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Verbal Workbook

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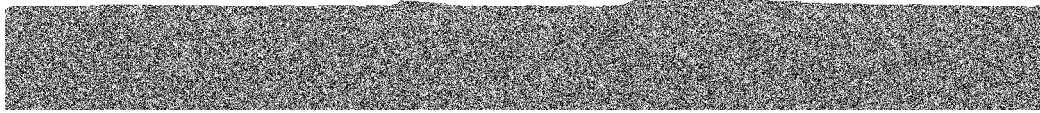
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Khong Huy

1/2005



GRE SENTENCE COMPLETION

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

The directions for this section look like this:

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

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

THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS

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

Every Clue Is Right in Front of You

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

What are the important clues in the following question?



Verbal Practice Tests

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

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

Look for What's Directly Implied and Expect Cliches

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

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

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

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

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



GRE Sentence Completion

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

Look for "Structural Road Signs"

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

Straight-Ahead Road Signs

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

Detour Road Signs

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

Watch Out for Common Wrong-Answer Types

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

Half-Right/Half-Wrong

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

Au Contraire

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

Clunkers

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

FILL IN THE BLANK

When working through a sentence completion question:

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

Drill

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

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

THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

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

❶ Read the Whole Sentence

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

❷ Predict an Answer

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

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

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

GRE Sentence Completion

❶ Read Your Selected Answer Choice Back into the Sentence

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

Try It Out

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

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

❶ Let's begin by reading the whole sentence strategically. Immediately note the structural clue **as long as**. This phrase will tell us what to expect when we prepare to fill in the blank. The sentence tells us that old age brings poverty, **isolation**, and **illness**. Naturally, therefore, we would face it with something like "fear."

❷ Now it's time to predict our answer. As we decided in Step 1, we should look in the answer choices for a word that means **fear**.

❸ Here's where we scan the answer choices and look for one that best fits our predicted answer. **Apprehension** means "fear," so choice (2) is our best answer. But let's eliminate some answers that we know are wrong, just to be sure. Choice 1, **regret**, is tempting, but you feel regret for something that has already happened, not for something you will face in the future. **Veneration** and **reverence** both mean "great respect," so we can eliminate choices 4 and 5, too.

❹ Now we'll plug our answer into the sentence: **We will face the idea of old age with apprehension as long as we believe that it invariably brings poverty, isolation, and illness.** This sentence certainly makes sense, **so** we have found our winner!

Verbal Practice Tests

PRACTICE SET

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

1. Despite much informed _____, the relationship between sunspot cycles and the earth's weather remains _____

☐ argument ... decisive
☐ confusion ... tenuous
☒ conjecture ... ambiguous
☐ evidence ... clear
☐ analysis ... systematic

2. As a consequence of the Antarctic's _____ climate, the only forms of plant life to be found in the continent's interior are a few _____ lichens and mosses that cling to the frozen rocks.

☐ frigid ... hardy
☐ extreme ... mysterious
☐ harsh ... luxuriant
☐ freezing ... complex
☐ changing ... tiny

3. Conflict between generations may be a problem that has persisted for centuries, but the nature and intensity of the conflict obviously _____ in response to changes in social and economic conditions.

☐ increases
☒ disappears
☐ declines
☐ varies
☐ wanes

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

Chapter 3

GRE ANALOGIES

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

The directions for this question type look like this:

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

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

THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS

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

GRE Analogy Questions Consist of Two Words

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

1. LITER : VOLUME ::

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

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

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

For the analogy above, as strong bridge would be:

A LITER is by definition a measure of VOLUME.

WHAT'S A STEM PAIR?

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

PREPARATION : SUCCESS ::

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

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

WHAT'S A BRIDGE?

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

The Five Classic Bridges

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

GRE Analogies

4. Characteristic Actions or Items

5. Degree (sometimes to the point of excess)

Each of the five classic bridges are illustrated below.

The Definition Bridge

CYGNET : SWAN A CYGNET is a young SWAN.

The Function or Purpose Bridge

TRUSS : SUPPORT A TRUSS is used as a SUPPORT.

The Lack Bridge

LOUT : GRACE A LOUT lacks GRACE.

The Characteristic Actions or Items Bridge

SKUNK : SCENT A SKUNK defends itself with its SCENT.

The Degree Bridge (sometimes to the point of excess)

INTEREST : ENTHRALL To INTEREST greatly is to ENTHRALL.

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

WHAT MAKES A STRONG BRIDGE?

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

Watch Out for Common Wrong Answer Types

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

Unrelated Words

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

Same Subject Trap

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

Verbal Practice Tests

"Both Are" Bridges

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

Context Traps

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

Reverse Analogy

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

Au Contraire or Opposite Bridge

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

Irrelevant Bridge

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

Drill

Identify the Classic Bridges in the following stem pairs.

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

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

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

THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

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

❶ Find a Strong Bridge between the Stem Words

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

❷ Plug the Answer Choices into the Bridge

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

❸ Adjust the Bridge, if Necessary

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

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

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

Try It Out

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

2. HANGAR : AIRCRAFT ::

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

Verbal Practice Tests

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

PRACTICE SET

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

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

GRE Analogies

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

The answers to this section appear on the next page.



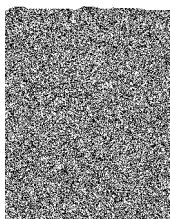
Answer Key

Testlike Questions

1. (4)
2. (2)

Drill

1. Definition
 2. Lack
 3. Function
 4. Degree
 5. Characteristic Items/Actions
-
1. A CHICKEN is by definition a type of POULTRY.
 2. To experience extreme FEAR is by definition to experience TERROR.
 3. The purpose of a LOOM is by definition to WEAVE.
 4. A RECLUSE is by definition SOLITARY.
 5. Someone who's LANGUID is by definition lacking in EXERGY.



Chapter 4

GRE ANTONYMS

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

The directions for these questions look like this:

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

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

THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS

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

Verbal Practice Tests

Use Kaplan's Strategies for Decoding Difficult Vocabulary Words.

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

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

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

Look at Word Roots, Stems, and Suffixes

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

Use Your Knowledge of a Romance Language

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

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

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

1. SCABROUS:

- ☐ thorny
- ☐ unblemished
- ☒ perplexing
- ☐ blank
- ☐ examined

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

GRE Antonyms

BE STRATEGIC

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

Watch Out for Common Wrong-Answer Types.

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

Words That Have No Clear Opposites

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

Any Answer Choices That Have the Same Opposites as Each Other

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

Au Contraire, or Opposite, Answers

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

Drill

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

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

CACOPHONOUS _____

DISCORDANT _____

DULCET _____

FRACAS _____

RAUCOUS _____

Verbal Practice Tests

SONOROUS _____

STRIDENT _____

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

APATHETIC _____

CONCERN _____

DESULTORY _____

DISINTEREST _____

REGARD _____

IMPASSIVITY _____

INQUISITIVE _____

INTRIGUE _____

THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

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

❶ Define the Stem Word

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

❷ Define Its Opposite and Prephrase an Answer

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

❸ Find the Answer Choice That Best Matches Your Prephrase

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

❹ Use Guessing Strategies, If Necessary

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

Try It Out

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

2. TRAIL:

- ☐ age
- ☐ depress
- ☐ rule
- ☐ wander
- ☐ precede

Verbal Practice Tests

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

PRACTICE SET

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

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

GRE Antonyms

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

Answer Key

Testlike Questions

1. (2)

2. (5)

Drill	
CACOPHONOUS	_____harsh_____
DISCORDANT	_____harsh_____
DULCET	_____pleasant_____
FRACAS	_____harsh_____
RAUCOUS	_____harsh_____
SONOROUS	_____pleasant_____
STRIDENT	_____harsh_____

Verbal Practice Tests

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

Practice Set

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



Chapter 5

GRE READING COMPREHENSION

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

The directions for this question type look like this:

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

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

THE FOUR FUNDAMENTALS

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

ZOOM IN!

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

Verbal Practice Tests

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

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

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

DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME!

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

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

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

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

GRE Reading Comprehension

ATTACK THE PASSAGE!

You can be an active reader by:

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

Recognize the Most Common Question Types

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

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

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

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

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

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

Watch Out for Wrong Answer Types

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Verbal Practice Tests

WHERE DO THE PASSAGES COME FROM?

Topics for Reading Comp passages come from:

- The social sciences
- The natural sciences
- The humanities

Drill

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

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

Now, read the following GRE-like sentence:

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

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

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

THE KAPLAN FOUR-STEP METHOD

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

❶ Read the First Third

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

Topic: The broad concept or idea addressed in the passage

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

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

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

❷ Read the Remaining Two Thirds

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

❸ Review Your "Road Map"

Confirm topic, scope and purpose.

❹ Attack the Questions

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

PRACTICE SET

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

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

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

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

1. The author is primarily concerned with
 - ☐ establishing that tsunamis are formed by submarine tectonic activity.
 - ☐ explaining why tsunamis can appear so suddenly and with so little warning.
 - ☐ arguing that a tsunami's energy flux results in its great height and destructive capacity.
 - ☐ demonstrating that devastating tsunamis must be formed by earthquakes close to shore.
 - ☐ challenging long held beliefs about the formation of deep ocean waves.
2. It may be inferred from the passage that a tsunami that entered deeper water would experience an increase in
 - ☐ destructive power.
 - ☐ speed.
 - ☐ energy flux.
 - ☐ visibility.
 - ☐ height

GRE Reading Comprehension

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

Verbal Practice Tests

Answer Key

Drill

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

Distortion Exercise

1. Distortion
2. Inference
3. Distortion

Practice Set

1. (2)
2. (2)

A horizontal bar with a dense, grayscale, textured pattern, resembling noise or a high-resolution image of a surface.

INCREASING YOUR GRE VOCABULARY

BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BASICS OF VOCABULARY BUILDING

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

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

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

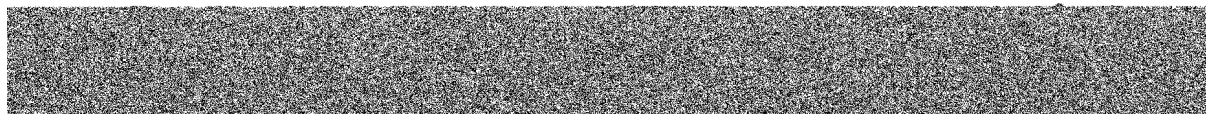
PARTS OF SPEECH

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

Nouns

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

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



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

-ACY

-AGE

-ANCE

-ANCY

-DOM

-ENCE

-ENCY

-ERY



Adjectives

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

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

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



-OUS

-ISH

-FUL

-IVE

-IBLE

-LESS

-IC

-OSE

-ILE

-INE



Vocabulary Builder

Verbs

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

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

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

-EN	-IFY
-ESCE	-IZE

Split-Personality Words

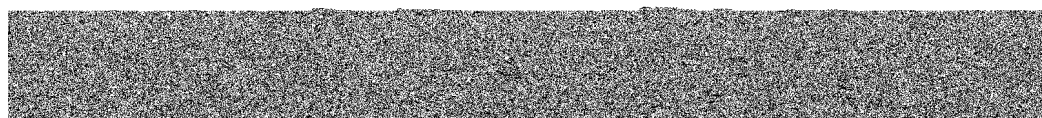
Remember that many words in the English language can function as more than one part of speech. Here's a single word used as a noun, adjective, and verb:

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

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

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

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



TOP GRE WORDS

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

The top **12** words on the GRE are:

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

The next **20** most popular words are:

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

The next **20** most popular words after these are:

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

200 TOP GRE WORDS IN CONTEXT

ABATE: to reduce in amount, degree, or severity

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

Words with similar meanings:

EBB	LAPSE	LET UP
MODERATE	RELENT	SLACKEN
SUBSIDE	WANE	

ABSCOND: to leave secretly

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

Words with similar meanings:

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

ABSTAIN: to choose not to do something:

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

Words with similar meanings:

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

ABYSS: an extremely deep hole

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

Related words:

ABYSSAL: pertaining to great depth

ABYSMAL: extremely bad

Words with similar meanings:

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

ADULTERATE: to make impure

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

Related words:

UNADULTERATED: pure

ADULTERY an illicit relationship; an affair

Words with similar meanings:

DOCTOR

Top GRE Words

ADVOCATE: to speak in favor of

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

Related words:

ADVOCACY: active support for

Words with similar meanings:

BACK

CHAMPION

SUPPORT

AESTHETIC: concerning the appreciation of beauty

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

Related words:

AESTHETE: someone unusually sensitive to beauty

AESTHETICISM: concern with beauty

Words with similar meanings:

ARTISTIC

TASTEFUL

AGGRANDIZE: to increase in power, influence, and reputation

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

Words with similar meanings:

AMPLIFY

APOTHEOSIZE

AUGMENT

DIGNIFY

ELEVATE

ENLARGE

ENNOBLE

EXALT

GLORIFY

MAGNIFY

SWELL

UPLIFT

WAX

ALLEVIATE: to make more bearable:

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

Words with similar meanings:

ALLAY

ASSUAGE

COMFORT

EASE

LESSEN

LIGHTEN

MITIGATE

PALLIATE

RELIEVE

AMALGAMATE: to combine; to mix together

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

Vocabulary Builder

Related Words:

AMALGAM: a mixture, especially of two metals

Words with similar meanings:

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

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

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

Related Words:

AMBIGUITY: the quality of being ambiguous

Words with similar meanings:

CLOUDY	DOUBTFUL	DUBIOUS
EQUIVOCAL	NEBULOUS	INDETERMINATE
OBSCURE	UNCLEAR	VAGUE

AMELIORATE: to make better; to improve

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

Words with similar meanings:

AMEND	BETTER	IMPROVE
PACIFY	UPGRADE	

ANACHRONISM: something out of place in time

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

Words with similar meanings:

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

ANALOGOUS: similar or alike in some way; equivalent to

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

Related word..

ANALOGY: a similarity between things that are otherwise dissimilar

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

Words with similar meanings:



ALIKE
EQUIVALENT
SIMILAR

COMPARABLE
HOMOGENEOUS

CORRESPONDING
PARALLEL

ANOMALY: deviation from what is normal

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

Related words:

ANOMALOUS: deviating from what is normal

Words with similar meanings:

ABERRANCE
DEVIANC
PRETERNATURALNESS

ABERRATION
DEVIATION

ABNORMALITY
IRREGULARITY

ANTAGONIZE: to annoy or provoke to anger

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

Related Words:

ANTAGONISTIC: tending to provoke conflict

ANTAGONIST: someone who fights another

Words with similar meanings

CLASH
IRRITATE
PROVOKE

CONFLICT
OPPOSE
VEX

INCITE
PESTER

ANTIPATHY: extreme dislike

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

Words with similar meanings:

ANIMOSITY
AVERSION
REPELLENCE

ANIMUS
ENMITY

ANTAGONISM
HOSTILITY

APATHY: lack of interest or emotion

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

Words with similar meanings:

COOLNESS

DISINTEREST

DISREGARD

Vocabulary Builder

IMPASSIVITY	INDIFFERENCE	INSENSIBILITY
LASSITUDE	LETHARGY	LISTLESSNESS
PHLEGM	STOLIDITY	UNCONCERN
UNRESPONSIVENESS		

ARBITRATE: to judge a dispute between two opposing parties

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

Related words:

ARBITRATION: a process by which a conflict is resolved

ARBITRATOR: a judge

Words with similar meanings:

ADJUDGE	ADJUDICATE	DECIDE
DETERMINE	JUDGE	MODERATE
REFEREE	RULE	

ARCHAIC: ancient, old-fashioned

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

Related words:

ARCHAISM: an outdated word or phrase

Words with similar meanings:

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

ARDOR: intense and passionate feeling

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

Related words:

ARDENT: expressing ardor; passionate

Words with similar meanings:

DEVOTION	ENTHUSIASM	FERVENCY
FERVIDITY	FERVIDNESS	FERVOR
FIRE	PASSION	ZEAL
ZEALOUSNESS		

Top GRE Words

ARTICULATE: able to speak clearly and expressively

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

Words with similar meanings

ELOQUENT	EXPRESSIVE	FLUENT
LUCID	SILVER-TONGUED	SMOOTH-SPOKEN

ASSUAGE: to make something unpleasant less severe

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

Words with similar meanings:

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

ATTENUATE: to reduce in force or degree; to weaken

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

Words with similar meanings:

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

AUDACIOUS: fearless and daring

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

Related words:

AUDACITY: the quality of being audacious

Words with similar meanings:

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

UNAFRAID
VALOROUS

UNDAUNTED
VENTURESOME

VALIANT
VENTUROUS

AUSTERE: severe or stern in appearance; undecorated

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

Related words:

AUSTERITY: severity, especially poverty

Words with similar meanings:

BLEAK
HARD

DOUR
HARSH

GRIM
SEVERE

BANAL: predictable, clichéd, boring

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

Related words:

