

List of 1,000 Common SAT and GRE Vocabulary Words with Latin and Greek Roots

Much of the English language is derived from Greek and Latin roots. These roots are found throughout many words on the SAT and GRE vocabulary questions. In order to learn the most amount of words and be able to deduce what unknown words mean on the test, it is important to learn these roots.

For instance the root “crypt” means hidden or secret so the word “cryptic” means “puzzling, or secret”

Ab-, a-, abs- away

-Abrasive: rough, coarse, harsh

Ab: away

Ras: scrape, shave

Ive: like

“The teacher had an abrasive nature and was often harsh in her critiques.”

-Abasement: humiliation, degradation

Ab: away

ment: act of ,result

“Our coach abased us when we made mistakes on the court”

-Abrogate: cancel, deny, repeal

Ab: away

Rog: ask

Ate: to make

“Since I found the book cheaper, I abrogated my original order”

-Abstain: desist, go without, withdraw

Ab: away

St: stand

“During Ramadan, Muslims abstain from food during the daylight hours”

-Abstemious: self denying, sparing in diet

Ab: away

ous: characterized by

“Tina thought she needed to lose weight so she adopted an abstemious diet”

-Abdicate: to give up

ab: away

dict: say, speak

ate: to make

“The prince didn’t feel qualifed to be king so he abdicated the throne in favor of his little brother”

-Abduction: a carrying away of a person against his will

ab: away

duct: lead

ion: act of , state of, result of

“The child was thought to be abducted, but it turned out he had just wandered off

-Abjure: to recall, recant or repudiate under oath

ab: away

jur: law, justice

“The witness later recanted his statement because they found out he was lying”

Abrade: to wear away the surface or some part of by friction

ab: away

rad: scrape, shave

“The buttons on Casey’s phone were abraded from constant texting”

Abeyance: a state of suspension or temporary inaction

ab: away

ance: action, process, state

“The committee couldn’t come to a decision so the problem was held in abeyance”

Abnormal: not conformed to the ordinary rule or standard

ab: away

al: relating to

“Kelly’s behavior of blowing off homework was abnormal for a straight A student”

Manufacture: the making or producing of anything

manu: hand

act: do

“The company manufactured products for the electronics company”

Activate: to cause to function

act: do

ate: cause, make

“The screen lit up because pressing the button activated the computer”

Aerial: of pertaining to, or like the air

aer: air

al: pertaining to

“Birds are considered aerial animals”

Aeronaut: one who navigates the air

aero: air

naut: ship

“The hot air balloon driver was an aeronaut”

Aeronautics: the art or practice of flying aircraft

aer: air

naut: ship

ic: like, pertaining to

“Jet pilots must go through aeronautics training.”

Aerostat: a balloon or other apparatus floating in or sustained by the air

aer: air

stat: stationary, still

“The helium balloons were aerostat”

Agr- farming

Agrarian: pertaining to land

agr: farming

ian: native of, pertaining to

“The agrarian products were sold at the farmer’s market”

Ambi-,amphi both, on both sides, around

Ambidextrous: having the ability of using both hands

ambi: both

dextr: right

ous: full of

“Sam switched easily between his hands while dining showing his ambidexterity”

Ambiguous: having a double meaning

ambi: both

ous: full of

“The agreement between the countries was ambiguous and lead to many more conflicts”

Amphibious: living both on land and in water

amphi: both

bi: two

ous: full of

“Since frogs can move between land and sea they are amphibious”

Ambul- walk, move

Perambulate: to walk about

per: through

ambul: walk, move

ate: to make

“The dog perambulated around the field looking for his frisbee”

Ambulate: to walk about

ambul: walk, move

ate: to make

“The concerned person ambulated back and forth lost in thought”

Ami- love

Amicable: done in a friendly spirit

ami: love

able: capable of

“The papers were signed amicably and the former partners parted as friends”

Amity: friendship

ami: love

ity: state of, quality of

“Lisa and Joey were in a state of amity prior to their fight”

Pusillanimous: without spirit or bravery

sil: quiet, or still

amin: life spirit

ous: characterized by

“The pusillanimous soldier deserted his comrades right before the battle”

Animate: to make alive

anim: life, spirit

ate: to make

“The girl was animated as she talked about her favorite comedy”

Captivating: to attract and hold attention to

capt: take, hold

“The painting’s rich colors were captivating and held everyone’s attention”

Acceptable: pleasing to the receiver

Ac: to, toward

Cept: take, hold

Able: capable of

“The waitress found her large tip very acceptable”

Conclusive: putting an end to debate or question especially by reason of irrefutability

Con: with, jointly

Clus: close

Ive: like

“The findings of the forensic technician were conclusive, even in court”

