

# A

**abash** embarrass  
**abate** subside; decrease; lessen  
**abbreviate** shorten  
**abdicate** renounce; give up  
**aberrant** abnormal or deviant  
**abet** to aid; to encourage  
**abeyance** a temporary postponement  
**abhor** to hate; to detest  
**abide** (two meanings) to remain; to put up with  
**abject** miserable; wretched  
**abjure** to give up (rights)  
**ablution** a washing, cleansing  
**abnegate** to deny; to reject  
**abolition** doing away with; putting an end to  
**abominate** to detest; to dislike strongly  
**aborigine** original inhabitant  
**abortive** unsuccessful  
**abound** to be large in number  
**aboveboard** honest; frank; open  
**abrade** to wear away  
**abrasive** rubbing away; tending to grind down  
**abridge** to shorten  
**abrogate** to abolish; to repeal

**abscond** to leave secretly; to flee  
**absolute** complete; totally unlimited; certain  
**absolve** to free from responsibility  
**abstain** refrain; hold oneself back voluntarily from an action or practice  
**abstemious** moderate or sparing in eating or drinking  
**abstinence** self-denial; resisting tempting foods  
**abstract** (two meanings) *n.* a summary; *v.* to remove  
**abstruse** hard to understand  
**absurd** ridiculous; unreasonable  
**abusive** coarsely insulting; physically harmful  
**abut** to touch; to rest on or against  
**abysmal** wretched; extremely bad  
**abyss** a bottomless pit; anything infinite  
**academic** (two meanings) pertaining to school; theoretical or unrealistic  
**accede** to agree to  
**accelerate** to speed up; to move faster  
**access** approach; admittance  
**accessible** easy to approach; open  
**accessory** something additional  
**acclaim** to greet with approval  
**acclimate** to adapt; to get used to

**acclivity** upward slope  
**accolade** honor; award; approval  
**accommodate** to make fit; to help  
**accomplice** a partner in crime  
**accord** agreement  
**accost** to approach and speak to  
**accouter** equip  
**accouterment** equipment; outfit  
**accredit** to approve; to certify  
**accretion** an increase; an addition  
**accrue** to gather; to accumulate, to amass  
**acerbic** sharp or bitter in smell or taste  
**acerbity** bitterness of speech and temper  
**acetic** vinegary  
**Achilles' heel** a weakness  
**acidulous** slightly sour  
**acknowledge** to admit; to confess  
**acme** highest point; peak  
**acoustics** branch of physics dealing with sound  
**acquiesce** to agree; to consent  
**acquire** obtain; get  
**acquit** to free of guilt; to clear  
**acquittal** deliverance from a charge

**acrid** bitter to the taste or smell; sarcastic  
**acrimonious** harsh in speech or behavior  
**acronym** word formed from initials  
**acrophobia** fear of heights  
**actuarial** calculating; pertaining to insurance statistics  
**actuate** to put into motion or action  
**acuity** sharpness  
**acumen** mental keenness; shrewdness  
**acute** sharp; keen  
**ad infinitum** endlessly; forever  
**ad lib** to act or speak without preparation  
**adage** a familiar saying  
**adamant** stubborn; unyielding  
**adapt** to adjust; to change  
**addendum** something added as a supplement  
**addiction** compulsive; habitual need  
**addled** confused  
**address** direct a speech to; deal with or discuss  
**adduce** to give an example in proving something  
**adept** highly skilled  
**adhere** stick fast

<b>adherent</b>	(two meanings) <i>adj.</i> sticking fast; <i>n.</i> a follower or a supporter	<b>affectation</b>	a phony attitude; insincerity		fear of open places		something that reduces value
<b>adipose</b>	fatty	<b>affidavit</b>	written statement made under oath	<b>agrarian</b>	pertaining to farmers and agriculture	<b>allude</b>	to hint at; to refer to indirectly
<b>adjacent</b>	near; close; adjoining	<b>affiliate</b>	to associate or to unite with	<b>ague</b>	a fever; plague	<b>alluring</b>	tempting; fascinating; charming
<b>adjudicate</b>	to judge	<b>affinity</b>	attraction to	<b>alacrity</b>	liveliness; willingness	<b>allusion</b>	indirect reference
<b>adjunct</b>	a subordinate; an assistant	<b>affirmation</b>	a solemn declaration made instead of an oath by a person who has no religion	<b>albatross</b>	(two meanings) a seabird; a constant burden	<b>alluvial</b>	pertaining to a deposit of sand formed by flowing water
<b>admonish</b>	to warn	<b>affix</b>	to attach	<b>albeit</b>	although	<b>aloft</b>	up in the air; high
<b>admonition</b>	warning	<b>affliction</b>	great suffering; hardship	<b>alchemy</b>	chemistry of the Middle Ages	<b>aloof</b>	reserved; cool; indifferent
<b>ado</b>	fuss; trouble	<b>affluence</b>	wealth	<b>alcove</b>	hook; small, recessed section of a room	<b>alter</b>	to change
<b>adonis</b>	a very handsome man	<b>affront</b>	an insult	<b>alias</b>	an assumed name	<b>altercation</b>	an argument; a disagreement
<b>adorn</b>	to dress up; to decorate	<b>aftermath</b>	outcome; result	<b>alien</b>	strange; foreign	<b>altruism</b>	unselfishness; concern for others
<b>adroit</b>	skillful; clever	<b>agape</b>	open-mouthed; surprised	<b>alienate</b>	to make others unfriendly to you	<b>amalgamate</b>	to combine; to unite; to blend
<b>adulation</b>	excessive praise or flattery	<b>agenda</b>	a list or program of things to be done	<b>alimentary</b>	furnishing food or nourishment	<b>amass</b>	to accumulate; to collect
<b>adulterate</b>	to make impure	<b>agglomeration</b>	collection; heap	<b>alimony</b>	payment by a husband to his divorced wife	<b>amazon</b>	a big, strong, masculine woman
<b>advent</b>	an arrival; a coming	<b>aggravate</b>	to worsen an already bad situation; to intensify	<b>allegiance</b>	loyalty	<b>ambidextrous</b>	equally skillful with either hand
<b>adventitious</b>	accidental; nonessential	<b>aggregate</b>	to collect; to gather together	<b>allegory</b>	a symbolic work of literature	<b>ambience</b>	environment; atmosphere
<b>adversary</b>	enemy; opponent	<b>aggressor</b>	attacker	<b>allegro</b>	rapid; quick	<b>ambient</b>	surround; on all sides
<b>adverse</b>	unfavorable; hostile	<b>agile</b>	able to move quickly	<b>alleviate</b>	to lessen; to relieve	<b>ambiguous</b>	unclear; open to more than one interpretation
<b>adversity</b>	a misfortune; distress	<b>agility</b>	nimbleness	<b>alliteration</b>	repetition of beginning sound in poetry	<b>ambivalence</b>	conflicting feelings toward something or someone
<b>advocacy</b>	support; active pleading on behalf of another	<b>agitate</b>	to upset; to stir up	<b>allocate</b>	to set aside for a specific purpose		
<b>advocate</b>	to recommend; to defend	<b>agnostic</b>	one who doubts the existence of God	<b>alloy</b>	<i>n.</i> a mixture of metals, <i>v.</i> 1. to mix with metal(s) of lower value 2. to weaken or spoil by adding		
<b>aegis</b>	a shield; protection; sponsorship	<b>agoraphobia</b>					
<b>erie</b>	nest of a large bird of prey						
<b>aesthetic</b>	pertaining to beauty						
<b>affable</b>	friendly; agreeable						

<b>ambrosial</b>	pleasing to the taste or smell		something put of place or time	<b>annals</b>	historical records	regarding human beings as the center of the universe
<b>ambulatory</b>	moving about; capable of walking	<b>analgesic</b>	drug that relieves pain	<b>anneal</b>	to heat and then cool; to toughen	
<b>ambuscade</b>	hidden or secret attack	<b>analogous</b>	comparable	<b>annex</b>	attach; take possession of	<b>anthropoid</b> manlike
<b>ameliorate</b>	to improve; to make better	<b>analogy</b>	similarity or comparison	<b>annihilate</b>	to totally destroy	<b>anthropologist</b> a student of the history and science of manlike
<b>amenable</b>	agreeable; responsive	<b>anarchist</b>	person who seeks to overturn the established govt.; advocate of abolishing authority	<b>annotate</b>	comment; make explanatory notes	<b>anthropomorphic</b> attributing human form to a god or animal or object
<b>amend</b>	to change; to alter	<b>anarchy</b>	absence of government	<b>annuity</b>	specified income payable at stated intervals	<b>antic</b> playful or silly act; prank
<b>amenities</b>	courtesies; social graces; pleasantries	<b>anathema</b>	a curse; a person or thing to be avoided	<b>annul</b>	to cancel; to do away with	<b>anticlimax</b> something unimportant coming after something important
<b>amiable</b>	friendly; pleasant	<b>ancestry</b>	family descent	<b>anoint</b>	consecrate	<b>antidote</b> a remedy; a counteractive
<b>amicable</b>	friendly; agreeable	<b>anchor</b>	secure or fasten firmly; be fixed in place	<b>anomalous</b>	abnormal; inconsistent	<b>antipathy</b> intense dislike
<b>amiss</b>	wrong; faulty; improper	<b>ancillary</b>	helping; subordinate	<b>anomaly</b>	irregularity	<b>antipodes</b> opposite sides (of the earth)
<b>amity</b>	friendship	<b>anecdote</b>	a short, entertaining story	<b>anon</b>	soon	<b>antiquated</b> ancient; extremely old
<b>amnesia</b>	loss of memory	<b>anemia</b>	condition in which blood lacks red corpuscles	<b>anonymity</b>	state of being nameless	<b>antiseptic</b> prophetic; pertaining to revelations
<b>amnesty</b>	official pardon for an offense	<b>anent</b>	regarding; concerning	<b>anonymous</b>	having no name	<b>antithesis</b> an exact opposite
<b>amoral</b>	lacking a sense of right and wrong	<b>anesthetic</b>	substance that removes sensation with or without loss of consciousness	<b>anoxia</b>	lack of oxygen	<b>apathy</b> indifference; lack of feeling
<b>amorous</b>	loving	<b>anguish</b>	great suffering or grief	<b>antagonism</b>	hostility; active resistance	<b>ape</b> (two meanings) <i>n.</i> a monkey; <i>v.</i> to imitate or to mimic
<b>amorphous</b>	shapeless	<b>angular</b>	sharp-cornered; stiff in manner	<b>antecede</b>	precede	<b>aperture</b> an opening; a gap
<b>amphibious</b>	able to live on both land and water	<b>anhydrous</b>	without water	<b>antecedent</b>	that which goes before something else	<b>apex</b> the highest point; summit
<b>amphitheater</b>	oval building with tiers of seat	<b>animadversion</b>		<b>antediluvian</b>	very old-fashioned; primitive	<b>aphasia</b> loss of the ability to speak
<b>ample</b>	roomy; abundant		criticism; comment that opposes	<b>anterior</b>	located in front or forward	<b>aphorism</b> brief saying; proverb 6
<b>amplify</b>	to make larger or greater	<b>animate</b>	to give life to	<b>anteroom</b>	a lobby or waiting room	<b>apiary</b> place where bees are kept
<b>amputate</b>	cut off part of body; prune	<b>animosity</b>	hatred; hostility	<b>anthem</b>	song of praise	<b>aplomb</b> self-confidence; poise
<b>amulet</b>	a charm worn to keep evil away	<b>animus</b>	hostile feeling	<b>anthology</b>	collection of literary works	<b>apocryphal</b> doubtful; not authentic
<b>anachronism</b>				<b>anthropocentric</b>		<b>apogee</b> farthest point away from

	the earth		time spent as a novice learning a trade from a skilled worker	<b>archives</b>	public records and documents		honest
<b>apolitical</b>	having an aversion or lack of concern for political affairs	<b>apprise</b>	to inform	<b>ardent</b>	intensely enthusiastic	<b>ascendancy</b>	controlling influence; domination
<b>apologist</b>	one who writes in defense of a cause or institution	<b>approbation</b>	approval	<b>ardor</b>	heat; passion; zeal	<b>ascendant</b>	rising
<b>apoplexy</b>	sudden loss of consciousness; paralysis	<b>appropriate</b>	<i>v.</i> to take possession of; <i>adj.</i> suitable	<b>arduous</b>	difficult; strenuous	<b>ascertain</b>	to find out; to determine
<b>apostate</b>	one who gives up his beliefs	<b>appurtenance</b>	something added to more important thing	<b>aria</b>	a solo in an opera	<b>ascetic</b>	one who denies his body pleasure and comfort
<b>apothecary</b>	druggist	<b>apropos</b>	relevant; appropriate; fitting	<b>aristocracy</b>	hereditary nobility privileged class	<b>ascribe</b>	to attribute; to credit as to a cause or source
<b>apothegm</b>	brief instructive saying	<b>aptitude</b>	ability	<b>armada</b>	fleet of warship	<b>aseptic</b>	without bacteria
<b>apotheosis</b>	glorification of a person to the rank of God	<b>aquatic</b>	pertaining to water	<b>armistice</b>	a truce; suspension of hostilities	<b>ashen</b>	ash-colored
<b>appall</b>	to frighten; to cause loss of courage	<b>aquiline</b>	like an eagle; curved or hooked	<b>aromatic</b>	pleasant-smelling	<b>asinine</b>	stupid; silly
<b>apparatus</b>	equipment	<b>arable</b>	good for farming	<b>arraign</b>	to accuse	<b>askance</b>	(preceded by <i>to look</i> ) sidewise; suspiciously
<b>apparel</b>	clothing; attire	<b>arbitrator</b>	a judge; an umpire	<b>arrant</b>	notorious; downright	<b>askew</b>	crooked; out of position
<b>apparition</b>	a ghost	<b>arbitrary</b>	partial; biased	<b>array</b>	an orderly arrangement	<b>asperity</b>	harshness; roughness
<b>appease</b>	to soothe; to satisfy	<b>arboreal</b>	a judge; an umpire	<b>arrears</b>	(preceded by <i>in</i> ) debt	<b>aspersion</b>	a damaging remark
<b>appellation</b>	a name	<b>arbor</b>	a shaded area	<b>arrest</b>	stop or slow down; catch someone's attention	<b>aspirant</b>	seeker after position or status
<b>append</b>	to attach; to add	<b>arboretum</b>	place where different tree varieties are exhibited	<b>arrogant</b>	proud; haughty	<b>aspire</b>	to desire; to have an ambition
<b>application</b>	diligent attention	<b>arcade</b>	a covered passageway, usually lined with shops	<b>arroyo</b>	a deep ditch caused by running water	<b>assail</b>	to attack; to assault
<b>apposite</b>	appropriate	<b>arcane</b>	mysterious	<b>arsenal</b>	storage place for military equipment	<b>assay</b>	to test; to try
<b>appraise</b>	estimate value of	<b>archaic</b>	out-dated; old-fashioned	<b>arson</b>	illegal burning of property	<b>assent</b>	to agree; to accept
<b>appreciate</b>	be thankful for; increase in worth; be thoroughly conscious of	<b>archeology</b>	study of remains of past cultures	<b>artful</b>	cunning; tricky; crafty	<b>assertive</b>	confident; positive
7		<b>archetype</b>	original; first of its kind	<b>articulate</b>	to speak clearly	<b>assess</b>	to estimate the value of
<b>apprehend</b>	(two meanings) to seize; to understand	<b>archipelago</b>	group of islands	<b>artifice</b>	trick; deception	<b>assiduity</b>	diligence; care 8
<b>apprehensive</b>	fearful; anxious			<b>artisan</b>	one skilled in arts and crafts	<b>assimilate</b>	to absorb
<b>apprenticeship</b>				<b>artless</b>	without guile; open and	<b>assuage</b>	to calm; to make less severe
						<b>assumption</b>	something taken for granted; taking over or taking possession of

**assurance** promise or pledge; certainty; self-confidence

**asteroid** a very small planet

**astigmatism** eye defect that prevents proper focus

**astral** pertaining to the stars

**astray** in the wrong direction

**astrigent** substance that contracts blood vessels or shrinks tissues

**astronomical** enormously large or extensive

**astute** shrewd; very smart

**asunder** into separate parts

**asylum** a safe place; a refuge

**asymmetric** not identical on both sides of a dividing central line

**atavism** resemblance to remote ancestors rather than to parents; deformity returning after passage of two or more generations

**atavistic** going back to behavior found in a remote ancestor

<sup>9</sup> **heist** one who denies God's existence

**atlas** book of maps

**atone** to make up for; to repent

**atrocious** cruel; brutal

**atrophy** to waste away; to become useless

**attentive** alert and watchful; considerate; thoughtful

**attenuate** make thin; weaken

**attenuated** decreased; weakened

**attest** to confirm; to declare to be correct

**attribute** (two meanings) *v.* to credit or assign to; *n.* a characteristic or trait

**attrition** a wearing down or away; a decline

**atypical** abnormal; not usual

**au-courant** up-to-date; fully informed

**audacity** boldness; daring

**audible** capable of being heard

**audit** to examine accounts

**augment** to increase; to make greater

**augur** to predict

**augury** omen; prophecy

**august** majestic; worthy of respect; impressive

**aura** a radiance; a glow

**aural** pertaining to the sense of hearing

**aureole** sun's corona; halo

**auroral** rosy; pertaining to the dawn

**auspices** approval; support

**auspicious** favorable

**austere** severe; stern; self-disciplined

**authenticate** to confirm; to make acceptable

**authoritarian** subordinating the individual to the state; completely dominating another's will

**authoritative** dictatorial; having power

**autocratic** despotic; unlimited in authority

**automaton** self-operating machine; robot

**autonomy** self-rule

**autopsy** examination of a dead body; post-mortem

**autumnal** mature; declining

**auxiliary** giving assistance; subordinate

**avalanche** great mass of falling snow and ice

**avarice** greed

**avenge** to get even; to take revenge

**aver** to declare; to state firmly

**averse** reluctant; not willing

**aversion** intense dislike

**avert** to prevent; to turn away

**aviary** place where birds are kept

**avid** enthusiastic

**avocation** a hobby; not one's regular work

**avoirdupois** heaviness; weight

**avow** to declare openly

**avuncular** like an uncle

**awe** great admiration for or

fear of

**awry** twisted to one side; in the wrong direction

**axiom** true statement; established principle

**azure** blue

## B

**babble** chatter idly

**bacchanalian** wild with drunkenness

**badger** to nag; to annoy

**badinage** playful, teasing talk

**baffle** to confuse; to bewilder

**bagatelle** thing of little value; trifle

**bait** (two meanings) to entrap or to seduce

**baleful** harmful; menacing; pernicious

**balk** to stop short

**ballast** heavy substance used to stabilize a ship's hold to improve its stability

**balm** something that calms or soothes

**balmy** (two meanings) mild and refreshing; mentally unstable

**banal** common; ordinary; trite

**bandy** to exchange (as words)

**bane** cause of ruin, harm, or distress

**banter** teasing; good-natured joking

<b>barb</b>	a pointed part, as of an arrow or fishhook	<b>befuddle</b>	to confuse; to perplex	<b>bent</b>	determined; natural talent or inclination	<b>bide</b>	(one's time) to wait for a favorable opportunity
<b>barbarous</b>	uncultured; crude	<b>beget</b>	to produce	<b>bequeath</b>	to hand down, to pass on to	<b>biennial</b>	occurring every two years
<b>bard</b>	a poet	<b>begrudge</b>	to resent another's success or enjoyment	<b>berate</b>	to scold severely	<b>bigot</b>	a narrow-minded, prejudiced person
<b>bark</b>	a boat or sailing vessel	<b>beguile</b>	to deceive; to charm	<b>bereave</b>	to leave in a sad or lonely state; to deprive by force	<b>bilious</b>	bad-tempered; cross
<b>baroque</b>	over decorated; showy	<b>behemoth</b>	huge animal	<b>bereft</b>	deprived of; lacking; desolate because of a loss	<b>bilk</b>	to cheat; to swindle
<b>barrage</b>	heavy attack	<b>beholden</b>	obligate; indebted	<b>berserk</b>	frenzied; violently destructive	<b>billowing</b>	swelling out in waves; surging
<b>barren</b>	desolate; fruitless and unproductive; lacking	<b>belabor</b>	explain or go over excessively or to a ridiculous degree; attack verbally	<b>beseech</b>	to beg; appeal to	<b>binge</b>	a spree; wild party
<b>barrister</b>	lawyer ( <i>British</i> )	<b>belated</b>	delayed or detained	<b>beset</b>	to attack	<b>biped</b>	two-legged animal
<b>barter</b>	to trade by exchanging goods etc. for other goods, not for money	<b>beleaguer</b>	to encircle (with an army); to annoy	<b>besiege</b>	to overwhelm; to close in on	<b>bivouac</b>	temporary shelter
<b>bask</b>	to lie in or be exposed to warmth	<b>belie</b>	contradict; give a false impression	<b>besmirch</b>	to make dirty	<b>bizarre</b>	weird; strange
<b>bastion</b>	a strong defense; a fort	<b>belittle</b>	to put down; to humiliate	<b>bestial</b>	savage; brutal	<b>blanch</b>	to whiten; to make pale
<b>bate</b>	let down; restrain	<b>bellicose</b>	eager to make war	<b>bestow</b>	to give or present	<b>bland</b>	mild; tasteless; dull
<b>bauble</b>	showy but useless thing; trinket	<b>belligerent</b>	waging a war; quarrelsome	<b>bestride</b>	to mount (a horse)	<b>blandishment</b>	flattery
<b>bawdy</b>	indecent; humorously obscene	<b>bellow</b>	to yell loudly	<b>betoken</b>	signify; indicate	<b>blare</b>	loud, harsh roar or screech dazzling blaze of light
11		<b>bemoan</b>	lament; express disapproval of	<b>betray</b>	be unfaithful; reveal	<b>blasé</b>	bored with pleasure or dissipation
<b>bayou</b>	marshy body of water	<b>bemused</b>	confused; lost in thought; preoccupied	<b>betrothed</b>	engaged; pledged to marry	<b>blasphemy</b>	disrespect for holy places, people, or things; irreverence
<b>beacon</b>	a light used for warning or guiding	<b>benediction</b>	blessing	<b>bevy</b>	a large group	<b>blasts</b>	bored with life; unexcited; indifferent
<b>beatific</b>	giving bliss; blissful	<b>benefactor</b>	one who helps or supports another	<b>bewitch</b>	to cast a spell on; to charm; to fascinate	<b>blatant</b>	annoyingly conspicuous; offensively noisy and loud
<b>beatitude</b>	state of bliss	<b>beneficial</b>	helpful; useful	<b>bias</b>	preference; prejudice	<b>blazon</b>	to display; to proclaim
<b>bedizen</b>	dress with vulgar finery	<b>beneficiary</b>	one who receives benefits or profits	<b>bibliophile</b>	lover of books	<b>bleak</b>	unsheltered; gloomy
<b>bedlam</b>	(two meanings) a madhouse; a noisy uproar	<b>benevolent</b>	generous; kindly	<b>bibulous</b>	absorbent; fond of alcoholic beverages	<b>bleary</b>	blurred; dimmed
<b>bedraggle</b>	wet thoroughly; stain with mud	<b>benign</b>	harmless; gentle	<b>bicameral</b>	having two legislative chambers		
<b>beeline</b>	direct, quick route	<b>benignant</b>	kindly; gentle	<b>bicker</b>	to quarrel		

