTORY	at random, rambling, unmethodical
DEMEAN	to degrade, humiliate, humble	DETACHED	separate, unconnected
DEMISE	death	DETER	to discourage; prevent from happening
DEMOGRAPHICS	data relating to study of human population	DETERMINE	having defined limits; conclusive
DEMOTE	to reduce to a lower grade or rank	DETESTATION	extreme hatred
DEMOTION	lowering in rank or grade	DETRACTOR	one who takes something away
DEMUR	to express doubts or objections	DETRIMENTAL	causing harm or injury
DEMYSTIFY	to remove mystery from, clarify	DEVIATE	to stray, wander
DENIGRATE	to slur or blacken someone's reputation	DEVIATION	departure, exception, anomaly
DENOUNCE	to accuse, blame	DEVOID	totally lacking
DENUDE	to make bare, uncover, undress	DEVOUT	deeply religious
DENUNCIATION	public condemnation	DEXTEROUS	skilled physically or mentally
DEPICT	to describe, represent	DIABOLICAL	fiendish; wicked
DEplete	to use up, exhaust	DIALECT	regional style of speaking
DEPLORE	to express or feel disapproval of; regret strongly	DIAPHANOUS	allowing light to show through; delicate
DEPLOY	to spread out strategically over an area	DIATRIBE	bitter verbal attack
DEPOSE	to remove from a high position, as from a throne	DICHOTOMY	division into two parts
DEPRAVITY	sinfulness, moral corruption	DICTUM	authoritative statement; popular saying
DEPRECATE	to belittle, disparage	DIDACTIC	excessively instructive
DEPRECIATE	to lose value gradually	DIFFER	disagree
DERANGED	to be disturbed or insane	DIFFERENTIATE	to distinguish between two items
DERIDE	to mock, ridicule, make fun of	DIFFIDENCE	shyness, lack of confidence
DERISIVE	expressing ridicule or scorn	DIFFRACT	to cause to separate into parts, esp. light
DERIVATIVE	copied or adapted; not original	DIFFUSE	widely spread out
DERIVE	to originate; take from a certain source	DIGRESS	to turn aside; to stray from the main point
		DILAPIDATED	in disrepair, run-down, neglected
		DILATE	to enlarge, swell, extend

dilatory

- DILATORY slow, tending to delay
- DILETTANTE an amateur
- DILUVIAL relating to a flood
- DIMINUTIVE small
- DIPLOMACY discretion, tact
- DIRGE funeral hymn
- DISABUSE to free from a misconception
- DISAFFECTED discontented and disloyal
- DISARRAY clutter, disorder
- DISBAND to break up
- DISBAR to expel from **legal** profession
- DISBURSE to pay out
- DISCERN to perceive something obscure
- DISCLAIM to deny, disavow
- DISCLOSE to confess, **divulge**
- DISCOMFIT to cause **perplexity** and embarrassment
- DISCOMPOSE to disturb the composure or **serenity**
- DISCONCERTING bewildering, perplexing, slightly disturbing
- DISCONSOLATE unable to be consoled; extremely sad
- DISCORDANT harsh-sounding, badly out of tune
- DISCREDIT to dishonor or disgrace
- DISCREDITED disbelieved, discounted; disgraced, dishonored
- DISCREPANCY difference between
- DISCRETE distinct, separate
- DISCRETIONARY subject to one's own judgment
- DISCURSIVE wandering from topic to topic
- DISDAIN to regard with scorn and contempt
- DISDAINFUL contemptuous, scornful
- DISENGAGED disconnected, disassociated
- DISGORGE to vomit, discharge violently
- DISHEVELED untidy, disarranged, unkempt
- DISINCLINED averse, unwilling, lacking desire
- DISINGENUOUS sly and crafty
- DISINTEREST lack of interest or a disadvantage
- DISJOINTED lacking coherence or order, being separated
- DISPARAGE to belittle, speak disrespectfully about
- DISPARATE dissimilar, different in **kind**
- DISPARITY contrast, dissimilarity
- DISPASSIONATE free from emotion; impartial, unbiased
- DISPEL to drive out or scatter
- DISPENSE to distribute, administer
- DISPENSE **WITH** to **suspend** the operation of, do without
- DISPERSE to break up, **scatter**
- DISPIRIT to dishearten, make dejected
- DISPUTE to debate, to quarrel
- DISQUIETED **feeling anxiety**, being disturbed, lacking peace
- DISREGARD to neglect, pay no attention to
- DISREPUTE disgrace, dishonor
- DISSEMBLE to pretend, disguise one's motives
- DISSEMINATE to spread far and wide
- DISSENSION difference of opinion
- DISSIMULATE to disguise or put on a false appearance
- DISSIPATE to scatter; to pursue pleasure to excess
- DISSOCIATE to separate; remove from an association
- DISSONANT harsh and unpleasant sounding
- DISSUADE to persuade someone to alter original intentions
- DISTAFF the female branch of a family
- DISTEND to **swell**, inflate, bloat.
- DISTRAUGHT very worried and distressed
- DISTRUST (n) disbelief and suspicion
- DITHER (v) to move or act confusedly or **without** clear purpose
- DIURNAL daily
- DIVERGE to move in different directions, to deviate from a source
- DIVERSE differing
- DIVERT to turn from one course to another
- DNEST to get rid of
- DMNE (v) to **foretell** or know by inspiration

DMSIVE creating **disunity** or **conflict**
 DOCILE tame, willing to be taught
 DOCTRINAIRE rigidly devoted to theories
 DOGGED (adj) persistent, stubborn
 DOGMATIC rigidly fixed in opinion, opinionated
 DOLDRUMS a period of despondency
 DOLEFUL sad, mournful
 DOLOR sadness
 DOLT idiot, dimwit, foolish person
 DOMINEER to rule over something in a **tyrannical** way
 DONOR benefactor, contributor
 DORMANT at rest, inactive, in suspended animation
 DOTAGE senile condition, mental decline
 DOTARD senile old person
 DOTING excessively fond, loving to excess
 DOUGHTY courageous
 DOUR sullen and gloomy; stern and **severe**
 DOWRY money or property given by a bride to her husband
 DRAFT (v) to plan, outline; to recruit, conscript
 DRAW to attract, to pull toward
 DRIVEL stupid talk; slobber
 DROLL amusing in a **wry**, subtle way
 DROSS waste produced during metal smelting; garbage
 DUDGEON angry indignation
 DULCET pleasant sounding, soothing to the ear
 DUMB unable to speak
 DUPE (n) fool, pawn
 DUPE (v) to deceive, trick
 DUPLICITY deception, dishonesty, double-dealing
 DURABILITY strength, sturdiness
 DURATION period of time that something lasts
 DURESS threat of force or intimidation; imprisonment
 DWINDLE to shrink or decrease
 DYSPEPTIC suffering from indigestion; **gloomy and irritable**

E

EARTHY crude
 EBB (v) to fade away, recede
 EBULLIENT exhilarated, full of enthusiasm and high spirits
 ECLECTIC selecting from various sources
 ECSTATIC joyful
 EDDY air or wind current
 EDICT law, command, official public order
 EDIFICE building
 EDIFY to instruct morally and spiritually
 EDITORIALIZE to **express** an opinion on an issue
 EFFACE to erase or make illegible
 EFFERVESCENT bubbly, lively
 EFFICACIOUS effective, efficient
 EFFIGY stuffed **doll**; likeness of a person
 EFFLUVIA outpouring of gases or vapors
 EFFRONTERY impudent boldness; audacity
 EFFULGENT brilliantly shining
 EFFUSIVE expressing emotion without restraint
 EGOCENTRIC acting as if things are centered around oneself
 EGREGIOUS conspicuously bad
 EGRESS exit
 ELATION **exhilaration**, joy
 ELEGY mournful poem, usually about the dead
 ELEVATED high in status, exalted
 ELICIT to draw out, provoke
 ELOQUENCE fluent and effective speech
 ELUCIDATE to explain, clarify
 EMACIATED skinny, scrawny, gaunt, esp. from hunger
 EMANCIPATE to set free, liberate
 EMBELLISH to ornament, make attractive with decoration or details; add details to a statement
 EMBEZZLE to steal money in violation of a trust
 EMBROIL to involve in; cause to fall into disorder

emend

- EMEND to correct a text
- EMINENT celebrated, distinguished; outstanding, towering
- EMOLLIENT having soothing qualities, esp. for skin
- EMOTIVE appealing to or expressing emotion
- EMPATHY identification with another's feelings
- EMULATE to copy, imitate
- ENCHANT to charm or attract
- ENCIPHER to translate a message into code
- ENCOMIUM warm praise
- ENCORE additional performance, often demanded by audience
- ENCUMBER to hinder, burden, restrict motion
- ENDEMIC belonging to a particular area, inherent
- ENDOGAMOUS marrying within a specific group due to law or custom
- ENDURANCE ability to withstand hardships
- ENERVATE to weaken, sap strength from
- ENGENDER to produce, cause, bring about
- ENIGMATIC puzzling, inexplicable
- ENJOIN to urge, order, command; forbid or prohibit, as by judicial order
- ENMITY hostility, antagonism, ill-will
- ENNUI boredom, lack of interest and energy
- ENORMITY state of being gigantic or terrible
- ENSCONCE to settle comfortably into a place
- ENSHROUD to cover, enclose with a dark cover
- ENTAIL to involve as a necessary result, necessitate
- ENTHRALL to captivate, enchant, enslave
- ENTICE to lure or tempt
- ENTITY something with its own existence or form
- ENTOMOLOGIST scientist who studies insects
- ENTREAT to plead, beg
- ENTRENCHED established solidly
- ENUMERATE to count, list, itemize
- ENUNCIATE to pronounce clearly
- EON indefinitely long period of time
- EPHEMERAL momentary, transient, fleeting
- EPICURE person with refined taste in food and wine
- EPIGRAM short, witty saying or poem
- EPIGRAPH quotation at the beginning of a literary work
- EPILOGUE concluding section of a literary work
- EPITHET an abusive word or phrase
- EPITOME representative of an entire group; summary
- EPOCHAL very significant or **influential**; defining an epoch or time period
- EQUANIMITY calmness, composure
- EQUESTRIAN (n) one who rides on horseback
- EQUINE relating to horses
- EQUITABLE fair
- EQUITY justice, fairness
- EQUIVOCAL ambiguous, open to two interpretations
- EQUIVOCATE to ~~use~~ use vague or ambiguous language intentionally
- ERADICATE to erase or wipe out
- ERODE to diminish or **destroy** over a period of time
- ERRANT straying, mistaken, **roving**
- ERRATIC wandering and unpredictable
- ERRONEOUS in error; mistaken
- ERSATZ fake
- ERUDITE learned, scholarly
- ESCALATE to increase the intensity or scope of
- ESCHEW to abstain **from**, avoid
- ESOTERIC understood only by a learned few
- ESPOUSE to support or advocate; to marry
- ESTIMABLE admirable
- ESTRANGE to alienate, keep at a distance
- ESURIENT hungry, greedy
- ETHEREAL not earthly, spiritual, delicate
- ETHICAL moral, abiding by an accepted code of conduct
- ETHOS beliefs or character of a group
- ETYMOLOGY origin and history of a word; study of words

