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- abase  lower; degrade; humiliate; make humble; make (oneself) lose self-respect
- abash  embarrass
- abate  subside or moderate
- abbreviate  shorten
- abdicate  renounce; give up (position, right, or responsibility)
- aberrant  abnormal or deviant
- aberration  deviation from the normal; mental disorder
- abet  assist usually in doing something wrong; encourage
- abeyance  suspended action
- abhor  detest; hate
- abject  (of a condition) wretched; as low as possible; lacking pride; very humble; showing lack of self-respect; Ex. abjekt apology
- abjure  renounce upon oath
- ablation  washing
- abnegation  renunciation; self-sacrifice; self-abnegation
- abolish  cancel; put an end to
- abominate  abhor, abominate
- abstain  refrain; withhold from participation; intentionally not use one’s vote; 기권하다
- abstemious  sparing in eating and drinking; temperate
- abstinence  restraint from pleasant things, esp. eating or drinking; CF. abstention: act of abstaining from vote
- abstract  theoretical; not concrete; nonrepresentational
- abstruse  obscure; profound; difficult to understand
- abusive  coarsely insulting; physically harmful
- abut  border upon; adjoin
- abysmal  bottomless
- abyss  enormous chasm; vast bottomless pit
- academic  related to a school; not practical or directly useful
- accede  agree
- accelerate  move faster
- accessible  easy to approach; obtainable
- accessory  additional object; useful but not essential thing
- acclaim  applaud; praise; greet with great approval; announce with great approval; Ex. The new drug has been acclaimed as the most important discoveries for years; N: strong expression of approval and praise
- acclimate  adjust to climate or environment; adapt
- acclivity  sharp upslope of a hill; OP. declivity
- accolade  award of merit; strong praise and approval
- merit  good quality deserving praise; merits: aspect of character or behavior deserving approval or disapproval; Ex. judge each plan on its own merits; V: deserve; earn
- demerit  fault; bad quality
- earn  gain for the performance of service or labor; gain (something that one deserves); deserve
- accommodate  oblige or help someone; adjust or bring into harmony; adapt; make enough space for; ADJ. accommodative; CF. accommodating: helpful and obliging
- accomplice  partner in crime
- accord  agreement
- accost  approach and speak first to a person
- accouter  equip; N. accoutrement
- accretion  growth or increase in size by gradual addition; growth; increase; increase by natural growth; Ex. towers and other accretions of the castle; V: accrete
- accrue  come to one as a gain; accumulate over time; come about by addition; Ex. benefits that accrue from scientific research; Ex. interest accruing in a bank account; N. accrual
- acerbity  bitterness of speech and temper; ADJ. acerbic: bitter; acrid (in taste, manner, or tone)
- bitter  having a sharp biting taste; 성: causing sharp pain to the body or mind; filled with resentment, disappointment, or other unpleasant feelings; Ex. bitter wind/sorrow/tears
- biting  sharply painful to the body or mind; Ex. biting wind/remarks
- acetic  vinegar
- acidulous  slightly sour (in taste or manner); sharp; caustic
- acknowledge  recognize; admit
- acme  peak; pinnacle; highest point
- acoustics  science of sound; quality that makes a room easy or hard to hear in
- acquiesce  assent; agree passively; comply without protest
- acrobatics  art of graceful, acrobatic movements; CF. acrobatic: able to do various tricky moves
- acrobatic  able to do various tricky moves
- acromial  close to the head; topmost
- acrophobia  fear of heights
- acropia  mountain peak; Ex. acropolis: ancient and modern city built on top of a hill
- acquisitive  eager for gains; insatiable; greedy
acquittal deliverance from a charge; V. acquit: free from a charge or accusation; discharge from a duty; conduct (oneself) in a specified manner

acrid bitter (to the taste or smell); sharp; bitterly pungent

acrimonious stinging; caustic; bitter in words or manner; N. acrimony: bitter ill-natured animosity in speech or behavior

acrophobia fear of heights

actuarial calculating; pertaining to insurance statistics

actuary someone who advises insurance companies

actuate motivate; activate; cause to act

acuity sharpness (of mind or senses of sight or hearing)

acumen mental keenness; sharpness of judgment; ability to judge quickly and well; Ex. business acumen

acute (of the senses) sharp; quickly perceptive; keen; penetrating; brief and severe; Ex. acute sense of smell/analysis/pain

adage wise saying; proverb

affirmation positive assertion; confirmation; solemn proof in a court of law

affinity feeling of kinship; similarity; Ex. strong affinity for her; Ex. many affinities between two languages

affirmative; CF. affirmative action: positive discrimination

affirmation positive assertion; confirmation; solemn pledge by one who refuses to take an oath; V. affirm; ADJ. affirmative; CF. affirmative action: positive discrimination

affliction state of distress; trial; cause of distress or suffering; V. afflict: inflict grievous suffering on

affluence abundance; wealth

affront insult; offense; intentional act of disrespect; V: insult or hurt the feelings of intentionally

aggregate sum; total; ADJ. V: gather into a rounded mass; N. agglomerate: jumbled mass; heap

aggrandize make greater; increase in power, wealth, rank, or honor; N. aggrandizement

aggravate make impure or of poorer quality by adding inferior or tainted (contaminated) substances

adventure arrival

adventitious accidental; casual; happening by chance

adversary opponent; enemy

adverse going against; opposing; unfavorable; hostile

adversity great hardship or affliction; misfortune; calamitous event

advert refer

advocacy support; active pleading on behalf of someone or something

advocate speak in favor of; support (an idea or plan); urge; plead for

aegis shield; protection; defense

aerie nest of a large bird of prey

affable easily approachable; easy to talk to; warmly friendly

affected artificial; pretended

affidavit written statement made under oath (for use as proof in a court of law)

affiliation joining; associating with

affinity joining; associating with

affirmation positive assertion; confirmation; solemn pledge by one who refuses to take an oath; V. affirm; ADJ. affirmative; CF. affirmative action: positive discrimination

affliction state of distress; trial; cause of distress or suffering; V. afflict: inflict grievous suffering on

affluence abundance; wealth

affront insult; offense; intentional act of disrespect; V: insult or hurt the feelings of intentionally

agape openmouthed

agenda items of business at a meeting

agglomeration collection; heap; V. agglomerate: gather into a rounded mass; N. agglomerate: jumbled mass; heap

aggrandize make greater; increase in power, wealth, rank, or honor; N. aggrandizement

aggregate sum; total; ADJ. V: gather into a mass or whole; accumulate; add up to; Ex. aggregate 100 dollars

aghast filled with great surprise or fear; horrified
agility  nimbleness; ability to move quickly
agitate  stir up; disturb
agnostic  one who is skeptical of the existence or knowability of a god or any ultimate reality
agog  highly excited; intensely curious
agrarian  pertaining to land or its cultivation; Ex. agrarian reform
alacrity  cheerful promptness without reluctance
alchemy  medieval chemistry
agog  highly excited; intensely curious
agrarian  pertaining to land or its cultivation; Ex. agrarian reform
alleviate  relieve (pain)
allegation  without proof
allegiance  loyalty
allegory  story, play, or picture in which characters are used as symbols; fable
allocate  assign; set apart for a particular purpose
allody  mixture of metals; something added that lowers in value or purity; V: mix; make less pure; lower in value or quality; spoil; CF. unalloyed: not in mixture with other metals; pure; complete; unqualified; Ex. unalloyed happiness
allusion  indirect reference
allure  entice; attract; tempt
siren  apparatus for making sounds; womanlike creature
alluvial  pertaining to soil deposits left by running water
aloe  nook; recess
alias  an assumed name esp. by a criminal (usually to mislead people); ADV. alias
alienate  make unfriendly or hostile; estrange; separate; change the ownership of
alimentary  supplying nourishment
alimony  payments made regularly to an ex-spouse after divorce
allay  calm; pacify
allure  state without proof
allergy  loyalty
allusion  indirect reference
allocate  assign; set apart for a particular purpose
amazement  loss of memory
amnesty  pardon (allowed by government to political criminals)
amoral  nonmoral; having no understanding of right and wrong
amorous  moved by sexual love; loving; of sexual love; Ex. amorous advances
amorphous  formless; lacking shape or definition
amphibian  able to live both on land and in water; N.
amphitheater  oval building with tiers of seats; CF. arena
ample  enough; abundant; spacious; large in size; Ex. ample opportunity/garden; N. amplitude: quality of being ample; abundance; largeness of space
amplify  increase in size or effect; expand; broaden or clarify by expanding; intensify; make stronger; Ex. amplify one’s remarks with a graph
amputate  cut off part of body; prune (a limb)
amok  in a state of rage; Ex. run amok
amulet  charm; talisman; an object worn believed to protect against evil, bad luck
anachronism an error involving time in a story; something or someone misplaced in time; ADJ. anachronistic

analgesic causing insensitivity to pain; N.

analgesia condition of being unable to feel pain

analogous comparable; similar

analogous similarity; parallelism; comparing two similar things

anarchist person who seeks to overturn the established government; advocate of abolishing authority

anarchy absence of governing body; state of disorder

anathema solemn curse; someone or something regarded as a curse; V. anathematize

ancestry family descent; ADJ. ancestral

anchor secure or fasten firmly; be fixed in place; N. anchorage

ancillary serving as an aid or accessory; auxiliary; N.

anecdote short story of an amusing or interesting event

anemia condition in which blood lacks red corpuscles; ADJ. anemic

anesthetic substance that removes sensation with or without loss of consciousness; N. anesthesia

anguish acute pain; extreme suffering

angular sharp-cornered; having an angle; not rounded (body); bony; lean; gaunt; stiff in manner

animadversion critical remark; V. animadvert: comment critically with disapproval

animated lively; spirited

animosity active enmity

animus hostile feeling or intent; animosity; hostility; disposition

annals records arranged in yearly parts; history

anneal reduce brittleness and improve toughness by heating and cooling (metal or glass)

annex attach; add to a large thing; take possession of; incorporate (territory) into a larger existing political unit (by force); N: building added to a large one

annihilate destroy

annotate comment; make explanatory notes

annuity yearly allowance

annul make void

elope run away secretly with the intention of getting married

anodyne drug that relieves pain or trouble; 진통제; opiate; ADJ. Ex. anodyne statement

anoint consecrate; put oil on (in a religious ceremony)

anomalous abnormal; irregular

anomaly irregularity

anonymity state of being nameless; anonymity; ADJ. anonymous

antagonism hostility; active opposition; V. antagonize: cause to become an enemy; N. antagonist: person who is opposed to another; opponent; adversary; principal character in opposition to the protagonist

protestant leader or noticeable supporter of an idea; chief character in a play or story

antecede precede

antecedents preceding events that influence what comes later; ancestors or early background

antediluvian antiquated; extremely ancient

anthem song of praise or patriotism; Ex. national anthem

anthology book of literary selections by various authors; CF. omnibus

anthropoid manlike; resembling a human being; N.

anthropologist student of the history and science of mankind

anthropomorphic having human form or characteristics

anticlimax letdown in thought or emotion; something unexciting, ordinary, or disappointing coming after something important or exciting

antidote remedy to counteract a poison or disease; Ex. antidote to the economic troubles

antipathy aversion; dislike or opposition

antiquated obsolete; old-fashioned; outdated

antique made in an earlier period and usu. valuable; N: object that was made in an earlier period and that is rare or valuable

antiquity quality of being very old; ancient times; 고대

antisepic substance that prevents infection in a wound; ADJ.

antithesis contrast; direct opposite of or to; ADJ. antithetic or antithetical

anter bony growth on the head of a deer

anvil bony block used in hammering out metals

apathy lack of caring; indifference; lack of concern or interest in important matters; Ex. He was sunk in apathy after his failure; ADJ. apathetic

ape imitate or mimic (a person’s behavior or manner)

apex tip; summit; climax; highest point

aphasia loss of speech due to injury or illness

aphorism pithy maxim or saying; ADJ. aphoristic

apiary place where bees are kept

hiver box for bees; V: cause to go in a hive

apiculture bee-keeping

apiarist person who keeps bees

aplomb poise; composure in difficult situations; assurance; self-confidence
poise  good judgment with composure; balance; V: place in a carefully balanced position

apocalyptic  prophetic; pertaining to revelations especially of disaster; N. apocalypse

apocryphal  (of a story) widely believed but untrue

apogee  highest point; the point farthest from the earth; OP: perigee

apological  having an aversion or lack of concern for political affairs

apologist  one who writes in defense of a cause or institution; N. apologia

apoplexy  stroke; loss of consciousness caused by too much blood in the brain

apostate  one who abandons his religious faith or political beliefs; N. apostasy

apotheosis  elevation to godhood; an ideal example of something

appall  dismay; shock deeply

apparition  ghost; phantom

appease  pacify or soothe; Ex. appease a crying baby; N. appeasement

appellation  name; title

append  attach

application  diligent attention; diligence; V. apply oneself

apposite  appropriate; fitting

appraise  estimate value of; N. appraisal

appreciate  be thankful for; increase in worth; be thoroughly conscious of; ADJ. appreciable: enough to be felt; Ex. appreciable difference

apprehend  arrest (a criminal); dread; perceive; N. apprehension

apprehensive  fearful; discerning

apprise  inform

approbation  approval

appropriate  acquire; take possession of for one’s own use without permission; set aside for a particular purpose; allocate; CF. misappropriate

appurtenances  subordinate possessions; something added to a more important thing

apropos  with reference to; regarding; Ex. remarks apropos (of) the present situation; ADJ. ADV.

aptitude  fitness; talent

aquiline  curved; hooked; of or like an eagle; Ex. aquiline nose

arable  fit for growing crops; Ex. arable land

arbiter  person with power to decide a matter in dispute; judge who is in a position to make influential judgments; Ex. supreme arbiter of fashion in beachwear

arbitrary  unreasonable or capricious; random; tyrannical; Ex. arbitrary ruler

arbitrate  act as judge (at the request of both sides)

arboretum  place where different trees and shrubs are studied and exhibited

arboreal  of or living in trees

arcade  a covered passageway usually lined with shops

arcane  esoteric; secret; mysterious; known only to the initiated; Ex. arcane ritual; Ex. arcane process closed to the uninitiated listener

archaeology  study of artifacts and relics of early mankind

archaic  antiquated; no longer used; belonging to the past; N.

archetype  prototype; primitive pattern

archipelago  group of closely located islands

archives  public records; place where public records are kept

ardor  heat; passion; zeal; ADJ. ardent

arduous  hard; strenuous; Ex. arduous work

argot  slang; speech spoken by only a small group of people

aria  operatic solo; a song sung by one person in an opera or oratorio

arid  (of land) dry; barren; unproductive

aristocracy  hereditary nobility; privileged class; government by nobility; N. aristocrat

armada  fleet of warships

aromatic  fragrant; having a sweet smell; N. aroma: strong pleasant smell

arraign  charge in court; indict

array  marshal; draw up in order; arrange in order; clothe splendidly; adorn; N: fine clothes; ordered group; Ex. in battle array

arrears  being in debt; money that should have been paid; work that should have been done

arrhythmic  lacking rhythm or regularity; N. arrhythmia

arrogance  pride; haughtiness; ADJ. arrogant: unpleasantly self-important (with a strong confidence in one’s own importance and a lack of respect for other people)

arroyo  gully; narrow channel formed by rainwater

artery  blood-vessel; CF. vein

articulate  effective; distinct; expressing ideas clearly; having clear sounds; having joints; Ex. articulate speech; V: express thoughts and feeling clearly; pronounce clearly; unite by joints

arsenal  storage place for military equipment

artifacts  object made by human beings, either handmade or mass-produced

artifice  deception; trickery
artisan: a manually skilled worker

artless: without guile; open and honest

ascendancy: controlling influence; position of controlling influence; CF. in the ascendent

ascertain: find out for certain; make certain

ascetic: practicing self-denial; avoiding physical pleasures and comforts; austere; Ex. ascetic life of Buddhist monks; N. asceticism

ascendancy: controlling influence; position of controlling influence; CF. in the ascendent

ascertain: find out for certain; make certain

assert: state strongly or positively; demand recognition (of rights, claims, etc.); make a claim to (by forceful action); Ex. assert one’s independence

asiduous: diligent

assimilate: absorb; take (food) into the body and digest it; understand (knowledge) completely and be able to use properly; cause to become homogeneous (the people of a country or race in the wasy of behaving or thinking)

assuage: mak less severe; ease or lessen (pain); satisfy (hunger); soothe (anger)

assumption: something taken for granted; the taking over or taking possession of; Ex. her assumption of power; V. assume

regent: a person who governs in place of a ruler who is ill, absent, or still a child; ADJ. Ex. the Prince regent

assurance: firm statement that something is certainly true; promise or pledge; certainty; confidence in one’s own ability; self-confidence; Ex. In spite of all his assurances, he did not come back; Ex. assurance of his loyalty; Ex. The teacher lacked assurance in front of his class; V. assure; tell firmly with confidence; ensure; make (something) certain to happen; make (someone) feel sure; give confidence to; ADJ. assured: self-assured; confident in one’s own ability; showing certainty

asteroid: small planet

astigmatism: eye defect which prevents proper focus; OP. stigmatism

astral: relating to the stars

astringent: binding; causing contraction (stopping bleeding); harsh or severe; stringent; Ex. astringent criticism

astronomical: enormously large or extensive

astute: wise; shrewd; keen; seeing quickly something that is to one’s advantage

asunder: into parts; apart; V. sunder

asylum: place of refuge or shelter; protection (religious or political)

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

atavism: resemblance to remote ancestors rather than to parents; reversion to an earlier type; throwback; ADJ. atavistic

atheistic: denying the existence of God; N. atheism

atone: make amends for; pay for; Ex. atone for

atrocity: brutal deed; ADJ. atrocious

atrophying: wasting away: V: weaken and lose flesh and muscle (through lack of blood or lack of use)

attentive: alert and watchful; listening carefully; paying attention; considerate; thoughtful; politely helpful; Ex. attentive audience; Ex. He was attentive to the old lady; N. attentions: act of courtesy and consideration

attenuate: make thin; weaken

attest: testify; bear witness

attribute: essential quality; V: ascribe; explain

attrition: rubbing away by friction; gradual decrease in numbers or strength; reduction in the work force without firing employees; wearing away of opposition by means of harassment; Ex. a war of attrition

atypical: not normal; not typical

audacious: daring; bold; N. audacity

audit: examination of accounts of a business; official examination; V.

augment: increase; add to

augury: omen; prophecy; sign of coming events; V. augur: predict; foretell; be a sign of (something in future)

august: impressive; majestic

auricole: sun’s corona; halo; bright circle of light

auroral: pertaining to the aurora borealis; CF. aurora australis

auspicious: favoring success; giving signs of future success; CF. auspices

austere: forbiddingly stern; ascetic; without comfort or enjoyment; severely simple and unornamented; Ex. a monk’s austere life; Ex. austere grandeur of the cathedral; N. austerity

authenticate: prove genuine
- authoritarian  subordinating the individual to the state; completely dominating another’s will; Ex. authoritarian regime/father

- authoritative  having the weight of authority; regarded as providing knowledge that can be trusted; reliable; peremptory and dictatorial; Ex. authoritative dictionary/manner; CF. definitive

- autocratic  having absolute unchecked power; dictatorial; N. autocrat, autocracy

- automaton  mechanism that imitates actions of humans; machine that works by itself

- autonomous  self-governing; N. autonomy

- autopsy  examination of a dead body; postmortem; V.

- auxiliary  offering or providing help; additional or subsidiary; N: helper; assistant

- avalanche  great mass of falling snow and ice

- avarice  greediness for wealth

- avenge  take vengence for something or on behalf of someone; Ex. They avenged his death by burning the village; Ex. He swore to avenge his brother; Ex. They avenged themselves on their enemy.

- aver  state confidently; declare as true

- averse  reluctant; disinclined; not liking or opposed; Ex. averse to cats/doing the house work

- aversion  firm dislike

- avert  prevent; avoid; turn away (eyes or thought); Ex. An accident was averted by his quick thinking; Ex. She averted her eyes from the terrible sight.

- aviary  enclosure for birds; large cage

- avid  greedy; extremely eager for; Ex. avid learner; N. avidity

- avocation  secondary or minor occupation

- avow  declare openly; N. avowal

- avuncular  of or like an uncle

- awe  solemn wonder; feeling of respect mixed with wonder and fear; V. fill with awe; ADJ. awesome

- awful  terrible; very bad

- awl  pointed tool used for piercing

- awry  distorted; crooked; bent; Ex. Our plans have gone awry.

- axiom  self-evident truth requiring no proof

- azure  sky blue

- babble  chatter idly or foolishly; make continuous sounds like water running gently over rounded stone; N.

- bacchanalian  drunken

- Bacchanal  noisy party with a lot of drinking

- Bacchanalia  the ancient Roman festival in honor of Bacchus

- badger  pester; annoy continually with demands; persuade by asking again and again; Ex. The children badgered me into taking them into the cinema; N: a kind of mountain animal

- badinage  teasing conversation; banter; joking talk

- baffle  frustrate; perplex

- bait  harass; tease; torment; Ex. baiting badgering; N: food or other lure used to catch fish or trap animals

- baleful  evil; malignant in intent or effect; deadly; having a malign influence; portending evil; ominous; threatening; Ex. baleful look

- balk  stop short, as if faced with an obstacle, and refuse to continue; foil; stop or get in the way of; frustrate

- ballast  heavy substance used to add stability or weight; V. supply with ballast

- balm  something that relieves pain; oily liquid with a pleasant smell from trees

- pang  sudden sharp feeling of pain

- balm  soft and mild (of air); fragrant

- banal  hackneyed; commonplace; trite; lacking originality; clichéd

- bandy  discuss lightly or glibly; discuss in a frivolous manner; exchange (words) heatedly; quarrel; Ex. bandy words with

- bane  posion; cause of ruin; ADJ. baneful: harmful; poisonous

- bantering  joking talk; good-naturedly ridiculing; N.V. banter

- barb  sharp projection from fishhook, arrow, or other object; openly cutting remark

- bard  poet

- barefaced  shameless and noticeable; blatant; bold; unconcealed; having no covering on the face; Ex. barefaced lie

- unregenerate  making no attempt to change one’s bad practices

- baroque  highly ornate

- barrage  barrier laid down by artillery fire; overwhelming profusion; large number of questions or statements; Ex. a barrage of criticism

- barrister  counselor-at-law or lawyer in the higher court of law; CF. bar

- solicitor  lawyer in the lower court of law

- barterer  trader; V. barter: trade; exchange other goods rather than money

- bard  poet

- bawdy  indecent; obscene; about sex in a rude funny way; CF. bawd

- beatific  giving or showing bliss; blissful
bliss complete happiness; ADJ. blissful
beatitude blessedness; state of great happiness
mysterious of hidden meaning and spiritual power; Ex. mystic ceremonies; N. CF. mysticism
draggle wet thoroughly; ADJ. bedraggled: draggled
finery beautiful clothes for a special occasion
draggle wet thoroughly; ADJ. bedraggled: draggled
direct quick route
fuddle make stupid or confused as with alcoholic drink; N. in a fuddle: confused
father; become the father of; produce; give rise to
envy; give or allow unwillingly; grudge; Ex. We shouldn’t begrudge him his success.
depth feeling of dislike; Ex. grudge fight; V.
deceive; mislead or delude; cheat; pass time pleasantly; charm or attract; Ex. beguiling smile
beauty; something of monstrous size or power
obliged; indebted; owing thanks; obliged or indebted from gratitude
be suited to; be incumbent upon; be right and necessary; Ex. It behooves one to do.
harp on; dwell on tediously; explain or go over excessively or to a ridiculous degree; assail verbally; beat severely; attack physically
delayed
be ridden by; have control over
set
beat severely; attack physically
suffering from indigestion; sick from having too much bile; irritable; easily irritated
powerful movement of or like a wave; V.
divided into two branches; forked
be unfaithful; reveal (unconsciously or unwillingly); Ex. Her trembling hands betray her anxiety.
determined; Ex. bent on advancing in the business; N. natural talent or inclination
leave to someone by means of a will; hand down in his will; N. bequest
scold strongly
state of being deprived of something valuable or beloved; state of being bereaved or bereft
be deprived of (someone beloved through death)
be deprived of (something valuable); lacking
mad with violent anger; frenzied; madly excited
beg; plead with
harass or trouble from all directions; hem in
surround tightly so that movement is impossible; Ex. hem in; N.
surround with armed forces; harass (with requests); annoy continually
soil; defile; make dirty
beastlike; brutal; inhuman; very cruel
confer
beastlike
madly excited
scold strongly
be suitably so; be incumbent upon
signify; indicate; be a sign of
outward sign; Ex. a token of our gratitude
be unfaithful; reveal (unconsciously or unwillingly); Ex. Her trembling hands betray her anxiety.
become engaged to marry
large group; Ex. a bevy of starlets
two-chambered as a legislative body
quarrel
every two years
be divided into two branches; forked
stubborn intolerance
one who is intolerant (in matters of religion or politics)
not willing to accept ways of thinking different from one’s own; CF. tolerant; CF. tolerate
suffering from indigestion; sick from having too much bile; irritable; easily irritated
swindle; cheat
swelling out in waves; surging
large wave of water; a great swell or surge (of smoke); V. surge, swell, roll in billows
large wave of water that moves continuously without breaking; V.
powerful movement of or like a wave; V.
temporary encampment; camp without tents; V.
bizarre fantastic; violently contrasting; noticeably odd; strikingly unconventional
blanch bleach; whiten; make white or pale
bland soothing or mild (food); agreeable; causing no trouble or offence
blandishment flattery
blare loud or harsh roar or screech; dazzling blaze of light
screech unpleasant high sharp sound; shriek; V.
dazzle make blind with a sudden intense light; amaze; fill with wonder
blasé bored with pleasure or dissipation; uninterested or bored
blasphemy irreverence; sacrilege; cursing; bad language about God or holy things; V. blasphem; ADJ. blasphemous; CF. sacrilege
blatant extremely (offensively) obvious; loudly offensive; Ex. blatant lie; N. blatancy
bleak cold or cheerless; frigid; unlikely to be favorable; depressing
blighted suffering from a disease; destroyed
blight plant disease; V: infect with blight; ruin; destroy
blithe(blethesome) gay; joyous
bloated (unpleasantly) swollen or puffed as with water or air
blowhard talkative boaster; braggart
bludgeon club; heavy-headed weapon; V.
bluff pretense (of strength); deception; high cliff; ADJ: rough but good-natured
blunder error; stupid mistake
blurt utter impulsively from nervousness or excitement
boisterous violent; rough; noisy
bolster support; reinforce
bolt door bar; fastening pin or screw; length of fabric; large roll of cloth; V: dash or dart off; fasten (a door); gobble down
dart move or throw suddenly and quickly
gobble eat very quickly
bombardment attack (as with missiles or bombs); V. bombard
bombastic pompous; using inflated language
bombast grandiloquent, pompous speech
boon blessing; benefit; something very helpful
boorish rude; insensitive
boor rude, insensitive person
bouillon clear beef (or meat) soup
bountiful generous; graciously generous; showing bounty
gracious kind in a generous way (to someone less important)
bourgeois middle class; selfishly materialistic; too interested in material possessions
bovine cowlike; placid and dull; slow-thinking; calm
bowdlerize expurgate; CF. Thomas Bowdler
braggadocio boasting
brag boast
braggart boaster; bragger
brandish wave around (a weapon); flourish
bravado swagger; assumed air of defiance; false show of bravery
swagger walk or behave with an over-confident manner
brawn human muscle; muscular strength; sturdiness
brawny muscular; having well-developed muscles
sturdy strong and firm (in the body)
brazen insolent; without shame; bold; Ex. brazen lie; V: face with bold self-assurance or with unshamed confidence
brag clangorous noise
browse graze; feed on growing grass; skim or glance at casually
graze (of an animal) feed on growing grass; cause (an animal) to feed on grass; scrape (esp. the skin) or touch lightly in passing; brush; Ex. We can’t graze the cattle till summer; N: surface wound

skim read or glance through quickly; touch lightly in passing; brush; remove from the surface of a liquid

brunt main impact or shock (of an attack or blow); Ex. brunt of the argument

brusque blunt; abrupt; curt; not wanting to waste time being nice

buccaneer pirate

bucolic rustic; pastoral

buffet strike forcefully; slap; batter; knock out; N: table with food set out for people to server themselves; meal at which people help themselves to food that’s been set

slap hit quickly with the flat part of the hand; N. CF. smack

buffoonery clowning

buffoon stupid person; clown

cry act stupidly; play the fool; N.

bugaboo bugbear; object of baseless terror

bullion gold and silver in the form of bars

bulwark strong wall built for defense; earthwork or other strong defense; person who defends

bungie mismanage; blunder; botch; blow; spoil by clumsy behavior

botch mismanage; blow

buoyant able to float; cheerful and optimistic; N. buoyancy; Ex. buoyancy of wood/water/American market

bureaucracy overregulated administrative system marked by red tape; ADJ. bureaucratic

burgeon grow rapidly; grow forth; send out buds; Ex. burgeoning computer industry; CF. bludgeon

burlesque give an imitation that ridicules; imitate mockingly

burnish make shiny by rubbing; polish

buttress support; prop up; N. stationary structure to support wall; Ex. flying buttress

prop support placed under or against something; V.

buxom full-bosomed; plump; jolly

plump pleasantly fat; nicely rounded

cabal small group of persons secretly united to promote their own interests

cache hiding place; V.

cacophonous discordant; inharmonious; N. cacophony: unpleasant mixture of loud sounds

cadaver corpse; dead human body

cadaverous like a corpse; pale

cadence rhythmic rise and fall (of words or sounds); beat; regular beat of sound; rhythm

cajole persuade by praise or false promise; coax; wheedle

coax persuade by flattery

calamity disaster; misery

calculated deliberately planned; likely

caldron(caldron) large kettle

caliber ability; quality; diameter of the inside of a round cylinder; Ex. work of very high caliber

calligraphy ability; quality; diameter of the inside of a round cylinder; Ex. work of very high caliber

callous hardened; unfeeling; without sympathy for the sufferers of others; unkind

callus area of thick hard skin

callow youthful; immature; inexperienced

calorific heat-producing; N. calorie

calumny malicious misrepresentation; slander

camaraderie good-fellowship; CF. comrade

cameo shell or jewel carved in relief; star’s special appearance in a minor role in a film

canard unfounded false rumor; exaggerated false report

candor frankness; open honesty; ADJ. candid

canine related to dogs; doglike

canker any ulcerous sore; ulcer; any evil; CF. cancer

ulcer sore place appearing on the skin inside or outside the body; Ex. stomach ulcer; ADJ. ulcerous; V. ulcerate

canny shrewd in money matters; thrifty

cant insincere speech or expression of piety; jargon of thieves; special words used by a particular group of people

cantankerous ill-humored; irritable

cantata story set to music to be sung by a chorus (shorter than an oratorio)

canter slow gallop; V. CF. trot

canto division of a long poem

canvass determine or seek opinions, votes, etc.; go through (a region) to solicit votes or orders; conduct a survey; N.
capacious spacious

capacity mental or physical ability; role; position or duty; ability to accommodate; Ex. in my capacity as president

capillary having a very fine bore; resembling a hair; fine and slender; Ex. capillary attraction; N: very fine hair-like tube; CF. capillarity

capitate surrender; give up all resistance

caprice whim; sudden change of mind without any real cause

capricious unpredictable; fickle

caption title; chapter heading; text under illustration
○ captious faultfinding; too critical
○ carafe glass water bottle; decanter
○ carapace shell covering the back (of a turtle, tortoise, crab, etc.)
○ carat(karat) unit of weight for precious stones; measure of the purity of gold
○ carcinogenic causing cancer; N: carcinogen
○ cardinal chief; most important; N: priest; cardinal number: number that shows quantity rather than order
□ cardiologist doctor specializing in ailments of the heart
○ careen lurch; sway from side to side; move with irregular swinging movement; stagger
♥ career rush wildly; go at full speed
♥ sway swing from side to side; influence (someone) to change one’s opinion; N.
□ caricature distortion; burlesque
□ carillon a set of bells (often in a tower) capable of being played
□ carnage destruction of life; slaughter; killing of large numbers of people or animals
□ carnal fleshly; sensual; concerning the desires of the body
□ carnivorous meat-eating; N. carnivore; CF. herbivore
○ carousal drunken revel; V. carouse
○ carping petty criticism; fault-finding; fretful complaining; quibble
○ carrion rotting flesh of a dead body; CF. vulture
○ cartographer map-maker
□ cascade small waterfall
○ caste one of the hereditary classes in Hindu society; social stratification; prestige
□ castigation punishment; severe criticism or disapproval
□ casualty serious or fatal accident; person killed or wounded in an accident or battle
♥ casual happening by chance; irregular; occasional; informal; showing or feeling little interest; Ex. casual reader/labor/remar
○ cataclysm deluge; upheaval; earthquake; violent and sudden event or change
○ catalyst agent which brings about a chemical change while it remains unaffected and unchanged; CF. catalysis
□ catapult slingshot; hurling machine; V: fire from catapult
♥ hurl throw forcefully; shout out violently
○ cataract great waterfall; eye abnormality (causing a gradual loss of eyesight)
□ catastrophe calamity; disaster
○ catcall shout of disapproval or displeasure (made at the theater or a sports match); boo; V.
○ catechism book for religious instruction in question-and-answer form; religious instruction by question and answer; V. catechize
□ categorical without exceptions; made without any doubt in mind; unqualified; absolute
♥ qualify reach a necessary standard; limit the meaning of something stated
□ catharsis purging or cleansing of any passage of the body; purging and weakening of strong emotions as a result of experiencing a dramatic work of art
□ cathartic purgative; medicine that causes the bowels to empty; ADJ.
○ catholic (of likings and interests) universal; general; broad; including many different parts; wide-ranging liberal; Ex. catholic opinions/tastes
○ caucus private meeting of a group of people in a political party to select officers or determine policy; CF. the Caucus club of Boston
○ caulk(calk) make watertight (by blocking up cracks as in a ship)
□ causal implying a cause-and-effect relationship; N. causality
□ caustic burning; corrosive; able to burn by chemical action; sarcastically biting; (of remarks) intended to hurt; bitter; harmful; OP. harmless
□ cauterize burn (a wound or snakebite, etc.) with hot iron or caustic substance to stop bleeding and prevent infection
○ cavalcade procession of riders or horse-drawn carriages; parade; CF. cavalry
○ cavalier casual and offhand; arrogant; N: knight
○ cavil quibble; make frivolous objections; find fault unnecessarily
○ cede yield (title or territory) to (esp. after losing a war); surrender formally; N. cession
□ celerity speed; rapidity
□ celestial heavenly
♥ hereafter life after death
♥ afterlife life after death; later part of one’s life
○ celibate abstaining from sexual intercourse; unmarried; N. celibacy
□ censor (in ancient Rome) overseer of morals (also taking the census); person who eliminates inappropriate matter; V.
○ censorious severely critical
□ censure blame; criticize; express strong disapproval; N: severe criticism; strong disapproval
□ centaur mythical figure, half man and half horse
□ centigrade denoting a widely used temperature scale (basically same as Celsius)
□ centrifugal radiating; departing from the center
□ centrifuge machine that separates substances by whirling them
□ centripetal tending toward the center
Roman army officer (commanding a company of about 100 soldiers)

pertaining to the brain or intellect; intellectual rather than emotional; CF. cerebrum

thought; working of the brain

marked by formality; extremely formal and polite; CF. ceremony: conventional social courtesy

not done politely without due formalities

certainty

yielding to another; ceding

warm by rubbing; make sore by rubbing; N.