<b>blight</b>	destruction; withering; disease	<b>boor</b>	a rude or impolite person	<b>brine</b>	salt water	<b>buoy</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> a floating object; <i>v.</i> to encourage
<b>bliss</b>	extreme happiness	<b>booty</b>	stolen money or goods	<b>brisk</b>	lively; quick	<b>buoyant</b>	(two meanings) able to float; lighthearted
<b>blithe</b>	carefree; light-hearted	<b>boreal</b>	northern	<b>bristling</b>	showing irritation	<b>bureaucracy</b>	system of government by administrative officials; the officials
<b>bloated</b>	swollen or puffed as with water or air	<b>borne</b>	carried; put up with	<b>brittle</b>	easily broken; difficult	<b>burgeon</b>	to flourish; to grow rapidly
<b>bludgeon</b>	a short, heavy club	<b>botch</b>	to mess up; to perform clumsily	<b>broach</b>	to introduce	<b>burlesque</b>	a speech or action that treats a serious subject with ridicule
<b>bluff</b>	<i>v.</i> to deceive; <i>adj.</i> abrupt, frank in manner	<b>boundless</b>	unlimited; vast	<b>brochure</b>	a pamphlet	<b>burly</b>	muscular; husky
<b>blunder</b>	error	<b>bountiful</b>	plentiful; abundant	<b>bronchial</b>	pertaining to the	<b>burnish</b>	make shiny by rubbing; polish
<b>blunt</b>	(two meanings) abrupt in speech or manner; having a dull edge	<b>bounty</b>	reward; generosity	<b>brooch</b>	ornamental clasp	<b>burnish bustle</b>	to polish move about energetically; teem
<b>blurt</b>	(out) to utter suddenly or indiscreetly	<b>bourgeoisie</b>	middle class	<b>browbeat</b>	to bully; to intimidate	<b>buttress</b>	any prop or support
<b>bluster</b>	to speak noisily; to boast	<b>bovine</b>	pertaining to cows or cattle	<b>browse</b>	graze; skim or glance at casually	<b>buxom</b>	plump; vigorous; jolly
<b>bode</b>	to indicate in advance, as an omen does	<b>bowdlerize</b>	to censor; to remove offensive passages	<b>bruit</b>	to spread the news		
<b>bog</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> a swamp; <i>v.</i> to sink or become stuck in	<b>boycott</b>	refrain from buying or using	<b>brunt</b>	shock, force, or impact, as of a blow		
13		<b>braggart</b>	one who boasts	<b>brusque</b>	abrupt in manner, blunt; rough		
<b>bogus</b>	false; fake	<b>brandish</b>	to shake or wave a weapon aggressively	<b>buccaneer</b>	a pirate		
<b>bohemian</b>	unconventional (in an artistic way)	<b>brash</b>	offensively bold; rude	<b>bucolic</b>	pertaining to the countryside; rural		
<b>boisterous</b>	violent; rough; noisy	<b>bravado</b>	a show of courage; false bravery	<b>buffet</b>	slap; batter; knock about		
<b>bolster</b>	to prop up; to support	<b>brawn</b>	muscular strength	<b>buffoon</b>	clown or fool		
<b>bolt</b>	to dash out suddenly; to discontinue support of	<b>brazen</b>	shameless or impudent	<b>bugbear</b>	something causing fear of a play, novel, etc.		
<b>bombastic</b>	using impressive but meaningless language	<b>breach</b>	a violation; a gap and lively	<b>bulbous</b>	swollen; shaped like a bulb		
<b>bon mot</b>	witty remark	<b>breadth</b>	width	<b>bullion</b>	gold and silver in the form of bars		
<b>bona fide</b>	genuine; in good faith	<b>brethren</b>	brothers	<b>bulwark</b>	a strong defense		
<b>bondage</b>	slavery	<b>brevice</b>	brief	<b>bumptious</b>	conceited; arrogant		
<b>boon</b>	a benefit; a blessing, a favor	<b>brigand</b>	a robber	<b>bungalow</b>	small cottage		
		<b>brindled</b>	tawny or grayish with streaks or spots	<b>bungle</b>	to do things clumsily or badly		

## C

<b>cabal</b>	a small, secret group
<b>cache</b>	a hiding place
<b>cacophony</b>	harsh or unpleasant sound
<b>cadaver</b>	corpse
<b>cadaverous</b>	pale; ghastly; corpse-like
<b>cadence</b>	rhythm; beat
<b>caesura</b>	pause
<b>cajole</b>	to coax; to persuade

<b>calamitous</b>	causing trouble or misery; disastrous	<b>canto</b>	division of a long poem	<b>carp</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> a type of fish; <i>v.</i> to complain	<b>caucus</b>	a private meeting
<b>calculated</b>	deliberately planned; likely	<b>canvass</b>	to make a survey	<b>carrion</b>	decaying flesh	<b>caulk</b>	make watertight by filling in cracks
<b>caldron</b>	large kettle	<b>capacious</b>	spacious; roomy	<b>carte blanche</b>	freedom to use one's own judgment	<b>causal</b>	implying a cause-and-effect relationship
<b>caliber</b>	degree of worth	<b>capacity</b>	mental or physical ability; role; ability to accommodate	<b>cartel</b>	association of business firms	<b>caustic</b>	sarcastic; severely critical; corrosive
<b>calligraphy</b>	fancy handwriting	<b>capitulate</b>	to surrender	<b>cartographer</b>	map maker	<b>cauterize</b>	to burn
<b>callous</b>	unyielding; insensitive	<b>caprice</b>	sudden, unexpected fancy; whim	<b>cascade</b>	a waterfall	<b>cavalcade</b>	a procession; a sequence of events
<b>callow</b>	young and inexperienced	<b>capricious</b>	erratic; impulsive	<b>caste</b>	social class	<b>cavalier</b>	a haughty and casually indifferent person
<b>calorific</b>	heat-producing	<b>caption</b>	title; chapter heading; text under illustration	<b>castigate</b>	to punish	<b>caveat</b>	a warning
<b>calumny</b>	a false accusation; slander	<b>captious</b>	hard to please; faultfinding	<b>casualty</b>	(two meanings) an accident; one who is hurt in an accident	<b>cavil</b>	to quibble; to argue 16
<b>camaraderie</b>	loyalty; friendship	<b>captivate</b>	to capture; to charm; to fascinate	<b>cataclysm</b>	a violent change	<b>cavort</b>	to leap about; to frolic
<b>cameo</b>	small piece of hard stone carved with a raised design; star's special appearance in a minor role in a film	<b>carapace</b>	shell; hard, protective covering	<b>catacomb</b>	underground burial place	<b>cede</b>	yield (title, territory) to; surrender formally
15		<b>carat</b>	unit of weight for precious stones; measure of fineness of gold	<b>catalyst</b>	person or thing that speeds up a result	<b>celerity</b>	speed; swiftness
<b>camouflage</b>	disguise; conceal	<b>carcinogenic</b>	causing cancer	<b>catapult</b>	slingshot; a hurling machine	<b>celestial</b>	heavenly
<b>canard</b>	a false story, report, or rumor	<b>cardinal</b>	principal; chief	<b>cataract</b>	(two meanings) large waterfall; abnormality of the eye	<b>celibate</b>	unmarried
<b>candor</b>	honesty; openness; frankness	<b>cardiologist</b>	doctor specializing in the heart	<b>catastrophe</b>	disaster; calamity	<b>censor</b>	overseer of morals; person who reads to eliminated inappropriate remarks
<b>canine</b>	pertaining to dogs	<b>careen</b>	to swerve; to dip to one side	<b>catechism</b>	book for religious instruction by question and answer	<b>ensorious</b>	critical
<b>canny</b>	shrewd	<b>caricature</b>	an exaggerated portrayal	<b>catcall</b>	shout of disapproval; boo	<b>censure</b>	to criticize sharply
<b>canon</b>	rule; law; standard	<b>carnage</b>	slaughter; massacre	<b>catechism</b>	book for religious instruction by question and answer	<b>centigrade</b>	measure of temperature used widely in Europe
<b>cant</b>	insincere statements usually made in a singsong tone	<b>carnal</b>	sensual; sexual	<b>categorical</b>	without exceptions; unqualified; absolute	<b>centrifugal</b>	moving away from the center
<b>cantankerous</b>	bad-tempered; quarrelsome	<b>carnivorous</b>	flesh-eating	<b>cathartic</b>	cleansing	<b>centripetal</b>	tending toward the center
<b>cantata</b>	story set to music, to be sung by chorus	<b>carouse</b>	to engage in a noisy, drunken party	<b>catholic</b>	universal; wide-ranging	<b>centurion</b>	Roman army officer
<b>canter</b>	smooth, easy pace; gallop					<b>cerebral</b>	pertaining to the brain or intellect



<b>cerebration</b>	thinking; using one's brain	<b>chastise</b>	to punish; to purify	<b>circuitous</b>	roundabout; indirect	<b>clemency</b>	mercy; leniency
<b>ceremonious</b>	marked by formality	<b>chattel</b>	slave	<b>circumlocution</b>	roundabout way of speaking	<b>cliché</b>	a trite or worn-out expression
<b>certitude</b>	sureness; certainty	<b>chauvinism</b>	fanatical devotion to one's country, sex, religion, etc.	<b>circumscribe</b>	to encircle; to limit or confine	<b>clientele</b>	customers
<b>cessation</b>	a stopping; a discontinuance	<b>chauvinist</b>	blindly devoted patriot	<b>circumspect</b>	cautious; careful	<b>climactic</b>	relating to the highest point
<b>cession</b>	yielding to another; ceding	<b>check</b>	stop motion; curb or restrain	<b>circumvent</b>	to surround or entrap; to go around	<b>climax</b>	highest point
<b>chafe</b>	to irritate; to annoy	<b>checkered</b>	marked by changes in fortune	<b>cistern</b>	reservoir or water tank	<b>clime</b>	climate; region
<b>chaff</b>	worthless matter	<b>cherub</b>	angel; an innocent person	<b>citadel</b>	a fortress	<b>clique</b>	a small, exclusive group 18
17 <b>chaffing</b>	bantering; joking	<b>chic</b>	stylish; fashionable	<b>cite</b>	to quote a passage, book, author, etc.; to refer to	<b>cloistered</b>	secluded; confined
<b>chagrin</b>	embarrassment; complete loss of courage	<b>chicanery</b>	trickery; deception	<b>civil</b>	having to do with citizens or the state; courteous and polite	<b>clout</b>	power
<b>chalice</b>	goblet; consecrated cup	<b>chide</b>	to scold	<b>civility</b>	politeness	<b>cloven</b>	divided; split
<b>chameleon</b>	a lizard able to change its skin color; a changeable or fickle person	<b>chimerical</b>	imaginary; fantastic; unreal	<b>clairvoyant</b>	having great insight; keenly perceptive	<b>cloning</b>	distasteful; excessively sweet or sentimental
<b>champ</b>	v. to bite impatiently; to show impatience (to champ at the bit)	<b>chirography</b>	art of handwriting	<b>clad</b>	to cover with a protective layer	<b>coadjutor</b>	assistant; helper
<b>champion</b>	support militantly	<b>chisel</b>	n. wedge-like tool for cutting	<b>clamber</b>	to climb with effort or difficulty	<b>coagulate</b>	thicken; congeal; clot
<b>chaos</b>	complete disorder	<b>chivalrous</b>	courteous; courageous; loyal	<b>clamor</b>	noise	<b>coalesce</b>	to blend; to merge; to fuse
<b>charisma</b>	great appeal or attraction	<b>choleric</b>	easily angered	<b>clandestine</b>	secretive; private.	<b>coalition</b>	partnership; league; union
<b>charlatan</b>	a fake; a quack	<b>choreography</b>	art of representing dances in written symbols arrangement of dance	<b>clangor</b>	harsh ringing sound	<b>coddle</b>	to treat tenderly
<b>charnel</b>	cemetery; tomb	<b>chortle</b>	chuckle with delight	<b>clapper</b>	striker (tongue) of a bell	<b>codicil</b>	supplement to the body of a will
<b>chary</b>	careful; cautious	<b>chronic</b>	long-lasting	<b>clarify</b>	to make clear	<b>codify</b>	arrange (laws, rules) as a code; classify
<b>chasm</b>	a wide gap	<b>chronicle</b>	report; record	<b>clarion</b>	clear and shrill	<b>coerce</b>	to force
<b>chassis</b>	framework and working parts of an automobile	<b>churlish</b>	rude; ill-bred	<b>clasp</b>	fastening device; firm grip	<b>coffer</b>	a strongbox
<b>chaste</b>	pure; virtuous	<b>cipher</b>	person or thing of no value; zero	<b>claustrophobia</b>	fear of enclosed spaces	<b>cog</b>	a gear tooth; a minor part
<b>chasten</b>	discipline; punish in order to correct			<b>cleave</b>	to split something apart; split; divided	<b>cogent</b>	convincing
				<b>cleft</b>	split; divided	<b>cogitate</b>	to think; to consider carefully
						<b>cognate</b>	related; relevant

<b>cognitive</b>	having to do with knowing or perceiving; related to the mental	<b>comely</b>	attractive	<b>complement</b>	to make whole; to complete	<b>concession</b>	allowance; the act of yielding
<b>cognizant</b>	aware	<b>comeuppance</b>	rebuke; deserts	<b>compliant</b>	yielding; submissive	<b>conciliate</b>	to soothe the anger of-, to win over
<b>cognomen</b>	family name; last name	<b>commandeer</b>	to draft for military purposes; to take for public use	<b>complicity</b>	partnership in a wrongful act	<b>concluse</b>	brief and to the point
<b>coherent</b>	logically connected, consistent	<b>commemorative</b>	honoring; remembering	<b>components</b>	ingredients; elements	<b>conclave</b>	secret meeting
<b>cohesive</b>	tending to stick	<b>commence</b>	to begin	<b>composure</b>	calmness of mind or manner	<b>conclusive</b>	decisive; ending all 20 debate
19 <b>part</b>	colleague; associate; partner	<b>commendation</b>	praise	<b>compound</b>	combine; constitute; pay interest; increase	<b>concoct</b>	to invent; to devise
<b>coiffure</b>	hairstyle	<b>commendate</b>	proportionate	<b>comprehensive</b>	thorough; inclusive	<b>concomitant</b>	accompanying; attending
<b>coin</b>	make coins; invent or fabricate	<b>commiserate</b>	to express pity for	<b>compress</b>	close; squeeze; contract	<b>concord</b>	agreement; harmony
<b>coincide</b>	to occur simultaneously	<b>commiserate</b>	to express pity for	<b>comprise</b>	include; consist of	<b>concourse</b>	a crowd; a wide street
<b>colander</b>	utensil with perforated bottom used for straining	<b>commodious</b>	roomy; spacious	<b>compromise</b>	adjust or settle by making mutual concessions; to expose to danger or suspicion	<b>concur</b>	to agree
<b>collaborate</b>	to work together; to cooperate	<b>communal</b>	shared; pertaining to a group of people	<b>compulsory</b>	required	<b>concurrent</b>	happening at the same time
<b>collage</b>	collection of various bits and pieces (usually artistic)	<b>compact</b>	firmly packed	<b>condescend</b>	to lower oneself to an inferior's level	<b>condign</b>	deserved; suitable
<b>collate</b>	to put together in order	<b>comparable</b>	similar	<b>condiment</b>	seasoning; spices	<b>condolence</b>	expression of sorrow
<b>collateral</b>	security for payment of a loan	<b>compassion</b>	pity; sympathy	<b>condone</b>	to excuse; to overlook	<b>conductive</b>	tending to or leading to
<b>colloquial</b>	informal	<b>compatible</b>	agreeable, harmonious	<b>compute</b>	to calculate; to estimate	<b>conduit</b>	pipe or tube through which fluid or electricity passes
<b>colloquy</b>	conversation	<b>compel</b>	to force	<b>concede</b>	to admit; to grant	<b>confidant</b>	a close, trusted friend
<b>collusion</b>	conspiracy; agreement to commit a wrongful act	<b>compendium</b>	brief summary	<b>conceit</b>	vanity of self-love; whimsical ideas; extravagant metaphor	<b>configuration</b>	shape; arrangement
<b>colossal</b>	huge; enormous	<b>compensatory</b>	paying back; making up for	<b>concentrate</b>	(two meanings) to think deeply; to increase in strength or degree	<b>confine</b>	shut in; restrict
<b>comatose</b>	in a coma; extremely sleepy	<b>compile</b>	assemble; gather; accumulate	<b>concentric</b>	having a common center	<b>confirm</b>	corroborate; verify; support
<b>combative</b>	eager to fight; argumentative	<b>complacent</b>	self-satisfied	<b>conception</b>	(two meanings) a beginning; original idea or plan	<b>confiscate</b>	to seize by way of penalty
<b>combustible</b>	capable of catching fire easily	<b>complaisant</b>	trying to please; obliging				

<b>conflagration</b>	a large, destructive fire	<b>consensus</b>	general agreement, especially of opinion	<b>contagious</b>	likely to spread; infectious	<b>contrite</b>	sorrowful; penitent
<b>confluent</b>	merging-, flowing together	<b>consequential</b>	pompous; important; self-important	<b>contaminant</b>	substance that pollutes or infects	<b>contrived</b>	forced; artificial; not spontaneous
<b>conformity</b>	agreement; doing the same as others	<b>conservatory</b>	school of the fine arts (especially music or drama)	<b>contemn</b>	to regard with scorn or contempt	<b>controversial</b>	debatable; questionable
21		<b>consign</b>	deliver officially; entrust; set apart	<b>contemporary</b>	happening in the same time period; current	<b>controvert</b>	oppose with arguments; attempt to refute; contradict
<b>confounded</b>	confused, amazed	<b>consistency</b>	absence of contradictions; dependability; uniformity; degree of	<b>contemptuous</b>	scornful	<b>contumacious</b>	disobedient; obstinate
<b>congeal</b>	to freeze solid; to thicken	<b>console</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> a musical panel or unit; <i>v.</i> to comfort	<b>contend</b>	struggle; compete; assert earnestly	<b>contumely</b>	rudeness
<b>congenial</b>	friendly; agreeable	<b>consolidate</b>	to combine; to make or become solid	<b>contention</b>	claim; thesis	<b>contusion</b>	a bruise
<b>congenital</b>	existing at birth	<b>consonant</b>	in agreement or harmony	<b>contentious</b>	ready to argue; quarrelsome	<b>conundrum</b>	a riddle
<b>conglomerate</b>	mass; cluster; corporation	<b>consonant</b>	in agreement or harmony	<b>contest</b>	(three meanings) <i>n.</i> a competitive game; <i>v.</i> to dispute; to compete	<b>convalesce</b>	to recover from an illness
<b>congregate</b>	to gather; to assemble	<b>consort</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> a husband or wife; <i>v.</i> to associate or join	<b>context</b>	writing preceding and following the passage quoted	<b>convene</b>	to come together; to assemble
<b>congruent</b>	in agreement	<b>conspicuous</b>	easily seen; noticeable; striking	<b>contiguous</b>	nearby; neighboring	<b>convention</b>	social or moral custom; established practice
<b>coniferous</b>	bearing cones (pertaining to trees)	<b>conspiracy</b>	treacherous plot	<b>continence</b>	self-restraint; sexual chastity	<b>conventional</b>	ordinary; usual
<b>conjecture</b>	to guess	<b>consternation</b>	sudden confusion; panic	<b>contingent</b>	possible	<b>converge</b>	to come together; to meet in a point or line
<b>conjugal</b>	pertaining to marriage	<b>constituents</b>	voters; supporters	<b>contort</b>	to twist; to distort	<b>conversant</b>	being familiar with
<b>conjure</b>	to call upon or to command a devil or spirit to practice magic; cast a spell on	<b>constraints</b>	restrictions; limits	<b>contraband</b>	smuggled or stolen goods	<b>converse</b>	(two meanings) <i>v.</i> to talk to someone; <i>n.</i> the opposite
<b>connivance</b>	pretend ignorance of another's wrong doing; conspiracy	<b>constrict</b>	to shrink; to bind	<b>contract</b>	compress or shrink; make a pledge; catch a disease	<b>convert</b>	one who has adopted a different religious or opinion
<b>connoisseur</b>	an expert	<b>construe</b>	to analyze; to interpret	<b>contrary</b>	opposite	<b>convex</b>	curving outward
<b>connote</b>	to suggest or imply	<b>consummate</b>	<i>v.</i> to complete; <i>adj.</i> perfect	<b>contravene</b>	to go against; to oppose	<b>conveyance</b>	a vehicle
<b>connubial</b>	pertaining to marriage			<b>contretemps</b>	an embarrassing occurrence	<b>conviction</b>	judgment that someone is guilty of a crime; strongly held belief
<b>consanguinity</b>	close relationship, usually by blood					<b>convivial</b>	sociable; friendly
<b>conscientious</b>	scrupulous; careful					<b>convoke</b>	to call together
<b>consecrate</b>	to make holy					<b>convoluted</b>	twisted; coiled