BANALITY: the quality of being banal

Words with similar meanings:

BLAND
COMMONPLACE
INNOCUOUS
MUSTY
QUOTIDIAN
STEREOTYPIC
TIRED
WORN-OUT

BROMIDIC
FATUOUS
INSIPID
PLATITUDINOUS
SHOPWORN
THREADBARE
TRITE

CLICHÉD
HACKNEYED
JEJUNE
PROSAIC
STALE
TIMEWORN
VAPID

BOLSTER: to support; to prop up

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

Words with similar meanings:

BRACE
SUPPORT
UPHOLD

BUTTRESS
SUSTAIN

PROP
UNDERPIN

BOMBASTIC: pompous in speech and manner

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

Related words:

BOMBAST: pompous speech or writing

Top GRE Words

Words with similar meanings:

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

CACOPHONY: harsh, jarring noise

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

Words with similar meanings:

DISCORD	CHAOS	DISHARMONY
NOISE	CLAMOR	DIN

CANDID: impartial and honest in speech

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

Words with similar meanings:

DIRECT	FORTHRIGHT	FRANK
HONEST	OPEN	SINCERE
STRAIGHT	STRAIGHTFORWARD	UNDISGUISED

CAPRICIOUS: changing one's mind quickly and often

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

Related words:

CAPRICE: whim, sudden fancy

Words with similar meanings:

ARBITRARY	CHANCE	CHANGEABLE
ERRATIC	FICKLE	INCONSTANT
MERCURIAL	RANDOM	WHIMSICAL
WILLFUL		

CASTIGATE: to punish or criticize harshly

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

Words with similar meanings:

ADMONISH	CHASTISE	CHIDE
REBUKE	REPRIMAND	REPROACH



REPROVE
UPBraid

SCOLD

TAX

CATALYST: something that brings about a change in something else

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

Related Words:

CATALYZE: to bring about a change in something else

CAUSTIC: biting in wit

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

Words with similar meanings:

ACERBIC
TRENCHANT

BITING

MORDANT

CHAOS: great disorder or confusion

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

Related Words:

CHAOTIC: jumbled, confused

Words with similar meanings:

CLUTTER

CONFUSION

DISARRANGEMENT

DISARRAY

DISORDER

DISORDERLINESS

DISORGANIZATION

JUMBLE

MESS

MUDDLE

SCRAMBLE

SNARL

TOPSY-TURVINESS

TURMOIL

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

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

Words with similar meanings:

PARTISAN

CHICANERY: deception by means of craft or guile

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

Words with similar meanings:

ARTIFICE

CONNING

CRAFTINESS

Top GRE Words

DECEPTION
PETTIFOGGERY
SOPHISTRY

DEVIOUSNESS
SHADINESS
SUBTERFUGE

MISREPRESENTATION
SNEAKINESS
UNDERHANDEDNESS

COGENT: convincing and well reasoned

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

Related words:

COGITATE: to think deeply

Words with similar meanings:

CONVINCING
SOUND

PERSUASIVE
TELLING

SOLID
VALID

CONDONE: to overlook, pardon, or disregard

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

Words with similar meanings:

EXCULPATE
REMIT

EXCUSE

PARDON

CONVOLUTED: intricate and complicated

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

Words with similar meanings:

BYZANTINE
INTRICATE
PERPLEXING

COMPLEX
KNOTTY
TANGLED

ELABORATE
LABYRINTHINE

CORROBORATE: to provide supporting evidence

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

Words with similar meanings:

AUTHENTICATE
BUTTRESS
VALIDATE

BACK
CONFIRM
VERIFY

BEAR OUT
SUBSTANTIATE

Vocabulary Builder

CREDULOUS: too trusting; gullible

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

Related words:

CREDULITY the quality of being credulous

Words with similar meanings:

NAIVE

SUSCEPTIBLE

TRUSTING

CRESCENDO: steadily increasing volume or force

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

DECORUM: appropriateness of behavior or conduct; propriety

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

Related words:

DECOROUS: conforming to acceptable standards

Words with similar meanings:

CORRECTNESS

DECENCY

ETIQUETTE

MANNERS

MORES

PROPRIETY

SEMLINESS

DEFERENCE: respect, courtesy

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

Related words:

DEFER: to delay; to show someone deference

DEFERENT: courteous and respectful

Words with similar meanings:

COURTESY

HONOR

HOMAGE

OBEISANCE

RESPECT

REVERENCE

VENERATION

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

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

Related words:

DERISION: mockery and **taunts**

Top GRE Words

DERISIVE: in a **mocking** manner

Words with similar meanings:

GIBE	JEER	MOCK
RIDICULE	SCOFF	SNEER
TAUNT		

DESICCATE: to dry out thoroughly

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

Related words:

DESICCANT: something that removes water from another substance

Words with similar meanings:

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

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

Words with similar meanings:

AIMLESS	DISCONNECTED	ERRATIC
HAPHAZARD	INDISCRIMINATE	OBJECTLESS
PURPOSELESS	RANDOM	STRAY
UNCONSIDERED	UNPLANNED	

DIATRIBE: an abusive, condemnatory speech

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

Words with similar meanings:

FULMINATION	HARANGUE	INVECTIVE
JEREMIAD	MALEDICTION	OBLOQUY
TIRADE		

DIFFIDENT: **lacking** self-confidence

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

Words with similar meanings:

BACKWARD	BASHFUL	COY
DEMURE	MODEST	RETIRING
SELF-EFFACING	SHY	TIMID

Vocabulary Builder

DILATE: to make larger; to expand

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

Words with similar meanings:

AMPLIFY
ENLARGE

DEVELOP
EXPAND

ELABORATE
EXPATiate

DILATORY: intended to delay

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

Words with similar meanings:

DRAGGING
LAGGING
SLOW-GOING

FLAGGING
SLOW
SLOW-PACED

LAGGARD
SLOW-FOOTED
TARDY

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

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

Words with similar meanings:

AMATEUR
TYRO

DABBLER

SUPERFICIAL

DIRGE: a funeral hymn or mournful speech

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

Words with similar meanings:

ELEGY

LAMENT

DISABUSE: to set right; to free from error

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

Words with similar meanings:

CORRECT

UNDECEIVE

DISCERN: to perceive; to recognize

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

Related words:

DISCERNMENT: taste and cultivation



Top GRE Words

Words with similar meanings:

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

DISPARATE: fundamentally different; entirely unlike

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

Words with similar meanings:

DIFFERENT	DISSIMILAR	DIVERGENT
DIVERSE	VARIANT	VARIOUS

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

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

Words with similar meanings:

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

DISSONANCE: a harsh and disagreeable combination, often of sounds

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

Words with similar meanings:

CLASH	CONTENTION	DISCORD
DISSENSION	DISSENT	DISSIDENCE
FRICTION	STRIFE	VARIANCE

Vocabulary Builder

DOGMA: a firmly held opinion, often a religious belief

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

Words with similar meanings:

CREED
TENET

DOCTRINE

TEACHING

DOGMATIC: dictatorial in one's opinions

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

Words with similar meanings:

AUTHORITARIAN
DOCTRINAIRE
MAGISTERIAL
PEREMPTORY

BOSSY
DOMINEERING
MASTERFUL

DICTATORIAL
IMPERIOUS
OVERBEARING

DUPE: to deceive; a person who is easily deceived

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

Words with similar meanings:

BEGUILE
COZEN
FOOL
MISLEAD

BETRAY
DECEIVE
HOODWINK
TAKE IN

BLUFF
DELUDE
HUMBUG
TRICK

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

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

Words with similar meanings:

SELECTIVE

CATHOLIC

BROAD

EFFICACY: effectiveness

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

Related Words:

EFFICACIOUS: effective; productive

Words with similar meanings:

DYNAMISM
FORCE
PROFICIENCY

EFFECTIVENESS
POWER
STRENGTH

EFFICIENCY
PRODUCTIVENESS
VIGOR



ELEGY: a sorrowful poem or speech

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

Related Words:

ELEGIAC: like an elegy; mournful

Words with similar meanings:

DIRGE

LAMENT

ELOQUENT: persuasive and moving, especially in speech

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

Words with similar meanings:

ARTICULATE

EXPRESSIVE

FLUENT

MEANINGFUL

SIGNIFICANT

SMOOTH-SPOKEN

EMULATE: to copy; to try to equal or excel

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

Words with similar meanings:

APE

IMITATE

SIMULATE

ENERVATE: to reduce in strength

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

Related Words:

UNNERVE: to deprive of strength or courage

Words with similar meanings:

DEBILITATE

ENFEEBLE

SAP

WEAKEN

ENGENDER: to produce, cause, or bring about

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

Words with similar meanings:

BEGET

GENERATE

PROCREATE

PROLIFERATE

REPRODUCE

SPAWN



Vocabulary Builder

ENIGMA: a puzzle; a mystery

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

Words with similar meanings:

CONUNDRUM PERPLEXITY

ENUMERATE: to count, list, or itemize

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

Words with similar meanings:

CATALOG INDEX TABULATE

EPHEMERAL: lasting a short time

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

Words with similar meanings:

EVANESCENT FLEETING MOMENTARY
TRANSIENT

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

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

Related Words:

EQUIVOCAL: undecided; trying to deceive

EQUIVOCATION: the act or state of equivocating

Words with similar meanings:

AMBIGUOUS EVASIVE WAFFLING

ERRATIC: wandering and unpredictable

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

Related Words:

ERRANT: straying, mistaken, roving

Words with similar meanings:

CAPRICIOUS INCONSTANT IRRESOLUTE
WHIMSICAL



Top GRE Words



ERUDITE: learned, scholarly, bookish

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

Related Words:

ERUDITION: extensive knowledge or learning

Words with similar meanings:

SCHOLASTIC

LEARNED

WISE

ESOTERIC: known or understood by only a few

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

Words with similar meanings:

ABSTRUSE

ARCANE

OBSCURE

ESTIMABLE: admirable

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

Related Words:

ESTEEM: high regard

Words with similar meanings:

ADMIRABLE

COMMENDABLE

CREDITABLE

HONORABLE

LAUDABLE

MERITORIOUS

PRAISEWORTHY

RESPECTABLE

VENERABLE

WORTHY

EULOGY: speech in praise of someone

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

Words with similar meanings:

COMMEND

EXTOL

LAUD

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

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

Words with similar meanings:

CIRCUMLOCUTION WHITEWASH

Vocabulary Builder

EXACERBATE: to make worse

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

Words with similar meanings:

ANNOY	AGGRAVATE	INTENSIFY
IRRITATE	PROVOKE	

EXCULPATE: to clear from blame; prove innocent

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

Words with similar meanings:

ABSOLVE	ACQUIT	CLEAR
EXONERATE	VINDICATE	

EXIGENT: urgent; requiring immediate action

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

Words with similar meanings:

CRITICAL	IMPERATIVE	NEEDED
URGENT		

EXONERATE: to clear of blame

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

Words with similar meanings:

ABSOLVE	ACQUIT	CLEAR
EXCULPATE	VINDICATE	

EXPLICIT: clearly stated or shown; forthright in expression

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

Related Words:

EXPLICABLE: capable of being explained

EXPLICATE: to give a detailed explanation

Words with similar meanings:

CANDID	FRANK	STRAIGHTFORWARD
UNEQUIVOCAL		

Top GRE Words

FANATICAL: acting excessively enthusiastic; filled with extreme, unquestioned devotion

The stormtroopers were FANATICAL in their devotion to the **Emperor**, readily sacrificing their lives for him.

Words with similar meanings:

EXTREMIST
ZEALOUS

FIERY

FRENZIED

FAWN: to grovel

The understudy FAWNED over the director in hopes of being cast in the part on a permanent basis.

Words with similar meanings:

BOOTLICK
PANDER

GROVEL

TOADY

FERVID: intensely emotional; feverish

The fans of Maria Callas were particularly FERVID, doing anything to catch a glimpse of the great opera singer.

Related Words:

FERVENT: enthusiastic

FERVOR: passion

Words with similar meanings:

BURNING
VEHEMENT

IMPASSIONED

PASSIONATE
ZEALOUS

FLORID: excessively decorated or embellished

The palace had been decorated in an excessively FLORID style; every surface had been carved and gilded.

Words with similar meanings:

BAROQUE
ORNATE

ELABORATE
OSTENTATIOUS

FLAMBOYANT
ROCOCO

FOMENT: to arouse or incite

The protesters tried to FOMENT feeling against the war through their speeches and demonstrations.

Words with similar meanings:

AGITATE
INSTIGATE

IMPASSION
KINDLE

INFLAME

Vocabulary Builder

FRUGALITY: a tendency to be thrifty or cheap

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

Words with similar meanings:

ECONOMICAL PARSIMONY PRUDENCE
SPARING

GARRULOUS: tending to talk a lot

The GARRULOUS parakeet distracted its owner with its continuous talking.

Words with similar meanings:

EFFUSIVE LOQUACIOUS

GREGARIOUS: outgoing, sociable

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

Words with similar meanings:

AFFABLE CONGENIAL COMMUNICATIVE
SOCIABLE

GUILE: deceit or trickery

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

Related Words:

GUILELESS: innocent, without trickery

Words with similar meanings:

ARTIFICE CHICANERY CONNIVERY
DUPLICITY

GULLIBLE: easily deceived

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

Related Words:

GULL: a person who is easily tricked

Words with similar meanings:

CREDULOUS EXPLOITABLE NAIVE

Top GRE Words

HOMOGENOUS: of a **similar** kind

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

Related Words:

HOMOGENIZED: thoroughly **mixed** together

Words with similar meanings:

CONSISTENT	STANDARDIZED	UNIFORM
UNVARYING		

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

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

Words with similar meanings:

MAVERICK	NONCONFORMIST	REBEL
REVOLUTIONARY		

IMPERTURBABLE: not capable of being disturbed

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

Related Words:

PERTURB: to disturb greatly

Words with similar meanings:

COMPOSED	DISPASSIONATE	IMPASSIVE
SERENE	STOICAL	

IMPERVIOUS: impossible to penetrate; incapable of being affected

A good raincoat will be IMPERVIOUS to moisture.

Words with similar meanings:

RESISTANT	IMPREGNABLE
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IMPETUOUS: quick to **act** without thinking

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

Related Words:

IMPETUS: impulse

Vocabulary Builder

Words with similar meanings:

IMPULSIVE	PRECIPITATE	RASH
RECKLESS	SPONTANEOUS	

IMPLACABLE: unable to be calmed down or made peaceful

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

Related Words:

PLACATE: to make peaceful

Words with similar meanings:

INEXORABLE	INTRANSIGENT	IRRECONCILABLE
RELENTLESS	REMORSELESS	UNFORGIVING
UNRELENTING		

INCHOATE: not fully formed; disorganized

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

Words with similar meanings:

AMORPHOUS	INCOHERENT	INCOMPLETE
UNORGANIZED		

INGENUOUS: showing innocence or childlike simplicity

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

Related Words:

INGÈNUE: a naive girl or young woman

DISINGENUOUS: giving a false impression of innocence

Words with similar meanings:

ARTLESS	GUILELESS	INNOCENT
NAIVE	SIMPLE	UNAFFECTED

INIMICAL: hostile, unfriendly

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

Words with similar meanings:

ADVERSE	ANTAGONISTIC	DISSIDENT
RECALCITRANT		

Top GRE words

INNOCUOUS: harmless

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

Words with similar meanings:

BENIGN	HARMLESS	INOFFENSIVE
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INSIPID: lacking interest or flavor

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

Words with similar meanings:

BANAL	BLAND	DULL
STALE	VAPID	

INTRANSIGENT: uncompromising; refusing to be reconciled

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

Words with similar meanings:

IMPLACABLE	INEXORABLE	IRRECONCILABLE
OBDURATE	OBSTINATE	REMORSELESS
RIGID	UNBENDING	UNRELENTING
UNYIELDING		

INUNDATE: to overwhelm; to cover with water

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

Words with similar meanings:

DELUGE	DROWN	ENGULF
FLOOD	SUBMERGE	

IRASCIBLE: easily made angry

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

Related Words:

IRATE: angry

Words with similar meanings:

CANTANKEROUS	IRRITABLE	ORNERY
TESTY		

Vocabulary Builder

LACONIC: using few words

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

Words with similar meanings:

CONCISE
TERSE

CURT
TACITURN

PITHY

LAMENT: to express sorrow; to grieve

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

Words with similar meanings:

BEWAIL
MOURN

DEPLORE

GRIEVE

LAUD: to give praise; to glorify

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

Related Words:

LAUDABLE: worth of praise

LAUDATORY: expressing praise

Words with similar meanings:

ACCLAIM
COMPLIMENT
HAIL

APPLAUD
EXALT
PRAISE

COMMEND
EXTOL

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

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

Words with similar meanings:

BESTOW
EXTRAVAGANT
PRODIGAL,

CONFER
OPULENT
LUXURIANT

EXUBERANT
PROFUSE
SUPERABUNDANT

LETHARGIC: acting in an indifferent or slow, sluggish manner

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

Words **with** similar meanings:

APATHETIC
LISTLESS

LANGUID
TORPID

LACKADAISICAL

Top GRE Words

LOQUACIOUS: talkative

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

Related Words:

ELOQUENCE: powerful, convincing speaking

LOQUACITY: the quality of being loquacious

Words with similar meanings:

EFFUSIVE

GARRULOUS

VERBOSE

LUCID: clear and easily understood

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

Related Words:

LUCIDITY: clarity

LUCENT: glowing with light

Words with similar meanings:

CLEAR

COHERENT

EXPLICIT

INTELLIGIBLE

LIMPID

LUMINOUS: bright, brilliant, glowing

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

Related Words:

ILLUMINATE: to shine light on

LUMINARY: an inspiring person

Words with similar meanings:

INCANDESCENT

LUCENT

LUSTROUS

RADIANT

RESPLENDENT

MALINGER: to evade responsibility by pretending to be ill

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

Related Words:

LINGER: to be slow in leaving

Words with similar meanings:

SHIRK

SLACK

Vocabulary Builder

MALLEABLE: capable of being shaped

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

Words with similar meanings:

ADAPTABLE
PLIABLE

DUCTILE
PLIANT

PLASTIC

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

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

Related Words:

METAPHORICAL: standing as a symbol for something else

Words with similar meanings:

ANALOGY

COMPARISON

METICULOUS: extremely careful about details

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

Words with similar meanings:

CONSCIENTIOUS

PRECISE

SCRUPULOUS

MISANTHROPE: a person who dislikes others

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

MITIGATE: to soften; to lessen

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

Words with similar meanings:

ALLAY

ALLEVIATE

ASSUAGE

EASE

LIGHTEN

MODERATE

MOLLIFY

PALLIATE

TEMPER

MOLLIFY: to calm or make less severe

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



Words with similar meanings:

APPEASE	ASSUAGE	CONCILIATE
PACIFY		

MONOTONY: lack of variation

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

Related Words:

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

Words with similar meanings:

DRONE	TEDIUM
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NAIVE: lacking sophistication or experience

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

Related Words:

NAIVETÉ: the state of being naive

Words with similar meanings:

ARTLESS	CREDULOUS	GUILELESS
INGENUOUS	SIMPLE	UNAFFECTED

OBDURATE: hardened in feeling; resistant to persuasion

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

Words with similar meanings:

INFLEXIBLE	INTRANSIGENT	RECALCITRANT
TENACIOUS	UNYIELDING	

OBSEQUIIOUS: overly submissive and eager to please

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

Related Words:

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

Words with similar meanings:

COMPLIANT	DEFERENTIAL	SERVILE
SUBSERVIENT		

Vocabulary Builder

OBSTINATE: stubborn, unyielding

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

Words with similar meanings:

INTRANSIGENT	MULISH	PERSISTENT
PERTINACIOUS	STUBBORN	TENACIOUS

OBVIATE: to prevent; to make unnecessary

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

Words with similar meanings:

FORESTALL	PRECLUDE	PROHIBIT
-----------	----------	----------

OCCLUDE: to stop up; to prevent the passage of

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

Words with similar meanings:

BARRICADE	BLOCK	CLOSE
OBSTRUCT		

ONEROUS: troublesome and oppressive; burdensome

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

Words with similar meanings:

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

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

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

Related Words:

OPACITY the quality of being obscure and indecipherable

Words with similar meanings:

OBSCURE

Top GRE Words

OPPROBRIUM: public disgrace

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

Words with similar meanings:

DISCREDIT	DISGRACE	DISHONOR
DISREPUTE	IGNOMINY	INFAMY
OBLOQUY	SHAME	

OSTENTATION: excessive showiness

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

Related Words:

OSTENSIBLE: apparent

Words with similar meanings:

CONSPICUOUSNESS	FLASHINESS	PRETENTIOUSNESS
SHOWINESS		

PARADOX: a contradiction or dilemma

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

Words with similar meanings:

INCONGRUITY	AMBIGUITY
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PARAGON: model of excellence or perfection

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

Words with similar meanings:

APOTHEOSIS	IDEAL	QUINTESENCE
STANDARD		

PEDANT: someone who shows off learning

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

Related Words:

PEDANTIC: making an excessive display of learning





PERFIDIOUS: willing to betray one's trust

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

Related Words:

PERFIDY: deceit, treachery

Words with similar meanings:

DISLOYAL

FAITHLESS

TREACHEROUS

TRAITOROUS

PERFUNCTORY: done in a routine way; indifferent

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

Words with similar meanings:

APATHETIC

AUTOMATIC

MECHANICAL

PERMEATE: to penetrate

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

Related Words:

IMPERMEABLE: unable to be permeated

Words with similar meanings:

IMBUE

INFUSE

SUFFUSE

PHILANTHROPY: charity; a desire or effort to promote goodness

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

Related Words:

PHILANTHROPIST: someone who is generous and desires to promote goodness

Words with similar meanings:

HUMANITARIANISM

ALTRUISM

PLACATE: to soothe or pacify

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

Related Words:

PLACID: tolerant; calm

IMPLACABLE: unable to be made peaceful

Top GRE Words

Words with similar meanings:

APPEASE

CONCILIATE

MOLLIFY

PLASTIC: able to be molded, altered, or bent

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

Words with similar meanings:

ADAPTABLE

DUCTILE

MALLEABLE

PLIANT

PLETHORA. excess

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

Words with similar meanings:

GLUT

OVERABUNDANCE

SUPERFLUITY

SURFEIT

PRAGMATIC: practical as opposed to idealistic

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

Related Words:

PRAGMATISM: a practical approach to problem solving

Words with similar meanings:

REALISTIC

RATIONAL

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

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

Related Words:

PRECIPITOUS: very steep

PRECIPICE: a steep cliff

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

Words with similar meanings:

ABRUPT

HASTY

HEADLONG

HURRIED

ILL-CONSIDERED

IMPETUOUS

IMPULSIVE

PROMPT

RASH

RECKLESS

SUDDEN

Vocabulary Builder

PREVARICATE: to lie or deviate from the truth

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

Words with similar meanings:

EQUIVOCATE LIE PERJURE

PRISTINE: fresh and clean; uncorrupted

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

Words with similar meanings:

INNOCENT UNDAMAGED

PRODIGAL: lavish, wasteful

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

Related Words:

PRODIGALITY: excessive or reckless spending

Words with similar meanings:

EXTRAVAGANT LAVISH PROFLIGATE
SPENDTHRIFT WASTEFUL

PROLIFERATE: to increase in number quickly

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

Related Words:

PROLIFIC: very productive or highly able to reproduce rapidly

Words with similar meanings:

BREED MULTIPLY PROCREATE
PROPAGATE REPRODUCE SPAWN

PROPITIATE: to conciliate; to appease

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

Related Words:

PROPITIOUS: advantageous, favorable

Words

Words with similar meanings:

APPEASE
PACIFY

CONCILIATE
PLACATE

MOLLIFY

PROPRIETY: correct behavior; obedience to rules and customs

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

Related Words:

APPROPRIATE: suitable for a particular occasion or place

Words with similar meanings:

DECENCY
SEMLINESS

DECORUM

MODESTY

PRUDENCE: wisdom, caution, or restraint

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

Related Words:

PRUDE: someone who is excessively concerned with propriety

PRUDISH: prissy and puritanical

Words with similar meanings:

ASTUTENESS
FRUGALITY
THRIFT

CIRCUMSPECTION
JUDICIOUSNESS

DISCRETION
PROVIDENCE

PUNGENT: sharp and irritating to the senses

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

Words with similar meanings:

ACRID
POIGNANT

CAUSTIC
STINGING

PIQUANT

QUIESCENT: motionless

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

Related Words:

QUIESCENCE: state of rest or inactivity

Words with similar meanings:

LATENT

DORMANT

Vocabulary Builder

RAREFY: to make thinner or sparser

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

Related Words:

RAREFACTION: the process of making something less dense

Words with similar meanings:

ATTENUATE THIN

REPUDIATE: to reject the validity of

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

Words with similar meanings:

DENY DISAVOW DISCLAIM
DISOWN RENOUNCE

RETICENT: silent, reserved

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

Words with similar meanings:

COOL INTROVERTED LACONIC
STANDOFFISH TACITURN UNDEMONSTRATIVE

RHETORIC: effective writing or speaking

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

Words with similar meanings:

ELOQUENCE ORATORY

SATIATE: to satisfy fully or overindulge

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

Related Words:

SATE: to fully satisfy or overindulge

INSATIABLE:

incapable of being satisfied

Top GRE Words

Words with similar meanings:

CLOY	GLUT	GORGE
SURFEIT		

SOPORIFIC: causing sleep or lethargy

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

Related Words:

SOPOR: deep sleep

Words with similar meanings:

HYPNOTIC	NARCOTIC	SLUMBEROUS
SOMNOLENT		

SPECIOUS: deceptively attractive; seemingly plausible but fallacious

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

Words with similar meanings:

ILLUSORY	OSTENSIBLE	PLAUSIBLE
SPURIOUS	SOPHISTICAL	

STIGMA: a mark of shame or discredit

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

Related Words:

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

Words with similar meanings:

BLEMISH	BLOT	OPPROBRIUM
STAIN	TAINT	

STOLID: unemotional; lacking sensitivity

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

Words with similar meanings:

APATHETIC	IMPASSIVE	INDIFFERENT
PHLEGMATIC	STOICAL	UNCONCERNED

er

SUBLIME: lofty or grand

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

Related Words:

SUBLIMATE: to elevate or convert into something of higher worth

SUBLIMINAL: existing outside conscious awareness

Words with similar meanings:

AUGUST	EXALTED	GLORIOUS
GRAND	MAGNIFICENT	MAJESTIC
NOBLE	REGAL	RESPLENDENT
SUPERB		

TACIT: done without using words

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

Related Words:

TACITURN: silent, not talkative

Words with similar meanings:

IMPLICIT	IMPLIED	UNDECLARED
UNSAID	UNUTTERED	

TACITURN: silent, not talkative

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

Related Words:

TACIT: done without using words

Words with similar meanings:

LACONIC	RETICENT
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TIRADE: long, harsh speech or verbal attack

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

Words with similar meanings:

DIATRIBE	FULMINATION	HARANGUE
OBLOQUY	REVILEMENT	VILIFICATION

TORPOR: extreme mental and **physical** sluggishness

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

Top GRE Words

Related Words:

TORPID: sluggish, lacking movement

Words with similar meanings:

APATHY

LANGUOR

TRANSITORY: temporary, lasting a brief time

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

Related Words:

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

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

Words with similar meanings:

EPHEMERAL

EVANESCENT

FLEETING

IMPERMANENT

MOMENTARY

VACILLATE: to sway physically; to be indecisive

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

Words with similar meanings:

DITHER

FALTER

FLUCTUATE

OSCILLATE

WAVER

VENERATE: to respect deeply

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

Related Words:

VENERABLE: old, worthy of respect

Words with similar meanings:

ADORE

HONOR

IDOLIZE

REVERE

VERACITY: filled with truth and accuracy

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

Related Words:

VERITY: truth

VERACIOUS: truthful, accurate

Words with similar meanings:

CANDOR
PROBITY

EXACTITUDE

FIDELITY

VERBOSE: wordy

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

Related Words:

VERBALIZE: to put into words

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

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

Words with similar meanings:

LONG-WINDED
SUPERFLUOUS

LOQUACIOUS

PROLIX

VEX: to annoy

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

Related Words:

VEXATION: a feeling of irritation

Words with similar meanings:

ANNOY
EXASPERATE
PEEVE

BOTHER
IRK
PROVOKE

CHAFE
NETTLE

VOLATILE: easily aroused or changeable; lively or explosive

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

Words with similar meanings:

CAPRICIOUS
INCONSISTENT
TEMPERAMENTAL

ERRATIC
INCONSTANT

FICKLE
MERCURIAL

WAVER: to fluctuate between choices

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

Words with similar meanings:

DITHER
OSCILLATE

FALTER
VACILLATE

FLUCTUATE

Top GRE Words

WHIMSICAL: acting in a fanciful or capricious manner; unpredictable

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

Related Words:

WHIM: a fancy or sudden notion

Words with similar meanings:

CAPRICIOUS
FLIPPANT

ERRATIC

FRIVOLOUS

ZEAL: passion, excitement

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

Related Words:

ZEALOT: a fanatic

Words with similar meanings:

ARDENCY
PASSION

FERVOR

FIRE

Chapter 9

GRE WORD GROUPS

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

DENOUNCE:

- ☐ blaspheme
- ☐ acclaim
- ☐ permit
- ☐ gather
- ☒ assist

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

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

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

Synonym see CRITICIZE

Vocabulary Builder

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

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

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

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

BOLD

audacious	courageous	dauntless
-----------	------------	-----------

CHANGING QUICKLY

capricious	mercurial	volatile
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HESITATE

dither	oscillate	teeter
vacillate	waver	

ACT QUICKLY

apace	abrupt	headlong
impetuous	precipitate	

INNOCENT/INEXPERIENCED

credulous	gullible	naive
ingenuous	novitiate	tyro

GRE Word Groups

DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND

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

EASY TO UNDERSTAND

articulate	cogent	eloquent
evident	limpid	lucid
pellucid		

SMART/LEARNED

astute	canny	erudite
perspicacious		

CRITICISM

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

CAROUSAL

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

TRUTH

candor candid	fealty	frankness
indisputable	indubitable	legitimate
probity	sincere	veracious
verity		

Vocabulary Builder

FALSEHOOD

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

BITING (as in wit or temperament)

acerbic	acidulous	acrimonious
asperity	caustic	mordant
mordacious	trenchant	

PRAISE

acclaim	accolade	aggrandize
encomium	eulogize	extol
fawn	laud/laudatory	venerate

HARMFUL

baleful	baneful	deleterious
inimical	injurious	insidious
minatory	perfidious	pernicious

TIMID/TIMIDITY

craven	diffident	pusillanimous
recreant	timorous	trepidation

BORING

banal	fatuous	hackneyed
insipid	mundane	pedestrian
platitude	prosaic	quotidian
trite		