Credible: believable

Cred: believe, trust

Ible: capable of

“The newspaper writer believed his source was credible, but his information ended up being false”

Creditable: praiseworthy

cred: believe, trust

able: capable of

“The president’s actions were credible and eventually recognized by the Nobel Peace Prize Committee”

Credulous: ready to believe anything

cred: believe, trust

ous: full of

“The trusting girl believed every lie her friend told her, she was quite credulous”

Credence: belief

cred: believe, trust

ence: action, state of, quality

“His previous actions gave his current sentiments credence”

discredit- the state of being held in low esteem

dis: negation

cred: believe, trust

“After lying about his credentials, the applicant was discredited”

accredit: to attribute to

ac: to, toward

cred: believe, trust

“Popular quotes are often accredited to multiple people”

Accumulate: to become greater in quantity or number

ac: to, toward

cumul: mass, heap

ate: to make

“The little girl accumulated a lot of candy on Halloween.”

Cryptic: puzzling, enigmatic

crypt: hidden

ic: like, pertaining to

“The rationale behind the criminal’s actions were cryptic to the jury”

Cryptogram: Anything written in characters that are secret or so arranged as to have hidden meaning.

crypt: hidden

gram: writing

“The siblings wrote all their notes in cryptogram so their parents couldn’t read them”

Counterfeit: fake, false

counter: against

feit: to make, to do

“The mob was manufacturing counterfeit money to use in their industry”

Contraband: trade forbidden by law or treaty

contra: against

“The kid traded contraband candy even though they weren’t allowed to at school”

Contradiction: The assertion of the opposite of that which has been said

contra: against

dict: say or speak

ion: act of, state of, result of

“The boy told the girl he liked her but contradicted himself by dating someone else the next day”

contraposition: A placing opposite.

contra: against

posit: put

ion: act of, state of, result of

“The fork was first laid down, then the spoon was laid contraposition to the fork

controversial: argumentative, contentious, disputatious

contro: against

vers: turn

al: relating to

There are many issues in the world of politics that are controversial.

counteract: to act in opposition to

counter: against

Martin Luther King Jr. attempted to counteract racism in the United States.

Anticyclone: an atmospheric condition of high central pressure, with currents flowing outward

anti: against, opposed to

cycl: circle, ring

Cycloid: like a circle

cycl: circle, ring

oid: like

The design of her tattoo was cycloid.

Encyclical: intended for general circulation

en: intensification, put into, or on

cycl: circle, ring

al: relating to

“An encyclical letter was sent out from the principal of the school”

Epicycle: a circle that rolls upon the external or internal circumference of another circle

epi: upon

cycl: circle, ring

“

Tricycle: a three wheeled vehicle

tri: three

cycl: circle, ring

“Matt learned to ride bikes by first riding on a tricycle”

Endemic: peculiar to some specified country or people

en: put into or on, bring into the condition of, intensification

dem: people

ic: nature of, like

“Some species are endemic and only found in a certain country”

Pandemic: affecting a whole people or all classes

pan: all

dem: people

ic: nature of, like

“There are occasionally break outs of pandemic diseases”

Dendroid: like a tree

dendr: tree

oid: like

“The dendroid bush was not actually even related to trees”

Dendrology: the natural history of trees

dendr: tree

ology: study, science, theory

“The dendrology of a tree can sometimes be determined from its rings”

Dentifrice: any preparation used for cleaning the teeth

dent: tooth

ice: condition, state, quality

Derm- skin

Dermatology: the branch of medical science which relates to the skin and its diseases

derm: skin

ology: study, science, theory

“Because of her family’s history of skin cancer, Megan was interested in dermatology”

Epidermis: the outer skin

epi: upon

derm: skin

“The girl marked her epidermis with a marker.”

Hypodermic: pertaining to the area under the skin

hypo: under

derm: skin

ic: nature of, like

“The hypodermic needle dispensed the necessary medication”

Taxidermy: the art or process of preserving dead animals

tax: arrangement, order

derm: skin

“Western restaurants sometimes feature taxidermy animals.”

Dictum: a positive utterance

dict: speak

“The monarch issued a dictum about the recent rash of violence”

Edict: a decree issued by a sovereign or other authority

dict: speak

“

Indict: to bring formal accusation against

in: into, towards

dict: speak

“The accused was indicted of multiple counts of burglary”

Malediction: curse, imprecation

male: bad, wretched

dict: speak

“The witch uttered malediction against the people who imprisoned her”

Predict: to tell in advance

pre: before in time or place

dict: speak

“The fortune-teller predicted the outcome of an important basketball game”

Benediction: utterance of good wishes

ben: good, well

dict: speak

ion: act of, state of, result of

“At the end of the service, the pastor said a benediction to send people on their way”

Dominate: to influence controllingly

domin: master

ate: to make

“Plantation owners dominated their slaves and treated them like property”

Domineer: to rule with insolence

domin: master

eer: person who

“The CEO was domineering and had a lot of influence over people”

Predominate: superior in power

pre: before in time, place, order or importance

domin: master

ate: to make

“The vice president has a lot of power but the president is predominate”

Endurable: tolerable

en: put into or on, intensification

dur: tolerable

able: capable of

“Janice twisted her ankle but said the pain was endurable and that she would be okay.”