**cope** to deal with; to contend with

**copious** plentiful; abundant

**coquetry** flirtation

**cordial** friendly; courteous

**cordons** extended line of men or fortifications to prevent access or egress

**cornucopia** horn of plenty; abundance

**corollary** inference; deduction; consequence

**corona** crown; bright circle

**corporeal** pertaining to the body

**corpulent** fat; fleshy

**correlation** mutual relationship

**corroborate** to strengthen; to confirm

**corrode** destroy by chemical action

**corrosive** eating away, as an acid

**corrugated** wrinkled; ridged; furrowed

**cortege** funeral procession; group of followers

**cosmic** pertaining to the universe; vast

**cosmopolitan** worldly-wise; universal

**coterie** close circle of friends

**countenance** (two meanings) *n.* the face; *v.* to permit, tolerate, or approve

**countermand** to cancel an order

**counterpart** duplicate; copy

**coup** a brilliant move; a successful and sudden attack

**couple** join; unite

**courier** messenger

**covenant** an agreement, a contract

**covert** hidden; secretive

**covet** to desire

**covetous** avaricious; eagerly desirous of

**cow** terrorize; intimidate

**cower** to tremble in fear

**coy** shy; modest

**cozen** to trick

**crabbed** sour; peevish

**crafty** sly; tricky

**crass** stupid; unrefined

**crave** to desire strongly

**craven** cowardly

**credence** belief, trust

**credible** believable

**credo** creed

**credulity** readiness to believe; gullibility

**creed** a religious belief

**crescendo** gradual increase in intensity or loudness

**crestfallen** dejected; humbled

**crevice** an opening, a crack

**cringe** to shrink back, as in fear

**criterion** measure of value; standard of judging

**crone** hag; withered old woman

**crony** close friend

**crotchety** grouchy; eccentric

**crucial** extremely important; decisive

**crucible** a severe test or trial

**crux** the essential part or weight

**crypt** secret recess or vault, usually used for burial

**cryptic** mysterious; secretive

**crystallize** to settle; to take on a definite form

**cubicle** small compartment

**cudgel** club; thick stick

**cue** a hint; a signal

**cuisine** style of cooking

**culinary** pertaining to cooking

**cull** to select; to pick

**culminate** to result in; to reach the highest point

**culpable** deserving blame

**culvert** artificial channel for water

**cumbersome** heavy; hard to handle because of size

**cumulative** collected; accumulated

**cupidity** greed 24

**curator** superintendent; manager

**curb** to control; to check

**curmudgeon** churlish, miserly individual

**curry** to try to win favor by flattery

**cursive** running or flowing

**cursor** superficial; hasty

**curtail** to cut short

**cynic** one who is critical; a fault-finder

**cynosure** center of attention

## D

**dabble** work at in a non-serious fashion; splash around

**dances**

**dais** platform; speaker's stand

**dale** valley

**dally** to waste time

**dank** chilly and wet

**dapper** neat and trim

**dappled** spotted

**dastardly** sneaking and cowardly; shameful

**daub** to smear; to cover over with paint, etc.

**daunt** to discourage

**dauntless** bold

25 **dile** to waste time; to idle

**de facto** in fact; in reality

<b>deadlock</b>	a standstill; a tie	<b>decorum</b>	appropriate social behavior	<b>defunct</b>	no longer in existence; extinct		study of population trends	
<b>deadpan</b>	wooden; impersonal	<b>decoy</b>	a person or thing that entices or lures, as into	<b>degenerate</b>	become worse; deteriorate	<b>demolish</b>	to tear down	
<b>dearth</b>	a scarcity or lack	<b>decrepit</b>	broken down by age or disease	<b>degrade</b>	to lower in degree or quality	<b>demolition</b>	destruction	
<b>debacle</b>	a complete failure; total collapse	<b>decrepitude</b>	state of collapse caused by illness or old age	<b>dehydrate</b>	removed water from; dry out	<b>demoniac</b>	fiendish	
<b>debase</b>	to lower in rank; to humiliate	<b>decry</b>	to speak out against	<b>deify</b>	to idolize; to make god-like	<b>demoralize</b>	to discourage; to cause to lose spirit	
<b>debauch</b>	to corrupt	<b>deduce</b>	to reason out; to infer	<b>deign</b>	to lower oneself before an inferior	<b>demur</b>	to object; to take exception to	
<b>debilitate</b>	to weaken	<b>deem</b>	to think; to believe; to judge	<b>delectable</b>	delicious; very pleasing	<b>demure</b>	shy	
<b>debonair</b>	pleasant; courteous; charming	<b>deface</b>	mar; disfigure	<b>delete</b>	to leave out; to cross out	<b>denigrate</b>	to ruin the reputation of, to blacken	
<b>debris</b>	fragments; litter; rubble	<b>defalcate</b>	to misuse funds; to embezzle	<b>deleterious</b>	harmful	<b>denizen</b>	occupant; inhabitant; resident	
<b>debunk</b>	expose as false, exaggerated, worthless, etc.; ridicule	<b>defamatory</b>	damaging another's reputation with false remarks	<b>deliberate</b>	consider; ponder	<b>denomination</b>	the name or designation for a class of persons, such as a religious group	
<b>debut</b>	first public appearance	<b>default</b>	to fail to pay a debt or to perform a task	<b>delineate</b>	to describe; to depict	<b>denotation</b>	meaning; distinguishing by name	
<b>debutante</b>	young woman making formal entrance into society	<b>defeatist</b>	attitude of one who is ready to accept defeat as a natural outcome	<b>delirium</b>	condition of mental disturbance; wild excitement	<b>denouement</b>	outcome; result	
<b>decadence</b>	moral deterioration	<b>defection</b>	desertion	<b>delude</b>	to deceive; to mislead	<b>denounce</b>	to publicly condemn	
<b>decant</b>	to pour off (a liquid)	<b>defer</b>	to postpone; to put off	<b>deluge</b>	a flood; a rush	<b>depict</b>	to portray; to represent	
<b>decapitate</b>	to behead	<b>deference</b>	respect	<b>delusion</b>	false belief; hallucination	<b>depilate</b>	to remove hair from	
<b>decelerate</b>	to slow down	<b>defiance</b>	refusal to yield; resistance	<b>delve</b>	to search; to investigate	<b>deplete</b>	to use up gradually (resources, strength, etc.)	
<b>deciduous</b>	not permanent; passing	<b>defile</b>	to pollute; to corrupt	<b>demagogue</b>	a popular leader who appeals to the emotions	<b>deplore</b>	to regret	
<b>decimate</b>	kill, usually one out of ten	<b>definitive</b>	comprehensive; complete	<b>demean</b>	to degrade; to lower	27 <b>loy</b>	to place troops in position	
<b>decipher</b>	decode; figure out the meaning of	<b>deflect</b>	to turn aside; to bend	<b>demeanor</b>	behavior	26		
<b>declaim</b>	to speak dramatically	<b>defoliate</b>	to strip off leaves	<b>demented</b>	deranged; insane		<b>depose</b>	to remove from office
<b>declivity</b>	downward slope	<b>defray</b>	to pay the cost of	<b>demigod</b>	a person who is partly a god and partly human		<b>deposition</b>	testimony under oath
<b>decollate</b>	having a low-necked dress	<b>deft</b>	skillful	<b>demise</b>	death; ending		<b>depraved</b>	sinful; immoral
<b>decompose</b>	to decay; to break up into parts			<b>demography</b>			<b>deprecate</b>	to disapprove of

<b>depreciate</b>	to lessen in value	<b>détente</b>	a lessening of tension or hostility	<b>dicker</b>	to bargain; to argue over prices	<b>disabuse</b>	correct a false impression; undeceive
<b>depredation</b>	plundering	<b>deter</b>	to discourage; to hinder	<b>diction</b>	style of speaking	<b>disaffected</b>	disloyal
<b>deranged</b>	insane	<b>detergent</b>	a cleansing agent	<b>dictum</b>	a positive statement	<b>disapprobation</b>	disapproval; condemnation
<b>derelict</b>	(three meanings) <i>adj.</i> abandoned; negligent; <i>n.</i> a vagrant or bum	<b>determination</b>	resolve; measurement or calculation; decision.	<b>didactic</b>	instructive; inclined to lecture others too much	<b>disarray</b>	disorder; confusion
<b>deride</b>	to ridicule	<b>deterrent</b>	something that discourages; hindrance.	<b>diffident</b>	shy; modest	<b>disavow</b>	to disown; to deny; to repudiate
<b>derision</b>	ridicule	<b>detonate</b>	explode	<b>diffuse</b>	to spread; to scatter	<b>disband</b>	dissolve; disperse
<b>derivative</b>	unoriginal; derived from another source	<b>detoxify</b>	remove the poison from	<b>digress</b>	to wander off the subject	<b>disburse</b>	to pay out
<b>dermatology</b>	study of skin diseases	<b>detract</b>	to take away; to diminish	<b>dilapidated</b>	broken down; falling apart	<b>discern</b>	to distinguish; to recognize; to perceive
<b>derogatory</b>	belittling	<b>detriment</b>	harm; damage	<b>dilate</b>	to expand; to become wider	<b>disciple</b>	a follower
<b>descant</b>	discuss fully	<b>devastate</b>	to destroy; to overwhelm	<b>dilatory</b>	slow or late in doing things	<b>disclaimer</b>	denial; renunciation
<b>descry</b>	to discover	<b>deviate</b>	to turn aside; to digress	<b>dilemma</b>	a troubling situation	<b>disclose</b>	to reveal; to make known
<b>desecrate</b>	to damage a holy place	<b>devious</b>	sly; underhand	<b>dilettante</b>	a dabbler in the fine arts; one who is not an expert	<b>discombobulated</b>	confused; discomposed
<b>desiccate</b>	to dry up; to wither	<b>devise</b>	think up; invent; plan	<b>diligent</b>	hard-working; industrious	<b>discomfiture</b>	frustration; confusion
<b>desist</b>	to cease or stop	<b>devoid</b>	completely without	<b>dilute</b>	make less concentrated; reduce in strength	<b>disconcert</b>	to upset; to embarrass
<b>desolate</b>	lonely; deserted	<b>devotee</b>	an enthusiastic follower	<b>diminutive</b>	small	<b>disconsolate</b>	without hope
<b>despicable</b>	contemptible; hateful	<b>devout</b>	religious; pious; sincere	<b>din</b>	continued loud noise.	<b>discord</b>	conflict; lack of harmony
<b>despise</b>	to scorn; to regard with disgust	<b>dexterity</b>	skill; cleverness	<b>dinghy</b>	small ship's boat	29 <b>ordant</b>	disagreeing; harsh-sounding
<b>despoil</b>	to rob; to plunder	<b>diabolical</b>	devilish; cruel	<b>dingy</b>	dull; not fresh; chee 28	<b>discount</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> reduction; <i>v.</i> to disregard
<b>despondent</b>	depressed; dejected	<b>diadem</b>	crown	<b>dint</b>	powder; force	<b>discouragement</b>	to disapprove of
<b>despot</b>	a dictator	<b>diagnosis</b>	art of identifying a disease; analysis of a condition	<b>diorama</b>	life-size three dimensional scene from nature or history	<b>discourse</b>	conversation; lecture
<b>destitute</b>	poor; lacking	<b>dialectic</b>	logical discussion	<b>dipsomaniac</b>	drunkard	<b>discredit</b>	to disgrace; to cast doubt on
<b>desuetude</b>	condition of disuse	<b>diaphanous</b>	transparent; very sheer and light	<b>dire</b>	dreadful; causing disaster	<b>discreet</b>	showing good judgment; cautious
<b>desultory</b>	wandering from subject to subject; rambling	<b>diatribe</b>	bitter criticism	<b>dirge</b>	a funeral song or hymn		
<b>detached</b>	emotionally removed; calm and objective; physically unconnected	<b>dichotomy</b>	division into two parts				

<b>discrepancy</b>	inconsistency; difference	<b>dismember</b>	to cut or pull off limbs	<b>dissuade</b>	to advise or urge against	<b>doctrine</b>	teaching in general; particular principle (religious, legal, etc.) taught
<b>discrete</b>	separate; not attached	<b>dismiss</b>	put away from consideration; reject	<b>distant</b>	reserved or aloof; cold in manner	<b>document</b>	provide written evidence
<b>discretion</b>	good judgment	<b>disparage</b>	to belittle; to put down	<b>distend</b>	to expand; to swell; to stretch out	<b>oddering</b>	shaky; senile
<b>discrimination</b>	(two meanings) prejudice; ability to distinguish	<b>disparate</b>	basically different; unrelated	<b>distill</b>	extract the essence; purify; refine	<b>doff</b>	to throw off or away
<b>discursive</b>	ambling; wandering	<b>disparity</b>	inequality; difference	<b>distinction</b>	honor; contrast; discrimination	<b>doggedly</b>	stubbornly
<b>disdain</b>	to scorn	<b>dispassionate</b>	calm; impartial	<b>distort</b>	to twist out of shape	<b>doggerel</b>	poor verse
<b>disembark</b>	go ashore; unload cargo from a ship	<b>dispatch</b>	speediness; prompt execution; message sent with all due speed	<b>distraught</b>	troubled	<b>dogmatic</b>	having a definite opinion; authoritative
<b>disenfranchise</b>	deprive of civil right	<b>dispel</b>	to drive away	<b>dither</b>	(preceded by <i>in a</i> ) nervously excited or confused	<b>doldrums</b>	low spirits
<b>disengage</b>	uncouple; separate; disconnect	<b>disperse</b>	to scatter	<b>diurnal</b>	daily	<b>dole</b>	to distribute; to give out sparingly
<b>disfigure</b>	mar in beauty; spoil	<b>dispirited</b>	lacking in spirit	<b>diva</b>	operatic singer; prima donna	<b>doleful</b>	sorrowful
<b>disgorge</b>	surrender something; eject; vomit	<b>disputatious</b>	fond of arguing	<b>diverge</b>	vary; go in different directions from the same point	<b>dolorous</b>	mournful; sad
<b>disgruntled</b>	unhappy; discontented	<b>disquietude</b>	uneasiness; anxiety	<b>divergent</b>	varying; different	<b>dolt</b>	a dull, stupid person
<b>dishearten</b>	to discourage; to depress	<b>disreputable</b>	having a bad reputation	<b>divers</b>	several	<b>domicile</b>	home; residence
<b>disheveled</b>	untidy	<b>dissection</b>	cutting apart; analysis	<b>diverse</b>	different	<b>domineer</b>	rule over tyrannically
<b>disinclination</b>	unwillingness	<b>dissemble</b>	to conceal; to pretend	<b>diversion</b>	act of turning aside; 30 pastime	<b>don</b>	put on
<b>disingenuous</b>	not naïve; sophisticated	<b>disseminate</b>	to scatter; to spread	<b>diversity</b>	variety; dissimilitude	31 <b>nybrook</b>	rough, rowdy fight
<b>disinter</b>	to uncover; to dig up	<b>dissension</b>	disagreement; opposition	<b>divest</b>	to deprive	<b>doodle</b>	scribble or draw aimlessly
<b>disinterested</b>	impartial; not prejudiced	<b>dissertation</b>	a written essay	<b>divination</b>	the act of foretelling the future	<b>dormant</b>	asleep; inactive
<b>disjointed</b>	disconnected	<b>dissident</b>	disagreeing	<b>divine</b>	perceive intuitively; foresee the future	<b>dormer</b>	window projecting from roof
<b>dislodge</b>	remove (forcibly)	<b>dissimulate</b>	to hide one's feelings	<b>divulge</b>	to reveal; to make known	<b>dorsal</b>	pertaining to the back
<b>dismal</b>	gloomy; depressing	<b>dissipate</b>	to waste; to scatter	<b>docile</b>	obedient; submissive	<b>dossier</b>	a complete group of documents containing detailed information
<b>dismantle</b>	to take apart	<b>dissociate</b>	to break ties with; to part company	<b>doctrinaire</b>	unable to compromise about points of doctrine; dogmatic; unyielding	<b>dotage</b>	feeble-mindedness of old age
<b>dismay</b>	discourage; frighten	<b>dissolute</b>	immoral; unrestrained				
		<b>dissonant</b>	out of harmony				

**dote** be excessively fond of; show signs of mental decline

**doughty** courageous; worthy

**dour** gloomy

**douse** to put out (a fire); to extinguish

**dowdy** shabby; untidy

**downcast** disheartened; sad

**downtrodden** trampled on; suppressed

**doyen** senior or eldest member

**drab** dull; lacking color; cheerless

**Draconian** severe; cruel

**dregs** leftovers

**drivel** childish nonsense; stupid talk

**droll** amusing in an odd way

**drone** (three meanings) *n.* a male bee; *n.* an idle person; *v.* to talk on and on monotonously

**dross** waste matter

**drudgery** hard, tiresome work

**dual** consisting of two people, items, or parts

**dubious** doubtful; questionable

**ductile** capable of being molded or shaped

**dudgeon** anger, resentment

**dulcet** pleasing to the ear

**dulcimer** a type of zither

**dumbfound** astonish

**dupe** to trick; to deceive

**duplicity** deceit, double-dealing; dishonesty

**duration** length of time something lasts

**duress** force

**dutiful** obedient

**dwindle** to shrink; to become smaller

**dynamo** a powerful person

**dyspepsia** poor digestion

**dysphasia** difficulty in speaking

## E

**earnest** sincere; serious

**earthy ebb** realistic; coarse to slowly decrease

**ebullient** enthusiastic

**eccentric** odd; out of the ordinary

**echelon** rank of authority; level of power

**éclat** brilliance; fame

**eclectic** selecting; choosing from various source

**eclipse** to overshadow; to outshine

**ecology** study of the environment

**ecstatic** extremely happy

**eddy** swirling current of water, air, etc.

**edict** decree (especially issued by a sovereign); official command

**edifice** structure; building

**edify** to improve someone morally; to instruct

**educe** to draw or bring out

**eerie** weird; mysterious

**efface** to erase; to wipe out

**effectual** effective; adequate

**effeminate** unmanly; womanly; soft and weak

**effervescent** bubbly; spirited

**effete** worn-out; barren

**efficacy** power to produce an effect

**effigy** a likeness; an image

**efflorescent** blossoming; flowering 32

**effluent** flowing out

**effrontery** shameful boldness

**effulgent** shining forth brilliantly; radiant

**effusion** a pouring out; an uncontrolled display of

**egalitarian** pertaining to belief in the equality of all

**ego** a feeling of self-importance

**egotism** selfishness; boasting about oneself

**egregious** remarkably bad; outrageous

**egress** *n./v.* exit

**ejaculation** an exclamation

**eject** to throw out

**elaboration** addition of details; intricacy

**elapse** to pass; to slip away

**elated** overjoyed

**electrify** to thrill

**ecclesiastical** pertaining to the church

**elegy** a sad or mournful poem

**elicit** to draw forth; to cause to be revealed

**elite** the choice or best of a group of persons

**elixir** remedy

**ellipsis** the omission in a sentence of a word or words

**33**  
**emphatic** oval; ambiguous, either purposely or because key words have been left out

**eloquent** convincing or forceful in speech

**elucidate** to make clear

**elude** to avoid; to escape notice

**elusive** difficult to grasp

**elysian** blissful; heavenly

**emaciated** abnormally thin

**emanate** to come forth; to send forth

**emancipate** to set free



<b>embargo</b>	ban on commerce or other activity	<b>encipher</b>	encode; convert a message into code	<b>enhance</b>	to increase in value or beauty; to improve	<b>environs</b>	surroundings
<b>embark</b>	(on) begin a journey or an endeavor	<b>enclave</b>	a country, or part of a country, surrounded by another country	<b>enigma</b>	a puzzling situation; dilemma	<b>envisage</b>	to imagine; to form a mental picture
<b>embed</b>	enclose; place in something	<b>encomium</b>	an expression of high praise	<b>enigmatic</b>	mysterious; puzzling	<b>envoy</b>	messenger; agent
<b>embellish</b>	to decorate	<b>encompass</b>	to include; to surround	<b>enlighten</b>	to inform; to reveal truths	<b>eon</b>	extremely long period of time
<b>embezzle</b>	to steal	<b>encore</b>	a repeat performance	<b>enmity</b>	ill will; hatred	<b>ephemeral</b>	temporary; short-lived
<b>embrace</b>	bug; adopt or espouse; accept readily; encircle; include	<b>encroach</b>	(upon) to trespass; to intrude	<b>ennui</b>	boredom	<b>epic</b>	a long poem about heroic occurrences
<b>embroider</b>	decorate with needlework; ornament with fancy or fictitious details	<b>encumber</b>	burden	<b>enormity</b>	an outrageous and immoral act	<b>epicure</b>	one who enjoys fine food and drink
<b>embroil</b>	to involve in trouble; to complicate	<b>encumbrance</b>	hindrance; obstruction	<b>enrapture</b>	to delight beyond measure	<b>epigram</b>	witty saying
<b>embryonic</b>	undeveloped; in an early stage	<b>encyclopedic</b>	filled with knowledge; comprehensive	<b>ensconce</b>	to hide; to conceal; to settle comfortably	<b>epilogue</b>	closing part of a speech or literary work
<b>emendation</b>	correction	<b>endearment</b>	an expression of affection	<b>ensue</b>	to follow, to result from	<b>epiphany</b>	appearance of a deity (god); revelation
<b>emetic</b>	causing vomiting	<b>entail</b>	require; necessitate; involve	<b>enterprising</b>	full of initiative	35 <b>odic</b>	loosely connected; divided into incidents
<b>eminent</b>	famous; renowned	<b>enthrall</b>	to charm; to captivate		34	<b>epistle</b>	a letter
<b>emissary</b>	one sent on a special mission	<b>entice</b>	to attract; to tempt	<b>entity</b>	independent being	<b>epitaph</b>	inscription on a tomb
<b>emit</b>	to send out; to give forth emotion	<b>endorse</b>	approve; support	<b>entomology</b>	study of insects	<b>epithet</b>	a descriptive word or phrase
<b>emollient</b>	something that soothes or softens	<b>enduring</b>	lasting; surviving	<b>entourage</b>	a group of personal attendants	<b>epitome</b>	a typical example; a summary or condensed account
<b>emolument</b>	profit; gain	<b>energize</b>	to rouse into activity	<b>entranced</b>	filled with delight or wonder	<b>epoch</b>	particular period of history
<b>empathy</b>	understanding another's feelings	<b>enervate</b>	to weaken	<b>entreaty</b>	a request; a plea	<b>equable</b>	tranquil; steady; uniform
<b>empirical</b>	based on experience rather than theory	<b>enfranchise</b>	to give the right to vote	<b>entrenched</b>	firmly established; dug in	<b>equanimity</b>	calmness
<b>emulate</b>	to imitate	<b>engage</b>	attract; hire; pledge oneself; confront	<b>entrepreneur</b>	successful businessman; promoter	<b>equestrian</b>	a horseback rider
<b>emulous</b>	jealous; envious	<b>engender</b>	to promote	<b>enumerate</b>	list; mention one by one	<b>equilibrium</b>	balance; stability
<b>enamored</b>	in love with	<b>engrossed</b>	completely absorbed in	<b>enunciate</b>	to pronounce words clearly	<b>equine</b>	pertaining to horses
		<b>engulf</b>	to overwhelm				

<b>equinox</b>	the time when day and night are of equal length	<b>esoteric</b>	for a select few; not generally known	<b>evocative</b>	tending to call up (emotion, memories)	<b>exhaustive</b>	thorough; comprehensive
<b>equipoise</b>	balance	<b>espionage</b>	spying	<b>evoke</b>	to call forth; to produce	<b>exhilaration</b>	liveliness; high spirits
<b>equitable</b>	fair; just	<b>espouse</b>	to support (a cause)	<b>evolve</b>	to develop gradually	<b>exhort</b>	to warn
<b>equity</b>	fairness; justice; impartiality	<b>essay</b>	v. to try; to attempt	<b>ewe</b>	female sheep	<b>exhume</b>	to bring out of the earth, to reveal
<b>equivocal</b>	doubtful; ambiguous	<b>esteem</b>	respect; value	<b>exacerbate</b>	to aggravate; to make more violent	<b>exigent</b>	urgent; critical
<b>equivocate</b>	to confuse by speaking in ambiguous terms	<b>estival</b>	pertaining to summer	<b>exact</b>	(two meanings) <i>adj.</i> accurate; <i>v.</i> to demand or to require	<b>exiguous</b>	scanty; small in quantity
<b>eradicate</b>	to erase; to wipe out	<b>estranged</b>	separated; alienated	<b>exalt</b>	to raise (a person) in rank; to praise highly	<b>exodus</b>	a departure; a going out
<b>ergo</b>	therefore	<b>ethereal</b>	spiritual; airy	<b>exasperate</b>	to irritate; to annoy extremely	<b>exonerate</b>	to free from guilt or blame
<b>erode</b>	to wear away	<b>ethnic</b>	pertaining to a particular race or culture	<b>exceptionable</b>	objectionable	<b>exorbitant</b>	excessive; unreasonable
<b>erotic</b>	pertaining to sexual love	<b>ethos</b>	underlying character of a culture, group, etc	<b>excerpt</b>	selected passage (written or musical)	<b>exorcise</b>	to drive out an evil spirit
<b>err</b>	to make a mistake	<b>etymology</b>	the origin and development of words	<b>excise</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> a tax on liquor, tobacco, etc.; <i>v.</i> to cut out or off	37 <b>ic</b>	foreign; excitingly strange
<b>errant</b>	wandering (in search of adventure); straying from what is right	<b>eugenics</b>	science of improving the human race	<b>exclaim</b>	cry out suddenly	<b>expansive</b>	outgoing and sociable; broad and extensive; able to increase in size
<b>erratic</b>	irregular; abnormal	<b>eulogy</b>	praise for a dead person	<b>excoriate</b>	(two meanings) to scrape the skin off-, to criticize sharply	<b>expatriate</b>	to enlarge upon; to speak or write at length
<b>erroneous</b>	mistaken; wrong	<b>euphemism</b>	substitution of a pleasant expression for an unpleasant one	<b>exculpate</b>	to free from blame, to vindicate	<b>expatriate</b>	a person who is banished from, or leaves, his native country
<b>ersatz</b>	artificial; inferior substitute	<b>euphonious</b>	having a pleasant sound; harmonious	<b>excruciating</b>	unbearably painful	<b>expectorate</b>	to spit out
<b>erstwhile</b>	formerly; in the past	<b>euphoria</b>	a feeling of well-being	<b>exculpate</b>	to free from blame, to vindicate	<b>expedient</b>	practical; advantageous
<b>erudite</b>	scholarly; learned	<b>euthanasia</b>	mercy killing	<b>execrate</b>	to curse	<b>expedite</b>	to speed up; to make easy
<b>escalate</b>	to increase; to grow rapidly; to intensify	<b>evanescent</b>	temporary; fleeting	<b>execute</b>	put into effect; carry out	<b>expendable</b>	replaceable
<b>escapade</b>	a reckless adventure	<b>evasive</b>	not straightforward; tricky	<b>exemplary</b>	worthy of imitation	<b>expenditure</b>	payment or expense; output
<b>escarpment</b>	steep cliff	<b>evenhanded</b>	impartial; fair	<b>exemplify</b>	serve as an example of; embody	<b>expertise</b>	specialized knowledge; expert skill
<b>eschew</b>	to avoid; to keep away from	<b>eventuate</b>	to result; to happen finally	<b>exempt</b>	not subject to a duty, obligation	<b>expiate</b>	to atone for
<b>escrow</b>	(preceded by <i>in</i> ) money deposited with a third person pending fulfillment of a condition	<b>evict</b>	to expel; to throw out			<b>expletive</b>	interjection; profane oath
		<b>evince</b>	to show clearly				