- EULOGY high praise, often in a public speech
- EUPHEMISM use of an inoffensive word or phrase in place of a more distasteful one
- EUPHONY pleasant, harmonious sound
- EUPHORIA feeling of well-being or happiness
- EURYTHMICS art of harmonious bodily movement
- EUTHANASIA mercy killing; intentional, easy and painless death
- EVADE to avoid, dodge
- EVANESCENT momentary, transitory, short-lived
- EVICT to put out or force out
- EVIDENT clear, able to be understood
- EVINCE to show clearly, display, signify
- EVOKE to inspire memories; to produce a reaction
- EXACERBATE to aggravate, intensify the bad qualities of
- EXALT to glorify, to elevate
- EXASPERATION irritation
- EXCERPT (n) selection from a book or play
- EXCOMMUNICATE to bar from membership in the church
- EXCORIATE to denounce
- EXCRUCIATING agonizing, intensely painful
- EXCULPATE to clear of blame or fault
- EXECRABLE utterly detestable
- EXEMPLARY serving as an example, commendable
- EXHILARATION state of being energetic or filled with happiness
- EXHORT to urge or incite by strong appeals
- EXHUXIE to remove from a grave; uncover a secret
- EXIGENT urgent; excessively demanding
- EXONERATE to clear of blame
- EXORBITANT extravagant, greater than reasonable
- EXORCISE to expel evil spirits
- EXOTIC foreign; romantic, excitingly strange
- EXPANSIVE sweeping, comprehensive; tending to expand
- EXPATiate to wander; to discuss or describe at length
- EXPATRIATE (n) one who lives outside one's native land
- EXPATRIATE (v) to drive someone from his/her native land
- EXPEDIENT (adj) convenient, efficient, practical
- EXPIATE to atone for, make amends for
- EXPIRE to come to an end; die; breathe out
- EXPLICABLE capable of being explained
- EXPLICIT clearly defined, specific; forthright in expression
- EXPLODE to debunk, disprove; blow up, burst
- EXPONENT one who champions or advocates
- EXPOUND to elaborate; to expand or increase
- EXPUNGE to erase, eliminate completely
- EXPURGATE to censor
- EXTEMPORANEOUS unrehearsed, on the spur of the moment
- EXTENUATE to lessen the seriousness, strength, or effect of
- EXTINCTION end of a living thing or species
- EXTOL to praise
- EXTORT to obtain something by threats
- EXTRANEOUS irrelevant, unrelated, unnecessary
- EXTRAPOLATE to estimate
- EXTREMITY outermost or farthest point
- EXTRICATE to free from, disentangle, free
- EXTRINSIC not inherent or essential, coming from without
- EXTROVERT an outgoing person
- EXUBERANT lively, happy, and full of good spirits
- EXUDE to give off, ooze
- EXULT to rejoice
- F**
- FABRICATE to make or devise; construct
- FABRICATED constructed, invented; faked, falsified
- FACADE face, front; mask, superficial appearance
- FACETIOUS witty in an inappropriate way
- FACILE very easy
- FACILITATE to aid, assist
- FACILITY aptitude, ease in doing something

facsimile

- FACSIMILE an exact copy
- FALLACIOUS wrong, unsound, illogical
- FALLIBLE capable of failing
- FALLOW uncultivated, unused
- FAMINE extreme scarcity of food
- FANATICISM extreme devotion to a cause
- FARCICAL absurd, ludicrous
- FASTIDIOUS careful with details
- FATHOM (v) to measure the depth of, gauge; to understand
- FATUOUS stupid; foolishly self-satisfied
- FAULT break in a rock formation; mistake or error
- FAWN (v) to flatter excessively; seek the favor of
- FAZE to bother, upset, or disconcert
- FEALTY intense loyalty
- FEASIBLE possible, capable of being done
- FECKLESS ineffective, careless, irresponsible
- FECUND fertile, fruitful, productive
- FEDERATION union of organizations; union of several states, each of which retains local power
- FEIGN to pretend, give a false impression; to invent falsely
- FEISTY excitable, easily drawn into quarrels
- FELICITOUS suitable, appropriate; well-spoken
- FELICITY feeling great happiness
- FELL (v) to chop, cut down
- FELL cruel
- FERVID passionate, intense zealous
- FETID foul-smelling, putrid
- FETTER to bind, chain, confine
- FEUD a prolonged quarrel between families
- FEY otherworldly; doomed
- FIASCO disaster, utter failure
- FICKLE unreliable
- FICTIVE fictional, imaginary
- FIDELITY loyalty
- FIENDISH excessively bad or cruel
- FILCH to steal
- FILIAL appropriate for a child
- FILIBUSTER use of obstructive tactics in a legislative assembly to prevent adoption of a measure
- FINESSE refinement or skill at a task or in a situation
- FINICKY fuss); difficult to please
- FISSION process of splitting into two parts
- FISSURE a crack or break
- FITFUL intermittent, irregular
- FIXITY being fixed or stable
- FLACCID limp, flabby, weak
- FLAG to lose energy and strength
- FLAGRANT outrageous, shameless
- FLAIR a natural inclination toward something
- FLAMBOYANT flashy, garish; exciting, dazzling
- FLAMMABLE combustible, being easily burned
- FLAUNT to show off
- FLEDGLING young bird just learning to fly; beginner, novice
- FLIPPANT disrespectful, casual
- FLORA plants
- FLORID gaudy, extremely ornate; ruddy, flushed
- FLOUNDER to falter, waver; to muddle, struggle
- FLOUT to treat contemptuously, scorn
- FLUCTUATE to alternate, waver
- FLURRIED to become agitated and confused
- FLUSTER to agitate or confuse
- FODDER raw material; feed for animals
- FOIBLE minor weakness or character flaw
- FOIL (v) to defeat, frustrate
- FOIST to pass off as genuine
- FOLIATE to grow, sprout leaves
- FOMENT to arouse or incite
- FORAGE to wander in search of food
- FORBEARANCE patience, restraint, leniency

FORD (v) to cross a body of water at a **shallow** place
 FOREBODING dark sense of **evil** to come
 FORECLOSE to rule out; to seize debtor's property for **lack** of payments
 FORENSIC relating to legal proceedings; relating to debates
 FORENSICS study of argumentation and debate
 FORESTALL to prevent, delay; anticipate
 FORETHOUGHT anticipation, foresight
 FORFEND to prevent
 FORGO to go without, refrain from
 FORLORN dreary, deserted; unhappy; hopeless, despairing; pitiful in appearance
 FORMULATE to conceive, devise; to draft, plan; to express, state
 FORSAKE to abandon, withdraw from
 FORSWEAR to repudiate, renounce, disclaim, reject
 FORTE (n) strong point, something a person does **well**
 FORTNIGHT two weeks
 FORTUITOUS happening by luck, fortunate
 FOSTER (v) to nourish, cultivate, promote
 FOUNDATION groundwork, support; institution established by donation to aid a certain cause
 FOUNDER (v) to fall helplessly; sink
 FRACAS noisy dispute
 FRACTIOUS unruly, rebellious
 FRAGMENTATION division, separation into parts, disorganization
 FRANK honest and straightforward
 FRATRICIDE the killing of a brother or sister
 FRAUD deception, hoax
 FRAUDULENT deceitful, dishonest, unethical
 FRAUGHT full of, accompanied by
 FRENETIC wildly frantic, frenzied, hectic
 FRENZIED feverishly fast, hectic, and confused
 FRIVOLOUS petty, trivial; **flippant, silly**
 FROND leaf

FRUGAL thrifty; cheap
 FULMINATE to explode with anger
 FULSOME excessive, overdone, **sickeningly** abundant
 FUNERAL mournful, appropriate to a **funeral**
 FUROR rage, fury
 FURTIVE secret, stealthy
 FUSION process of merging things into one

G

GAINSAY to deny
 GALL (n) bitterness; careless nerve
 GALL (v) to exasperate and irritate
 GALLANT a very fashionable young man
 GAMBOL to dance or skip around playfully
 GAME (adj) courageous
 GARGANTUAN giant, tremendous
 GARNER to gather and store
 GARRULOUS very talkative
 GAUCHE crude, socially awkward
 GAUCHERIE a tactless or awkward act
 GAUNT thin and bony
 GAVEL mallet used for commanding attention
 GENRE type, **class**, category
 GENTEEL stylish, elegant in manner or appearance
 GERIATRIC relating to old age or the process of aging
 GERMINATE to begin to grow (as in a seed or idea)
 GESTATION growth process from conception to birth
 GIBE (v) to make heckling, taunting remarks
 GIRTH distance around something
 GLIB fluent in an insincere manner; offhand, casual
 GLOBAL involving the entire world; relating to a whole
 GLOWER to glare, stare angrily and intensely
 GLUTTONY eating and **drinking** to excess
 GNARL to make knotted, deform
 GNOSTIC having to do with knowledge

goad

GOAD to prod or urge
GOSSAMER something light, delicate, or tenuous
GOUGE scoop out; extort
GRADATION process occurring by regular degrees or stages; variation in color
GRANDILOQUENCE pompous talk, fancy but meaningless language
GRANDIOSE magnificent and imposing; **exaggerated** and pretentious
GRANULAR having a grainy texture
GRASP (v) to perceive and understand; to hold securely
GRATIS free, costing nothing
GRATUITOUS free, voluntary; unnecessary **and unjustified**
GRATUITY something given voluntarily, tip
GREGARIOUS outgoing, sociable
GRIEVOUS causing **grief** or **sorrow**; serious and distressing
GRIMACE facial expression showing pain or disgust
GRIMY dirty, filthy
GROSS (adj) **obscene** blatant, flagrant
GROSS (n) total before deductions
GROVEL to humble oneself in a demeaning way
GRUBBY **dirty**, sloppy
GUILE trickery, deception
GULLIBLE easily deceived
GUSTATORY relating to sense of taste
GYRATE to move in a circular motion

H

HABITAT dwelling place
HACKNEYED worn out by over-use
HAIL to greet with praise
HALLOW to make holy; treat **as** sacred
HAMLET **small** village
HAPLESS unfortunate, having bad **luck**
HARANGUE a pompous speech
HARBINGER precursor, sign of something to come
HARDY robust, vigorous
HARMONY accord, tranquillity, agreement
HARROWING extremely distressing, terrifying
HASTEN to hurry, to speed up
HAUGHTY arrogant and condescending
HEADLONG recklessly
HEADSTRONG reckless; insisting on one's own way
HEATHEN pagan; uncivilized and irreligious
HECTIC hasty, hurried, confused
HECTOR a bully, **braggart**
HEDONISM pursuit of pleasure as a goal
HEGEMONY leadership, domination, usually by a country
HEIGHTEN to raise
HEINOUS shocking, wicked, terrible
HEMICYCLE semicircular form or structure
HEMORRHAGE (n) **heavy** bleeding
HEMORRHAGE (v) to bleed heavily
HERETICAL opposed to an established religious **orthodoxy**
HERMETIC tightly sealed
HETERODOX unorthodox, not widely accepted
HETEROGENEOUS composed of unlike parts, different, diverse
HEW to cut with an **ax**
HIATUS a gap or a break
HIDEBOUND excessively rigid; dry and stiff
HINDER to hamper
HINDSIGHT perception of events after they happen
HINTERLAND wilderness
HOARY very **old**; whitish or gray from age
HOLISTIC emphasizing importance of the whole and interdependence of its parts
HOLOCAUST widespread destruction, **usually** by fire
HOMAGE public honor and respect
HOMOGENEOUS composed of identical parts
HOMONYM word identical in pronunciation but different in meaning