worthless products of an endeavor; husk(outter seed cover) separated from grain; Ex. separate the wheat from the chaff

bantering; joking

annoyance and disappointment; vexation (caused by humiliation or injured pride)

goblet; consecrated cup

lizard that changes color in different situations

support militantly; fight for; N: person who fights for or supports strongly (a principle, movement, person, etc.)

position of champion; defense or support; competition held to determine a champion

in utter disorder

divine gift; great popular charm or appeal; magnetism

quack; pretender to knowledge (esp. in medicine)

cautious; unwilling to take risks; sparing or restrained about giving; OF. bold

ornament a metal surface by indenting; follow rapidly to catch

abyss; very deep crack

framework and working parts of an automobile; framework to which components are attached

morally pure; virginal; abstaining from illicit sexual acts; modest; simple (of a style of writing); not highly decorated; austere

discipline; punish in order to correct; CF. castigate

punish as by beating; criticize severely

blindly devoted patriot; zealous adherent of a group, cause, or sex; ADJ. chauvinistic; CF. chauvinism; Nicolas Chauvin

stop motion; curb or restrain

marked by great changes in fortune; with many changes of fortune; CF. checked: having a pattern of squares

angelic; innocent-looking; N. cherub; CF. seraph: winged angel of the highest order

trickery; deception

cold; rebuke (someone who has done wrong)

fantastically improbable; highly unrealistic; N. chimera: unreal fancy; fire-breathing female creature

swindle or cheat; N: wedgelike tool for cutting

lose a small piece from the surface or edge; N: small piece broken off something; CF. French fry; Potato chip/crisp

courteous; faithful; brave; N. chivalry

hot-tempered; bad-tempered; irritable; easily angered; CF. cholera

art of representing dances in written symbols; arrangement of dances

daily domestic task (such as cleaning, cooking, and shopping); unpleasant task

chuckle with delight; N.

laugh quietly

long established as a disease

report; record (in chronological order)

divine gift; great popular charm or appeal; magnetism

having minute hairs; CF. cilium; CF. cilia: eyelash

nonentity; worthless person or thing; zero; secret code; V.

small ring; band of gold, silver, jewel, etc. (worn on the head, arms, or neck as decoration)

roundabout

closed circular line around an area; circumference; regularly repeated journey from place to place

indirect or roundabout expression (by using an unnecessarily large number of words esp. when trying to avoid answering a difficult question directly)

limit; confine; draw a line around

prudent; cautious; acting after careful thought

outwit; defeat by behaving more cleverly; outsmart; baffle; avoid; get around

reservoir or water tank

fortress

quote; commend; Ex. cited for bravery in an official record

having to do with citizens; not military or religious; courteous and polite; Ex. married in a civil ceremony; Ex. civil strife/disorder/law; N. civility; CF. civic

having foresight; fortuneteller; N. clairvoyance

understanding the nature of an event after it has actually happened
clamber  climb by crawling with difficulties; scramble
clamor  loud continuous noise; continuous demand or complaint made by a large number of people; V: make a clamor; express (a demand) continually and loudly; ADJ: clamorous
clandestine  secret
chaperon  older person who accompanies and supervises a young unmarried woman
clangor  loud resounding noise; sound of repeated clanging
clapper  striker (tongue) of a bell
clap  strike the palms of the hands together with a sudden explosive sound; come together suddenly with a sharp sound; put or send promptly; Ex. clap the thief in jail; N: clapping; loud or explosive sound; CF. applause
clarion  shrill, trumpetlike sound; kind of trumpet used in former times
claustrophobia  fear of being locked in
clavicle  collarbone
chaperon  older person who accompanies and supervises a young unmarried woman
scrimmage  disorderly fight between two or more people
cleave  split or sever; cling to; remain faithful to; N. cleavage; ADJ. cloven
cleft  N: split
clemency  disposition to be lenient in deciding punishments; mildness as of the weather; ADJ. clement
cliché  phrase dulled in meaning by repetition; platitude; ADJ. clichéd
bromide  platitude; chemical compound used to calm excitement
clientele  body of customers
climactic  relating to the highest point; N. climax; CF. climactic
climate
clique  small exclusive group of people
cloister  monastery or convent
cloak  great influence (especially political or social); hard blow with fist
cloying  distasteful (because excessive); excessively sweet or sentimental; V. cloy: become unpleasant through too much sweetness or excess
coagulate  congeal; thicken; clot; N. coagulant
clot  half-solid lump formed from a liquid (or blood); V.
pudding  hot sweet dish
collaborate  work together; cooperate treasonably with the enemy
collage  work of art put together from fragments
scrap  small bit or fragment; discarded waste material; fight; Ex. a scrap of paper/cloth; V: break into parts for disposal; discard as worthless; fight; quarrel
scraps  leftover food
scrappy  quarrelsome
collate  examine and compare in order to verify authenticity; arrange in order (the sheets of a book before they are bound)
collateral  security given for loan; ADJ: secondary; descended from the same person but through different sons or daughters
collation  a light meal; collating

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□ colloquial pertaining to conversational or common speech; informal; N. colloquialism: colloquial expression
□ colloquy informal discussion; conversation
□ collision conspiring in a fraudulent scheme to cheat or deceive others; V. collude
□ colossal huge
□ colossus gigantic statue; person or thing of great size or importance
♠ comatose in a coma; extremely sleepy
♥ coma deep prolonged unconsciousness caused by disease, poison, or a severe blow
□ combustible easily burned; N. CF. combustion
□ comely attractive; agreeable; having a pleasing appearance
♥ homely not good-looking; unattractive
□ comestible something fit to be eaten
♠ comeuppance deserts; well-deserved punishment or misfortune; rebuke
♥ deserts what someone deserves
♠ comity courtesy; civility; Ex. comity of nations
□ commandeer take (private property) for military use without needing permission or giving payment; draft for military purposes
♥ draft first rough form; conscription; draught; V: make a draft of; conscript
♥ draught current of air (through a room or to a fire); act of pulling roads; act of swallowing liquid or amount of liquid swallowed at a time
♠ commemorative remembering; honoring the memory of; Ex. commemorative stamp
♥ commemorate honor the memory of; serve as a memorial to; Ex. commemorate the 100th anniversary/those who died in the war
□ commensurate equal in extent; of the same size
□ commiserate feel or express pity or sympathy for
□ commodious spacious and comfortable
♠ communal held in common; public; of a group of people; of a commune
♥ commune small (often rural) community whose members share work and income; V: exchange thoughts or feelings; Ex. commune with nature
□ compact agreement; contract; ADJ: tightly packed; firm; brief; concise; Ex. compact statement
□ compatible harmonious; in harmony with; able to exist together
□ compelling overpowering; irresistible in effect; holding one’s attention; that compels one to do something; Ex. a compelling adventure story; V. compel
♥ compulsion compelling; strong desire that is difficult to control; irresistible impulse
♥ compulsory obligatory; that must be done
♥ compulsive resulting from compulsion
□ compendium brief, comprehensive summary; ADJ: compendious
□ compensatory making up for; repaying
□ compilation listing of information in tabular or book form; compiling
□ compile assemble; gather; accumulate; make (a report or a book) from facts and information found in various places; Ex. compile a dictionary
□ complacency self-satisfaction; smugness; ADJ. complacent
♥ smug self-satisfied; complacent
□ complaisant trying to please; obliging; willing to please others
□ complement complete; consummate; make perfect; N.
□ complementary serving to complete something
□ compliance conformity in fulfilling requirements; readiness to yield; disposition to yield to others; V. comply
□ compliant readily acting in accordance with a rule, order, or the wishes or others; yielding; conforming to requirements
□ complicity participation; involvement (in a questionable act or a crime)
□ component element; ingredient
♠ comport bear one’s self; behave; Ex. comport oneself; N. comportment
♥ deport send out of the country; behave; N. deportation, deportment
♥ bearing deportation; connection
□ composure mental calmness
□ compound combine; produce by combining; increase; make worse by adding to or increasing; exacerbate; Ex. compound an error; ADJ: consisting of two or more parts; N: combination of two or more parts; area enclosed by a wall containing a group of buildings; Ex. factory compound; CF. complex
□ comprehensive broad; including a lot or everything; thorough; inclusive
♥ comprehend include; understand
□ compress force into less space; squeeze; contract; put into fewer words; N: thick mass of cloth pressed to part of the body to stop bleeding or swelling, reduce fever, etc.
□ comprise include; consist of
♠ compromise adjust or settle by making mutual concessions; endanger the interests or reputation of; put into danger, disrepute, or a dishonorable position; Ex. compromise one’s principle; N.
□ compunction remorse; strong uneasiness caused by guilt
□ compute reckon; calculate
♥ reckon count; calculate; regard as; think; suppose
□ concatenate link as in a chain
□ concave hollow; curved inwards; OP. convex
consanguinity  kinship; relationship by birth

consanguineous  having a common ancestor

conscientious  scrupulous; through and careful; Ex. conscientious worker

conscript  draftee; person forced into military service; V.

consecrate  dedicate; sanctify; declare as sacred; Ex. consecrate one’s life to helping the poor

consensus  general agreement; opinion reached by a group

consequential  self-important; significant; consequent; following as a result; Ex. consequential air; CF. subsequent

conservatory (conservatoire)  school of the fine arts (especially music or drama); glass-enclosed area; CF. conservancy

consign  send to a person or place for sale; deliver officially; entrust; put into the care of another; set apart (for a special purpose); N. consignment; CF. consignor, consignee

consistency  absence of contradictions; uniformity; degree of thickness or firmness; Ex. consistency of thick cream; CF. viscous

console  lessen sadness or disappointment; give comfort; allay the sorrow of; N. consolation

consolidation  unification; process of becoming firmer or stronger; V. consolidate: merge; strengthen

consonance  harmony; agreement

consonant  harmonious; in agreement; N.

consort  associate with; keep company; N: husband or wife (or a ruler)

conspiracy  treacherous plot; secret plan against the law (by two or more people)

conspire  take part in a conspiracy; (of events) work together; combine; Ex. Events conspired to produce great difficulties.

consternation  great shock; dismay

concurrent  supporter; voter; member of a constituency; component

constituent  voters represented by an elected official; district so represented; group of supporters (or constituents)

constitution  constituting; system of laws; composition of something; physical makeup or structure of a person; Ex. men with strong constitutions

constraint  restraint; compulsion; repression of feelings; reticence; V. constrain: hold back; restrain; compel; oblige; confine forcibly; imprison

construe  explain; interpret; Ex. construe her silence as meaning that she agreed; CF. misconstrue

consummate  complete; V.

contagion  infection (by contact); ADJ. contagious; CF. infectious: that can be passed by infection in the air

drastic  strong; violent and severe; Ex. drastic changes/measures

contaminate  pollute

contempt  scorn; disdain; ADJ. contemptuous; CF. contemptible

contend  struggle; compete; assert earnestly; state strongly

contention  assertion; claim; thesis; struggling; competition

thesis  opinion put forward and supported by reasoned arguments

boost  lift by pushing up from below; increase; raise; N: push upward; increase

contentious  quarrelsome; controversial; likely to cause arguments

contest  dispute; argue about the rightness of; compete for; try to win; Ex. contest the election results; Ex. contest a seat in Parliament; N.

context  writings preceding and following the passage quoted; circumstance in which an event occurs

contiguous  adjacent to; touching upon

continece  self-restraint; sexual chastity; sexual abstinence; voluntary control over bladder and bowel functions; ADJ. continent

contingent  dependent on something uncertain or in the future; conditional; happening by chance; accidental; N: a group of soldiers, ships to a larger force; CF. contingency: future event that may or may not occur; possibility; Ex. prepare for every contingency

contortions  twistings; distortions; V. contort: twist violently out of shape; CF. contortionist

contraband  illegal trade; smuggling; smuggled goods; ADJ.

contravene  contradict; oppose; violate (a rule, law, or custom); N. contravention

contrary  penitent; repentant; N. contrition

contrived  unnatural and forced; artificial; not spontaneous; Ex. The ending was rather contrived.

contrive  invent or fabricate in a clever way (by improvisation); manage; Ex. contrive to attract his attention

contrivance  something contrived; machine or apparatus; clever deceitful plan; scheme

controvert  oppose with arguments; attempt to refute; contradict; ADJ. controversial; N. controversy

contumacious  stubborn and disobedient; resisting authority (esp. disobedient to an order made by a court)

contusion  bruise

bruise  injure without breaking the skin; N.

conundrum  riddle; difficult problem

convene  come together; assemble; call to meet; Ex. convene the council

convention  social or moral custom; established practice; formal meeting; international agreement
- conventional  ordinary; typical; not nuclear; Ex. conventional weapons
- converge  approach; tend to meet; come together
- conversant  familiar with; having knowledge of
- converse  opposite; ADJ.
- convert  one who has adopted a different religion or opinion; V: change into another form; (persuade to) adopt a particular religion or belief
- convex  curving outward
- conveyance  vehicle; transfer; act of conveying; Ex. public conveyance
- conviction  judgment that someone is guilty of a crime; strongly held belief
- convivial  pleasantly merry; festive; joyous; gay; characterized by joviality; jovial
- convolve  call together; Ex. convolve Parliament; N. vocation
- convoluted  coiled around; twisted; involved; complicated; intricate; complex; N. convolution: twist; one of the convex folds of the surface of the brain
- convolution  violent uncontrollable shaking movement (caused by illness); V. convulse; ADJ. convulsive
- copious  plentiful
- coquette  flirt; flirtatious woman; woman who tries to attract the admiration of men without sincere feelings; V.
- flirt  behave in a way that attracts (sexual) attention; deal triflingly with; N: one (or woman) given to flirting; ADJ. flirtatious
- cordial  warmly friendly; gracious; heartfelt; Ex. cordial welcome
- cordon  extended line of men or fortifications to prevent access or egress; (여겨서 겨드랑 밑으로 길치는) 강식 리본; V.
- cornice  projecting molding on building (usually above columns or pillars); 처마 장식
- cornucopia  horn (or horn-shaped container) overflowing with fruit and grain; symbol of abundance; horn of plenty
- corollary  natural consequence (which naturally follows from something else)
- corporeal  bodily (rather than spiritual); of a bodily form; material; tangible
- corpulent  very fat; N. corpulence
- corpus  collection (of writings or information); Ex. the corpus of Shakespeare’s works; Cf. corpse
- corpuscle  red or white cell in the blood
- correlation  mutual relationship
- correlate  either of the correlated things; V.
- corroborate  confirm; support; strengthen
- corrode  destroy or wear away gradually by chemical action (over a long period)
- corrosive  eating away by chemicals or disease; (of language) fierce
- corrugated  wrinkled; ridged
- wrinkle  small ridge on a smooth surface (face or cloth); V.
- crinkle  wrinkle
- cosmic  pertaining to the universe; vast
- coterie  group that meets socially; select circle; close group of people with shared interests
- countenance  approve; support; tolerate; Ex. countenance his rude behavior; N: face; appearance
- countermand  cancel; revoke (an order)

- counterpart  thing that completes another; things very much alike; thing that has the same purpose in a different system
- coup  highly successful action or sudden attack; coup(s) d’état; CF. coup de grâce: deathblow or shot which kills
- couple  join; unite; OP. uncouple
- courier  messenger
- covenant  binding agreement between two groups or people; compact; V: enter into a covenant; promise
- bargain  agreement between two groups or people; something for sale at a price advantageous to the buyer; V: negotiate; trade; Ex. bargaining power
- covert  secret; hidden; implied; OP. overt
- covetous  avaricious; desirous of (someone else’s possessions); V. covet: desire eagerly (someone else’s possessions)
- cow  terrorize; intimidate
- cower  shrink quivering as from fear; cringe
- coy  shy (flirtatiously); showing a (pretended) lack of self-confidence; modest; coquettish; CF. job offer: 제공한
- cozen  cheat; hoodwink; swindle
- crabbed  sour; bad-tempered; peevish; difficult to read as handwriting
- peevish  bad-tempered; irritable; V. peev: make angry
- crass  very unrefined; grossly insensible; crude and undiscriminating; Ex. crass behavior
- craven  cowardly
- credence  belief
- credo  creed
- credulity  belief on slight evidence; gullibility; naïveté; ADJ. credulous
- creed  system of religious or ethical belief
- crescendo  increase in the volume or intensity as in a musical passage; climax; CF. crescent
- far-fetched  too improbable to be believed; implausible; Ex. far-fetched story
- overture  musical introduction to a long musical piece; first offer or proposal (to begin talks in the hope of reaching an agreement); Ex. overtures for peace
crestfallen  dejected; dispirited
♥ crest  top (as of a hill or wave); showy feathers on the head of a bird
♠ crevice  crack; fissure
□ cringe  shrink back as if in fear; cower
□ criteria  standards used in judging; CF. criterion
♠ crane  hag; ugly old woman
♠ crotchety  (of someone old) eccentric; odd; whimsical; bad-tempered; N. crotchet: odd or whimsical notion
♠ crux  essential or main point; Ex. the crux of the problem; ADJ. crucial: of deciding importance
□ crypt  secret recess or vault usually used for burial; underground room (under a church)
□ cryptic  mysterious; hidden; secret
♠ cubicle  small chamber used for sleeping or work
♥ cuisine  style of cooking; Ex. French cuisine
♠ culinary  relating to cooking or kitchen
♠ cull  pick out from others (to kill the weakest members); reject; select; collect (information); N.
□ culmination  highest point; climax; V. culminate in: reach the highest point in; end in; Ex. a series of minor clashes culminating in war
□ culpable  deserving blame; blameworthy
♥ culprit  one guilty of a crime
♠ culvert  artificial channel for water; drain crossing under a road
□ cumbersome  heavy and awkward to carry or wear; burdensome; Ex. cumbersome parcel/uniform
□ cumulative  growing by addition; accumulative
□ cupidity  greed (for wealth); CF. cupid; CF. Cupid
□ curator  superintendent; manager (in charge of a museum or a library)
♠ curmudgeon  churlish, miserly individual; bad-tempered old person
♠ cursive  (of writing) flowing; running; having the successive letters joined
□ cursory  casual; hastily done with little attention to detail
□ curtal  shorten; reduce
□ cynical  skeptical or distrustful of human motives; N. cynicism; CF. cynic: person who believes all people are motivated by selfishness
♠ cynosure  object of general attention; person or thing that is a center of attention; CF. Ursa Minor
♠ dabble  work at in a nonserious fashion; splash around; move noisily in a liquid
♠ dais  raised platform for speakers or other important people
♠ daily  trifle with; toy with; treat without the necessary seriousness; procrastinate; waste time
♠ dank  damp; unpleasantly wet
♠ dapper  neat and trim (in appearance); (of small men) neat in appearance and quick in movements; neat; spry
♠ daub  smear (as with paint); cover with something sticky; Ex. daub one’s clothes with mud/paint; N: small bit of sticky substance; Ex. a daub of paint
♥ smear  spread or cover with a sticky substance; N: mark made by smearing
♥ smudge  dirty mark with unclear edges made by rubbing; V.
□ daunt  intimidate; frighten; discourage; dishearten
□ dauntless  bold; fearless
□ dawdle  loiter; hang around; waste time doing nothing
□ deadlock  standstill resulting from the opposition of two unrelenting forces; stalemate
♥ standstill  condition of no movement or activity; stop
♠ deadpan  wooden; impassive; with no show of feeling; with an expressionless face
□ death  scarcity
□ débâcle  sudden disastrous downfall or defeat; complete disaster
□ debase  degrade; reduce in quality or value; degenerate; lower in esteem; disgrace; N. debasement
♥ kneel  go down on one’s knee(s)
♠ debauch  corrupt morally; seduce from virtue; N. debauchery: wild behavior (with sex and alcohol)
♥ seduce  lead away from proper conduct; entice; ADJ. seductive
□ debilitate  weaken (esp. through heat, hunger, illness); enfeeble
♥ bout  match; short period of great activity; Ex. wrestling bout; bout of drinking/flu
♠ debonair  (of men) friendly, charming, and fashionably dressed; aiming to please; CF. of good disposition
□ débris  rubble; wreckage; scattered remains of something broken or destroyed
♠ debunk  expose as false, exaggerated, worthless, etc.; ridicule
♠ debutante  young woman making formal entrance into society
♥ début  début; first public appearance; formal presentation of a young woman to society
□ decadence  decay; fall to a lower level (of morality, civilization, or art); ADJ. decadent
□ decapitate  behead
□ decelerate  slow down

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♠ deciduous  falling off at a specific season or stage of growth as of leaves; Ex. deciduous tree/teeth
Â demure (of a woman or child) grave; quiet and serious; coy; pretending to be demure

Â denigrate blacken; defame

Â denizen (animal, person, or plant) inhabitant or resident of a particular place; regular visitor

Â denotation meaning; distinguishing by name; V. denote: indicate; refer to directly; mean; CF. connotation

Â dénouement final outcome; final development of the plot of a play or other literary work; the end of a story when everything is explained

Â denounce condemn; criticize; N. denunciation

Â depict portray

♥ exposed public revelation of something discreditable

Â deplete reduce; exhaust

Â deplore regret; express sorrow and severe disapproval for something bad; Ex. deplore their violent behavior; ADJ. deplorable: very bad; deserving severe disapproval; Ex. deplorable living condition

Â deploy spread out (troops) in an extended though shallow battle line; distribute (persons or forces) systematically or strategically

Â battalion army unit made up of four or more companies

Â depose dethrone; remove from office; give a deposition; testify

Â deposition testimony under oath; deposing; dethroning

Â depravity extreme corruption; wickedness; V. deprave

Â deprecate express disapproval of; deplore; protest against; belittle; ADJ. deprecatory

Â depreciate lessen in value; belittle; represent as of little value

Â predation plundering; destruction

Â deranged insane

♥ institute organization for a special purpose; V: establish

♥ institution instituting; (building for the) organization; established custom, practice, or relationship in a society; mental hospital; Ex. institution of marriage

♥ institutionalize make into an institution; put or confine in an institution

Â derelict negligent; (of someone) neglectful of duty; (of something) deserted by an owner; abandoned; N: abandoned property; homeless or vagrant person

Â dereliction neglect of duty; abandonment

Â deride ridicule; treat with contempt; make fun of; OP. respect

Â derision ridicule; ADJ. derisory; CF. derisory

Â derivative unoriginal; obtained from another source; Ex. derivative prose style; N.

♥ derivation deriving; origin or source of something; Ex. the derivation of the word

Â dermatologist one who studies the skin and its diseases

♥ acne skin disease (on the face)

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Â derogatory expressing a low opinion; disparaging; V. derogate: detract; disbarage

Â descry catch sight of (something distant)

Â desecrate profane; violate the sanctity of

♥ violate break (a law); defile; desecrate; assault sexually; Ex. violate graves

Â desiccate dry up

Â desolate (of a place) deserted; unpopulated; (of a person) lonely; forlorn; joyless

Â desolate make desolate; forsake; abandon and desert

Â desperado reckless, desperate outlaw

♥ desperate having lost all hope; despairing; reckless and violent because of loss of hope or despair; undertaken as a last resort

Â despise look on with scorn; regard as worthless or distasteful; ADJ. despicable: contemptible

Â despoil plunder; sack; Ex. despoil the village

Â despondent without hope and courage; depressed; gloomy; N. despondency: loss of hope with gloom; dejection

Â despot tyrant; harsh, authoritarian ruler; CF. despotism

Â destitute extremely poor; lacking means of subsistence; utterly lacking; devoid; Ex. destitute of any experience

♥ impoverish make poor; deprive of natural strength or something important; Ex. impoverished soil

Â desultory aimless; haphazard; digressing at random

Â detached emotionally removed; free from emotional involvement; calm and objective; physically separate; N. detachment; CF. attachment

♥ detain keep waiting; prevent from leaving or going; N. detention

Â determinate having a fixed order of procedure; precisely defined; invariable; fixed; conclusive; final

Â determination resolve; firmness of purpose; measurement or calculation; decision

Â deterrent something that discourages or deters

Â detonation explosion

Â detraction slandering; aspersion; detracting; CF. detractor

Â deterrnental harmful; damaging; N. detriment

Â deviate turn away from (a principle, norm); move away from an accepted standard; swerve; depart; diverge; N. deviation; Ex. deviation of the path of light by a prism

Â devious roundabout; erratic; deviating from the straight course; not straightforward; not completely honest; Ex. devious route

Â devise think up; invent; plan; bequeath; N: bequest
devotee

devoid

devout

devolve

dexterous

diadem

diabolical

dialectical

dichotomy

diaphanous

didactic

dictum

diadem

diaphanous

diabolical

dexterous

dialectical

dichotomy

didactic

dictum

dissipate

die

diffidence

diffuse

digression

dilapidated

dilate

dilatory

dilemma

dilettante

diligence

dilute

diminish

din

dingy

dirt

disabuse

disapprove

disarray

disavowal

disaffected

disapprove

discernible

discerning

disclaim

disclose

discomfited

discompose

disconsolate

disconcert

discompose

discontent

disconsolate

disconsolate

discontent
□ discourse serious speech, writing, or conversation; formal discussion (either written or spoken); conversation; V.
□ discredit defame; disgrace; destroy confidence in; disbelieve; N. CF. discredbale: causing discredit; shameful
□ discrepancy lack of consistency or agreement as between facts; difference; Ex. discrepancy between two descriptions
□ discrete separate; unconnected
□ discretion prudence; ability to adjust actions to circumstances; freedom of action or judgment; ADJ. discreet; CF. discretionary
□ discriminating able to see differences; discerning; prejudiced; N. discrimination
♥ brisk quick and active; marked by liveliness and vigor
♠ discursive (of a person or writing) digressing; rambling (without any clear plan)
□ disdain treat with scorn or contempt
♠ disembark debark; go ashore (from a ship); unload cargo from a ship; CF. embark
□ disenfranchise disfranchise; deprive of a civil right; OP. enfranchise
♠ disengage uncouple; separate; disconnect; stop fighting; OP. engage
□ disfigure mar the appearance of; spoil
♠ disgorgel surrender something (stolen); eject; vomit; OP. gorge
♠ disgruntle make discontented

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□ dishearten discourage
♠ disheveled untidy (of hair or clothing); V. dishevel
□ disinclination unwillingness
♠ disingenuous not naive; not candid; sophisticated; worldly wise; OP. ingenuous
□ disinter dig up; unearth; OP. inter
□ disinterested unprefued; free from bias and self-interest; objective
□ disjointed disconnected; lacking coherence; V. disjoin: disconnect; disjoin
□ disjunction act or state of separation; disunity; CF. disjunctive: expressing a choice between two ideas; CF. conjunction; CF. conjunctive
♠ dislodge remove (forcibly); force out of a position; Ex. dislodge the food caught in his throat; CF. lodge
♠ dismantle take apart; disassemble
♥ mantle loose sleeveless outer garment; cloak; something that covers or envelopes; the layer of the earth between the crust and the core
♥ crust hard outer covering (as of earth or snow)
□ dismember cut into small parts; cut (a body) apart limb from limb
♠ dismiss eliminate from consideration; no longer consider; put out of court without further hearing; reject; discharge from employment; direct to leave; ADJ. dismissive; N. dismissal
□ disparage belittle
□ maneuver(manoeuver) strategic military or naval movement (done for training purposes); carefully planned process; stratagem; V. carry out a military maneuver; use maneuvers in gaining an end
□ disparate basically different; impossible to compare; unrelated
□ disparity difference; condition of inequality; OP. parity
□ dispassionate calm; impartial; not influenced by personal feelings
□ dispatch speediness; prompt execution; message sent with all due speed; V. send to a specified destination; finish promptly; kill
□ dispel scatter; drive away; cause to vanish
♥ dispense distribute; prepare and give out (medicines); N. dispensation: dispensing; religious system; official exemption from an obligation or a rule
□ disperse scatter; Ex. disperse the cloud/crowd
♠ dispirited lacking in spirit
♠ disport amuse; Ex. disport oneself; CF. divert
□ disputatious argumentative; fond of argument
□ disquietude uneasiness; anxiety; V. disquiet: make anxious
♠ disposition formal systematic inquiry; explanation of the results of a formal inquiry; long formal speech or written report
□ dissection analysis; cutting apart in order to examine
♠ dissemble disguise; hide the real nature of; pretend
□ disseminate distribute; spread; scatter (like seeds)
□ dissent disagree
□ dissertation formal essay; treatise
□ disdaint dissenting (with an opinion, a group, or a government); rebellious; N.
♠ dissemble pretend; conceal by feigning; dissemble
□ dissipate squander; waste foolishly; scatter
□ dissolution disintegration; reduction to a liquid form; looseness in morals; sensual indulgence; debauchery; ADJ. dissolve: lacking in moral restraint; leading an immoral life
♥ reduce diminish; bring to a weaker or more difficult condition; demote; lower in rank; separate into components by analysis; Ex. reduced to the ranks; Ex. reduce the house to rubble; N. reduction
□ dissuade persuade not to do; discourage; N. dissuasion
♥ dissonance discord
♠ distant reserved or aloof; cold in manner; Ex. distant greeting; ADV. distantly
Adjectives:

- downcast: disheartened; dejected; sad; directed downward
- drab: dull; lacking color; cheerless; Ex. drab coat/life
- draconian: extremely severe; Ex. draconian punishment; CF. Draco: Athenian politician
- dregs: sediment in a liquid; lees; worthless residue
- drivel: nonsense; foolishness; V: talk nonsense
- nonsense: speech or writing with no meaning; foolish behavior or language; Ex. make (a) nonsense of: spoil; cause to fail
- dribble: flow or fall in drops; let saliva flow out slowly from the mouth; move a ball; N.
- drip: fall or let fall in drops; shed drops; N: action or sound of falling in drops; liquid that falls in drops
- trickle: flow in drops or in a thin stream; N.
- droll: queer and amusing
- queer: strange; eccentric; deviating from the normal
- drone: idle person who lives on other people’s work; male bee
- drone: talk dully; buzz or murmur like a bee; N.
- murmure: low, indistinct, continuous sound; V. C.F. mumble
- dross: waste matter; worthless impurities
- drudgery: hard unpleasant work; menial work
- drudge: do drudgery; N: person who drudges
- dubious: questionable; (of something) causing doubt; (of someone) filled with doubt; N. dubiety
- ductile: malleable; pliable; (of metals) easily pulled into shape; flexible; (of someone) easily influenced or controlled
- dulcet: sweet sounding; pleasing to the ear; melodious
- dumbfound: (dumfound) astonish (making dumb); ADJ. dumfounded, dumfounded, dumbstruck
- dupe: someone easily fooled or deceived; V: deceive
- duplicity: double-dealing; hypocrisy; being dishonest and deceitful; ADJ. duplicitous
- dyslexia: word blindness; learning disorder marked by impairment of the ability to read
- dysentery: inflammatory disorder of the lower intestinal tract
- earthy: unrefined; coarse; of earth; Ex. earthy remarks; OP. ethereal
- earthly: of this earth; terrestrial; worldly; not divine; possible; Ex. no earthly reason
- ebb: (of the tide) recede; lessen; diminish; N. OP. flow: rise of tide
- ebullient: showing excitement; overflowing with enthusiasm; boiling; N. ebullience; N. ebullition: state of boiling
- eccentric: irregular; odd; unconventional; whimsical; bizarre; not concentric
- eccentricity: oddity; idiosyncrasy
- ecclesiastic: ecclesiastical; pertaining to the church; N. minister; priest; cleric; clergymen
- chapel: small church (in a prison, college, or hospital)
- chaplain: clergyman attached to a chapel
- padre: chaplain (in the armed forces)
- eclectic: selective; composed of elements drawn from disparate sources; selecting individual elements from a variety of sources; N. eclecticism
- selective: careful in choosing; having an effect only on certain things; not general; Ex. eclectic weed killer
- eclipse: darken; extinguish; outshine; surpass; cause an eclipse
- elliptic: path of the sun and the planets
- ecologist: person concerned with the interrelationship between living organisms and their environment; person concerned with the detrimental effects of human civilization on the environment; CF. ecology
- ecosystem: ecological community together with its environment
- economy: efficiency or conciseness in using something; thrifty management of resources
- ecstasy: rapture; very strong feeling of joy and happiness; any overpowering emotion; ADJ. ecstatic: causing or experiencing ecstasy
- rapture: great joy and delight; ecstasy; ADJ. rapturous
- eddy: swirling current of water, air, etc.; V.
- edict: decree (especially one issued by a sovereign); official command
- edict: decree (especially one issued by a sovereign); official command
- sovereign: ruler in a monarchy; ADJ: (of a country) independent and self-governing; having supreme power; supreme; excellent
- sovereignty: complete independence and self-government (of a country); supremacy of authority; power to govern
- edify: instruct; correct morally
- edifice: building (of imposing size)
- eerie: weird; causing fear because strange
rub out; remove the surface of
able to produce a desired effect; valid
effectual; producing a strong response; striking; in operation; in effect; Ex. effective speech/photograph
effectuate; produce; achieve; Ex. effectuate a reconciliation
having womanly traits
emasculate; weaken; castrate
remove the sex organs (of a male animal or person)
power to produce desired effect; ADJ. efficacious: effectual
dummy; likeness of a person made of wood, paper, or stone; Ex. burn an effigy of the President
imitation of a real object used as a substitute; effigy
noxious(harmful) smell
rudeness without any sense of shame; shameless boldness; presumptuousness; nerve; cheek
shining brightly; brilliant
pouring forth; unrestrained outpouring of feeling; V. effuse: pour out; ADJ. effusive: pouring forth; gushing
(of liquid) pour out in large quantities from a hole; make an excessive display of feeling (without true feeling); Ex. Blood gushed from the wound.
excessive interest in one’s self; belief that one should be interested in one’s self rather than in others; selfishness; ADJ. egoistic, egoistical
one’s opinion of oneself; self-esteem
egotistical; excessively self-centered(egocentric); self-important; conceited
tendency to speak or write of oneself excessively; conceit; self-importance
notorious; conspicuously bad or shocking
exit; opening for going out; act of going out; OP. ingress
exclamation; abrupt ejection (to discharge sperm); V. ejaculate
addition of details; intricacy
work out carefully; add more detail or information; ADJ.
filled with excited joy and pride; overjoyed; in high spirits; joyful and proud; Ex. elated crowd; V. elate; N. elation
poem or song expressing lamentation (for the dead); ADJ. elegiacal, elegiac
draw out fact or information (by discussion or from someone)
cure-all; panacea; something invigorating
omission of words from a text; mark used to indicate an omission (when the meaning can be understood without them); PL. ellipses
elliptical; elliptic; oval; of an ellipse; containing an ellipse; ambiguous either purposely or because key words have been left out
expressiveness; persuasive speech; ADJ. eloquent: movingly expressive; expressing ideas well so that the hearers can be influenced
explain; make clear; clarify; enlighten; CF. lucid
evasive; not frank; baffling; hard to grasp, catch, or understand; V. elude: escape from; escape the understanding or grasp of; Ex. elude the hunter; Ex. His name eludes me.
relating to paradise; blissful
place or condition of bliss
thin and wasted (from hunger or illness)
issue forth; come out
set free; liberate
ban on commerce or other activity
commence; go on board a boat; begin a journey
enclose; place in something; fix firmly in a surrounding mass
adorn; ornament; enhance as a story (by adding fictitious details)
taking for one’s own use in violation of trust; stealing (of money placed in one’s care)
ornament richly (a shield or flag); N. emblazonment
give a bodily form to; incorporate; include
produce a design in raised relief; decorate with a raised design
hug; clasp with the arms; adopt or espouse; accept readily; encircle; include; Ex. embrace the cause/socialism; Ex. all-embracing; CF. brace; CF. bracelet
surround
contact or quarrel; entangle; CF. imbroglio
undeveloped; rudimentary; N. embryo: organism in the early stage of development
correct (usually a text); N. emendation: correction of errors; improvement
substance causing vomiting; ADJ. emetic
produce a design in raised relief; decorate with a raised design
decorate with needlework; ornament (a story) with fancy or fictitious details; embellish
throw into confusion; involve in strife, dispute, or quarrel; entangle; CF. imbroglio
undeveloped; rudimentary; N. embryo: organism in the early stage of development
correct (usually a text); N. emendation: correction of errors; improvement
substance causing vomiting; ADJ.
empathy  ability to identify with another’s feelings, ideas, etc.; identification with and understanding of another’s feelings; V. empathize; CF. sympathy
compassion  sympathy for the suffering of others; ADJ. compassionate
empirical  based on experience
emulate  imitate; rival; try to equal or excel (through imitation)
emancipate  encode; convert a message into code; put into cipher
enclave  territory enclosed within an alien land
encomiastic  praising; eulogistic; N. encomium: very high praise; eulogy
encompass  surround; include; Ex. His activities encompass publishing and computers.
encroachment  gradual intrusion; Ex. I resent all these encroachments on my valuable time; V. encroach: take another’s possessions or right gradually or stealthily; intrude; Ex. encroach on/upon
embrace  burden; N. encumbrance
endearment  fond word or act; expression of affection
endear  make beloved; Ex. endear her to everyone; ADJ. dear: loved; cherished; high-priced
endemic  prevailing among a specific group of people or in a specific area or country; peculiar to a particular region or people; CF. pandemic
encourage  approve; support; write one’s signature on the back of; N. endorsement; CF. dorsal
endure  provide with some quality; endow
enduring  lasting; surviving; V. endure: bear (pain or suffering) for a long time; remain alive (in spite of difficulties); last; survive
energize  invigorate; give energy to; make forceful and active
enervate  weaken; take away energy from
enfranchise  admit to the rights of citizenship (especially the right to vote); CF. franchise
engage  attract; employ; hire; pledge oneself; confront; fight; enter into confliction; interlock; lock together; participate; N. engagement: agreement to marry; arrangement to meet someone or to do something; battle
engaging  charming; attractive
engaged  employed; busy; betrothed; involved in conflict
engender  cause; produce; give rise to
engross  occupy fully; absorb
enhance  increase; make greater (as in value, reputation, or usefulness); improve
enigma  puzzle; mystery; ADJ. enigmatic: obscure; puzzling
puzzle  baffle or confuse by a difficult problem; ponder over a problem in an effort to solve; clarify or solve by reasoning; Ex. puzzle out the answer; N.
enjoin  command; order; forbid
enmity  ill will; hatred; hostility
ennui  boredom; listlessness and dissatisfaction resulting from lack of interest; CF. annoy
enormity  hugeness (in a bad sense); excessive wickedness; Ex. enormity of the crime; ADJ. enormous
enrapture  please intensely; fill with rapture and delight
ensconce  settle comfortably; place comfortably (in a secure place)
enjoy  follow (as a result)
tenail  make necessary; require; necessitate; involve; limit the inheritance of (property) to a specified succession of heirs; Ex. entail A on/upon B
enterprising  full of initiative; showing enterprise
enterprise  willingness to take new ventures; initiative; business organization; plan (that is difficult or daring); Ex. their latest enterprise to sail round the world in a small boat
enthrall  capture; enslave; captivate; hold the complete attention of (as if magic); hold spellbound
entice  lure; persuade to do (something wrong); attract; tempt
mischief  behavior (of children) causing trouble with no serious harm; damage; harm; Ex. mischief to the crops; ADJ. mischievous: causing mischief; playfully troublesome
entity  real being
entomology  study of insects
entrance  put under a spell (condition caused by magical power); carry away (fill with strong feeling) with emotion; put into a trance; fill with delight
trance  hypnotic state; ecstatic state; detachment from one’s physical surrounding (as in contemplation or day-dreaming); CF. transition
hypnosis  induced sleeping state; ADJ. hypnotic; V. hypnotize
entreat  plead; ask earnestly
entrenee(entrée)  entrance; a way in; right to enter; main dish of a meal; Ex. entree into the exclusive circle
entrepreneur  businessperson (who assumes the risk of a business venture); contractor; ADJ. entrepreneurial
enumerate  list; mention one by one
enunciate announce; proclaim; utter or speak, especially distinctly; pronounce clearly; articulate; Ex. This theory was first enunciated by him.
	environ enclose; surround; N. environs: surrounding area (as of a city)

eon(aeon) long period of time; an age; longest division of geologic time containing two or more eras

epaulet(epaulette) ornament worn on the shoulder (of a uniform, etc.)