**explicate** explain in detail; make clear

**explicit** clear; unambiguous; direct

**exploit** to use for one's own advantage

**expository** explanatory; serving to explain

**exposure** risk, particularly of being exposed to disease or to the elements; unmasking; act of laying something open

**expound** to explain; to interpret

**expressly** especially; particularly

**expropriate** take possession of

**expunge** to erase

**expurgate** to remove offensive passages; to cleanse

**extant** still in existence

**extemporaneous** offhand; done without preparation

**extenuating** less serious

**extinct** no longer in existence

**extirpate** to destroy; to remove completely

**extol** to praise

**extort** to obtain by force

**extradite** to give up a prisoner to another authority

**extraneous** unrelated; not essential

**extrapolate** to estimate; to infer

**extrapolation**

projection; conjecture

**extricate** to set free; to disentangle

**extrinsic** external; coming from outside

**extrovert** an outgoing person

**extrude** force or push out

**exuberant** full of enthusiasm

**exude** to discharge; to ooze

**exult** to rejoice

**F**

**fabricate** (two meanings) to construct; to lie

**fabulous** incredible; imaginative

**facade** outward appearance

**facet** aspect

**facetious** joking; sarcastic

**facile** easy; effortless

**facilitate** to make easy

**facsimile** an exact copy; a duplicate

**faction** a minority within a larger group

**factious** causing disagreement

**factitious** artificial

**factotum** an employee who can do all kinds of work

**faculty** power; ability; skill

**fallacious** misleading; deceptive

**fallible** capable of error

**fallow** inactive; unproductive

**falter** to stumble; to hesitate

**fanatic** a person with uncontrolled enthusiasm

**fanciful** unreal; imaginative; unpredictable

**fanfare** noisy or showy display

**farce** broad comedy; mockery

**farcical** absurd; ridiculous

**fastidious** hard to please

**fatal** causing death 38

**fatalistic** believing that all things in life are inevitable

**fathom** (two meanings) *n.* nautical measure of 6 feet in depth; *v.* comprehend

**fatuous** foolish

**fauna** animals of a certain area

**fawn** (two meanings) *n.* a young deer; *v.* to act

**fawning** courting favor by cringing and flattering

**faze** to disturb; to discourage

**fealty** loyalty; devotion

**feasible** capable of being accomplished; suitable

**feat** deed or accomplishment

**febrile** feverish

**fecund** fertile; productive

**feign** to pretend

**feint** a false show; a pretended blow

**feisty** quick-tempered or quarrelsome

**felicitous** apt; suitably expressed; well chosen

**felicity** happiness

**feline** pertaining to cats

**fell** (two meanings) *v.* to knock down; *adj.* fierce or cruel

**felon** a criminal

**felonious** treacherous; base; villainous

39

**feral** not domestic; wild

**ferment** a state of agitation or excitement

**ferret** (two meanings) *n.* a small animal of the weasel family; *v.* to search or drive out

**fervent** eager; earnest

**fervid** very emotional

**fervor** glowing ardor; intensity of feeling

**fester** to rot

**festive** joyous; merry

**fete** to honor; to entertain

**fetid** foul-smelling

**fetish** object with magical power; object that receives respect or devotion

**fetter** to confine; to put into chains

**fiasco** a total disaster

**fiat** an official order

<b>fickle</b>	changeable in affections; unfaithful slavishly submissive	<b>flagrant</b>	scandalous; shocking	<b>fluctuate</b>	to move back and forth; to vary	<b>forensic</b>	pertaining to a formal discussion or debate
<b>fictitious</b>	false; not genuine	<b>flail</b>	to strike freely and wildly	<b>fluent</b>	flowing; able to speak and/or write easily and clearly	<b>forerunner</b>	ancestor; predecessor
<b>fidelity</b>	faithfulness	<b>flair</b>	a knack; a natural talent	<b>fluke</b>	unlikely occurrence; stroke of fortune	<b>foreshadow</b>	to hint
<b>figment</b>	something imagined	<b>flamboyant</b>	showy; conspicuous	<b>fluster</b>	to upset; to confuse	<b>foresight</b>	ability to foresee future happenings; prudence
<b>figurative</b>	not literal, but metaphorical; using a figure of speech	<b>flaunt</b>	to boast; to show off	<b>fluvial</b>	pertaining to a river 40	41 <b>stall</b>	to prevent by action in advance; to anticipate
<b>figurine</b>	small ornamental statuette	<b>flay</b>	(two meanings) to strip the skin off, to criticize sharply	<b>flux</b>	state of continual change	<b>forfeit</b>	to give up
<b>filch</b>	to steal	<b>fleck</b>	spot	<b>fodder</b>	coarse food for cattle, horses, etc.	<b>forgo</b>	to do without; to give up
<b>filial</b>	like a son or daughter	<b>fledgling</b>	a young, inexperienced person	<b>foible</b>	a weakness; minor fault	<b>forlorn</b>	sad and lonely; wretched
<b>filibuster</b>	to block legislation by making long speeches	<b>fleece</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> wool of a lamb, <i>v.</i> swindle	<b>foil</b>	(two meanings) <i>v.</i> to prevent the success of a plan; <i>n.</i> a person who, by contrast, makes another person seem better	<b>formality</b>	ceremonious quality; something done just for form's sake
<b>finale</b>	the climax; end	<b>flexible</b>	bendable	<b>foist</b>	(on) to pass off merchandise which is inferior	<b>formidable</b>	dreadful; discouraging
<b>finesse</b>	diplomacy; tact	<b>flick</b>	light stoke as with a whip	<b>folderol</b>	nonsense	<b>forsake</b>	desert; abandon; renounce
<b>finicky</b>	extremely particular; fussy	<b>flinch</b>	to draw back; to cringe	<b>foliage</b>	masses of leaves	<b>forswear</b>	renounce; abandon
<b>finite</b>	limited; measurable	<b>flippant</b>	treating serious matters lightly	<b>folly</b>	a foolish action	<b>forte</b>	strong point
<b>firebrand</b>	one who stirs up a resolution	<b>flit</b>	fly; dart lightly; pass swiftly by	<b>foment</b>	to stir up; to instigate	<b>forthright</b>	direct; frank
<b>firmament</b>	sky; heavens	<b>floe</b>	mass of floating ice	<b>foolhardy</b>	foolish; reckless	<b>fortitude</b>	strength; courage
<b>fiscal</b>	pertaining to finances	<b>flora</b>	plant life of a certain area	<b>fop</b>	an excessively vain man	<b>fortnight</b>	two weeks; fourteen days
<b>fissure</b>	opening; groove; split	<b>florid</b>	flowery; ornate	<b>foray</b>	a sudden attack	<b>fortuitous</b>	lucky; by chance
<b>fitful</b>	irregular; occurring in spurts	<b>flotilla</b>	small fleet of ships	<b>forbearance</b>	patience; restraint	<b>foster</b>	to nourish; to encourage
<b>flabbergasted</b>	astonished; made speechless	<b>flotsam</b>	floating cargo or wreckage	<b>ford</b>	place where a river can be crossed on foot	<b>founder</b>	<i>v.</i> to fail completely; to sink
<b>flaccid</b>	flabby	<b>flounder</b>	struggle and thrash about; proceed clumsily or falter	<b>forebear</b>	ancestor	<b>founder</b>	<i>n.</i> person who establishes (an organization, business)
<b>flag</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> a banner; <i>v.</i> to droop or to slow down	<b>flourish</b>	grow well; prosper; decorate with ornaments	<b>foreboding</b>	a warning; an omen	<b>fracas</b>	a loud quarrel
<b>flagellate</b>	to whip	<b>flout</b>	to mock; to ridicule	<b>foregone</b>	long past	<b>fractious</b>	irritable; quarrelsome; stubborn
						<b>fracture</b>	to break or to crack

**frailty** a weakness; a defect  
**franchise** special right or privilege  
**frantic** wild  
**fraternal** brotherly  
**fraudulent** dishonest; cheating  
**fraught** filled  
**fray** (two meanings) *n.* a noisy quarrel; *v.* to unravel or to come apart  
**frenetic** frantic; wild  
**frenzy** madness; fury  
**fresco** painting on plaster (usually fresh)  
**freshet** a fresh water stream  
**fretful** worried; irritated  
**friction** (two meanings) *n.* a rubbing together; conflict or disagreement  
**frigid** extremely cold  
**frivolous** trivial; silly  
**frollicsome** prankish; gay  
**frond** fern leaf; palm or banana leaf  
**frowzy** dirty; unkempt  
**frugality** thrift; economy  
**fruition** bearing of fruit; fulfillment; realization  
**fruitless** barren; yielding no results  
**frustrate** to prevent; to discourage  
**fugacious** pertaining to the passing of time

**fugitive** fleeting or transitory; roving  
**fulcrum** support on which a lever rests  
**fulminate** to explode  
**fulsome** disgustingly excessive  
**fundamental** basic; primary; essential  
**furor** frenzy; great excitement  
**furtive** stealthy; sneaky  
**fusion** union; coalition  
**futile** useless; hopeless; ineffectual

## G

**gadfly** a person who annoys others  
**gaff** a hook  
**gaffe** social blunder  
**gainsay** to deny; to contradict  
**gait** manner of walking  
**gala** festive  
**galaxy** a group of stars  
**gale** windstorm; gust of wind; emotional outburst (laughter, tears)  
**gall** bitterness  
**gallant** polite; noble  
**galleon** large sailing ship  
**galvanize** to stimulate; to startle into sudden activity

**gambit** strategy; an opening one uses to advantage  
**gambol** to frolic; to romp about  
**gamely** bravely; with spirit  
**gamut** the whole range or extent  
**gape** to stare with open mouth  
**garble** to distort  
**gargantuan** gigantic; huge  
**garish** tastelessly gaudy  
**garland** a wreath of flowers  
**garner** to gather; to acquire  
**garnish** to decorate; to trim  
**garrulous** talkative  
**gauche** awkward; tactless  
**gaudy** flashy; showy  
**gaunt** thin and bony; bleak and barren  
**gavel** hammer-like tool; mallet  
**gawk** stare foolishly; look in open-mouthed awe  
**gazebo** an open structure with an enjoyable view  
**gazette** newspaper  
**gelid** very cold; frozen  
**genealogy** family history  
**generality** vague statement  
**generate** to produce; to originate  
**generic** general; not specific, pertaining to a class  
**genesis** origin; beginning  
**genial** warm; friendly

**genocide** killing of a race of people  
**genre** an art form or class  
**gentle** polite; refined  
**gentility** those of gentle birth; refinement  
**gentry** upper class people  
**genuflect** to kneel; to bend the knee  
**germane** relevant; fitting  
**germinal** pertaining to a germ; creative  
**germinate** cause to sprout; sprout  
**gerontology** the study of older people and their problems  
**gesticulation** lively or excited gesture  
**ghastly** horrible; dreadful  
**ghoul** grave robber; ogre  
**gibberish** silly, unintelligible talk  
**gibbet** gallows from which criminals are hanged  
**gibe** mock  
**giddy** dizzy; flighty; whirling  
**gild** to cover with gold  
**gingerly** carefully; cautiously  
**gird** to encircle  
**girth** distance around something; circumference  
**gist** main point; essence  
**give** to scoff, to ridicule

**glacial** like a glacier; extremely cold  
**glaring** highly conspicuous; harshly bright  
**glazed** glassy; smooth; shiny  
**glean** to gather patiently and with great effort  
**glee** joy  
**glib** fluent; smooth  
**glimmer** shine erratically; twinkle  
**glissade** a skillful glide over snow or ice in descending a mountain  
**glitch** a malfunction; an error  
**gloaming** twilight; dusk  
**gloat** to look at or think about with great satisfaction  
**gloss over** explain away  
**glossary** brief explanation of words used in the text  
**glossy** smooth and shining  
**glower** to frown; to stare angrily at  
**glum** sad; gloomy  
**glutinous** gluey; sticky  
**glutton** one who eats or drinks too much  
**gnarled** knotty; twisted; roughened  
**gnome** a legendary dwarf-like creature  
**goad** to encourage; to spur on  
**gorge** (two meanings) *n.* a deep valley with steep sides; *v.* to eat or to swallow greedily

**gory** bloody  
**gossamer** light; flimsy; fine  
**Gothic** medieval; mysterious  
**gouge** (two meanings) to dig out; to swindle or overcharge  
**gourmand** a glutton; a person who eats excessively  
**gourmet** an expert of fine food and drink  
**gradient** a slope; a ramp  
**graduated** arranged by degrees (of height, difficulty, etc.)  
**granary** a storehouse for grain  
**grandeur** impressiveness; stateliness; majesty  
**grandiloquent** pretentious; speaking in a pompous style  
**grandiose** impressive; showy  
**granulate** form into grains  
**graphic** giving a clear and effective picture  
**grapple** to grip, and hold; to struggle  
**grate** (two meanings) to grind to shreds; to irritate  
**gratify** to please; to satisfy  
**gratis** without payment free  
**gratuitous** free of cost; unnecessary  
**grave** serious; somber  
**gregarious** sociable; friendly  
**grievous** causing grief or sorrow; distressing  
**grill** to question severely

**grim** fierce; stern  
**grimace** a distorted face; an expression of disapproval  
**grime** dirt  
**gripe** complaint  
**grisly** horrible; gruesome; ghastly  
**grit** stubborn courage  
**gross** extreme; vulgar  
**grotesque** absurd; distorted  
**grotto** a cave  
**grovel** to lower oneself to please another  
**grudging** resentful; reluctant  
**gruel** liquid food made by boiling oatmeal, etc.  
**grueling** exhausting  
**gruesome** grisly; horrible  
**gruff** rough or harsh in manner  
**guffaw** boisterous laughter  
**guile** deceit; trickery  
**guileless** sincere  
**guise** a false appearance  
**gull** to trick; to deceive  
**gullible** easily deceived; too trusting  
**gumption** courage and initiative  
**gustatory** pertaining to the sense of taste  
**gusto** hearty enjoyment  
**gusty** windy; stormy  
45

**guttural** pertaining to the throat  
**gyrate** to rotate; to spin

## H

**habitat** dwelling  
**hackneyed** trite; commonplace; overused  
**haggard** worn out from sleeplessness, grief, etc.  
**haggle** to bargain over a price  
**halcyon** calm  
**hale** healthy  
**hallmark** a symbol of high quality  
**hallow** to make holy; to bless  
**hallucination** illusion; a false notion  
**halting** hesitant; faltering  
**hamper** to hinder; to keep someone from acting  
**haphazard** dependent upon mere chance  
**hapless** unlucky  
**harangue** long speech  
**harass** to annoy; to bother  
**harbinger** an omen or sign  
**harbor** (two meanings) *n.* a body of water providing protection; *v.* to conceal  
**hardy** courageous; sturdy  
**harlequin** a clown

**harpy** a greedy, grasping person; a scolding, nagging, bad-tempered woman

**harrowing** upsetting; distressing

**harry** to worry; to torment

**hart** a male deer

**haughty** snobbish; arrogant

**haunt** to appear as a spirit or ghost

**haven** a safe place

**havoc** great destruction

**hazard** risk; danger

**hazy** slightly obscure

**headlong** recklessly; impulsively

**headstrong** stubborn; willful

**hearsay** rumor; gossip

**hearth** fireplace

**heckler** person who harasses others

**hector** to bully

**hedonist** a pleasure-seeker

**heedless** careless; unmindful

**hefty** large and powerful; heavy

**hegemony** leadership or strong influence

**hegira** flight; escape

**heinous** hateful; abominable

**hemophilia** blood defect

**herald** to announce; to usher in

**herbivorous**

feeding on vegetation

**herculean** tremendous in size, strength, or difficulty

**heresy** rejection of a religious belief

**hermetic** airtight; tightly sealed

**heterodox** departing from acceptable beliefs

**heterogeneous** different; unlike; dissimilar

**heyday** period of success

**hiatus** pause or gap

**hibernal** wintry

**hibernate** to be inactive, especially during the winter

**hierarchy** a ranking, one above the other

**hilarity** gaiety; joy

**hindrance** block; obstacle

**hircine** goat-like

**hirsute** hairy; bearded

**histrionic** theatrical; overly dramatic

**hoard** to store away; to accumulate

**hoary** white with age or frost

**hoax** a practical joke

**hobgoblin** a frightening apparition; something that causes fear

**hodgepodge** mixture

46

**hogwash** meaningless or insincere talk

**hoi polloi** common people; the masses

**holocaust** complete destruction

**holster** pistol case

**homage** respect; honor

**homily** a sermon

**homogeneous** composed of parts all the same

**homophonic** sounding alike

**hone** to sharpen

**hoodwink** to deceive

**hoot** to shout in disapproval

**horde** a crowd of people

**horticulture** the science of gardening

**hospice** shelter

**hostility** unfriendliness; hatred

**hovel** a dirty, wretched living place

**hover** to keep lingering about; to wait near at hand

**hubris** excessive pride or self-confidence

**hue** a color; a shade

**humane** kind; compassionate

**humbug** trick; hoax

**humdrum** monotonous; routine

**humid** moist

47 **ility** lowliness; meekness

**humus** black soil for fertilizing

**hurtle** to dash; speed; run

**husband** use sparingly; conserve; save

**husbandry** the science of raising crops; careful management

**hybrid** mixed; assorted

**hydrophobia** fear of water; rabies

**hymeneal** pertaining to marriage

**hyperbole** extreme exaggeration

**hypercritical** over critical; faultfinding

**hypochondriac** a person with imaginary ailments

**hypocrite** one who pretends to be someone or something he is not

**hypothesis** an assumption; a theory

## I

**ichthyology** study of fish

**icon** a statue or idol,

**iconoclast** a rebel; one who breaks with tradition

**idealist** one with very high standards

**ideology** system of ideas of a group

**idiom** expression whose meaning as a whole differs from the meanings of its

	individual words; distinctive style			<b>imperative</b> extremely necessary		<b>imply</b> to suggest	
<b>idiosyncrasy</b>	a peculiar personality trait	<b>immobility</b>	state of being immovable	<b>imperceptible</b>	unnoticeable; undetected	<b>import</b> (two meanings) <i>n.</i> significance; meaning; <i>v.</i> to bring in from a foreign country	
<b>idolatry</b>	excessive or blind adoration; worship of usually by fire	<b>immortal</b>	not subject to death	<b>imperial</b>	like an emperor; related to an empire	<b>importunate</b>	urging; demanding
<b>idyllic</b>	charmingly simple or poetic	<b>immunity</b>	freedom from disease	<b>imperious</b>	domineering, haughty	<b>importune</b>	to persistently ask; to beg
<b>igneous</b>	pertaining to fire	<b>immutable</b>	unchangeable	<b>impermeable</b>	not permitting passage	<b>impostor</b>	a person who goes about under an assumed name or character
<b>ignite</b>	kindle; light	<b>impair</b>	to weaken; to cause to become worse	<b>impertinent</b>	rude; disrespectful	<b>impotent</b>	powerless; lacking strength
<b>ignoble</b>	dishonorable	<b>impale</b>	to pierce with a sharp stake through the body	<b>imperturbable</b>	steady; calm	<b>impoverished</b>	poor
<b>ignominious</b>	shameful; disgraceful	<b>impalpable</b>	vague; not understandable	<b>impervious</b>	not capable of being affected, hardened	<b>imprecation</b>	a curse
<b>ignoramus</b>	a stupid person	<b>impartial</b>	without prejudice	<b>impetuous</b>	acting without thought; impulsive	<b>impregnable</b>	unconquerable
<b>ilk</b>	type; sort; kind	<b>impassable</b>	not able to traveled or crossed	<b>impetus</b>	a stimulus; a moving force	<b>impromptu</b>	without preparation; offhand
<b>illicit</b>	unlawful; illegal	<b>impasse</b>	a dead-end; a problem without a solution	<b>impiety</b>	irreverence; lack of respect for God	<b>impropriety</b>	not proper or suitable
<b>illimitable</b>	infinite	<b>impassive</b>	without feeling; imperturbable; stoical	<b>impinge</b>	to strike; to collide; to encroach	<b>improvident</b>	wasteful
<b>illiterate</b>	uneducated	<b>impeach</b>	to accuse	<b>impious</b>	disrespectful toward God	<b>improvise</b>	to do without preparation
<b>illumine</b>	to brighten; to inspire	<b>impeccable</b>	flawless; without fault	<b>implacable</b>	unbending; inflexible; merciless	<b>imprudent</b>	lacking caution; injudicious
<b>illusion</b>	fake impression	<b>impecunious</b>	without money; penniless	<b>implausible</b>	unbelievable	<b>impudent</b>	disrespectful; shameless
<b>illusory</b>	deceptive; not real	<b>impede</b>	to hinder; to obstruct	<b>implement</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> a tool; <i>v.</i> to carry out or put into practice	<b>impugn</b>	to attack a person with words
<b>illustrious</b>	distinguished; bright	<b>impediment</b>	a barrier; an obstruction	<b>implicate</b>	incriminate; show to be involved	<b>impunity</b>	freedom from punishment
<b>imbalance</b>	lack of balance or symmetry; disproportion	<b>impel</b>	push into motion; urge	<b>implication</b>	an indirect indication; a statement that suggests something	<b>impute</b>	to accuse a person of some wrongdoing
<b>imbibe</b>	to drink; to absorb	<b>impending</b>	likely to happen soon	49		<b>inadvertent</b>	unintentional
<b>imbroglio</b>	a difficult or confusing situation	<b>impenetrable</b>	not able to be pierce entered; beyond understanding 48	<b>implicit</b>	suggested, but not plainly expressed		
<b>imbue</b>	to fill completely; to penetrate	<b>impenitent</b>	not repentant	<b>implore</b>	beg		
<b>immaculate</b>	spotless; pure						
<b>imminent</b>	likely to happen; threatening						