- HONE to sharpen
- HONOR (v) to praise, glorify, pay **tribute** to
- HUMANE merciful, **kindly**
- HUSBAND (v) to farm; manage carefully and thriftily
- HUTCH pen or coop for animals; shack, shanty
- HYDRATE to add water to
- HYGIENIC clean, sanitary
- HYMN religious song, **usually** of praise or thanks
- HYPERBOLE purposeful exaggeration for effect
- HYPERVENTILATE to breathe abnormally fast
- HYPOCHONDRIA unfounded belief that one is often **ill**
- HYPOCRITE person **claiming** beliefs or virtues he or she doesn't really possess
- HYPOTHERMIA abnormally low body temperature
- HYPOTHESIS assumption subject to proof
- HYPOTHETICAL theoretical, speculative
- I
- ICONOCIAST one who attacks traditional beliefs
- IDEALISM pursuit of noble goals
- IDIOSYNCRASY peculiarity of temperament, eccentricity
- IGNOBLE dishonorable, not noble in character
- IGNOMINIOUS disgraceful and dishonorable
- IGNORAMUS an ignorant person
- ILK type or kind
- ILLICIT **illegal**, improper
- ILLIMITABLE limitless
- ILLUSORY unreal, deceptive
- ILLUSTRIOUS famous, renowned
- IMBUE to infuse; dye, wet, moisten
- IMMACULATE spotless; free from error
- IMMATERIAL extraneous, inconsequential, nonessential; not consisting of matter
- IMMENSE enormous, huge
- IMMERSE to bathe, dip; to engross, preoccupy
- IMMOBILE not moveable; still
- IMMUNE exempt; protected from harm or disease; unresponsive to
- IMMUNOLOGICAL relating to immune system
- IMMURE to imprison
- IMMUTABLE unchangeable, invariable
- IMPAIR to damage, injure
- IMPASSE blocked path, dilemma with no solution
- IMPASSIONED with passion
- IMPASSIVE showing no emotion
- IMPEACH to charge with misdeeds in public office; accuse
- IMPECCABLE flawless, without fault
- IMPECUNIOUS poor, having no money
- IMPEDIMENT barrier, obstacle; speech disorder
- IMPERATIVE essential; mandatory
- IMPERIOUS arrogantly self-assured, domineering, overbearing
- IMPERTINENT rude
- IMPETURBABLE not capable of being disturbed
- IMPERVIOUS impossible to penetrate; incapable of being affected
- IMPETUOUS quick to act without thinking
- IMPIOUS not devout in religion
- IMPLACABLE inflexible, **incapable** of being pleased
- IMPLANT to set securely or deeply; to instill
- IMPLAUSIBLE improbable, inconceivable
- IMPLICATE to involve in a crime, incriminate
- IMPLICIT implied, not directly expressed
- IMPOLITIC **unwise**
- IXIPORTUNE to ask repeatedly, beg
- IMPOSE to inflict, force upon
- IMPOSING dignified, grand
- IMPOTENT **powerless**, ineffective, lacking strength
- IMPOUND to seize and confine
- IMPOVERISH to make poor or bankrupt
- IMPRECATION curse
- IMPREGNABLE totally safe from attack, able to resist defeat

impressionable

- IMPRESSIONABLE easily **influenced** or affected
- IMPROMPTU spontaneous, without rehearsal
- IMPROVIDENT without planning or foresight, **negligent**
- IMPRUDENT **unwise**
- IMPUDENT arrogant and rude
- IMPUGN to call into question, **attack verbally**
- IMPULSE sudden tendency, **inclination**
- IMPULSIVE spontaneous, unpredictable
- INADVERTENTLY **unintentionally**
- INANE foolish, silly, lacking significance
- INAUGURATE to begin or start officially; to induct into office
- INCANDESCENT shining brightly
- INCARCERATE to put in jail; to **confine**
- INCARCERATION imprisonment
- INCARNADINE blood-red in color
- INCARNATE having bodily form
- INCENDIARY combustible, flammable, burning easily
- INCENSE (**v**) to infuriate, enrage
- INCEPTION beginning
- INCESSANT continuous, never ceasing
- INCHOATE just begun; disorganized
- INCIPIENT beginning to exist or appear; in an initial stage
- INCISIVE perceptive, penetrating
- INCLINATION tendency towards
- INCLUSIVE comprehensive, all-encompassing
- INCOGNITO in disguise, concealing one's identity
- INCOMMUNICADO lacking a means to communicate
- INCONCEIVABLE impossible, unthinkable
- INCONGRUOUS incompatible, not harmonious
- INCONSEQUENTIAL unimportant, trivial
- INCONTROVERTIBLE unquestionable, beyond dispute
- INCORRIGIBLE incapable of being corrected
- INCREDULOUS skeptical, doubtful
- INCULCATE to teach, impress in the mind
- INCULPATE to blame, charge with a crime
- INCUMBENT (adj) holding a specified office, often political; required, obligatory
- INCURSION sudden invasion
- INDEFATIGABLE never tired
- INDEFENSIBLE inexcusable, unforgivable
- INDELIBLE permanent, not erasable
- INDENTURE bound to another by contract
- INDICATIVE showing or pointing out, suggestive of
- INDICT to accuse formally, charge with a crime
- INDIGENOUS native, occurring naturally in an area
- INDIGENT very poor
- INDIGNANT angry, incensed, offended
- INDISPUTABLE not disputed, unquestioned
- INDOLENT habitually **lazy**, idle
- INDOMITABLE fearless, unconquerable
- INDUBITABLE unquestionable
- INDUCE to persuade; bring about
- INDUCT to place **ceremoniously in office**
- INDULGE to give in to a craving or desire
- INDUSTRY business or trade; diligence, energy
- INEBRIATED drunk, intoxicated
- INEPT clumsy, awkward
- INERT unable to move, tending to inactivity
- INESTIMABLE too great to be estimated
- INEVITABLE certain, **unavoidable**
- INEXORABLE inflexible, **unyielding**
- INEXTRICABLE incapable of being disentangled
- INFALLIBLE incapable of making a mistake
- INFAMY reputation for bad deeds
- INFANTILE childish, immature
- INFATUATED strongly or foolishly attached to, inspired with foolish passion, overly in love
- INFER to **conclude**, deduce
- INFERNAL hellish, diabolical

INFILTRATE	to pass secretly into enemy territory	INSENTIENT	unfeeling, unconscious
INFINITESIMAL	extremely tiny	INSIDIOUS	sly, treacherous, devious
INFIRMITY	disease, ailment	INSINUATE	to suggest, say indirectly , imply
INFINGE	to encroach, trespass; to transgress, violate	INSIPID	bland, Lacking flavor; lacking excitement
INFURIATE	to anger, provoke, outrage	INSOLENT	insulting and arrogant
INFURIATING	provoking anger or outrage	INSOLUBLE	not able to be solved or explained
INGENIOUS	original, clever, inventive	INSOLVENT	bankrupt, unable to pay one's debts
INGENUOUS	straightforward , open; naive and unsophisticated	INSTIGATE	to incite, urge, agitate
INGLORIOUS	lacking fame or honor, shameful	INSUBSTANTIAL	modest, insignificant
INGRAINED	an innate quality, deep-seated	INSUFFICIENCY	lacking in something
INGRATE	ungrateful person	INSULAR	isolated, detached
INGRATIATE	to bring oneself purposely into another's good graces	INSUPERABLE	insurmountable, unconquerable
INGRESS	entrance	INSURGENT (adj)	rebellious, insubordinate
INHIBIT	to hold back, prevent, restrain	INSURRECTION	rebellion
INIMICAL	hostile, unfriendly	INTEGRAL	central, indispensable
INIQUITY	sin, evil act	INTEGRATED	unified
INITIATE	to begin, introduce; to enlist, induct	INTEGRITY	decency, honest; wholeness
INJECT	to force into; to introduce into conversation	INTEMPERATE	not moderate
INJUNCTION	command, order	ISTER	to bury
INJURIOUS	causing injury	INTERDICT	to forbid, prohibit
INKLING	hint; vague idea	INTERJECT	to interpose, insert
INNATE	natural, inborn	INTERLOCUTOR	someone taking part in a dialogue
INNATENESS	state of being natural or inborn	INTERLOPER	trespasser; meddler in others' affairs
INNOCUOUS	harmless; inoffensive	INTERMINABLE	endless
INNOVATE	to invent, modernize, revolutionize	INTERMITTENT	starting and stopping
INNUENDO	indirect and subtle criticism, insinuation	INTERNECINE	deadly to both sides
INNUMERABLE	too many to be counted	INTERPOLATE	to insert; change by adding new words or material
INOFFENSIVE	harmless, innocent	INTERPOSE	to insert; to intervene
INOPERABLE	not operable; incurable by surgery	INTERREGNUM	interval between reigns
INQUEST	investigation; court or legal proceeding	INTERROGATE	to question formally
INQUISITIVE	curious	INTERSECT	to divide by passing through or across
INSATIABLE	never satisfied	INTERSPERSE	to distribute among, mix with
INSCRUTABLE	impossible to understand fully	INTERSTICE	a space between things
		INTIMATION	clue, suggestion

intractable

INTRACTABLE not easily managed
INTRAMURAL within an institution like a school
INTRANSIGENT uncompromising, refusing to be reconciled
INTREPID fearless
INTRIGUED interested, curious
INTRINSIC inherent, internal
INTROSPECTIVE contemplating one's own thoughts and feelings
INTROVERT someone given to self-analysis
INTRUSION trespass, invasion of another's privacy
INTUITIVE instinctive, untaught
INUNDATE to cover with water; overwhelm
INURE to harden; accustom; become used to
INVALIDATE to negate or nullify
INVARIABLE constant, not changing
INVECTIVE verbal abuse
INVEIGH protest strongly
INVESTITURE ceremony conferring authority
INVETERATE confirmed, long-standing, deeply rooted
INVIDIOUS likely to provoke ill will, offensive
INVINCIBLE invulnerable, unbeatable
INVIOLENT safe from violation or assault
INVOKE to call upon, request help
IOTA very tiny amount
IRASCIBLE easily angered
IRIDESCENT showing many colors
IRRESOLVABLE unable to be resolved; not analyzable
IRREVERENT disrespectful
IRREVOCABLE conclusive, irreversible
ITINERANT wandering from place to place, unsettled
ITINERARY route of a traveler's journey

J

JADED tired by excess or overuse; slightly cynical
JANGLING clashing, jarring; harshly unpleasant (in sound)
JARGON nonsensical talk; specialized language
JAUNDICE yellowish discoloration of skin
JAUNDICED affected by jaundice; prejudiced or embittered
JETTISON to cast off, throw cargo overboard
JIBE to shift suddenly from one side to the other
JINGOISM belligerent support of one's country
JOCULAR jovial, playful, humorous
JUBILEE special anniversary
JUDICIOUS sensible, showing good judgment
JUGGERNAUT huge force destroying everything in its path
JUNCTURE point where two things are joined
JURISPRUDENCE philosophy of law
JUVENILE young or childish acting
JUXTAPOSITION side-by-side placement