fringe decorative edge of hanging threads; edge

ephemeral short-lived; fleeting

fleeting fast; rapid; N. ADJ. fleeting: passing quickly; ephemeral

epic long heroic poem, novel, or similar work of art (celebrating the feats of a hero); ADJ: (of stories or events) resembling an epic; grand

epicure connoisseur of food and drink; gourmet; ADJ. epicurean; CF. Epicurus

epitaph inscription in memory of a dead person (as on a tombstone)

epithet word or phrase characteristically used to describe a person or thing; descriptive phrase to characterize a person (often contemptuous)

epitome perfect example or embodiment; brief summary; Ex. epitome of good manners; V. epitomize: make an epitome of; be an epitome of; embody

episode (of a story or play) loosely connected; made up of separate and loosely connected parts; N. episode: incident in the course of an experience

epistemologist philosopher who studies the nature of knowledge; N. epistemology

epitaph inscription in memory of a dead person (as on a tombstone)

equivalent use equivocal language to deceive people; lie; mislead; attempt to conceal the truth; N. equivocation

erode eat away; wear away gradually by abrasion; Ex. The sea erodes the rocks.

erotic pertaining to passionate love or sexual love

errant wandering (esp. in search of adventure); straying from proper moral standards; Ex. knight-errant

ergic odd; irregular in movement or behavior; unpredictable

erroneous mistaken; wrong; incorrect

erudite (of a person or book) learned; full of learning; scholarly; N. erudition

scholarly full of learning; erudite; like a scholar; Ex. scholarly journal

escape prank; flighty conduct; reckless adventure that disobeys rules

prank mischievous trick

flighty (esp. of a woman's behavior) capricious; often changing, esp. from one lover to another; impulsive

eschew avoid habitually; Ex. eschew alcoholic drinks

esoteric hard to understand; known only to the chosen few, esp. initiates; N. esoterica

espionage spying

espouse adopt; support (an idea or aim); marry; N. espousal

esteem respect; value; judge; N.

estimable (of a person) worthy of esteem; admirable; deserving esteem; possible to estimate

inestimable impossible to estimate; (apprec) invaluable; of immeasurable worth

estranged separated; alienated; V. strange: alienate (people in a family); N. estrangement

ethereal like a spirit or fairy; unearthly light; heavenly; unusually refined; Ex. She has an ethereal beauty; CF. ether: upper air

airy of air; high in the air; lofty; immaterial; unreal

ethnic relating to races

ethnology study of humankind; study of the different races of human beings; CF. anthropology

ethos underlying character of a culture, group, etc.; character or ideas peculiar to a specific person, group, or culture; Ex. the company ethos

etymology study of word parts; study of the origins of words

eugenic pertaining to the improvement of race; N. eugenics: study of hereditary improvement of the human race

eulogistic praising; full of eulogy

eulogy expression of praise, often on the occasion of someone's death; V. eulogize
- **euphemism** mild expression in place of an unpleasant one; **ADJ. euphemistic**
- **euphony** sweet sound; **ADJ. euphonious**
- ✷ **euphoria** feeling of exaggerated or un-founded (ungrounded; baseless) well-being; feeling of great happiness or well-being (when unreasonable); **ADJ. euphoriaric**
- □ **euthanasia** mercy killing
- □ **evanescent** fleeting; vanishing; soon disappearing; **V. evanesce**
- ✷ **evasive** not frank; trying to hide the truth; eluding; evading; **V. evade**; avoid (a duty or responsibility) or escape from by deceit
- □ **evince** show clearly
- ✷ **evenhanded** impartial; fair
- □ **evocative** tending to call up (emotions, memories)
- □ **evoke** call forth (memory or feeling); **Ex.** That old film evoked memories of my childhood; **N.** evocation
- ✷ **ewe** female sheep
- ✩ ram male sheep; **V.** strike or drive against with a heavy impact
- □ **exacerbate** worsen; aggravate; embitter
- ✩ **embitter** make bitter; fill with painful or bitter feelings; make sad and angry; **Ex.** He was embittered by many disappointments.
- □ **exacting** extremely demanding; **Ex.** exacting standard of safety
- ✩ **exact** demand and obtain by force; **Ex.** exact a promise from him; **N.** exaction
- □ **exalt** raise in rank or dignity; praise highly; inspire; **Ex.** exalt the imagination; **ADJ.** exalted; **N.** exaltation
- ✷ **exasperate** vex; annoy or make angry (by testing the patience)
- ✷ **exceptional** objectionable; likely to cause dislike; offensive; **CF.** unexceptionable: entirely acceptable
- ✩ **except** exclude; **N.** exception: objection; exclusion; **ADJ.** exceptional: unusual; of unusually high quality
- □ **excerpt** selected passage (written or musical) taken from a longer work; **V.**
- □ **exchequer** treasury; **Ex.** Chancellor of the exchequer
- ✩ chancellor legal official of high rank; **CF.** chancellery(chancellorship): position of a chancellor
- ✩ **treasure** keep as precious; cherish
- □ **excise** cut away; cut out; **N.** government tax on good produced and used inside a country; **N.** excision
- □ **exclaim** cry out suddenly; **N.** exclamation; **ADJ.** exclamatory
- ✷ **excoriate** scold with biting harshness; censure strongly; strip the skin off
- □ **exculpate** clear from blame or guilt
- ✷ **execrable** very bad; detestable
- □ **execrate** curse; express abhorrence for; detest
- □ **execute** put into effect; carry out; kill as a lawful punishment; **N.** execution
- ✩ **executor** person designated to execute the terms of a will; 예술 작품의 제작자
- ✩ **executioner** person administering capital punishment
- ✩ **executive** person having administrative authority; one branch of government executing laws; **ADJ.** relating to executing
- ✩ **legislature** legislating branch of government; **CF.** legislate: make laws
- ✩ **judiciary** judicial branch of government
- ✷ **exegesis** explanation, especially of biblical(of the bible) passages
- □ **exemplary** serving as a model; outstanding; **Ex.** exemplary punishment.behavior; **N.** exemplar: typical example; model
- □ **exemplify** show by example; furnish an example; serve as an example of; **Ex.** His pictures exemplify that sort of painting.
- □ **exempt** not subject to a duty or obligation; free from a duty; **V.**
- □ **exertion** effort; expenditure of much physical work; **V.** exert oneself: make a great effort
- ✩ **exhale** breathe out; **OP.** inhale
- □ **exhilarating** invigorating and refreshing; cheering; **V.** exhilarate: make cheerful and excited; **Ex.** exhilarated by the ride in the sports car
- ✷ **exhort** urge (by strong argument or advice); **Ex.** The general exhorted his men to fight bravely; **N.** exhortation
- ✩ **urge** drive or force forward (by causing impulses); drive to take action; impel; entreat earnestly; **Ex.** urge horses; **N.** impulse that prompts action
- ✩ **urgent** compelling immediate action; pressing; persistent; importunate; **Ex.** urgent in his demands
- □ **exhume** dig out of the ground; remove from a grave
- ✩ **coroner** public official who investigates any death thought to be of other than natural causes
- □ **exigency** urgent situation; **ADJ.** exigent
- □ **exiguous** small in amount; minute
- ✷ **existential** pertaining to existence; pertaining to the philosophy of existentialism
- □ **exodus** departure (of a large number of people)
- □ **exonerate** acquit; exculpate; free from blame or guilt
- □ **exorbitant** (of costs or demands) excessive; exceeding reasonable bounds
- □ **exorcise** drive out evil spirits
- □ **exotic** not native; from another part of the world; strange; intriguingly unusual; **Ex.** exotic flower/dress
- ✩ **intrigue** make secret plans; plot; arouse the curiosity of; **N.** secret scheme; plot; secret love affair
- ✷ **expansive** (of a person) outgoing and sociable; broad and extensive; able to increase in size
expedite talk at length; speak or write in detail
expatiate exile; someone who has withdrawn from his native land; V: exile; banish; leave one's country
expedient suitable (for a particular purpose although not necessarily morally correct); practical; politic (prudent); N: something expedient
expedite hasten; make go faster
expeditious done with speed; quick; N. expedition
expedition payment or expense; expending; something expended; output; Ex. receipt for the expenditure; Ex. expenditure of all the energy
expertise specialized knowledge (in a particular field); expert skill
expiate make amends for (a sin)
expletive meaningless word; interjection; profane oath; swear-word
interjection exclamation; Ex. “Ouch”
swear vow; promise; use profane oaths; use offensive words
swear-word word considered offensive; Ex. “bloody”
oath solemn promise; blasphemous use of sacred words to express strong feelings; swear-word; Ex. “For Christ's sake”
explicate explain in detail; interpret; clarify; CF: explicable
explicit totally clear; definite; outspoken
exploit brave and successful act; deed or action, particularly a brave deed; CF: crossing the Atlantic ocean
exploit make use of, sometimes unjustly; N. exploitation
expository explanatory; serving to explain; N: exposition: explaining; exhibition
expostulation protest; remonstrance; reasoning with someone to correct or dissuade; V: expostulate
exposure risk, particularly of being exposed to disease or to the elements; unmasking; act of laying something open; Ex. exposure of governmental corruption
expound explain
expvaluate take possession of (often for public use and without payment)
expunge cancel; remove a word or name (from a book or list); erase
expurgate clean; remove offensive parts of a book
extant (of something written or painted) still in existence
extemporaneous not planned; impromptu; extempore
extenuate weaken; mitigate; lessen the seriousness of (bad behavior)
extirpate root up; uproot; destroy completely
extol praise very highly; glorify
extend send; extend; stretch; stretch out; strecth forth; N. exudation
extradition surrender of prisoner by one state to another; Ex. extradition treaty; V: extradite
extraneous not essential; irrelevant; superfluous; external; coming from the outside; Ex. extraneous details/noise/to the subject
extrapolation projection; conjecture; V: extrapolate: infer (unknown information) from known information
extricate free from an entanglement or difficulty; disentangle
inextricable from which it is impossible to get free; that cannot be untied; Ex. inextricable troubles; Ex. inextricable two histories
extrinsic external; not essential or inherent; extraneous; OP: intrinsic
extrovert person interested mostly in external objects and actions
mingle mix together in close association
extrude force or push out; thrust out; shape (plastic or metal) by forcing through a die
exuberance overflowing abundance; joyful enthusiasm; flamboyance; lavishly; ADJ: exuberant: high-spirited and lively; growing abundantly and strongly
Glow shine brightly without a flame (as of eyes or metals); show redness and heat (in the face) after hard work or because of strong feelings; N: light produced by a heated body; brilliance of a color
exude flow out slowly; discharge (gradually); give forth; N. exudation
ooze (of a thick liquid) pass or flow slowly; N: mud or thick liquid as at the bottom of a river
exult rejoice
facade front or face (of building); superficial or false appearance
facet small plane surface (of a gem [precious stone]); a side
facetious joking (often inappropriately); unserious; humorous
facile easily accomplished; ready or fluent; superficial; not deep; Ex. facile solution to a complex problem; Ex. facile speaker; N: facility: ability to do something easily and well; ease in doing resulting from skill or aptitude; something that facilitates an action; amenity; Ex. with great facility
facilitate help bring about; make less difficult
facsimile copy
faction party; clique (within a large group); dissension
dissension disagreement of opinions causing strife within a group
factious inclined to form factions; causing dissension
factitious artificial; produced artificially; sham; false; Ex. factitious tears
factotum handyman; person who does all kinds of work; CF. do everything
faculty mental or bodily powers; teaching staff

fallacious false; based on a fallacy; misleading; N. fallacy: false idea or notion; false reasoning; Ex. popular fallacy; Ex. fallacy of the argument
fallible liable to err
falsify make (something written) false by changing
fallow (of land) plowed but not sowed (to improve the quality); uncultivated
sow plant or scatter seed
falter hesitate; weaken in purpose or action; walk or move unsteadily through weakness; N.
stumble trip and almost fall; proceed unsteadily; act falteringly; N.
fanaticism excessive zeal; extreme devotion to a belief or cause; N. fanatic; ADJ. fanatic
fancied imagined; unreal
fancier breeder or dealer of animals; one who has a special interest, as for raising specific plant or animal
fanciful whimsical; visionary; imaginary; produced by imagination; Ex. fanciful scheme
fancy imagination (of a whimsical or fantastic nature); capricious liking; V: imagine; be fond of; ADJ. decorative; elaborate
fanfare call by bugles or trumpets; showy display; spectacular public display
farce broad comedy; mockery; humorous play full of silly things happening; ADJ. farcical
fastidious difficult to please; squeamish; fussy; finicky
fermentation chemical reaction that splits complex organic compounds; unrest; agitation
ferret drive or hunt out of hiding; hunt with ferrets; drive out (as from a hiding place); expel; uncover or discover by searching; Ex. ferret out the secret; N. small fierce animal which catches rats and rabbits by going into their holes
fervor glowing ardor; intensity of feeling; quality of being fervent or fervid; zeal; intense heat
fervid ardent; zealous; hot
fervent ardent; zealous; hot
fated (of speech) filled with passion; fervent
fetid fetid:
febrile feverish
fecundity fertility; fruitfulness; ADJ. fecund: very productive of crops or young
fertile producing many young, fruits, or seeds; (of land) producing good crops; V. fertilize
fruitful producing results; profitable; prolific; producing in abundance
fetish pretense
feint trick; shift; sham blow; feigned attack to draw away defensive action; V.
shift change position or place; exchange (one thing) for another; change in direction or position; Ex. shift the stolen goods; N. group of workers which takes turns with other groups; working period of such a group
felicitous (of a word or remark) apt; suitably expressed; well chosen
felicity happiness; appropriateness (of a remark, choice, etc.); quality of being felicitous
feline of a member of the cat family; N.
fell cruel; (of a disease) deadly
fell cut or knock down (a tree or a person); bring down (with a missile)
felon person convicted of a grave crime; CF. felony: serious crime
feral (of an animal) not domestic; wild
ferment agitation; commotion (noisy and excited activity); unrest (of a political kind); V. produce by fermentation; undergo fermentation; cause (a state of trouble)
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federate ardent; zealous; hot
fervid ardent; zealous; hot
impassioned (of speech) filled with passion; fervent
fervor glowing ardor; intensity of feeling; quality of being fervent or fervid; zeal; intense heat
fester rankle; produce irritation or resentment; (of a cut or wound) generate pus or rot; Ex. His insult festered in my mind for days.
festive joyous; celebratory; relating to a feast or festival
fete (fête) honor at a festival; celebrate or honor with a feast; N. (outdoor) festival or feast; CF. feast
fetid (foetid) malodorous; foul
foul very bad or disagreeable; very dirty; Ex. foul smell/flavor/temper/language/air/deed/weather/means; N. act against the rules; V. make or become foul; commit a foul
feasible practical; able to be carried out; practicable
feasible practical; able to be carried out; practicable
feral (of an animal) not domestic; wild
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fetish (fetich)  object believed to have spiritual powers; object of excessive attention or reverence; CF. fetishism

fetter  shackles; restrict the freedom of; N. chain or shackles for the foot of a prisoner; CF. foot

fiasco  total failure; CF. bottle

flat  command; arbitrary order; Ex. presidential fiat; CF. let it be done

fickle  changeable (in affections or friendship); faithless

fictitious  imaginary; non-existent; purposely invented to deceive; untrue; Ex. fictitious name/boyfriend; CF. fictional

deligity  loyalty; accuracy

figment  invention; something invented; imaginary thing; Ex. figment of your imagination

figurative  not literal but metaphorical; using a figure (impression) of speech

figure  written symbols; number; amount represented in numbers; outline or silhouette of a thing or human body; person (well-known); impression; diagram; pattern; group in a dance; Ex. figure of speech; V. calculate with numbers; adorn with figures; appear; consider; Ex. My name did not figure in the list.

figurine  small ornamental statuette (very small statue)

filch  steal (things of small value)

fils  steal things of small value; filch; snatch

filial  pertaining to or befitting a son or daughter; Ex. filial respect

filibuster  block legislation or prevent action in a law-making body by making very slow long speeches; N; freebooter

freebooter  pirate or plunderer who makes war in order to grow rich

bust  piece of sculpture showing a person’s head, shoulders, and upper chest; V: break up; arrest; Ex. crime-buster

filigree  delicate ornamental lacelike metalwork

lace  cord used to draw and tie together two opposite edges (as of a shoe); delicate fabric made of fine threads; V: draw together by tying a lace

filing  particle removed by a file

finale  conclusion; concluding part

finesse  delicate skill; V: handle with finesse

finicky  too particular; fussy; difficult to please; too concerned with unimportant details or quality; Ex. finicky about her food

fastidious  fastidious; finicky; easily upset

fuss:  trouble or worry over trifles; make nervous; pay too much attention to; N: needless concern or worry (about a trivial thing); anxious nervous condition; display of attention; Ex. make a fuss over the baby

finite  limited

firebrand  piece of burning wood; hothead; troublemaker; person who stirs up trouble

hothead  person who does things too quickly without thinking; ADJ. hotheaded

fissure  crevice; crack

fitful  spasmodic; intermittent; irregular

fit  sudden outburst of an illness or feeling; convulsion caused by epilepsy

flaccid  flabby; lacking firmness; weak; Ex. flaccid muscles

flagrant  conspicuously wicked, bad, or offensive; blatant; outrageous

flag  droop; grow feeble; decline in vigor or strength; ADJ. flagging; CF. unflagging

drop  bend or hang downward; become weakened; Ex. His shoulders drooped with tiredness; N.

flagrant  conspicuously wicked, bad, or offensive; blatant; outrageous

flounder  act of extreme violence or viciousness; resentful anger; V: commit an outrage on; produce anger in; ADJ. outrageous; offensive

flail  beat with or as if with a flail; move wildly; thresh grain by hand; strike or slap; toss about; N: threshing tool consisting of a stick swinging from the end of a long handle

thresh  beat (cereal plants) with a machine or flail to separate the grains from the straw

toss  throw lightly; move or lift (the head) with a sudden motion; flip (a coin) to decide something

flair  talent

flamboyant  ornate; highly elaborate; richly colored; ostentatious; showy; CF. flame

flaunt  display ostentatiously; Ex. “Honey, if you’ve got it, flaunt it!”

flag  droop; grow feeble; decline in vigor or strength; ADJ. flagging; CF. unflagging

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flow  strip off skin; plunder; remove the skin from; criticize harshly

fleck  spot; mark with flecks; N: small mark or spot

fledgling (fledgeling)  inexperienced; N: young bird that has acquired wing feathers and is learning to fly; inexperienced person

fleece  wool coat of a sheep; V: shear the fleece from; rob by a trick; swindle; plunder

shear  remove (fleece or hair) by cutting; remove the hair or fleece from; cut with or as if with shears; N: shears; pair of scissors

trickster  person who cheats people

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flick  light stroke as with a whip; V: move with a light quick blow; strike with a light quick blow (as from a whip); Ex. flick the switch

flicker  burn unsteadily or fitfully; move waveringly; N: flickering movement or light; brief sensation; Ex. flicker of excitement

flutter  (of a bird with large wings) wave (the wings) lightly, rapidly, and irregularly; vibrate rapidly or erratically; fly by waving quickly; flitter; N.

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♥

flush
♠ blush
♥

♥

florescence
flora
□

♠

floe
flit
flip
♥

♠

flippant
flowery
♥

tint
tinge

♠

flotsam
flourish
□

♥

thrash
flounder
♠

♥

curb
flout

groove
♥

nuptial
forestall
foresight
♥

forerunner
prefigure
foreshadow
forum
forensic
♥

foolishly
foppish
doing what is coming
venture; portend; prefigure

foible
foment
foliage
foil
foible
fodder
flux
′′

stammer
speak with involuntarily pauses or repetitions

△

flippant lacking proper seriousness; Ex. flippant remarks about death; N. flippancy

♥

flip send (something) spinning, often into the air, by striking with a light quick blow; turn over; Ex. flip over

△

flii fly; fly or move lightly or quickly; dart lightly; pass swiftly by; Ex. a bee flitting from flower to flower

△

floe flat mass of floating ice

□ flora plants of a region or era

♥ florescence condition or period of flowering

△

florid ruddy; (of a complexion) reddish; flowery; very ornate; CF. rose

♥

flush redden; blush; flow suddenly and abundantly; wash out by a rapid brief flow of water; N: reddish tinge; blush; brief rush; rush of strong feeling; Ex. flush of pride; ADJ: having surfaces in the same plane; even; blushing

♥

blush become red in the face (from embarrassment or shame); become red or rosy; N.

♥

tinge give a slight degree of a color or quality to; N: slight degree of a color or quality; Ex. tinged with grey/jealousy

♥

tint slight degree of color; V: give a tint to

△

flowery full of flowers; full of ornate expressions

△

flotsam drifting wreckage

♥

jetsam things thrown from a ship (to lighten the ship)

△

flounder struggle and thrash about; proceed clumsily or falter (as in water, mud, snow, etc.); proceed in confusion

♥

thrash beat with a whip or flail; defeat utterly; talk about thoroughly in order to find the answer; move wildly or violently; Ex. The fishes thrashed about in the net.

□

flourish grow well; prosper; make sweeping gestures; wave; brandish; Ex. The trees flourished in the sun. N: showy movement or gesture; embellishment or ornamentation (esp. in handwriting)

△

flout reject; mock; show contempt for; scorn; Ex. flout the rules

♥

curb chain or strap used with a bit to restrain a horse; something that checks; V: check; restrain

□

fluctuate waver; shift; rise and fall as if in waves; change or vary irregularly

□

fluency smoothness of speech; ADJ. fluent

△

fluke unlikely occurrence; stroke of fortune; accidental stroke of good luck; ADJ. fluky

△

fluster confuse; make nervous and confused; N.

△

fluted having vertical parallel grooves (as in a pillar); V. flute: make long parallel inward curves in; N. flute: long rounded groove incised on the shaft of a column

♥

groove long narrow channel made in a surface to guide the movement of something; Ex. groove of the record

△

stammer speak with involuntarily pauses or repetitions

△

flux flowing; series of changes; fluctuation; Ex. in a state of flux

△

fodder coarse food for cattle, horses, etc.; feed for livestock; CF. food

△

foible small weakness of character; slight fault; CF. feeble

△

foil contrast; one that by contrast enhances the distinctive characteristics of another

△

foil defeat; frustrate; prevent from being successful; thwart; CF. fail

△

foist insert improperly; impose upon another by coercion; palm off; pass off as genuine or worthy; CF. fist

△

palm conceal in the palm of the hand; palm off; pass off; Ex. palm off some bad oranges onto the lady/the painting as a real Renoir

△

pass off present falsely; represent falsely to be

△

foliage masses of leaves; CF. defoliate

△

foment stir up; incite; instigate; promote the growth of (something evil or unpleasant)

△

foolhardy rash; reckless; foolishly daring

△

foppish vain about dress and appearance; N. fop: man who takes too much interest in his clothes and appearance

△

foray raid; sudden raid or military advance; V.

△

forbearance patience; forgiveness; V. forbear: refrain from (in a generous and forgiving way); be patient; Ex. forbear to send him to prison

△

ford place where a river can be crossed on foot; V.

△

forebears ancestors

□

foreboding premonition of evil; feeling of coming evil; V. forebode: be a warning of (something unpleasant)

△

forensic suitable to debate or courts of law; of or used in legal proceedings and the tracking of criminals; Ex. forensic science/medicine

△

forum public square of an ancient Roman city; public place for open discussion; court of law

□

foreshadow give an indication beforehand; be a sign of (what is coming); portend; prefigure

△

prefigure be a sign of; foreshadow

△

forerunner predecessor; one that comes before and indicates the approach of another

□

foresight ability to foresee future happenings; prudence in providing for the future

□

forestall prevent by taking action in advance

△

nuptial of marriage or the wedding ceremony; N; nuptials; wedding ceremony

△

forfeit something surrendered as punishment for a crime or breach of contract; V: lose as a forfeit; N. forfeiture
forge counterfeit; reproduce fraudulently; form by heating in a forge and hammering into shape; move with a sudden increase of speed or power; Ex. forged ahead in the last two years; N: furnace where metals are heated

forswear renounce under oath; abandon; make a solemn promise to give up; CF. abjure

forsake desert; abandon; renounce

forked forked (forego) give up; do without

formality ceremonious quality; ceremonious adherence to rules; something done just for form’s sake; Ex. mere formality

franchise right or privilege granted by authority; right to vote; license to sell a product in a particular territory

frantic wild; distraught as from fear or worry; Ex. frantic with fear

fraudulent cheating; deceitful; Ex. fraudulent means; N: fraud: deception; swindle

fraught filled (with something unpleasant); full; Ex. fraught with danger and difficulties; CF. freight

fray brawl; fight; V: wear away or unravel by rubbing; have loose threads developing; cause to become worn out (a person’s temper or nerves); CF. rub

frenetic (phrenetic) frenzied; frantic

frenzied madly excited; N. frenzy: violent wild excitement

fresco painting on wet plaster (usually fresh)

paste smooth viscous mixture of flour (powder made by crushing grain) and water (used as an adhesive); V: cause to adhere by applying paste

pastry paste of flour and water (eaten when baked)

plaster paste that hardens to a smooth solid and is used for coating walls; V.

fret be annoyed or vexed; Ex. fret over your poor grades; N: irritation of mind; ADJ. fretful

friction clash or conflict in opinion; rubbing against

frieze ornamental horizontal band on a wall

frigid intensely cold; cold in manner; Ex. frigid zone

fritter waste (time or money on unimportant things)

frivolous lacking in seriousness; flippant; self-indulgently carefree; unworthy of serious attention; relatively unimportant; trivial

self-indulgence excessive indulgence of one’s own desire

carefree free from worries; having no problems

frolicsome prankish; gay; playful; merry; frisky

frolic play and jump about happily; frisk; Ex. frolicking young lambs

frond leaves of fern (large, narrow, hard, palmate)

frugal thrift; economy; ADJ. frugal: practicing economy; costing little; inexpensive

frugality thrift; economy; ADJ. frugal: practicing economy; costing little; inexpensive

fumble move the fingers and hands awkwardly (in play; bungle; botch; spoil by mishandling; N. mishandled ball)

fulsome done slyly and secretly (being dishonest)

fulminate thunder; explode; issue a severe denunciation

fumes也许 disgustingly excessive; offensively flattering; Ex. fulsome praise/expressions of admire

functional made for practical use only (without decoration); functioning; Ex. functional modern furniture; CF. functionalism

fundamental basic; primary; essential

funereal sad; solemn; suitable for a funeral

fury frenzied; great anger and excitement; CF. furor

furtive stealthy; quiet and secret (trying to escape notice); sneaky; Ex. furtive glance

sneak move, give, or take in a quiet, stealthy way; N: one who sneaks; ADJ. sneaky

underhand (underhanded) done slyly and secretly (being dishonest)
sly  clever in deceiving; secretive; not telling one’s intentions

fusillade  simultaneous firing or outburst (of missiles, questions, etc.)

fusion  union; coalition; V. fuse

futile  useless; hopeless; ineffectual

fusillade  union; coalition; V. fuse

gadfly  animal-biting fly; irritating person

gaffe  social blunder

21

gainsay  deny

gait  manner of walking or running; speed

galley  low ship with sails (rowed along by slaves)

gall  bitter of feeling; nerve; effrontery; N: skin sore caused by rubbing (as on the skin of a horse); exasperation

galleon  large three-masted sailing ship

galley  low ship with sails (rowed along by slaves)

gallop  romp; skip about; leap about playfully; frolic; N.

gambit  opening in chess in which a piece is sacrificed; action made to produce a future advantage

gambol  romp; skip about; leap about playfully; frolic; N.

gawk  stare foolishly; look in open-mouthed awe

21

gastronomy  art and science of preparing and serving good food; CF. gastronome

gauge  hammerlike tool; mallet(wooden hammer) used by a presiding officer or an auctioneer; V.

flashy  showy; gaudy; giving a momentary brilliance

gild  cover with a thin layer of gold

gaudy  flashy; showy

garish  overbright in color; unpleasantly bright; gaudy

garbled  mixed up; jumbled; distorted; V. garble: mix up or distort (a message) to such an extent as to make misleading or unintelligible

gargantuan  huge; enormous; gigantic; CF. the hero of Gargantua and Pantagruel
germ  earliest form of an organism; seed or bud; something that may develop into something larger or more important; microbe

germinal  pertaining to a germ; creative; Ex. germinal idea

germ  earliest form of an organism; seed or bud; something that may develop into something larger or more important; microbe

germinate  cause to sprout; sprout

sprout  begin to grow; give off shoots or buds; N: new growth on a plant; shoot

shoot  new growth from a plant

germontocracy  government ruled by old people

gerontology  study of the sociological phenomena associated with old age

geriatrics  medical treatment and care of old age

gerrymander  change voting district lines in order to favor a political party; N. CF. Elbridge Gerry + (sala)mander

gestation  evolve as in prenatal growth; N. gestation: period of development from conception until birth

natal  connected with birth; CF. prenatal; CF. postnatal

gesticulation  motion; gesture; V. gesticulate: make gestures (while speaking)

ghastly  horrible; terrifying; resembling ghosts; CF. aghast

gibberish  nonsense; nonsensical or unintelligible talk or writing; babbling

gibe  mock; make jeering remarks; N: jeering remarks

giddy  light-hearted; not serious; frivolous; dizzy; causing dizziness; Ex. giddy youth; Ex. giddy climb/height

gingerly  very carefully; ADJ.

girth  distance around something; circumference

gist  essence; main point; substance

glacial  like a glacier; of an ice age; extremely cold; Ex. glacial epoch; CF. iceberg

blazing  (of something bad) highly conspicuous; harshly bright; shining intensely and blindingly

blare  shine intensely and blindingly; stare fixedly and angrily; N.

glaze  cover with a thin and shiny surface; apply a glaze to; N: thin, smooth, shiny coating (as for pottery); Ex. unglazed pottery

glean  gather leavings; gather grain left behind by reapers; gather bit by bit (facts or information) often with difficulty

glib  fluent (with insincerity or superficiality); facile; slick

glimmer  shine erratically; twinkle; N: dim or unsteady light; faint indication; Ex. glimmer of hope

glitter  shine brightly with flashing points of light; Ex. glittering diamond ring; N: sparkling light; attractiveness; glamorous; Ex. glitter of the sun on the waves

glamor  compelling charm; ADJ. glamorous

gloat  express evil satisfaction; look at or think about with evil satisfaction; view malevolently; Ex. The thief gloated over the stolen jewels.

gloss over  explain away with the intention of deceiving or hiding faults

gloss  brief explanation note or translation of a difficult expression; V.

glossary  brief explanation of words used in the text

glossy  smooth and shining; N. gloss: shiny brightness on a surface; superficially attractive appearance; Ex. gloss of good manners

mat  not shiny; matte; having a dull finish; N: flat piece of material used as a floor covering; V.