WEAKEN

adulterate	enervate	exacerbate
inhibit	obviate	stultify
undermine	vitiate	

Word Groups

ASSIST

abet
bolster
espouse
proponent

advocate
corroborate
mainstay
stalwart

ancillary
countenance
munificent
sustenance

HOSTILE

antithetic
irascible
truculent

churlish
malevolent
vindictive

curmudgeon
misanthropic

STUBBORN

implacable
intransigent
recalcitrant
untoward

inexorable
obdurate
refractory
vexing

intractable
obstinate
renitent

BEGINNING/YOUNG

burgeoning
inchoate

callow
incipient

engender
nascent

GENEROUS/KIND

altruistic
largess
philanthropic

beneficent
magnanimous
unstinting

clement
munificent

GREEDY

avaricious
miserly
rapacious

covetous
penurious

mercenary
venal

TERSE

compendious
pithy

curt
succinct

laconic
taciturn

OVERBLOWN/WORDY

bombastic
grandiloquent
prolix
verbose

circumlocution
loquacious
rhetoric

garrulous
periphrastic
turgid

DICTATORIAL

dogmatic
hegemonic
peremptory

authoritarian
hegemony
tyrannical

despotic
imperious

HATRED

abhorrence
antipathy
loathing
rancor

antagonism
detestation
malice

anathema
enmity
odium

BEGINNER/AMATEUR

dilettante
novitiate

fledgling
proselyte

neophyte
tyro

LAZY/SLUGGISH

indolent
languid
phlegmatic
torpid

inert
lassitude
quiescent

lackadaisical
lethargic
slothful

PACINISATISN

ameliorate
defer
placate
slake

appease
mitigate
propitiate

assuage
mollify
sate

FORGIVE

absolve
exonerate
redress

acquit
expiate
vindicate

exculpate
palliate

GRE Word Groups

POOR

destitute
impecunious

esurient

indigent

FAVORING/NOT IMPARTIAL

ardor/ardent
partisan

doctrinaire
tendentious

fervid
zealot

DENYING OF SELF

abnegate
Spartan

abstain
stoic

ascetic
temperate

WALKING ABOUT

ambulatory

itinerant

peripatetic

INSINCERE

disingenuous
ostensible

dissemble
unctuous

fulsome

PREVENT/OBSTRUCT

discomfit
forfend
inhibit

encumber
hinder
occlude

fetter
impede



aberrant
eclectic
iconoclast

anomalous
esoteric

anachronism
discrete

FUNNY

chortle
flippant
levity
riposte

droll
gibe
ludicrous
simper

facetious
jocular
raillery

Vocabulary Builder

SORROW

disconsolate
elegiac
lugubrious
plaintive

doleful
forlorn
melancholy
threnody

dolor
lament
morose

DISGUSTING/OFFENSIVE

defile
noisome
rebarbative

fetid
odious

invidious
putrid

WITHDRAWAL/RETREAT

abeyance
abortive
demur
remission
retrograde

abjure
abrogate
recant
renege

abnegation
decamp
recidivism
rescind

DEATH/MOURNING

bereave
demise
knell
moribund
wraith

cadaver
dolorous
lament
obsequies

defunct
elegy
macabre
sepulchral

COPY

counterpart
factitious
quintessence

emulate
paradigm
simulated

facsimile
precursor
vicarious

EQUAL

equitable

equity

tantamount

UNUSUAL

aberration
idiosyncrasy

anomaly

iconoclast

Word

WANDERING

discursive
itinerant
sojourn

expatiate
peregrination

forage
peripatetic

GAPS/OPENINGS

abatement
hiatus
lull
respite

aperture
interregnum
orifice
rift

fissure
interstice
rent

HEALTHY

beneficial

salubrious

salutary

ABBREVIATED COMMUNICATION

abridge
curtail
terse

compendium
syllabus

cursory
synopsis

WISDOM

adage
axiom
epigram
truism

aphorism
bromide
platitude

apothegm
dictum
sententious

FAMILY

conjugal
endogamous
progenitor

consanguine
filial
scion

distaff
fratricide

NOT A STRAIGHT LINE

askance
carom
gyrate
oblique
sinuous

awry
circuitous
labyrinth
serrated
undulating

careen
circumvent
meander
sidle
vortex

Vocabulary Builder



INVESTIGATE

appraise
descry

ascertain
peruse

assay

TIME/ORDER/DURATION

anachronism
anterior
eon
fortnight
synchronous

antecede
archaic
ephemeral
millennium
temporal

antedate
diurnal
epoch
penultimate

BAD MOOD

bilious
petulant
querulous

dudgeon
pettish
umbrage

irascible
pique
waspish

EMBARRASS

abash
contrition
foible

chagrin
diffidence
gaucherie

compunction
expiate
rue

HARDHEARTED

asperity
fell
sardonic
vitriolic

baleful
malevolent
scathing
vituperation

dour
mordant
truculent

NAG

admonish
enjoin
hector
reproof

cavil
exhort
martinet

belabor
harangue
remonstrate

PREDICT

augur
harbinger
prescient

auspice
portentous
prognosticate

fey
presage

LUCK

adventitious
fortuitous
optimum
propitious

amulet
kismet
portentous
providential

auspicious
nemesis
propitiate
talisman

NASTY

fetid

noisome

noxious

HARSH-SOUNDING

assonance
dissonant

cacophony
raucous

din
strident

PLEASANT-SOUNDING

euphonious
sonorous

harmonious

melodious

Chapter 10

WORD ROOT LIST

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD ROOT LIST

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

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

Vocabulary Builder



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

Word Root List

ARD, ASS	BURN ardent, ardor, arson
AUTO, AUT	SELF autobiography, <u>autocracy</u> , autograph, automaton, autonomous, autopsy, autism
BEL, BELL	BEAUTIFUL belle, embellish
BELL, BELLI	WAR antebellum, <u>bellicose</u> , <u>belligerent</u> , <u>rebellion</u>
BEN, BEN	WELL, GOOD benefactor, benevolent, benign
BI, BIN	TWO bica ² meral, bicycle, bifocals, bifurcate, bilateral, binoculars, binomial, biped, combination, <u>biennial</u>
BON, BOUN	GOOD, GENEROUS bonus, bountiful, bounty, debonair
BREW, BRID, brev	SHORT, SMALL abbreviate, abridge, brevet, <u>breviary</u> , <u>breviloquent</u> , <u>brevity</u> , brief
BURS	PURSE, MONEY bursar, bursary, disburse, reimburse
CARN	FLESH carnage, carnal, carnival, carnivorous, charnel, <u>incarnate</u>
CAUS, CAUT	BURN caustic, cauterize, cautery, encaustic, <u>holocaust</u>
CED, CESS	YIELD, GO abscess, accede, access, accessory, ancestor, antecedent, cession, <u>concede</u> , exceed, excess, intercede, precede, proceed, recede, recess, recession, secede, succeed
CELER	SPEED accelerate, celerity, decelerate

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

Word Root List

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

Vocabulary Builder

DUR	HARD, LASTING <i>đồng, bền, chắc</i> <i>inflexible, stubborn</i> dour , durable, duration, duress , during, endure, obdurate, perdurable
EI EX. EC, EF	om <i>tiêu, trừ, bỏ</i> eliminate, emanate, eradicate, erase, evade, evict, evince , exact, excavate, except, excerpt , <i>trích</i> excite, exclusive, excommunicate, excrescence, execute, exhale, exile, exit
EGO	SELF <i>chính mình</i> ego, egocentric, egoism, egotist
EQU	EQUAL adequate, equable, equal, equation, equator, equilibrium, equinox, equivocate
ERR	WANDER <i>(lạc, đi, sai)</i> aberration, err, errant, erratic, erroneous, error
EU	WELL, GOOD eugenics, eulogy, euphemism, euphony, euphoria , euthanasia
FAL	LIABLE TO ERR TO DECEIVE default, fail, fallacy false, faux pas, infallible
FATU	FOOLISH fatuity, fatuous , infatuate
FERN	BOIL <i>(sôi, sôi sục)</i> effervescent , fervent , fervid , fervor <i>→ nhiệt độ, sự sôi sục</i>
FID, FI	FAITH <i>(trung)</i> affiance, affidavit, confidant, fealty, fidelity , fiducial, fiduciary
FLAGR, FULG, FULM	BURN, SHINE conflagration, effulgent, flagrant , fulgent , fulminate , refulgent <i>→ sáng chói, rực rỡ</i>
FLECT, FLEX	BEND, TURN circumflex, deflect , flex, flexible, inflection, reflect
FUG	FLEE <i>(trốn)</i> centrifuge, fugitive, fugue, refuge , refugee, subterfuge
FUM	SMOKE fume, fumigate, perfume

Word Root List

✓ GEN	BIRTH, CLASS, KIN gender, gene, general, generation, generosity, genesis, genetics, genial, <u>geni-</u> tal, genius, gentle, gentile, gentility, gentry, congenital, degenerate, <u>engender</u> , produce eugenics, ingenious, ingenuity, ingenuous, progeny, progenitor, regenerate
GNO, GNI, COGN, CONN	KNOW <i>biết, hiểu, nhận thức</i> <u>agnostic</u> , <u>cognition</u> , cognizance, diagnosis, gnomonic, ignore, <u>incognito</u> , prognosis, <u>quaint</u> , recognize, reconnaissance ~ econnoiter <i>đi xem, khám phá</i>
GRAM, GRAPH	WRITE, DRAW <u>anagram</u> , diagram, epigram, epigraph, grammar, grammarian, gramophone, <u>graph</u> , graphic, graphite, phonograph, photograph, program, telegram
GREG	FLOCK <i>tập hợp lại</i> <u>aggregate</u> , <u>congregate</u> , <u>egregious</u> , <u>gregarious</u> , <u>segregate</u>
HAP	BY CHANCE haphazard, hapless, happen, happily, happy, <u>mayhap</u> , mishap
HEMI	HALF hemiptera, hemisphere, hemistich
HETERO	OTHER <i>khác</i> heterodox, heterodyne, heterogeneous, heterosexual
HOL	WHOLE <u>catholic</u> , <u>holocaust</u> , hologram, holograph, holistic
HOMO	SAME (from Greek) homogeneous, homogenize, homologue, homonym, homophone, homoptera, homosexual, <u>homotype</u>
HUM	EARTH <u>exhume</u> , <u>humile</u> , humility, <u>posthumous</u> <i>after death</i>
ICON	IMAGE, IDOL icon, iconic, <u>iconoclast</u> , iconography, iconology
f. IM, IN	NOT immature, <u>immutable</u> , imperfect, improvident, indigestible, inhospitable, innocuous, intolerant <i>không chấp, không được</i>

Vocabulary Builder

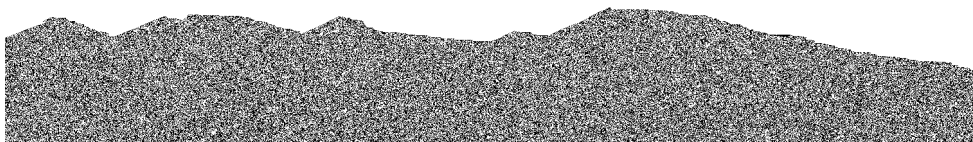
IN, IM, I	IN, ON (Often <i>n</i> is dropped and the first letter to which <i>i</i> is prefixed is doubled.) illuminate, incantation, induct, infer, imbibe, immigrate, impact, irrigate
INTER	BETWEEN, AMONG intercept, interchange, interfere, interject, interpret, interval
INTRA	INSIDE, WITHIN intramural,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

Word Root List

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

Vocabulary Builder

MEGA	LARGE, GREAT megalithic, megalomania, megalopolis, megaphone, megaton
MICRO	VERY SMALL microbe, microcosm, micron, microorganism, microphone, microscope
MIS	BAD, WRONG, HATE misadventure, misanthropist, misapply, miscarry, mischance, mischief, misconstrue, miscount, misfit, misinterpret
MOLL	SOFT emollient, mild, mollify, mollusk, wolly, cuddle, maternal, soft
MON, MONO	ONE monarchy, monastic, monism, monk, monochord, monograph, monogram, monolith, monolithic, monologue, monomania, monosyllable, monotonous
MOR, MORT	DEATH amortize, immortal, morbid, moribund, mortality, mortgage, mortification, mortuary
MOT, MOV, MOM, MOB	MOVE automobile, demote, immovable, locomotion, mob, mobile, mobility, mobilize, momentous, momentum, motion, motive, motor, move, mutiny, promote, removable
MULT	MANY multiplex, multiply, multitudinous, multiplied, duplicated, replicated, multiplied, multiplied, multiplied
MUT	CHANGE commute, immutable, mutability, mutation, mutual, permutation, transmute
NASC, NAT, GNA	BIRTH cognate, nascent, natal, native, natural, nature, pregnant, Renaissance
NAU, NAV	SHIP, SAILOR astronaut, cosmonaut, circumnavigate, nauseous, nautical, naval, nave, navy



annihilate, nihilism
hu' so

Word Root List

NOCT, NOX	NIGHT <u>equinox</u> , <u>noctambulent</u> , <u>nocturnal</u> , <u>nocturne</u>
NOX, NOC	HARM innocent, <u>innocuous</u> , <u>internecine</u> , <u>noxious</u> , nuisance, <u>obnoxious</u> , <u>pernicious</u> . <i>= offensive thought, pain to</i>
NOM, NYM	
NEC	anonymous, antonym, cognomen, denominator, <u>homonym</u> , <u>misnomer</u> , nomenclature, nominal, nominate, noun, pronoun, <u>pseudonym</u> , renowned, synonym <i>in the same way, name</i>
NON	NOT nonconformist, <u>nonentity</u> , <u>nonpareil</u> , <u>nonpartisan</u>
NOV	NEW innovate, nova, <u>novel</u> , <u>novelty</u> , <u>novice</u> , <u>novitiate</u> , <u>renovate</u>
NULL	NOTHING annul, null, nullify, nullity
OB	AGAINST <u>obdurate</u> , obliterate, oblong, obloquy, object, obstacle, obstreperous, obstruct
OMNI	ALL omnibus, <u>omnipresent</u> , <u>omnipotent</u> , <u>omniscient</u> , <u>omnivorous</u>
ONER	BURDEN <u>exonerate</u> , <u>onerous</u> , <u>onus</u>
OSS, OSTE	BONE <u>osseous</u> , ossicle, ossiferous, <u>ossify</u> , ossuary, osstectomy, osteopathy <i>bone, skeleton, hard, strong</i>
PALP	FEEL palpable, palpate, <u>palpitation</u> <i>touch, feel, sense</i>
PAN, PANT	ALL panacea, <u>pandemonium</u> , <u>panegyric</u> , <u>panoply</u> , panorama, pan- pantomime <i>all, together, whole</i>
PATH	SUFFER, FEEL apathy, antipathy, empathy, <u>pathetic</u> , <u>pathology</u> , <u>pathos</u> , sympathy <i>feeling, emotion, suffering</i>
PEC	MONEY impecunious, speculation, <u>pecuniary</u> <i>money, wealth</i>

Vocabulary Builder

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

Word Root List

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

Vocabulary Builder

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

Word Root List

SCRIB, SCRIV, SCRIPT	WRITE <i>regular handwriting</i> <u>ascribe</u> , <u>circumscription</u> , <u>conscript</u> , <u>describe</u> , indescribable, inscription, <u>postscript</u> , prescribe, <u>proscribe</u> , <u>scribble</u> , scribe, script, scripture, scrivener, subscribe, transcription
SE	DOWN, OUT, AWAY, APART <u>secede</u> , <u>seclude</u> , <u>secret</u> , <u>secrete</u> , secure, <u>sedition</u> , seduce, segregate, select, separate <i>to separate, to set apart</i>
SED, SID	SIT <i>continuous, continuous, continuous</i> <u>assiduous</u> , <u>dissident</u> , <u>insidious</u> , <u>preside</u> , reside, residue, seance, <u>sedate</u> , sedative, <u>sedentary</u> , sediment, <u>sedulous</u> , session, siege, subside, <u>supersede</u>
SEM	SEED, SOW <i>diligent</i> disseminate, semen, <u>seminal</u> , seminar, <u>seminary</u>
SEMI	HALF <i>continuous, continuous</i> semicircle, semicolon, semiconscious, semifluid
SEN	OLD senate, senescent, senile, senior, sire <i>similarity</i>
SEQU, SECU, SUE, SUI	FOLLOW consecutive, consequent, execute, executive, non sequitur, obsequious, obsequy, persecute, prosecution, pursue, sequel, sequence, subsequent, sue, suitable, suite, suitor
SINU, SIN	BEND, FOLD cosine, <u>insinuate</u> , sine, <u>sinuous</u> , sinus
SOL	SUN <i>only, only</i> parasol, solar, solarium, <u>solstice</u> - <i>change of season</i>
SOL	ALONE <i>it is alone; it is alone</i> desolate, isolate, sole, <u>solipsism</u> , <u>solitude</u> , solo
SOMN	SLEEP <i>half, half</i> <u>insomnia</u> , <u>somniferous</u> , <u>somniloquist</u> , somnolent
SOPH	WISDOM philosopher, <u>sophism</u> , <u>sophist</u> , sophisticated, <u>sophistry</u> , sophomore

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

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

Vocabulary Builder

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

Chapter 11

OPPOSITE DRILLS

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

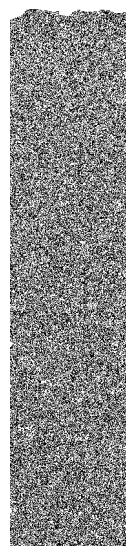
No definitions are provided. Look up words that you are unsure of in the GRE Minidictionary.

HAPPY

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- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

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

SAD



Answer key on page 289.

Vocabulary Builder

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

Answer key on page 290.

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

Answer key on page 291.




**ATTRACTION
OR LIKE**

**REPULSION
OR DISLIKE**

**ATTRACTION
OR LIKE**

**REPULSION
OR DISLIKE**

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

Answer key on page 292.

Vocabulary Builder

CALMNESS

AGITATION

CALMNESS

AGITATION

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

Answer key on page 294.



CHANGE

LACK OF CHANGE

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

Answer key on page 295.

Vocabulary Builder

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

Answer key on page 296.

Opposite Drills

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

Answer key on page 297.

Vocabulary Builder

GROW

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

SHRINK

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Answer key on page 298.

Opposite Drills

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

Answer key on page 299.

Opposite Drills

YOUTH OR IMMATURITY

OLD AGE OR MATURITY

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

Answer key on page 301.

Vocabulary Builder

PRAISE

CRITICISM

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

PRAISE

CRITICISM

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

Answer key on page 302.

Opposite Drills

SWIFTNESS OR BRIEFNESS

DELAY OR SLOWNESS

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

Answer key on page 303.

Vocabulary Builder

SUBTLE OR SLIGHT

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

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

OBVIOUS

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

Answer key on page 304.



**INTELLIGENCE
AND ABILITY**

**STUPIDITY
AND CLUMSINESS**

**INTELLIGENCE
AND ABILITY**

**STUPIDITY
AND CLUMSINESS**

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | ACUMEN | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | ASININE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | ASTUTE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | DERANGED | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | DOLTISH | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | FATUOUS | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | FINESSE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | FLAIR | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | GAUCHE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | GULLIBLE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | IGNORAMUS | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | IMPOLITIC | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | INANE | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | INCISIVE | <input type="radio"/> |

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | INGENIOUS |
| <input type="radio"/> | KEN |
| <input type="radio"/> | MALADROIT |
| <input type="radio"/> | OMNISCIENT |
| <input type="radio"/> | PERCIPIENT |
| <input type="radio"/> | PERSPICACIOUS |
| <input type="radio"/> | PRECOCIOUS |
| <input type="radio"/> | PUNDIT |
| <input type="radio"/> | SAGACIOUS |
| <input type="radio"/> | SAPIENT |
| <input type="radio"/> | SIMPLE |
| <input type="radio"/> | UNWITTING |
| <input type="radio"/> | VACUOUS |
| <input type="radio"/> | VAPID |



Answer key on page 306.