K

KEEN having a sharp edge; intellectually sharp, perceptive
KERNEL innermost, essential part: seed grain, often in a shell
KEYNOTE note or tone on which a musical key is founded; main idea of a speech, program, etcetera
KINDLE to set fire to or ignite; excite or inspire
KINETIC relating to motion; characterized by movement
KISMET fate
KNELL sound of a funeral bell; omen of death or failure
KUDOS fame, glory, honor

L

LABYRINTH maze
LACERATION cut or wound
LACHRYMOSE tearful
LACKADAISICAL idle, lazy; apathetic, indifferent
LACKLUSTER dull

LACONIC	using few words	LICENSE	freedom to act
LAGGARD	dawdler, loafer, lazy person	LICENTIOUS	immoral ; unrestrained by society
LAMBASTE	disapprove angrily	LIEN	right to possess and sell the property of a debtor
LAMENT (v)	to deplore, grieve	LIMPID	clear and simple; serene; transparent
LAMPOON (v)	to attack with satire, mock harshly	LINEAGE	ancestry
LANGUID	lacking energy, indifferent, slow	LINGUISTICS	study of language
LANGUOR	listlessness	LINIXIENT	medicinal liquid used externally to ease pain
LAP (v)	to drink using the tongue; to wash against	LIONIZE	to treat as a celebrity
LAPIDARY	relating to precious stones	LISSOME	easily flexed, limber, agile
LARCENY	theft of property	LISTLESS	lacking energy and enthusiasm
LARDER	place where food is stored	LITERAL	word for word; upholding the exact meaning of a word
LARGESS	generosity; gift	LITERATE	able to read and write; well-read and educated
LARYNX	organ containing vocal cords	LITHE	moving and bending with ease ; graceful
LASCIVIOUS	lewd, lustful	LITIGATION	lawsuit
LASSITUDE	lethargy, sluggishness	LIVID	discolored from a bruise; reddened with anger
LATENT	present but hidden; potential	LOATHE	to abhor, despise, hate
LATITUDE	freedom of action or choice	LOCOMOTION	movement from place to place
LAUDABLE	deserving of praise	LODGED	fixed in one position
LAVISH	to give plentiful amounts of	LOFTY	noble, elevated in position
LAXITY	carelessness	LOGO	corporate symbol
LEERY	suspicious	LOITER	to stand around idly
LEGERDEMAIN	trickery	LOQUACIOUS	talkative
LEGIBLE	readable	LOW (v)	to make a sound like a cow, moo
LEGISLATE	to decree, mandate, make laws	LUCID	clear and easily understood
LEGITIMATE	adhering to the law, rightful	LUDICROUS	laughable, ridiculous
LENIENT	easygoing, permissive	LUGUBRIOUS	sorrowful, mournful
LETHARGY	indifferent inactivity	LULL	to soothe
LEVITATE	to rise in the air or cause to rise	LUMBER (v)	to move slowly and awkwardly
LEVITY	humor, frivolity, gaiety	LUMINARY	bright object; celebrity; source of inspiration
LEXICON	dictionary, list of words	LUMINOUS	bright, brilliant, glowing
LIBERAL (adj)	tolerant, broad-minded; generous, lavish	LUNAR	relating to the moon
LIBERATION	freedom, emancipation	LURID	harshly shocking, sensational; glowing
LIBERTARIAN	one who believes in unrestricted freedom	LURK	to prowl, sneak
LIBERTINE	one without moral restraint		
LIBIDINOUS	lustful		

luscious

LUSCIOUS very good-tasting

LUXURIANCE elegance, lavishness

LYRICAL suitable for poetry and song; expressing feeling

M

MACABRE gruesome, producing horror

MACHINATION plot or scheme

MACROBIOTICS art of prolonging life by **special** diet of organic, **nonmeat** substances

MACROCOSM system regarded as an entity with subsystems

MAELSTROM whirlpool; turmoil; agitated state of mind

MAGNANIMOUS generous, noble in spirit

MAGNATE powerful or influential person

MAGNITUDE extent, greatness of size

MAINSTAY chief support

MALADROIT clumsy, tactless

MALADY illness

MALAPROPISM humorous misuse of a **word**

MALCONTENT discontented person, one who holds a grudge

MALEDICTION curse

MALEFACTOR evildoer; **culprit**

MALEVOLENT ill-willed; causing evil or harm to others

MALFUNCTION (n) **breakdown, failure**

MALFUNCTION (v) to **fail** to work

MALICE animosity, spite, hatred

MALINGER to evade **responsibility** by **pretending** to be ill

MALLEABLE capable of being shaped

MALNUTRITION undernourishment

MALODOROUS foul-smelling

MANDATORY necessary, required

MANIFEST (adj) **obvious**

MANIFOLD diverse, varied, comprised of many parts

MANNERED artificial or stilted in character

MANUAL (adj) hand-operated; physical

MANUMISSION release from slavery

MAR to damage, deface; spoil

MARGINAL barely sufficient

MARITIME relating to the sea or sailing

MARTIAL warlike, pertaining to the military

MARTINET strict disciplinarian, one **who rigidly follows** rules

MARTYR person dying for **his/her** beliefs

MASOCHIST one who enjoys pain or humiliation

MASQUERADE disguise; action that conceals the truth

MATERIALISM preoccupation with material things

MATRICULATE to enroll as a member of a college or university

MATRILINEAL tracing ancestry through mother's line rather than father's

MAUDLIN overly sentimental

MAVERICK a person who resists adherence to a group

MAWKISH sickeningly sentimental

MEAGER scanty, sparse

MEANDER to wander aimlessly without direction

MEANINGFUL significant

MEDDLER person **interfering** in others' **affairs**

MEDIEVAL relating to the Middle Ages

MEGALITH huge stone used in prehistoric structures

MEGALOMANIA mental state **with** delusions of wealth and power

MELANCHOLY sadness, depression

MELODIOUS having a pleasing melody

MELODY pleasing musical sounds; tune

MENAGERIE various animals kept together for exhibition

MENDACIOUS dishonest

MENDACITY a lie, falsehood

MENDICANT beggar

MENTOR experienced teacher and **wise** adviser

MERCENARY (adj) motivated only by greed

- MERCENARY (n) soldier for hire in foreign countries
- MERCURIAL quick, shrewd, and unpredictable
- MERETRICIOUS gaudy, falsely attractive
- MERIDIAN **circle** passing through the two poles of the earth
- MERITORIOUS deserving reward or praise
- METAMORPHOSIS change, **transformation**
- METAPHOR figure of speech comparing two different things
- METICULOUS extremely **careful**, fastidious, painstaking
- METRONOME time-keeping device used in music
- METTLE** courageousness; endurance
- MICROBE microorganism
- MICROCOSM tiny system used as analogy for larger system
- MIGRATORY wandering from place to place with the seasons
- MILITATE to operate against, work against
- MILLENNIUM one thousand years
- MINATORY menacing, threatening
- MINIMAL smallest in amount, least possible
- MINUSCULE very **small**
- MIRTH frivolity, gaiety, laughter
- MISANTHROPE person who hates human beings
- MISAPPREHEND to misunderstand, fail to know
- MISCONSTRUE to misunderstand, fail to discover
- MISCREANT one who behaves criminally
- MISERLINESS extreme stinginess
- MISGIVING apprehension, doubt, sense of foreboding
- MISHAP accident; misfortune
- MISNOMER an incorrect name or designation
- MISSIVE note or letter
- MITIGATE to soften, or make milder
- MNEMONIC relating to memory; designed to assist memory
- MOBILITY ease of movement
- MOCK (v) to deride, ridicule
- MODERATE (adj) reasonable, not extreme
- MODERATE (v) to make less excessive, restrain; regulate
- MODICUM a small amount
- MOLLIFY to **calm** or make less severe
- MOLLUSK sea animal with a soft body
- MOLT (v) to shed hair, skin, or an outer layer periodically
- MOMENTOUS important
- MONASTIC extremely plain or seduced, as in a monastery
- MONOCHROMATIC having one color
- MONOGAMY custom **of marriage** to one person at a time
- MONOLITH large block of stone
- MONOLOGUE dramatic speech performed by one actor
- MONOTONY lack of variation; wearisome sameness
- MONTAGE composite picture
- MOOT **debatable**; previously decided
- MORBID gruesome; relating to disease; abnormally gloomy
- MORDACIOUS caustic, biting
- MORDANT sarcastic
- MORES customs or manners
- MORIBUND dying, decaying
- MOROSE gloomy, sullen, or surly
- MORSEL small bit of food
- MOTE small particle, speck
- MOTLEY many-colored; composed of diverse parts
- MOTTLE to mark with spots
- MULTIFACETED having many parts, many-sided
- MULTIFARIOUS diverse
- MUNDANE worldly; commonplace
- MUNIFICENT generous
- MUNITIONS ammunition
- MUTABILITY changeability
- MUTE unable to speak
- MYOPIC** near-sighted
- MYRIAD immense number, multitude