Egoism: selfishness

ego: self

ism: system, manner, condition

“Ben exhibited extreme egoism and cared only for himself”

Anesthetic: loss of sensation

an: not, without

esth: feeling, sensation, beauty

ic: nature of, like

“Poppy’s headache was so severe that she required anesthetic to stay at work”

Esthetic: pertaining to the sense of the beautiful

esth: feeling, sensation, beauty

ic: like, pertaining to

“The art museum appealed to the group’s esthetic side”

Extraneous: external, foreign

extra: outside, beyond

ous: characterized by

“The ideas of the religion seemed extraneous to those of others”

Fidelity: loyalty

fid: faith

ity: state of being

“Mia’s dog exhibited extraordinary fidelity even after she had lost him on vacation”

Fudicial: indicative of faith or trust

fud: faith

ial: pertaining to

“The couple’s willingness to be separated was fudicial”

Infidel: unbeliever

in: not, without

fid: faith

“The Catholic Church often persecutes infidels”

Perfidy: deliberate breach of faith or trust

per: throughly, through

fid: faith

“The lie was an express act of perfidy”

Confidant: one to whom secrets are entrusted

con: with, jointly, completely

fid: faith

ant: full of

“The psychologist was many people’s only confidant”

Diffidence: self distrust

di: negation, removal, expulsion

fid: faith

ence: action of, state of, quality

“Jamie was insecure about his scholarly work, he showed a lot of diffidence”

genuflection: act of bending the knee or touching it to the ground in worship

ge: earth

flect: bend

tion: state of being

“Genuflection is a big part of prayer in many religions”

Flection: the act of bending

flect: bend

ion: state of being

“Gymnasts have high ability for flection”

Reflectible: able to cast back light

re: again

flect: bend

ible: capable of being

“The police officer’s glasses were reflectible”

Deflect: to bend or turn aside

de: down, away, completely, removal, reversal

flect: bend

“The girl deflected all of her friend’s questions about where she had been”

Inflexible: resistant to being bent

in: not, without

flex: bend

ible: able, can do

“The piece of metal was very inflexible”

Efflorescence: state or period of flowering

ef: out upward, completely previous

flor: flower

ence: state or quality of

“Springtime is often one of efflorescence for various species”

Flora: plants of a particular region or period

flor: flower

“Madagascar’s flora is very unique and sometimes seen no where else in the world”

Florid: reddish, rosy

flor: flower

“After being out in the wind, Josh’s cheeks were florid”

Fracture: a break

fract: break

“Dan fractured his wrist when he fell off his bike”

Refract: to alter or distort from a straight path undergone by a light ray or energywave in passing obliquely

re: again

fract: break

Fragile: easily broken

frag: break

“The delicate cup was so fragile it broke when it was knocked over”

Refragable:

re: again

frag: break

able: capable of being

Fugacious: fleeting

fug: flee, run away, escape

ous: characterized by

“Damien’s thoughts were fugacious and he couldn’t hold onto them”

Subterfuge: evasion

sub: at a lower position, lower in rank, nearly, approximately

fug: flee, run away, escape

“Many armies practice subterfuge to avoid detection”

Functionary: an official

funct: perform, work

tion: state of being

ary: relating to, quality of, place

“The dignitary was accompanied by numerous functionaries”

Engender: cause, produce

en: put into or on, bring into the condition of, intensification

gen: birth, production

er: one, who

“Farming engenders produce”

Generate: to produce or cause to be

gen: birth production

ate: become

“The machine generated many electronic parts”

genesis: creation

gen: birth, production

“The genesis of the world is explained by evolution”

genitive: indication source, origin, possession, or the like

gen: birth, production

ive: having the nature of

Genteel: well-bred or refined

gen: birth, production

“Many genteel people reside in New York’s upper east side”

Monogram: a character consisting of two or more letters interwoven into one

mono: one

gram: letter

“When people get married they sometime create a monogram from their initials”

Phonogram: a graphic character symbolizing an articulate sound

phon: sound

gram: letter

“

Anagram: the letters of a word or phrase so transposed as to make a difference word or phrase

ana: again, against, back, up

gram: letter

“ ‘Spend it’ is an anagram of ‘stipend’”