Opposite Drills

LOUD, LONG, OR A LOT OF SPEECH

QUIET, SHORT, OR ABSENCE OF SPEECH

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

Answer key on page 307.

Vocabulary Builder

CLEAN

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

DIRTY

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Answer key on page 308.

Opposite Drills

TOGETHER
OR CONTINUOUS

SEPARATE
OR DISCONTINUOUS

TOGETHER
OR CONTINUOUS

SEPARATE
OR DISCONTINUOUS

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

Answer key on page 309.

Vocabulary Builder

STUBBORN

- ☐
- ☐
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- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

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

AGREEABLE

- ☐
- ☐
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- ☐

Answer key on page 310.

Opposite Drill Answer Keys

HAPPY



BLITHE

DISCONSOLATE

DISPIRITED

DOLDRUMS

DOLOROUS

EBULLIENT

EUPHORIC

FELICITY

PROVIDENT

RUE

WOE

SAD



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

Vocabulary Builder

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

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

Opposite Drills

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

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



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

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



BRAVERY OR CONFIDENCE



APLOMB



APPREHENSION



AUDACIOUS



AUDACITY



CHARY



CIRCUMSPECTION



CRAVEN



DAUNTLESS



DOUGHTY



GALLANTRY



GAME



INTREPID



METTLESOME



MISGIVING



PLUCKY



PUSILLANIMOUS



TEMERITY



TREPIDATION



UNDAUNTED



VALIANT



VALOROUS

FEAR OR CAUTION



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

Vocabulary Builder

CALMNESS

AGITATION

CALMNESS

AGITATION

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

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

Opposite Drills

CHANGE



CATALYST
COMMUTATION
CONSISTENT
CONSTANT
DETERMINATE
ENTRENCHED
FIXITY
IMMUTABLE
IMPERVIOUS
INERT
INGRAINED
INNOVATIVE
INVARIABLE
INVIOLE
LODGED
METAMORPHOSIS
MUTABLE
ROOTED
STEADFAST
TRANSFIGURATION
TRANSFORMATION
TRANSLATION
TRANSMOGRIFY
TRANSMUTATION
UNFAILING

LACK OF CHANGE



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

Vocabulary Builder

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

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

Opposite Drills

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

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

Vocabulary Builder

GROW



ABATE

ACCRETE

AGGRANDIZE

AMPLIFY

APPEND

AUGMENT

BURGEON

CONSTRIC

CORRODE

DWINDLE

EBB

ERODE

ESCALATE

UPSURGE

WAX

WANE

SHRINK



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

Opposite Drills

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

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

UNLIMITED OR FREE

LIMITED OR CLOSED

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

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

Opposite Drills

YOUTH OR IMMATURITY

OLD AGE OR MATURITY

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

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

PRAISE

CRITICISM

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


PRAISE

CRITICISM

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

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

Opposite Drills

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

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

SUBTLE OR SLIGHT

OBVIOUS

<input type="radio"/>	BLATANT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	EGREGIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	FLAGRANT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	GOSSAMER	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	MANIFEST	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	MODICUM	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	NUANCE	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	OSTENTATIOUS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	OVERT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	PATENT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	RAREFY	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	REFINED	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	SCINTILLA	<input type="radio"/>

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

Opposite Drills


RUDENESS



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

POLITENESS



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

der

INTELLIGENCE
AND ABILITY

STUPIDITY
AND CLUMSINESS

INTELLIGENCE
AND ABILITY

STUPIDITY
AND CLUMSINESS

- ☒ ACUMEN
- ☐ ASININE
- ☒ ASTUTE
- ☐ DERANGED
- ☐ DOLTISH
- ☐ FATUOUS
- ☒ FINESSE
- ☒ FLAIR
- ☐ GAUCHE
- ☐ GULLIBLE
- ☐ IGNORAMUS
- ☐ IMPOLITIC
- ☐ INANE
- ☒ INCISIVE

- ☒ INGENIOUS
- ☒ KEN
- ☐ MALADROIT
- ☒ OMNISCIENT
- ☒ PERCIPIENT
- ☒ PERSPICACIOUS
- ☒ PRECOCIOUS
- ☒ PUNDIT
- ☒ SAGACIOUS
- ☒ SAPIENT
- ☐ SIMPLE
- ☐ UNWITTING
- ☐ VACUOUS
- ☐ VAPID

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

Opposite Drills

LOUD, LONG, OR A LOT OF SPEECH

QUIET, SHORT., OR ABSENCE OF SPEECH

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

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

Vocabulary Builder

CLEAN



ABLUTION

BESMEAR

BESPATTER

DEFILE

GRIMY

GRUBBY

IMMACULATE

PRISTINE

SLOVENLY

SMUTTY

SULLY

UNSOILED

UNSULLIED

VIRGINAL

DIRTY



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



Opposite Drills

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

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

Vocabulary Builder

STUBBORN



ACCEDE



ACCOMMODATING



ACQUIESCE



AMENABLE



CAPITULATE



COMPLY



CONCEDE



CONTUMACIOUS



DOGMATIC



HIDEBOUND



INTRANSIGENT



OBDURACY



OBLIGING



OBSTINATE



OSSIFIED



PERTINACIOUS



RECALCITRANT



REFRACTORY



UNBENDING



UNSWAYABLE

AGREEABLE



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

Chapter 12

GRE MIN-IDICTIONARY

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

A

ABANDON (n) total lack of inhibition

ABASE to humble, disgrace

ABASH to embarrass

ABATEMENT decrease, reduction

ABDICATE to give up a position, right, or power

ABERRANT atypical, not normal

ABERRATION something different from the usual or normal

ABET to aid, act as accomplice

ABEYANCE temporary suppression or suspension

ABHOR to loathe, detest

ABIDING enduring, continuing

ABJECT miserable, pitiful

ABJURE to reject, abandon formally

ABLUTION act of **cleansing**

ABNEGATE to deny, renounce

ABOLITIONIST one who opposes the practice of slavery

ABOMINATE to hate

ABORTIVE interrupted while incomplete

ABRIDGE to condense, shorten

ABROGATE to abolish or invalidate by authority

ABRUPT sudden, unexpected

ABSCOND to depart secretly

ABSOLVE to forgive, free from blame

ABSTAIN to refrain deliberately from something

ABSTEMIOUS moderate in appetite

ABSTRACT (adj) theoretical; complex, difficult

ABSTRUSE difficult to comprehend

ABUT to touch, to be in contact with

ABYSS an extremely great depth

ACCEDE to express approval; agree to

ACCESSIBLE attainable, available; approachable

ACCESSORY attachment, ornament; accomplice, partner

ACCLAIM praise

ACCOLADE praise, distinction

ACCOMMODATING helpful

ACCORD to reconcile, come to an agreement


ACCOST to approach and speak to someone


ACCRETION growth in size or increase in amount

ACCRUE to accumulate, grow by additions





ACERBIC bitter, sharp in taste or temper
 ACIDULOUS sour in taste or manner
 ACME highest point, summit
 ACQUIESCE to agree, comply quietly
 ACQUITTAL release from blame
 ACRID harsh, bitter
 ACRIMONY bitterness, animosity
 ACUITY sharpness
 sharpness of insight
 ACUTE sharp, pointed
 ADAGE old saying or proverb
 ADAMANT uncompromising, unyielding
 ADAPT to accommodate, adjust
 ADHERE to cling or to **follow** without deviation
 ADJACENT next to
 ADJUNCT something added, attached, or joined
 ADMONISH to caution or reprimand
 ADROIT skillful, accomplished, highly competent
 ADULATION high praise
 ADULTERATE to corrupt or make impure
 ADUMBRATE to sketch, outline in a shadowy way
 ADVANTAGEOUS favorable, **useful**
 ADVENTITIOUS accidental
 ADVERSARIAL antagonistic, competitive
 ADVERSE unfavorable, unlucky, harmful
 ADVOCATE to speak in favor of
 AERIAL having to do with the air
 AERIE nook or nest built high in the air
 AERODYNAMIC relating to objects moving through the air
 AESTHETIC pertaining to beauty or art
 AFFABLE friendly, easy to approach
 AFFECTED (adj) pretentious, phony
 AFFINITY fondness, liking; similarity
 AFFLUENT rich, abundant
 AFFRONT (n) personal offense, insult

AGENDA plan, schedule
 AGGRANDIZE to make larger or greater in power
 AGGREGATE (n) collective mass or sum; total
 AGGRIEVE to afflict, distress
 AGILE well coordinated, nimble
 AGITATION commotion, excitement; uneasiness
 AGNOSTIC one doubting that people can know God
 AGRARIAN relating to farming or rural matters
 ALACRITY cheerful willingness, eagerness; speed
 ALCHEMY medieval chemical philosophy based on quest to change metal into gold
 ALGORITHM **mechanical** problem-solving procedure
 ALIAS assumed name
 ALIENATED distanced, estranged
 ALIGNED precisely adjusted; committed to one side or **party**
 ALLAY to lessen, ease, or soothe
 ALLEGORY symbolic representation
 ALLEVIATE to relieve, improve partially
 ALLITERATION repetition of the beginning sounds of words
 ALLOCATION allowance, portion, share
 ALLURE (v) to entice by charm; attract
 ALLUSION indirect reference
 ALLUSIVENESS quality of making many indirect references
 ALOOF detached, indifferent
 ALTERCATION noisy dispute
 ALTRUISM unselfish concern for others' welfare
 mixture, combination, alloy
 AMBIDEXTROUS able to use both hands equally well
 AMBIGUOUS uncertain; subject to multiple interpretations
 AMBIVALENCE attitude of **uncertainty**; conflicting emotions
 AMBULATORY itinerant; related to walking around
 AMELIORATE to ~~make~~ better, improve

AMENABLE **agreeable**, cooperative

AMEND to improve or correct **flaws** in

AMENITY pleasantness; something increasing comfort

AMIALE friendly, pleasant, likable

AMICABLE friendly, agreeable

AMITY friendship

AMORAL unprincipled, unethical

AMOROUS strongly attracted to love; showing love

AMORPHOUS having no definite form

AMORTIZE to diminish by installment payments

AMPHIBIAN (n) creature equally at home on land or in water

AMPHITHEATER arena theater with ruing tiers around a central open space

AMPLE abundant, plentiful

AMPLIFY to increase, intensify

AMULET ornament worn as a charm against evil spirits

ANACHRONISM something **chronologically** inappropriate

ANACHRONISTIC outdated

ANALGESIA a lessening of pain

ANALOGOUS comparable, parallel

ANARCHY absence of government or law; chaos

ANATHEMA ban, curse; something shunned or disliked

ANCILLARY accessory, subordinate, helping

ANECDOTE short, usually funny account of an event

ANGULAR characterized by sharp angles; lean and gaunt

ANIMATION enthusiasm, excitement

ANIMOSITY hatred, hostility

ANNUL to cancel, nullify, **declare** void, or make **legally** invalid

ANODYNE something that **calms** or soothes pain

ANOINT to apply oil to, **esp.** as a sacred rite

ANOMALY irregularity or deviation from the norm

ANONYMITY condition of having no name or an unknown name

ANTAGONIST foe, opponent, adversary

ANTECEDENT (adj) coming before in place or time

ANTEDATE dated prior to **the** actual occurrence

ANTEDILUVIAN prehistoric, ancient beyond measure

ANTEPENULTIMATE third from last

ANTERIOR preceding, previous, before, prior (to)

ANTHOLOGY collection of literary works

ANTHROPOMORPHIC **attributing** human qualities to nonhumans

ANTIPATHY dislike, hostility; extreme opposition or aversion

ANTIQUATED outdated, obsolete

ANTIQUITY ancient times; the quality of being old or ancient

ANTITHESIS exact opposite or direct contrast

APACE done **quickly**

APATHETIC indifferent, unconcerned

APATHY lack of feeling or emotion

APERTURE an opening or hole

APHASIA inability to speak or use words

APHELION point in a planet's orbit that is farthest from the sun

APHORISM old saying or short **pithy** statement

APLOMB poise, confidence

APOCRYPHAL not genuine; **fictional**

APOSTATE (n) one who renounces a religious faith

APOSTROPHE speech to the reader or someone not present; a superscript sign (')

APOTHEGM a short, instructive saying

APOTHEOSIS glorification; glorified ideal

APPEASE to satisfy, placate, **calm**, pacify

APPEND to attach

APPLAUSE praise

APPRAISE to evaluate the value of something

APPREHENSION the act of comprehending; fear, foreboding

APPRISE to give notice of; inform

approbation

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



biped

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

B

BACCHANALIAN drunkenly festive
 BALEFUL harmful, with evil intentions
 BALK (v) to refuse, shirk; prevent
 BALLAD folk song, narrative poem
 BALM soothing, healing influence
 BAN (v) to forbid, outlaw
 BANAL trite and overly common
 BANE something causing ruin, death, or destruction
 BANTER playful conversation
 BASE being of low value or position
 BASTION fortification, stronghold
 BAY (v) to bark, especially in a deep, prolonged way
 BEATIFIC appearing to be saintly, angelic
 BECALM to make calm or still; keep motionless by lack of wind
 BECLOUD to confuse; darken with clouds
 BEGUILE to deceive, mislead; charm
 BEHEMOTH huge creature
 BELABOR to insist repeatedly or harp on
 BELATED late
 BELEAGUER to harass, plague
 BELFRY bell tower, room in which a bell is hung

BELIE to misrepresent; expose as false
BELITTLE to represent as unimportant, make light of
 BELLICOSE warlike, aggressive
 BELLIGERENT hostile, tending to fight
 BELLOW to roar, shout
 BEMUSE to confuse, stupefy; plunge deep into thought
 BENCHMARK standard of measure
 BENEFACTOR someone giving aid or money
 BENEFICIAL advantageous
 BENEFICENT kindly, charitable; doing good deeds; producing good effects
 BENIGHTED unenlightened
 BENIGN kindly, gentle or harmless
 BENISON blessing
 BENT a natural inclination toward something
 BEQUEATH to give or leave through a will; to hand down
 BERATE to **scold** harshly
 BEREAVED suffering the death of a loved one
 BESEECH to beg, plead, implore
 BESMEAR to smear
 BESPATTER to spatter
 BESTIAL beastly, animal-like
 BESTOW to give as a gift
 BETOKEN to indicate, signify, give evidence of
 BEVY group
BIAS prejudice, slant
 BIBLIOGRAPHY list of books
 BIBLIOPHILE book lover
 BICKER to have a petty argument
 BIFURCATE divide into two parts
 BILATERAL two-sided
 BILIOUS bad-natured
 BILK to cheat, defraud
 BILLET board and lodging for troops
 BIPED two-footed animal



bisect

BISECT to cut into two (**usually** equal) parts

BLANCH to pale; take the color out of

BLANDISH to coax with flattery

BLASPHEMOUS cursing, profane, irreverent

BLATAST glaring, obvious, showy

BLIGHT (v) to afflict, destroy

BLITHE joyful, cheerful, or without appropriate thought

BLUDGEON to hit as with a short heavy club

BLUSTER to boast or make threats loudly

BOISTEROUS rowdy, loud, unrestrained

BOLSTER to support; reinforce

BOMBASTIC using high-sounding but meaningless language

BONANZA extremely large amount; something profitable

BONHOMIE good-natured geniality; atmosphere of good cheer

BOOK blessing, something to be thankful for

BOOR crude person, one lacking manners or taste

BOTANIST scientist who **studies** plants

BOUNTIFUL plentiful

BOUQUET a bunch of cut flowers

BOURGEOIS middle-class

BOVINE relating to cows

BRAZEN bold, shameless, impudent; of or like brass

BREACH act of breaking, violation

BREVITY the quality of being brief in time

BRIGAND bandit, **outlaw**

BROACH to mention or suggest for the first time

BROMIDE a dull, commonplace person **or** idea

BRUSQUE rough and abrupt in manner

BUFFET (v) to strike, hit

BUFFOON **clown** or fool

BULWARK defense wall; anything serving as defense

BURGEON to sprout or flourish

BURLY brawny, husky

BURNISH to polish, make smooth and bright

BURSAR treasurer

BUSTLE commotion, energetic activity

BUTT person or thing that is object of ridicule

BUTTRESS (v) to reinforce or support

BYWAY back road

C

CABAL a secret group seeking to overturn something

CACOPHONOUS jarring, unpleasantly noisy

CADAVER dead body

CADENCE rhythmic flow of poetry; marching beat

CAJOLE to flatter, coax, persuade

CALAMITOUS disastrous, catastrophic

CALLOUS thick-skinned, insensitive

CALLOW immature, lacking sophistication

CALUMNY false and malicious accusation, misrepresentation, slander

CANARD a lie

CANDID frank or fair

CANDOR honesty of expression

CANNY smart; founded on common sense

CANONIZE to **declare** a person a saint; raise to highest honors

CANVASS to examine **thoroughly**; conduct a poll

CAPACIOUS large, roomy; **extensive**

CAPITULATE to submit completely, surrender

CAPRICIOUS impulsive, **whimsical**, without much thought

CARDIOLOGIST physician specializing in diseases of the heart

CAREEN to lean to one side

CARICATURE exaggerated portrait, cartoon

CARNAL of the flesh

CARNIVOROUS meat-eating

CAROM to strike and rebound

CARP (v) to **find** fault, complain constantly

claustrophobia

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



ve

CLEAVE to split or separate; to stick, cling, adhere
 CLEMENCY **merciful** leniency
 CLEMENT mild
 CLOISTER (v) to confine, seclude
 CLOYING indulging to excess
 COAGULATE to clot or change from a liquid to a solid
 COALESCE to grow together or cause to unite as one
 CODDLE to baby, treat indulgently
 COERCE to compel by force or intimidation
 COFFER strongbox, large chest for money
 COGENT logically forceful, compelling, convincing
 COGNATE related, similar, akin
 COGNITION mental process by which knowledge is acquired
 COGNOMEN family name; any name, especially a **nickname**
 COHABIT to live together
 COHERENT intelligible, lucid, understandable
 COLLATE to arrange in an order
 COLLATERAL accompanying
 COLLECTED acting calm and composed
 COLLOQUIAL characteristic of informal speech
 COLLOQUY dialogue or conversation, conference
 COLLUSION collaboration, complicity, conspiracy
 COMELINESS physical grace and beauty
 COMMEND to compliment, praise
 COMMENSURATE proportional
 COMMISSION fee payable to an agent; authorization
 COMMODIOUS roomy, spacious
 COMMONPLACE ordinary, found every day
 COMMUNICABLE transmittable
 COMMUTE to change a penalty to a less severe one
 COMPATRIOT fellow countryman
 COMPELLING (adj) having a powerful and irresistible effect
 COMPENDIOUS summarizing completely and briefly