N

NADIR lowest point

NAIVE lacking sophistication

NAIVETÉ a lack of worldly wisdom

NARRATIVE account, story

NASCENT starting to develop, coming into existence

NATAL relating to birth

NEBULOUS vague, cloudy

NECROMANCY black magic

NEFARIOUS vicious, evil

NEGLIGENT careless, inattentive

NEGLIGIBLE not worth considering

NEMESIS a formidable, often victorious opponent

NEOLOGISM new word or expression

NEONATE newborn child

NEOPHYTE novice, beginner

NETHER located under or below

KETTLE (v) to irritate

NEUTRALITY disinterest, impartiality

NEUTRALIZE to balance, offset

NICETY elegant or delicate feature; minute distinction

NICHE recess in a wall; best position for something

NIGGARDLY stingy

NIGGLING trifle, petty

NIHILISM belief that existence and all traditional values are meaningless

NOBLE illustrious, moral

NOCTURNAL pertaining to night; active at night

NOISOME stinking, putrid

NOMADIC moving from place to place

NOMENCLATURE terms used in a particular science or discipline

NOMINAL existing in name **only**; negligible

NON SEQUITUR conclusion not **following** from apparent evidence

NONCHALANT unconcerned, indifferent

NONDESCRIPT lacking interesting or distinctive qualities; dull

NONENTITY an insignificant person

NOTORIETY fame; unfavorable fame

NOVICE apprentice, beginner

NOVITIATE period of being a beginner or novice

NOXIOUS harmful, unwholesome

NUANCE shade of meaning

NULLIFY to make legally invalid; to counteract the effect of

NUMISMATICS coin collecting

NUPTIAL relating to marriage

NUTRITIVE relating to nutrition or health

O

OBDURATE stubborn

OBEISANCE a show of respect or submission

OBFUSCATE to confuse, obscure

OBJURGATE scold

OBLIGING accommodating, agreeable

OBLIQUE indirect, evasive; misleading, devious

OBLITERATE demolish completely, wipe out

OBLIVIOUS unaware, inattentive

OBLOQUY abusive language; ill repute

OBSCURE (adj) dim, unclear; not well known

OBSCURITY place or thing that's hard to perceive

OBSEQUIOUS overly submissive, brownnosing

OBSEQUY funeral ceremony

OBSESSIVE preoccupying, all-consuming

OBSOLETE no longer in use

OBSTINATE stubborn

OBSTREPEROUS troublesome, boisterous, unruly

OBTRUSIVE pushy, too conspicuous

OBTUSE insensitive, stupid, dull

OBVIATE to make unnecessary; to anticipate and prevent

OCCCLUDE to shut, block

ODIOUS hateful, contemptible
 OFFICIOUS too helpful, meddlesome
 OFFSHOOT branch
 OMINOUS menacing, threatening, indicating misfortune
 OMNIPOTENT having unlimited power
 OMNISCIENT **having** infinite knowledge
 OMNIVOROUS eating everything; absorbing everything
 ONEROUS burdensome
 ONTOLOGY theory about the nature of existence
 OPALESCENT iridescent, displaying colors
 OPAQUE impervious to light; **difficult** to understand
 OPERATIVE functioning, working
 OPINE to express an opinion
 OPPORTUNE appropriate, fitting
 OPPORTUNIST one who takes advantage of circumstances
 OPPROBRIOUS disgraceful, contemptuous
 OPTIMUXI the most favorable degree
 OPULENCE wealth
 ORACLE person who foresees the future and gives advice
 ORATION lecture, formal speech
 ORATOR lecturer, speaker
 ORB spherical body; eye
 ORCHESTRATE to arrange music for performance; to coordinate, organize
 ORDAIN to make someone a priest or minister; to order
 ORIFICE an opening
 ORNITHOLOGIST scientist who studies birds
 OROTUND pompous
 OSCILLATE to move back and forth
 OSSIFY to turn to bone; to become rigid
 OSTENSIBLE apparent
 OSTENTATIOUS showy
 OSTRACISM exclusion, temporary banishment
 OUSTER expulsion, ejection
 OVERABUNDANCE excess, surfeit

OVERSTATE to embellish, exaggerate
 OVERT in the open, obvious
 OVERTURE musical introduction; proposal, offer
 OVERWEENING arrogant
 OVERWROUGHT agitated, overdone

P

PACIFIC **calm**, peaceful
 PACIFIST one opposed to war
 PACIFY to restore calm, bring peace
 PAEAN a song of praise or thanksgiving
 PALATIAL like a palace, **magnificent**
 PALAVER idle talk
 PALEONTOLOGY study of past geological eras through fossil remains
 PALETTE board for mixing paints; range of colors
 PALISADE fence made up of stakes
 PALL (n) covering that darkens or obscures; coffin
 PALL (v) to lose strength or interest
 PALLIATE to make less serious, ease
 PALLID lacking color or liveliness
 PALPABLE obvious, real, tangible
 PALPITATION trembling, shaking, irregular beating
 PALTRY pitifully small or worthless
 PANACEA cure-all
 PANACHE flamboyance, **verve**
 PANDEMIC spread over a whole area or country
 PANEGYRIC elaborate praise; formal hymn of praise
 PANOPLY impressive array
 PANORAMA broad view; comprehensive picture
 PARADIGM ideal example, model
 PARADOX contradiction, incongruity; dilemma, **puzzle**
 PARADOXICAL **self-contradictory** but true
 PARAGON model of excellence or perfection
 PARAMOUNT supreme, dominant, primary

paraphrase

PARAPHRASE to reword, usually in simpler terms

PARASITE person or animal that lives at another's expense

PARCH to dry or shrivel

PARE to trim

PARIAH outcast

PARITY equality

PARLEY discussion, usually **between** enemies

PAROCHIAL of limited scope or outlook, provincial

PARODY humorous imitation

PAROLE conditional release of a prisoner

PARRY to ward off or deflect

PARSIMONY stinginess

PARTISAN (adj) biased in **favor** of

PARTISAN (n) strong supporter

PASTICHE piece of literature or music imitating other works

PATENT (adj) obvious, unconcealed

PATENT (n) official document **giving exclusive right to sell** an invention

PATERNITY fatherhood; descent from father's ancestors

PATHOGENIC causing disease

PATHOS pity, compassion

PATRICIAN aristocrat

PATRICIDE murder of one's father

PATRIMONY inheritance or heritage derived from one's father

PATRONIZE to condescend to, disparage; to buy from

PAUCITY scarcity, lack

PAUPER very poor person

PAVILION tent or light **building** used for shelter or exhibitions

PECCADILLO minor sin or offense

PECULATION theft of money or goods

PEDAGOGUE teacher

PEDANT one who pays undue attention to book learning and rules; one who displays learning ostentatiously

PEDESTRIAN (adj) **commonplace**

PEDIATRICIAN doctor specializing in children and their ailments

PEDIMENT triangular gable on a roof or facade

PEER (n) contemporary, equal, match

PEERLESS unequaled

PEJORATIVE having bad connotations; disparaging

PELLUCID transparent; translucent; easily understood

PENANCE voluntary suffering to repent for a wrong

PENCHANT inclination

PENDING (prep) during, while **awaiting**

PENITENT expressing sorrow for sins or offenses, repentant

PENSIVE thoughtful

PENULTIMATE next to last

PENUMBRA partial shadow

PENURY extreme poverty

PERAMBULATE walk about

PERCIPIENT discerning, able to perceive

PERDITION complete and utter loss; damnation

PEREGRINATE to wander from place to place

PEREMPTORY imperative; dictatorial

PERENNIAL present throughout the years; persistent

PERFIDIOUS faithless, disloyal, untrustworthy

PERFUNCTORY done in a routine way; **indifferent**

PERIHELION point in orbit nearest to the sun

PERIPATETIC moving from place to place

PERIPHRASTIC containing too many words

PERJURE to tell a lie under oath

PERMEABLE penetrable

PERNICIOUS very harmful

PERPETUAL endless, **lasting**

PERPETUITY continuing **forever**

PERPLEXING **puzzling**, bewildering

PERSONIFICATION act of attributing human qualities to objects or abstract qualities

PERSPICACIOUS	shrewd, astute, keen-witted	PLACATE	to soothe or pacify
PERT	lively and bold	PLACID	calm
PERTINACIOUS	persistent, stubborn	PLAGIARIST	one who steals words or ideas
PERTINENT	applicable, appropriate	PLAINTIFF	injured person in a lawsuit
PERTURBATION	disturbance	PLAINTIVE	expressing sorrow
PERUSAL	close examination	PLAIT	to braid
PERVASIVE	present throughout	PLANGENT	loud sound; wailing sound
PERVERT (v)	to cause to change in immoral way; to misuse	PLASTIC	flexible; pliable
PESTILENCE	epidemic, plague	PLATITUDE	stale, overused expression
PETTISH	fretful	PLAUDIT	applause
PETULANCE	rudeness, peevishness	PLEBEIAN	crude, vulgar; low-class
PHALANX	massed group of soldiers, people, or things	PLENITUDE	abundance, plenty
PHILANDERER	pursuer of casual love affairs	PLETHORA	excess, overabundance
PHILANTHROPY	love of humanity; generosity to worthy causes	PLIANT	pliable, yielding
PHILISTINE	narrow-minded person, someone lacking appreciation for art or culture	PLUCK	to pull strings on musical instrument
PHILOLOGY	study of words	PLUCKY	courageous, spunky
PHLEGLI	coldness or indifference	PLUMMET	to fall, plunge
PHLEGMATIC	calm in temperament; sluggish	PLURALISTIC	including a variety of groups
PHOBIA	anxiety, horror	PLY (v)	to use diligently; to engage; to join together
PHOENIX	mythical, immortal bird that lives for 500 years, burns itself to death, and rises from its ashes	PNEUMATIC	relating to air; worked by compressed air
PHONETICS	study of speech sounds	POACH	to steal game or fish; cook in boiling liquid
PHONIC	relating to sound	PODIUM	platform or lectern for orchestra conductors or speakers
PICAYUNE	petty, of little value	POIGNANT	emotionally moving
PIDDLING	trivial	POLAR	relating to a geographic pole; exhibiting contrast
PIETY	devoutness	POLARIZE	to tend towards opposite extremes
PILFER	to steal	POLEMIC	controversy, argument; verbal attack
PILLAGE	to loot, especially during a war	POLITIC	shrewd and practical; diplomatic
PILLORY	ridicule and abuse	POLYGLOT	speaker of many languages
PINNACLE	peak, highest point of development	POMPOUS	self-important
PIOUS	dedicated, devout, extremely religious	PONDEROUS	weighty, heavy, large
PIQCE	fleeting feeling of hurt pride	PONTIFICATE	to speak in a pretentious manner
PITHY	profound, substantial; concise, succinct, to the point	PORE (v)	to study closely or meditatively
PITTANCE	meager amount or wage	POROUS	full of holes, permeable to liquids

portent

- PORTENT omen
- PORTLY stout, dignified
- POSIT to put in position; to suggest an idea
- POSTERIOR bottom, rear
- POSTERITY future generations; all of a person's descendants
- POTABLE drinkable
- POTENTATE monarch or ruler with great power
- POVERTY lacking money or possessions
- PRAGMATIC practical; moved by facts rather than abstract ideals
- PRATTLE meaningless, foolish talk
- PRECARIOUS uncertain
- PRECEPT principle; law
- PRECIPICE edge, steep overhang
- PRECIPITATE (adj) sudden and unexpected
- PRECIPITATE (v) to throw down from a height; to cause to happen
- PRECIPITOUS hasty quickly, with too little caution
- PRECIS short summary of facts
- PRECISION state of being precise; exactness
- PRECLUDE to rule out
- PRECOCIOUS unusually advanced at an early age
- PRECURSOR forerunner, predecessor
- PREDATOR one that preys on others, destroyer, plunderer
- PREDESTINE to decide in advance
- PREDICAMENT difficult situation
- PREDICATE (v) to found or base on
- PREDICTIVE relating to prediction, indicative of the future
- PREDILECTION preference, liking
- PREDISPOSITION tendency, inclination
- PREEMINENT celebrated, distinguished
- PREFACE introduction to a book; introductory remarks to a speech
- PREMEDITATE to consider, plan beforehand
- PREMONITION forewarning; presentiment
- PREPONDERANCE majority in number; dominance
- PREPOSSESSING attractive, engaging, appealing
- PREPOSTEROUS absurd, illogical
- PRESAGE to foretell, indicate in advance
- PRESCIENT having foresight
- PRESCRIBE to set down a rule; to recommend a treatment
- PRESENTIMENT premonition, sense of foreboding
- PRESTIDIGITATION sleight of hand
- PRESUMPTUOUS rude, improperly bold
- PRETENTIOUS showy, self-important
- PRETEXT excuse, pretended reason
- PREVALENT widespread
- PREVARICATE to lie, evade the truth
- PRIMEVAL ancient, primitive
- PRIMORDIAL original, existing from the beginning
- PRISTINE untouched, uncorrupted
- PRIVATION lack of usual necessities or comforts
- PROBITY honesty, high-mindedness
- PROCLIVITY tendency, inclination
- PROCRASTINATION putting off something that must be done
- PROCRASTISATOR one who continually and unjustifiably postpones
- PROCURE to obtain
- PRODIGAL wasteful, extravagant, lavish
- PRODIGIOUS vast, enormous, extraordinary
- PROFASE impure; contrary to religion; sacrilegious
- PROFICIENT expert, skilled in a certain subject
- PROFLIGATE corrupt, degenerate
- PROFUNDITY great depth
- PROFUSE lavish, extravagant
- PROGENITOR originator, forefather, ancestor in a direct line
- PROGENY offspring, children
- PROGNOSIS prediction of disease outcome; any prediction
- PROGNOSTICATE to predict