Epigram: a pithy phrasing of a shrewd observation

epi: upon

gram: letter, written

“

Lithograph: producing a writing using a specially prepared stone and ink

litho: stone

graph: writing, written, recording

Monograph: a treatise on a particular subject

mono: one

graph: writing, recording, written

“Many people have written monographs about particular presidents”

Typographical

typ: stamp, model

graph: writing, recording, written

al: pertaining to

Barograph: recordings of a barometer

baro: weight, pressure

graph: writing, recording, written

Bibliography: a complete or selective list of works compiled upon some common principle

bibl: book

graph: writing, written, recording

y: characterized by

“The reference book was ended by a bibliography of all the references used to create it”

Cosmography: a description or representation of the main features of the universe.

cosmo: universe

graph: writin, recording, written

y: characterized by

“The students studied a cosmography for their science class”

Gratification: satisfaction

grat: pleasing

fic: make

tion: state of being

“The cake provided gratification for the sweet toothed child”

Gratuitous: voluntarily

grat: pleasing

ous: characterized by

“The scholarship was given gratuitously by Freetestprep.com”

Gratuity: tip

grat: pleasng

ity: quality of

“Because the waiter was so attentive, the customers left a large gratuity”

Ingratiate: to establish in the favor of good graces of others

in: in, into towards, inside

grat: pleasing

ate: become

“The new girl ingratiated herself with everyone at the party”

Introgression: entrance

intro: inward, within

gress: to step, to go

sion: state of being

“The bride’s introgression is many people’s favorite part of weddings”

Progression: a moving forward

pro: in support of, acting for, motion forward

gress: to step, to go

sion: state of being

“The progression of the disease was spelled out for the unfortunate patient”

Regress: to return to a former place or condition

re: again

gress: to step, to go

“After making a lot of progress, Cindy regressed to her former fear of heights.”

Retrogression: moving backward

retro: backward, behind

gress: to step, to go

sion: state of being

“Bob retrogressed because something in the store window had caught his eye”

Transgress: to break a law

trans: across

gress: to step, to go

“Jails are full of transgressors”

Aggress: to make the first attack

ag: movement to, change into, addition, increase

gress: to step, to go

“Dogs don’t often agress unless they feel threatened”

Digress: to turn aside from the main subject

di: negation, removal, expulsion

gress: to step, to go

“The teacher digressed from point of the lecture when she was reminded of another story”

Egress: any place of exit

e: out, upward, completely, previous

gress: to step, to go

“The flight attendant pointed out the places of egress from the plane”

Retrograde: to move backward

retro: backwards

grad: to step, to go

“After the car accident, Jenny had retrograde amnesia and couldn’t remember anything prior to the crash”

Gradation: any process or change taking place through a series of stages

grad: to step, to go

tion: act of, state of, result of

“The color wheel shows the gradation of hues”

Gradient: moving or advancing by steps

grad: to step, to go

ient:

“Skin tone is often determined in terms of gradients”

Gynecocracy: female supremacy

gyn: woman, female

cracy: government, rule

“There are a few gynecocracys around the world in which females are the top of society”

Misogyny: hatred of women

mis: hate

gyn: woman, female

“Talli accused her manager of being a misogynist when he treated her worse than the male employees”

Philogynist: one who is fond of women

phil: love, friendship

gyn: woman, female

“Phil the philogynist had many female friends”

ist: one who, that which

Exhausting: producing fatigue

ex: from, out

haust: draw

“The work out was exhausting”

Hemorrhage: discharge of blood from a ruptured or wounded blood-vessel

hem: blood

“There is always a risk of hemorrhage when people undergo surgery”

Hemorrhoids: tumors composed of enlarged and thickened blood vessels

hem: blood

Herbarium: a collection of dried plants scientifically arranged for study

herb: grass, plant

“The science room featured a large herbarium”

Herbivorous: feeding on herbs or other vegetable matter, as animals

herb: grass, plant

vor: swallow

ous: characterized by

“Kola’s only eat eucalyptus and thus are herbivorous”

Herbaceous: like an herb

herb: grass, plant

ous: characterized by

“The food looked herbaceous but it was hard to tell”

heteromorphic: deviating from normal

hetero: different

morph: form, shape

ic: pertaining to

“The heteromorphic man wasn’t carrying an umbrella in the rain”

heterodox: at variance with any commonly accepted doctrine

hetero: different

dox: opinion, tenet

“Wiccan religions are often heterodoxic”

heterogeneity: unlikeness of constituent parts

hetero: different

gen: race, kind

ity: quality of

“The soup had many heterogenitic chunks”

heterogenous: consisting of dissimilar elements or ingredients of different kinds

hetero: different

gen: race, kind

ous: characterized by

“The heterogenous mixture had many visible parts”

homogeneity: congruity of parts

homo: same

gen: race, kind

ity: quality of

“The chef stirred the batter until it was homogeneous”