COMPENSATE to repay or reimburse
 COMPLACENT self-satisfied, smug, affable
 COMPLAISANT agreeable, friendly
 COMPLEMENT to complete, perfect
 COMPLIANT submissive and yielding
 COMPLICITY knowing partnership in wrongdoing
 COMPOSED acting calm
 COMPOSURE a calm manner or appearance
 COMPOUND (adj) complex; composed of **several** parts
 COMPOUND (v) to combine, add to
 COMPRESS (v) to reduce, squeeze
 COMPULSIVE obsessive, fanatic
 COMPUNCTIOUS feeling guilty or having misgivings
 COMPUNCTION feeling of uneasiness caused by guilt or regret
 CONCATENATE linked together
 CONCAVE curving inward
 CONCEDE to yield, admit
 CONCEPTUALIZE to envision, imagine
 CONCERN a matter of importance or worthy of consideration
 CONCERTO musical composition for orchestra and **soloist(s)**
 CONCILIATORY overcoming distrust or hostility
 CONCOMITANT accompanying something
 CONCORD agreement
 CONCUR to agree
 CONDONE to pardon or forgive; overlook, justify, or excuse a fault
 CONDUIT tube, pipe, or similar passage
 CONFECTION something sweet to eat
 CONFISCATE to appropriate, **seize**
 CONFLAGRATION big, destructive fire
 CONFLUENCE meeting place; meeting of two streams
 CONFOUND to baffle, perplex
 CONGEAL to become thick or solid, as a liquid freezing

countenance

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

countermand

COUNTERMAND to annul, cancel, make a contrary order
 COUNTERVAIL to counteract, to exert force **against**
 COVEN group of witches
 COVERT hidden; secret
 COVET to strongly desire something possessed by another
 COWER to cringe in fear
 CRASS crude, unrefined
 CRAVEN cowardly
 CREDENCE acceptance of something as true or **real**
 CREDIBLE plausible, believable
 CREDULOUS gullible, trusting
 CREED statement of belief or principle
 CRESCENDO gradual increase in volume of sound
 CRINGE to shrink in fear
 CRITERION standard for judging, rule for testing
 CRYPTIC puzzling
 CUISINE characteristic style of **cooking**
 CULMINATION climax, final stage
 CULPABLE guilty, responsible for wrong
 CULPRIT guilty person
 CUMULATIVE resulting from gradual increase
 CUPIDITY greed
 CURATOR caretaker and overseer of an exhibition, esp. in a museum
 CURMUDGEON cranky person
 CURSORY hastily done, superficial
 CURT abrupt, blunt
 CURTAIL to shorten
 CUTLERY cutting instruments; tableware
 CYGNET young swan
 CYNIC person who distrusts the motives of others

D

DALLY to act playfully or waste time
 DAUNT to discourage, intimidate
 DEARTH lack, scarcity, insufficiency
 DEBASE to degrade or lower in quality or stature
 DEBAUCH to corrupt, seduce from virtue or duty; indulge
 DEBILITATE to weaken, enfeeble
 DEBUNK to discredit, disprove
 DEBUTANTE young woman making debut in high society
 DECADENCE **decline** or decay, deterioration
 DECAMP to leave suddenly
 DECAPITATE to behead
 DECATHLON athletic contest with ten events
 DECIDUOUS losing leaves in the fall; short-lived, temporary
 DECLIVITY downward slope
 DECOROUS proper, tasteful, **socially** correct
 DECORUM proper behavior, etiquette
 DECRY to belittle, openly condemn
 DEFACE to mar the appearance of, vandalize
 DEFAMATORY slanderous, injurious to the reputation
 DEFAME to disgrace or slander
 DEFECT an imperfection or **shortcoming**
 DEFENDANT person required to answer a legal action or suit
 DEFER to submit or yield
 DEFERENCE respect, honor
 DEFERENTIAL respectful and polite in a submissive way
 DEFICIENT defective, not meeting a normal standard
 DEFILE to make **unclean** or dishonor
 DEFINITIVE clear-cut, **explicit** or decisive
 DEFLATION decrease, depreciation
 DEFORM to **disfigure**, distort
 DEFT skillful, dexterous
 DEFUNCT no longer **existing, dead**, extinct

dilate

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

dilatory

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

embroil

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

E

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

emend

EMEND to correct a text

EMINENT celebrated, distinguished; outstanding, towering

EMOLLIENT having soothing qualities, esp. for skin

EMOTIVE appealing to or expressing emotion

EMPATHY identification with another's feelings

EMULATE to copy, imitate

ENCHANT to charm or attract

ENCIPHER to translate a message into code

ENCOMIUM warm praise

ENCORE additional performance, often demanded by audience

ENCUMBER to hinder, burden, restrict motion

ENDEMIC belonging to a particular area, inherent

ENDOGAMOUS marrying within a specific group due to law or custom

ENDURANCE ability to withstand hardships

ENERVATE to weaken, sap strength from

ENGENDER to produce, cause, bring about

ENIGMATIC puzzling, inexplicable

ENJOIN to urge, order, command; forbid or prohibit, as by judicial order

ENMITY hostility, antagonism, ill-will

ENNUI boredom, lack of interest and energy

ENORMITY state of being gigantic or terrible

ENSCONCE to settle comfortably into a place

ENSHROUD to cover, enclose with a dark cover

ENTAIL to involve as a necessary result, necessitate

ENTHRALL to captivate, enchant, enslave

ENTICE to lure or tempt

ENTITY something with its own existence or form

ENTOMOLOGIST scientist who studies insects

ENTREAT to plead, beg

ENTRENCHED established solidly

ENUMERATE to count, list, itemize

ENUNCIATE to pronounce clearly

EON indefinitely long period of time

EPHEMERAL momentary, transient, fleeting

EPICURE person with refined taste in food and wine

EPIGRAM short, witty saying or poem

EPIGRAPH quotation at the beginning of a literary work

EPILOGUE concluding section of a literary work

EPITHET an abusive word or phrase

EPITOME representative of an entire group; summary

EPOCHAL very significant or **influential**; defining an epoch or time period

EQUANIMITY calmness, composure

EQUESTRIAN (n) one who rides on horseback

EQUINE relating to horses

EQUITABLE fair

EQUITY justice, fairness

EQUIVOCAL ambiguous, open to two interpretations

EQUIVOCATE to ~~use~~ vague or ambiguous language intentionally

ERADICATE to erase or wipe out

ERODE to diminish or **destroy** over a period of time

ERRANT straying, mistaken, **roving**

ERRATIC wandering and unpredictable

ERRONEOUS in error; mistaken

ERSATZ fake

ERUDITE learned, scholarly

ESCALATE to increase the intensity or scope of

ESCHEW to abstain **from**, avoid

ESOTERIC understood only by a learned few

ESPOUSE to support or advocate; to marry

ESTIMABLE admirable

ESTRANGE to alienate, keep at a distance

ESURIENT hungry, greedy

ETHEREAL not earthly, spiritual, delicate

ETHICAL moral, abiding by an accepted code of conduct

ETHOS beliefs or character of a group

ETYMOLOGY origin and history of a word; study of words

EULOGY high praise, often in a public speech

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

EUPHONY pleasant, harmonious sound

EUPHORIA feeling of well-being or happiness

EURYTHMICS art of harmonious bodily movement

EUTHANASIA mercy killing; intentional, easy and painless death

EVADE to avoid, dodge

EVANESCENT momentary, transitory, short-lived

EVICT to put out or force out

EVIDENT clear, able to be understood

EVINCE to show clearly, display, signify

EVOKE to inspire memories; to produce a reaction

EXACERBATE to aggravate, intensify the bad qualities of

EXALT to glorify, to elevate

EXASPERATION irritation

EXCERPT (n) selection from a book or play

EXCOMMUNICATE to bar from membership in the church

EXCORIATE to denounce

EXCRUCIATING agonizing, intensely painful

EXCULPATE to clear of blame or fault

EXECRABLE utterly detestable

EXEMPLARY serving as an example, commendable

EXHILARATION state of being energetic or filled with happiness

EXHORT to urge or incite by strong appeals

EXHUXIE to remove from a grave; uncover a secret

EXIGENT urgent; excessively demanding

EXONERATE to clear of blame

EXORBITANT extravagant, greater than reasonable

EXORCISE to expel evil spirits

EXOTIC foreign; romantic, excitingly strange

EXPANSIVE sweeping, comprehensive; tending to expand

EXPATiate to wander; to discuss or describe at length

EXPATRIATE (n) one who lives outside one's native land

EXPATRIATE (v) to drive someone from his/her native land

EXPEDIENT (adj) convenient, efficient, practical

EXPIATE to atone for, make amends for

EXPIRE to come to an end; die; breathe out

EXPLICABLE capable of being explained

EXPLICIT clearly defined, specific; forthright in expression

EXPLODE to debunk, disprove; blow up, burst

EXPONENT one who champions or advocates

EXPOUND to elaborate; to expand or increase

EXPUNGE to erase, eliminate completely

EXPURGATE to censor

EXTEMPORANEOUS unrehearsed, on the spur of the moment

EXTENUATE to lessen the seriousness, strength, or effect of

EXTINCTION end of a living thing or species

EXTOL to praise

EXTORT to obtain something by threats

EXTRANEIOUS irrelevant, unrelated, unnecessary

EXTRAPOLATE to estimate

EXTREMITY outermost or farthest point

EXTRICATE to free from, disentangle, free

EXTRINSIC not inherent or essential, coming from without

EXTROVERT an outgoing person

EXUBERANT lively, happy, and full of good spirits

EXUDE to give off, ooze

EXULT to rejoice

F

FABRICATE to make or devise; construct

FABRICATED constructed, invented; faked, falsified

FACADE face, front; mask, superficial appearance

FACETIOUS witty in an inappropriate way

FACILE very easy

FACILITATE to aid, assist

FACILITY aptitude, ease in doing something

facsimile

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

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

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

G

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

goad

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

H

HABITAT dwelling place
 HACKNEYED worn out by over-use
 HAIL to greet with praise
 HALLOW to make holy; treat **as** sacred
 HAMLET **small** village
 HAPLESS unfortunate, having bad **luck**
 HARANGUE a pompous speech
 HARBINGER precursor, sign of something to come

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



impregnable

HONE to sharpen

HONOR (v) to praise, glorify, pay **tribute** to

HUMANE merciful, **kindly**

HUSBAND (v) to farm; manage carefully and thriftily

HUTCH pen or coop for animals; shack, shanty

HYDRATE to add water to

HYGIENIC clean, sanitary

HYMN religious song, **usually** of praise or thanks

HYPERBOLE purposeful exaggeration for effect

HYPERVENTILATE to breathe abnormally fast

HYPOCHONDRIA unfounded belief that one is often ill

HYPOCRITE person **claiming** beliefs or virtues he or she doesn't really possess

HYPOTHERMIA abnormally low body temperature

HYPOTHESIS assumption subject to proof

HYPOTHETICAL theoretical, speculative

I

ICONOCIAST one who attacks traditional beliefs

IDEALISM pursuit of noble goals

IDIOSYNCRASY peculiarity of temperament, eccentricity

IGNOBLE dishonorable, not noble in character

IGNOMINIOUS disgraceful and dishonorable

IGNORAMUS an ignorant person

ILK type or kind

ILLCIT illegal, improper

ILLIMITABLE limitless

ILLUSORY unreal, deceptive

ILLUSTRIOUS famous, renowned

IMBUE to infuse; dye, wet, moisten

IMMACULATE spotless; free from error

IMMATERIAL extraneous, inconsequential, nonessential; not consisting of matter

IMMENSE enormous, huge

IMMERSE to bathe, dip; to engross, preoccupy

IMMOBILE not moveable; still

IMMUNE exempt; protected from harm or disease; unresponsive to

IMMUNOLOGICAL relating to immune system

IMMURE to imprison

IMMUTABLE unchangeable, invariable

IMPAIR to damage, injure

IMPASSE blocked path, dilemma with no solution

IMPASSIONED with passion

IMPASSIVE showing no emotion

IMPEACH to charge with misdeeds in public office; accuse

IMPECCABLE flawless, without fault

IMPECUNIOUS poor, having no money

IMPEDIMENT barrier, obstacle; speech disorder

IMPERATIVE essential; mandatory

IMPERIOUS arrogantly self-assured, domineering, overbearing

IMPERTINENT rude

IMPERTURBABLE not capable of being disturbed

IMPERVIOUS impossible to penetrate; incapable of being affected

IMPETUOUS quick to act without thinking

IMPIOUS not devout in religion

IMPLACABLE inflexible, **incapable** of being pleased

IMPLANT to set securely or deeply; to instill

IMPLAUSIBLE improbable, inconceivable

IMPLICATE to involve in a crime, incriminate

IMPLICIT implied, not directly expressed

IMPOLITIC unwise

IXIORTUNE to ask repeatedly, beg

IMPOSE to inflict, force upon

IMPOSING dignified, grand

IMPOTENT **powerless**, ineffective, lacking strength

IMPOUND to seize and confine

IMPOVERISH to make poor or bankrupt

IMPRECATION curse

IMPREGNABLE totally safe from attack, able to resist defeat

IMPRESSIONABLE easily **influenced** or affected
 IMPROMPTU spontaneous, without rehearsal
 IMPROVIDENT without planning or foresight, negligent
 IMPRUDENT **unwise**
 IMPUDENT arrogant and rude
 IMPUGN to call into question, **attack verbally**
 IMPULSE sudden tendency, **inclination**
 IMPULSIVE spontaneous, unpredictable
 INADVERTENTLY **unintentionally**
 INANE foolish, silly, lacking significance
 INAUGURATE to begin or start officially; to induct into office
 INCANDESCENT shining brightly
 INCARCERATE to put in jail; to **confine**
 INCARCERATION imprisonment
 INCARNADINE blood-red in color
 INCARNATE having bodily form
 INCENDIARY combustible, flammable, burning easily
 INCENSE (**v**) to infuriate, enrage
 INCEPTION beginning
 INCESSANT continuous, never ceasing
 INCHOATE just begun; disorganized
 INCIPIENT beginning to exist or appear; in an initial stage
 INCISIVE perceptive, penetrating
 INCLINATION tendency towards
 INCLUSIVE comprehensive, all-encompassing
 INCOGNITO in disguise, concealing one's identity
 INCOMMUNICADO lacking a means to communicate
 INCONCEIVABLE impossible, unthinkable
 INCONGRUOUS incompatible, not harmonious
 INCONSEQUENTIAL unimportant, trivial
 INCONTROVERTIBLE unquestionable, beyond dispute
 INCORRIGIBLE incapable of being corrected
 INCREDULOUS skeptical, doubtful
 INCULCATE to teach, impress in the mind