PROGRESSIVE favoring progress or change; moving forward
 PROLIFERATION propagation, reproduction; enlargement, expansion
 PROLIFIC productive, fertile
 PROLIX tedious; wordy
 PROLOGUE introductory section of a literary work or play
 PROMONTORY piece of land or rock higher than its surroundings
 PROMULGATE to make known publicly
 PROPAGATE to breed
 PROPESSITY inclination, tendency
 PROPINQUITY nearness
 PROPITIATE to win over, appease
 PROPITIOUS favorable, advantageous
 PROPRONENT advocate, defender, supporter
 PROPRIETY appropriateness
 PROSAIC relating to prose; dull, commonplace
 PROSCRIBE to condemn; to forbid, outlaw
 PROSE ordinary language used in everyday speech
 PROSECUTOR person who initiates a legal action or suit
 PROSELYTIZE to convert to a particular belief or religion
 PROSTRATE lying face downward, lying flat on the ground
 PROTAGONIST main character in a play or story, hero
 PROTEAN readily assuming different forms or characters
 PROTESTATION declaration
 PROTOCOL ceremony and manners observed by diplomats
 PROTRACT to prolong, draw out, extend
 PROTRUSION something that sticks out
 PROVIDENT prudent, frugal
 PROVIDENTIAL prudent, lucky
 PROVINCIAL rustic, unsophisticated, limited in scope
 PROVOCATION cause, incitement to act or respond
 PROWESS bravery, skill
 PROXIMITY nearness
 PROXY power to act as substitute for another

PRUDE one who is excessively proper or modest
 PRUDENT careful, cautious
 PRURIENT lustful, exhibiting lewd desires
 PRY to intrude into; force open
 PSECDONYM pen name; fictitious or borrowed name
 PSYCHIC (adj) having to do with the mind; perceptive of nonmaterial, spiritual forces
 PCDGY chubby, overweight
 PCERILE childish, immature, silly
 PUGILISM boxing
 PUGNACIOUS quarrelsome, eager and ready to fight
 PULCHRITUDE beauty
 PCLLERIZE to pound, crush, or grind into powder; destroy
 PUMMEL to pound, beat
 PUNCTILIOUS careful in observing rules of behavior or ceremony
 PUNDIT an authority or critic
 PCSGENT strong or sharp in smell or taste
 PUNITIVE having to do with punishment
 PURGATION process of cleansing, purification
 PCRGE (v) to cleanse or free from impurities
 PURITANICAL adhering to a rigid moral code
 PCRPORT to profess, suppose, claim
 PUSILLANIMOUS cowardly
 PUTRID rotten

Q

QUACK (n) faker; one who falsely claims to have medical skill
 QUADRILATERAL four-sided polygon
 QUADRUPED animal having four feet
 QCAFF to drink heartily
 QUAGMIRE marsh; difficult situation
 QUALIFY to provide with needed skills; modify, limit
 QUANDARY dilemma, difficulty
 QUARANTINE isolation period, originally 40 days, to prevent spread of disease

quaternary

QUATERXARY consisting of or relating to four units or members

QUELL to crush or subdue

QUERULOUS inclined to complain, irritable

QUERY (n) question

QUIBBLE to argue about insignificant and irrelevant details

QUICKEN to hasten, arouse, excite

QUIESCENCE inactivity, stillness

QUIESCENT inactive, at rest

QUINTESENCE most **typical** example; concentrated essence

QUIVER (v) to shake slightly, tremble, vibrate

QUIXOTIC overly idealistic, impractical

QUOTIDIAN occurring daily; **commonplace**

R

RACONTEUR witty, skillful storyteller

RADICAL (adj) fundamental; drastic

RAGING violent, wild

RAIL (v) to scold with bitter or abusive language

RAILLERY lighthearted jesting

RALLY (v) to assemble; **recover**, recuperate

RAMBLE (v) to roam, wander; to babble, digress

RAMIFICATION implication, outgrowth, or consequence

RAMPANT unrestrained

RAMSHACKLE **likely** to collapse

RANCID spoiled, rotten

RANCOR bitter hatred

RANT to harangue, rave, forcefully scold

RAPACIOUS greedy; predatory

RAPPORT relationship of trust and respect

RAPPROCHEMENT having a cordial relationship

RAPT deeply absorbed

RAREFY to make thinner, purer, or more refined

RASH (adj) **careless, hasty**, reckless

RATIFY to approve **formally**, confirm

RATIOCINATION methodical, logical reasoning

RATION (n) portion, share

RATION (v) to supply; to restrict consumption of

RATIONAL logical, reasonable

RATIONALE line of reasoning

RAUCOUS harsh-sounding; boisterous

RAVAGE to destroy, devastate

RAVENOUS extremely hungry

RAVINE deep, narrow gorge

RAW vulgar, coarse

RAZE to tear down, demolish

REACTIONARY (adj) marked by extreme conservatism, **esp.** in politics

REBARBATIVE irritating; repellent

REBUFF (n) blunt rejection

REBUKE (v) to reprimand, scold

REBUT to refute by evidence or argument

RECALCITRANT resisting **authority** or control

RECAN'T to retract a statement, opinion, etcetera

RECAPITULATE to review with a **brief** summary

RECEPTIVE open to others' ideas; congenial

RECIDIVISM tendency to repeat **previous** behavior

RECIPROCATE to show or feel in return

RECLUSIVE shut off from the world

RECONDITE relating to obscure learning; **known** to only a few

RECOUNT (v) to describe facts or **events**

RECREANT disloyal; cowardly

RECRUIT (v) to draft, enlist; to seek to enroll

RECTIFY to correct

RECTITUDE moral uprightness

RECURRENCE repetition

REDRESS (n) relief from wrong or injury

REDUNDANCY unnecessary repetition

REFECTORY room where meals are served

REFLECTION	image, likeness; opinion, thought, impression	RENT	(adj) torn apart
REFORM (v)	to change, correct	REPAST	meal or mealtime
REFRACT	to deflect sound or light	REPEAL	to revoke or formally withdraw (often a law)
REFRACTORY	obstinately resistant	REPEL	to rebuff, repulse; disgust, offend
REFUGES	escape, shelter	REPENT	to regret a past action
REFURBISH	to renovate	REPENTANT	apologetic, guilty , remorseful
REFUTE	to contradict, discredit	REPLETE	abundantly supplied
REGAL	magnificent, splendid, fit for royalty	REPLICATE	to duplicate, repeat
REGARD	high esteem	REPOSE	relaxation, leisure
REGIMES	government rule ; systematic plan	REPREHEND	to criticize
REGRESS	to move backward; revert to an earlier form or state	REPREHENSIBLE	blameworthy, disreputable
REHABILITATE	to restore to good health or condition; reestablish a person's good reputation	REPRESS	to restrain or hold in
REITERATE	to say again, repeat	REPRESSION	act of restraining or holding in
REJOINDER	response	REPRISE	repetition, esp. of a piece of music
REJUVENATE	to make young again; renew	REPROACH (v)	to find fault with; blame
RELEGATE	to assign to a class, especially to an inferior one	REPROBATE	morally unprincipled person
RELENT	to become gentler in attitude	REPROVE	to criticize or correct
RELINQUISH	to renounce or surrender something	REPUDIATE	to reject as having no authority
RELISH (v)	to enjoy greatly	REPULSE	to repel, fend off , sicken, disgust
REMEDIAL	capable of being corrected	REQUIEM	hymns or religious service for the dead
REMEDY (v)	to cure, correct	REQUIRE	to return or repay
REMINISCENCE	remembrance of past events	RESCIND	to repeal, cancel
REMISSION	lessening, relaxation	RESIDUE	remainder, leftover, remnant
REMIT	to send (usually money) as payment	RESILIENT	able to recover quickly after illness or bad luck; able to bounce back into shape
REMONSTRATE	to protest or object	RESOLUTE	determined; with a clear purpose
REMOTE	distant, isolated	RESOLVE (n)	determination, firmness of purpose
REMUNERATION	pay or reward for work, trouble, etcetera	RESOLVE (v)	to conclude, determine
RENASCENT	reborn, coming into being again	RESONATE	to echo
RENEGADE	traitor, person abandoning a cause	RESPIRE	to breathe
RENEGE	to go back on one's word	RESPIRE	interval of relief
RENITENT	resisting pressure, obstinate	RESPLENDENT	splendid, brilliant
RENOUNCE	to give up or reject a right, title , person , etcetera	RESTITUTION	act of compensating for loss or damage
RENOWN	fame, widespread acclaim	RESTIVE	impatient, uneasy, restless
		RESTORATIVE	having the power to renew or revitalize

restrained

RESTRAINED controlled, repressed, restricted

RESUSCITATE to revive, bring back to life

RETAIN to hold, keep possession of

RETARD (v) to slow, hold back

RETICENT not speaking freely; reserved

RETINUE group of attendants with an important person

RETIRING shy, modest, reserved

RETORT cutting response

RETRACT to draw in or take back

RETRESCHE to regroup, reorganize

RETRIEVE to bring, fetch; reclaim

RETROACTIVE applying to an earlier time

RETROGRADE having a backward motion or direction

RETROSPECTIVE looking back to the past

REVELRY boisterous festivity

REVERE to worship, regard with awe

REVERT to backslide, regress

REVILE to criticize with harsh language, verbally abuse

REVITALIZE to renew; give new energy to

REVOKE to annul, cancel, call back

REVULSION strong feeling of repugnance or dislike

RHAPSODY emotional literary or musical work

RHETORIC persuasive use of language

RHYTHM regular pattern or variation of sounds and stresses

RIBALD humorous in a vulgar way

RIDDLE (v) to make many holes in; permeate

RIFE widespread, prevalent; abundant

RIFT an open space; to divide

RIGHTEOUS morally right

RIPOSTE a retort

RISQUÉ bordering on being inappropriate or indecent

ROBUST strong and healthy; hardy

ROCOCO very, highly ornamented

ROIL to disturb or cause disorder

ROOT (v) to dig with a snout (like a pig)