homogeneous: made up of similar parts

homo: same

gen: race, kind

ous: characterized by

homologous: identical in nature

homo: same

log: thought, word, speech

ous: characterized by

“Because of evolution, many animals have homologous body parts”

homonym: a word the same as another in sound and spelling but different in meaning

homo: same

onym: name

“Do and dew are homonyms”

homophone: a word pronounced the same but different in meaning

homo: same

phon: sound

hydroelectric: pertaining to electricity developed water or stream

hydro: water

hydrous: watery

hydro: water

ous: characterized by

“The residue was hydrous and dripped everywhere”

hypercritical: faultfinding

hyper: too much, over, excessive

crit: judge

al: pertaining to

“The hypercritical teacher criticized the students work often”

Icon: an image or likeness

icon: image

Iconoclast: an image-breaker

icon: image

clast: broken

“The iconoclast refused to go to church”

Fastidious: hard to please

idio: peculiar, personal, distinct

“The fastidious customer sent the worker back five times to find the right product”

Idiom: use of words peculiar to a particular language

idio: peculiar, personal, distinct

“Idioms vary from culture to culture and sometimes inhibit communication”

Idiosyncrasy: a mental quality of habit peculiar to an individual

idio: peculiar, personal, distinct

syn: with

y: characterized by

“The flamboyant boy had many idiosyncratic behaviors”

Isochronous: regularly, at equal time intervals

iso: equal

chron: time

ous: characterized by

“Josh’s isochronous medication had to be taken every six hours”

Isothermal: occurring to constant temperature

iso: equal

therm: heat, warm

al: pertaining to

“The delicate pastry had to be cooked isothermally”

Eject: to expel

e: out, upward, completely, previously

ject: throw

“Callie ejected the CD from the sound system”

Inject: to force into a passage

in: not, without, in, into, towards, inside

ject: throw

“The medication was injected into the patients arm”

Trajectory: the curve described by a projectile

tra: across

ject: throw

“The trajectory of the golf ball was charted out by the player”

forejudge: to judge of before hearing evidence

fore: before

jud: law

“The case was so well publicized that it was hard to find a jury that hadn’t forejudged the accused”

judgement: make a decision or form an opinion objectively

jud: law

ment: condition of

“The baby sitter used judgement to decide which sibling was at fault”

judicature: distribution and administration of justice by trial and judgement

jud: law

cat: down

“Judicature is handed down by the judicial branch of our government”

judicial: pertaining to the administration of justice

jud: law

ical: pertaining to

“The parents were judicial in their handing out of punishment to their children”

judiciary: system of courts of justice in a country

jud: law

y: characterized by

“After the case was appealed, it moved higher up the judiciary system”

judicious: prudent

jud: law

ous: characterized by

“People should be more judicious in their fat intake”

prejudice: judgement or opinion formed before examination of facts

pre: before in time, place, order or importance

jud: law

“The professor was prejudiced against the student because he hadn’t like her sibling”

extrajudicial: happening out of court

extra: outside, beyond

jud: law

icial: pertaining to

“Vigilantes perform acts extrajudicially”

Junction: condtion of being joined

junct: join

tion: state of being

“There was an accident at the junction of Main Street and 1st Street today”

juncture: articulation, joint, seam

junct: join

“The knee is a juncture of the lower leg bones and the femur”

adjunct: something joined with another thing but holding a subordinate place

ad: movement to, change into, addition or increase

junct: join

“The adjunct professor didn’t have as many priveleges as the others”

conjunction: the state of being joined together

con: with, jointly, completely

junct: join

tion: state of being

“The medication was used in conjunction with therapy for the injury”

disjunctive: helping or serving to disconnect or separate

dis: negation, removal, expulsion

junct: join

ive: having the nature of

“Communication between the groups was disjunctive”

Juvenile: characteristic of youth

juven: young

“The juvenile boys played football in the mud”

Rejuvenate: to restore youth

re: again

juven: young

ate: become

“The cream was supposed to rejuvenate facial skin”

Labyrinth: Maze

lab: work

“The city’s complicated streets seemed like a labyrinth”

Labrinthine: complicated, highly convoluted

“The labrinthine design had many intersecting lines”

syllabus: outline of a subject, course, lecture or treatise

collaborate: To labor or cooperate with another or others, especially in literary or scientific pursuits.