INCULPATE to blame, charge with a crime
 INCUMBENT (adj) holding a specified office, often political; required, obligatory
 INCURSION sudden invasion
 INDEFATIGABLE never tired
 INDEFENSIBLE inexcusable, unforgivable
 INDELIBLE permanent, not erasable
 INDENTURE bound to another by contract
 INDICATIVE showing or pointing out, suggestive of
 INDICT to accuse formally, charge with a crime
 INDIGENOUS native, occurring naturally in an area
 INDIGENT very poor
 INDIGNANT angry, incensed, offended
 INDISPUTABLE not disputed, unquestioned
 INDOLENT habitually **lazy**, idle
 INDOMITABLE fearless, unconquerable
 INDUBITABLE unquestionable
 INDUCE to persuade; bring about
 INDUCT to place **ceremoniously in office**
 INDULGE to give in to a craving or desire
 INDUSTRY business or trade; diligence, energy
 INEBRIATED drunk, intoxicated
 INEPT clumsy, awkward
 INERT unable to move, tending to inactivity
 INESTIMABLE too great to be estimated
 INEVITABLE certain, **unavoidable**
 INEXORABLE inflexible, **unyielding**
 INEXTRICABLE incapable of being disentangled
 INFALLIBLE incapable of making a mistake
 INFAMY reputation for bad deeds
 INFANTILE childish, immature
 INFATUATED strongly or foolishly attached to, inspired with foolish passion, overly in love
 INFER to **conclude**, deduce
 INFERNAL hellish, diabolical

intimation

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

intractable

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

J

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


K

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

L

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

lurk

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

Luscious

LUSCIOUS very good-tasting

LUXURIANCE elegance, lavishness

LYRICAL suitable for poetry and song; expressing feeling

M

MACABRE gruesome, producing horror

MACHINATION plot or scheme

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

MACROCOSM system regarded as an entity with subsystems

MAELSTROM whirlpool; turmoil; agitated state of mind

MAGNANIMOUS generous, noble in spirit

MAGNATE powerful or influential person

MAGNITUDE extent, greatness of size

MAINSTAY chief support

MALADROIT clumsy, tactless

malady illness

MALAPROPISM humorous misuse of a word

MALCONTENT discontented person, one who holds a grudge

MALEDICTION curse

MALEFACTOR evildoer; culprit

malfeasance ill-willed; causing evil or harm to others

MALFUNCTION (n) breakdown, failure

MALFUNCTION (v) to fail to work

MALICE animosity, spite, hatred

MALINGER to evade responsibility by pretending to be ill

MALLEABLE capable of being shaped

MALNUTRITION undernourishment

MALODOROUS foul-smelling

MANDATORY necessary, required

MANIFEST (adj) obvious

MANIFOLD diverse, varied, comprised of many parts

MANNERED artificial or stilted in character

MANUAL (adj) hand-operated; physical

MANUMISSION release from slavery

MAR to damage, deface; spoil

MARGINAL barely sufficient

MARITIME relating to the sea or sailing

MARTIAL warlike, pertaining to the military

MARTINET strict disciplinarian, one who rigidly follows rules

MARTYR person dying for his/her beliefs

MASOCHIST one who enjoys pain or humiliation

MASQUERADE disguise; action that conceals the truth

MATERIALISM preoccupation with material things

MATRICULATE to enroll as a member of a college or university

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

MAUDLIN overly sentimental

MAVERICK a person who resists adherence to a group

MAWKISH sickeningly sentimental

MEAGER scanty, sparse

MEANDER to wander aimlessly without direction

MEANINGFUL significant

MEDDLER person interfering in others' affairs

MEDIEVAL relating to the Middle Ages

MEGALITH huge stone used in prehistoric structures

MEGALOMANIA mental state with delusions of wealth and power

MELANCHOLY sadness, depression

MELODIOUS having a pleasing melody

MELODY pleasing musical sounds; tune

MENAGERIE various animals kept together for exhibition

MENDACIOUS dishonest

MENDACITY a lie, falsehood

MENDICANT beggar

MENTOR experienced teacher and wise adviser

MERCENARY (adj) motivated only by greed

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

nadir

N

NADIR lowest point

NAIVE lacking sophistication

NAIVETÉ a lack of worldly wisdom

NARRATIVE account, story

NASCENT starting to develop, coming into existence

NATAL relating to birth

NEBULOUS vague, cloudy

NECROMANCY black magic

NEFARIOUS vicious, evil

NEGLIGENT careless, inattentive

NEGLIGIBLE not worth considering

NEMESIS a formidable, often victorious opponent

NEOLOGISM new word or expression

NEONATE newborn child

NEOPHYTE novice, beginner

NETHER located under or below

KETTLE (v) to irritate

NEUTRALITY disinterest, impartiality

NEUTRALIZE to balance, offset

NICETY elegant or delicate feature; minute distinction

NICHE recess in a wall; best position for something

NIGGARDLY stingy

NIGGLING trifle, petty

NIHILISM belief that existence and all traditional values are meaningless

NOBLE illustrious, moral

NOCTURNAL pertaining to night; active at night

NOISOME stinking, putrid

NOMADIC moving from place to place

NOMENCLATURE terms used in a particular science or discipline

NOMINAL existing in name **only**; negligible

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

NONCHALANT unconcerned, indifferent

NONDESCRIPT lacking interesting or distinctive qualities; dull

NONENTITY an insignificant person

NOTORIETY fame; unfavorable fame

NOVICE apprentice, beginner

NOVITIATE period of being a beginner or novice

NOXIOUS harmful, unwholesome

NUANCE shade of meaning

NULLIFY to make legally invalid; to counteract the effect of

NUMISMATICS coin collecting

NUPTIAL relating to marriage

NUTRITIVE relating to nutrition or health

O

OBDURATE stubborn

OBEISANCE a show of respect or submission

OBFUSCATE to confuse, obscure

OBJURGATE scold

OBLIGING accommodating, agreeable

OBLIQUE indirect, evasive; misleading, devious

OBLITERATE demolish completely, wipe out

OBLIVIOUS unaware, inattentive

OBLOQUY abusive language; ill repute

OBSCURE (adj) dim, unclear; not well known

OBSCURITY place or thing that's hard to perceive

OBSEQUIOUS overly submissive, brownnosing

OBSEQUY funeral ceremony

OBSESSIVE preoccupying, all-consuming

OBSOLETE no longer in use

OBSTINATE stubborn

OBSTREPEROUS troublesome, boisterous, unruly

OBTRUSIVE pushy, too conspicuous

OBTUSE insensitive, stupid, **dull**


OBVIATE to make unnecessary; to anticipate and prevent

OCCLUDE to shut, block

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

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

P

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

paraphrase

PARAPHRASE to reword, usually in simpler terms

PARASITE person or animal that lives at another's expense

PARCH to dry or shrivel

PARE to trim

PARIAH outcast

PARITY equality

PARLEY discussion, usually **between** enemies

PAROCHIAL of limited scope or outlook, provincial

PARODY humorous imitation

PAROLE conditional release of a prisoner

PARRY to ward off or deflect

PARSIMONY stinginess

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

PARTISAN (n) strong supporter

PASTICHE piece of literature or music imitating other **works**

PATENT (adj) obvious, unconcealed

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

PATERNITY fatherhood; descent from father's ancestors

PATHOGENIC causing disease

PATHOS pity, compassion

PATRICIAN aristocrat

PATRICIDE murder of one's father

PATRIMONY inheritance or heritage derived from one's father

PATRONIZE to condescend to, disparage; to buy from

PAUCITY scarcity, lack

PAUPER very poor person

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

PECCADILLO minor sin or offense

PECULATION theft of money or goods

PEDAGOGUE teacher

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

PEDESTRIAN (adj) **commonplace**

PEDIATRICIAN doctor specializing in children and their ailments

PEDIMENT triangular gable on a roof or facade

PEER (n) contemporary, equal, match

PEERLESS unequalled

PEJORATIVE having bad connotations; disparaging

PELLUCID transparent; translucent; easily understood

PENANCE voluntary suffering to repent for a wrong

PENCHANT inclination

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

PENITENT expressing sorrow for sins or offenses, repentant

PENSIVE thoughtful

PENULTIMATE next to last

PENUMBRA partial shadow

PENURY extreme poverty

PERAMBULATE walk about

PERCIPIENT discerning, able to perceive

PERDITION complete and utter loss; damnation

PEREGRINATE to wander from place to place

PEREMPTORY imperative; dictatorial

PERENNIAL present throughout the years; persistent

PERFIDIOUS faithless, disloyal, untrustworthy

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

PERIHELION point in orbit nearest to the sun

PERIPATETIC moving from place to place

PERIPHRASTIC containing too many words

PERJURE to tell a lie under oath

PERMEABLE penetrable

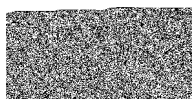
PERNICIOUS very harmful

PERPETUAL endless, **lasting**

PERPETUITY continuing **forever**

PERPLEXING **puzzling**, bewildering

PERSONIFICATION act of attributing human qualities to objects or abstract qualities



porous

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



portent

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

quarantine

PROGRESSIVE favoring progress or change; moving forward

PROLIFERATION propagation, reproduction; enlargement, expansion

PROLIFIC productive, fertile

PROLIX tedious; wordy

PROLOGUE introductory section of a literary work or play

PROMONTORY piece of land or rock higher than its surroundings

PROMULGATE to make known publicly

PROPAGATE to breed

PROPESSITY inclination, tendency

PROPINQUITY nearness

PROPTIATE to win over, appease

PROPTIOUS advantageous

PROPORTION advocate, defender, supporter

PROPRIETY appropriateness

PROSAIC relating to prose; dull, commonplace

PROSCRIBE to condemn; to forbid, outlaw

PROSE ordinary language used in everyday speech

PROSECUTOR person who initiates a legal action or suit

PROSELYTIZE to convert to a particular belief or religion

PROSTRATE lying face downward, lying flat on the ground

PROTAGONIST main character in a play or story, hero

PROTEAN readily assuming different forms or characters

PROTESTATION declaration

PROTOCOL ceremony and manners observed by diplomats

PROTRACT to prolong, draw out, extend

PROTRUSION something that sticks out

PROVIDENT prudent, frugal

PROVIDENTIAL prudent, lucky

PROVINCIAL rustic, unsophisticated, limited in scope

PROVOCATION cause, incitement to act or respond

PROWESS bravery, skill

PROXIMITY nearness

PROXY power to act as substitute for another

PRUDE one who is excessively proper or modest

PRUDENT careful, cautious

PRURIENT lustful, exhibiting lewd desires

PRY to intrude into; force open

PSECDONYM pen name; fictitious or borrowed name

PSYCHIC (adj) having to do with the mind; perceptive of nonmaterial, spiritual forces

PCDGY chubby, overweight

PCERILE childish, immature, silly

PUGILISM boxing

PUGNACIOUS quarrelsome, eager and ready to fight

PULCHRITUDE beauty

PCLLERIZE to pound, crush, or grind into powder; destroy

PUMMEL to pound, beat

PUNCTILIOUS careful in observing rules of behavior or ceremony

PUNDIT an authority or critic

PCSGENT strong or sharp in smell or taste

PUNITIVE having to do with punishment

PURGATION process of cleansing, purification

PCRGE (v) to cleanse or free from impurities

PURITANICAL adhering to a rigid moral code

PCRPORT to profess, suppose, claim

PUSILLANIMOUS cowardly

PUTRID rotten

Q

QUACK (n) faker; one who falsely claims to have medical skill

QUADRILATERAL four-sided polygon

QUADRUPED animal having four feet

QCAFF to drink heartily

QUAGMIRE marsh; difficult situation

QUALIFY to provide with needed skills; modify, limit

QUANDARY dilemma, difficulty

QUARANTINE isolation period, originally 40 days, to prevent spread of disease

quaternary

QUATERXARY consisting of or relating to four units or members

QUELL to crush or subdue

QUERULOUS inclined to complain, irritable

QUERY (n) question

QUIBBLE to argue about insignificant and irrelevant details

QUICKEN to hasten, arouse, excite

QUIESCENCE inactivity, stillness

QUIESCENT inactive, at rest

QUINTESENCE most  example; concentrated essence

QUIVER (v) to shake slightly, tremble, vibrate

QUIXOTIC overly idealistic, impractical

QUOTIDIAN occurring daily; commonplace

R

RACONTEUR witty, skillful storyteller

RADICAL (adj) fundamental; drastic

RAGING violent, wild

RAIL (v) to scold with bitter or abusive language

RAILLERY lighthearted jesting

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

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

RAMIFICATION implication, outgrowth, or consequence

RAMPANT unrestrained

RAMSHACKLE **likely** to collapse

RANCID spoiled, rotten

RANCOR bitter hatred

RANT to harangue, rave, forcefully scold

RAPACIOUS greedy; predatory

RAPPORT relationship of trust and respect

RAPPROCHEMENT having a cordial relationship

RAPT deeply absorbed

RAREFY to make thinner, purer, or more refined

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

RATIFY to approve **formally**, confirm

RATIOCINATION methodical, logical reasoning

RATION (n) portion, share

RATION (v) to supply; to restrict consumption of

RATIONAL logical, reasonable

RATIONALE line of reasoning

RAUCOUS harsh-sounding; boisterous

RAVAGE to destroy, devastate

RAVENOUS extremely hungry

RAVINE deep, narrow gorge

RAW vulgar, coarse

RAZE to tear down, demolish

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

REBARBATIVE irritating; repellent

REBUFF (n) blunt rejection

REBUKE (v) to reprimand, scold

REBUT to refute by evidence or argument

RECALCITRANT resisting **authority** or control

RECAN to retract a statement, opinion, etcetera

RECAPITULATE to review with a **brief** summary

RECEPTIVE open to others' ideas; congenial

RECIDIVISM tendency to repeat **previous** behavior

RECIPROCATE to show or feel in return

RECLUSIVE shut off from the world

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

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

RECREANT disloyal; cowardly

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

RECTIFY to correct

RECTITUDE moral uprightness

RECURRENCE repetition

REDRESS (n) relief from wrong or injury

REDUNDANCY unnecessary repetition

REFECTORY room where meals are served



restorative

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

RESTRAINED controlled, repressed, restricted
RESUSCITATE to revive, bring back to life
RETAIN to hold, keep possession of
RETARD (v) to slow, hold back
RETICENT not speaking freely; reserved
RETINUE group of attendants with an important person
RETIRING shy, modest, reserved
RETORT cutting response
RETRACT to draw in or take back
RETRESCHE to regroup, reorganize
RETRIEVE to bring, fetch; reclaim
RETROACTIVE applying to an earlier time
RETROGRADE having a backward motion or direction
RETROSPECTIVE looking back to the past
REVELRY boisterous festivity
REVERE to worship, regard with awe
REVERT to backslide, regress
REVILE to criticize with harsh language, verbally abuse
REVITALIZE to renew; give new energy to
REVOKE to annul, cancel, call back
REVULSION strong feeling of repugnance or dislike
RHAPSODY emotional literary or musical work
RHETORIC persuasive use of language
RHYTHM regular pattern or variation of sounds and stresses
RIBALD humorous in a vulgar way
RIDDLE (v) to make many holes in; permeate
RIFE widespread, prevalent; abundant
RIFT an open space; to divide
RIGHTEOUS morally right
RIPOSTE a retort
RISQUÉ bordering on being inappropriate or indecent
ROBUST strong and healthy; hardy
ROCOCO very, highly ornamented
ROIL to disturb or cause disorder

ROOT (v) to dig with a snout (like a pig)
ROOTED to have an origin or base
ROSTRUM stage for public speaking
ROTUND round in shape; fat
RUE to regret
RUFFLED irritated
RUMINATE to contemplate, reflect upon
RUSTIC rural