ROOTED to have an origin or base

ROSTRUM stage for public speaking

ROTUND round in shape; fat

RUE to regret

RUFFLED irritated

RUMINATE to contemplate, reflect upon

RUSTIC rural

S

SACCHARINE excessively sweet or sentimental

SACROSANCT extremely sacred; beyond criticism

SAGACIOUS shrewd, wise

SALACIOUS lustful

SALIENT prominent or conspicuous

SALLOW sickly yellow in color

SALUBRIOUS healthful

SALUTATION greeting

SANCTION permission, support; law; penalty

SANCTUARY haven, retreat

SANGUINE ruddy; cheerfully optimistic

SAP (v) to weaken gradually

SAPIENT wise

SARDONIC cynical, scornfully mocking

SATIATE to satisfy

SAUNTER to amble; walk in a leisurely manner

SAVANT learned person

SAVORY agreeable in taste or smell

SCABBARD sheath for sword or dagger

SCABROUS dealing with indecent things; blemished

SCALE (v) to climb to the top of

SCANTINESS barely enough, meager

SCARCITY not enough, insufficient

SCATHING harshly critical; painfully hot

SCENARIO plot outline; possible situation

SCHISM	a division or separation; disharmony	SHARD	piece of broken glass or pottery
SCINTILLA	very small amount	SHEEPISH	timid, meek, or bashful
SCINTILLATE	to sparkle, flash	SHIRK	to avoid a task due to laziness or fear
SCION	descendent, child	SIDLE	to cause to turn sideways; to move along one side
SCOFF	to deride, ridicule	SIGNIFY	denote, indicate; symbolize
SCORE (n)	notation for a musical composition	SIMIAN	ape-like; relating to apes
SCORE (v)	to make a notch or scratch	SIMPER	to smirk, smile foolishly
SCRIVENER	professional copyist	SIMPLE	lacking in knowledge or intelligence
SCRUPULOUS	restrained; careful and precise	SIMULATED	fake, made to look real
SCRUTINY	careful observation	SINCERE	genuine, true
SCURRILOUS	vulgar, low, indecent	SINECURE	well-paying job or office that requires little or no work
SECANT	straight line intersecting a curve at two points	SINGE	to burn slightly, scorch
SECEDE	to withdraw formally from an organization	SINUOUS	winding; intricate, complex
SECLUDED	isolated and remote	SKEPTICAL	doubtful, questioning
SECTARIAS	narrow-minded; relating to a group or sect	SKULK	to move in a stealthy, or cautious manner; sneak
SECULAR	not specifically pertaining to religion	SLAKE	to calm down or moderate
SEDENTARY	inactive, stationary; sluggish	SLIGHT	to treat as unimportant; insult
SEDITION	behavior promoting rebellion	SLIPSHOD	careless, hasty
SEISMOLOGY	science of earthquakes	SLOTH	sluggishness, laziness
SEMINAL	relating to the beginning or seeds of something	SLOUGH	to discard or shed
SENESCENT	aging, growing old	SLOVENLY	untidy, messy
SENSUAL	satisfying or gratifying the senses; suggesting sexuality	SLUGGARD	lazy, inactive person
SENTENTIOUS	having a moralizing tone	SMELT (v)	to melt metal in order to refine it
SENTIENT	aware, conscious, able to perceive	SMUTTY	obscene, indecent
SEPULCHRAL	typical of a place of burial	SNIPPET	tiny part, tidbit
SEQUEL	anything that follows	SOBRIETY	seriousness
SEQUESTER	to remove or set apart; put into seclusion	SOBRIQUET	nickname
SERAPHIC	angelic, pure, sublime	SODDEN	thoroughly soaked; saturated
SERENDIPITY	habit of making fortunate discoveries by chance	SOJOURN	visit, stay
SERENITY	calm, peacefulness	SOLACE	comfort in distress; consolation
SERPENTINE	serpentlike; twisting, winding	SOLARIUM	room or glassed-in area exposed to the sun
SERRATED	saw-toothed, notched	SOLECISM	grammatical mistake
SERVILE	submissive, obedient	SOLICITOUS	concerned, attentive; eager
		SOLIDARITY	unity based on common aims or interests

soliloquy

- SOLILOQUY** literary or dramatic speech by one character, not addressed to others
- SOLIPSISM** belief that the self is the only reality
- SOLSTICE** shortest or longest day of the year
- SOLUBLE** capable of being solved or dissolved
- SOMBER** dark and gloomy; melancholy, dismal
- SOMNAMBULIST** sleepwalker
- SOMNOLENT** drowsy, sleepy; inducing sleep
- SONIC** relating to sound
- SONOROUS** producing a full, rich sound
- SOPHIST** person good at arguing deviously
- SOPHISTRY** **deceptive** reasoning or argumentation
- SOPHOMORIC** immature and overconfident
- SOPORIFIC** sleepy or tending to cause sleep
- SORDID** filthy; contemptible and corrupt
- SOVEREIGN** having supreme power
- SPARTAN** austere, severe, grave; simple, bare
- SPAWN** to generate, produce
- SPECIOUS** deceptively attractive
- SPECULATION** contemplation; act of taking business **risks** for financial gain
- SPECULATIVE** involving assumption; **uncertain**; theoretical
- SPLENDID** grand, illustrious
- SPONTANEOUS** on the spur of the moment, impulsive
- SPORADIC** infrequent, irregular
- SPORTIVE** frolicsome, playful
- SPRIGHTLY** lively, animated, energetic
- SPUR (v)** to prod
- SPURIOUS** lacking authenticity; counterfeit, false
- SPURN** to **reject** or refuse contemptuously; scorn
- SQUABBLE** quarrel
- SQUALID** filthy; morally repulsive
- SQUANDER** to waste
- STACCATO** marked by abrupt, clear-cut sounds
- STAGNANT** immobile, stale
- STALWART** strong, unwavering
- STALK (v)** to hunt, pursue
- STALWART** strong, unwavering
- STAND (n)** group of trees
- STARK** bare, empty, vacant
- STASIS** motionless state; standstill
- STATELY** grand, unapproachable
- STEADFAST** immovable
- STEADY** stable, unflinching
- STENTORIAN** extremely loud
- STIFLE** to smother or suffocate; suppress
- STIGMA** mark of disgrace or inferiority
- STILTED** stiff, unnatural
- STINT (n)** period of time spent doing something
- STINT (v)** to be sparing or frugal
- STIPEND** allowance; fixed amount of money paid regularly
- STOCKADE** **enclosed** area forming defensive **wall**
- STOIC** indifferent to or unaffected by emotions
- STOLID** having or showing little emotion
- STRATAGEM** trick designed to deceive an enemy
- STRATIFY** to arrange into layers
- STRIATE** striped, grooved
- STRICTURE** something that restrains; negative criticism
- STRIDENT** loud, harsh, unpleasantly noisy
- STRINGENT** imposing severe, rigorous standards
- STRIPLING** an adolescent boy
- STULTIFY** to impair or reduce to uselessness
- STUNTED** having arrested growth or development
- STUPEFY** to **dull** the senses of; stun, astonish
- STYLIZE** to fashion, formalize
- STYMIE** to block or thwart
- SUAVE** smoothly gracious or polite; blandly ingratiating
- SUBDUE** suppressed, **stifled**
- SUBJECTION** dependence, obedience, submission
- SUBJUGATE** to conquer, subdue; enslave

- SUBLIMATE to repress impulses
- SUBLIME awe-inspiring; of high spiritual or **moral** value
- SUBLIMINAL subconscious; imperceptible
- SUBMISSIVE tending to be meek and submit
- SUBPOENA notice ordering someone to appear in court
- SUBSEQUENT following in time or order
- SUBSTANTIAL important, real
- SUBTERFUGE trick or tactic used to avoid something
- SUBTERRANEAN hidden, secret; underground
- SUBTLE intended to detect or describe; perceptive
- SUBVERT to undermine or corrupt
- SUCCINCT terse, brief, concise
- SUCCULEST juicy; full of vitality or freshness
- SUFFERABLE bearable
- SUFFRAGIST one who advocates extended voting rights
- SULLEN brooding, gloomy
- SULLY to soil, stain, tarnish; taint
- SUMPTUOUS lavish, splendid
- SUPERABUNDANCE excessive
- SUPERANNUATED too old, obsolete, outdated
- SUPERCILIOUS arrogant, **haughty**, overbearing, condescending
- SUPEREROGATORY nonessential
- SUPERFICIAL hasty; shallow and phony
- SUPERFLUOUS extra, more than necessary
- SUPERSEDE to take the place of; replace
- SUPERVISE to direct or oversee the work of others
- SUPPLANT to replace, substitute
- SUPPLE flexible, pliant
- SUPPLICANT one who asks humbly and earnestly
- SUPPOSITION assumption
- SURFEIT excessive amount
- SURLY rude and bad-tempered
- SURMISE to make an educated guess
- SURMOUNT to conquer, overcome
- SURPASS to do better than, be superior to
- SURPLUS **excess**
- SURREPTITIOUS characterized by secrecy
- SURVEY (v) to examine in a comprehensive way
- SUSCEPTIBLE vulnerable, unprotected
- SUSPEND to defer, interrupt; dangle, hang
- SUSTAIN support, uphold; endure, undergo
- SUSTENANCE supplying the necessities of life
- SWARTHY having a dark complexion
- SYBARITE person devoted to pleasure and **luxury**
- SYCOPHANT self-serving flatterer, yes-man
- SYLLABUS outline of a course
- SYMBIOSIS cooperation, mutual helpfulness
- SYMPOSIUM meeting with short presentations on related topics
- SYNCHRONOUS happening at the same time
- SYNCOPE temporary **irregularity** in musical rhythm
- SYNOPSIS plot summary
- SYNTHESIS blend, combination
- SYNTHETIC artificial, imitation
- T**
- TABLEAU vivid description, striking incident or scene
- TACIT silently understood or implied
- TACITURN uncommunicative, not inclined to speak much
- TACTFUL **skillful** in dealing with others
- TACTILE relating to the sense of touch
- TAINT to spoil or infect; to stain honor
- TAINTED stained, tarnished; corrupted, poisoned
- TALISMAN something producing a magical effect
- TALON claw of an animal, esp. a bird of prey
- TANDEM acting as a group or in partnership
- TANG sharp flavor or odor
- TANGENTIAL digressing, diverting
- TANGIBLE able to be sensed; perceptible, measurable

tantamount

TANTAMOUNT equivalent in value or significance; amounting to

TARNISHED corroded, discolored; discredited, disgraced

TAM'DRY gaudy, cheap, showy

TAXONOMY science of classification

TECHNOCRAT strong believer in technology; technical expert

TEETER to waver or move unsteadily

TEMERITY recklessness

TEMPERANCE restraint, self-control, moderation

TEMPERED moderated, restrained

TEMPESTUOUS stormy, raging, furious

TEMPORAL relating to time; chronological

TENABLE defensible, reasonable

TENACIOUS stubborn, holding firm

TENDENTIOUS biased

TENET belief, doctrine

TENSILE capable of withstanding physical stress

TENUOUS weak, insubstantial

TEPID lukewarm; showing little enthusiasm

TERMINAL (adj) concluding, final; fatal

TERMINAL (n) depot, station

TERRESTRIAL earthly; down-to-earth, commonplace

TERSE concise, brief, free of extra words

TESTAMENT statement of belief; will

TESTIMONIAL statement testifying to a truth; something given in tribute to a person's achievement