Laborious: toilsome

lab: work

“The laborious work lasted for hours and seemed to accomplish very little”

Laceration: a cut

lacer: tear

tion: state of being

“After the boy fell off his bike he had a laceration on his knee”

Lachrymose: tearful, sad

lacrym: cry, tears

“The people were lachrymose after watching the movie”

Lactic: of, pertaining to, or obtained from milk

lact: milk

ic: pertaining to

“The lactic solution was sustenance for the baby”

Lacteal: consisting of, or resembling milk, milky

lact: milk

al: pertaining to

“Sometimes the stars and skies look lacteal which is how the ‘Milky Way’ got its name”

Lateral: directed toward the side

later: side

al: pertaining to

“The defensive player moved laterally to block the offense”

Bilateral: two sided

bi: two

later: side

al: pertaining to

“The bilateral promise changed the country boundaries of two nations”

Lexicon: dictionary

lex: word, law, reading

“Every generation has had its own lexicon of slang terms”

Alleviate: to make easier

al: movement to, change into, addition or increase

lev: lift, light

ate: become

“The medication alleviated the girl’s headache”

Liberate: to set free

liber: free

ate: become

“The dog felt liberated when he was let off his leash”

Liberality: generosity

liber: free

ity: quality of

“The church’s liberality saved many people from poverty”

Lingua: the tongue

lingu: language, tongue

“The hot pizza burned Marco’s lingua when he bit into it”

Lingual: pertaining to the tongue

lingu: language, tongue

al: act or process of

“

Linguist: specialist in linguistics

lingu: language, tongue

“The linguist knew many dead languages and could translate a variety of texts”

Linguistics: science of language

lingu: language, tongue

Sublingual: situated under the tongue

sub: at a lower position, lower in rank, nearly

lingu: language, tongue

al: act or process of

Lithograph: a print made by printing from stone

lith: rock, mineral, fossil

graph: draw, write

Monolith: obelisk, column, large statue

mono:one

lith: rock, mineral, fossil

“The Washington monument is a monolith”

Neolithic: pertaining to the last phase of the stone age

neo:new

lith: rock, mineral, fossil

ic: pertaining to

“Archeologists have discovered many neolithic artifacts”

Anthracite: hard coal

anthr:

ite: rock, mineral, fossil

“Before oil, many boats were powered by anthracite”

Grandiloquent: speaking in a lofty style

grand: grand

loqu: speak

ent:

“The politician’s grandiloquent speech alienated many of his would be voters”

Loquacious: talkative

loqu: speak

ous: characterized by

“The two loquacious friends hadn’t seen each other in a while and talked incessantly”

Soliloquy: a monologue

sol: alone, only

loqu: speak

y: characterized by

“Shakespeare is famous for the many soliloquys in his plays”

Colloquial: characteristic or appropriate to ordinary conversation

col: with, together

loqu: speak

al: pertaining to

“Colloquials shouldn’t be used in formal papers”

Eloquent: exercising the power of fluent and forceful speech

e: out, upward, completely, previous

loqu: speak

ent:

“The eloquent acceptance speech brought many people to tears”

Elocution: person’s manner of speaking aloud in public

e: out, upward, completely, previous

locu: speak

tion: state of being

“Speech classes teach students proper elocution”

Interlocutor: perso who takes part in a conversation or dialogue

inter: between, smong

locu: speak

or: one, who

“Peter and Cindy were in the middle of a conversation when an interlocutor interrupted them”

Elucidate: to bring out more clearly the facts concerning

e: out, upward, completely, previous

luc: light

ate: become

“The preacher elucidated some of the more complicated parts of the text”

Lucid: mentally sound

luc: light

“In order to stand trial, people have to be lucid”

Translucence: permitting light to pass through, but diffusing it

trans: across

luc: light

ence: state or quality of

“The translucent colored glass produced a red shadow”

Illuminate: to supply with light

il: in, into, towards, inside

lumin: light

ate: become

“The lamp illuminated the room with a yellow glow”

Luminary: celestial body

lumin: light

ary: relating to, quality, place where

“The luminaries lite up the night sky”

Luminescent: showing an increase of light

lumin: light

escent: in the process of

“The fader switch made the lights luminescent”

Luminosity: quality of being intellectually brilliant

lumin: light

ity: state, quality of

“The luminosity of the applicant impressed the interviewers”

Macrocosm: great world or universe

macro: large, great

cosm: universe

“The macrocosm incorporates everything in the world”

Magnanimous: generous in treating or judging others

magn: large, great

anim: breath

ous: characterized by

“The magnanimous man always gave people a second chance”

Magnate: a person of rank or importance

magn: large, great

ate: become, cause, make

“The magnate out ranked everyone else in the company”

Magnificent: making a splendid appearance or show

magn: large, great

“The wedding was magnificent and beautiful”

Magnitude: importance

magn: large, great

“The issue was of great magnitude and was the main one to be discussed at the meeting”

Malady: disorder or disease of the body

mal: bad, ill, wrong

ady: characterized by

“The infant’s malady prevented her from digesting properly”

Malcontent: dissatisfied with current conditions

mal: bad, ill, wrong

“Jimmy was malcontent with his living situation”