finish  surface texture; completeness of execution

finished  properly made and complete; Ex. finished product/performance

glomer  scowl; glare; look or stare angrily

scowl  frown angrily; N: angry frown

glut  overstock; fill beyond capacity (with food); fill to excess; N: oversupply

gluttonous  someone who eats too much; ADJ. gluttonous: given to gluttony; greedy; CF. gluttony: habit of eating too much

gnarled  twisted

gnarly  protruding knot on a tree; V.

gnome  dwarf; underground spirit who guards treasure hoards

goad  urge on; drive with a goad; cause (someone) to do something by continued annoyance; Ex. They goaded him into doing it by saying he was a coward; N: sharpened double-pronged stick for driving cattle; stimulus; CF. annoy continually

gorge  narrow canyon; steep rocky cleft; ravine (made by a stream which runs through it)

gorged  stuff oneself with (food); glut; CF. gorged: dazzlingly beautiful

gory  bloody; N: gore: blood (from a wound)

shudder  shake uncontrollably; tremble; V.

gossamer  sheer; very light; like cobwebs; N: soft and sheer fabric; cobweb

sheer  pure; thin and transparent; very steep
♠ gourmet tear out; cut out (as if with a gouge); Ex. gouge his eyes out; N: chisel for cutting out hollow areas in wood
♠ gouge overcharge; (with high price); extort from; Ex. gouge the public; CF. usury
♠ gourmand epicure; person who takes excessive pleasure in food and drink
♠ gourmet connoisseur of food and drink; epicure
☐ graduated arranged by degrees (of height, difficulty, etc.)
♥ graduate arrange into categories or grades; divide into marked intervals (for use in measurement); Ex. graduated ruler
♠ granary storehouse for grain
☐ grandeur impressiveness; stateliness; majesty
♥ stately formal; ceremonious; grand in style or size; majestie
☐ grandiloquent (of a person or speech) using high-sounding or important-sounding language; pompous; bombastic
☐ grandiose affectedly grand; pretentious; high-flown; ridiculously exaggerated; impressive; great in size or scope; grand; Ex. grandiose ideas
♥ high-flown highly pretentious or inflated
♥ matinée(matinee) dramatic or musical performance given in the afternoon
♠ granulate form into grains or granules; N: granule: grain or particle
☐ graphic pertaining to the art of delineating; vividly described
♥ vivid (of light or color) bright and distinct; evoking lifelike mental images; Ex. vivid red hair/description
♥ graphite black form of carbon used in lead pencils
♠ grapple wrestle; come to grips with; take hold of and struggle with; Ex. grapple with the burglar
♠ grate make a harsh noise; have an unpleasant effect; shred by rubbing against a rough surface; Ex. grated cheese N: framework of metal bars to hold fuel in a fireplace
☐ gratify please; satisfy; Ex. gratify a desire
♠ gratis free; without charge; ADJ.
☐ gratuitous given freely; unwarranted; uncalled for; done without good reason; Ex. gratuitous comment
☐ gratuity tip
☐ gravity seriousness; ADJ. grave
☐ gregarious sociable; (of an animal) tending to form a group
☐ grievance cause of complaint; complaint
♠ grill question severely; cook on a grill; broil; N: cooking surface of parallel metal bars
♥ broil cook by direct heat; N.
♥ grim causing great fear; unrelenting; determined in spite of fear; Ex. grim smile
♠ grimace facial distortion to show feeling such as pain, disgust, etc; V.
♠ grisly ghastly; horrifying; Ex. grisly remains of the bodies
♥ groom man employed to take care of horses; V: make neat and trim; clean and brush (an animal)
☐ grotesque fantastic; comically hideous; strange and unnatural (causing fear or amusement)
♥ hideous repulsive to the sight; ugly; repugnant; Ex. hideous face/scream
♠ grotto small cavern
♠ grouse complain; fuss; grumble; grouch; N: plump chicken-like game bird
♥ grumble complain; mutter discontentedly; grouch; N.
♥ mutter utter (complaining words) indistinctly in low tones
♥ rumble make or move with a deep rolling sound (as thunder or stomach)
♠ grovel crawl or creep on ground; remain prostrate; behave in a servile manner
☐ grudging unwilling; reluctant; stingy(giving reluctantly)
♠ gruel thin liquid porridge
♥ porridge soft food made by boiling oatmeal
♥ oatmeal crushed oats used for making porridge
♠ grueling exhausting; Ex. grueling marathon race
♠ gruesome grisly; horrible
♠ gruff rough-mannered; (of a voice) rough; hoarse
♥ grunt utter a deep guttural sound (as a pig does); N.
♠ guffaw boisterous laughter; V.
☐ guile deceit; duplicity; wiliness; cunning; Ex. persuade her by guile
♥ cunning clever in deceiving; sly; N: cleverness in deceiving; deceit
☐ guileless without deceit
☐ guise outward appearance; costume; Ex. in a new guise
♠ gull trick; deceive; hoodwink; N: person who is easily tricked; dupe
☐ gullible easily deceived
♠ gustatory affecting or relating to the sense of taste
♠ gusto eager enjoyment; zest; enthusiasm
☐ gusty windy
♥ gust strong abrupt rush of wind; V. CF. bluster
♠ guy cable or chain attached to something that needs to be braced or steadied; CF. guide
♥ topple become unsteady and fall down
♥ overturn topple; N.
♥ overturn turn over; capsize; topple
♥ capsiz (of a boat) turn over
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gyroscope apparatus used to maintain balance, ascertain direction, etc.

habituate accustom or familiarize; addict

hackles hairs on back and neck, especially of a dog; Ex. make someone’s hackles rise

growl low, guttural, menacing sound (as of a dog)

hackneyed commonplace; trite

haggard wasted away; gaunt; Ex. haggard faces of the rescued miners

haggle argue about prices (in an attempt to bargain)

halcyon calm; peaceful; Ex. halcyon days

hale healthy

hail frozen rain drop; V: salute or greet; precipitate hail

hallowed blessed; consecrated; Ex. hallowed ground; V. hallow: set apart as holy

hallucination delusion; false idea; false perception of objects with a compelling sense of their reality; objects so perceived; V. hallucinate; ADJ. hallucinatory

halting hesitant; faltering; not fluent; Ex. halting steps/voice; V. halt: proceed or act with uncertainty; falter; hesitate; waver; stop

waver move or swing back and forth; be uncertain or unsteady in decision or movement; Ex. waver between accepting and refusing

hamper obstruct; prevent the free movement of; N: 식료품이나 의복 등을 닫는 바구니

hap chance; luck

haphazard random; by chance; happening in an unplanned manner; Ex. haphazard growth of the town

hapless unfortunate; luckless

harangue long, passionate, and vehement speech; V.

harass annoy by repeated attacks

harbinger forerunner (which foreshadows what is to come)

harbor give protection (by giving food and shelter); provide a refuge for; hide; keep in mind (thoughts or feelings); Ex. harbor a grudge/criminal; N: place of shelter; refuge

habitat natural home of a plant or animal; CF. habitation

hardy (of people or animals) sturdy; robust; (of plants) able to stand inclement(stormy) weather

harping tiresome dwelling on a subject; V. harp: dwell on(think or speak a lot about) tediously

harrowing agonizing; distressing; traumatic; V. harrow: break up and level (soil) with a harrow; inflict great distress on; agonize; N: farming machine to break up the earth

harry harass, annoy, torment (by repeated attacks); raid

hatch deck opening; lid covering a deck opening; V: emerge from an egg; produce (young) from an egg

latch fastening or lock consisting of a movable bar that fits into a notch; V: close with a latch

notch V-shaped cut in a surface; V.

haughtiness pride; arrogance; ADJ. haughty

haunt (of a spirit) visit (a place); come to mind continually; visit (a place) regularly; frequent; Ex. haunted house; Ex. haunted by his last words; N: place much frequented

haven place of safety; refuge; harbor; Ex. tax haven

havoc widespread damage; disorder; chaos

hazardous dangerous

hazard venture; put in danger; risk; Ex. hazard a guess; N: possible source of danger

hazy slightly obscure; misty; unclear; N. haze: light mist or smoke; confused state of mind

headlong hastily; rash; headfirst; ADV.

headfirst moving with the head leading; headlong

headstrong willful; stubborn; unyielding; determined to have one’s own way; CF. no ‘excessive’

heckler person who verbally harasses others; V. heckle: verbally harass as with gibes (by interrupting a speaker or speech)

hedonist one who believes that pleasure is the sole aim in life; CF. hedonism: practice of living one’s life purely for pleasure

heedless not noticing; disregarding

heed pay attention to; N: close attention

hegemony dominance especially of one nation over others

heinous atrocious; wicked; hatefully bad; Ex. heinous crime

gross total; fragrant; clearly wrong; (of people’s behavior) coarse; corrupt; Ex. gross insolence/behavior; V: earn as a total amount; N: 12 dozens

helm steering wheel of a ship; position of control

herbivorous grain-eating; CF. herbivore

heresy opinion contrary to popular belief; opinion contrary to accepted religion; ADJ. heretical; CF. heretic

hermetic sealed by fusion so as to be airtight; airtight

hermetic concerning alchemy or magic; obscure and mysterious; occult

sterile incapable of producing young; free from microorganism; V. sterilize

hermitage home of a hermit

herpetologist one who studies reptiles; CF. herpetology: branch of zoology that deals with reptiles and amphibians

heterodox (of beliefs) against accepted opinion; unorthodox; unconventional

heterogeneous dissimilar; mixed; not homogeneous; consisting of dissimilar elements or plants

hew cut to pieces with ax or sword; chop; N.

heyday time of greatest success or power; prime
husband use sparingly; conserve; save; Ex. husband one’s energy; CF. house holder

husbandry frugality; thrift; economy; agriculture; farming; Ex. animal husbandry; CF. husbandman

hybrid mongrel; mixed breed; V. hybridize

donkey plant or animal (esp. a dog) of mixed breed; ADJ.

tedgery line of ancestors; ancestry; lineage; ADJ. (of an animal) descended from of a chosen family; Ex. pedigreed dog; CF. crane’s foot

hydrophobia fear of water; rables

rabies disease passed on by the bite of an infected animal (causing madness and death)

hygiene science and practice of the promotion and preservation of health; ADJ. hygienic: showing careful attention to cleanliness (to prevent disease); Ex. hygienic condition

hyperbole exaggeration; overstatement; ADJ. hyperbolic: of hyperbole; of a hyperbola

hypercritical excessively exacting; too critical (without noticing good qualities)

hypochondriac person unduly worried about his health; worrier without cause about illness; ADJ. CF. hypochondria: neurosis that one is or is becoming ill; CF. abdomen

hypocritical pretending to be virtuous; deceiving; N. hypocrisy: profession of beliefs one does not possess; CF. hypocrite

hypothetical based on assumptions or hypotheses; supposed; N. hypothesis

ichthyology study of fish; CF. ichthyo-: fish

icon (ikon) religious image; idol; image or representation

iconoclastic attacking cherished traditions; N. iconoclast: one who attacks traditional ideas; one who destroys sacred images

ideology system of ideas characteristic of a group or culture

idiom expression whose meaning as a whole differs from the meanings of its individual words; distinctive style (of expression); Ex. idiom of the modern popular music; ADJ. idiomatic

idosyncrasy individual trait usually odd in nature; behavioral peculiarity; eccentricity; attitude, behavior, or opinion peculiar to a person; anything highly individual or eccentric; ADJ. idiosyncratic

idolatry worship of idols; excessive admiration or devotion; ADJ. idolatrous

idyll (idyyl) short poem idealizing rural life; simple happy period of life (in the country); scene from such a time; Ex. idyll of two young lovers

igneous produced by fire; of fire; volcanic; (of rocks) formed from lava; Ex. igneous meteorite

ignite kindle; light; catch fire or set fire to

ignoble unworthy; not noble; dishonorable; Ex. ignoble deed

ignominy deep disgrace; shame or dishonor; ADJ. ignominious; Ex. ignominious defeat

illicit illegal

illimitable infinite; limitless

illuminate brighten; clear up or make understandable; enlighten; enable to understand; Ex. illuminating remarks

illusion misleading vision or visual image; false idea or belief; CF. delusion

illusory illusive; deceptive; not real

imbalance lack of balance or symmetry; disproportion

disproportion lack of proportion (between the parts); ADJ. disproportionate

imbecility weakness of mind; state of being an imbecile; N. imbecile: stupid person; fool

imbibe drink in

imbroglio complicated situation (as in a play); painful or complex misunderstanding (as in a play); entanglement; confused mass (as of papers); V. embroil

imbue saturate(soak thoroughly); fill; Ex. imbue someone with feelings

impartial not biased; fair; N. impartiality

impart grant a share of; make known; Ex. news to impart

impassable not able to be traveled or crossed

impasse predicament(dangerous condition) from which there is no escape; situation allowing for no further progress
impeccable faultless

impeach charge (a public official) with crime in office; raise doubts about; indict; Ex. impeach a witness’s credibility

impeccable faultless

impeccable faultless

credential evidence concerning one’s authority; written proof of a person’s position; Ex. The new ambassador presented his credentials to the court.

impecunious without money

impede hide; retard or obstruct the progress of; block

impassive without feeling; expressionless; impassible

impediment hindrance; stumbling-block; speech defect preventing clear articulation; Ex. speech impediment

impel drive or force onward; drive to take action; urge to action

impending nearing; approaching; about to happen

impenetrable not able to be pierced or entered; beyond understanding; impossible to understand; Ex. impene-

trable mystery

impatient not repentant

imperative absolutely necessary; that must be done; critically important; expressing command; Ex. It is imperative that; N: something that must be done

imperceptible unnoticeable; impossible to perceive; undetectable

imperial like an emperor; related to an empire; CF. imperialism

imperil put in danger

imperious domineering; too commanding; haughty; CF. imperial/emperor

impermeable impervious; not permitting passage through its substance; impossible to permeate

imperious insolent; rude; not pertinent; N. imperti-

nence

imperturbable unshakably calm; placid

collected composed; calm; self-possessed

impervious impenetrable; incapable of being damaged or distressed; incapable of being affected (in one’s opinions); Ex. impervious to water/criticism

impetuous violent; hasty; rash; impulsive; without careful thought; Ex. impetuous decision

impetus moving force; momentum; force of a moving body; incentive; stimulus; impulse

impiety irreverence; lack of respect for God or piety

impinge infringe; encroach; influence; touch; collide with; Ex. The effects are impinging on every aspect of our lives.

impious irreverent

implacable incapable of being pacified; impossible to appease; Ex. implacable enemy

implausible unlikely (to be true); unbelievable; Ex. implausible alibi

implement put into effect; enforce; carry out; supply with tools; Ex. implement the plan/suggestion; N: tool or instrument

implicate incriminate; involve incriminatingly; show to be involved (in a crime); Ex. implicate someone in the crime

implication something hinted at or suggested; implying; implicating

implicit understood but not stated; implied; unquestioning and complete; Ex. implicit trust

implode burst inward; CF. vacuum tube

implore beg

imply suggest a meaning not expressed; signify

impolitic not wise; not expedient; not politic

imponderable weightless; that cannot undergo precise evaluation; CF. pound

import significance; importance; meaning

significant expressing a meaning; important; Ex. significant smile; N. significance: importance; meaning; V. signify: denote; mean; signal; make known; matter; be significant

importunate urging; always demanding; trouble-

somely urgent or persistent

importune beg persistently; make repeated requests (in an annoying way)

imposture assuming a false identity; masquerade; CF. impostor

masquerade wear a mask or disguise; pretend; N: costume party or ball at which masks are worn; pretense; disguise

impotent weak; ineffective; lacking in physical strength or power

crave desire; want intensely

imprecation curse; swearword

impregnable invulnerable; impossible to capture or enter by force; Ex. impregnable fort/argument; CF. take

impregnate make pregnant; fill thoroughly; saturate

impromptu without previous preparation; off the cuff(end of a sleeve); on the spur of the moment

impropriety improperness; unsuitableness

improvident thriftless; not providing for the future

improvise compose on the spur of the moment

imprudent lacking caution; not prudent; injudicious

impudence impertinence; insolence

impugn dispute or contradict (often in an insulting way); attack as false or questionable; challenge; gainsay; CF. fight

impuissance powerlessness; feebleness

impunity freedom from punishment or harm; CF. pun-

ish

impute attribute; ascribe; charge; N. imputation
inaugurate
incandescent
inarticulate
inanimate
inane
inalienable
oversee
incantation
bewitch
chant
incapacitate
incarcerate
inception
incense
incendiary
incessant

inaudibly; by oversight; carelessly
oversee watch over and direct; supervise; N. oversight: unintentional failure to notice or do something; supervision
inalienable not to be taken away; nontransferable; Ex. inalienable rights
inane silly; senseless; Ex. inane remarks; N. inanity
inarticulate speechless; not articulate; not expressing oneself clearly
speechless unable for the moment to speak (because of strong feeling); Ex. speechless with anger
inaugurate begin formally; install in office; induct into office by a formal ceremony; N. inauguration; Adj. inaugural
incandescent strikingly bright; shining with intense heat; emitting visible light when heated; Ex. incandescent light bulb; CF. candle
incantation singing or chanting of magic spells; magical formula; (the saying of) words used in magic; CF. enchant
chant tune(melody) in which a number of words are sung on the same note; V: sing (a chant); utter (a slogan) in the manner of a chant
charm quality of pleasing; amulet; action or formula thought to have magical power; spell; V: attract; cast a spell on; bewitch
bewitch cast a spell over; captivate completely
recite repeat aloud (something learned); describe; Ex. recite his complaints; N. recitation
incantatory act of reciting publicly; detailed account; performance of music or dance (by a solo performer)
incompatible inharmonious; N. incompatibility
incapacitate disable; N. incapacity: lack of capacity
incarcerate imprison
incarnate endowed with flesh; invested with bodily form; personified; Ex. devil incarnate; V: give bodily form to; embody
incarnation act of assuming a human body and human nature; one who personifies something; personification; Ex. previous incarnation/reincarnation
personify represent (an inanimate object) as a person; be the embodiment or perfect example of; Ex. She is evil/patience personified; N. personification
incendiary arsonist; ADJ. causing fire; of arson; Ex. incendiary bomb
incense enrage; infuriate(make furious); make extremely angry; outrage; N: aromatic substance burned to produce a pleasant odor
incentive spur; motive; something which encourages one to greater activity
inception start; beginning
incessant uninterrupted; unceasing

\(\text{\textbullet} \) inchoate (of desire, wish, plan) recently begun; not explicit; at the beginning of development; rudimentary; elementary; Ex. inchoate mass
incidence rate of occurrence; particular occurrence; Ex. high incidence of infant mortality
incidental not essential; minor; N: something incidental
incident event; event that causes a crisis
incinerate burn to ashes
incipient beginning; in an early stage
incisive (appreciatively) cutting; sharp; Ex. incisive remarks; V: incise: make a cut into
incite arouse to action; goad; motivate; induce to exist; Ex. incite a riot/the crowd to rebellion
inclent stormy; unkind; unmerciful; CF. clement
inclined slope; slant; Ex. steep incline
inclined tending or leaning toward; bent; V. incline: slant; dispose; be disposed; tend
tend have a tendency; take care of; minister; serve at; apply one’s attention; attend
inclusive tending to include all; all-inclusive; Ex. inclusive charge
incognito with identity concealed; using an assumed name; ADJ.
incoherent unintelligible; muddled; unable to express one’s thoughts in an orderly manner; illogical; lacking cohesion; not coherent
incommodious not spacious; inconvenient
incompatible inharmonious; N. incompatibility
incongruity lack of harmony; absurdity; ADJ. incoherent: lacking in harmony; inappropriate
incongruous lack of harmony; absurdity; ADJ. incoherent: lacking in harmony; inappropriate
incorporate introduce something into a larger whole; include; embody; give material form to; ADJ.
incoherent without a material body; insubstantial
incorrigible uncorrectable
incrédulous tendency to disbelief
incrédulous withholding belief; skeptical; showing disbelief
increment increase
incriminate accuse of or implicate in a crime; serve as evidence against; cause to seem or make guilty of a crime; Ex. incriminating evidence
incrustation hard coating or crust; V. incrust: encrust; cover with a crust

incubate hatch; warm (eggs) with the body to promote hatching; maintain at optimal environment conditions for development; be holding in one’s body an infection which is going to develop into a disease; N. incubation; CF. incubation: disease

incursion temporary invasion; CF. excursion: short journey

incubus burden; very worrying problem; mental care; nightmare; male devil; CF. succubus

inculcate teach (ideas or principles); instill

incumbent obligatory; imposed as an obligation; currently holding an office; N: person who holds an office

incur bring upon oneself

incursion temporary invasion; CF. excursion: short journey

inroad hostile invasion; advance that lessens the quantity or difficulty of something; Ex. The long illness made serious inroads on his savings; CF. raid

indefatigable tireless; untiring; showing no sign of getting tired

indelible not able to be erased

indemnify make secure against damage or loss; compensate for damage or loss; CF. make uninjured

indentation notch; deep recess; V. indent; CF. tooth

indenture bind as servant or apprentice to master; bind by indenture; N: contract binding one party into the service of another for a specified time (as between an apprentice and his master)

indeterminate uncertain; not clearly fixed; indefinite

indicative suggestive; implying; serving to indicate

indices signs; indications; Ex. indices of a student’s potential; CF. index: something that reveals or indicates; sign; Ex. cost-of-living index

indict charge; N. indictment

indifferent unmoved or unconcerned by; having no interest in; mediocre; neither good nor bad

indigence poverty

indigenous native; Ex. plant indigenous to the New World

indigent poor; destitute

indignation anger at an injustice; Ex. righteous indignation; ADJ. indignant

righteous morally upright; just

rightful legally correct; Ex. rightful owner

indignity treatment or situation that causes shame or loss of dignity, respect; offensive or insulting treatment; humiliating or degrading treatment; Ex. I suffered the indignity of having to say that in front of them.

indiscriminate choosing at random; confused; not based on careful distinctions

indisputable too certain to be disputed; beyond doubt

indissoluble permanent; impossible to dissolve or disintegrate

indite write; compose

indolent lazy

indomitable unconquerable; unyielding

indubitable unable to be doubted; which cannot be doubted; unquestionable

induce persuade; lead to do something; bring about; N. inducement

inductive pertaining to induction or proceeding from the specific to the general

induct place formally in office; install; admit as a member; initiate; N. induction: inducting; process of deriving general principles from particular facts

indulgent humorizing; yielding; lenient; showing indulgence

indulge yield to; gratify; allow oneself a special pleasure; Ex. indulge one’s every whim/a child/in a big cigarette; N. indulgence

humor indulge; comply with the wishes of; N. quality that makes something amusing; state of mind; mood; Ex. in a bad humor; Ex. out of humor

industrious diligent; hard-working; N. industry

inebriated habitually intoxicated; drunk; N. inebriety

inebriate make drunk; intoxicate; N. intoxicated person

integrate make drunk; stimulate or excite; Ex. intoxicated by all the money he might win

ineffable unutterable; not to be uttered; taboo; that cannot be expressed in speech; indescribable; unspeakable; inexpressible; Ex. ineffable name/joy

ineffectual not effective; not having a desired effect; weak

inevitable irresistible; not to be escaped; unavoidable

inept unsuited; inappropriate; lacking skill; incompetent; CF. inapt: (of statements or ideas) inappropriate

inequality unfairness; ADJ. inequitable

inefficacy infallibility

ineffable unutterable; not to be uttered; taboo; that cannot be expressed in speech; indescribable; unspeakable; inexpressible; Ex. ineffable name/joy

inexorable relentless; unyielding; implacable; not capable of being changed by entreaty or efforts; Ex. inexorable price rises

infallible unerring; never making mistakes

infamous notoriously bad; notorious; well known for being bad; Ex. infamous behavior; N: infamy: infamous act; evil fame or reputation

infantile childish; infantlike

infer deduce; conclude; N. inference

infernal pertaining to hell; devilish; N. inferno: place of fiery heat or destruction
infidel unbeliever (with respect to a particular religion)

infiltrate pass into or through; penetrate or enter (an organization) sneakily; Ex. infiltrate the troops into enemy territory; CF. infiltrator

penetrate enter into; pierce; permeate; see through; grasp the inner significance of; understand

infinitesimal very small

infirmity weakness

inflated exaggerated; pompous; enlarged (with air or gas)

influx flowing into

infraction violation (of a rule or regulation); breach

infringe violate (a law); encroach (the right of another person)

ingenious marked by inventive skill; clever; resourceful; N. ingenuity

resourceful clever and imaginative (in dealing with difficult situations); N. resource, resourcefulness

ingenious naive and trusting; young; unsophisticated; candid

ingénue ingénue; young innocent girl

in.grained deeply established; firmly rooted; Ex. ingrained dirt/prejudice

ingrate ungrateful person (not expressing thanks)

ingratiate become popular with; bring (oneself) in favor of another; Ex. ingratiate himself with the boss

inherent firmly established by nature or habit; intrinsic

inhibit restrain; prohibit; retard or prevent; N. inhibition

inhibited (of a person) unable to express what one really feels

uninhibited having no inhibitions; free in behavior and feelings

imical (of someone) unfriendly; hostile; (of something) harmful; detrimental; CF. enemy

immutable matchless; not able to be imitated

iniquitous wicked; immoral; unrighteous; N. iniquity; Ex. den of iniquity

initiate begin; originate; receive into a group; introduce to a new field or activity; Ex. initiate someone into the mysteries of a secret religion; N: one who has been initiated

injurious harmful; causing injury

inking hint; slight indication

innate inborn

innocuous harmless

innovation change; something newly introduced; introduction of something new; V. innovate: begin or introduce (something new); be creative; ADJ. innovative

innuendo indirect or subtle (derogatory) hint; insinuation; Ex. sexual innuendo

inopportune untimely; inappropriate or ill-timed; poorly chosen

inordinate beyond reasonable limits; unrestrained; excessive; Ex. inordinate demands

inquisitor questioner (especially harsh); investigator; person making an inquisition

inquisitive eager for knowledge; unduly curious

insalubrious unwholesome; not healthful; Ex. insalubrious place

healthy conducive to good health; Ex. healthful mountain air

wholesome conducive to mental or physical health; healthful

insolent not easily satisfied; unquenchable; Ex. insatiable appetite

inscrutable difficult to understand; impenetrable; not readily understood; mysterious

insensate without feeling; lacking sense; foolish

insensible having no inhibitions; free in behavior and feelings

insubordination disobedience; rebelliousness; ADJ. insubordinate

insubstantial lacking substance; insignificant; frail; immaterial

insularity narrow-mindedness; isolation; ADJ. insular: of an island; isolated; narrow-minded; CF. peninsula

inopportune untimely; inappropriate or ill-timed; poorly chosen
insuperable  insurmountable; unbeatable; Ex. insuperable difficulties
• odds  chances; probability; disagreement; Ex. The odds are that it will rain. Ex. at odds with
• insurgent  rebellious; N.
• insurrection  overwhelming; unbeatable; insuperable
• intangible  rebellion; uprising
• integral  not able to be perceived by touch; vague
• integrate  make whole; combine; make into one unit
• integrity  honesty; uprightness; wholeness; state of being whole and undivided; completeness
• upright  (sitting or standing) straight up; honest; moral
• intellect  higher mental powers; person of great intellectual ability
• intelligentsia  intellectuals; members of the educated elite (often used derogatorily)
• inter  bury; N. interment
• cemetery  place for burying the dead
• interdict  prohibit; forbid; N.
• interim  meantime; Ex. in the interim; ADJ. taking place during an interim; Ex. interim paper
• interloper  intruder; one who interferes
• interminable  endless
• intermittent  periodic; on and off; stopping and starting at intervals
• intermecine  mutually destructive
• interpolate  insert between
• interregnum  period between two successive reigns or governments
• interrogate  question closely; cross-examine; cross-question
• intervene  come between; interfere; Ex. intervened to prevent a fight; N. intervention
• intimate  hint; suggest; imply; ADJ: marked by close relationship; familiar; private; personal; Ex. intimate knowledge/thoughts in the diary; N: close friend or confidant; CF. intimacy
• intimidate  frighten; N. intimidation
• intractable  unruly; difficult to manage; Ex. intractable problem/child
• intransigence  refusal of any compromise; stubbornness; ADJ: intransigent: uncompromising
• intrepid  fearless
• intrinsic  essential; inherent; built-in
• introspective  looking within oneself; N. introspection: self-examination
• introvert  one who is introspective or inclined to think more about oneself; ADJ: introverted
• intrude  put or force in without being asked; trespass; enter as an uninvited person; Ex. intrude one’s own opinion into the report; CF: thrust in
• intuition  immediate insight; power of knowing without reasoning; ADJ. intuitive; V. intuit: know by intuition
• inundate  flood; overflow; submerge; cover completely; Ex. inundated with work
• overwhelming  (of water) cover completely; defeat completely by much greater force; Ex. overwhelmed by grief
• submerge  place under water; dip; go under water; cover completely (as with water); Ex. submerged in work
• engulf  surround and swallow up
• inured  accustomed; hardened; Ex. inured to the Alaskan cold; V. inure: make used to something undesirable; harden; CF: unfeeling
• invalidate  weaken; destroy; make invalid; nullify
• invalid  one incapacitated(disabled) by a chronic illness; ADJ: incapacitated by illness; not valid; null; V: allow to leave (a military force) because of ill-health
• invective  abuse
• inveigh  denounce; utter censure or invective; Ex. inveigh against the evils of drink
• inveigle  deceive; lead astray by deception; wheedle(cajole); Ex. inveigle her into joining the club; CF. interest dishonestly
• inverse  opposite
• invert  turn upside down or inside out; reverse the position or condition of

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• inveterate  deep-rooted; habitual; CF: grow old
• invidious  designed to create ill will or envy; tending to rouse ill will or envy; Ex. invidious comparison
• invincible  unconquerable
• inviolable  secure from corruption, attack, or violation(or profanation); unassailable; Ex. inviolable oath/rights; N. inviolability
• invocation  prayer for help (used in invoking); calling upon as a reference or support; act of invoking
• invoke  call and bring into use (a right or law); call on/upon (a higher power or god) for help; ask for; beg for; conjure (a spirit); Ex. invoke the veto power; Ex. invoke one’s advisor/God
• invulnerable  incapable of injury; impossible to damage or injure
• iota  very small quantity
• irascible  irritable; easily angered
• irate  angry; CF: ire: anger; wrath
• iridescent  exhibiting rainbowlike colors; Ex. iridescent oil slick; N. iridescence
• irksome  annoying; tedious; V. irk: annoy
ironic  expressing irony; occurring in an unexpected and contrary manner
irony  hidden sarcasm or satire; use of words that seem to mean the opposite of what they actually mean; use of words to convey the opposite of their literal meaning
irreconcilable  impossible to reconcile; incompatible; not able to be resolved
irrefutable  indisputable; incontrovertible; undeniable
irreparable  not able to be corrected or repaired; impossible to repair
irrepressible  unable to be restrained or held back; impossible to hold back
irreproachable  beyond reproach; blameless; impeccable; Ex. irreproachable conduct
irresolute  marked by indecision; inconclusive; Ex. irresolution
irreparable  impossible to recover or regain; CF. retrieve
irreverence  lack of proper respect or reverence; ADJ. irreverent
irrevocable  unalterable; irreversible; impossible to revoke
isotope  varying from of an element
isthmus  narrow neck of land connecting two larger bodies of land
itinerant  wandering; traveling from place to place (to perform work); Ex. itinerant preacher
itinerary  plan of a trip; record of a trip
jabber  chatter rapidly or unintelligibly
jab  poke abruptly with something sharp; punch with short blows
jaded  tired or uninterested by surfeit; fatigued; surfeited; worn out; wearied; Ex. jaded appetite
jargon  language used by special group; technical terminology; gibberish; nonsensical or incoherent talk
jaundiced  yellowed; prejudiced (envious, hostile, or resentful) from long and disappointing experience of human affairs; Ex. with a jaundiced eye
jaundice  medical condition in which the skin, the white part of the eyes, etc. turn yellow; V: affect with jaundice; affect with prejudice, envy, or hostility; bias
jaunt  trip; short journey
jaunty  cheerful and pleased with life; lighthearted; animated; easy and carefree; dapper in appearance; Ex. jaunty person/hat
jeopardize  endanger; imperil; put at risk; N. jeopardy: danger
jettison  throw overboard (from a ship or plane)
jibe  agree; be in harmony with; gibe
jingoist  extremely aggressive and militant patriot; warlike chauvinist; N. jingoism: extreme nationalism
jocose  given to(having a tendency of) joking
jocular  said or done in jest or playfully; marked by joking
jest  playful remark or act; V. act or speak playfully
jocund  merry
jollity  gaiety; cheerfulness; ADJ. jolly: merry; gay
jostle  shove; bump; push against (someone) rather roughly; Ex. jostled by the crowds
shove  push forward; push roughly; Ex. pushing and shoving to get on the bus; N.
bump  hit or knock against with force; N.
jovial  good-natured; merry; cheerful
judgment  rejoicing; great joy
judicious  sound on judgment; wise
jug  pitcher; container for holding liquids
juncture  crisis; point in time; joining point; joint; act of joining
junket  trip especially one taken for pleasure by an official at public expense
junta  group of persons joined in political intrigue; cabal; group of military officers ruling a country after seizing power (by force)
jurisprudence  science of law
jurisdiction  right and power to apply the law; authority
juridical  of the law and its administration; CF. judicial: of courts of law; CF. judiciary
juxtapose  place side by side; CF. next
kaleidoscope  tube in which patterns made by the reflection in mirrors of colored pieces of glass, etc. produce interesting symmetrical effects; series of changing events; Ex. kaleidoscope of European history; CF. beautiful
ken  range of knowledge; Ex. beyond one’s ken
kernel  central or vital part; core; whole seed (as of corn)
killjoy  grouch; spoilsport; one who intentionally spoils the pleasure of others
grouch  bad-tempered complaint; person who keeps complaining; V: complain; grumble
spoilsport  one who spoils the pleasure of others
kindle  start a fire; ignite; inspire; arouse
kindred  related; belonging to the same group; similar in nature or character; Ex. kindred languages; N: relative; kin; kinship
kinetic  producing motion; of motion
kismet fate; destiny; Ex. Kismet is the Arabic word for fate.
kleptomaniac person who has a compulsive desire to steal
knave untrustworthy person; rogue; scoundrel; jack; N. knavery
knead mix; work dough; mix and work into a uniform mass (with the hands); Ex. knead dough
knell tolling of a bell especially to indicate a funeral, disaster, etc.; sound of the funeral bell; V.
toll sound (a large bell) slowly at regular intervals; N: sound of a bell; fixed tax or charge
curfew regulation requiring all people to leave the streets at stated times; signal (as a bell) announcing the hour of a curfew
knit contract into wrinkles; grow together; join together closely; make (a fabric or garment) by interwining yarn or thread; Ex. knit the brow; Ex. The bones should knit together in a few weeks.
crochet make (a piece of needlework) by looping thread with a hooked needle; N. CF. crotchet
knoll little round hill; hillock
knotty intricate; difficult; tangled; CF. knot
kudos honor; glory; acclaim or praise for exceptional achievement
entourage group of attendants; retinue; CF. surround
labile likely to change; unstable; Ex. emotionally labile; N. lability
laborious demanding much work or care; tedious
labyrinth maze
laceration torn ragged wound; V. lacerate: tear (the skin as with broken glass); wound
rip tear or be torn quickly and violently; Ex. The sail ripped under the force of the wind; N.
rag scrap of cloth; ADJ. ragged: old and torn; seeming unfinished and imperfect; Ex. ragged debut/performance
lachrymose producing tears; tearful
lackadaisical lacking interest or effort; lacking purpose or zest; lazy; halfhearted; languid
halfhearted exhibiting little interest or enthusiasm
lackluster lacking luster (shine; gloss); dull
laconic brief and to the point; using few words; terse
laggard slow; sluggish; N: one who lags; straggler
lag move or develop more slowly; straggle; Ex. lag behind the rest; N.
straggle stray or fall behind (a main group); spread out in a scattered group; Ex. straggling marathon racer; Ex. straggling branch
lagoon shallow body of water or lake near a sea; lake separated from a sea by sandbars or coral reefs
laity laypersons; laymen; persons not connected with the clergy
layman man who is not a cleric; man who is nonprofessional
lament grieve; express sorrow; N. lamentation
lampoon ridicule; N: written attack ridiculing or satirizing a person, group, or institution
lancet small surgical tool for making incisions
lance pierce with a lance; cut into; N: spearlike weapon
languid lacking energy or vitality; weary; sluggish; listless
languish lose animation or strength
languor lack of physical or mental energy; lassitude; depression
lank long and thin; Ex. Lank, gaunt, Abraham Lincoln
lap take in food or drink with one’s tongue; splash gently; Ex. waves lapping the shore; N: front area from the waist to the knees of a seated person
larceny theft; Ex. petit larceny
larder pantry; place where food is kept
largess generous gift (given to people who do not have enough)
lascivious lustful
lust intense sexual desire; intense eagerness; V.
lascitude languor; weariness; listlessness
latent present but not yet noticeable or active; dormant; hidden; N. latency; CF. potential
lateral of or coming from the side
latitude freedom from narrow limitations
laud praise; N. ADJ. laudable: praiseworthy; ADJ. laudatory: expressing praise
lavish liberal; wasteful; generous or wasteful in giving or using; abundant; profuse; great; Ex. decorated lavishly; V. give in abundance
lax careless; negligent; not paying enough attention; Ex. lax service
leaven add leaven to; cause to rise or grow lighter; enliven; N: agent, such as yeast, that causes dough to rise (by fermentation); element that lightens or enlivens
enliven make lively or spirited; animate
lecher gross lewdness; lustfulness; ADJ. lecherous; N. lecher: lecherous man
lectern reading desk or stand for a public speaker
leery (of someone) suspicious; wary; cautious
leeway room to move; margin; latitude; Ex. leeway for the deadline
margin border; room; allowance beyond what is needed; Ex. margin of safety
marginal of a margin; barely within a limit; Ex. marginal effect/writing ability
legacy gift made by a will; something handed down from an ancestor
legend explanatory list of symbols on a map

lerdemain sleight(dexterity) of hand; CF. light of hand

leniency mildness; permissiveness; ADJ. lenient: not severe in judgment or punishment

permissive allowing much freedom; lenient; Ex. permissive society

leonine like a lion

lethal deadly

lethargic drowsy; dull; N. lethargy: state of sluggishness and inactivity

levee earthen or stone embankment to prevent flooding; CF. raise

levitate rise and float in the air (especially by magical means); CF. light

levity lack of seriousness or steadiness; frivolity; lightness of manner

levy impose (a fine); collect (a payment); impose or collect (a tax); Ex. levy a tax on tobacco

lewd lustful

lexicographer compiler of a dictionary; CF. lexicography: work of compiling a dictionary

lexicon dictionary

liability drawback; handicap; debts; obligation; responsibility; condition of being liable; ADJ. liable: likely; responsible (for paying)

liaison contact that keeps parties in communication; communication between groups; one that maintains communication; go-between; secret love affair; V. liaise: keep a connection

libel defamatory written statement; act of writing something that smears a person's character; V. ADJ. libelous

liberte debauched person; dissolve or licentious person; roué; CF. free

roú lecherous man

libidinous lustful

libido psychic and emotional energy or urges behind human activity; sexual desire

libretto text of an opera or oratorio; CF. book

licentious amoral; lewd and lascivious; unrestrained

license official or legal permission; latitude of action or speech; excessive freedom that causes harm or damage; V.