TETHER (v) to bind, tie

THEOCRACY government by priests representing a god

THEOLOGY study of God and religion

THEORETICAL abstract

THERAPEUTIC medicinal

THESAURUS book of synonyms and antonyms

THESIS theory or hypothesis; dissertation or long written composition

THRALL a person in servitude, enslaved

THRENODY a sad poem or song

THWART to block or prevent from happening; frustrate

TIDINGS news

TIMOROUS timid, shy, full of apprehension

TINGE to color slightly

TIRADE long violent speech; verbal assault

TITAN person of colossal stature or achievement

TOADY flatterer, hanger-on, yes-man

TOLERANCE capacity to respect different values; capacity to endure or resist something

TOME book, usually large and academic

TONAL relating to pitch or sound

TOPOGRAPHY art of making maps or charts

TORPID lethargic; unable to move; dormant

TORRID burning hot; passionate

TORSION act of twisting and turning

TORTUOUS having many twists and turns; highly complex

TOTTERING barely standing

TOXIN poison

TRACTABLE obedient, yielding

TRAMMEL to impede or hamper

TRANQUIL to calm or steady

TRANSCEND to rise above, go beyond

TRANSCENDENT rising above, going beyond

TRANSCRIPTION copy, reproduction; record

TRANSFIGURATION a change; an exalting change

TRANSFORMATION a change in form or appearance

TRANSGRESS to trespass, violate a law

TRANSIENT (adj) temporary, short-lived, fleeting

TRANSITORY short-lived, existing only briefly

TRANSLATION a change from one state to another; converting one language into another

TRANSLUCENT partially transparent

TRANSMUTE to change in appearance or shape

TRANSPIRE to happen, occur; become known

TRAVESTY parody, exaggerated imitation, caricature

TREMULOUS trembling, quivering, fearful, timid
 TRENCHANT acute, sharp, incisive; forceful, effective
 TREPIDATION fear and anxiety
 TRIBUTE a gift or statement showing respect or gratitude
 TRIFLING of slight worth, trivial, insignificant
 TRITE shallow, superficial
 TROUNCE to beat severely, defeat
 TROUPE group of actors
 TRUCULENT savage and cruel; fierce; ready to fight
 TRUISM something that is obviously true
 TRUNCATE to cut off, shorten by cutting
 TRYING difficult to deal with
 TRYST agreement between lovers to meet; rendezvous
 TUMULT state of confusion; agitation
 TUNDRA treeless plain found in Arctic or subarctic regions
 TURBID muddled; unclear
 TURBULENCE commotion, disorder
 TURGID swollen, bloated
 TURPITUDE inherent vileness, foulness, depravity
 TYRANNICAL oppressive; dictatorial
 TYRO beginner, novice

U

UBIQUITOUS being everywhere simultaneously
 UMBRAGE offense, resentment
 UNADULTERATED absolutely pure
 UNANIMITY state of total agreement or unity
 UNAPPEALING unattractive, unpleasant
 UNAVAILING hopeless, useless
 UNBENDING inflexible, unyielding
 UNBRIDLED unrestrained
 UNCONSCIONABLE unscrupulous; shockingly unfair or unjust
 UNCTUOUS greasy, oily; smug and falsely earnest
 UNDAUNTED resolute even in adversity
 UNDERMINE to sabotage, thwart

UNDOCUMENTED not certified, unsubstantiated
 UNDULATING moving in waves
 UNEQUIVOCAL absolute, certain
 UNFAILING not likely to fail, constant, infallible
 UNFETTERED free, unrestrained
 UNFROCK to strip of priestly duties
 UNGRACIOUS rude, disagreeable
 UNHERALDED unannounced, unexpected
 UNIDIMENSIONAL having one size or dimension
 UNIFORM (adj) consistent and unchanging; identical
 UNIMPEACHABLE beyond question
 UNINITIATED not familiar with an area of study
 UNKEMPT uncombed, messy in appearance
 UNOBTRUSIVE modest, unassuming
 UNPOLISHED lacking sophistication
 UNRUFFLED poised, calm
 UNSCRUPULOUS dishonest
 UNSOILED clean, pure
 UNSOLICITED unrequested
 UNSTINTING generous
 UNSULLIED clean
 UNSWAYABLE unable to change
 UNTOWARD not favorable; unruly
 UNTRAMMELED unhampered
 UNWARRANTED groundless, unjustified
 UNWITTING unconscious; unintentional
 UNYIELDING firm, resolute
 UPBRAID to scold sharply
 UPROARIOUS loud and forceful
 UPSURGE sudden rise
 URBANE courteous, refined, suave
 USURP to seize by force
 USURY practice of lending money at exorbitant rates
 UTILITARIAN efficient, functional, useful
 UTOPIA perfect place

vacillate

V

- VACILLATE to waver, show indecision
- VACUOUS empty, void; **lacking** intelligence, purposeless
- VAGRANT poor person with no home
- VALIANT brave, courageous
- VALIDATE to authorize, certify, confirm
- VALOROUS brave, valiant
- VANQUISH to conquer, defeat
- VAPID tasteless, **dull**
- VARIABLE changeable, inconstant
- VARIEGATED varied; marked with different colors
- VAUNTED boasted about, bragged about
- VEHEMENTLY strongly, urgently
- VENAL willing to do wrong for money
- VENDETTA prolonged feud marked by bitter **hostility**
- VENERABLE respected because of age
- VENERATION adoration, honor, respect
- VENT (v) to express, say out loud
- VERACIOUS **truthful**, accurate
- VERACITY accuracy, truth
- VERBATIM word for word
- VERBOSE wordy
- VERDANT green with vegetation; inexperienced
- VERDURE fresh, rich vegetation
- VERIFIED proven true
- VERISIMILITUDE quality of appearing true or real
- VERITY truthfulness; belief viewed as true and enduring
- VERMIN small creatures offensive to humans
- VERNACULAR everyday language used by ordinary **people**; specialized language of a profession
- VERNAL related to spring
- VERSATILE adaptable, all-purpose
- VERVE energy, vitality
- VESTIGE trace, remnant
- VETO (v) to reject **formally**
- VEX to irritate, annoy; confuse, **puzzle**
- VIABLE workable, able to succeed or grow
- VIADUCT series of elevated arches used to cross a valley
- VICARIOUS substitute, surrogate; enjoyed through imagined participation in another's experience
- VICISSITUDE change or variation; ups and downs
- VIE to compete, contend
- VIGILANT attentive, watchful
- VIGNETTE decorative design; short literary composition
- VILIFY to slander, defame
- VIM energy, enthusiasm
- VINDICATE to clear of blame; support a claim
- VINDICATION clearance from blame or suspicion
- VINDICTIVE spiteful, vengeful, unforgiving
- VIRGINAL pure, chaste
- VIRILE manly, having qualities of an adult male
- VIRTUE conforming to what is right
- VIRTUOSO someone **with** masterly skill; expert musician
- VIRULENT extremely poisonous; malignant; hateful
- VISCOUS thick, syrupy and **sticky**
- VITIATE reduce in **value** or effectiveness
- VITRIOLIC burning, caustic; sharp, bitter
- VITUPERATE to abuse verbally
- VIVACIOUS lively, spirited
- VIVID bright and intense in color; strongly perceived
- VOCIFEROUS loud, vocal and noisy
- VOID (adj) not legally **enforceable**; empty
- VOID (n) emptiness, vacuum
- VOID (v) to cancel, invalidate
- VOLATILE explosive
- VOLITION free choice, free **will**; act of choosing
- VOLLEY (n) flight of missiles, round of gunshots
- VOLUBLE speaking much and easily, talkative; glib
- VOLUMINOUS large; of great quantity; writing or speaking at great length

VORACIOUS having a great appetite

VORTEX swirling, resembling a whirlpool

WLGAR obscene; common, of low class

VULNERABLE **defenseless**, unprotected; innocent, naive

W

WAIVE to refrain from enforcing a rule; to give up a **legal** right

WALLOW to indulge oneself excessively, luxuriate

WAN sickly pale

WANE to dwindle, to decrease

WANTON undisciplined, unrestrained, reckless

WARRANTY guarantee of a product's soundness

WARY careful, cautious

WASPISH rude, behaving badly

WAVER to show indecision

WAX to increase

WAYWARD erratic, unrestrained, reckless

WEATHER (v) to endure, undergo

WEIGHTY important, momentous

WELTER (n) a confused mass; a jumble

WHET to sharpen, stimulate

WHIMSY **playful** or fanciful idea

WILY clever, deceptive

WINDFALL sudden, unexpected good fortune

WINSOME charming, happily engaging

WITHDRAWN unsociable, aloof; shy, timid

WIZENED withered, shriveled, wrinkled

WOE deep suffering or grief

WRAITH a ghost

WRANGLE loud quarrel

WRIT written document, **usually in law**

WRY amusing, ironic

X

XENOPHOBIA fear or hatred of foreigners or strangers

Y

YOKE (v) to join together

Z

ZEALOT someone passionately devoted to a cause

ZENITH highest point, summit

ZEPHYR gentle breeze

ZOOLOGIST scientist who studies animals

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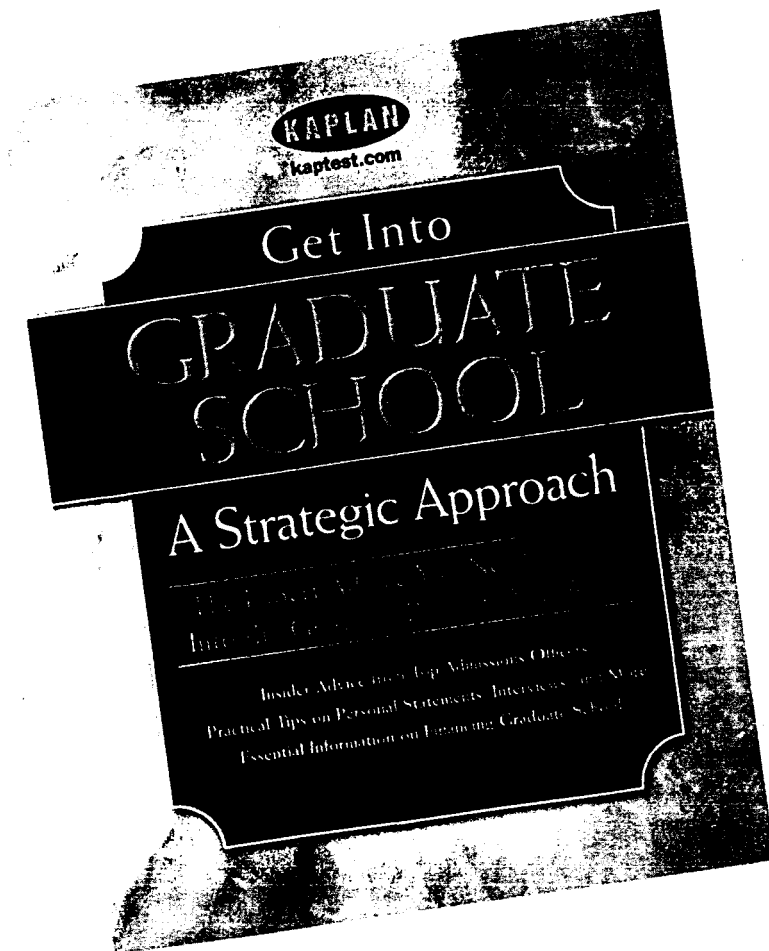
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