**inalienable** not able to be transferred to another

**inane** silly; meaningless

**inanimate** lifeless; dull; dead

**inarticulate** pertaining to speech that is not clear or understandable

**inaugurate** start; initiate; install in office

**incandescent** very bright; shining

**incantation** singing or chanting of magic spells; magical

**incapacitated** disabled, unable to function

**incarcerate** to imprison

**incarnadine** blood-red; flesh colored

**incarnate** in human form

**incendiary** causing fire; stirring up trouble

**incense** to inflame; to enrage

**incentive** something that incites to action

**inception** beginning; start

**incessant** continuous; without pause

**inchoate** at an early stage; just beginning

**incidence** rate of occurrence; particular occurrence

**incidental** not essential; minor

**incipient** beginning to exist or appear

**incisive** sharp; keen

**incite** to urge to action; to s up

**inclement** (usually refers to weather) harsh; unfavorable; severe

**incline** slope; slant

**inclined** tending or leaning toward; bent

**inclusive** tending to include all

**incognito** disguised

**incoherent** rambling; not logically connected

**incompatible** inharmonious

**incongruous** unsuited; inappropriate

**inconsequential** unimportant

**inconsistency** state of being self-contradictory; lack of uniformity or steadiness

**incontinent** lacking self-restraint; licentious

**incontrovertible** certain; undeniable

**incorporate** introduce something into a larger whole

**incorporeal** lacking a material body

**incorrigible** bad beyond correction or reform

**incredulous** skeptical; disbelieving

**increment** an increase; a gain

**incriminate** to charge with a crime; to connect or relate to a wrongdoing

**incrustation** hard coating or crust

**incubate** hatch

**incubus** nightmare

**inculcate** (in or upon) to teach earnestly; to influence someone to accept an idea

**incumbent** (two meanings) *adj.* resting or lying down; *n.* one who holds a political office

**incur** to bring upon oneself, to run into some undesirable consequence

**incursion** a raid; an invasion

**indefatigable** incapable of being tired out

**indelible** incapable of being erased

**indemnify** to insure; to repay

**indentation** notch; deep recess

**indenture** bind as servant to master

**indeterminate** uncertain; not clearly fixed

**indicative** signifying; implying

**indicators** signs; indications

**indict** to charge with a crime; to accuse of a wrong-doing

**indifferent** unmoved or unconcerned

**indigenous** native to a particular area; inborn

**indigent** extremely poor

**indignant** angry as a result of unjust treatment

**indignity** offensive or insulting treatment

**indiscriminate** choosing at random

**indisputable** unquestionable; without doubt

**indissoluble** permanent

**indoctrinate** to teach someone principles or beliefs

**indolent** lazy

**indomitable** unconquerable; unyielding

**indubitable** unquestionable; certain

**induce** to cause; to bring about

**indulgence** gentle treatment; tolerance

**industrious** diligent; hard-working

**inebriated** drunk

**ineffable** not able to be described; unspeakable

**ineffectual** not effective; weak

**ineluctable** inevitable; inescapable

**inept** unfit; bungling; inefficient

**inequity** unfairness

**inert** without power to move; inactive

**inevitable** unavoidable; sure to happen

**inexorable** relentless; unyielding;

implacable

**infallible** certain; without mistakes

**infamous** having an extremely bad reputation; detestable

**infantile** childish

**infectious** passing on a disease with germs

**infer** to conclude; to derive by reasoning

**infernal** hellish; fiendish; diabolical

**infidel** unbeliever

**infiltrate** pass into or through; penetrate

**infinitesimal** exceedingly small; minute

**infirmity** weakness; feebleness

**inflated** puffed up; swollen

**influx** a flowing in

**informal** absence of ceremony

**infraction** the breaking of a law or rule

**infringe** (on or upon) to break a law; to violate; to trespass

**infuriate** enrage; anger

**ingenious** clever

**ingenu** an artless girl; an actress who plays such parts

**ingenuous** simple; innocent, naive

**ingrained** deeply established; firmly rooted

**ingrate** ungrateful person

**ingrati** (oneself) to work one's way into another's favor

**inherent** inborn

**inhibition** restraint; reserve

**inimical** harmful

**inimitable** not able to, be imitated or equaled

**iniquity** wickedness

**initiate** begin

**injunction** a command; an order

**inkling** a hint

**innate** inborn; existing from birth

**innocuous** harmless

**innovate** to introduce a new idea

**innuendo** indirect remark; hint

**inopportune** untimely; poorly chosen

**inordinate** unusual; excessive

**inquisitor** questioner (especially harsh); investigator

**insalubrious** unwholesome; not healthful 52

**insatiable** unable to be satisfied

**inscrutable** mysterious; difficult to understand

**insensible** unconscious; unresponsive

**insidious** treacherous

**insightful** having a penetrating understanding of things

**insinuate** to hint; to suggest

**insipid** tasteless; dull

**insolent** boldly disrespectful

**insolvent** bankrupt; unable to pay creditors

**insomnia** sleeplessness

**insouciant** carefree; happy-go-lucky

**instigate** to provoke; to stir up

**insubordinate** disobedient

**insubstantial** lacking substance; insignificant; frail

**insular** pertaining to an island; detached, isolated

**insuperable** unconquerable

**insurgence** rebellion; action against authority

**insurmountable** overwhelming; unbeatable; insuperable

**insurrection** uprising, rebellion

**intact** entire; left whole; sound

53 **intangible** not able to be perceived by touch; vague interests or reputation of

**integral** essential; whole

**integrate** unify; to bring together into a whole

**integrity** honesty; sincerity

**intellectual** intelligent; having mental capacity to a high degree

**intelligentsia** highly educated, cultured people

**inter** to bury

**interdict** to prohibit; to ban

**interim** meantime; period of time between

**interlocutor** one who takes part in a conversation

**interloper** an intruder

**interlude** a period of time between two events

**interment** burial

**interminable** endless

**intermittent** starting and stopping, periodic

**interpolate** to insert between; to estimate

**interpose** to place between

**interregnum** pause; interval

**interrogate** to question

**interstellar** between or among stars

**intervene** to come between

**intimate** (two meanings) *adj.* private or personal; *v.* to imply

**intimidate** make afraid; threaten

**intolerant** bigoted; narrow-minded

**intractable** hard to manage

**intransigent** stubborn; refusing to give in

**intrepid** fearless; courageous

**intricate** complex; hard to understand

**intrinsic** essential; pertaining to a necessary part of something

**introspective** looking into oneself

**introvert** a person who is concerned with his own thoughts or feelings

**intrude** trespass; enter as an uninvited person

**intuitive** insightful; knowing by a hidden sense

**inundate** to fill to overflowing, to flood

**inured** (to) accustomed to

**invalidate** deprive of legal value; to make null and void

**invariably** constantly; uniformly; without changing

**invective** strong verbal abuse

**inveigh** (against) to make bitter verbal attack

**inveigle** trick; lure; deceive

**inverse** opposite

**invert** to turn inside out or upside down

**inveterate** firmly established; deep-rooted

**invidious** causing resentment; offensive

**invigorate** to fill with energy

**invincible** not able to be defeated; unconquerable

**inviolable** secure from corruption, attack, or violation; unassailable

**invocation** prayer for help; calling upon as a reference or support

**invoke** to call upon

**invulnerable** not able to be hurt; immune to attack

**iota** a small quantity

**irascible** easily angered

**ire** anger; wrath

**iridescent** displaying a wide range of colors like those of the rainbow

**irksome** annoying; bothersome

**ironic** contrary to what was expected

**irony** hidden sarcasm or satire; use of words that seem to mean the opposite of what they actually mean

**irrational** senseless; unreasonable

**irreconcilable** unable to agree 54

**irredeemable** hopeless; unable to be brought back

**irrefutable** indisputable; incontrovertible

**irrelevant** not applicable; unrelated

**irremediable** unable to be corrected or cured

**irreparable** beyond repair

**irrepressible** unable to be controlled

**irreproachable**

blameless; impeccable

**irresolute** indecisive; doubtful; undecided

**irretrievable** impossible to recover or regain; irreparable

**irreverent** disrespectful

**irrevocable** final; unchangeable

**itinerant** traveling from place to place

**itinerary** plan of a trip or restrained

## J

**jabber** chatter rapidly or unintelligibly

**jaded** worn out; dulled

**jargon** words or expressions developed for use within a particular group

55 **idiced** (two meanings) pertaining to a yellowed skin; filled with resentment or jealousy

**jaunt** short trip; excursion

**jaunty** carefree; confident

**jeer** to sneer; to mock

**jeopardy** danger

**jest** to joke; to make light of

**jetsam** goods cast overboard to lighten a ship

**jettison** to throw goods overboard

**jilt** to reject; to cast off

**jingoism** extreme patriotism

**jinx** to bring bad luck to

**jocose** joking; humorous

**jocular** humorous

**jollity** gaiety; cheerfulness

**jostle** to bump; to push

**joyial** jolly; good-natured

**jubilation** celebration; rejoicing

**judicious** wise; showing sound judgment

**juggernaut** a terrible destructive force

**jugular** pertaining to the throat or neck

**junction** a point of time; a crisis group of people; meaningless talk; gibberish

**junket** a pleasure trip; an excursion

**junta** a small group ruling a country

**jurisprudence** science of law

**justification** good or just reason; defense; excuse

**jut** to stick out; to project

**juxtapose** to place side by side

## K

**kaleidoscopic** constantly changing

**ken** range of knowledge

**kernel** central or vital part; whole seed (as of corn)

**killjoy** grouch; spoilsport

**kindle** to set on fire; to excite

**kindred** relative; family, tribe, or race

**kinetic** pertaining to motion

**kismet** destiny; fate

**kleptomania** a compulsion to steal

**knave** a tricky, deceitful person

**knead** to work dough, clay, etc. into a uniform mixture

**knell** the sound made by a bell at a funeral

**knit** contract into wrinkles; grow together

**knoll** a small rounded hill

**knotty** intricate; difficult; tangled

**knuckle** (- under) to yield, to submit; (- down) to begin to work earnestly

**kudos** honor; glory; praise

## L

**laborious** demanding much work or care; tedious

**labyrinthine** complicated; intricate

**lacerate** to tear (flesh) roughly; to mangle

**lachrymose** tearful lightly over a surface

**lackadaisical** uninterested; listless

**lackey** slavish follower

**lackluster** lacking brilliance or liveliness; dull

**laconic** using few words; concise

**lactic** pertaining to milk

**laden** burdened; loaded

**laggard** a slow person; one who falls behind

**laity** religious worshipers who are not clergy

**lambent** softly bright or radiant; running or moving

**lament** to mourn

**laminated** covered with thin sheets, often plastic

**lampoon** a sharp, often harmful satire

**languid** sluggish- drooping from weakness

**languish** to become weak or feeble

**languor** lassitude; depression

**lank** long and slender

**lap** take in food or drink with one's tongue; splash gently

**lapidary** a dealer in precious stones

**larceny** theft

**larder** pantry; place where food is kept

**largess** gifts that have been given generously

**lascivious** lustful or lewd; inciting sexual desire

**lassitude** a feeling of weakness and weariness

**latent** present, but hidden

**lateral** to the side; sideways

**latitude** freedom; margin

**laudable** praiseworthy

**laureate** worthy of praise or honor

**lave** to wash or bathe

**lavish** very generous; extravagant

**lax** careless or negligent

**leaven** cause to rise or grow lighter; enliven

57 **ery** lustfulness; impurity in thought and deed

**leery** suspicious; cautious

**leeway** room for freedom of action; margin

**legacy** a gift made by a will

**legend** explanatory list of symbols on a map

**legerdemain** sleight of hand; deception

**lenient** mild; lax; permissive

**leonine** lion-like; fierce; authoritative

**lesion** an injury; a wound

**lethal** deadly; fatal

**lethargic** dull; slow-moving; sluggish

**leviathan** anything vast or huge; a sea monster

**levitate** float in the air (especially by magical means)

**levity** lightness of body or spirit; lack of seriousness

**levy** to impose and collect taxes

**lewd** pertaining to lust or sexual desire

**lexicographer** compiler of a dictionary

**lexicon** dictionary

**liability** drawback; debts

**liaison** a bond; a connection

**libation** a drink; a beverage

**libel** a false statement in written form

**liberal** giving freely; not strict

**libertine** one who leads an immoral life

**libretto** the words of an opera

**licentious** lawless; immoral; lewd

**liege** lord; master

**lieu** (in lieu of) in place of, instead of

**lilliputian** tiny; narrow-minded

**limber** easily bent; flexible

**limpid** clear, transparent

**linchpin** something that holds or links various parts together

**lineage** ancestry; descent

**lineaments** facial features

**linger** loiter or dawdle; continue or persist

**linguistic** pertaining to language

**lionize** to treat as a celebrity

**liquidate** to pay or settle (a debt); to get rid of by killing; to close down (a business)

**lissome** moving gracefully; agile or active

**list** tilt; lean over

**listless** feeling no interest in anything; indifferent

**litany** supplicatory prayer

**literal** exact; precise; word for word

**lithe** graceful; flexible

**litigation** lawsuit

**livid** darkened or discolored; pale from anger or embarrassment

**loath** reluctant; unwilling

**loathe** to hate; to feel disgust

**lode** a rich source of supply such as a mineral deposit

**lofty** very high; formal; proud

**log** record of a voyage or flight; record of day to day activities

**logistics** military operations dealing with the supply and maintenance of equipment

**loiter** to linger; to hang around loll to lean or lounge about; to droop

**loll** lounge about

**longevity** a long life

**loom** appear or take shape (usually in an enlarged or distorted form)

**lope** to move along with a swinging walk

**loquacious** talkative

**lot** fate

**lout** an awkward, stupid person

**low** moo

**lowly** humble; ordinary

**lucent** giving off light; shining

**lucid** clear; easy to understand; rational or sane

**lucrative** profitable; producing wealth or riches

**ludicrous** ridiculous

**lugubrious** sad; mournful

**lull** to soothe or calm

**lumber** move heavily or clumsily

**luminary** celebrity; dignitary

**luminous** bright

**lummock** big, clumsy, often stupid person

**lunacy** insanity; madness

**lunar** pertaining to the moon

**lunge** quick forward dive or reach; thrust

**lupine** wolf-like; fierce

**lurch** to move suddenly forward

**lurid** shocking; glowing; sensational

**lurk** to lie concealed in waiting; to stay hidden

**luscious** pleasing to taste or smell

**lush** abundant, rich

**luster** shine; gloss

**lustrous** shining; bright

**59 iriant** rich; extravagant

## M

**macabre** horrible; gruesome

**Machiavellian** deceitful; tricky

**machination** evil design

**macroscopic** visible to the naked eye

**madrigal** pastoral song

**maelstrom** whirlpool

**magnanimous** generous with skill; to influence a person in a bad way

**magnate** important person in any field

**magnitude** size; extent

**maim** to cripple; to deprive of the use of some part of

**maladroit** clumsy; unskillful; awkward

**malady** disease; illness

**malaise** discomfort; uneasiness

**malapropism** word humorously misused

**malcontent** one who is dissatisfied

**malediction** curse

**malefactor** wrong-doer; villain

**malevolent** showing ill will or hatred; very dangerous; harmful

**malfeasance** wrongdoing

**malicious** spiteful; vengeful

**malign** to speak badly of

**malignant** evil; deadly

**malingerer** one who pretends to be sick to avoid

**malleable** capable of being changed; adaptable

**malodorous** bad-smelling, stinking

**mammal** a vertebrate animal whose female suckles its young

**mammoth** huge; enormous

**manacle** handcuff, restraint

**mandarin** influential person

**mandate** an order; a command

**mandatory** required; obligatory

**mangle** to cut, slash, or crush so as to disfigure

**mangy** shabby; filthy

**maniacal** raging mad; insane

**manifest** evident obvious

**manifesto** declaration; statement of policy

**manifold** many; varied

**manipulate** (two meanings) to handle or manage

**mannered** affected; not natural

**manumit** to set free

**maraud** to raid; to plunder

**marital** pertaining to marriage

**maritime** pertaining to the sea

**marked** noticeable or pronounced; targeted for vengeance

**marquee** a roof-like shelter

**marred** damaged; disfigured

**marshal** put in order

**marsupial** one of a family of mammals that nurse their offspring in a pouch

**martial** warlike

**martinet** a strict disciplinarian

**martyr** one who suffers for a cause

**marvel** to be amazed; to wonder

**masochist** one who enjoys his own pain and suffering

**massive** huge; bulky

**masticate** to chew

**materialism** preoccupation with physical comforts and things

**maternal** motherly

**matriarchy** a social organization in which the mother is the head of the family

**matriculate** enroll (in college or graduate school)

**matrix** a place of origin

**maudlin** excessively sentimental work

**maul** to injure; to handle roughly

**mausoleum** large tomb for many bodies

**maverick** a rebel; a nonconformist

**mawkish** sickeningly sweet; overly sentimental

**maxim** a proverb or saying

**meager** inadequate; of poor quality

**mean** (three meanings) *n.* a middle point; *v.* to have one's purpose or intention; *adj.* poor in quality or value

**meander** to wander aimlessly

**meddlesome** interfering; curious

**mediate** to settle a dispute; to act as a go-between

**mediocre** ordinary; average; neither good nor bad

**meditate** to think deeply; to ponder

**medley** a mixture; a musical selection combining parts from various sources

**meek** quiet and obedient; spiritless

**megalomania** false impression of one's own greatness; tendency to exaggerate

**melancholy** sad; depressed

**melee** noisy fight

**mellifluous** smoothly flowing, sweet-sounding

61

**melodramatic** overly emotional

**memento** remembrance; a souvenir

**menace** a threat; a danger

**ménage** household; domestic establishment

**menagerie** collection of wild or strange animals

**mendacious** lying; false

**mendicant** a beggar

**menial** low; degrading

**mentor** adviser

**mercantile** pertaining to merchants; commercial

**mercenary** motivated only by a desire for money

**mercurial** changeable; fickle; erratic

**meretricious** gaudy; showy; attractive in a cheap, flashy way

**merger** combination (of two business corporations)

**mesa** a flat-topped elevation of land with steep rock walls

**mesmerize** to hypnotize

**metallurgical** pertaining to the art of removing metals from ores

**metamorphosis** a change; a transformation

**metaphor** comparison (without like or as)

**metaphysics** pertaining to beyond what is natural

**mete** (out) to distribute in portions

**meteoric** momentarily dazzling; swift

**meteorology** study of weather and climate

**methodical** systematic

**meticulous** excessively careful; finicky

**metropolis** large city

**mettle** courage; spirit

**miasma** pollution; poisonous environment

**microcosm** a miniature world

**migrant** changing its habitat; wandering

**migratory** wandering; moving from place to place

**milieu** environment; setting

**militant** ready and willing to fight

<b>millennium</b>	a thousand years	<b>mishap</b>	accident	<b>momentum</b>	quantity of motion of a moving body; impetus	<b>mortify</b>	to embarrass; to humiliate
<b>mimic</b>	to imitate	<b>misnomer</b>	an error in listing the name of a person	<b>monarchy</b>	government by one ruler	<b>mosaic</b>	picture made of colorful small inlaid tiles
<b>mincing</b>	affectedly dainty	<b>misogamy</b>	hatred of marriage	<b>monastic</b>	pertaining to a monk; self-denying	<b>mote motif</b>	small speck theme; central idea
<b>minion</b>	a devoted follower; a highly regarded person	<b>misogynist missile</b>	woman-hater object to be thrown or projected	<b>monetary</b>	pertaining to money	<b>motley</b>	diverse; assorted; having different colors
<b>minuscule</b>	very small	<b>missive</b>	letter	63 <b>monitor</b>	one who watches or warns	<b>mottled</b>	spotted; blotched; streaked
<b>minute</b>	(two meanings) sixtieth part of an hour; very small and insignificant	<b>mite</b>	very small object or creature; small coin	<b>monochromatic</b>	having only one color	<b>mountebank</b>	a phony; a fraud; a charlatan
<b>minutiae</b>	insignificant details; trivia	<b>mitigate</b>	to make less severe; to become milder	<b>monograph</b>	a paper, book, etc.	<b>muddle</b>	to confuse; to mix up
<b>mirage</b>	an apparition or illusion	<b>mnemonic</b>	pertaining to memory	<b>monolithic</b>	unyielding; unified	<b>muggy</b>	warm and damp
<b>mire</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> wet, swampy ground; <i>v.</i> to involve in difficulties	<b>mobile</b>	movable; flexible	<b>monologue</b>	long speech by one person	<b>multifarious</b>	varied; having many parts
<b>mirth</b>	joy; amusement; laughter	<b>mock</b>	to ridicule; to insult, to lower in esteem	<b>monotheism</b>	belief in one god	<b>multiform</b>	having many forms
<b>misanthrope</b>	hater of mankind	<b>mode</b>	prevailing style; manner; way of doing something	<b>monotony</b>	sameness leading to boredom	<b>multilingual</b>	having many languages
<b>misapprehension</b>	a misunderstanding	<b>modicum</b>	a small amount	<b>monumental</b>	great; important	<b>multiplicity</b>	state of being numerous
<b>miscegenation</b>	mixture of races, especially through marriage	<b>modish</b>	fashionable; stylish	<b>moodiness</b>	fits of depression or gloom	<b>mundane</b>	worldly
<b>miscellany</b>	mixture of writings on various subjects	<b>modulate</b>	to soften; to tone down	<b>moot</b>	doubtful; debatable	<b>munificent</b>	generous
<b>mischance</b>	unlucky accident; bad luck	<b>mogul</b>	powerful person	<b>moratorium</b>	delay; postponement	<b>mural</b>	wall painting
<b>misconstrue</b>	misinterpret; misjudge	<b>molecule</b>	the smallest particle (one or more atoms) of a substance, having all the properties of that substance	<b>morbidity</b>	depressing; gruesome	<b>murky</b>	dark; unclear; gloomy
<b>miscreant</b>	a vicious person; a villain	<b>molest</b>	to disturb; to bother	<b>mordant</b>	sarcastic; biting	<b>muse</b>	to think deeply
<b>misdeemeanor</b>	a criminal offense less serious than a felony	<b>mollify</b>	to pacify; to calm; to appease	<b>mores</b>	customs; traditions; morals	<b>muster</b>	to gather together
<b>miserly</b>	stingy; mean	<b>molt</b>	shed or cast off hair or feathers	<b>moribund</b>	dying	<b>musty</b>	stale; moldy
<b>misgiving</b>	doubt; suspicion	<b>molten</b>	melted	<b>morose</b>	gloomy; ill-humored	<b>mutability</b>	ability to change in form; fickleness <i>n.</i> amount produced; crop; income on investment <i>n.</i> insult to one's character or reputation; slander
		<b>momentous</b>	very important	<b>mortal</b>	destined to die; causing death		
				<b>mortician</b>	undertaker		