Malefactor: one who injures another

mal: bad, ill, wrong

fact: make

or: on who, that which

“The principal was having trouble deciding who the malefactor was in the schoolyard brawl”

Maleficent: michievous

mal: bad, ill, wrong

fic: make

“The maleficent boy blamed his little sister for the mess in their play room”

Malevolence: ill will

mal: bad, ill, wrong

vol: wish

ence: action, state of, quality

“Betty felt such malevolence for her ex-boyfriend that people were a little concerned”

Malign: to speak evil of

mal: bad, ill, wrong

“The newspaper maligned the corrupt politican”

Malignant: evil in nature

mal: bad, ill, wrong

ant: performing, agent

“The malignant wizard performed many curses on innocent people”

Maneuver: planned and regulated movement

man: hand

er: on who, that which

“Chole had trouble maneuvering her car around the pole”

Manumit: to set free from bondage

man: hand

mit: thread

“Abraham Lincoln was instrumental in manumitting the slaves”

Pyromania: compulsion to set things on fire

pyro: heat, fire

mania: madness, insanity, excessive desire

“Pyromaniacs are often the perpetrators behind arsen”

Bibliomania: passion for collecting books

bibl: book

mania: madness, insanity, excessive desire

“The bibliomaniac had three rooms filled with books”

Monomania: psychosis characterized by thoughts confined to one idea

mono: one

mania: madness, insanity, excessive desire

“OCD people may also have monomania and have a single compulsion”

Marine: pertaining to the sea

mari: sea

ine: having the nature or characteristic of

“The marine setting made people calm”

Maritime: connected to the sea

mari: sea

“The sailors maritime adventures were chronicled in a journal”

Maternal: pertaining to the mother

mater: mother

al: relating to

“The older sister was very maternal to her younger siblings.”

Emigrant: one who moves from one place to settle in another

e: out, upward, completely, previous

migr: move

ant: performing, agent

“The emigrant moved from the city to the suburbs”

Immigrant: a foreigner who enters a country to settle there

im: in, into, towards, inside

migr: move

ant: performing, agent

“Natasha was an immigrant to the United States.”

Migrant: wandering

migr: move

ant: performing, agent

“Gypsies are often time a migrant people”

Migratory:

migr: move

ory: relating to, quality, place where

“Some migratory birds move from place to place”

Monumental: exceptionally great

mon: one

ment: mind

al: relating to

“The chief said this case was of monumental importance”

Immortalize: to bestow unending fame on

im: not, without

mort: death

ize: to make like

“Many presidents have been immortalized in statues and memorials all over Washington D.C.”

Immutable: unchangeable

im: not, without

mut: change

fusc: dark

ate: cause, make

“The poet obfuscated his main point with his complicated language”

Objective: unbiased

ob: against

ject: throw

ive: causing

“Teachers are supposed to be objective in their grading”

Oblique: indirect, slanting

ob: against

“

Obscure: difficult to understandl partially hidden

ob: against

“The snow obscured the animals tracks on the ground”

Obdurate: stubborn

ob: against

dur: hard

ate: cause, make

“The obdurate man refused to compromise”

Obtrusive:

ob: against

trus: thrust

ive: causing

Pseudapostle: a pretended or false apostle

pseud: wrong, false

apo: away from, separate, at the farthest point

Pseudonym: a fictitious name

pseud: wrong, false

onym: name

“In times of war, people will write articles under pseudonyms to protect their identity”

Placid: calm, peaceful

plac: calm

id: something connected to or belonging to

“The placid lake was still under the sunrise”

complacence: Satisfaction with one's acts or surroundings

com: with, together

plac: calm

ence: action, state of, quality

“Jean leaned back in her recliner in complete complacence”

placate: To bring from a state of angry or hostile feeling to one of patience or friendliness

plac: calm

ate: cause, make

“The mediator was able to placate both sides with an intricate compromise”

Plaudit: statement giving strong praise

plaud: clap

“The movie won numerous plaudits for its interpretation of the movie”

explosion: a sudden and violent outbreak

ex: out, upward, completely, previous

plos: clap

ion: act of, state of, result of

“When the violinist finished her piece there was an explosion of applause”

Replete: full

re: again

plet: fill

“The dorm came replete with dirt, dust and bugs”

complement v. To make complete

com: with, together

ple: fill

ment: condition of

“The colors of the painting complemented each other nicely”

deplete: To reduce or lessen

de: down, away, completely, removal, reversal

ple: fill

“The child slowly depleted his cup of juice”

incomplete adj. Lacking some element, part, or adjunct necessary or required

in: not, without

com: with, together

ple: fill

“Since the homework was incomplete, Stan didn’t receive full marks on his homework”