lien legal claim or right on a property

ligneous like wood

lilliputian extremely small; CF. Lilliput in Gulliver’s Travels

limber flexible; supple; pliable; V.

limbo region near heaven or hell where certain souls are kept; prison (slang); Ex. Purgatory and Limbo

abode dwelling place; home

abide dwell; abide by: comply with; put up with; tolerate; Ex. abide by the rules; Ex. I can’t abide rude people.

limn draw; outline; describe; CF. line

limpid crystal clear

lineage descent; ancestry

lineaments features especially of the face; distinctive shape or contour of the face; CF. line

feature distinctive part of the faces (as the eyes or mouth); features: overall appearance of the face; prominent or distinctive quality; prominent article; film; V.: make prominent

linger loiter or dawdle; be slow in leaving; delay going; continue or persist; be slow to disappear; Ex. The smell lingered for days.

persist continue in existence; last; continue in a course of action in spite of opposition; Ex. persist in/with something; ADJ. persistent

linguistic pertaining to language

lionize treat (a person) as a celebrity

liquidate settle accounts; pay off (a debt); clear up; eliminate; kill or abolish

list tilt (as of a ship); lean over (to one side)

listless lacking in spirit or energy; languid

litany supplicatory prayer; prayer in which the priest calls out and the people replies in the same words

lithe flexible; supple; CF. limber

willowy flexible; pliant; slender; CF. willow

litigation lawsuit; N. litigant: one party in a lawsuit; V. litigate

litotes understatement for emphasis; Ex. “not bad(=pretty good)”

understate state with less truth than seems warranted by the facts; Ex. He understated the seriousness of the crime; N. understatement; OP. overstate

livid lead-colored; black and blue (as from a bruise); ashen; enraged; extremely angry

loath reluctant; unwilling; disinclined; Ex. Romeo and Juliet were both loath for him to go.

loathe detest; ADJ. loathsome; arousing loathing; offensive; Ex. loathsome smell

lode metal-bearing vein(long deposit of an ore)

lofty very high

loft room or space under the roof; attic

log record of a voyage or flight; record of day-to-day activities; section of a trunk; V.

loiter hang about/around; stand idly about; linger

loll lounge about

lounge stand, sit, or lie in a lazy, relaxed way

longevity long life; long duration

loom appear or take shape (usually in an enlarged, indistinct, or distorted form); Ex. The shadow of the gallow loomed threateningly. N: apparatus for making thread into cloth
gallows framework from which a noose is suspended (used for execution by hanging)
noose loop formed in a rope
lope gallop slowly
loquacious talkative; N. loquacity

lout clumsy person; ADJ. loutish; CF. from countrysides
low moo; make the sound of a cow
lubricate apply a lubricant to; N. lubricant: substance that reduces friction
lucid easily understood; clear; intelligible; N. lucidity
lucrative profitable; producing wealth
luce money; profit; Ex. filthy lucre
lurid wild; sensational; graphic; gruesome; horrible; Ex. lurid details of the murder
lurk stealthily lie in waiting; slink; exist unperceived
lusk move furtively; ADJ. slinky: stealthy; furtive; sneaky (as in ambush)
lusious pleasing to taste or smell; delicious
luster shine; gloss (of a polished surface)
lustrous shining; brilliant; Ex. lustrous hair
luxuriant abundant; growing healthily and in large amounts; excessively ornate; rich and splendid; fertile; Ex. luxuriant forests/prose; CF. luxurious, luxuriate
macabre gruesome; grisly; ghastly; CF. of death
mace ceremonial staff used as a symbol of authority; clublike medieval weapon
macerate soften by soaking in liquid; waste away; Ex. macerate powdered wood to make paper
Machiavellian crafty; double-dealing; of the political doctrine of Machiavelli, which holds that craft and deceit are justified in pursuing political power
machinations evil schemes or plots; schemes or plots to achieve an evil end; V. machinate
maculated spotted; stained; CF. immaculate
madrigal pastoral song; song for several singers without instruments
maelstrom violent whirlpool; violent or turbulent situation; CF. stream
magisterial authoritative; imperious; commanding; of a magistrate; Ex. magisterial study of Roman law; Ex. magisterial manner
magistrate official with power to administer the law
magnanimity generosity; ADJ. magnanimous: generous
magnate person of prominence or influence; powerful or influential person (in business or industry); Ex. oil magnate
magnifico boastful; pompous
magnitude greatness (in size or extent); extent
maligne unhealthiness; vague feeling of ill health (without any particular pain or appearance of disease)
malapropism comic misuse of a word; CF. Mrs. Malaprop
malaprop inappropriate; ADV.
malcontent person dissatisfied with existing state of affairs; discontented person; ADJ: discontented
malediction curse
malefactor evildoer; criminal
malevolent wishing evil; exhibiting ill will; N. malevolence
malfeasance wrongdoing; misconduct (by a public official)
malignous hateful; spiteful; expressing malice; N. malice: desire to harm others; spite
malign speak evil of; bad-mouth(criticize spitefully); defame; ADJ: harmful; Ex. malign influence
malignant tending to cause death; highly injurious; aggressively malevolent; Ex. malignant tumor
malingering one who feigns illness to escape duty; V. malingering: feign illness to avoid work
- **malleable** (of a metal) capable of being shaped by pounding (beating); pliable; (of someone) impressionable (easily influenced); easily controlled; tractable
- **malodorous** foul-smelling
- **compost** mixture of decaying organic matter used as fertilizer; V: put or make compost
- **mammal** vertebrate animal whose female suckles its young
- **vertebrate** having a backbone or spinal column; N: group of animals having a segmented spinal column
- **suckle** give or take milk at the breast or udder
- **nurse** suckle; take care of (as a nurse); bear in mind; Ex. nursing mother; Ex. nurse a hope/grudge against someone
- **mammoth** gigantic; enormous
- **manacle** restrain; handcuff; N.
- **mandate** order; charge; authoritative command; power to govern another country; power to given to a government; region under administration; V: give a mandate to; place under a mandate; Ex. mandated territory
- **mandatory** obligatory; compulsory; of a mandate
- **mangy** shabby; wretched; suffering from mange; of bad appearance
- **mange** skin disease (esp. of domestic animals) marked by loss of hair
- **maniacal** raging mad; insane; N. maniac: insane person; CF. mania: disorder of the mind; intense enthusiasm
- **manifest** evident; visible; obvious; V: show plainly
- **manifestation** outward demonstration; manifesting; indication of the presence of something; Ex. manifestation of his pronounced musical bent
- **pronounced** distinct; very noticeable; Ex. pronounced limp
- **manifesto** public declaration of principles; statement of policy
- **manifold** many in number or kind; numerous; varied
- **manipulate** operate with one’s hands; control or play upon (people, forces, etc.) artfully; maneuver; Ex. how to manipulate publicity and men; ADJ. manipulative
- **mannered** affected; not natural; Ex. mannered way of speech
- **mannerism** distinctive behavioral trait; affected style in art (according to a set of styles)
- **manumit** emancipate; free from slavery or bondage
- **marital** pertaining to marriage
- **maritime** bordering on (adjacent to) the sea; nautical; of the ships or the sea; Ex. Maritime Provinces
- **marked** noticeable; targeted for vengeance or attack; Ex. marked improvement/man
- **marred** damaged; disfigured; V: mar; spoil; disfigure
- **marshal** put in order; guide ceremoniously to the correct place; Ex. marshal the children into the museum; N: military officer; official
- **enlist** (cause to) join the armed forces; obtain (help, sympathy, or support)
- **marsupial** one of a family of mammals that nurse their offspring in a pouch (pocket of skin or leather); CF. kangaroo, opossum, wombat
- **martial** warlike; of war; Ex. martial art/law
- **cadet** student at a military school
- **martinet** strict disciplinarian; person who demands total obedience to rules and orders; CF. Jean Martinet
- **martyr** one who voluntarily suffers death for his or her religion or cause; great sufferer; Ex. martyr to his rheumatism
- **masochist** person who enjoys his own pain; CF. masochism
- **masticate** chew
- **materialism** preoccupation with physical comforts and things; excessive regard for worldly concerns (rather than spiritual matters)
- **maternal** motherly; N. maternity: motherhood
- **matriarch** woman who rules a family or larger social group
- **matriculate** enroll (in college or graduate school); CF. matrix
- **matrix** point of origin; array of numbers or algebraic symbols; mold or die; Ex. the matrix of Western civilization
- **maudlin** effusively sentimental
- **sentimental** swayed by sentiment; appealing to the sentiments
- **maul** handle roughly; batter; injure by beating; Ex. mauled by his overexcited fans; N: heavy long-handled hammer

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- **mausoleum** monumental tomb; large stately tomb; CF. Mausolos
- **mauve** pale purple
- **maverick** rebel; nonconformist (in a group)
- **mawkish** mushy (sentimental) and gushy; icky-sticky
- **manifest** (cause to) join the armed forces; obtain (help, sympathy, or support)
- **mayhem** injury to body; crime of willfully maiming or crippling a person; violent disorder; Ex. mayhem in the zoo; CF. maim
- **meager** scanty; inadequate
- **mealymouthed** indirect in speech (when something unpleasant must be said); hypocritical; evasive
- **meander** wind or turn in its course; follow a winding or turning course; move aimlessly and idly
- **meddlesome** interfering; V: meddle: interfere
- **mediate** settle a dispute through the services of an outsider; act as an intermediary; produce by mediating; Ex. mediate a cease-fire

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meek

suitor

medley

meek... mediocrity

medium

megalomania

mendacious

menagerie

memorial

memorialize

menial

mendicant

miserable

memorandum

merger

melee

blue

mercenary

mercurial

militia

millennium

meticulous

minister

meteoric

miasma

metaphors

metaphysical

metaphysics

microcosm

mimicry

mimicry

mimicry

mimicry

mimicry

mimicry

mimicry
dainty delicate; delicately beautiful; fastidious; not easy to please; Ex. dainty movement/dress
exquisite delicate; very finely made; extremely beautiful; Ex. exquisite piece of jewelry
choice delicate; of very fine quality
minuscule(miniscule) extremely small
minute extremely small; CF. minutes: official record of the proceedings at a meeting
minutiae petty or trivial details; CF. minutia
mire entangle; stick in swampy ground; stick or sink in mire; N: bog; deep mud; Ex. sucked deeper into the mire
mirth merriment; laughter
misadventure mischance; ill luck; Ex. death by misadventure
misanthrope one who hates mankind; misanthropist
vile despicable; unpleasant; disgusting; Ex. vile slander
misapprehension error; misunderstanding; V. misapprehend
miscellany mixture of writings on various subjects; collection of various items
miscellaneous made up of a variety of parts
mischance ill luck
misconstrue interpret incorrectly; misinterpret; misjudge
miscreant wretch; wrongdoer; villain; Ex. kindness to the miscreant; CF. believe
wretch miserable person; bad or despicable person; ADJ. miserable; bad; contemptible; vile
misdemeanor minor crime; misdeed; wrongdoing
misconduct immoral behavior; bad management; V.
miserly stingy; mean
misgivings doubts
mishap unfortunate accident
misnomer wrong or improper name; incorrect designation
mobile movable; not fixed; N. mobility
mock ridicule; deride; imitate often in derision
mode prevailing style; current fashion; manner; way of doing something; Ex. in the latest mode; Ex. simple mode of life
modicum limited quantity; small amount; Ex. He does not have a modicum of sense; CF. moderate
modish fashionable; conforming to the current fashion
modulate tone down in intensity; change the intensity or tone of; regulate; change from one musical key to another; Ex. modulate from E to G
mogul powerful person; Ex. oil moguls; CF. Mogol, Mogul, Moghul; CF. Mongolian
molecule the smallest particle (one or more atoms) of a substance that has all the properties of that substance
mollify soothe an angry person
mollycoddle pamper; coddle; baby; indulge excessively
molt(moult) periodically shed or cast off hairs or feathers (for replacement by a new growth)
molten melted; Ex. molten lava
momentous very important; N. moment; CF. momentary
momentum quantity of motion of a moving body; impetus; moving force
monarchy government under a single ruler
monastic related to monks or monasteries; removed from worldly concerns
monetary pertaining to money
monochromatic having only one color
monochrome painting in only one color; ADJ.
monogram design composed of one or more initials of a name; V.
monograph scholarly article
monolithic solidly uniform; unchangeable; unyielding; N. monolith: large block of stone
monotheism belief in one God
monotony sameness leading to boredom; monotonousness; ADJ. monotonous; CF. monotone
monumental massive; impressively large; built as a monument
moodiness fits of depression or gloom; ADJ. moody: given to changeable moods; subject to periods of depression; gloomy CF. mood: state of mind or emotion
moratorium legal delay of payment or action; Ex. declare moratorium on the building of new houses
morbid given to unwholesome or unhealthy thought; moody; characteristic of disease; Ex. morbid curiosity; N. morbidity; CF. disease
mordant biting; sarcastic; stinging; (apprec.) incisive; cutting; Ex. mordant pen/wit
mores conventions; moral standards; moral customs
moribund  dying; at the point of death; CF. death
morose  ill-humored; sullen; sullenly melancholy
mortician  undertaker; CF. death
orth undertaking funeral director; one whose business is to arrange burials
mortify  humiliate by embarrassing excessively; shame; punish the flesh; discipline (one’s body) by self-denial; Ex. mortified by her blunder; Ex. mortify the flesh; CF. cause to die
mosaic  picture made of small colorful inlaid tiles; ADJ.
mote  small speck (esp. of dust)
motif  theme; recurrent thematic element in a musical or literary work; single or repeated pattern; figure
motility  ability to move spontaneously; ADJ. motile: moving spontaneously
motley  multi-colored (as of a garment worn by a jester); mixed; heterogeneous; CF. jester: one who jests (as a paid fool at medieval courts)
motto  brief statement used to express a principle
mottled  blotched in coloring; spotted; Ex. mottled face; V. mottle: mark with blotches of different colors
blotch  spot; blot; CF. blot+botch
blemish  mar; spoil the beauty or perfection of; N: flaw or defect (that spoils perfection); Ex. blemishes in the crystal; CF. unblemished
mountebank  charlatan; boastful pretender
peddle  travel about selling (wares); CF. foot
muddle  confuse; mix up confusedly; N: state of confusion
muggy  (of weather) warm and damp
mulct  defraud a person of something; swindle; Ex. mulct the boy of his legacy
multifarious  varied; greatly diversified; Ex. multifarious activities
multiform  having many forms
multilingual  having many languages; fluent in several languages
multiplicity  state of being numerous or multiple; large number; Ex. multiplicity of details; ADJ. multiple: of more than one element
mundane  worldly as opposed to spiritual; everyday; of the ordinary; Ex. mundane existence; CF. world
munificent  very generous in giving; Ex. munificent benefactor; N. munificence
mural  wall painting
murky  dark and gloomy; thick with fog; vague; Ex. murky night/fog; N. murk: partial or complete darkness; gloom
muse  ponder at length; N: source of inspiration (esp. of a poet)
musky  having the odor of musk; N. musk: odorous substance secreted by an Asian deer
muster  gather; assemble (troops); Ex. muster up one’s strength for the ordeal; N.
musty  stale (in odor or taste); spoiled by age; CF. moist
mutability  ability to change in form; fickleness; ADJ. mutable: able to change; fickle; CF. mutate; CF. mutant
muted  silent; muffled; toned down; Ex. muted traffic noise
mute  silent; without speech; not pronounced; unable to speak; N: one who is incapable of speech; V: soften the sound, color, shade of
mutilate  maim; injure lastingly; deprive of a limb or an essential part
mutinous  unruly; rebellious; Ex. mutinous teenagers; N. mutiny: open rebellion; CF. mutineer
myopic  nearsighted; lacking foresight; N. myopia
myriad  very large number; ADJ. CF. ten thousand
nadir  lowest point; point on the celestial sphere diametrically opposite the zenith
naiveté(naivity)  quality of being unsophisticated; simplicity; artlessness; gullibility; ADJ. naive(naïve): ingenuous; lacking worldliness; simple; credulous
narcissist  conceited person; N. narcissism; CF. narcissus
narrative  related to telling a story; N: narrated account; story; V: narrate: tell (a story); CF. narration
nascent  incipient; coming into being or existence; Ex. nascent ability in music
natation  swimming
natty  neatly or smartly dressed; dapper; smart; Ex. natty dresser
smart  intelligent; quick and energetic; fashionable; Ex. smart pace/restaurant; V: cause or feel a sharp pain; N: smarting pain
nauseate  cause to become sick; fill with disgust; fill nausea
nausea  feeling of sickness and desire to vomit; disgust; CF. seasickness
nauseous  causing nausea; feeling nausea
nautical  pertaining to ships or navigation
navigable  (of a body of water) wide and deep enough to allow ships to pass through; (of a ship or aircraft) able to be steered
nebulous  vague; hazy; cloudy; of a nebula; Ex. nebulous proposal
necropoli  diffuse mass of interstellar dust or gas; galaxy
necromancy  black magic; sorcery; dealings with the dead; art that professes to communicate with the spirits of the dead so as to predict the future; CF. necromancer; CF. necro-divination; CF. necro-: death; Ex. necropolis
nefarious  very wicked
negate  cancel out; nullify; cause to have no effect; deny; N. negation
negligence  neglect; failure to take reasonable care; ADJ. negligent: neglectful; lax; not taking enough care

negligible so small, trifling, or unimportant as to be easily disregarded

nemesis  someone seeking revenge; source of downfall or ruin; CF. Nemesis

neologism  new or newly coined word or phrase

neophyte  recent convert; new member of a religious group; beginning; CF. plant

nepotism  favoritism (to a relative); CF. nephew

favoritism  display of partiality toward a favored person

nether lower; Ex. nether garments/regions

nettle  irritate; annoy; vex; ADJ. nettlesome

nexus  connection

nib  beak(bill); pen point

nicety  precision; accuracy; minute distinction or difference; Ex. to a nicety: exactly; precisely; Ex. distinguish between niceties

niggardly  meanly stingy; parsimonious; N. niggard: stingy person

niggle  spend too much time on minor points (esp. when finding fault); find fault; Ex. niggle over details; ADJ. nigging

nihilist  one who considers traditional beliefs to be groundless and existence meaningless; absolute skeptic; revolutionary terrorist; CF. nihilism: belief that nothing has meaning or value; belief that destruction of existing political or social institutions is necessary for future improvement

nip  snip off; stop something’s growth or development; bite; make numb with cold; Ex. nip the plan; Ex. A guard dog nipped the postman; Ex. fingers nipped by the extreme chill

pinch  short quick cut with scissors; V: cut with scissors

pinch  squeeze between the thumb and a finger, or other edges; Ex. I had to pinch myself to make sure I wasn’t dreaming. N: amount that can be held between the thumb and a finger

nirvana  in Buddhist teachings, the ideal state in which the individual loses himself in the attainment of an impersonal beatitude

impersonal  not being a person; not showing personal feelings; Ex. impersonal force/manner/organization

nocturnal  done or active at night; Ex. nocturnal animals/raids; CF. nocturne

noisome  foul smelling; very unpleasant; unwholesome

nomadic  wandering; N. nomad: tribe who migrates from place to place

nomenclature  terminology(system of specialized words); system of names or naming things

nominal  in name only; of a name; trifling; (of a sum of money) very small; CF. nominate: propose as a candidate; appoint

nonchalant  indifference; lack of concern; composure; ADJ. nonchalant: unconcerned; cool; indifferent; Ex. nonchalant attitude to his debts

noncommittal  neutral; refusing commitment to a particular opinion; unpledged; undecided

nondescript  undistinctive; ordinary; ordinary-looking; Ex. nondescript fellow in a crowd

nonentity  person of no importance; nonexistence

nonplus  put at a loss; bring to a halt by confusion; perplex; CF. no more

nostalgia  homesickness; longing for the past; Ex. nostalgia for the clothes of 1920s; ADJ. nostalgic

nostrum  questionable medicine; quack medicine; CF. our (remedy)

notable  conspicuous; worthy of note; remarkable; important; distinguished; noted

notoriety  disrepute; ill fame

nova  star that suddenly becomes much brighter and then returns to its original brightness

novelty  something new; newness; ADJ. novel: new; original

novice  beginner

noxious  harmful; CF. obnoxious

novel  something new; newness; ADJ. novel: new; original

nutrient  nourishing substance; ADJ: providing nourishment

nullify  make invalid; make null; invalidate

nullification  make invalid; make null; invalidate

numismatist  person who collects coins; N. numismatics: study or collection of money, coins, and medals

nuptial  related to marriage or the wedding ceremony; N. nuptials: wedding ceremony

nurture  nourish; feed; educate; rear; care for while it is growing or developing; foster; cultivate; N: something that nourishes; rearing

nutrition  process of nourishing or being nourished; CF. malnutrition

nutritious  providing nourishment

nutrition  process of nourishing or being nourished; CF. malnutrition

nutrition  process of nourishing or being nourished; CF. malnutrition

nourish  provide with food necessary for life and growth

nourishment  something that nourishes; food

oaf  stupid awkward person; CF. elf

obdurate  stubborn; refusing to change one’s belief

obesance  bow (to show respect and obedience)

obelisk  tall column tapering(becoming gradually narrower toward the end) and ending in a pyramid
**obese** excessively fat; N. obesity

**obfuscate** confuse; muddle; cause confusion; make needlessly complex; make so confused as to be difficult to understand

**obituary** death notice (esp. in a newspaper); ADJ.

**objective** not influenced by emotions; fair; N: goal; aim

**obligatory** binding; required; compulsory; V. oblige: constrain; make grateful; do a favor; accommodate

**oblique** indirect; slanting (deviating from the perpendicular or from a straight line); Ex. oblique reference

**obliterate** destroy completely; wipe out; Ex. obliterately the village

**oblivion** obscurity; condition of being completely forgotten; forgetfulness

**oblivious** inattentive or unmindful; unaware; wholly absorbed; forgetful(having the habit of forgetting)

**obloquy** slander; disgrace; infamy

**obnoxious** offensive; disagreeable; Ex. obnoxious smell

**obscure** dark; vague; unclear; not well known; Ex. obscure meaning/village; V: darken; cover; make unclear; Ex. obscure the moon/meaning

**obsequious** slavishly attentive; servile; full of servile compliance; sycophantic

♥ **slavish** of or like a slave; servile; showing no originality; copied very closely; Ex. slavish devotion/copy of the original

**obsequy** funeral ceremony

**obscene** related to thinking about something constantly; of an obsession; preoccupying; N. obsession: compulsive preoccupation with a fixed idea; compulsive idea; V. obsess: preoccupy the mind of excessively

**obsidian** black volcanic rock

♥ **scion** detached plant shoot used in grafting; descendant

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**obsolete** outmoded; no longer used

**obstetrician** physician specializing in delivery(assisting in giving birth) of babies; N. obstetrics; CF. midwife

**obstinate** stubborn; hard to control or treat; Ex. obstinate cough; N. obstinacy

**obstreperous** boisterous; noisy and uncontrollable

♥ **obtrude** push (oneself or one’s ideas) forward or intrude; impose (oneself or one’s ideas) on others; butt in; stick out or extrude; thrust out; Ex. obtrude A on B; ADJ. obtrusive; N. obtrusion; CF. unobtrusive

**obtuse** blunt; not sharp; stupid; slow in understanding

**obviate** make unnecessary; get rid of; Ex. obviate the need

**Occident** the West

♥ **oclude** shut; close; obstruct; Ex. A blood clot occluded an artery.

**occult** mysterious; secret; supernatural; beyond human comprehension; CF. mysterious to human ?; OP. bare

**oculist** physician who specializes in treatment of the eyes

♥ **odious** arousing strong dislike; hateful(causing hatred); vile

**odium** detestation; quality of being odious; hatefulfulness; disrepute (resulting from hateful conduct)

**odoriferous** giving off an odor

♥ **odor** having an odor

**odyssey** long, eventful, adventurous journey

**offensive** attacking; insulting; distasteful; V. offend: violate; hurt the feelings of; N. offense: offending; violating of a moral or social code; crime; attack; Ex. first offense

**offhand** casual; done without prior thought or preparation

**officious** meddlesome; excessively pushy in offering one’s services; overly eager in offering unwanted services or advice; Ex. officious bellboy

♥ **push** disagreeably aggressive

**ogle** look at amorously; make eyes at; Ex. old men ogling young girls

**olfactory** concerning the sense of smell

**oligarchy** government by a privileged few

**ominous** threatening; of an evil omen

♥ **ominous** sign or warning (of coming danger); Ex. threat of rain; V: express a threat; give warning of (something bad); Ex. The cloud threatens rain.

**omnipotent** all-powerful; having unlimited power

**omnipresent** universally present; ubiquitous

**omniscient** all-knowing

**omnivorous** eating both plant and animal food; devouring everything

♥ **onerous** burdensome

**onomatopoeia** words formed in imitation of natural sounds

♥ **onomatopoeia** make slight sounds like silk moving or being rubbed together

**onslaught** vicious assault; fierce attack; Ex. unexpected onslaught of the enemy

♥ **slaughter** killing of animals for food; massacre; V: butcher (animals) for food; kill in large numbers

**onus** burden; responsibility

♥ **spare** give; use; refrain from harming; save from experiencing; exempt; Ex. spare me 5 minutes; Ex. Take this money and spare my life; Ex. The emperor was spared the onus; ADJ: kept in reserve; free for other use; unoccupied; Ex. spare time

♥ **opal** lustrous; like an opal; N. opalescence

**opaque** dark; not transparent; N. opacity
- **opiate** medicine to induce sleep or deaden pain; something that relieves emotions or causes inaction; sleep-producing drug containing opium
- **opportunity** timely; well-chosen
- **opportunist** individual who sacrifices principles for expediency by taking advantage of circumstances; N. opportunism
- **opprobrium** infamy; disgrace arising from shameful conduct; vilification(slander); scorn; contempt; Ex. opprobrium hurled against him; ADJ. opprobrious: expressing contempt; shameful or infamous
- **optician** maker and seller of eyeglasses
- **optimist** person who looks on the bright side; N. optimism
- **optional** not compulsory; left to one’s choice; N. option: something available as a choice; Ex. have no option; Ex. two options
- **optometrist** one who fits glasses to remedy visual defects
- **opulence** extreme wealth; luxuriousness; abundance; ADJ. opulent: possessing great wealth; abundant
- **opus** work (esp. musical composition); Ex. magnum opus: masterpiece; CF. opera
- **oracular** of an oracle; prophetic; uttered as if with divine authority; mysterious or ambiguous; hard to understand; N. oracle: wiser person; prophecy made by an oracle
- **orator** public speaker
- **oratorio** dramatic poem set to music; long musical work with singing but without acting; CF. cantata
- **ordain** decree or command; grant holy orders; predetermine; install as a minister, priest, or rabbi; N. ordainment; CF. ordination
- **ordeal** severe trial or affliction; difficult experience; trial(test of patience or endurance); affliction
- **ordinance** decree; authoritative order
- **ordination** ceremony conferring holy orders; ceremony of ordaining a priest
- **orgy** wild drunken revelry; unrestrained indulgence in an activity; Ex. orgy of shopping
- **orient** get one’s bearings; adjust; make familiar with a situation; orientate
- **orientation** act of finding oneself in society; orienting
- **orifice** mouthlike opening; small opening (esp. to a cavern or passage of the body); CF. mouth
- **ornate** excessively or elaborately decorated
- **ornithologist** scientific student of birds; N. ornithology: scientific study of birds
- **orthodox** traditional; (of someone) conservative in belief; adhering to an established doctrine
- **orthography** correct spelling; CF. ortho-: straight; correct; Ex. orthodontics
- **oscillate** vibrate pendulumlike; waver
- **osseous** made of bone; bony
- **ossify** change or harden into bone; become hard and unchanging in one’s ideas
- **ostensible** apparent; appearing as such; pretended; Ex. ostensible purpose of the expedition
- **apparent** evident; easily seen or understood; appearing as such; Ex. apparent improvement
- **ostentatious** showy; trying to attract attention; pretentious; N. ostentation: showy display
- **ostracize** banish from a group; exclude from public favor; ban; Ex. His friends ostracized him. N. ostracism
- **blackball** vote against (an applicant); ostracize; N: negative vote
- **oust** expel; drive out; force out; N. ouster: ousting
- **outlandish** bizarre; peculiar; unconventional
- **outmoded** no longer in fashion or use; no longer stylish; old-fashioned
- **outsiders** fringes; outer borders (as of a city); Ex. outskirts of Boston
- **outspoken** candid; blunt
- **blunt** having a dull edge; abrupt and frank in speech or manner; brusque; V: make or become blunt
- **outstrip** outrun; surpass; outdo
- **outwit** outsmart; defeat by behaving more cleverly
- **ovation** enthusiastic applause
- **overbearing** bossy; domineering and arrogant; decisively important; Ex. overbearing manner/importance; V. overbear: dominate
- **overt** open to view; public; not secret; CF. covert
- **overweening** arrogant; presumptuous
- **overwrought** nervous or excited; extremely agitated; hysterical; wrought-up; CF. wrought: made or done
- **hysteria** excessive or uncontrollable excitement; N. hysterics: person suffering from hysteria; CF. hysterics: attack of hysteria
- **ovoid** egg-shaped; CF. ovum; CF. ovulate
- **pachyderm** thick-skinned animal
- **pacifist** one opposed to force; antimilitarist; ADJ. N. pacifism: opposition to war as a means of resolving disputes
- **pacify** soothe; make calm or quiet; subdue; bring peace to
- **paean** song of praise or joy; Ex. paens celebrating the victory
- **painstaking** taking pains; showing hard work; taking great care; very careful and through
- **palatable** agreeable; pleasing to the taste
♣ palate  roof of the mouth; sense of the taste
♠ palatial  of or suitable for a palace; magnificent
♣ paleontology  study of prehistoric life or fossils; CF. paleo-: ancient or prehistoric; Ex. paleography: study of ancient written documents
☐ palette  board on which painter mixes pigments (coloring matters)
♠ palimpsest  parchment or piece of writing material used for second time after original writing has been erased
♥ parchment  writing material made from the skin of a sheep or goat
♠ pall  become boring; grow tiresome
♠ pallet  small poor bed; Ex. straw pallet
♣ palliate  ease pain (without curing); make less severe or offensive (a crime or illness)
♠ pallid  pale; wan; Ex. pallid complexion
☐ palpable  tangible; (of something bad) easily perceptible; obvious; Ex. palpable blunder
♠ palpitate  throb; beat rapidly; flutter; tremble; Ex. Her heart began to palpitate.
♥ throb  (of a heart or machine) beat rapidly or violently; N. Ex. hearthrob: heartbeat; sweetheart
♠ paltry  insignificant; petty; trifling; contemptible; Ex. paltry sum; CF. trash
♠ pan  criticize harshly
☐ panacea  cure-all; remedy for all diseases
♣ panache  flair; manner of doing things without any difficulty (causing admiration); flamboyance; bunch of feathers (on a helmet); Ex. with great panache; CF. 잔 아레로 천을 빼내는 습지
☐ pandemic  widespread; affecting the majority of people; N: pandemic disease; CF. all people
☐ pandemonium  wild tumult (commotion); wild noisy disorder; CF. Paradise Lost
♠ pander  cater to (the low desires of others)
♥ cater  provide food and drink (for); cater to: try to satisfy (desires of a bad kind)
♠ panegyric  formal praise; encomium; Ex. I don’t deserve such panegyrics.
☐ panoramic  denoting an unobstructed and comprehensive view; N. panorama: unbroken view of a wide area
☐ pantomime  acting without dialogue; V.
☐ papyrus  ancient paper made from stem of papyrus plant
♠ parable  short simple story teaching a moral
☐ paradigm  model; example that serves as a model; pattern; list of all the inflectional forms of a word
☐ paradox  something apparently contradictory in nature (that may nonetheless be true); statement that looks false but is actually correct
☐ paragon  model of perfection; Ex. paragon of virtue
☐ parallelism  state of being parallel; similarity; analogy
♥ parallel  similar; analogous; corresponding; N: parallel line; person or thing that is parallel (to another); similarity; Ex. know of no parallel to the case; Ex. without parallel; V: be similar to; make parallel; Ex. Your experience parallels mine; CF. unparalleled
♠ parameter  limit; independent variable; Ex. parameters of the problem; Ex. within the parameters of the budget
☐ paramount  foremost in importance; supreme; CF. para-: beyond; above; Ex. paranormal
☐ paramour  illicit lover
♥ inamorata  woman whom a man loves
☐ paranoia  psychosis marked by delusions of grandeur or persecution; N: ADJ: paranoid, paranoiac
☐ paraphernalia  equipment; odds and ends used in a particular activity; personal belongings; Ex. photographic paraphernalia; CF. married woman’s property exclusive of her dowry
♥ dowry  money or property brought by a bride to her husband at marriage
☐ paraphrase  restate a passage in one’s own words while retaining thought of author; N: restatement of a text in other words
☐ parasite  animal or plant living on another; toady; symbiont; CF. para-: beside
♥ infest  inhabit in numbers large enough to be harmful; Ex. Mice infested the house; Ex. shark-infested waters
♠ parched  extremely dry; very thirsty; V. parch: make or inhabit in numbers large enough to be harmful; Ex. extremely dry (by exposure to heat)
♠ pariah  social outcast; Ex. Mariah the pariah
♥ outcast  one that has been excluded from a society; ADJ.
☐ parity  equality; close resemblance; CF. disparate
♠ parlance  language; manner of speaking; idiom; Ex. in legal/common parlance
♠ parley  conference (between opponents); CF. speak
♠ parochial  narrow in scope or outlook; provincial; related to parishes
♥ parish  area in the care of a single priest and served by one main church
♥ outlook  point of view; view from a particular place; expectation for the future; prospect; Ex. outlook on life; Ex. pleasing outlook; Ex. weather outlook
☐ parody  humorous imitation; spoof; takeoff; travesty; V.
♥ spoof  parody
♥ takeoff  burlesque; act of leaving the ground
☐ paroxysm  fit or attack of pain, laughter, rage; sudden outburst
♠ parquet  floor made of wood strips inlaid in a mosaic like manner; CF. strip: long narrow piece
☐ parry  ward off a blow; deflect; Ex. He parried the unwelcome question very skillfully; N. CF. 막는다는 개념이 아님
ward administrative division of a city; division in a hospital or prison; incompetent person placed under the protection of a guardian; V: guard; ward off: avert

parsimony stinginess; excessive frugality; ADJ. parsimonious

partial incomplete; favoring one side over another; having a liking for something

partiality state of being partial; inclination; favorable bias; special fondness; preference

partisan one-sided; prejudiced; committed to a party (with dislike of any others); N: strong supporter of a party; guerrilla

ward administrative division of a city; division in a hospital or prison; incompetent person placed under the protection of a guardian; V: guard; ward off: avert

pedagogue teacher; CF. child leader

pedagogy teaching; art of education

pedant scholar who overemphasizes book learning, trivial details of learning, or technicalities

pedantic bookish; showing off learning; marked by an excessive ostentatious concern for book learning; N. pedantry

bookish fond of books and reading

studious given to diligent study

pedestrian ordinary; dull; unimaginative(lacking in imagination); going on foot; Ex. pedestrian prose; N.