	<i>n.</i> pretense (of strength) deception; high cliff
<b>mute</b>	silent
<b>mutilate</b>	to disfigure; to cripple
<b>mutinous</b>	rebellious
<b>muzzle</b>	to restrain; to gag
<b>myopic</b>	near-sighted; having a limited point of view
<b>myriad</b>	infinitely vast in number
<b>myrmidon</b>	an unquestioning follower
<b>mythical</b>	imaginary; fictitious

## N

<b>nabob</b>	a very wealthy or powerful person
<b>nadir</b>	lowest point
<b>naive</b>	simple; unsophisticated
<b>narcissistic</b>	conceited; vain
<b>narrative</b>	related to telling a story
<b>nascent</b>	coming into being; being born
<b>natation</b>	the act or art of swimming
<b>nativity</b>	birth
<b>natty</b>	neatly or smartly dressed
<b>naught</b>	nothing
<b>nauseate</b>	cause to become sick; fill with disgust
<b>nautical</b>	pertaining to ships, sailors, navigation

<b>navigable</b>	wide and deep enough to allow ships to pass through; able to be steered
<b>nebulous</b>	hazy; vague; uncertain
<b>necromancy</b>	magic, especially that practiced by a witch 64
<b>nefarious</b>	wicked
<b>negate</b>	to deny; to make ineffective
<b>negligent</b>	careless
<b>negligible</b>	so small, trifling, or unimportant that it may be easily disregarded
<b>nemesis</b>	something that a person cannot conquer or achieve
<b>neologism</b>	new use of a word
<b>neophyte</b>	a beginner; a novice
<b>nepotism</b>	favoritism shown toward relatives
<b>nether</b>	lower; under
<b>nettle</b>	to irritate, to annoy
<b>neutralize</b>	to make ineffective; to counteract
<b>nexus</b>	connection, tie, or link among the units of a
<b>nicety</b>	delicacy; subtlety
<b>niche</b>	recess or hollow in a wall
<b>niggardly</b>	stingy; miserly
<b>niggle</b>	to spend excessive time on unimportant details
<b>nihilism</b>	total rejection of established laws
<b>nimble</b>	quick and light in motion

<b>nip</b>	stop something's growth or development; snip off; bite; make numb with cold
<b>nirvana</b>	place of great peace or happiness
<b>nocturnal</b>	pertaining to night
<b>nodule</b>	a small, rounded mass or lump
<b>noisome</b>	foul-smelling; harmful or injurious
<b>nomadic</b>	wandering; homeless
<b>nomenclature</b>	a set of names or terms
<b>nominal</b>	in name only; not in fact
<b>non sequitur</b>	something that does not logically follow
<b>nonage</b>	a period of immaturity
<b>nonchalant</b>	unconcerned casual
<b>noncommittal</b>	having no definite point of view
<b>nondescript</b>	undistinctive ; ordinary
<b>nonentity</b>	person or thing of little importance group
<b>nonpareil</b>	unequaled; unrivaled
<b>nonplus</b>	to confuse; to perplex
<b>nostalgia</b>	homesickness; longing for the past
<b>nostrum</b>	quack medicine; supposed cure-all
<b>notable</b>	conspicuous; important; distinguished

<b>notorious</b>	having a bad reputation; infamous
<b>novelty</b>	something new; newness
<b>novice</b>	a beginner
<b>noxious</b>	harmful
<b>nuance</b>	delicate variation in meaning, tone, color, etc.
<b>nub</b>	a lump or small piece
<b>nubile</b>	suitable for marriage, in regard to age and
<b>nugatory</b>	worthless; invalid
<b>nullify</b>	to make useless or ineffective
<b>numismatist</b>	coin collector
<b>nuptial</b>	pertaining to marriage
<b>nurture</b>	to feed; to sustain
<b>nutrient</b>	nourishing substance
<b>nutriment</b>	food; nourishment

## O

<b>oaf</b>	a dunce or blockhead
<b>oasis</b>	a place which offers a pleasant relief
<b>obdurate</b>	stubborn; hard-hearted
<b>obeisance</b>	a bow or similar gesture expressing deep
<b>obese</b>	very fat
<b>obfuscate</b>	to confuse; to bewilder; to perplex
<b>obituary</b>	death notice



**objective** not influence by emotions; fair

**oblation** an offering for religious or charitable

**obligatory** required; mandatory

**oblique** slanted; indirect

**obliterate** to destroy without any traces

**oblivious** forgetful; unmindful

**obloquy** strong disapproval; bad reputation resulting from public criticism

**obnoxious** objectionable; offensive

**obscurant** a person who tries to prevent the spread

**obscure** dim; not clear; not easily understood

**obsequious** excessively submissive; overly attentive

**obsequy** a funeral rite or ceremony

**obsess** to control the thoughts or feelings of a person

**obsolescent** going out of use; becoming extinct

**obsolete** no longer useful; outmoded; antiquated

**obstetrician** physician specializing in delivery of babies

**obstinate** stubborn

**obstreperous** boisterous; unruly

**obtrude** to force (one's ideas) on others; to push out

**obtuse** slow to comprehend

**obviate** to prevent

**Occidental** western; opposite of oriental

**occlude** to close; to shut; to block out

**occult** hidden; secret; mysterious

**ocular** pertaining to sight

**odious** disgusting; hateful

**odium** detestation; hatefulness; disrepute

**odoriferous** giving off a pleasant smell

**odorous** having an odor

**odyssey** a long journey

**offal** garbage; waste parts

**offensive** attacking; insulting; distasteful

**offhand** casual; done without prior thought

**officious** meddling; interfering

**ogle** to look at with desire

**ogre** monster; hideous being

**olfactory** pertaining to smell

**oligarchy** government in which power is in the hands of only a few individuals

**Olympian** majestic

**omen** an event which indicates the future

**ominous** threatening; indicating evil or harm

**omnifarious** of all kinds

**omnipotent** all-powerful

**omnipresent** universally present; ubiquitous

**omniscient** all-knowing

**omnivorous** eating any kind of food; absorbing everything

**onerous** burdensome; heavy

**onslaught** a furious attack

**onus** a burden; a responsibility

**opalescent** iridescent; lustrous

**opaque** not transparent; not letting light pass through

**opiate** narcotic; causing sleep or relief

**opportune** timely; well-chosen

**opportunist** one who takes advantage of a situation

**oppress** to rule harshly; tyrannize

**opprobrious** shameful; disgraceful

**opt** (for) to choose

**optician** maker and seller of eyeglasses

**optimist** one who sees the good side of

**optimum** the best; most favorable

**optional** not obligatory; left to one's choice

**opulent** rich; luxurious

**opus** work

**oracular** mysterious; predicting

**oration** a speech delivered on a special occasion

**orbit** a curved path, such as a planet takes around the sun

**ordain** to order; to establish; to arrange

**ordeal** difficult or painful experience; a primitive form of trial

**ordinance** law; regulation

**ordination** ceremony making someone a minister

**organic** fundamental; essential

**orgy** wild, drunken revelry; unrestrained indulgence in a tendency

**orient** (two meanings) *n.* an area of the Far East, such as Asia; *v.* to adjust or adapt to

**orientation** act of finding oneself in society

**orifice** mouth; opening

**ornate** showy; highly decorated

**ornithology** study of birds

**orthodox** accepting the usual or traditional beliefs

**orthography** correct spelling

**oscillate** to swing or move back and forth, like a pendulum

**ossify** to change into bone; to become rigid

**ostensible** apparent; conspicuous

**ostentatious**

showing off; boastful  
**ostracize** to banish; to exclude  
**oust** expel; drive out  
**outlandish** bizarre; peculiar; unconventional  
**outmoded** no longer stylish; old-fashioned  
**outskirts** fringes; outer borders  
**outspoken** candid; blunt  
**outstrip** surpass; outdo  
**outwit** to trick; to get the better of  
**ovation** enthusiastic applause  
**overbearing** bossy and arrogant; decisively important  
**overt** open; aboveboard; not hidden  
**overwrought** extremely agitated; hysterical  
**ovine** of or like a sheep  
**ovoid** egg-shaped

## P

**pachyderm** thick-skinned animal  
**pacifist** one opposed to force; antimilitarist  
**pacify** to calm down  
**pact** an agreement 68  
**paean** song of praise or joy  
**painstaking**

showing hard work; taking great care  
**palatable** pleasant to the taste  
**palatial** magnificent  
**paleontology** study of prehistoric life  
**palette** board on which painter mixes pigments  
**pall** something that covers or conceals  
**palliate** to ease; to lessen  
**pallid** pale; dull  
**palpable** obvious; capable of being touched or felt  
**palpitate** to beat rapidly; to tremble  
**palsy** muscle paralysis  
**paltry** trivial; worthless  
**pan** criticize harshly  
**panacea** a cure-all; an answer for all problems  
**panache** self-confidence; a showy manner  
**pandemic** general; widespread  
**pandemonium** wild disorder; confusion  
**pander** cater to the low desires of others  
**panegyric** an expression of praise  
**pang** a sharp pain  
<sup>69</sup> **oply** suit of armor; any protective covering  
**panorama** unlimited view; comprehensive survey

**pantomime** acting without dialogue  
**papyrus** ancient paper made from stem of papyrus  
**parable** a simple story giving a moral or religious  
**paradigm** a model; an example  
**paradox** a statement that seems contradictory  
**paragon** a model of excellence or perfection  
**parallelism** state of being parallel; similarity  
**parameter** boundary; limits  
**paramount** chief, supreme  
**paranoia** mental disorder characterized by a feeling  
**paraphernalia** personal belongings; equipment  
**paraphrase** to reword; to restate  
**parasite** animal or plant living on another; toady; sycophant  
**parched** dried up; extremely thirsty  
**pariah** an outcast  
**parity** equality; similarity  
**parley** discussion; conference  
**parlous** dangerous  
**parochial** local; narrow; limited  
**parody** a work which imitates another in a ridicule  
**paroxysm** a sudden outburst; a fit  
**parrot** to repeat or imitate without understanding

**parry** to avoid something such as a thrust or blow  
**parsimonious** stingy; miserly  
**partial** incomplete; having a liking for something  
**partiality** inclination; bias  
**partisan** a strong supporter of a cause  
**partition** divide into parts  
**passé** old fashioned; out-of-date  
**passive** submissive; unresisting  
**passport** legal document identifying the bearer as a citizen of a country and allowing him or her to travel abroad  
**pastiche** imitation of another's style in musical composition or in writing  
**pastoral** pertaining to the country; rural  
**patent** (two meanings) *n.* a government protection for an inventor; *adj.* evident or obvious  
**paternal** fatherly  
**pathetic** causing sadness, compassion  
**pathogenic** causing disease  
**pathological** pertaining to disease  
**pathos** pity; deep feeling  
**patina** green crust on old bronze works; tone slowly taken by varnished painting

**patriarch** an early Biblical person regarded as one of the fathers of the human race

**patrician** aristocratic

**patrimony** inherited right; heritage

**patronage** the control of power to make appointments to government jobs

**patronize** support; act superior toward; be a customer of

**paucity** scarcity

**pauper** very poor person

**peccadillo** slight offense

**pecuniary** pertaining to money

**pedagogy** teaching; art of education

**pedant** scholar who overemphasizes book learning or technicalities

**pedantic** showing off learning; bookish

**pedestrian** (two meanings) to be a customer; to talk

**pediatrician** expert in children's diseases

**pedigree** a record of ancestors; a line of descent

**peer** (two meanings) *n.* an equal; *v.* to look close

**peerless** without equal; unmatchable

**peevish** hard to please; irritable

**pejorative** having a negative effect; insulting

**pellucid** transparent; clear

**pelt** (two meanings) *n.* skin of a fur-bearing animal; *v.* to throw things at

**penal** pertaining to punishment

**penchant** a strong liking for; an inclination

**pendant** anything that hangs or is suspended

**penitent** expressing sorrow for sin or wrongdoing

**pensive** dreamily thoughtful

**penury** extreme poverty

**peon** common worker

**perceive** to observe

**perceptible** observable; recognizable

**percussion** striking one object against another sharply

**perdition** damnation; ruin; hell

**peregrinate** to travel from place to place

**peremptory** decisive; final; not open to debate

**perennial** lasting for a long time; perpetual

**perfidious** deceitful; treacherous; unfaithful

**perforate** pierce; put a hole through

**perforce** of necessity

**perfunctory** done without care; routine

**perigee** point nearest to the earth

**perilous** dangerous; risky

**perimeter** outer boundary

**periphery** outside boundary; unimportant aspects of a subject

**periphrastic** said in a roundabout way

**perjury** making a false statement while under oath

**permeable** penetrable; porous; allowing liquids or gas to pass through

**permeate** to spread throughout

**pernicious** deadly; destructive

**peroration** the concluding part of a speech

**perpetrate** to do something evil; to be guilty of

**perpetual** everlasting

**perpetuate** to cause to continue

**perplexity** confusion

**perquisite** something additional to regular pay

**persevere** to endure; to continue

**personable** attractive

**personification** giving human qualities to a non-human being

**perspicacity** keenness of judgment

**perspicuity** clearness, as of a statement

**pert** bold; saucy

**pertinacious** stubborn; persistent

**pertinent** relevant; to the point

**perturb** to unsettle; to disturb

**peruse** to read carefully

**pervade** to spread throughout; to pass through

**perverse** contrary; cranky

**pervert** to lead astray; to corrupt

**pessimist** one who sees the worst in everything

**petrify** to turn to rock; to paralyze with fear

**petrology** study of rocks

**petty** unimportant; minor

**petulant** irritable; rude

**phalanx** closely massed body of persons

**phenomenon** extraordinary person, thing, or event

**philander** to engage in various love affairs

**philanthropy** a desire to help mankind; generosity

**philately** stamp collecting

**philippic** a bitter verbal attack

**philistine** uncultured; common

**philology** study of language

**phlegmatic** unemotional; cool; not easily excited

**phobia** intense fear

**phoenix** a bird which symbolizes immortality

**phylum** major class of plants; primary branch of animal kingdom; division

<b>physiology</b>	pertaining to the science of the function of living organisms	<b>placid</b>	calm	<b>podium</b>	a platform	<b>posterity</b>	future generations
<b>picaresque</b>	pertaining to an adventurous wanderer	<b>plagiarism</b>	aiming another's work to be one's own	<b>poignant</b>	keenly distressing; affecting the emotions	<b>posthumous</b>	occurring after death
<b>piddling</b>	trifling; petty	<b>plague</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> a contagious disease; to torment; <i>v.</i> to trouble	<b>polarize</b>	to separate into opposing groups	<b>postulate</b>	to assume without proof, to take for granted
<b>piebald</b>	mottled; spotted	<b>plaintive</b>	sorrowful; sad	<b>polemic</b>	a controversy or argument	<b>potable</b>	drinkable
<b>piecemeal</b>	bit by bit; gradually	<b>plasticity</b>	ability to be molded	<b>politic</b>	diplomatic; shrewd	<b>potent</b>	powerful; strong
<b>pie</b>	many-colored; variegated	<b>platitude</b>	a dull or trite remark	<b>poltroon</b>	a coward	<b>potentate</b>	ruler; monarch
<b>piety</b>	reverence; devotion	<b>platonic</b>	spiritual; free from sensual desire	<b>polychromatic</b>	many-colored	<b>potential</b>	capacity for being or becoming something
<b>pigment</b>	dye; coloring matter	<b>plaudits</b>	<i>pl.</i> applause; an emphatic expression of approval	<b>polygamist</b>	having more than one spouse	<b>potion</b>	a drink
<b>pilgrimage</b>	a journey to a holy place	<b>plausible</b>	apparently true, fair, or reasonable	<b>polyglot</b>	speaking or writing several languages	<b>potpourri</b>	a mixture
<b>pillage</b>	to rob by violence	<b>plebeian</b>	pertaining to a member of the lower classes	<b>polymorphic</b>	having many forms	<b>practicable</b>	feasible
<b>pillory</b>	to expose to public ridicule or abuse	<b>plenary</b>	full; complete; absolute	<b>polytheism</b>	belief in many gods	<b>practical</b>	based on experience; useful
<b>pine</b>	languish, decline, yearn	<b>plenitude</b>	abundance	<b>pomp</b>	brilliant show or display	<b>pragmatic</b>	practical
<b>pinnacle</b>	peak; highest point	<b>plethora</b>	overabundance	<b>pomposity</b>	self important behavior	<b>prate</b>	to talk extensively and pointlessly; to babble
<b>pious</b>	religious	<b>pliable</b>	flexible	<b>ponder</b>	to think deeply; to consider carefully	<b>prattle</b>	babble
<b>piquant</b>	stimulating to the taste; exciting interest	<b>73 nt</b>	easily bent; adaptable	<b>ponderous</b>	heavy; burdensome	<b>preamble</b>	introductory statement
<b>pique</b>	to irritate or annoy	<b>plight</b>	a sad or dangerous situation	<b>pontifical</b>	pertaining to a bishop	<b>precarious</b>	uncertain; dangerous; risky
<b>piscine</b>	of or like a fish 72	<b>ploy</b>	a gimmick; a trick	<b>porcine</b>	of or like a pig	<b>precede</b>	to be, come, or go before
<b>pitfall</b>	unexpected difficulty; a trap	<b>pluck</b>	(two meanings) <i>v.</i> to pull at; <i>n.</i> courage	<b>pore</b>	study industriously	<b>precedent</b>	an act that may be used as an example in the future
<b>pithy</b>	concise; to the point	<b>plumage</b>	feathers of a bird	<b>porous</b>	full of pores	<b>precept</b>	a rule of conduct
<b>pittance</b>	small share or amount	<b>plumb</b>	to test; to measure	<b>portable</b>	capable of being carried	<b>precinct</b>	district or division of a city
<b>pivotal</b>	central; crucial	<b>plummet</b>	fall sharply	<b>portal</b>	door; gate; entrance	<b>precipice</b>	cliff
<b>placard</b>	small poster	<b>plunder</b>	to rob; to take by force	<b>portentous</b>	warning, foreshadowing	<b>precipitate</b>	to bring about an action suddenly
<b>placate</b>	to soothe; to calm	<b>plutocracy</b>	rule by the wealthy class	<b>portly</b>	stout; large	<b>precipitous</b>	extremely steep
<b>placebo</b>	harmless, phony medicine; something said or done to soothe	<b>poach</b>	to trespass	<b>poseur</b>	to impress others		

**précis** brief summary

**precise** exact

**preclude** to prevent; to shut out

**precocious** prematurely developed

**precursor** a forerunner; predecessor

**predatory** living by plunder, exploitation, etc.

**predecessor** former occupant of a post

**predetermine** predestine; settle or decide beforehand; influence markedly

**predicate** to declare; to assert

**predilection** a liking; preference; inclination

**predispose** to make susceptible

**preeminent** standing out above ε'' others 74

**preempt** head off; forestall by acting first; appropriate for oneself; supplant

**preen** to dress oneself carefully or smartly

**prehensile** adapted for seizing or grasping something

**prelate** church dignitary

**prelude** an introduction

**premeditate** to plan beforehand

**premier** first in importance or time

**premise** statement from which a conclusion is drawn

**premonition** forewarning; hunch

**preponderance** superiority in quantity or power; dominance

**preposterous** absurd; ridiculous

**prerogative** privilege or right

**presage** to indicate or warn in advance

**prescience** knowledge of things before they happen

**presentiment** anticipation, especially of something evil

**prestige** influence; importance

**presumptuous** boldly assuming

**pretentious** showy, pompous

**preternatural** abnormal; beyond what is natural 75

**pretext** a false reason or motive; an excuse

**prevail** to succeed; to gain the advantage

**prevalent** widespread; generally accepted

**prevaricate** to lie

**prey** target of a hunt; victim

**prim** formal; proper

**primary** first; chief

**primeval** of the earliest times or ages

**primogeniture** state of being the first born

**primordial** first; original

**primp** to dress up in a fussy way

**prismatic** many-colored

**pristine** uncorrupted; in its original state

**privation** loss or lack of something essential

**privy** having knowledge of something private or secret

**probe** to investigate; to examine

**probity** honesty; integrity

**problematic** doubtful; unsettled; questionable; perplexing processes

**proclivity** inclination; tendency

**procrastinate** to postpone; to delay

**procreate** to beget or produce

**procrustean** designed to get conformity at any cost

**procure** to obtain; to secure

**prod** to urge; to poke or jab

**prodigal** wasteful

**prodigious** enormous; vast

**prodigy** marvel; highly gifted child

**profane** showing disrespect for sacred things

**profess** to acknowledge; to admit frankly

**proffer** to offer

**proficiency** skill; competency

**profligate** shamelessly immoral; extremely wasteful

**profound** very deep

**profuse** abundant

**progenitor** ancestor

**progeny** descendants

**prognosis** forecasted course of a disease; prediction

**prognosticate** to predict; to foretell

**projectile** a bullet, shell, grenade, etc.

**proletarian** one who belongs to the working class

**proliferate** to expand; to increase

**prolific** productive; fertile

**prolix** tediously long and wordy

**prologue** introduction

**prolong** make linger; draw out; lengthen

**promenade** a stroll or a walk; an area used for walking

**prominent** conspicuous; notable; sticking out

**promiscuous** indiscriminate; having sexual relations with many people

**promontory** piece of land

**promote** help to flourish; advance in rank; publicize

**prompt** cause; provoke; provide a cue for an actor

**promulgate** to announce; to advocate

**prone** reclining, lying flat; inclined

**propagate** to spread; to multiply

**propellants** substances that propel or drive forward

**propensity** inclination; tendency

**prophetic** predicting

**propinquity** nearness; closeness

**propitiate** appease

**propitious** favorable

**proponent** a person who supports a cause or doctrine

**propound propriety** put forth for analysis conformity; appropriateness

**propulsive** driving forward

**prosaic** dull; commonplace; unimaginative

**proscribe** to denounce; exile

**proselyte** a person who has changed from one religion to another; a convert

**prospectus** a report describing a forthcoming project

**prosperity** good fortune; financial success; physical well-being

**prostrate** lying flat; thrown or fallen to the ground

**protagonist** main character

**protean** changeable; variable

**protégé** one who has been guided or instructed by another

**protocol** the etiquette observed by diplomats

**prototype** the original; first of its kind; a model

**protract** to draw out; to prolong

**protrude** to stick out; to project

**protuberance** protrusion; bulge

**proverbial** well-known

**provident** having foresight

**provincial** countrified; narrow; limited

**provisional** temporary

**proviso** a condition; a stipulation

**provocative** arousing anger or interest; annoying

**provoke** to anger; to irritate; to annoy

**prowess** skill; strength; daring

**proximity** nearness in place or time

**proxy** one who acts in place of another

**prude** an overly proper person

**prudence** caution; good judgment

**prune** to cut off or lop off such as twigs, branches, or roots

**prurient** lustful; obscene; lewd

**pseudo** false; counterfeit

**pseudonym** a fake or assumed name

**psyche** the human soul or spirit

**pterodactyl** extinct flying reptile

**puerile** childish; immature

**pugilist** a boxer

**pugnacious** eager to fight; quarrelsome

**puissant** powerful; strong

**pulchritude** beauty

**pulmonary** pertaining to the lungs

**pulverize** crush or grind into powder; totally destroy

**pummel** to beat or thrash with the fists

**pun** the use of words alike in sound but different in meaning

**punctilious** very exact; precise

**pundit** a person who is an authority on a subject

**pungent** having a sharp taste or smell; severely critical or sarcastic

**punitive** pertaining to punishment

**puny** weak; inferior

**purchase** firm grasp or footing

**purge** to cleanse; to purify

**puritanical** strict; rigid; harsh

**purloin** to steal

**purport** to claim to be

**purse** *n.* a small pouch for carrying money; money, funds; *v.* to pucker

**purvey** to furnish; to supply

**pusillanimous** cowardly; fearful

**putative** supposed; grieved

**putrefy** to rot; to decay

**putrid** foul; rotten; decayed

**pyre** a funeral fire in which the corpse is burned

**pyretic** pertaining to fever

**pyromaniac** one who likes to start fires; arsonist

**Pyrrhic victory** success gained at too high a cost

## Q

**quack** an untrained doctor; a pretender to any skill

**quadruped** a four-footed animal

**quaff** to gulp; to drink in large quantities

**quagmire** a swamp; a difficult situation

**quail** to lose courage; to shrink with fear

**quaint** strange or unusual in a pleasing or amusing

**qualified** limited; restricted

**qualm** a feeling of uneasiness

**quandary** a puzzling situation; a dilemma

**quarantine** isolation of person or ship to prevent spread of infection

**quarry** an animal that is being hunted down

**quash** to cancel; to set aside (as an indictment)

**quasi** resembling; seeming  
**quaver** to tremble; to shake  
**quay** a wharf  
**queasy** uneasy; nauseated  
**quell** to subdue; to calm down  
**quench** douse or extinguish; assuage or satisfy  
**querulous** complaining  
**query** a question  
**quest** a search 78  
**queue** a line of people waiting their turn  
**quibble** petty objection or argument  
**quiddity** essential quality  
**quiescent** at rest; motionless  
**quietude** tranquility  
**quietus** finishing stroke; anything that ends an activity  
**quintessence** the pure and concentrated essence of something  
**quip** a witty or sarcastic remark  
**quirk** a peculiar characteristic of a person; a sudden twist or turn  
**quiver** to tremble; to shake  
**quixotic** extremely idealistic; romantic; not practical  
**quizzical** odd, questioning; puzzled  
**quorum** number of members necessary to conduct a meeting