S

SACCHARINE excessively sweet or sentimental
SACROSANCT extremely sacred; beyond criticism
SAGACIOUS shrewd, wise
SALACIOUS lustful
SALIENT prominent or conspicuous
SALLOW sickly yellow in color
SALUBRIOUS healthful
SALUTATION greeting
SANCTION permission, support; law; penalty
SANCTUARY haven, retreat
SANGUINE ruddy; cheerfully optimistic
SAP (v) to weaken gradually
SAPIENT wise
SARDONIC cynical, scornfully mocking
SATIATE to satisfy
SAUNTER to amble; walk in a leisurely manner
SCHOLAR learned person
SAVORY agreeable in taste or smell
SCABBARD sheath for sword or dagger
SCABROUS dealing with indecent things; blemished
SCALE (v) to climb to the top of
SCANTINESS barely enough, meager
SCARCITY not enough, insufficient
SCATHING harshly critical; painfully hot
SCENARIO plot outline; possible situation

solidarity

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

soliloquy

SOLILOQUY literary or dramatic speech by one character, not addressed to others

SOLIPSISM belief that the self is the only reality

SOLSTICE shortest or longest day of the year

SOLUBLE capable of being solved or dissolved

SOMBER dark and gloomy; melancholy, dismal

SOMNAMBULIST sleepwalker

SOMNOLENT drowsy, sleepy; inducing sleep

SONIC relating to sound

SONOROUS producing a full, rich sound

SOPHIST person good at arguing deviously

SOPHISTRY **deceptive** reasoning or argumentation

SOPHOMORIC immature and overconfident

SOPORIFIC sleepy or tending to cause sleep

SORDID filthy; contemptible and corrupt

SOVEREIGN having supreme power

SPARTAN austere, severe, grave; simple, bare

SPAWN to generate, produce

SPECIOUS deceptively attractive

SPECULATION contemplation; act of taking business **risks** for financial gain

SPECULATIVE involving assumption; **uncertain**; theoretical

SPLENDID grand, illustrious

SPONTANEOUS on the spur of the moment, impulsive

SPORADIC infrequent, irregular

SPORTIVE frolicsome, playful

SPRIGHTLY lively, animated, energetic

SPUR (v) to prod

SPURIOUS lacking authenticity; counterfeit, false

SPURN to **reject** or refuse contemptuously; scorn

SQUABBLE quarrel

SQUALID filthy; morally repulsive

SQUANDER to waste

STACCATO marked by abrupt, clear-cut sounds

STAGNANT immobile, stale

STAID self-restrained to the point of **dullness**

STALK (v) to hunt, pursue

STALWART strong, unwavering

STAND (n) group of trees

STARK bare, empty, vacant

STASIS motionless state; standstill

STATELY grand, unapproachable

STEADFAST immovable

STEADY stable, unflinching

STENTORIAN extremely loud

STIFLE to smother or suffocate; suppress

STIGMA mark of disgrace or inferiority

STILTED stiff, unnatural

STINT (n) period of time spent doing something

STINT (v) to be sparing or frugal

STIPEND allowance; fixed amount of money paid regularly

STOCKADE **enclosed** area forming defensive **wall**

STOIC indifferent to or unaffected by emotions

STOLID having or showing little emotion

STRATAGEM trick designed to deceive an enemy

STRATIFY to arrange into layers

STRIATE striped, grooved

STRICTURE something that restrains; negative criticism

STRIDENT loud, harsh, unpleasantly noisy

STRINGENT imposing severe, rigorous standards

STRIPLING an adolescent boy

STULTIFY to impair or reduce to uselessness

STUNTED having arrested growth or development

STUPEFY to **dull** the senses of; stun, astonish

STYLIZE to fashion, formalize

STYMIE to block or thwart

SUAVE smoothly gracious or polite; blandly ingratiating

SUBDUED suppressed, **stifled**

SUBJECTION dependence, obedience, submission

SUBJUGATE to conquer, subdue; enslave



tangible

SUBLIMATE to repress impulses
SUBLIME awe-inspiring; of high spiritual or **moral** value
SUBLIMINAL subconscious; imperceptible
SUBMISSIVE tending to be meek and submit
SUBPOENA notice ordering someone to appear in court
SUBSEQUENT following in time or order
SUBSTANTIAL important, real
SUBTERFUGE trick or tactic used to avoid something
SUBTERRANEAN hidden, secret; underground
SUBTLE hard to detect or describe; perceptive
SUBVERT to undermine or corrupt
SUCCINCT terse, brief, concise
SUCCULEST juicy; full of vitality or freshness
SUFFERABLE bearable
SUFFRAGIST one who advocates extended voting rights
SULLEN brooding, gloomy
SULLY to soil, stain, tarnish; taint
SUMPTUOUS lavish, splendid
SUPERABUNDANCE excessive
SUPERANNUATED too old, obsolete, outdated
SUPERCILIOUS arrogant, **haughty**, overbearing, condescending
SUPEREROGATORY nonessential
SUPERFICIAL hasty; shallow and phony
SUPERFLUOUS extra, more than necessary
SUPERSEDE to take the place of; replace
SUPERVISE to direct or oversee the work of others
SUPPLANT to replace, substitute
SUPPLE flexible, pliant
SUPPLICANT one who asks humbly and earnestly
SUPPOSITION assumption
SURFEIT excessive amount
SURLY rude and bad-tempered
SURMISE to make an educated guess
SURPASS to conquer, overcome

SURPASS to do better than, be superior to
SURPLUS **excess**
SURREPTITIOUS characterized by secrecy
SURVEY (v) to examine in a comprehensive way
SUSCEPTIBLE vulnerable, unprotected
SUSPEND to defer, interrupt; dangle, hang
SUSTAIN support, uphold; endure, undergo
SUSTENANCE supplying the necessities of life
SWARTHY having a dark complexion
SYBARITE person devoted to pleasure and **luxury**
SYCOPHANT self-serving flatterer, yes-man
SYLLABUS outline of a course
SYMBIOSIS cooperation, mutual helpfulness
SYMPOSIUM meeting with short presentations on related topics
SYNCHRONOUS happening at the same time
SYNCOPE temporary **irregularity** in musical rhythm
SYNOPSIS plot summary
SYNTHESIS blend, combination
SYNTHETIC artificial, imitation

T

TABLEAU vivid description, striking incident or scene
TACIT silently understood or implied
TACITURN uncommunicative, not inclined to speak much
TACTFUL **skillful** in dealing with others
TACTILE relating to the sense of touch
TAINT to spoil or infect; to stain honor
TAINTED stained, tarnished; corrupted, poisoned
TALISMAN something producing a magical effect
TALON claw of an animal, esp. a bird of prey
TANDEM acting as a group or in partnership
TANG sharp flavor or odor
TANGENTIAL digressing, diverting
TANGIBLE able to be sensed; perceptible, measurable

tantamount

TANTAMOUNT  in value or significance;
amounting to

TARNISHED corroded, discolored; discredited, disgraced

TAM'DRY gaudy, cheap, showy

TAXONOMY science of classification

TECHNOCRAT strong believer in technology; technical expert

TEETER to waver or move unsteadily

TEMERITY recklessness

TEMPERANCE restraint, self-control, moderation

TEMPERED moderated, restrained

TEMPESTUOUS stormy, raging, furious

TEMPORAL relating to time; chronological

TENABLE defensible, reasonable

TENACIOUS stubborn, holding firm

TENDENTIOUS biased

TENET belief, doctrine

TENSILE capable of withstanding physical stress

TENUOUS weak, insubstantial

TEPID lukewarm; showing little enthusiasm

TERMINAL (adj) concluding, final; fatal

TERMINAL (n) depot, station

TERRESTRIAL earthly; down-to-earth, commonplace

TERSE concise, brief, free of extra words

TESTAMENT statement of belief; will

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

TETHER (v) to bind, tie

THEOCRACY government by priests representing a god

THEOLOGY study of God and religion

THEORETICAL abstract

THERAPEUTIC medicinal

THESAURUS book of synonyms and antonyms

THESIS theory or hypothesis; dissertation or long written composition

THRALL a person in servitude, enslaved

THRENODY a sad poem or song

THWART to block or prevent from happening; frustrate

TIDINGS news

TIMOROUS timid, shy, full of apprehension

TINGE to color slightly

TIRADE long violent speech; verbal assault

TITAN person of colossal stature or achievement

TOADY flatterer, hanger-on, yes-man

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

TOME book, usually large and academic

TONAL relating to pitch or sound

TOPOGRAPHY art of making maps or charts

TORPID lethargic; unable to move; dormant

TORRID burning hot; passionate

TORSION act of twisting and turning

TORTUOUS having many twists and turns; highly complex

TOTTERING barely standing

TOXIN poison

TRACTABLE obedient, yielding

TRAMMEL to impede or hamper

TRANQUIL to calm or steady

TRANSCEND to rise above, go beyond

TRANSCENDENT rising above, going beyond

TRANSCRIPTION copy, reproduction; record

TRANSFIGURATION a change; an exalting change

TRANSFORMATION a change in form or appearance

TRANSGRESS to trespass, violate a law

TRANSIENT (adj) temporary, short-lived, fleeting

TRANSITORY short-lived, existing only briefly

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

TRANSLUCENT partially transparent

TRANSMUTE to change in appearance or shape

TRANSPIRE to happen, occur; become known

TRAVESTY parody, exaggerated imitation, caricature

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

U

UBIQUITOUS being everywhere simultaneously
 UMBRAGE offense, resentment
 UNADULTERATED absolutely pure
 UNANIMITY state of total agreement or unity
 UNAPPEALING unattractive, unpleasant
 UNAVAILING hopeless, useless
 UNBENDING inflexible, unyielding
 UNBRIDLED unrestrained
 UNCONSCIONABLE unscrupulous; shockingly unfair or unjust
 UNCTUOUS greasy, oily; smug and falsely earnest
 UNDAUNTED resolute even in adversity
 UNDERMINE to sabotage, thwart
 UNDOCUMENTED not certified, unsubstantiated
 UNDULATING moving in waves
 UNEQUIVOCAL absolute, certain
 UNFAILING not likely to fail, constant, infallible
 UNFETTERED free, unrestrained
 UNFROCK to strip of priestly duties
 UNGRACIOUS rude, disagreeable
 UNHERALDED unannounced, unexpected
 UNIDIMENSIONAL having one size or dimension
 UNIFORM (adj) consistent and unchanging; identical
 UNIMPEACHABLE beyond question
 UNINITIATED not familiar with an area of study
 UNKEMPT uncombed, messy in appearance
 UNOBTRUSIVE modest, unassuming
 UNPOLISHED lacking sophistication
 UNRUFFLED poised, calm
 UNSCRUPULOUS dishonest
 UNSOILED clean, pure
 UNSOLICITED unrequested
 UNSTINTING generous
 UNSULLIED clean
 UNSWAYABLE unable to change
 UNTOWARD not favorable; unruly
 UNTRAMMELED unhampered
 UNWARRANTED groundless, unjustified
 UNWITTING unconscious; unintentional
 UNYIELDING firm, resolute
 UPBRAID to scold sharply
 UPROARIOUS loud and forceful
 UPSURGE sudden rise
 URBANE courteous, refined, suave
 USURP to seize by force
 USURY practice of lending money at exorbitant rates
 UTILITARIAN efficient, functional, useful
 UTOPIA perfect place

vacillate

V

VACILLATE to waver, show indecision

VACUOUS empty, void; **lacking** intelligence, purposeless

VAGRANT poor person with no home

VALIANT brave, courageous

VALIDATE to authorize, certify, confirm

VALOROUS brave, valiant

VANQUISH to conquer, defeat

VAPID tasteless, **dull**

VARIABLE changeable, inconstant

VARIEGATED varied; marked with different colors

VAUNTED boasted about, bragged about

VEHEMENTLY strongly, urgently

VENAL willing to do wrong for money

VENDETTA prolonged feud marked by bitter hostility

VENERABLE respected because of age

VENERATION adoration, honor, respect

VENT (v) to express, say out loud

VERACIOUS **truthful**, accurate

VERACITY accuracy, truth

VERBATIM word for word

VERBOSE wordy

VERDANT green with vegetation; inexperienced

VERDURE fresh, rich vegetation

VERIFIED proven true

VERISIMILITUDE quality of appearing true or real

VERITY truthfulness; belief viewed as true and enduring

VERMIN small creatures offensive to humans

VERNACULAR everyday language used by ordinary **people**;
specialized language of a profession

VERNAL related to spring

VERSATILE adaptable, all-purpose

VERVE energy, vitality

VESTIGE trace, remnant

VETO (v) to reject **formally**

VEX to irritate, annoy; confuse, **puzzle**

VIABLE workable, able to succeed or grow

VIADUCT series of elevated arches used to cross a valley

VICARIOUS substitute, surrogate; enjoyed through imagined participation in another's experience

VICISSITUDE change or variation; ups and downs

VIE to compete, contend

VIGILANT attentive, watchful

VIGNETTE decorative design; short literary composition

VILIFY to slander, defame

VIM energy, enthusiasm

VINDICATE to clear of blame; support a claim

VINDICATION clearance from blame or suspicion

VINDICTIVE spiteful, vengeful, unforgiving

VIRGINAL pure, chaste

VIRILE manly, having qualities of an adult male

VIRTUE conforming to what is right

VIRTUOSO someone **with** masterly skill; expert musician

VIRULENT extremely poisonous; malignant; hateful

VISCOUS thick, syrupy and **sticky**

VITIATE reduce in **value** or effectiveness

VITRIOLIC burning, caustic; sharp, bitter

VITUPERATE to abuse verbally

VIVACIOUS lively, spirited

VIVID bright and intense in color; strongly perceived

VOCIFEROUS loud, vocal and noisy

VOID (adj) not legally **enforceable**; empty

VOID (n) emptiness, vacuum

VOID (v) to cancel, invalidate

VOLATILE explosive

VOLITION free choice, free **will**; act of choosing

VOLLEY (n) flight of missiles, round of gunshots

VOLUBLE speaking much and easily, talkative; glib

VOLUMINOUS large; of great quantity; writing or speaking at great length

zoologist

VORACIOUS having a great appetite

VORTEX swirling, resembling a whirlpool

WLGAR obscene; common, of low class

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

W

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

WALLOW to indulge oneself excessively, luxuriate

WAN sickly pale

WANE to dwindle, to decrease

WANTON undisciplined, unrestrained, reckless

WARRANTY guarantee of a product's soundness

WARY careful, cautious

WASPISH rude, behaving badly

WAVER to show indecision

WAX to increase

WAYWARD erratic, unrestrained, reckless

WEATHER (v) to endure, undergo

WEIGHTY important, momentous

WELTER (n) a confused mass; a jumble

WHET to sharpen, stimulate

WHIMSY **playful** or fanciful idea

WILY clever, deceptive

WINDFALL sudden, unexpected good fortune

WINSOME charming, happily engaging

WITHDRAWN unsociable, aloof; shy, timid

WIZENED withered, shriveled, wrinkled

WOE deep suffering or grief

WRAITH a ghost

WRANGLE loud quarrel

WRIT written document, **usually in law**

WRY amusing, ironic

X

XENOPHOBIA fear or hatred of foreigners or strangers

Y

YOKE (v) to join together

Z

ZEALOT someone passionately devoted to a cause

ZENITH highest point, summit

ZEPHYR gentle breeze

ZOOLOGIST scientist who studies animals

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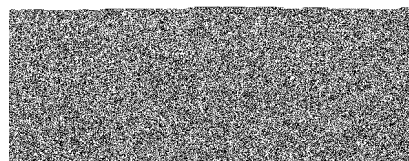
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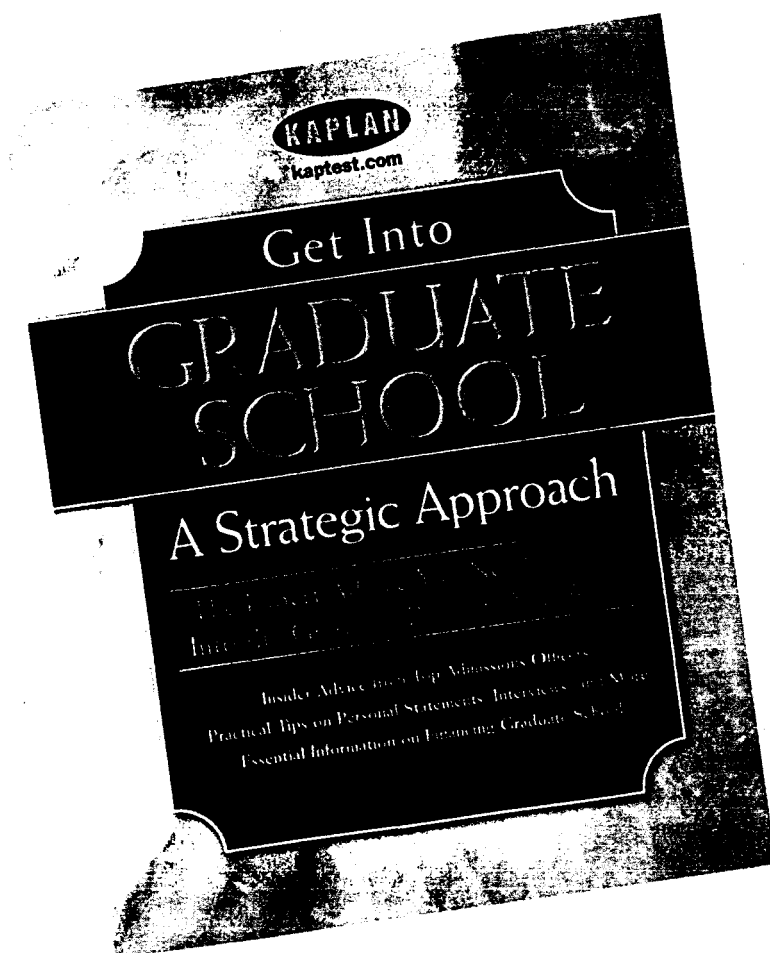
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