precinct division of a city for election or police purposes; precincts: space that surrounds a building; Ex. precincts of the college

pedigree ancestry; lineage

pediatrician physician specializing in children’s diseases; N. pediatrics

peerless having no equal; incomparable

peer one who has equal standing with another; nobleman; V: look intently; N. peerage; CF. peersess

pejorative (of a word or phrase) suggesting that someone is of little value; negative in connotation; having a belittling effect; Ex. Many women now consider “housewife” a pejorative expression, because it patronized them.

pell-mell in confusion; disorderly; Ex. dash pell-mell

pellucid transparent; limpid; crystal clear; clear in meaning; easy to understand

penance self-imposed punishment for sin; Ex. do penance for one’s sins; CF. penitent

penchant strong inclination; strong liking (esp. for something that is disapproved of by other people); Ex. penchant for fast cars

pendant(pendent) hanging down from something; pending: N: ornament (hanging from a necklace etc.)

pending not yet decided or settled; impending; Ex. pending decision; PREP. while awaiting; until; Ex. delay the decision pending his return

pendulous hanging; suspended

suspend cause to stop for a period; interrupt; hold in abeyance; defer; hang from above; exclude for a period from a position; Ex. suspended state; Ex. suspend judgment; Ex. suspended from the team; N. suspension

suspend state of being undecided; anxiety or apprehension resulting from uncertainty

penitent repentant; N.

dense dreamily or deeply thoughtful; sadly thoughtful; thoughtful with a hint of sadness; contemplative; CF. think over

penumbral partial shadow (in an eclipse); CF. almost shadow

penury extreme poverty; stinginess; ADJ. penurious: very poor; stingy
peon landless agricultural worker; bond servant; menial worker; N. peonage

perceptive insightful; showing a good ability at perceiving and understanding; aware; wise; of perception

percussion striking one object against another sharply; Ex. percussion instrument; N: striking together of two bodies; sound caused by percussion

perdition damnation; complete ruin; hell

damn condemn; criticize severely; condemn to everlasting punishment; doom; bring to ruin; N. damnation

doom condemnation to a severe penalty; ruin; fate (esp. a tragic or ruinous one); V.

peremptory demanding and leaving no choice; imperative; Ex. peremptory decree/knock

perennial something long-lasting; perennial plant; ADJ: lasting through the year or many years; lasting for a long time; enduring

perfidious treacherous; disloyal; N. perfidy: treachery

perforate pierce; put a hole through

perfunctory done routinely and with little care; superficial; not thorough; lacking interest, care, or enthusiasm; Ex. perfunctory kiss

perigee point of moon’s orbit when it is nearest the earth; CF. apogee

perimeter outer boundary; length of the outer boundary; circumference

bound leap or spring; limit or confine; constitute the limit of; Ex. bounded by Canada; N: leap or jumping; boundary; ADJ: certain; having a duty to do something (legally or morally); confined by bonds; Ex. We are bound to be late; Ex. I am bound to say my opinion; CF. bounce, rebound

peripatetic walking about from place to place (to work); moving; Ex. peripatetic school of philosophy

peripheral of a periphery; marginal; outer; of minor importance; not central; Ex. peripheral nerve/interest

periphery outside edge especially of a round surface; perimeter; Ex. periphery of the town

perjury false testimony while under oath; V. perjure oneself: testify falsely under oath

permeable that can be permeated; penetrable; porous; allowing liquids or gas to pass through; V. permeate: spread or flow throughout; charge

pernicious very harmful; deadly; very destructive; Ex. pernicious effect/anemia

peroration conclusion of an oration; perorating; V. perorate: conclude a speech; speak at great length

perpetrate commit an offense; do (something wrong)

perpetual everlasting

perpetuate make perpetual; make something last for a long time; preserve from extinction; N. perpetuity

perquisite(perk) any gain above stipulated salary; Ex. perquisites such as free meals and a car

personable attractive (in personality or appearance)

perspicacious (of someone) having insight; penetrating; astute

perspicuity clearness of expression; freedom from ambiguity

perspicuous (of something) plainly expressed; easy to understand; Ex. perspicuous comments

pert (esp. of a girl or young woman) impertinent; forward; trim; jaunty; Ex. pert young miss/hat

forward presumptuous or bold

pertinacious holding tenaciously to an action; stubborn; persistent

pertinent suitable; to the point; relevant

perturb disturb greatly

peruse read through with care; N. perusal

pervasive spread throughout; V. pervade: (of smells, ideas, feelings) spread throughout; charge; permeate

pervade spread throughout; V. pervade: (of smells, ideas, feelings) spread throughout; charge; permeate

perversion corruption; turning from right to wrong

pervert corrupt; turn from right to wrong; misuse; Ex. perverted sexual desire/scientific knowledge; N: person whose sexual behavior is not natural

wrongheaded stubbornly wrong

pessimism belief that life is basically bad or evil; gloominess; tendency to take the gloomiest possible view of a situation; ADJ. pessimistic

pestilential(pestilent) causing plague; tending to cause death; baneful; N. pestilence: fatal epidemic disease (esp. bubonic plague)

pestle tool for mashing or grinding substances in a hard bowl or mortar

mortar vessel in which substances are crushed with a pestle

mash crush into mash; convert into mash; N: mixture of ground grain and nutrients fed to livestock and fowl

petrify turn to stone; cause to become stonelike; stun or paralyze

petty trivial; unimportant; very small; small-minded; petty-minded

petulant touchy; peevish; ill-tempered

phalanx formation of infantry carrying overlapping shields and long spears; group of men packed together (for attack or defense)

pharisaical pertaining to the Pharisees, who paid scrupulous attention to tradition; self-righteous; hypocritical

pharisee Pharisee: member of an ancient Jewish group that emphasized strict observance of the Mosaic law (considering themselves very holy); hypocritical self-righteous person
philanderer faithless lover; flirt

philatelist stamp-collector; N. philately: stamp collecting

philanthropist lover of mankind; doer of good; N. philanthropy

philistine narrow-minded person, uncultured and exclusively interested in material gain; uncultured person who is indifferent to artistic and cultural values; member of an ancient people in Palestine; OP. aesthete

philology study of language or words

phlegmatic calm and unexcitable; not easily disturbed; CF. phlegm: sticky mucus produced in the respiratory tract

phobia morbid fear

phoenix symbol of immortality or rebirth; Ex. phoenix rising from its ashes

phylum major classification, second to kingdom, of plants and animals; category ranking below a kingdom and above a class; division

physiognomy face (as showing the character and the mind); art of judging human character from facial features

physiological pertaining to the science of the function of living organisms; N. physiology

piebald of different colors; mottled; spotted in different colors (esp. in black and white); Ex. piebald horse; CF. pie+bald

piecemeal one part at a time; gradually; in stages; Ex. read a novel piecemeal

pied piebald; variegated(many-colored); multicolored

piety devoutness; reverence for God; ADJ. pious

pigment coloring matter (usually powder to be mixed with water or oil)

pillage plunder

pillory punish by placing in a wooden frame or pillory; subject or expose to criticism and ridicule; N.

pine long for; yearn; languish from longing or grief; decline

pinion restrain or immobilize by binding the wings or legs; N. bird’s wing

pinnacle peak; highest point; acme; Ex. pinnacle of fame

pious devout; religious; N. piety

piquant pleasantly tart-tasting; spicy; pleasantly stimulating; Ex. piquant situation when my old enemy asked for my help

tart sharp to the taste; acid-tasting; caustic; sarcastic; Ex. tart apple/reply

sour having a sharp or acid taste; acid; tart; bad-tempered; V.

pique irritation; resentment from wounded pride (eg. loss in a contest); V: provoke; annoy; cause to feel resentment; Ex. pique her curiosity

piscatorial pertaining to fishing; CF. Pisces

pitfall hidden danger; concealed trap

beware be cautious (of)

pithy concise and meaningful; substantial; meaty

marrow soft fatty tissue that fills most bone cavities and is the source of blood cells

pithy concise and meaningful; substantial; meaty

pittance small amount (of money); small allowance or wage

pivotal of a pivot; central; critical; crucial

placate pacify; bring peace to; conciliate; appease

placebo harmless substance prescribed as a dummy pill

tablet small round piece of medicine; flat piece of stone or metal bearing an inscription; Ex. stone tablet on the wall

placid peaceful; calm; Ex. placid child/lake

plagiarize steal another’s ideas or writings and pass them off as one’s own; Ex. ideas plagiarized from my article; N. plagiarism; CF. kidnap

plaintive expressing sorrow; mournful; Ex. plaintive song

plait braid; interwine; interweave strands or lengths of; Ex. plaited hair; N: plaited length as of hair o fabric; CF. pigtail, ponytail

plasticity ability to be molded; ADJ. plastic: capable of being shaped or molded; Ex. plastic material such as clay

platitude trite remark; commonplace statement; ADJ. platitudinous

commonplace ordinary; N: something ordinary or common; trite remark

commonwealth nation governed by the people; republic; people of a nation

platonic purely spiritual; theoretical; without sensual desire

plaudit praise; enthusiastic approval; round(succesion or series) of applause; ADJ. plauditory; CF. applaud

plausible conceivably true; having a show of truth but open to doubt; specious

plebeian common; vulgar; pertaining to the common people; N: common people in ancient Rome; CF. patrician

plebiscite direct vote by the entire electorate (on an important issue)

referendum direct vote by all the people
♠ plenary (of power) complete; full; fully attended by all qualified members; Ex. plenary power
♠ plenitude abundance; plenty; great amount; completeness; fullness; CF. plenary, plenty
♠ plethora excess; overabundance; Ex. a plethora of excuses
☐ pliable flexible; easily influenced; yielding; adaptable
☐ pliant flexible; easily influenced
☐ plight difficult condition; condition or state (esp. a bad state or condition); predicament
♠ pluck courage; V: pull off or out; pull out the hair or feathers of; ADJ. plucky: courageous; brave
♠ plumage feathers of a bird;
♥ plume feather, esp. large or showy one; something that rises into the air (like the shape of a feather); Ex. plume of smoke: 비섯 구름
♠ plumb exactly vertical; N: weight on the end of a line; V: examine very carefully or critically in order to understand; measure depth (by sounding); Ex. plumb the depth of
♥ plumber one who installs and repairs pipes and plumbing(pipes)
♠ plummets fall sharply; fall straight down; Ex. Stock prices plummeted.
☐ plutocracy society ruled by the wealthy
☐ podiatrist doctor who treats ailments of the feet; chiropodist; N. podiatrics
☐ podium pedestal; raised platform
♥ pedestal support or base as for a pillar or statue
♠ poignancy quality of being deeply moving; keenness of emotion; ADJ. poignant: touching; deeply moving; (of sorrow, grief, etc.) painful; keenly distressing to the mind; Ex. poignant memory/anxiety; CF. prick
♠ polarize split into opposite extremes or camps
♥ polarity state of having two opposite qualities
♥ polar of a pole; characterized by opposite extremes; Ex. polar opposites
♥ camp group sharing a common cause or opinion
♠ polemic attack or defense of an opinion; controversy or refutation; argument in support of point of view; N. polemics: art of debate or controversy
♠ polemical(polemico) aggressive in verbal attack; disputatious (rather than simply expressing opinions)
☐ politic prudent; judicious; well judged; expedient; well devised
☐ polity (particular form of) political organization; form of government of nation or state; Ex. student polity
☐ polygamist one who has more than one spouse at a time; CF. bigamy; CF. polyandry
☐ polyglot speaking several languages; multilingual; Ex. polyglot person/society; N.
☐ pomposity self-important behavior; acting like a stuffed shirt(pompous person); ADJ. pompous: self-important
♠ ponderous having great weight; weighty; unwieldy; lacking lightness; dull; Ex. ponderous body/style of writing
♠ pontifical pertaining to a bishop or pope; pompous or pretentious; CF. pontiff: pope; bishop
♠ pore study industriously; ponder; scrutinize; Ex. pore over the book; N.
☐ porous full of pores; like a sieve
♥ interstice narrow space between things
☐ portend foretell; presage; be a sign or warning of; N. portent: sign; omen; forewarning
♥ soothsayer one who foretells the future
♠ portly stout; corpulent
♥ stout rather fat; strong in body; sturdy; resolute; determined; strong in determination; Ex. stout stick/supporter
♠ poseur person who pretends to be sophisticated, elegant, etc., to impress others; person who poses; CF. pose
♥ pose assume a particular posture; put forward; present; affect a particular attitude (to impress others); Ex. pose a threat; N.
♠ posterity descendants; future generations; Ex. go down to posterity; CF. posterior, anterior
♠ posthumous after death (as of child born after father’s death or book published after author’s death); coming or occurring after one’s death; Ex. posthumous fame/novel
♥ postmortem autopsy; ADJ: occurring after death; of a postmortem
♠ postulate self-evident truth; something assumed without proof; V: assume the truth of (as a basis of an argument)
♠ posture assume an affected pose; act artificially; N: posture; attitude
♠ potable suitable for drinking; drinkable
☐ potent powerful; convincing; persuasive; greatly influential
♠ potentate monarch; sovereign
☐ potential expressing possibility; latent; N: capacity for growth
☐ potion dose (of liquids); liquid dose
♠ potpourri heterogeneous mixture; medley; mixture of dried flower petals a pot (to give a pleasant smell to a room)
♠ poultice soothing application applied to sore and inflamed portions of the body
☐ practicable feasible
☐ practical based on experience; of or acquired through practice (rather than theory); useful; Ex. practical man
☐ pragmatic practical (as opposed to idealistic); concerned with practical worth or impact of something; Ex. pragmatic test of the skill
practitioner practical person; N. pragmatism: pragmatic way of dealing with things
prance move about in a spirited manner (proudly and confidently)
prate talk idly; speak foolishly; boast idly
prattle talk idly; babble; N. CF. prate
idle not working; not employed or busy; lazy; without purpose; useless; lacking substance; baseless; not based on truth; Ex. idle worker; Ex. talk idly; V.
preamble introductory statement
precarious unsafe; lacking in stability; uncertain; risky; Ex. precarious living
precedent something preceding in time which may be used as an authority or guide for future action; V. precede; CF. unprecedented
precedent preceding (in time, rank, etc.)
peck practical rule guiding conduct; Ex. mother’s precept
precipice cliff; dangerous position; Ex. on the edge of the precipice
brink edge (at the top of a cliff); Ex. on the brink of the Grand Canyon
precipitant something that causes a substance in a chemical solution to separate out in solid form; OP. solvent
precipitate hurl downward; throw headlong; hasten; cause to happen sooner; condense and fall as rain or snow; cause (a solid substance) to be separated from a solution; ADJ. hasty; rash; premature; sudden
precipitous steep; overhasty; precipitate
précis abstract; concise summing up of main points; concise summary of a text
precise exact
prerequisite make impossible; prevent; exclude; eliminate
precocious advanced in development; N. precocity
precursor forerunner; predecessor
predator predatory animal or bird; predatory person; creature that seizes and devours another animal; person who robs or exploits others; ADJ. predatory: living by preying on other organisms; plundering; N. predation
predecessor former occupant of a post
predetermine determine in advance; predestine; settle or decide beforehand; influence markedly
predicament difficult situation; tricky or dangerous situation; dilemma
predilection preference; partiality
predispose give an inclination toward (in advance); make susceptible to; Ex. predispose people to certain cancer; N. predisposition
preeminent outstanding; superior
preempt prevent in advance; head off(forestall); forestall by acting first; appropriate for oneself before others; supplant; take the place of; displace; Ex. preempt any attempts; ADJ. preemptive
preen make oneself tidy in appearance; feel self-satisfaction or pride; (of a bird) smooth or clean (feathers) with the beak; Ex. preen oneself on; CF. prune
prefatory introductory; of a preface
prehensile capable of grasping or holding (esp. by wrapping around); Ex. prehensile tails
prelate church dignitary; priest of high position in the church (esp. bishop)
prelude introduction; introductory performance or event; forerunner
premeditate plan in advance; Ex. premeditated murder
premise assumption; postulate; proposition upon which an argument is based
premonition forewarning; presentiment; foreboding
premonitory serving to warn
preponderance superiority of power, quantity, etc.; V. preponderate: be greater in power, weight, or importance; ADJ. preponderant
preposterous absurd; completely unreasonable; ridiculous
prerogative privilege; unquestionable right; CF. ask before
presage foretell; be a warning or sign of; N: presentiment; foreboding; omen
prescience ability to foretell the future; knowledge of actions before they occur; ADJ. prescient
presentment premonition; foreboding; feeling something will happen; anticipatory fear
prestige respect or admiration; impression produced by achievements or reputation; ADJ. prestigious: having prestige
presumptuous going beyond what is right; excessively forward; arrogant; taking liberties
presume take for granted; assume; act overconfidently; take liberties; presume on/upon: take unfair advantage of (someone’s kindness or connection); N. presumption
pretentious ostentatious; showy; pompous; making unjustified claims; overambitious; Ex. pretentious films that claim to be art
pretend feign; pretend to: claim to possess; make pretensions to; Ex. I don’t pretend to much expertise; N. pretense
pretension pretentiousness; claim (without foundation); Ex. I make no pretensions to skill as an artist.
preternatural beyond what is normal in nature; supernatural; Ex. preternatural strength/forces
pretext excuse
prevail be widespread; triumph over; gain victory; prevail on: persuade; induce; Ex. Justice has prevailed; Ex. prevail on someone to do something
prevalent widespread; generally accepted
prevaricate lie; hide the truth (by equivocating)
prey target of a hunt; victim; V: hunt and eat as prey; victimize; Ex. Cats prey on mice.
prim proper to the point of affection; very precise and formal; exceedingly proper
primogeniture seniority by birth; state of being the first-born child; right of the eldest child (to inherit the entire property of one or both parents)
primordial existing at the beginning (of time); rudimentary
primp groom oneself with care; adorn oneself
pristine unspoiled; remaining in a pure state; characteristic of earlier times; primitive; Ex. an old book in pristine condition
privation lack of the basic necessities or comforts of life; hardship; want; CF. deprive
privy secret; hidden; not public; made a participant in something secret; Ex. privy chamber government; Ex. be privy to a discussion; CF. private
probe explore with a probe or tools; investigate; N: slender instrument used to explore a wound or body cavity; device designed to investigate an unknown region; thorough investigation; Ex. space probe
probiy uprightness; honesty; incorruptibility
defalcate embezzle
problematic causing a problem; open to doubt; doubtful; unsettled; questionable; Ex. Whether the arena will ever be completed is problematic.
proclivity inclination; natural tendency (esp. towards something bad)
procure postpone; delay or put off
procurement obtaining; V. procure: obtain by effort; obtain (a prostitute) for another
prod poke (with a pointed object); stir up; urge; goad to action; N: pointed object used to prod; prodding
prodigal wasteful; reckless with money; profuse; Ex. a mind prodigal of ideas; N. prodigality
prodigious enormous; marvelous; extraordinary; Ex. prodigious amount/memory
prodigy highly gifted child; person with exceptional talents; marvel; wonder
profane violate; desecrate (something holy); treat unworthy; be profane for; ADJ: secular; nonreligious; irreligious; irreligious for holy things
profugate wasteful (of money); dissipated; wildly immoral; dissolve; N: profugate person; N. profugacy
profound deep; not superficial; complete; Ex. profound thinker/remark/silence/deafness; N. profundity
profusion great amount; plenty; overabundance; excess; lavish expenditure; Ex. profusion of choices; ADJ. profuse: plentiful; copious; giving or given abundantly; extravagant
progenitor ancestor
progeny children; offspring; descendants
prognosis forecasted course of a disease; prediction; CF. prognostic
prognosticate predict (according to present indications)
prohibitive so high as to prohibit purchase or use; tending to prevent the purchase or use of something; prohibiting; inclined to prevent or forbid; Ex. prohibitive tax
projectile missile; fired or thrown object (such as stone or bullet)
proletarian member of the working class; blue collar guy; N. proletariat: working class (who have to work for wages)
proliferate grow rapidly (in numbers); spread; multiply; N. proliferation
prolific producing offspring or fruit in abundance; fertile; fecund; abundantly fruitful; producing abundant works; Ex. prolific writer
proximity tedious wordiness; verbosity; ADJ. prolix: wordy; verbose; diffuse
prologue introduction (to a poem or play)
defalcate embezzle
promiscuous mixed indiscriminately; indiscriminate; not choosing carefully; indiscriminate in the choice of sexual partners; irregular, particularly sexually; Ex. promiscuous life/girl; N. promiscuity
promontory headland
promote advance in rank; advance; help to flourish; advocate; help actively in forming; publicize or popularize; Ex. Milk promotes health; Ex. promote a match/bill; Ex. promote a new product
prompt cause; urge; provoke; provide a cue (for an actor); ADJ: done without delay; done at the right time; punctual; on time; N: reminder or cue
cue word or signal (as in a play to prompt another actor’s speech or entrance); reminder or hint; V: give a cue to
promulgate announce; proclaim a doctrine or law; make known by official publication
prone inclined to; likely to (suffer); prostrate; lying with the front downward; Ex. prone to disease/make mistakes; Ex. accident-prone
propagate increase in number by producing young; multiply; spread; Ex. Most plants propagate by seed; Ex. newspaper propagating their ideas
propellant(propellent) substance which propels or drives forward (such as an explosive charge or a rocket fuel)
propensity natural inclination
propitiate, prophylactic, propinquity, prophetic, propitious, proponent, prosaic, prophetic, 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pseudonym pen name; fictitious name assumed by an author; ADJ. pseudonymous

psyche soul; mind

psychiatrist doctor who treats mental diseases

psychedelic of psyche; mental; of or possessing extraordinary mental powers

psychopathic pertaining to mental disarrangement; N. psychopath: person with an antisocial personality disorder

psychosis mental disorder; ADJ. N. psychotic

psychosomatic of the influence of the mind on the body (esp. with respect to disease)

pterodactyl extinct flying reptile; CF. wing+finger

pugilist boxer; CF. pugilism: boxing

pugnacity combative disposition; disposition to fight; ADJ. pugnacious: (of people) belligerent; combative in nature

puissant powerful; strong; potent; N. puissance: power

puerile childish; immature; CF. puer: boy

puerile innocent; childlike; CF. puer: boy

pugety make or become putrid; N. putrefaction

putrefy decayed and foul-smelling; foul; rotten; decayed; N. putridity

putrescent becoming putrid; putrefying

gangrene decay of body tissue caused by insufficient blood supply (usually following injury); ADJ. gangrenous

pyromaniac person with an insane desire to set things on fire

quack charlatan; impostor

quadruped four-footed animal; ADJ. CF. biped

quaff drink with zest; drink with relish(zest; hearty enjoyment); N: quaff a drink

quagmire bog; marsh; soft, wet, boggy land; predicament; complex or dangerous situation from which it is difficult to free oneself

bog soft wet land; V: hinder or be hindered; Ex. bogged down in the mud

quail cower; shrink back in fear; lose heart

quaint odd in an old-fashioned way; odd; old-fashioned; picturesque

qualified limited; restricted; V. qualify: limit the meaning of; modify

qualms uneasy feelings; misgivings; uneasy fears especially about matters of conscience; Ex. I have no qualms about giving this assignment to Helen.

quandary dilemma; state of uncertainty; Ex. She is in a quandary about whether to go.

quarantine isolation of a person, place, or ship to prevent spread of infection; V: isolate in quarantine

quarry person or animal of pursuit; victim; object of a hunt; prey

quash crush; suppress; squash; subdue; annul; Ex. quash a rebellion/the decision of the low court

squash crush; quash; suppress

quay dock; wharf; pier; landing place (for boats)

quirky eccentric; odd

quick responsive; quick to act

quiet calm; hush; silence

quell put down forcibly; extinguish; quiet; Ex. “Army Quells Rebellion” in newspaper; CF. kill

purveyor furnisher of foodstuffs; caterer; V. purvey: supply (eg. food); furnish; CF. provide

pusillanimous cowardly; lacking courage; fainhearted

putative supposed; reputed; generally regarded as such; Ex. putative father of the child

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quarry (as of an aircraft in turning); V: pile up; protect with a bank; tilt in turning

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quagmire bog; marsh; soft, wet, boggy land; predicament; complex or dangerous situation from which it is difficult to free oneself

bog soft wet land; V: hinder or be hindered; Ex. bogged down in the mud

quail cower; shrink back in fear; lose heart

quaint odd in an old-fashioned way; odd; old-fashioned; picturesque

qualified limited; restricted; V. qualify: limit the meaning of; modify

qualms uneasy feelings; misgivings; uneasy fears especially about matters of conscience; Ex. I have no qualms about giving this assignment to Helen.

quandary dilemma; state of uncertainty; Ex. She is in a quandary about whether to go.

quarantine isolation of a person, place, or ship to prevent spread of infection; V: isolate in quarantine

quarry person or animal of pursuit; victim; object of a hunt; prey

quarry (as of an aircraft in turning); V: pile up; protect with a bank; tilt in turning

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squash crush; suppress; squash; subdue; annul; Ex. squash a rebellion/the decision of the low court

squash crush; quash; suppress

quay dock; wharf; pier; landing place (for boats)
quench: assuage or satisfy (thrust); slake; douse or extinguish; put out; suppress

squelch: produce a splashing sound (when stepping through mud); crush; squash; CF. 진흙을 위해서 발을 때

querulous: given to complaining; complaining; fretful; whining

whine: complain (in a sad voice); make a high sad sound (as in pain or supplication)

query: inquiry; question; V.

queue: line (of waiting people or vehicles)

quibble: minor objection or complaint; V: raise minor objections; carp; cavil

quiescent: dormant; temporarily inactive; at rest; N. quiescence

quietude: tranquillity; calmness

quintessence: purest and highest embodiment; perfect example; apotheosis; most essential element; Ex. quintessence of wit; ADJ. quintessential; CF. fifth essence

quip taunt; clever sarcastic remark; V.

taunt deride or provoke; challenge in derision; N.

quirk sudden sharp turn or twist; startling twist; caprice; idiosyncrasy; peculiarity of behavior; Ex. by a quirk of fate

quisling traitor who aids invaders; CF. Vidkun Quisling

quiver case for arrows

quiver: tremble; shake; N.

leash: restraining rope fastened to the collar of an animal (to control it); Ex. a dog on a leash

quixotic: idealistic but impractical; CF. Don Quixote

quizzical curious; suggesting puzzlement (without saying); questioning; teasing; mocking; bantering; Ex. quizzical glance

quorum minimal number of members necessary to conduct a meeting

quotidian: daily; commonplace; customary; Ex. quotidian routine

rabid of or suffering rabies; like a fanatic; extremely zealous; furious; CF. rabies: hydrophobia

raconteur story-teller; one who tells stories with wit and skill

ragamuffin dirty child in torn clothes; person wearing tattered clothes

tatter torn piece of cloth; ADJ. tattered: (of clothes) old and torn; (of a person) dressed in old torn clothes

rail complain bitterly; scold; rant; Ex. the weaker railing against injustices

raiment clothing; garments; Ex. I have no raiment fit to wear.

rakish jaunty; stylish; sporty; morally corrupt; dissolute; Ex. He wore his hat at a rakish and jaunty angle.

rake angle of a slope; V: slant from the perpendicular

rake immoral or dissolute person

rally come or bring together; call up or summon (forces, vital powers, etc.); revive or recuperate (after illness or difficulty); N: act of rallying; mass gathering

ramble wander aimlessly (physically or mentally); digress

ramification branching out; subdivision; one branch of a system; one of the results following from an action or decision; Ex. ramifications of a business/the decision

ramify branch out; divide into branches or subdivisions

ramp slope; inclined plane or roadway (connecting two levels)

rampant growing or spreading uncontrollably; growing in profusion; unrestrained; Ex. rampant lawlessness/weed

rampart defensive mound of earth

ramshackle (of a building or vehicle) poorly constructed; rickety; falling apart

rickety (of buildings) likely to break or fall apart; of rickets; CF. rickets; CF. vitamin D

ransack search thoroughly; pillage (going through a place); Ex. Enemy soldiers ransacked the town.

rancid having the odor of stale or decomposing fat; rank

rank offensive in odor or flavor

rancor long-lasting hatred; bitterness; Ex. negotiation without rancor; ADJ. rancorous

random without definite purpose, plan, or aim; haphazard; Ex. random shots; Ex. chosen at random

lot object used in making a determination at random; fate; piece of land

draw choosing of a lot or card

lottery contest in which winners are selected in a drawing of lots

raffle lottery; V: award as a prize in a raffle; Ex. raffle off a new car

rankle irritate; fester; annoy

rant speak violently or excitedly; rave; talk excitedly showing anger; scold; make a grandiloquent speech; Ex. The priest ranted about the devil.

rapacious voracious; ravenous; taking everything one can; excessively grasping; plundering; subsisting on live prey; Ex. rapacious birds

rapport close relationship; emotional closeness; harmony

rapt engrossed; absorbed; enchanted; Ex. rapt listener

refined made less dense (of a gas); V. rafy: make less dense; N. rarefaction

rel (of air) thin in density; rarefied; Ex. rare air of the mountains

raspy making a harsh noise; grating; harsh
ramp (of a sound) grate on (eg. nerves); make a harsh noise; have an unpleasant effect; rub with something rough; Ex. The cat’s tongue rasped my hand.

ratify approve formally; confirm; verify

ratification reasoning; act of drawing conclusions from premises; V. ratiocinate: reason logically

rationale fundamental reason or principle (on which a system or principle is based); fundamental reason or justification; grounds for an action

rationalize make rational; devise false reasons for (one’s behavior); offer an excuse; give a plausible reason for an action in place of a true, less admirable ones; N. rationalization

rational (of a person) having reason; (of ideas) based on reason; logical

ration fixed portion; V: distribute as rations

raucous (of voice) harsh and unpleasant; (of people) disorderly and boisterous; Ex. raucous shouts

ravage devastate; plunder; despoil; Ex. crops ravaged by storms

maraud move in search of plunder; Ex. marauding army

rave overwhelmingly favorable review; V: talk wildly as if mad; Ex. raving lunatic

ravel fall apart into tangles; entangle; unravel or untwist

ravenous extremely hungry; voracious

ravine narrow valley with steep sides; gorge; CF. gully, canyon

raze destroy completely; Ex. raze the city to the ground

reactionary strongly opposed to social or political change; opposing progress; politically ultraconservative; N. OP. radical

reinstate restore to a previous condition or position

realm kingdom; field or sphere; Ex. not within the realms of possibility

reaper one who harvests grain; Ex. the Grim Reaper; V. reap: cut and gather (crop); harvest a crop

rebate return of part of a payment; discount; V.

rebuff reject bluntly; snub; beat back; Ex. She rebuffed his invitation; N.

snub ignore or behave coldly toward; Ex. I made a suggestion but she snubbed me; N.

rebuke scold harshly; criticize severely

rebus representation of words in the form of pictures or symbols; puzzle in which pictures or letters stand for words; Ex. “R U 18” is a rebus for “Are you 18”.

rebuttal refutation; response with contrary evidence; V. rebut: refute; disprove

recalcitrant disobedient or resisting authority even after being punished; obstinately stubborn; determined to resist authority; unruly; Ex. recalcitrant child

recant disclaim or disavow; retract a previous statement; openly confess error; Ex. recant one’s faith/a statement

recapitulate summarize

recast reconstruct (a sentence, story, statue, etc.); fashion again

fashion give shape to; make; Ex. fashion the pot out of clay

recessive quick or willing to receive (ideas, suggestions, etc.); Ex. receptive to the proposal

recession withdrawal; retreat; time of low economic activity

recess pause; temporary cessation; alcove; secret inner place; Ex. parliament in recess; V. CF. recession

recidivism habitual return to crime (even after being punished); N. recidivist

recipient receiver

reciprocal mutual; given and received in return; exchangeable; interacting; Ex. reciprocal trade agreement

reciprocate do or give something in return; repay in kind; give or take interchange; move backwards and forwards; Ex. reciprocate his invitation by inviting him; N. reciprocity: reciprocal relationship; mutual interchange of advantages between two groups; Ex. reciprocity in trading rights

recluses hermit; loner; ADJ. reclusive

reconcile make friendly again (after quarrel); make consistent (two ideas in opposition); correct inconsistencies; Ex. reconcile one’s political principles with one’s religious beliefs

recondite abstruse; not easily understood; profound; secret

reconnaissance survey of enemy by soldiers; reconnoitering; V. reconnoiter: make a preliminary inspection of (esp. to gather military information)

recount narrate or tell (a story); count over again

recourse narrate to help when in trouble; Ex. without recourse to

resort turn to for help; Ex. resort to violence; N.