**quotidian** daily

## R

**rabble** mob; disorderly crowd  
**rabid** intense; furious or raging; mad  
**rack** to torment; to torture  
79 **raconteur** storyteller  
**radical** extreme; complete; violent  
**rail** to complain bitterly  
**raillery** good-humored ridicule  
**raiment** clothing, garments  
**rakish** carefree; lively  
**rally** call up or summon (forces, vital powers, etc.); revive or recuperate  
**ramble** wander aimlessly (physically or mentally)  
**rambunctious** restless; hard to control  
**ramification** a result; a consequence; a branch  
**ramify** divide into branches or subdivisions  
**ramp** slope; inclined plane  
**rampant** widespread; raging  
**ramshackle** shaky; ready to fall apart  
**rancid** having a bad taste or smell; stale; repulsive  
**rancor** bitter resentment; hatred

**random** without definite purpose, plan, or aim; haphazard  
**rankle** to cause irritation; to fester  
**rant** to speak in a loud or violent manner  
**rapacious** taking by force; greedy  
**rapproach** a close relationship; harmony  
**rapt** completely absorbed in; overcome with joy  
**rarefy** to make less dense; to refine  
**rash** (two meanings) *n.* a skin irritation; *adj.* reckless or daring  
**raspy** harsh; grating  
**ratify** to officially approve of  
**ratiocinate** to reason  
**ration** a fixed portion; a share  
**rational** sensible; reasonable  
**rationalize** to make an excuse for  
**raucous** irritating or harsh in sound  
**ravage** to damage; ruin  
**rave** overwhelmingly favorable review  
**ravel** fall apart into tangles; unravel or untwist; entangle  
**ravenous** extremely hungry; greedy  
**raze** to destroy; to level to the ground  
**reactionary**

recoiling from progress; politically ultraconservative  
**realm** kingdom; region  
**reaper** one who harvests grain  
**rebuff** to refuse; to snub  
**rebuke** to scold; to blame  
**rebuttal** contradiction; opposing argument  
**recalcitrant** disobedient; hard to manage  
**recant** to withdraw or disavow a statement or opinion  
**recapitulate** to summarize; repeat briefly  
**recast** reconstruct (a sentence, story, etc.); fashion again  
**recede** to go or move back; to withdraw  
**receptive** quick or willing to receive ideas, suggestions, etc.  
**recess** (two meanings) a cut or notch in something; a pause or rest  
**recidivist** a person who goes back to crime  
**recipient** one who receives  
**reciprocal** interchangeable; mutual  
**reciprocate** to give in return  
**recluse** hermit; one who shuts himself off from the world  
**recoil** to retreat; to draw back  
**reconcile** to bring into agreement or harmony

**recondite** difficult to understand; profound

**reconnaissance** survey of enemy by soldiers; reconnoitering

**reconnoiter** to survey; to check (advance) 80

**recount** to tell or relate, as a story

**recourse** resorting to help when in trouble

**recreant** coward; traitor

**recrimination** counter charge

**rectify** to correct; to make right

**rectitude** honesty; moral uprightness

**recumbent** lying down; reclining

**recuperate** to get well

**recur** to happen again

**redemption** deliverance from sin; a rescue

**redolent** having a pleasant odor

**redoubtable** formidable; commanding respect

**redress** to set right; to remedy

**redundant** repetitious; unnecessary

**reek** to give off; emit

**refraction** bending of a ray of light

**refractory** stubborn; hard to manage

**refrain** abstain from; resist

**refulgent** shining; glowing

**refurbish** to make new; to freshen up

**refute** to prove wrong, such as an opinion

**regal** pertaining to a king; splendid

**regale** to entertain

**regenerate** to re-create; to reform morally

**regent** one who governs

**regicide** the killing of a king

**regime** a system of government

**regimen** a regular system (of exercise, diet, etc.)

**regressive** moving in a backward direction

**regurgitate** to rush or surge back, as undigested food

**rehabilitate** to restore to useful state

**reimburse** to pay back

**reiterate** to repeat

**rejoinder** retort; comeback; reply

**rejuvenate** to make young again

**relegate** to banish; to assign to an inferior position

**relentless** unyielding

**relevant** significant; pertaining to the subject

**relic** surviving remnant; memento

**relinquish** to give up; to let go

**relish** to enjoy; to take delight in

**remediable** capable of being corrected

**remedial** intended to correct

**reminisce** to remember

**remiss** negligent

**remission** a lessening; a forgiveness as of sins or offenses

**remnant** remainder

**remonstrate** to protest; to complain

**remorse** regret for wrongdoing

**remuneration** payment for a service

**renaissance** rebirth; renewal; revival

**renal** pertaining to the kidneys

**rend** to split; to tear apart

**render** deliver; provide; represent

**rendezvous** a meeting; appointment

**rendition** transliteration; artistic interpretation of a song etc.

**renegade** a deserter; a traitor

**renege** to go back on one's word

**renounce** to give up

**renovate** to make new; to repair

**renown** fame

**rent** rip; split

**reparable** capable of being repaired

**reparation** compensation

**repartee** a quick, witty reply

**repast** a meal

**repeal** revoke; annul

**repellent** something that drives away or wards off (insects, etc.)

**repercussion** reaction; aftereffect

**repertoire** special skills or talents one possesses; collection

**repine** to complain; to fret

**replenish** to fill up again

**replete** well-filled

**replica** copy

**replicate** reproduce; duplicate

**repose** to rest; to sleep

**repository** storehouse

**reprehensible** deserving criticism or blame; shameful

**repress** to control; to subdue

**reprieve** temporary stay

**reprimand** to scold

**reprisal** retaliation; revenge

**reprise** musical repetition; repeat performance; recurrent action

**reproach** to blame; to scold

**reprobate** a wicked person

**reproof** a rebuke

**repudiate** to reject; to disown

**repugnant** distasteful; disgusting



<b>repulse</b>	to drive back; to repel	<b>restrain</b>	to hold back; to control	<b>revelry</b>	noisy merrymaking	<b>risqué</b>	daring or indecent; not proper
<b>reputable</b>	respectable	<b>resumption</b>	taking up again	<b>reverberate</b>	to echo; to resound	<b>rite</b>	a religious ceremony; a solemn act
<b>reputed</b>	supposed to be	83 <b>rge</b>	to rise again	<b>revere</b>	to honor; to respect	<b>riveting</b>	absorbing; engrossing
<b>requiem</b>	funeral hymn; mass for the dead	<b>resurrection</b>	revival; rebirth	<b>reverie</b>	a daydream	<b>rivulet</b>	small stream
<b>requisite</b>	required or necessary, indispensable	<b>resuscitate</b>	to revive from apparent death or from unconsciousness	<b>revert</b>	relapse; backslide; turn back to	<b>robust</b>	strong; hearty
<b>requite</b>	to make a return or repayment	<b>retain</b>	keep; employ	<b>revile</b>	to abuse; to slander	<b>rogue</b>	a dishonest person; a scoundrel
<b>rescind</b>	to cancel; to repeal	<b>retaliation</b>	revenge; repayment for an evil act	<b>revoke</b>	cancel; retract	<b>roil</b>	to make liquids murky by stirring up sediment
<b>resentment</b>	indignation; bitterness; displeasure	<b>retentive</b>	having a good memory; remembering	<b>revulsion</b>	sudden violent change of feeling; reaction	<b>rollick</b>	jolly; carefree
<b>reserve</b>	self-control; formal but distant manner	<b>reticent</b>	silent or reserved in manner	<b>rhapsodize</b>	to speak or write in an exaggeratedly enthusiastic manner	<b>roster</b>	a list
<b>residue</b>	that which remains	<b>retinue</b>	body of attendants or followers	<b>rhetorical</b>	concerned with mere style or effect	<b>rostrum</b>	platform for speech-making; pulpit
<b>resigned</b>	accepting one's fate; unresisting; patiently submissive	<b>retiring</b>	modest; shy	<b>ribald</b>	vulgar; indecent	<b>rote</b>	(preceded with <i>by</i> ) from memory, without
<b>resilient</b>	recovering quickly; elastic	<b>retort</b>	a short, witty reply	<b>riddle</b>	pierce with boles; permeate or spread throughout	<b>rotund</b>	round; fat
<b>resolute</b>	very determined	<b>retract</b>	to take back (a statement); to withdraw	<b>rider</b>	amendment or clause added to a legislative bill	<b>rousing</b>	lively; stirring
<b>resolve</b>	<i>n.</i> determination; firmness of purpose	<b>retrench</b>	to cut down or reduce expenses	<b>rife</b>	frequently occurring; widespread	<b>route</b>	stampede; drive out
<b>resonance</b>	fullness of sound	<b>retribution</b>	deserved punishment	<b>rift</b>	a break or split	<b>rubble</b>	broken fragments
<b>resourceful</b>	able to deal effectively with problems	<b>retrieve</b>	to get or bring back	<b>rig</b>	fix or manipulate	<b>ruddy</b>	reddish; healthy-looking
<b>respiration</b>	breathing; exhalation	<b>retroactive</b>	applying to a period before a certain law was passed	<b>righteous</b>	behaving justly or morally	<b>rudimentary</b>	elementary; basic
<b>respite</b>	a delay; rest	<b>retrogressive</b>	going backward; becoming worse	<b>rigid</b>	stiff and unyielding; strict; hard and unbending	<b>rue</b>	to regret; to be sorrowful
<b>resplendent</b>	shining brightly; dazzling	<b>retrospect</b>	(preceded by <i>in</i> ) looking back on past events	<b>rigor</b>	severity	<b>ruffian</b>	hoodlum; lawless person
<b>responsiveness</b>	state of reacting readily to appeals, orders, etc.	<b>revelation</b>	something made known; a disclosure	<b>rigorous</b>	strict	<b>ruffle</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> a wrinkle or a ripple; <i>v.</i> to irritate or to annoy
<b>restitution</b>	repayment; a giving back			<b>rile</b>	vex; irritate; muddy	<b>ruminate</b>	to consider carefully; to meditate
<b>restive</b>	restless; uneasy; impatient			<b>risible</b>	laughable; funny	<b>rummage</b>	ransack; thoroughly search

**ruse** a skillful trick or deception  
**rustic** pertaining to the country  
**ruthless** cruel; merciless

## S

**saboteur** one who commits sabotage; destroyer of property  
**saccharine** overly sweet  
**sacrilege** the violation of anything sacred  
**sacrosanct** extremely holy  
**sadistic** deriving pleasure from inflicting pain on  
**saga** a long story of adventure  
**sagacious** wise  
**sage** a wise person  
**salacious** obscene; lusty any situation  
**salient** significant; conspicuous  
**saline** salty  
**sallow** sickly pale  
**salubrious** healthful  
**salutary** healthful; wholesome  
**salutatory** a welcoming address, as at a graduation  
**salvage** to rescue; to save from destruction  
**sanctimonious** hypocritical in regard to religious

**sanction** to authorize; to give permission  
**sanctuary** refuge; shelter; shrine; holy place  
**sangfroid** calmness; composure  
**sanguinary** bloody  
**sanguine** cheerful; optimistic  
**sap** diminish; undermine  
**sapient** wise  
**sarcasm** scornful remarks; stinging rebuke  
**sardonic** mocking; scornful  
**sartorial** pertaining to clothes or tailoring  
**sate** satisfy to the full; cloy  
**satellite** small body revolving around a larger one  
**satiated** satisfied; filled up  
**satirical** sarcastic; ironic  
**saturate** to soak; to fill up  
**saturnine** gloomy; sluggish  
**saunter** to stroll; to walk leisurely  
**savant** a person of extensive learning  
**savoir faire** tact; knowledge of just what to do in  
**savor** to enjoy, as by taste or smell  
**savory** tasty; pleasing, attractive, or agreeable  
**scabbard** case for a sword blade; sheath  
**scaffold** temporary platform for workers; bracing

**scale** framework; platform for execution  
**scale** climb up; ascend  
**scant** inadequate in size or amount  
**scanty** meager; insufficient  
**scapegoat** one who takes the blame for others  
**scathing** extremely severe or harsh, such as a remark  
**scavenge** hunt through discarded materials for usable items; search, especially for food  
**scenario** plot outline; screenplay; opera libretto  
**schematic** relating to an outline or diagram; using a system of symbols  
**schism** a split or break  
**scintilla** a tiny amount; a speck  
**scintillate** to sparkle; to twinkle  
**scion** an offspring; a descendant  
**scoff** mock; ridicule  
**scope** range; extent  
**scourge** a whip for flogging people; a person or thing regarded as a great affliction  
**scruple** fret about; hesitate, for ethical reasons  
**scrupulous** honest; ethical; precise  
**scrutinize** to examine closely  
**scuffle** struggle confusedly; move off in a confused hurry

**scurrilous** coarsely abusive; vulgar  
**scurry** run about; to hurry  
**scurvy** despicable; contemptible  
**scuttle** to sink (a ship); to abandon  
**seamy** sordid; unwholesome  
**sear** to burn; to scorch  
**seasoned** experienced  
**sebaceous** fatty  
**secession** withdrawal  
**seclude** to keep apart; to isolate  
**secrete** to hide or conceal  
**sect** separate religious body; faction  
**sectarian** relating to a religious faction or subgroup; narrow-minded; limited  
**secular** worldly; non religious  
**sedate** quiet; calm; serious  
**sedentary** sitting most of the time  
**sediment** material that settles on the bottom; residue  
**sedition** rebellion  
**sedulous** hard-working; industrious; diligent  
**seedy** run-down; shabby  
**seemly** proper; appropriate  
**seep** ooze; trickle  
**seethe** to boil; to be violently agitated  
**seismic** pertaining to earthquake  
**semblance** outward appearance

<b>seminary</b>	school for training future ministers; academy for young women	<b>shackle</b>	to keep prisoner; to restrain	<b>simile</b>	a comparison using like or as	<b>slag</b>	residue from smelting metal; dross; waste matter
<b>senile</b>	pertaining to mental weakness due to old age	<b>sham</b>	a pretense	<b>simony</b>	the sin of buying or selling church benefits	<b>slake</b>	to lessen (thirst, desire, anger, etc.) by satisfying; to quench
<b>sensate</b>	pertaining to feeling	<b>shambles</b>	a slaughterhouse, great disorder	<b>simper</b>	to smile in a silly way	<b>slander</b>	to make a false statement against someone
<b>sensual</b>	indulging oneself with physical pleasures	<b>shard</b>	a fragment	<b>simplistic</b>	oversimplified	<b>slapdash</b>	haphazard; careless; sloppy
<b>sensuous</b>	appealing to the senses, especially by beauty or delicacy	<b>sheaf</b>	bundle of stalks of grain; any bundle of things tied together	<b>simulacrum</b>	an image; a likeness	<b>slattern</b>	an untidy woman
<b>sententious</b>	concise; including proverbs and brief remarks	<b>sheathe</b>	place into a case	<b>simulate</b>	to pretend; to imitate	<b>sleazy</b>	cheap; flimsy
<b>sentient</b>	conscious; capable of feeling	<b>sheepish</b>	embarrassed, bashful	<b>simultaneous</b>	occurring at the same time	<b>sleek</b>	smooth and shiny
<b>sentinel</b>	a guard	<b>shibboleth</b>	a slogan; a password	<b>sinecure</b>	job with no responsibility	<b>sleeper</b>	something originally of little value or importance that in time becomes very valuable
<b>sepulcher</b>	tomb; burial vault	<b>shiftless</b>	lazy; inefficient	<b>sinewy</b>	tough; strong	<b>sleight</b>	dexterity
<b>sequel</b>	an event or literary work that follows a previous one	<b>shimmer</b>	glimmer intermittently	<b>singular</b>	extraordinary; remarkable; exceptional	<b>slight</b>	insult to one's dignity; snub
<b>sequester</b>	to separate; to set aside	<b>shirk</b>	avoid (responsibility, work, etc.); mangle	<b>sinister</b>	threatening evil; ominous	<b>slipshod</b>	untidy or slovenly; shabby
<b>seraphic</b>	angelic; pure	<b>shoal</b>	a shallow place in the water; a reef	<b>sinuous</b>	curving; winding	<b>slither</b>	to slide or glide
<b>serendipity</b>	a talent for making desirable discoveries by accident	<b>shoddy</b>	sham; not genuine; inferior	<b>siren</b>	an attractive but dangerous woman	<b>slothful</b>	lazy
<b>serene</b>	calm; peaceful	<b>shortcomings</b>	defects; deficiencies	<b>skeptic</b>	one who doubts	<b>slough</b>	to discard; to shed
<b>serpentine</b>	winding	<b>shrew</b>	a nagging, bad-tempered woman	<b>skiff</b>	small, light sailboat or rowboat	<b>slovenly</b>	untidy; dirty; careless
<b>serrated</b>	having tooth-like edges	<b>shrewd</b>	clever; astute	<b>skimp</b>	provide scantily; live very economically	<b>sluggard</b>	lazy person
<b>servile</b>	like a slave	<b>shroud</b>	a cloth or sheet in which a corpse is wrapped for burial	<b>skinflint</b>	stingy person; miser	<b>sluggish slur</b>	slow; lazy; lethargic v. speak indistinctly; mumble
<b>servitude</b>	slavery; bondage	<b>shun</b>	keep away from	<b>skirmish skittish</b>	minor fight restless; nervous	<b>smelt</b>	melt or blend ores, 88 changing their chemical composition
<b>sever</b>	to cut in two; to separate	<b>shyster</b>	lawyer using questionable methods	<b>skullduggery</b>	trickery, deception	<b>smirk</b>	to smile in an affected or offensive way
<b>severity</b>	harshness; intensity; sternness; austerity	<b>sibilant</b>	hissing	<b>skulk</b>	to sneak around, to lie in hiding	<b>smite</b>	to strike forcefully
		<b>sibling</b>	a brother or sister	<b>slacken</b>	become loose; to relax		
		<b>simian</b>	pertaining to an ape or monkey				

<b>smolder</b>	to burn without flame; to keep feelings concealed		a debt; <i>n.</i> a substance that dissolves another	<b>spatula</b>	broad-bladed instrument used for spreading or mixing	<b>stagnant</b>	not flowing; stale; sluggish
<b>smug</b>	self-satisfied	<b>somber</b>	dark; gloomy	<b>spawn</b>	lay eggs	<b>staid</b>	sedate; settled
<b>snare</b>	to trap	<b>somnambulate</b>	walk in one's sleep	<b>specious</b>	not genuine; pleasing to the eye but deceptive	<b>stalemate</b>	a deadlock; a draw
<b>sneer</b>	to look at with contempt; to scorn; to deride	<b>somniferous</b>	causing sleep	<b>specter</b>	a ghost; a phantom	<b>stalwart</b>	strong; sturdy
<b>snicker</b>	to laugh in a half-suppressed way	<b>somnolent</b>	drowsy; sleepy	<b>spectrum</b>	colored band produced when beam of light passes through a prism	<b>stamina</b>	endurance; resistance to fatigue
<b>snippet</b>	a small fragment	<b>sonorous</b>	producing a deep, rich sound	<b>speculate</b>	(two meanings) to meditate; to participate in a risky business transaction	<b>stance</b>	attitude; posture
<b>snivel</b>	to whine; to complain	<b>sophisticated</b>	worldly-wise and urbane; complex	<b>spendthrift</b>	someone who wastes money	<b>stanch</b>	check flow of blood
<b>sober</b>	not drunk; serious	<b>sophistry</b>	a deceptive, tricky argument	<b>sphinx</b>	person who is difficult to understand	<b>stanza</b>	division of a poem
<b>sobriquet</b>	nickname; assumed name	<b>sophomoric</b>	immature; pretentious	<b>splenic</b>	bad-tempered; irritable	<b>stark</b>	complete; desolate, cheerless
<b>sodden</b>	soaked; damp	<b>soporific</b>	causing sleep	<b>splice</b>	fasten together; unite	<b>static</b>	inactive; motionless
<b>sojourn</b>	a brief stay or visit	<b>sordid</b>	dirty; filthy	<b>spontaneity</b>	lack of premeditation; naturalness; freedom from constraint	<b>stationary</b>	standing still; not moving
<b>solace</b>	comfort	<b>sot</b>	a drunkard	<b>sporadic</b>	infrequent; irregular	<b>statute</b>	law; rule
<b>solar</b>	pertaining to the sun	<b>sovereign</b>	a monarch or other supreme ruler	<b>sportive</b>	playful	<b>steadfast</b>	firm in purpose; dependable; constant
<b>solder</b>	repair or make whole by using a metal alloy	<b>spacious</b>	roomy; convenient	<b>spry</b>	full of life; active	<b>stealth</b>	slyness; sneakiness; secretiveness
<b>solecism</b>	an error or inconsistency	<b>spangle</b>	small metallic piece sewn to clothing for ornamentation	<b>spume</b>	foam	<b>steep</b>	soak; saturate
<b>solemnity</b>	seriousness; gravity	<b>sparse</b>	not thick; thinly scattered; scanty	<b>spurious</b>	deceitful; counterfeit	<b>stellar</b>	pertaining to the stars
<b>solicit</b>	to ask; to seek; to try to get an order in business	<b>Spartan</b>	warlike; brave; disciplined	<b>spurn</b>	to reject	<b>stem from</b>	arise from
<b>solicitude</b>	concern; anxiety	<b>spasm</b>	a sudden burst of energy	<b>squabble</b>	minor quarrel; bickering	<b>stench</b>	a foul smell
<b>soliloquy</b>	act of talking to oneself	<b>spasmodic</b>	fitful; periodic	<b>squalid</b>	filthy; dirty	<b>stentorian</b>	very loud
<b>solipsistic</b>	pertaining to the theory that only oneself exists or can be proved to exist	<b>spat</b>	squabble; minor dispute	<b>squander</b>	waste	<b>stereotyped</b>	not original; commonplace
89		<b>spate</b>	sudden flood or strong outburst; a large number or amount	<b>squat</b>	stocky; short and thick	<b>sterling</b>	of high quality; excellent
<b>solitude</b>	loneliness	<b>spatial</b>	relating to space	<b>staccato</b>	made up of short, abrupt sounds	<b>stifle</b>	suppress; extinguish; inhibit
<b>solon</b>	a wise man					<b>stigma</b>	mark of disgrace
<b>soluble</b>	able to be dissolved; able to be explained					<b>stilted</b>	artificially formal
<b>solvent</b>	(two meanings) <i>adj.</i> having the ability to pay					<b>stint</b>	to be sparing; to conserve