makeup temporary expedient or substitute (in the case of urgent need); Ex. makeshift shelter

recreant disloyal; cowardly; N: disloyal and cowardly person

recrimination countercharges; V. reciprocate

rectify set right; correct; CF. rect-: right

rectitude moral correctness; moral uprightness; moral virtue; correctness of judgment

recumbent reclining; lying down completely or in part

recline lie down

recovery recover; return to health; regain; Ex. recuperate losses

recurrent occurring again and again
| redolent | odorous; fragrant; suggestive (of an odor); Ex. redolent of onions/mystery |
| redoubtable | formidable; causing fear |
| redress | remedy; compensation; Ex. seek redress for the damage to your car; V: put right; remedy or rectify (a wrong); make amends for |
| redundant | superfluous; more than is necessary; verbose; excessively wordy; repetitious |
| reek | emit (an unpleasant odor or smoke); give off an unpleasant odor; give out smoke; Ex. reeking chimney; N: unpleasant odor; stench |
| stench | strong foul odor; reek; stink |
| refectory | dining hall; room where meals are served (in a school) |
| refraction | bending of a ray of light |
| refractory | unmanageable; disobedient and stubborn; Ex. refractory horse |
| refrain | abstain from; resist; forbear; N: chorus |
| chorus | phrase repeated throughout a song or poem |
| refulgent | effulgent; brilliant; brightly shining; gleaming; Ex. refulgent moon |
| gleam | brief flash of light; glow; V. |
| refurbish | renovate; make clean, bright, or fresh (make new) again; make bright by polishing; Ex. refurbish an old theater; CF. refurbish: polish |
| refute | disprove; prove to be false; N. refutation |
| regal | royal; of a monarch; Ex. regal manner |
| regale | entertain |
| regatta | boat or yacht race |
| regeneration | spiritual rebirth; Ex. regeneration of the prisoners; V. regenerate: give or obtain new life; reform spiritually |
| penology | study of prison management and criminal rehabilitation |
| regicide | murder of a king or queen |
| regime | method of system or government |
| regimen | prescribed course of diet or exercise; prescribed diet and habits; Ex. daily regimen of a dancer |
| regiment | military unit; V: subject to strict order; Ex. regimented society |
| rehabilitate | restore to proper condition (health or useful life); restore the former rank of |
| reimburse | repay; pay back |
| reiterate | repeat |
| rejoinder | reply; retort; comeback; V. rejoin: say in reply |
| comeback | retort; quick clever reply; return to former status |
| rejuvenate | make young again |
| redress | remedy; compensation; Ex. seek redress for the damage to your car; V: put right; remedy or rectify (a wrong); make amends for |
| relentless | become less severe; give in(surrender); ADJ. relentless: unyielding; continuously severe |
| relevant | having importance; pertinent; referring to the case in hand; N. relevance, relevancy |
| relic | surviving remnant (from an extinct culture); memento; keepsake; relics: corpse; Ex. ancient relics; Ex. relics of his travel; Ex. His relics are buried at X. |
| relinquish | give up something (with reluctance); yield; release; Ex. relinquish power/the claim to the land/his hold on my arm |
| relish | enjoy; savor; N: enjoyment; zest |
| remendous | reparable |
| reminiscence | recollection; V. reminisce: recollect the past |
| reminiscient | suggestive of something (in the past); of reminiscence |
| remiss | negligent; careless about a duty |
| remission | temporary moderation (of disease symptoms); remitting of a debt or punishment; cancelation of a debt; pardon; Ex. The disease went into remission; Ex. Christians pray for the remission of sins. |
| remit | transmit (money) in payment; free someone from a debt or punishment |
| remittance | remitting of money; amount of money remitted |
| remnant | remainder |
| remonstrate | protest; objection; V. remonstrate: say in protest |
| remorse | deep regret for wrongdoing; guilt; self-reproach |
| remunerative | (of work) compensating; rewarding; profitable; well-paid; V. remunerate: reward; pay (someone) for work or trouble |
| rend | split; tear apart; N. rent; CF. heartrending: causing deep sorrow |
| render | give; deliver; provide; represent in verbal or artistic form; depict; perform; make; translate; Ex. render the song beautifully |
| rendezvous | meeting place; meeting at a set time or place; V. |
| rendition | rendering; translation; artistic interpretation of a song, etc |
| renegade | deserter; traitor; ADJ. |
| renege | break a promise; deny; go back on; Ex. renege on the contract/paying off the debt |
| renounce | abandon; give up (by formal announcement); disown; repudiate; Ex. renounce one’s claim to the property/one’s religion; N. renunciation |
| renovate | restore to good condition; renew |
| renown | fame; ADJ. renowned |
herald messenger; sign of something to come; V. announce; proclaim; Ex. unheralded researcher

rent tear made by rending; rip; split

reparable capable of being repaired

reparation compensation (for loss or wrong); amends; Ex. make reparation for the damage; CF. repair

repartee quick clever reply

repast meal; feast; banquet

repeal revoke; annul

repel drive away; disgust; Ex. repel the attack/moisture; Ex. repelled by the dirty room; CF. repulsion

repellent driving away; disgusting; offensive; repulsive; unattractive; N.

repercussion rebound; reaction; reverberation; Ex. serious repercussion

repertoire list of works of music, drama, etc., a performer is prepared to present; CF. repertory

repine fret; complain; be annoyed; Ex. repine over the undone work

repplenish fill up again

replete fully filled; filled to the brim or to the point of being stuffed; abundantly supplied; Ex. report replete with errors

memoir memoirs; autobiography; biography

brim uppermost edge of a cup; projecting rim (as on a hat); Ex. The glass was full to the brim; V. be full to the brim

replica copy

replicate reproduce; duplicate

repository storehouse

repose resting; state of being at rest; calmness; V. lie at rest; relax; put or place; Ex. repose our hopes in a single man

reprehensible deserving blame; blameworthy; V. reprehend: blame

repress hold back (the natural expression of); restrain; crush; oppress; Ex. repressed child; Ex. repress a laugh/rebellion

reprove post postponement or cancelation of a punishment; temporary stay; V. postpone or cancel the punishment of

reprimand reprove severely; rebuke; N.

reprisal retaliation

reprise musical repetition; repeating of a piece of music; repeat performance; recurrent action; Ex. reprise in the finale; Ex. constant reprises

reproach blame (not angrily but sadly); express disapproval or disappointment; N. ADJ. reproachful

reprobate morally disapproved person; person hardened in sin, devoid of a sense of decency; CF. disapproved by God?

reprobation severe disapproval; CF. approbation

reprove censure; rebuke; N. reproof

repudiate disown; disavow; deny

repugnance disgust; strong dislike; loathing; ADJ. repugnant: arousing disgust; repulsive

repulsion distaste; disgust; act of driving back; ADJ. repulsive: causing disgust; tending to drive away; V. repel (not 'repulse')

repulse reject with rudeness or coldness (an offer or friendship); drive back (an enemy attack); CF. repulse ≠ cause repulsion

reputable respectable; having a good reputation

reputed supposed; Ex. reputed father of the child; V. repute: consider; N. repute: reputation; esteem

requiem mass for the dead; dirge

mass Christian religious ceremony; CF. Mass: ceremony of the Eucharist

require necessary requirement; something required; ADJ. required; necessary

requisition formal demand or request; Ex. requisition for more computing equipment; V.

requite make return for; repay; reciprocate; revenge; N. requittal

rescind repeal; annul; cancel (a law, decision, or agreement)

resentment indignation; bitterness; displeasure; V. resent: feel anger about

reserve self-control; self-restraint; formal but distant manner; reticence; Ex. without reserve: freely and openly; ADJ. reserved: shy and uncommunicative

residue remainder; balance

residual remaining; left over; of a residue; N: residue

resignation patiently submissiveness; statement that one is quitting a job; ADJ. resigned: acquiescent

resign give up (a position, right, or claim); submit (oneself) passively

resilient elastic; having the power of springing back; able to recover quickly (as from misfortune)

elastic able to spring back into shape; quick to recover (as from disappointment); able to adapt to change; Ex. elastic plans; N: elastic material

resolution determination; resoluteness; ADJ. resolute: firm or determined in purpose

resolve determination; resolution; firmness of purpose

resolve decide; settle; solve; separate; make a determined decision; N. resolution

resonant (of a sound) echoing; resounding(sounding loudly); deep and full in sound; producing resonance; Ex. resonant voice; N. resonance

resound (of a place) be filled with sound; (of a sound) sound loudly; sound back; echo; Ex. hall resounded with laughter

respiration breathing; exhalation; ADJ. respiratory
respite  time for rest; interval of relief; delay in punishment; reprieve
resplendent  brilliant; splendid in appearance; dazzling; glorious
responsiveness  state of reacting readily to appeals, orders, etc.; ADJ. responsive: readily reacting; Ex. responsive to treatment
restitution  returning something (lost or stolen) to the rightful owner; reparation; indemnification; compensation for loss, damage, or injury
respite  interval of relief; delay in punishment; reprieve
retort  quick sharp reply; V.
retract  withdraw; take back; draw back; Ex. retract a statement/an offer/claws; N. retraction; CF. retractile
retrench  cut down; cut down expenses; economize
retribution  deserved punishment for wrongdoing; punishment for offenses; compensation; vengeance; CF. pay back
retrieve  recover; put right; find and bring in; regain; Ex. retrieve the situation
retroactive  taking effect before its enactment (as a law) or imposition (as a tax); (of a law) having effect on the past as well as the future
enact  make (a bill) into law
retrograde  go backwards; recede; degenerate; deteriorate; ADJ.
retrospective  looking back on the past; N. retrospection; V. retrospect

revelry  boisterous merrymaking; V. revel: engage boisterous festivities; enjoy greatly; N: boisterous festivity or celebration
reverberate  echo repeatedly; resound; Ex. The thunder reverberated across the valley.
reverent  respectful; worshipful; V. revere: regard with reverence; N. reverence: profound respect
reverend  deserving reverence; N: priest
reverie  daydream; abstracted musing
revert  relapse; backslide; turn back to; return to the former owner; N. reversion
relapse  return to a former state (esp. after improvement); N.
backslide  revert (to bad habits); N. reverter
revile  attack with abusive language; vilify(slander)
revoke  cancel; retract; CF. irrevocable
revulsion  sudden strong feeling of disgust; sudden violent change of feeling; negative reaction; Ex. revulsion from the scenes of torture
rhhapsodize  speak or write in an exaggeratedly enthusiastic manner; Ex. rhhapsodize over the beauty of the scenery
rhhapsody  excessively enthusiastic expression of feeling; musical composition of irregular form (as if made up as one plays it)
rhetoric  art of effective communication; art of using language effectively and persuasively; style of speaking or writing; grandiloquent language; Ex. political rhetoric; ADJ. rhetorical; CF. rhetorical question: question to which no answer is expected as “Who knows it?”
ribald  marked by vulgar lewd humor; wanton; profane; N. ribaldry: ribald language or joke
riddle  pierce with holes; permeate or spread throughout; Ex. The gunman riddled the car with bullets; Ex. The whole report is riddled with errors; N. large sieve (separating earth from stone)
rider  amendment or clause added to a legislative bill
rife  (of something bad) widespread; abundant; current
rift  narrow opening in a large mass; break in a friendly relation; Ex. through a rift in the clouds; OP. reconciliation
rig  fix or manipulate; manipulate dishonestly for personal gain; Ex. rig the election
arrangement of masts and sails; V: equip (a ship) with rigging; ADJ. rigging: ropes that hold up a ship’s sails
rigid  hard and unbending; stiff and unyielding; fixed in behavior or views; strict; rigorous; Ex. rigid rule
rigor  severity; Ex. rigors of the Russian winter
rile  irritate; vex; muddy
riveting  holding one’s attention; absorbing; engrossing
rivet  metal pin used for fastening metal plates together; V: fasten with a rivet; engross
rivulet  small stream; CF. rill; rivulet; river
robust  strong; vigorous
roccoco  ornate; highly decorated; N. CF. 18th century
roseate  make liquids murky by stirring up sediment; disturb
roseate  rosy; optimistic; Ex. roseate views
roster  list (of names)
rostrum  raised platform for speech-making; pulpit
pulpit  raised platform used in preaching (in a church)
roten  repetition; memorization through repetition without understanding; Ex. learn poetry by rote
rotunda  circular building or hall covered with a dome
rotundity  roundness; sonorosity of speech
rotund  (of a person) fat and round
rousing  lively; inducing excitement; stirring; V. rouse: waken; arouse from sleep or depression; excite; stir up
rout  put to rout; stampede; drive out; N: complete defeat and disorderly retreat
rubble  fragments (esp. from a destroyed building)
mason  one who builds or works with stone or brick; N. masonry: work of a mason; stonework or brickwork
rubric  title or heading (in red print); directions for religious ceremony; protocol
ruddy  reddish; (of the face) reddish and healthy-looking
rudimentary  elementary; not developed; crude; N. rudiment: fundamental element or principle; Ex. rudiments of the language
rued  regret; lament; mourn; Ex. He will rue the day; N. ADJ. rueful
ruffian  violent scoundrel; bully
ruminant  animal that ruminates; ADJ.
ruminant  chew over and over (mentally or, like cows, physically); mull over (ponder)
ruminant  animal that ruminates; ADJ.
rummage  ransack; thoroughly search
runic  mysterious; set down in an ancient alphabet; N. rune: one of the letters of an alphabet used by ancient Germanic peoples (cut on stone or wood); magic charm
ruse  trick to deceive; stratagem
rustic  pertaining to country people; unsophisticated; simple; crude; uncouth; (of furniture) rough with the bark left on; N. rural person; rustic person
rusticate  banish to the country; dwell in the country
ruthless  pitiless; merciless; cruel
saboteur  one who commits sabotage; destroyer of property; N. sabotage: destruction of property (usually carried out secretly)
saccharine  cloying sweet; characteristic of sugar or saccharin
sacred  desecrating; profane; N. sacriilege: desecration, misuse, or theft of something sacred
sacrosanct  invioably sacred; most sacred; inviolable
sadistic  inclined to cruelty; N. sadism: delight in cruelty
saga  Scandinavian myth; any legend; long heroic narrative
sagacious  wise; perceptive; shrewd; having insight; N. sagacity
sage  person celebrated for wisdom; wise person; ADJ.
salacious  lascivious; lustful; Ex. salacious monk
saliency  prominent; projecting beyond a line; conspicuous; Ex. salient features
salty  (of the skin) yellowish and unhealthy-looking; sickly in color; Ex. sallow complexion due to jaundice
salubrious  healthful; conducive to health or well-being; socially desirable; Ex. salubrious area; CF. health
salutary  tending to improve; beneficial; wholesome; Ex. The punishment had a salutary effect on the boy; CF. health
salve  rescue (goods or property) from loss; N: saving; property saved
salute  displaying ostentatious or hypocritical devoutness; N. sanctimony: hypocritical piety
sanction  approve; ratify; N: permission; penalty intended to enforce compliance
sanctuary  place of refuge; shelter; shrine; holy place; Ex. The outlaw was granted sanctuary in the church.
sanguinary  bloody; with much bloodshed
sanguine  optimistic; cheerful; hopeful; of the color of blood; red
sap  diminish; weaken; undermine the foundations of (a fortification); Ex. The element kryptonite sapped his strength.
sarcastic  cutting ironic remark; scornful remarks; stinging rebuke; ADJ. sarcastic
sardonic  scornfully mocking; disdainful; sarcastic; cynical; Ex. sardonic smile
sartorial  pertaining to tailors or tailoring; Ex. a man of great sartorial elegance; CF. sartor: tailor
sate  satisfy to the full; satisfy to excess; cloy
sate  satisfy fully (physical needs such as hunger); sate; N. satiety: condition of being satiated
satire  form of literature in which irony, sarcasm, and ridicule are employed to attack human vice and folly
satirical using satire; mock
satiate soak thoroughly; imbue; impregnate; charge; fill to capacity
saturnine morose; gloomy; Ex. Do not be misled by his saturnine countenance.
satyrian half-human, half-bestial being in the court of Dionysus (resembling a goat), portrayed as a wanton(unrestrained) and cunning; lecher; CF. faun; CF. goat: lecherous man
saunter stroll (go for a leisurely walk) slowly; N.
savant scholar; learned person; CF. savoir: know
savory enjoy; have a distinctive flavor, smell, or quality; N: taste or smell; distinctive quality
savory pleasant in taste; tasty; pleasing, attractive, or agreeable; Ex. savory reputation
scab case for a sword blade; sheath
scab scabrous; N: body; scab; crust
scabbard case for a sword blade; sheath
scale climb up; ascend; remove or come off in scales; N: flake of epidermis; ascending or descending series of musical tones
scanty meager; insufficient
scapegoat someone who bears the blame for others; whipping boy; CF. escape+goat
scavenge hunt through discarded materials for usable items or food; search, especially for food; N. scavenger: one who scavenages; animal that feeds on refuse and carrion
refuse anything discarded or rejected as worthless; trash
scenario plot outline; screenplay (script for a movie); opera libretto; outline of possible future events
schematic of a schema or scheme; relating to an outline or diagram; using a system of symbols; N. schema: diagrammatic representation; outline
scheme systematic plan; plot; clever dishonest plan; orderly arrangement of elements; Ex. health insurance scheme; Ex. a scheme to escape taxes; Ex. a color scheme; Ex. a story with no scheme; V: contrive a scheme
schism division into factions (esp. within a religious body); split
scintilla trace; minute amount; shred; least bit; Ex. There is not a scintilla of truth; CF. spark
scintillate sparkle; flash; be animated; be full of life; Ex. scintillating conversation
scroff laugh (at); mock; ridicule; Ex. scroff at their threats
scotch stamp out (put an end to); thwart; hinder; Ex. scotch the rumor; CF. cut; CF. 擋를 쳐서 잊어버리는 의미
score number of points; written form of a musical composition; reason; group of 20; notch or incision; Ex. full/vocal score; Ex. Don’t worry on that score; V: mark with lines or notches; Ex. score the paper to make it easy to fold
stap step on heavily (so as to crush or extinguish); put an end to; imprint or impress with a mark, design, or seal; shape with a die; characterize; Ex. machine stamping out car bodies; Ex. newspaper stamping him as a liar; N. stamping; implement used to stamp; impression stamped; mark; Ex. Her remarks bear the stamp of truth.
savoury lush; whip (formerly used for punishment); source of severe punishment; V: whip; afflict
scrupulous conscientious; extremely thorough; Ex. scrupulous worker
scrutinize examine closely and critically; N: scrutiny
scuffle struggle confusedly; move off in a confused hurry; N. CF. scuffling twins?
shuffle mix together; jumble; move (something) from one place to another; slide (the feet) along the ground while walking; Ex. shuffle papers from one pile to another; N.
scurrilous abusive; obscene; indecent; Ex. scurrilous remark
scurry move hastily; hurry; move briskly
scurvy contemptible; despicable; N: disease caused by deficiency of Vitamin C
scuttle sink (a ship) by cutting holes in the hull; scrap; discard; N: small hatch in a ship’s deck or hull
hull husk; dry outer covering of a seed; frame or body of a ship
seamy sordid; base; filthy; unwholesome; Ex. seamy side of city life
base contemptible; morally bad; inferior in value or quality; Ex. base motives/conduct; Ex. base metal such as iron
sear burn the surface of; char or burn; brand; parch; cause (a plant) to wither
char make or become black by burning; reduce or be reduced to carbon or charcoal (black substance made by burning wood) by incomplete combustion
scorch sear; N.
brand trademark; mark burned on the hide of an animal; mark burned into the flesh of criminals; mark of disgrace; V: mark with a brand; give a lasting bad name; stigmatize; Ex. The press branded him a liar.
hide skin of an animal
seasoned experienced
season enhance the flavor of by adding a spice, etc.; inure; harden; N. seasoning: something used in seasoning
seasonal of a particular season; Ex. seasonal rise in employment
seasonable occurring at the proper time or season; opportune; Ex. seasonal intervention in the dispute
secession withdrawal; V. secede: withdraw formally from membership

seclusion isolation; solitude; V. seclude: set apart from others; isolate

secrete conceal; hide away or cache; produce and release a substance into an organism; CF. secretive

sect separate religious body; faction; group of people with common beliefs within a larger group

sectarian of a sect; narrow-minded; parochial; N: member of a sect; narrow-minded person

denomination religious group; unit in a system; name or designation; CF. denominator: common trait or characteristic

secular worldly; not pertaining to church matters or religion; temporal

sedate composed (with no excitement); grave; V: administer a sedative to; CF. sedative

sedentary requiring sitting; done while sitting; not moving from one place to another; settled; Ex. sedentary job/population

sedition conduct or language inciting rebellion; rebellion; resistance to authority; insubordination; ADJ. seditious

sedulous diligent; assiduous; paying attention; N. sedulity

seedy run-down; decrepit; disreputable; having many seeds; Ex. seedy downtown hotel

run-down (of a place) dilapidated; in a bad condition; (of a person) weak or exhausted

seemly (of behavior) proper; appropriate

seep pass slowly through small openings; ooze; trickle; N. seepage

seethe be violently disturbed; boil; (of a liquid) move about wildly as if boiling; Ex. The nation was seething with discontent.

seine pass slowly through small openings; ooze; trickle; N. seepage

serenely (of behavior) proper; appropriate

shackle chain; fetter; confine with shackles; N.

sham pretend; feign; ADJ: not genuine; fake; Ex. sham jewelry; N: something that is not what it appears; impostor; pretense; Ex. The agreement was a sham.

shambles (place or scene of) complete disorder or ruin; wreck; mess; Ex. After the hurricane, the coast was a shambles.

shard fragment generally of broken pottery (glass, clay bowl, or cup)

shaving very thin piece, usually of wood (cut from a surface with a sharp blade)

plane carpenter’s tool for smoothing and leveling wood; V. CF: flat
sheaf bundle of stalks of grain; any bundle of things tied together
sheath place into a case; insert into or provide with a sheath; Ex. He sheathed his dagger; N. sheath: case for a blade
sherbet flavored dessert ice
shimmer shine with a flickering light; glimmer intermittently; Ex. The moonlight shimmered on the water; N.
shirk avoid (responsibility, work, etc.); malinger
shoddy made of inferior material; sham; not genuine; inferior; dishonest; Ex. shoddy goods/trick
shrew scolding woman; very small mouselike animal

shrewd clever; astute
shun keep away from; avoid deliberately; Ex. She has been shunned by her neighbors.
shunt move (a railway train) from one track to another; turn aside; divert; sidetrack; Ex. shunt traffic around an accident; N.
sidetrack switch (a railroad car) to a siding; divert from a main issue; N. CF. siding: short section of railroad track connected by switches with a main track
shyster lawyer using questionable methods; unscrupulous practitioner
sibling brother or sister
sibylline prophetic; oracular; N. sibyl: woman prophet (in the ancient world)
sidereal relating to stars; Ex. sidereal day
silt sediment deposited by running water (at the entrance to a harbor or by a bend in a river)
simian monkeylike; N: ape or monkey
simile comparison of one thing with another, using the word like or as
simper smirk; smile in a silly way; smile affectedly
simplistic oversimplified
simulate feign; imitate
secure well-paid position with little responsibility; CF: sine cure: without care; CF: San Serif
sinewy (of meat) tough; strong and firm; muscular; N. sinew: tendon; strong cord connecting a muscle to a bone
singular being only one; individual; unique; extraordinary; odd; Ex. singular beauty/behavior
sinker evil; ominous
sinuous twisting; winding; bending in and out; not morally honest
skeptic sceptic; doubter; person who suspends judgment until he has examined the evidence supporting a point of view; ADJ. skeptical; N. skepticism; scepticism
skiff small light sailboat or rowboat
skimp provide or use scantily; live very economically; Ex. skimp on necessities; ADJ. skimpy: inadequate in amount; scanty; stingy; niggardly

skinflick miser; stingy person
skirmish minor fight; minor battle in war; V.
skittish inconstant; capricious; frivolous; not serious; Ex. charming but skittish young woman; CF: skit
frisk move about playfully; froric; ADJ. frisky: playful
skulduggery dishonest behavior or action; Ex. skulduggery in the election
skulk move furtively and secretly; Ex. He skulked through the less fashionable sections of the city.
slacken slow up; loosen; make or become slack
slack moving slowly; sluggish; inactive; (of a rope) loose; negligent; lax; Ex. slack season; Ex. slack in one’s work; N. V.
slag glassy residue from smelting metal; dross; waste matter
slake satisfy (thirst); quench; sate
slander defamation; utterance of false and malicious statements; V. ADJ. slanderous
slapdash hasty and careless; haphazard; sloppy (carelessly done)
sleazy shabby and dirty; flimsy; insubstantial; Ex. sleazy back-street hotel/fabric
sleeper one that achieves unexpected success; something originally of little value or importance that in time becomes very valuable

slight dexterity; CF. slight of hand: legerdemain; quickness of the hands in doing tricks
slew large quantity or number; Ex. slew of errands left
slight insult to one’s dignity; snub; V: treat as if of small importance; insult; snub; ADJ. small in size; of small importance
slipskull slovenly; careless; sloppy; untidy; shabby; Ex. slipskull work
slip slide
sloth slow moving tree-dwelling mammal; laziness; ADJ. slothful: lazy; indolent
slough (of a snake) shed or cast off (dead outer skin); N: outer layer that is shed
slonely untidy; careless in work habits; slipskull; N. slone: one who is habitually untidy or careless
sledge large sled drawn by work animals
sleight vehicle drawn by a horse over snow or ice
sluggard lazy person
sluggish lazy; slow; inactive; lethargic; CF. slug: nail with no shell
sluicke artificial channel for directing or controlling the flow of water (with a gate to regulate the flow)
slur slander; insult to one’s character or reputation; V.
slur pronounce indistinctly; speak indistinctly; mumble
smattering slight knowledge; small scattered number or amount; Ex. smattering of German
smelt  melt (ore) for separating and removing the metal; melt or blend ores changing their chemical composition

smirk  conceited smile; offensively self-satisfied smile (often at someone else’s misfortune); V.

smolder  smoulder; burn slowly without flame; be liable to break out at any moment; exist in a suppressed state; Ex. smoldering anger

snicker  half-stifled(suppressed) laugh; V.

snivel  complain or whine tearfully; run at the nose; snuffle; Ex. Don’t come back sniveling to me.

sodden  thoroughly soaked; dull or stupid as if from running out of the nose

sober  moderation (especially regarding indulgence in alcohol); seriousness

sobriety  serious; solemn; not drunken; abstemious or temperate; V: make or become sober

sojourn  temporary stay; V: stay for a time

solace  comfort in sorrow or trouble; consolation; V: comfort or console in time of sorrow or trouble

solder  repair or make whole by using a metal alloy; N: metal alloy (usually tin and lead) used in the molten state to join metallic parts

solecism  nonstandard grammatical construction; construction that is flagrantly incorrect grammatically; violation of social etiquette

solemnity  seriousness; gravity

solicit  entreat; request earnestly; seek to obtain; Ex. solicit votes; CF. solicitor: one who solicits; chief law officer

solicitous  anxious; worried; concerned; eager; Ex. solicitous to do something; N: solicitude

soliloquy  talking to oneself (esp. in a play); CF. monologue: soliloquy; long speech by one person (often monopolizing a conversation)

soil  state of being alone; seclusion; ADJ: solitary: existing or living alone (esp. by choice); remote or secluded; single; sole; Ex. solitary life/inn; Ex. no solitary piece of proof

solstice  point or time at which the sun is farthest from the equator

soluble  able to be dissolved in a liquid; able to be worked out or solved

solvent  able to pay all depths; N: solvency

solvent  substance that dissolves another; ADJ: capable of dissolving another substance

somatic  pertaining to the body; bodily; physical

somnolent  half asleep; drowsy; N: somnolence

sonorous  resonant; producing a full deep sound; producing sound

sonnet  14-line poetic verse form with a fixed rhyme pattern

sophist  teacher of philosophy; quibbler; employer of fallacious reasoning; N: sophism: plausible but fallacious argument

sophisticated  worldly wise and urbane; refined; complex; N: sophistication; V: sophisticate

sophistry  seemingly plausible but fallacious reasoning; sophism

sophomoric  immature; half-baked; like a sophomore

soporific  sleep-causing; marked by sleepiness; drowsy

sordid  filthy; foul; base; vile; Ex. sordid bed/story

spangle  small shiny metallic piece sewn to clothing for ornamentation

spare  not thick; thinly scattered; scanty

spartan  without attention to comfort; lacking luxury and comfort; sternly disciplined; Ex. spartan living condition/life

spasm  fitful; periodic; of or like a spasm; N: spasm: sudden involuntary muscular contraction; sudden burst of energy or emotion

spat  squabble; minor dispute; minor quarrel

spate  sudden flood or rush; Ex. spate of accidents

spatial  relating to space

spatula  broad-bladed instrument used for spreading or mixing

spay  lay eggs (in large numbers); produce offspring (in large numbers); N: eggs of aquatic animals

specious  seemingly reasonable but incorrect; misleading (often intentionally)

spectral  ghostly; N: specter: spectre; ghost; phantom

spectrum  colored band produced when a beam of light passes through a prism; broad and continuous range; Ex. whole spectrum of modern thoughts

spendthrift  someone who wastes money; CF: thrift: accumulated wealth

sphinx-like  enigmatic; mysterious

splice  join together end to end to make one continuous length; fasten together; unite; Ex. splice two strips of tape; N.

spontaneity  lack of premeditation; naturalness; freedom from constraint; ADJ: spontaneous: self-generated; unpremeditated; happening without being planned

spoonerism  accidental transposition of sounds in successive words; Ex. “Let me sew you to your sheet” for “Let me show you to your seat”; CF. William Spooner

transpose  reverse the order or position of

sporadic  occurring irregularly; intermittent
squalor ♠
♠ squabble ♠
spurn ♠
spurious ♠
nimble ♥
spry ♠
sportive ♠
spruce ♠
squander □
staid ♠
stagnant □
legato ♥
staccato ♠
squat □
stalemate □
statutory □
statute □
static ■
stanza ■
stanch □
stamina □
stanch ■
stanza division of a poem (composed of two or more lines)
static having no motion; unchanging; lacking development; N: stasis; stable state
statue law enacted by the legislature
statutory created by statute or legislative action; regulated by statute; Ex. statutory age limit
steadfast steadily loyal; unswerving; steady
stealth action of moving secretly or unseen; slyness; sneakiness; secretiveness; ADJ: stealthy
steep soak; saturate; Ex. steep the fabric in the dye bath; ADJ: precipitous
stellar pertaining to the stars; of a star performer; outstanding; Ex. stellar attraction of the entire performance
stem stop or check (the flow of); Ex. stem the bleeding from the slashed artery; N: main axis of a plant; stalk
stem from arise from; originate from

sportive playful; frolicsome; merry; CF. sport: play or frolic; CF. sportsmanlike
spruce neat and trim in appearance; smart; Ex. Be spruce for your job interview; V.
spry (esp. of older people) vigorously active; nimble
nimble quick in movement; agile; quick in understanding; Ex. nimble climber/mind
spurious false; counterfeit; forged; illogical; Ex. spurious arguments
spurn reject disdainfully; scorn; Ex. She spurned all offers of help.
squabble minor quarrel; bickering; V: engage in a minor quarrel; Ex. squabbling children
squalor condition of being squalid; filth; degradation; Ex. squalid children
suffocate die or kill from lack of air; suppress; cover thickly; Ex. smothered in little stickers
smother kill from lack of air; suppress; cover thickly; Ex. smothered in little stickers
stiffle suppress; extinguish; inhibit; smother or suffocate
stereotype one regarded as embodying a set image or type; fixed and unvarying representation; standardized mental picture often reflecting prejudice; Ex. stereotype of the happy slave; V: make a stereotype of; represent by a stereotype; Ex. It is wrong to stereotype people; Ex. stereotyped answer
stickler perfectionist; person who insists things be exactly right
stifle suppress; extinguish; inhibit; smother or suffocate

stem from arise from; originate from

stem stop or check (the flow of); Ex. stem the bleeding from the slashed artery; N: main axis of a plant; stalk
stem from arise from; originate from

stentorian (of the voice) extremely loud; CF. Stentor: a loud herald in the Iliad
stereotype one regarded as embodying a set image or type; fixed and unvarying representation; standardized mental picture often reflecting prejudice; Ex. stereotype of the happy slave; V: make a stereotype of; represent by a stereotype; Ex. It is wrong to stereotype people; Ex. stereotyped answer
stickler perfectionist; person who insists things be exactly right
stifle suppress; extinguish; inhibit; smother or suffocate

stiff suffocate die or kill from lack of air; suppress
stigma token of disgrace; brand; V. stigmatize: mark with a stigma; characterize as disgraceful
stilted bombastic; stiffly pompous; Ex. stilted rhetoric; CF. stiff: formal
stint set limits in amount or number; be thrifty; ADJ. stinting, unstinting; CF. stint:savings
stint supply; allotted amount of work; assigned portion of work; limitation; Ex. two-year stint in the army; Ex. without stint
stipend pay for services
stipple paint or draw with dots or short strokes
stipulate state as a necessary condition (of an agreement); make express conditions; specify; Ex. He stipulated payment in advance
stock standard; kept regularly in stock or supply; typical; routine; common; Ex. stock sizes of paper; Ex. stock excuse/character; N: goods for sale in a shop; OP. unique
stockade wooden enclosure or pen; fixed line of posts used as defensive barrier
pen fenced enclosure for animals; confining space; Ex. sheep pen; V: confine in a pen; enclose
stodgy dull; stuffy; boringly conservative; Ex. stodgy book
stoic stoical; impassive; unmoved by joy or grief; N. CF. stoicism
stoke stir up a fire or furnace; feed plentifully
stolid dull; impassive; showing little emotion when strong feelings are expected
stratagem deceptive scheme; clever trick
stratified divided into classes; arranged into strata; V. stratify
stratum layer of earth’s surface; layer of society; PL. strata
strew spread randomly; sprinkle; scatter; Ex. flower girl strewing rose petals
striated marked with parallel bands; striped; grooved; Ex. striated rocks; V. striate; N: stria: thin groove or line
stricture severe and adverse criticism; critical comments; limit or restriction

strident loud and harsh; insistent; N. stridency

stringent (of rules) binding; rigid; marked by scarcity of money; Ex. stringent economic conditions

strut pompous walk; V: walk in a self-important manner

strut supporting bar; CF. airplane wing 县� 偲 嘳 support

studied carefully contrived; calculated; unspontaneous; deliberate; thoughtful; Ex. studied remark

stultify make stupid in mind; cause to appear or become stupid or inconsistent; suppress; frustrate or hinder; Ex. stultifying effect of uninteresting work; Ex. stultify free expression

stupefy stun; make numb (as with a drug); amaze

stupor state of being stupefied; state of apathy; daze; lack of awareness

stun make unconscious or numb as by a blow; amaze; astound

daze stun as with a blow or shock; bemuse; benumb; N.