<b>stipend</b>	salary	<b>stygian</b>	dark; gloomy	<b>substantive</b>	essential; pertaining to the substance		place over something else
<b>stipulate</b>	to specify, to arrange definitely	<b>stymie</b>	to hinder; to block	<b>subterfuge</b>	trickery; deceit	<b>supernal</b>	heavenly
<b>stodgy</b>	stuffy; boringly conservative	<b>suave</b>	polished; sophisticated	<b>subterranean</b>	underground	<b>supernumerary</b>	extra; more than necessary
<b>stoic</b>	showing no emotion; indifferent to pleasure or	<b>subaqueous</b>	underwater	<b>subtlety</b>	perceptiveness; ingenuity; delicacy	<b>supersede</b>	to take the place of
<b>stoke</b>	stir up a fire; feed plentifully	<b>subdued</b>	less intense; quieter	<b>subversive</b>	tending to overthrow or undermine	<b>supervene</b>	to occur unexpectedly
<b>stolid</b>	impassive; having little emotion	<b>subjective</b>	not objective; personal	<b>succinct</b>	concise, brief and to the point	<b>supine</b>	lying on the back
<b>strait</b>	a position of difficulty, a narrow passage of	<b>subjugate</b>	to conquer	<b>succor</b>	assistance; help; relief	<b>supplant</b>	to replace
<b>stratagem</b>	deceptive scheme	<b>sublimate</b>	to make a person act noble or moral	<b>suculent</b>	juicy	<b>supple</b>	flexible
<b>stratify</b>	divide into classes; be arranged into strata	<b>sublime</b>	majestic; elevated or lofty in thought	<b>succumb</b>	to yield; to give in water	<b>suppliant</b>	begging, asking humbly
<b>stratum</b>	layer of earth's surface; layer of society	<b>subliminal</b>	subconscious; unaware	<b>suffrage</b>	the right to vote	<b>supplicate</b>	to pray humbly; to beg
<b>strew</b>	to spread about; to scatter	<b>submissive</b>	yielding, humbly obedient	<b>sullen</b>	gloomy; showing irritation	<b>supposition</b>	hypothesis; the act of supposing
<b>striated</b>	striped; marked with lines	<b>subordinate</b>	of lower rank	<b>sully</b>	to soil, stain, or tarnish	<b>suppress</b>	stifle; overwhelm; subdue; inhibit
<b>stricture</b>	negative criticism; a restriction	<b>suborn</b>	to hire for an unlawful act	<b>sultry</b>	hot and moist	<b>surfeit</b>	an excessive amount
<b>strident</b>	harsh sounding; loud and shrill	<b>subpoena</b>	writ summoning a witness to appear	<b>summation</b>	act of finding the total; summary	<b>surly</b>	rude; bad-tempered
91		<b>subsequent</b>	following; occurring later	<b>sumptuous</b>	luxurious; lavish; extravagant	<b>surmise</b>	to guess
<b>strident</b>	harsh sounding; loud and shrill	<b>subservient</b>	submissive	<b>sunder</b>	separate; part	<b>surmount</b>	to go beyond; to overcome
<b>strident</b>	harsh sounding; loud and shrill	<b>subside</b>	to become quiet; to settle down	<b>sundry</b>	various; assorted	<b>surpass</b>	exceed
<b>strident</b>	harsh sounding; loud and shrill	<b>subsidiary</b>	auxiliary; supplementary; serving to assist	<b>superannuated</b>	retired because of old age	<b>surreptitious</b>	acting in a sneaky way
<b>strident</b>	harsh sounding; loud and shrill	<b>subsidy</b>	direct financial aid by government, etc.	<b>supercilious</b>	proud; haughty	<b>surrogate</b>	substitute
<b>strident</b>	harsh sounding; loud and shrill	<b>subsistence</b>	existence; means of support; livelihood	<b>superficial</b>	on the surface; shallow less	<b>surveillance</b>	supervision; close watch
<b>strident</b>	harsh sounding; loud and shrill	<b>substantial</b>	ample; solid; in essentials	<b>superfluous</b>	excessive; unnecessary	<b>susceptible</b>	impressionable; easily influenced; having little resistance, as to a disease; receptive
<b>strident</b>	harsh sounding; loud and shrill	<b>substantiate</b>	to prove; to confirm; to support	<b>superimpose</b>		<b>sustain</b>	experience; support; nourish
<b>strident</b>	harsh sounding; loud and shrill					<b>sustenance</b>	nourishment

**susurratio** whispering; murmuring

**suture** to join together, as with stitches

**svelte** slender; graceful

**swarthy** dark-complexioned

**swathe** to wrap closely or fully

**swelter** be oppressed by heat

**swerve** deviate; turn aside sharply

**swill** drink greedily

**swindler** cheat

**sybarite** one who is fond of luxuries and pleasure

**sycophant** a flatterer; a parasite

**sympiosis** mutual dependence between two different organism

**symmetrical** balanced; well-proportioned

**synchronize** to happen at the same time

**synoptic** providing a general overview; summary

**synthesis** a combination; a fusion

**synthetic** not genuine; artificial

# T

**tableau** dramatic scene or picture

**taboo** forbidden; unacceptable an action

**tabulation** a systematic listing by columns or rows

**tacit** silent; not expressed

**taciturn** speaking very little

**tactics** plan; method; strategy

**tactile** pertaining to sense of touch

**taint** to infect; to harm a person's reputation

**talisnm** a good luck charm

**tally** to count; to make a record of

**talon** claw of bird

**tangent** touching

**tangible** real; capable of being touched

**tanner** person who turns animal hides into leather

**tantalize** to tease or torment

**tantamount** equivalent to

**tantrum** fit of petulance; caprice

**tarantula** venomous spider

**tarn** a small lake or pool

**tarnish** to soil; to discolor; to stain

**tarry** to linger; to delay

**taunt** to ridicule, to tease

**taurine** like a bull of disease

**taut** tight; tense

**tautological** needlessly repetitious

**tautology** unnecessary repetitions

**tawdry** cheap; showy; flashy

**tawny** yellowish-brown

**tedious** boring; monotonous

**teeming** overfilled; pouring out

**temerity** reckless boldness; rashness

**temper** to moderate; to soften or tone down

**temperament** characteristic frame of mind; disposition; emotional excess

**temperate** not extreme; moderate

**tempestuous** stormy; impassioned; violent

**tempo** speed of music

**temporal** pertaining to time

**temporize** to be indecisive; to be evasive; to delay

**tenacious** holding on; persistent; stubborn

**tenacity** firmness; persistence

**tendentious** biased; favoring a cause

**tender** offer; extend

**tenet** a doctrine; a belief

**tensile** capable of being stretched; elastic

**tentative** for the time being; experimental

**tenuous** slender; flimsy; without substance

**tenure** the holding or possessing of anything

**tepid** lukewarm

**terminate** to put an end to; to conclude

**terminology** proper use of words as names or symbols

**terminus** a boundary; a limit

**terpsichorean** pertaining to dancing

**terrestrial** earthly; living on land

**terse** brief, to the point

**testy** irritable

**tether** tie with rope

**thanatology** the study of death and dying

**thematic** relating to a unifying motif or idea

**theocracy** government by religious leaders

**theoretical** based on theory not practice or experience 94

**therapeutic** pertaining to the treatment and curing

**thermal** pertaining to heat

**thesaurus** a book of synonyms and antonyms; a dictionary

**thespian** an actor

**thrall** a slave

**threadbare** worn through till the threads show; shabby and poor

**threnody** a funeral song

**thrifty** careful about money; economical

**throes** a violent struggle; pains; agony

<b>throng</b>	a crowd	<b>torrent</b>	rushing stream; flood	<b>transition</b>	going from one state of action to another	<b>tributary</b>	a stream flowing into a river
<b>thwart</b>	to prevent or hinder	<b>torrid</b>	passionate; hot or scorching	<b>transitory</b>	lasting a short time; brief	<b>tribute</b>	a gift; an acknowledgment to show admiration
<b>tightwad</b>	excessively frugal person; miser	<b>torsion</b>	twisting; bending	<b>translucent</b>	letting light pass through	<b>trifling</b>	trivial; unimportant
<b>tiller</b>	handle used to move boat's rubber (to steer)	<b>torso</b>	the human body excluding the head and limbs	<b>transmute</b>	to change from one form to another; to transform	<b>trigger</b>	set off
<b>timidity</b>	lack of self-confidence or courage	<b>tortuous</b>	twisting; winding	<b>transparent</b>	easily seen through; clear	<b>trinity</b>	group of three
<b>timorous</b>	fearful; cowardly	<b>torturous</b>	causing extreme pain	<b>transpire</b>	to be revealed or become known; to occur	<b>trinket</b>	knickknack; bauble
<b>tinge</b>	a faint color; a trace	<b>totter</b>	move unsteadily; sway, as if about to fail	<b>transport</b>	strong emotion	<b>trite</b>	worn out; stale; commonplace
<b>tirade</b>	a long angry speech; an outburst of bitter denunciation	<b>touchstone</b>	standard; a test or criterion for quality	<b>trappings</b>	articles of dress; equipment	<b>trivia</b>	matters or things that are very unimportant
<b>titanic</b>	huge	<b>touchy</b>	sensitive; irascible	<b>trauma</b>	a shock; an aftereffect	<b>trough</b>	container for feeding farm animals; lowest point (of a wave, business cycle, etc.)
<b>titillate</b>	to tickle; to excite agreeably	<b>tout</b>	publicize; praise excessively	<b>travail</b>	very hard work; intense pain	<b>truckle</b>	to submit; to yield
<b>title</b>	right or claim to possession; mark of rank; name (of a book, film, etc.)	<b>toxic</b>	poisonous; harmful	<b>traverse</b>	go through or across	<b>truculent</b>	savage; brutal; cruel
95		<b>tract</b>	pamphlet; a region of indefinite size	<b>travesty</b>	an absurd or inadequate imitation	<b>truism</b>	a self-evident, obvious truth
<b>titter</b>	to laugh in a self-conscious or nervous way	<b>tractable</b>	easy to manage	<b>treacherous</b>	dangerous; deceptive; disloyal	<b>truncate</b>	to shorten; to cut off
<b>titular</b>	nominal holding of title without obligations	<b>traduce</b>	to speak badly of, to slander	<b>treatise</b>	a book or writing about some particular subject	<b>truncheon</b>	a club
<b>toady</b>	servile flatterer; yes man	<b>trait</b>	a characteristic; a quality	<b>treble</b>	three times as much	<b>tryst</b>	a secret meeting
<b>token</b>	(two meanings) <i>n.</i> sign or symbol; <i>adj.</i> slight or unimportant	<b>trajectory</b>	path taken by a projectile	<b>trek</b>	travel; journey	<b>tumid</b>	swollen; bulging
<b>tome</b>	large, heavy book	<b>tranquil</b>	calm; peaceful	<b>tremor</b>	trembling; slight quiver	<b>tumult</b>	great noise and confusion
<b>toothsome</b>	tasty	<b>transcend</b>	to go beyond; to overcome	<b>tremulous</b>	trembling; quivering	<b>tundra</b>	rolling, treeless plain in Siberia and arctic North America
<b>topography</b>	physical features of a region	<b>transcendental</b>	supernatural; going beyond ordinary experience or belief	<b>trenchant</b>	keen or incisive; vigorous; effective	<b>turbid</b>	muddy; unclear
<b>topple</b>	to overturn; to fall over	<b>transcribe</b>	copy	<b>trepidation</b>	fear; alarm	<b>turbulence</b>	wild disorder; violent motion
<b>torpid</b>	inactive; sluggish	<b>transgression</b>	violation of a rule or law	<b>trespass</b>	to invade; to enter wrongfully	<b>turgid</b>	swollen
<b>torpor</b>	lethargy; sluggishness; dormancy	<b>transient</b>	temporary; passing	<b>tribulation</b>	trouble	<b>turmoil</b>	confusion

**turncoat** traitor  
**turpitude** baseness; shameful behavior  
**tussle** a struggle; a fight  
**tutelage** instruction  
**twain** two  
**tycoon** a wealthy businessman  
**typhoon** tropical hurricane or cyclone  
**tyranny** oppression; cruel government  
**tyro** a beginner

97

## U

**ubiquitous** present everywhere  
**ulcerous** infected  
**ulterior** lying beyond; hidden  
**ultimatum** a final demand or proposal  
**umbrage** a feeling of resentment  
**unaccountable** inexplicable; unreasonable or mysterious  
**unanimity** agreement, oneness  
**unassailable** unable to be attacked  
**unassuming** modest  
**unbridled** violent  
**uncanny** weird; strange  
**unconscionable**

unreasonable; excessive  
**uncouth** crude; clumsy  
**unctuous** oily, excessively polite  
**underlying** fundamental; lying below  
**undermine** weaken; sap  
**underscore** emphasize  
**undue** inappropriate; unreasonable  
**undulate** to move or sway in wavelike motion  
**unearth** dig up  
**unequivocal** clear; definite  
**unerring** accurate; not going astray or missing the  
**unfetter** liberate; free from chains  
**unfledged** not feathered; immature  
**unfrock** to strip a priest or minister of church authority  
**ungainly** awkward; clumsy; unwieldy  
**uniformity** sameness; monotony  
**unilateral** one-sided  
**unimpeachable** above suspicion; unquestionable  
**uninhibited** free; not restricted  
**unique** being the only one of its kind  
**unison** harmony, agreement  
**universal** broad; general  
**unkempt** untidy; sloppy

**unmindful** unaware  
**unmitigated** absolute; not lessened  
**unobtrusive** inconspicuous; not noticeable  
**unprecedented** novel; unparalleled  
**unprepossessing** unattractive  
**unravel** disentangle; solve  
**unrequited** not reciprocated  
**unruly** not manageable; disorderly  
**unsavory** unpleasant to taste or smell  
**unscathed** unharmed; uninjured  
**unseemly** not in good taste  
**unsightly** ugly  
**untenable** unable to be defended or upheld  
**unwarranted** unjustified; groundless; undeserved  
**unwieldy** hard to manage because of size or weight  
**unwitting** unintentional; unaware  
**upbraid** to scold; to find fault with  
**uproarious** loud  
**upshot** *n.* outcome; *v.* decide; settle; solve; mix; make less pure lessen or moderate; swindle or cheat; cut with a chisel  
**urbane** refined; suave  
**urchin** a mischievous child

**ursine** like a bear  
**usurp** to seize illegally  
**usury** excessive amount of money charged as interest  
**utilitarian** useful; practical  
**utopian** perfect; ideal  
**uxorious** overly fond of one's wife

## V

98

**vacillate** to sway back and forth; to hesitate in making a decision  
**vagabond** a wanderer  
**vagary** an odd notion; an unpredictable action  
**vagrant** a homeless person; a wanderer  
**vain** conceited; excessively proud about one's appearance  
**vainglorious** boastfully proud  
**valedictory** saying farewell  
**valiant** courageous; brave  
**valid** true; logical; sound  
**validate** to approve; to confirm  
**valor** courage; bravery  
**vanguard** the front part  
**vanity** excessive pride; conceit  
**vanquish** to defeat



<b>vantage</b>	position giving an advantage	<b>verbiage</b>	overabundance of words	<b>victimize</b>	to make a victim of; to swindle or cheat	<b>visionary</b>	produced by imagination; fanciful; mystical
<b>vapid</b>	uninteresting, tasteless; tedious	<b>verbose</b>	wordy	<b>victuals</b>	food	<b>vista</b>	a distant view
<b>vaporize</b>	turn into vapor (steam, gas, fog, etc.)	<b>verdant</b>	green; flourishing	<b>vie</b>	to compete	<b>vital</b>	vibrant and lively; critical; living, breathing
<b>variegated</b>	having different colors; diversified	<b>verge</b>	border; edge	<b>vigilant</b>	watchful	<b>vitiate</b>	to weaken; to impair
<b>vaunt</b>	to brag or boast	<b>verisimilitude</b>	the appearance of truth	<b>vignette</b>	a short literary sketch; a decorative design	<b>vitreous</b>	of or like glass
<b>veer</b>	to change direction	<b>veritable</b>	true; actual; genuine	<b>vigor</b>	active strength	<b>vitriolic</b>	biting, sharp; bitte 100
99 <b>vate</b>	lead a dull, inactive life	<b>verity</b>	truth	<b>vilify</b>	to speak evil of, to defame	<b>vituperate</b>	to scold, to criticize
<b>vehement</b>	forceful; furious	<b>vernacular</b>	native language; informal speech	<b>vindicate</b>	to clear of guilt or blame	<b>vivacious</b>	animated; lively
<b>velocity</b>	speed	<b>vernal</b>	pertaining to spring	<b>vindictive</b>	spiteful; seeking revenge	<b>vivify</b>	to give life to; to enliven
<b>venal</b>	corrupt; able to be bribed	<b>versatile</b>	good at many things; serving many purposes	<b>vintage</b>	representative of the best	<b>vixen</b>	female fox; ill-tempered woman
<b>vendetta</b>	bitter quarrel or feud	<b>vertex</b>	top; highest point	<b>viper</b>	a poisonous snake; a malignant or person	<b>vociferous</b>	loud; shouting
<b>vendor</b>	seller	<b>vertiginous</b>	whirling; dizzy; unstable	<b>virago</b>	a loud, bad-tempered woman	<b>vogue</b>	fashion; style
<b>veneer</b>	an outward show that misrepresents	<b>verve</b>	energy; enthusiasm	<b>virile</b>	masculine; manly	<b>volant</b>	capable of flying
<b>venerable</b>	worthy of respect	<b>vestige</b>	a trace; visible evidence of something that is no longer present	<b>virtual</b>	in essence; for practical purposes	<b>volatile</b>	unstable; explosive
<b>venerate</b>	to regard with respect	<b>veteran</b>	an experienced person	<b>virtue</b>	goodness, moral excellence; good quality	<b>volition</b>	free will
<b>venial</b>	excusable; minor	<b>vex</b>	to irritate; to annoy	<b>virtuoso</b>	an expert, a skilled person	<b>voluble</b>	talkative; fluent
<b>venomous</b>	poisonous; spiteful; malicious	<b>viable</b>	capable of living; workable; practicable	<b>virulent</b>	deadly; poisonous; harmful	<b>voluminous</b>	large; copious
<b>vent</b>	to give release to; to be relieved of a feeling	<b>viaduct</b>	a bridge	<b>virtuoso</b>	an expert, a skilled person	<b>voracious</b>	extremely hungry; greedy
<b>ventriloquist</b>	someone who can make his or her voice	<b>viands</b>	various foods	<b>visage</b>	the face; appearance	<b>vortex</b>	whirlwind; whirlpool; center of turbulence; predicament into which one is inexorably plunged
<b>venturesome</b>	daring; adventurous; risky	<b>vicarious</b>	taking the place of another person or thing; substituted	<b>visceral</b>	pertaining to instinctive rather than intellectual motivation	<b>votary</b>	loyal follower
<b>veracious</b>	truthful; honest	<b>viceroys</b>	a representative; a deputy appointed by a sovereign to rule a province	<b>viscid</b>	adhesive; gluey	<b>vouchsafe</b>	to grant; to allow or permit
<b>verbalize</b>	put into words	<b>vicissitudes</b>	unpredictable changes; ups and downs	<b>viscous</b>	sticky	<b>voyeur</b>	Peeping Tom
<b>verbatim</b>	word for word			<b>vise</b>	tool for holding work in place	<b>vulgar</b>	showing poor taste or

manners  
**vulnerable** defenseless; open to attack  
**vulpine** like a fox; clever

## W

101

**waffle** speak equivocally about a issue  
**waft** moved gently by wind or waves  
**waggish** mischievous; humorous; tricky  
**waif** a homeless person  
**waive** to give up (a right)  
**wake** trail of ship or other through water; path of something that has gone before  
**wallow** to indulge oneself, to roll around in  
**wan** pale; weak; tired  
**wane** to gradually decrease in size or intensity  
**wangle** to manipulate; to obtain by scheming  
**wanton** reckless; immoral  
**warble** to sing melodiously  
**warp** to bend out of shape; to pervert  
**warrant** justify; authorize  
**warranty** guarantee; assurance by seller  
**wary** cautious; watchful

**wastrel** a spendthrift; one who wastes money  
**waver** to sway; to be uncertain  
**wax** to grow in size or intensity  
**waylay** ambush; lie in wait  
**wean** accustom a baby to not nurse; give up a cherished activity  
**weather** endure the effects of weather or other forces  
**weighty** of utmost importance  
**welter** turmoil; bewildering jumble  
**wend** to direct one's way  
**wheddle** to coax or to persuade  
**whelp** young wolf, dog, tiger, etc.  
**whet** to stimulate; to make sharp  
**whiff** puff or gust (of air, scent, etc.); hint  
**whimsical** unpredictable; changeable  
**whinny** neigh like a horse  
**whittle** pare; cut off bits  
**wield** to handle  
**willful** contrary; stubborn  
**wily** tricky; sly  
**wince** to shrink, as in pain, fear, etc.; to flinch  
**windfall** unexpected good fortune  
**winnow** sift; separate good parts from bad

**winsome** pleasing; charming  
**wispy** thin; slight; barely discernible  
**wistful** vaguely longing; sadly thoughtful  
**withal** in spite of all; nevertheless  
**withdrawn** introverted; remote  
**wither** shrivel; decay  
**withhold** refuse to give; hold back  
**withstand** stand up against; successfully resist  
**witless** foolish; idiotic  
**witticism** witty saying; wisecrack  
**wizardry** sorcery; magic  
**wizened** withered; shriveled  
**woe** sorrow, grief  
**wolfish** ferocious  
**wont** accustomed  
**workaday** everyday; ordinary  
**worldly** engrossed in matters of this earth; not spiritual  
**wraith** a ghost; an apparition  
**wrangle** to quarrel  
**wrath** anger; rage  
**wrench** to twist; to pull  
**wrest** to take away by force  
**writhe** twist in coils; contort in pain  
**wrought** produced or shaped  
**wry** produced by distorting the face

## X, Y, Z

**xenophobia** fear of foreigners or strangers  
**xyloid** pertaining to wood  
**yen** an intense desire; a longing  
**yield** v. give in; surrender  
**yoke** to join together; to link  
**yore** time past  
**zany** crazy; comic  
**zeal** great enthusiasm  
**zealot** a fanatic  
**zenith** the highest point  
**zephyr** a gentle, mild breeze  
**zest** hearty enjoyment