stygian unpleasantly dark; gloomy; hellish; deathly; CF. Styx: the chief river in the subterranean land of the dead

stymie thwart; present an obstacle; stump

daze stump base of a tree trunk left after the rest has been cut down; V: walk in a heavy manner; baffle; puzzle

suavity urbanity; polish; ADJ. suave: smooth and courteous

subaltern subordinate

subdue less intense; quieter; Ex. subdued lighting; Ex. subdue: conquer; make less intense; quiet; Ex. subdue one’s anger

subjective influenced by personal feelings; occurring or taking place within the mind; unreal; Ex. subjective sensation of the ghostly presence

subjugate conquer; bring under control

sublimate refine; purify; replace (natural urges) with socially acceptable activities; change between a solid state and a gaseous state

sublime causing deep feelings of wonder, joy, respect, etc.; exalted; noble and uplifting; utter

subsequent following in time or order; later

subservient behaving like a slave; servile; obsequious; subordinate; N. subservience

subside sink to a lower level; settle down; sink to the bottom (as a sediment); descend; grow quiet; become less; moderate; abate

subsidiary serving to assist; subordinate; secondary; of a subsidy; N.

subsidy direct financial aid by government, etc.; V. subsidize: assist with a subsidy

subsistence existence; means of subsisting; means of support; livelihood; V. subsist: exist; maintain life (at a meager level)

substantial of substance; material; solid; essential or fundamental; ample; considerable; well-to-do; wealthy

substantiate support (a claim) with evidence; establish with evidence; verify

substantive substantial; essential; pertaining to the substance; substantial; considerable; Ex. substantive issues

subsume include (as a member of a group); encompass

subterfuge stratagem (deceptive scheme); pretense; evasion; Ex. resort to a harmless subterfuge

subtletly perceptiveness; ingenuity; delicacy; ADJ. subtle: delicate; so slight as to be difficult to detect; able to make fine distinctions; clever; Ex. subtle mind/differences in meaning

subversive tending to overthrow or ruin; V. subvert: overthrow completely (an established system); destroy completely; CF. undermine?

succeed assist (someone in difficulty); aid; comfort; N.

succulent juicy; full of juice or sap; full of richness; N: succulent plant such as a cactus

succor assist (someone in difficulty); aid; comfort; N.

suffrage advocate of the extension of voting rights (for women); CF. suffrage

suffuse spread through or over (with a color or liquid); charge; Ex. A blush suffused her cheeks.

sully defile; soil; tarnish; Ex. sully one’s hands in menial labor

tarnish make or become dull or discolored; N.

sultry (of weather) hot; sweltering; sensual; voluptuous

summation act of finding the total; summing-up; summary (esp. one given by the judge at the end of a trial)

superannuated retired or disqualified because of age; outmoded; obsolete
supercilious haughty; arrogant; condescending; patronizing; CF. eyebrow, cilium

supererogatory superfluous; more than needed or demanded

superficial of the surface; not deep; shallow; not thorough; trivial; Ex. superficial analysis/knowledge

superfluous excessive; overabundant; unnecessary; N. superfluity

superimpose place over something else

supernumerary person or thing excess of what is necessary; extra; ADJ: additional to the usual or necessary number

supersede replace; cause to be set aside; make obsolete; N. supersession

supine lying on back; passive; inactive; Ex. The defeated pugilist lay supine; Ex. supine acceptance of the decision

supplant take the place of unfairly; usurp; replace

supple flexible; limber; pliant

suppliant entreat; beseeching; N.

supplicate petition humbly; pray to grant a favor

supplicant one who supplicates; ADJ.

supposition assumption; hypothesis; surmise; V. suppose

supposititious assumed; counterfeit; hypothetical

suppress put an end to forcibly; subdue; stifle; overwhelm; inhibit the expression of; check; prevent from being published or made public; Ex. suppress a smile; Ex. suppress the magazine/truth

surfeit satiate; feed or supply to excess; stuff; indulge to excess in anything; N: surfeiting; excessive amount; Ex. surfeit of food

surly bad-tempered; rude; cross

cross bad-tempered; showing ill-humor; angry

surmise guess; N.

surmount overcome

surpass exceed

surreptitious done secretly; secret; furtive; sneaky; hidden

surrogate substitute; person or thing used in place of another; Ex. surrogate mother; ADJ.

surveillance close observation of a person (esp. one under suspicion); watching; guarding

susceptible impressionable; easily influenced; sensitive; having little resistance as to a disease; likely to suffer; receptive to; capable of accepting; Ex. susceptible to persuasion/colds; Ex. The agreement is not susceptible of alteration; N. susceptibility

sustain suffer (harm or loss); experience; support; prop; maintain; keep in existence; nourish (to maintain life); Ex. sustain the family/the trapped miners

sustenance sustaining; means of livelihood, support, food, nourishment; something that maintains life; food

suture stitches sewn to hold the cut edges of a wound or incision; material used in sewing; V: sew together a wound

swarthy (of a skin or complexion) dark; dusky; Ex. swarthy Italian?

swathe swath; wrap around; bandage; Ex. one’s head swathed in bandages

swelter (of a person) suffer from oppressive heat; be oppressed by heat

swerve deviate; turn aside sharply from a straight course; Ex. swerve from the principle; Ex. The car swerved to the right.

swill drink greedily

swindler cheater

sybarite lover of luxury; person devoted to pleasure and luxury; CF Sybaris: an ancient Greek city in Italy

sycophant servile flatterer; bootlicker; yes man; ADJ. sycophantic

syllogism logical formula consisting of a major premise, a minor premise and a conclusion; deceptive or specious argument

sylvan pertaining to the woods or the country

symbiosis interdependent relationship (between groups, species) often mutually beneficial; ADJ. symbiotic; CF. together + life

symmetry arrangement of parts so that balance is obtained; congruity; ADJ. symmetrical

lopsided heavier or larger on one side than the other; Ex. lopsided way of walking

synchronous similarly timed; simultaneous with; occurring at the same time; V. synchronize

synoptic providing a general overview; summary; N. synopsis

synthesis combining parts or separate things into a whole; the whole so formed; PL. syntheses; V. synthesize

synthetic not natural; artificial; resulting from synthesis; Ex. synthetic fiber; N.

tacit understood (without actually being expressed); not put into words; Ex. tacit agreement

tact turn habitually silent; talking little

tactile pertaining to the organs or sense of touch

tact skill or sensitivity in dealing with people without causing offence

tactful careful no to cause offence; OP. tactless

taint contaminate; cause to lose purity; modify with a trace of something bad; Ex. tainted reputation; N: stain; touch of decay or bad influence; CF. touch

talisman charm; object believed to give supernatural powers to or protect its bearer

talon claw of bird

tangential only slightly connected; not central; peripheral; digressing; showing divergence; CF. tangent
- **tangible** able to be touched; real; concrete; palpable; possible to realize or understand; Ex. tangible proof

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

- **tan** convert (hide) into leather; make brown by exposure to the sun

- **tantalize** tease; excite by exposing something desirable while keeping it out of reach; torture with disappointment; CF. Tantalus: Greek mythological figure

- **tantamount** equivalent in effect or value; Ex. This invasion is tantamount to a declaration of war; CF. amount

- **tantrum** fit of bad temper; fit of petulance; caprice; Ex. The child went into tantrums.

- **taper** very thin candle; gradual decrease in the width of a long object; V. make or become gradually narrower toward one end

- **tarantula** venomous spider

- **tarry** linger; delay in starting or going; dawdle

- **taut** tight; strained; tense; ready; OP. slack

- **tautological** needlessly repetitious; Ex. “It was visible to the eye”; N. tautology: needless repetition of the same sense; statement that is always true

- **tawdry** cheap and gaudy; Ex. tawdry jewelry

- **temporal** of time; not lasting forever; limited by time; temporary; secular; worldly

- **temperate** moderate; restrained; self-controlled; moderate in respect to temperature; CF. temperance: moderation and self-restraint; abstinence of alcoholic drinks; Ex. temperance society

- **tempestuous** stormy; violent; impassioned; N. tempest: violent storm

- **tenacious** holding fast (as to a belief); persistent

- **tenacity** firmness; persistence

- **tendentious** promoting a particular point of view; biased; having an aim; designed to further a cause; Ex. tendentious rather than truth-seeking; CF. tend: move in a certain direction

- **tender** offer formally; extend; Ex. tender one’s resignation/the exact fare; N: formal offer; money; Ex. legal tender; ADJ: young and vulnerable; sensitive to the touch; sore; soft; delicate; Ex. child of tender years; Ex. tender wound

- **tetanus** doctrine; dogma

- **tensile** capable of being stretched; of tension; Ex. tensile rubber

- **tension** stretching; condition of being stretched; mental strain; strained relationship between groups or people

- **tentative** not fully worked out or developed; provisional; experimental; uncertain; hesitant; not definite or positive; Ex. tentative agreement/reply

- **tenuous** thin; slim; rare

- **tenure** holding of an office or real estate; time during which such an office is held

- **tepid** lukewarm; slightly warm; 미지근한; half-hearted; not eager; Ex. tepid reaction to the new film; Ex. tepid supporter

- **terminology** terms used in a science or art; study of nomenclature

- **terminus** last stop of railroad; end

- **terrestrial** on or relating to the earth

- **terse** concise; abrupt; pithy

- **tertiary** third in order or rank

- **tessellated** mosaic; inlaid; Ex. tessellated pattern

- **testator** maker of a will; CF. testatrix

- **testy** irritable; impatient and bad-tempered; short-tempered; N. testiness

- **tether** tie (an animal) with a rope or tether; N: rope or chain to which an animal is tied; limit of one’s endurance; Ex. the end of one’s tether

- **therapeutic** curative; N. therapy

- **thermal** pertaining to heat; producing heat; warm; Ex. thermal bath; N: rising current of warm air

- **thespian** pertaining to drama; N: actor or actress

- **drama** prose or verse composition to be performed by actors; play; exciting and unusual situation

- **thrall** slave; bondage; slavery; Ex. Her beauty held him in thrall; CF. enthral
threadbare worn through till the threads show; shabby and poor; hackneyed; Ex. threadbare excuses

thrifty careful about money; economical; N. thrift

thrive prosper; flourish

thrones violent anguish

throne crowd (of people or things); V.

throttle strangle; regulate the speed of with a throttle; N: valve that regulates the flow; CF. throat ?

strangle kill by choking or suffocating; suppress

thwart block or hinder; baffle; frustrate

tightwad miser; excessively frugal person

tiller handle used to move boat’s rudder (to steer)

timbre quality of a musical tone produced by a musical instrument (which distinguishes it from others of the same pitch)

timidity lack of self-confidence or courage

timorous fearful; timid; demonstrating fear

tipple drink (alcoholic beverages) frequently; N: alcoholic drink

tirade long angry denunciatory speech; diatribe; harrangue; extended scolding; denunciation

tardy slow; sluggish; not on time; late; Ex. tardy arrival

titanic gigantic; N. titan

tithe tax of one-tenth (contributed to a church); V: pay a tithe

titillate tickle; excite pleasantly; Ex. not to titillate the audience but to enlighten it

tickle touch (the body) lightly so as to cause laughter; please

title name (of a book, film, etc.); mark of rank; formal appellation as of rank or office (such as Lord or General); right or claim to possession; championship; Ex. title as head of the family; Ex. title to the estate

titter nervous giggle; nervous laugh; V.

titular of a title; in name only; nominal; having the title of an office without the obligations; Ex. titular head of the company

toady servile flatterer; yes man; sycophant; V: be a toady to; fawn

toga Roman outer robe

tome large volume; book

handsome large in quantity; generous; Ex. handsome reward

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tonsure shaving of the head especially by person entering religious orders; V.

topography physical features of a region (such as the shape and height); CF. topo-: place

torpedo underwater explosive apparatus; V.

torpor lethargy; sluggishness; dormancy; ADJ. torpid: lethargic; lazy; inactive; (of an animal) dormant; hibernating

torque twisting force; force producing rotation

torrent rushing stream; flood; Ex. The rain fell in torrents.

torrid (of weather) hot or scorching; passionate; Ex. torrid love affairs

torso trunk of statue with head and limbs missing; human trunk

trunk main wooden stem of a tree; human body excluding the head and limbs; torso; prehensile nose of an elephant

tortuous winding; full of curves; Ex. tortuous mountain road

toter shake or move unsteadily; sway as if about to fall

touchstone stone used to test the fineness of gold alloys; criterion; standard

touchy oversensitive; easily offended; irascible; delicate; needing delicate handling; Ex. touchy situation

tout promote or publicize (one’s goods or service); praise excessively (as a form of advertisement); CF. advertise

toxic poisonous; N. toxicity

tract propaganda pamphlet (esp. by a religious or political group); expanse of land; region of indefinite size; system of related organs; Ex. Digestive tract

tactable docile; easily managed; (of something) easily changed or molded; N. tractability

traduce expose to slander

trajectory path taken by a projectile; Ex. trajectory of a bullet

elevation elevated position; altitude; height; flat upright side of a building; angle made by pointing a gun; Ex. The elevation of her style is much admired; Ex. front elevation of the house

tranquility calmness; peace

transcendent exceeding ordinary limits; superior; surpassing; V. transcend: go beyond; exceed; surpass; N. transcendency

transcendental going beyond common thought or ideas; impossible to understand by practical experiences or practices; known only by studying thoughts or intuition; OP: empirical; CF. transcendentalism

transcribe copy; write a copy of; N. transcription

transgression violation of a law; sin; V. transgress: go beyond (a limit); violate; do wrong

transient staying for a short time; momentary; temporary; N: one that is transient

transition going from one state of action to another

transitory transient; impermanent; fleeting; N. transitoriness

translucent partly transparent

transmute transform; change; convert to something different

transparent permitting light to pass through freely; easily detected; obvious; clear; Ex. transparent lie
transpire (of a fact) become known; be revealed; happen; give off (watery waste matter) through pores

transport strong emotion; rapture; Ex. in a transport/transports of; V: move to strong emotion; enrapture

trappings outward decorations; ornaments (as an outward sign of rank)

traumatic (of an experience) deeply shocking; pertaining to an injury caused by violence; N. trauma: serious wound; emotional shock that causes lasting psychological damage

travail strenuous work; toil; painful labor; labor of childbirth

traverse go through or across

travesty copy or example of something that completely misrepresents the true nature of the real thing; comical parody or imitation; treatment aimed at making something appear ridiculous; Ex. travesty of justice; OP. paragon

treatise article treating a subject systematically and thoroughly

trek travel; journey; V: make a long difficult journey

tremor trembling; slight quiver (as of the earth or from nervous agitation)

tremulous trembling; wavering

trenchant cutting; incisive; keen

tumult commotion of a great crowd; riot; noise; uproar

turbulence state of violent agitation; ADJ. turbulent: violently agitated or disturbed

tureen deep dish for serving soup

turgid swollen; distended (as from liquid)

turmoil extreme confusion; great commotion and confusion; Ex. throw the country into turmoil

turncoat traitor

turdid depravity; baseness; Ex. moral turpitude

tutelary protective; pertaining to a guardianship; Ex. tutelary deities

tycoon wealthy and powerful businessperson; wealthy leader; magnate; Ex. business tycoon

typhoon tropical hurricane or cyclone

tyranny oppression; cruel government; ADJ. tyrannical: of a tyrant or tyranny; despotic; V. tyrannize: treat tyrannically; oppress

tyre beginner; novice

tyranny being everywhere; omnipresent; N. ubiquity

twaddle walk through a substance, such as water, that impedes movement

tryst meeting arranged by lovers; arrangement between lovers to meet

tumid (of a part of the body) swollen; distended; bombastic; pompous

ultimate final; not susceptible to further analysis; fundamental; Ex. The sun is the ultimate source of energy.

telepathy communication without words; transmission of thoughts

tribulation suffering; ordeal; distress; trial

tribunal court of justice

tribune official of ancient Rome elected by the plebians to protect their rights; protector of the people

tribute tax levied by a ruler; payment made by one nation to another in acknowledgment of submission; mark of respect (such as praise or gift); Ex. pay tribute to

trident three-pronged spear

trig trigger set off; start

troth pledge of good faith especially in betrothal; betrothal; Ex. by my troth

trough long narrow container for feeding farm animals; lowest point (of a wave, business cycle, etc.); long narrow depression as between waves

ultimate last demand; last warning; last statement of conditions that must be met; Ex. They have ignored our ultimatum.
unassuming — unaccountable — unbridled — unassuaged

unassuming — humble; Ex. the champion’s unassuming manner

unbridled — uncontrolled; Ex. unbridled rage/greed

uncanny — strange; mysterious; Ex. uncanny knack

unction — the act of anointing with oil; Ex. extreme unction

unctuous — oily; bland; insincerely suave

underlying — lying below; fundamental

undermine — weaken gradually; sap; dig a mine beneath

underscore — underline; emphasize

undulating — moving with a wavelike motion; V. undulate; CF. und: wave

uneart — dig up; discover (facts) by careful searching; Ex. He unearthed some secrets about her; OP. conceal

uneathly — not earthly; supernatural; weird; ghostly

weird — eerie; strange; unnatural

unequivocal — plain; clear; obvious

unerringly — infallibly; ADJ. unerring: making no mistakes

unexceptionable — entirely acceptable; not offering any basis for criticism

unfaltering — steadfast; firm; not changing

unfeigned — genuine; real

unfetter — liberate; free from chains; V. unfetter

hostage — person who is kept as a prisoner by an enemy so that the other side will do what the enemy demands

unfledged — immature; not having the feathers necessary to fly; CF. fledgling

unfrock — defrock; strip a priest or minister of church authority

disbar — make (a lawyer) leave the bar or the legal profession

debar — bar; forbid; exclude; Ex. debarred from jury services

bar — railing in a courtroom; legal profession; vertical line dividing a staff into equal measures; Ex. prisoner at the bar; V: shut in or out with bars; forbid; exclude; CF. barrier

bastard — illegitimate child

ungainly — awkward in movement; clumsy; (of something) unwieldy; Ex. ungainly dancer/instrument

unguent — ointment

uniformity — sameness; monotony; ADJ. uniform: the same all over

unilateral — one-sided; involving or affecting only one side; Ex. unilateral declaration

unimpeachable — that cannot be impeached; beyond doubt or question; blameless and exemplary

uninhibited — unrepressed; free in behavior and feelings

unintimating — unfrightening

unique — without an equal; single in kind

unison — unity of pitch (in musical performance); complete accord; Ex. The choir sang in unison.

choir — group of people who sing together (esp. during religious services); place for choir

universal — characterizing or affecting all; general; present everywhere; of the universe; cosmic; Ex. universal agreement; Ex. a subject of universal interest

unkempt — disheveled; uncared for in appearance; not combed; CF. comb

unmitigated — (of something bad) not moderated; unrelied or immoderate; without qualification; absolute; Ex. unmitigated disaster

unobtrusive — inconspicuous; not blatant

unprecedented — having no previous example; novel; unparalleled

unprepossessing — unattractive

prepossessing — attractive; CF. preoccupying?

unravel — disentangle; solve

unrequited — not requited; not reciprocated; Ex. unre- quited love

unrequited — not required; not reciprocated; Ex. unre- quited love

unruly — disobedient; lawless; difficult to control

unsavory — distasteful; disagreeable; morally offensive; Ex. unsavory activity/reputation

unscathed — unharmed; Ex. escape the accident un- scathed

unseemly — unbecoming; not proper in behavior; inde- cent; Ex. leave with unseemly haste

unsightly — ugly; unpleasant to look at

unsullied — untarnished; CF. sully

untenable — of a position, esp. in an argument) indefen- sible; not able to be maintained

untoward — unexpected and adverse; unfortunate or unlucky; Ex. untoward encounter
unwonted unaccustomed; unusual; Ex. He arrived with unwonted punctuality.

upbraid reprimand; severely scold

upbraid reprimand; severely scold

unwitting not knowing; unaware; unintentional; Ex. She was their unwitting accomplice; Ex. unwitting in-sult; CF. wit: know

unwilling not knowing; unaware; unintentional; Ex. She was their unwitting accomplice; Ex. unwitting in-sult; CF. wit: know

unwieldy awkward (to carry or move); cumbersome; unmanageable

uproarious marked by commotion or uproar; very noisy (esp. with laughter); hilarious; causing loud laughter; extremely funny

uproar noisy confusion

upshot outcome; final result

urbane suave; refined in manner; elegant

urchin mischievous child (usually a boy); CF. urchin: hedgehog; CF. porcupine: pig with spikes ?; CF. sea urchin

ursine bearlike; pertaining to a bear

usurp seize another’s power or rank (without legal authority); supplant; appropriate; N. usurpation; CF. take for one’s own use

usury lending money at illegal high rates of interest

utopia ideal place, state, or society; ADJ. utopian

Shangri-la imaginary remote paradise on earth; CF. Lost Horizon

uxorious excessively submissive or devoted to one’s wife; CF. uxor: wife

vacillate waver (in opinion); fluctuate; sway to and fro; N. vacillation

vacuous empty; lacking in ideas; inane; stupid; Ex. vacuous expression; N. vacuity

vagabond wanderer (without a permanent home); tramp

tramp walk with a heavy step; travel on foot; N: vagrant; one who travels aimlessly about; long walk; sound of heavy walking

trample step heavily with the feet; crush under the feet

tread walk; trample; N: grooved face of a tire; horizontal part of a step

vagary capricious happening; caprice; whim; CF. wander

dervagrant wandering from place to place; roving; stray; moving in a random fashion; Ex. vagrant thoughts; N. vagrancy

vagrant homeless wanderer

vainglorious boastful; excessively conceited; N. vainglory: great vanity

dervaledictory pertaining to farewell; N: farewell address (esp. at graduation exercises)

valediction saying farewell; expression of leave-taking

leave-taking farewell or departure

valid logically convincing; sound; legally acceptable; effective; Ex. valid reasoning/passport

sound in good condition; showing good judgment or good sense; thorough; complete; Ex. sound mind/investment/training

validate make valid; confirm; ratify

valor bravery; ADJ. valiant: possessing valor; brave

vampire ghostly being that sucks the blood of the living

vanguard forerunners; foremost position of an army; advance forces; foremost position in a trend or movement; CF. rearguard

vantagard group of artists whose work is based on the newest ideas and methods; CF. vanguard

vantage position giving an advantage (such as a strategic point); CF. vantagepoint

vapid lacking liveliness; dull and unimaginative; insipid and flavorless; Ex. vapid lecture

vaporize turn into vapor (steam, gas, fog, etc.)

variegated (esp. of a flower or leaf) many-colored

variegate change the appearance of (by marking with different colors)

vassal in feudalism, one who held land of a superior lord; subordinate or dependent

vaunted boasted; bragged; highly publicized; V. vaunt: boast; brag

veer change in direction; swerve

vegetate live in a monotonous way (without interests or activity); CF. vegetation: plants of an area; CF. vegetarian; CF. vegan

vehement forceful; intensely emotional; with marked vigor; strong; N. vehemence

velocity speed

venal capable of being bribed; corrupt; CF. vernal

vendetta blood feud (esp. between two families); CF. Nina Williams

vendor seller

veneer thin surface layer (of good quality wood, glued to a base of inferior material); cover; surface show; façade; V.

venerable deserving high respect; commanding respect; CF. command: deserve and get

venerate revere; treat with great respect

venial (of a fault or sin) forgivable; trivial

venison meat of a deer; CF. cow: beef; CF. pig: pork, ham, bacon; CF. calf: veal; CF. sheep: mutton; CF. lamb

venom poison (of an animal); hatred; Ex. remarks full of venom; ADJ. venomous
vent small opening; outlet (as of fumes or a gas); Ex. He gave vent to his anger by kicking the chair.

vent release or discharge through a vent; express (esp. unfairly); utter; Ex. He vented his wrath on his family.

ventilade admit fresh air into to replace stale air

ventral abdominal

ventriloquist someone who can make his or her voice seem to come from another person or thing (without moving lips or jaws); N. ventriloquism, ventriloquy

venture risk; expose to risk; dare; undertake a risk; N.

venturesome (of a person) bold; adventurous; daring; (of an action) risky

venue location; place (of a crime, trial, gathering, etc.); CF. come

veracious (of a person) truthful

veracity truthfulness; adherence to the truth

verbalize put into words; ADJ. verbal: of words; spoken rather than written; oral; of a verb

verbatim put into words; in the same words; repeating the actual words exactly

verbiage pompous array of words; too many unnecessary words; wordiness

verbose wordy; N. verbosity

verdant green; covered with green plants or grass; lush in vegetation; Ex. verdant meadows

lush (of a plant or grass) growing very well

verdigris green coating or patina on copper which has been exposed to the weather

verge border; edge, rim, or margin; Ex. on the verge of: very near to; V: border on

verisimilar having the appearance of truth or reality; probable or likely to be true; plausible

verisimilitude appearance of truth; quality of appearing to be true or real; likelihood; Ex. verisimilitude of her performance as Lady Macbeth

veritable being truly so; real or genuine; actual; not false or imaginary

verity quality of being true; lasting truth or principle; Ex. the verity of his testimony; Ex. one of the eternal verities

vernacular living language (as compared to the official language); language spoken in a country or region; natural style; Ex. lapse into the vernacular

vernal pertaining to spring

versatile having many talents; capable of working in many fields; having many uses or functions; N. versatility

vertex summit; highest point; PL. vertices

vertigo severe dizziness; giddiness

verve enthusiasm (as in artistic performance or composition); liveliness; vigor

vestige trace; remains; Ex. vestiges of some ancient religion

veto vested power to reject a bill; exercise of this right; V: prevent or forbid by exercising the power of veto

vex annoy; distress

viable capable of maintaining life; feasible; practical or workable; Ex. viable scheme

viand food; CF. live

vicarious experienced as if one were taking part in the experience of another; done by a deputy for other people; acting as a substitute; Ex. vicarious thrill at the movies; Ex. the vicarious sufferings of Christ

vicar parish priest; representative

viciously change (esp. from good to bad); change of fortune; CF. the last emperor of China

victuals food; provisions; V. victual: provide with food

vie contend; compete

vigilant watchful; on the alert; watchfully awake; alert to spot danger; N. vigilance

vigil keeping watch (during normal sleeping hours); Ex. all-night vigil

vigilante one who without authority assumes law enforcement powers

vigor active strength; energy; enthusiasm; ADJ. vigorous

vignette small drawing placed at the beginning or end of a chapter; picture; short literary sketch; short written description of a character or scene

vilify slander; speak evil of; N. vilification

vindicate clear from blame; free from blame or accusation (with supporting proof); exonerate; substantiate; justify or support; avenge; Ex. vindicate one’s client; Ex. vindicate one’s claim; CF. vindicator

vindictive disposed to revenge; vengeful; out for revenge; spiteful; intended to cause harm; malicious; Ex. vindictive streak

vintner wine merchant; winemaker; seller of wine

viper poisonous snake

virile manly; having masculine spirit or strength; full of strength

virtual in essence; existing in essence though not in actual form; for practical purposes; Ex. virtual ruler/space

virtue goodness; moral excellence; good quality; advantage; Ex. by virtue of; Ex. make a virtue of necessity

virtuoso highly skilled artist (esp. in music); Ex. piano virtuoso

virulent (of a disease or poison) extremely harmful or poisonous; (of a feeling) hostile; bitter; N. virulence; CF. virus; CF. venom

virus disease communicator

visage face; appearance

visceral felt in one’s inner organs; N. viscera: internal body organs; CF. eviscerate
viscous (of a liquid) thick and sticky; gluey; viscid; CF. consistency
visitive; tool for holding work in place; clamping device
visionary; produced by imagination; fanciful; mystical; showing foresight; N: one having foresight; one given to speculative impractical ideas
vision eyesight; foresight; mental image produced by the imagination; experience of seeing the supernatural
vital full of life; animated; vibrant and lively; critical; of great importance; necessary to stay alive; of life; living; breathing; N. vitality; V. vitalize
vibrant full of vigor or energy; vibrating
vitiate spoil the effect of; make inoperative; corrupt morally
viscid adhesive; gluey
vise; tool for holding work in place; clamping device
vivacious lively or animated; sprightly
vivisection act of dissecting living animals
viviparous; abusive; scolding; V. vituperate: berate; scold; rail against abusively
viviparous; abusive; scolding; V. vituperate: berate; scold; rail against abusively
vituperative; abusive; scolding; V. vituperate: berate; scold; rail against abusively
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viviparous; abusive; scolding; V. vituperate: berate; scold; rail against abusively
viviparous; abusive; scolding; V. vituperate: berate; scold; rail against abusively
volatile changeable; of a quickly changing nature (as of temper); mercurial; tending to violence; evaporating rapidly; Ex. volatile character/situation in the street
volition act of using one’s will; act of making a conscious choice; Ex. She selected this dress of her own volition.
voluble fluent; talkative; glib; N. volubility
volley simultaneous discharge of a number of shots; V.
voluminous having great volume (as of a garment or container); bulky; large
bulk size or volume (esp. when very large); main part; Ex. The bulk of the work has already been done; ADJ. bulky: having great size
voodoo religion practiced chiefly in Haiti
voracious ravenous; eating large quantities of food; exceedingly eager; insatiable; Ex. voracious animal/reader
vortex whirlwind; whirlpool; center of turbulence; predicament into which one is inexorably plunged
vouchsafe grant condescendingly; guarantee; Ex. vouchsafe your fair return on your investment
vouch give a personal guarantee; Ex. I can vouch for his integrity; N. voucher
voyeur Peeping Tom; person who derives sexual gratification from observing the sexual acts of others
vulnerable susceptible to wounds or attack; N. vulnerability
vulpine like a fox; crafty
vivacious lively or animated; sprightly
draft skill (esp. with one’s hands); skill in deceiving people; guile; ADJ. crafty: cleverly deceitful; cunning
vulture carrion-eating birds
vying contending; CF. vie
waffle speak equivocally about an issue; N.
waft move gently (in air or in seas) by wind or waves; Ex. leaves wafting past the window
wagged humorous; mischievous; tricky
wag shake repeatedly from side to side; Ex. The dog wagged its tail; N: humorous person; wit
waif homeless child or animal; Ex. waifs and strays
waive give up temporarily; yield; N. waiver: waiving a right or claim; document that waives a right or claim
waive give up temporarily; yield; N. waiver: waiving a right or claim
wake trail of ship or other object through water; path of something that has gone before; Ex. hunger followed in the wake of the war
wallow roll in mud; indulge in; (of a ship) roll in a rough sea; become helpless; Ex. wallow in the mud/luxury
wan having a pale or sickly color; pallid
wanderlust strong longing to travel
wane decrease in size or strength (after being full); grow gradually to an end; Ex. The moon waxes and wanes every month; N.
wangle achieve by cleverness or trick; wiggle out; fake; Ex. She tried to wangle an invitation to the party.
waggle wriggle; move from side to side with irregular twisting motions
fake not genuine; N: one that is not genuine; impostor; sham; V: counterfeit; Ex. fake the results of the experiment/the signature
wanton unrestrained; gratuitously cruel; willfully malicious; unchaste; sexually improper; promiscuous; Ex. wanton spending/killing; CF. having no just cause
warble (of a bird) sing; babble; N.
warp twist out of shape; N.
warrant justified; authorized
warrant justification; written order that serves as authorization (esp. a judicial writ); Ex. search/death warrant; V: justify; guarantee
warranty guarantee; assurance by seller
warren tunnels in which rabbits live; overcrowded living area; crowded conditions in which people live
wary very cautious; watchful
wastrel — waster; profligate
wax — increase gradually (as the moon); grow
waylay — ambush; lie in wait for and attack
ambush — act of lying in wait to attack by surprise; sudden attack made from a concealed position; Ex. lie in ambush; V.
wean — accustom a baby not to nurse; accustom (the young of a mammal) to take nourishment other than by suckling; give up a cherished activity; cause to gradually leave (an interest or habit); Ex. wean oneself from cigarettes
weather — pass safely through (a storm or difficult period); endure the effects of weather or other forces
welt — raised mark from a beating or whipping
welter — confusion; turmoil; confused mass; bewildering jumble; Ex. welter of data
welter — wallow (as in mud or high seas); lie soaked (as in blood); Ex. The victims weltered in their blood.
wheedle — deceive, persuade, or obtain by flattery; cajole
whelp — young animal (esp. of the dog or cat family); young wolf, dog, tiger, etc.
whet — puffed or gust of air, scent, etc.; short-lasting smell; hint; Ex. whiff of perfume/scandal
whimsical — capricious; fanciful; amusingly strange
whim — sudden capricious idea; fancy
whimsy — whim; tendency to behave amusingly strangely; Ex. story full of whimsy
whinny — neigh like a horse; CF. neigh: make the sound which horses make
whit — small amount; smallest speck; Ex. not a whit of
whittle — pare; cut away thin bits (from wood); fashion in this way; reduce gradually; trim
pare — cut away the outer covering or skin of (with a knife); trim; Ex. pare apples/expenses
whorl — ring of leaves around stem; ring; circular arrangement; Ex. whorls on the fingers
willful — wilful; intentional; headstrong
wilt — loose freshness; droop
wily — crafty; cunning; artful; N. wile: deceitful stratagem
wince — move back suddenly; shrink back; flinch; Ex. She winced as she touched the cold body.
start — move suddenly or involuntarily; Ex. start at the sight of a snake
windfall — fallen fruit; unexpected lucky event
winnow — sift; separate the chaff from grain by blowing; separate good parts from bad; CF. wind
sift — put through a sieve to separate fine from coarse particles; sort or examine carefully
winsome — charming (in a childlike way); agreeable; gracious; engaging
wister — small bunch (of hair); faint streak (of smoke)
whistful — sadly thoughtful (because of desires or memories); sadly pensive; vaguely longing
withdraw — introverted; retiring; remote
remote — distant in manner; aloof
wither — (of a plant) dry up from loss of moisture; lose freshness; shrivel; decay
shrivel — make or become shrunken and wrinkled (often by drying)
withhold — refuse to give; hold back; Ex. withholding tax
withstand — stand up against; resist successfully
witless — lacking intelligence or wit; foolish; idiotic
witticism — witty saying; wisecrack/clever joking remark
wizardry — sorcery; magic
wizened — shriveled; withered; Ex. wizen apple/old lady
woe — great sorrow; deep inconsolable grief; affliction; suffering; Ex. financial woes
woeful — sad; (of something bad) deplorable; deplorably bad; Ex. woeful housing conditions
wont — (the stated person’s) habit or custom; habitual procedure; ADJ. wonted: customary
worldly — engrossed in matters of this earth; not spiritual; of the material world
wrangle — quarrel noisily; obtain through arguing; herd cattle; N.
herd — group of animals; crowd; one who looks after a herd; Ex. shepherd/goatherd; Ex. herd instinct; Ex. herdsmen; V: come together in a herd; look after a herd; Ex. herd cattle
wrench — twist; pull; strain; Ex. He wrenched the gun out of her hands.
wrath — anger; fury
wreak — inflict; Ex. wreak one’s vengeance on
writ — written command issued by a court (telling someone to do or not to do something)
writh — twist in coils; contort in pain
wry — (esp. of an expression of the face) twisted; with a humorous twist (expressing displeasure)
xenophobia — fear or hatred of foreigners; N. xenophobe
yen — strong desire; longing; urge; Ex. yen for travel
yeoman — man or farmer owning small estate; middle-class farmer
yield — amount produced; crop; income on investment; profit obtained from an investment; V: produce; give in; surrender
yoke — join together; unite; N: crossbar used to joining two draft animals
♠ yokel rustic; country bumpkin; 촌놈
♠ yore time long past; Ex. in the days of yore
♠ zany comic; crazy; N: clown; comical person (given to outlandish behavior)
□ zeal eager enthusiasm (to a cause or ideal); ADJ. zealous
□ zealot one who is zealous; fanatic; person who shows excessive zeal
□ zenith point directly overhead in the sky; summit; acme; highest point
♠ zephyr gentle breeze; west wind