Plethora: an excess

pleth: full

“There was a plethora of feathers on the floor after the pillow ripped”

Reprehensible: shameful, very bad

re: again

prehens: grasp

ible: able, can do

“The lie to her friends was a reprehensible act that ruined their friendship”

inapprehensible: Not to be understood

in:

prehens: grasp

ible: able, can do

“The acts of violence committed by prison guards was inapprehensible to the general management”

incomprehensible: Not understandable

in: not, without

com: with, together

prehens: grasp

ible: able, can do

“The homework assignment was completely incomprehensible”

prehensible: Capable of being grasped

prehens: grasp

ible: able, can do

“Dogs have

prehensile: Adapted for grasping or holding

prehens: grasp

ile:

“Monkeys have prehensile tails”

prehension: The act of laying hold of or grasping

prehens: grasp

ion: act of, state of, result of

“

comprehensive: of large scope

com: with, together

prehens: grasp

ive: causing

Re-, red- back, again

Rescind: retract, repeal

predecessor n. An incumbent of a given office previous to another

-redemption n. The recovery of what is mortgaged or pledged, by paying the debt

-redound n. Rebound

-relieve: to ease or alleviate from pain

-resolute: firmly determined

-regretted: to feel sorrow or remorse for

Sanguine: reddish, ruddy

“After running around in the cold the young boys cheeks were sanguine”

Sensible: having using or showing good sense

Tangent: on a completely different or divergent course

tang: touch

ent: full of

“The presenter was reminded of a story and went off on a tangent story”

Tangible: can be touched

tang: touch

ible: able, can do

“The law requires tangible evidence for certain hearings”

tangency: the state of touching

tang: touch

ency: action, state of, quality

“The line was in tangency to the circle”

Intangible: not perceptible to the touch

in: not, without

tang: touch

ible: can do, able

“Atheists don’t believe in God because the evidence is intangible”

Tardy: slow, late, overdue, delayed

tard: slow

y: characterized by

“The girl missed her bus so she was tardy to school”

Tenacious: stubborn, resolute, holding firm to a purpose

ten: hold

ious: characterized by

“The tenacious candidate wouldn’t budge on his agenda”

glutinous: sticky

glutin: glu

ous: characterized by

“The glutinous substance held the two pieces of paper together”

retention: the keeping of a thing within one’s power

re: again

ten: hold

tion: state of being

“

Tenuous: flimsy, not solid

ten: hold

ous: characterized by

“After their fight, the relationship between the coworkers were tenuous”

Covert: hidden, undercover

co: with, jointly, completely

vert: turn

“The covert agents infiltrated the mob”

averse: reluctant

a: not, without

vers: turn

“Vince was not averse to taking risks”

conversion: Change from one state or position to another, or from one form to another

con: with, jointly, completely

vers: turn

ion: act of, state of, result of

“When the ice melted, the ice underwent conversion”

introversion: The act of turning or directing inward, physically or mentally

intro: within

vers: turn

ion: act of, state of, result of

“After his melt down, the boy turned to introversion to resolve his issues”

inverse adj. Contrary in tendency or direction

in: not, without

vers: turn

“No that’s the inverse direction of where we want to be going!”

revert: To return, or turn or look back, as toward a former position or the like

re: again

vert: turn

“After our revision failed we reverted to the original plan”

avert: To turn away or aside

a: not, without

vert: turn

“Leslie averted her eyes during the violent scene in the movie”

divert v. To turn from the accustomed course or a line of action already established

di: negation, removal, expulsion

vert: turn

“The presenter asked the group to divert their attention to the edge of the screen where there was a picture”

divertible: Able to be turned from the accustomed course or a line of action already established

di: negation, removal, expulsion

vert: turn

ible: able, can do

“Lacy’s attention was easily divertible when her favorite things were involved”

evert: To turn inside out

e: out, upward, completely, previous

vert: turn

incontrovertible: not open to question or dispute

in: not, without

contro: against

vert: turn

ible: able, can do

“The ideas set forth by church were considered incontrovertible”

Reciprocate: to give, feel, receive in return

Cap-, -cip-, capt-, -cept-: hold, take

Prefix: Re-, red-: back, again

Suffix: ate: to make

“Evan reciprocated the feelings Julia said she had for him”

Capricious:

Capri: goat

icious: full of

Esoteric: understood by or meant for only the select few who have special knowledge or interest;

Eso: within

Suffix: like, pertaining to

“The reference to the movie was pretty esoteric”

Erroneous: containing error, mistaken, incorrect

Err: stray

Suffix: ous: full of

“It was an erroneous assumption on the part of the police that Angela has committed the crime”

Impugned: to challenge as false

Prefix: im: not

Pugn: fight

“Caitlin impugned her mother’s decision that she was at fault in the fight with her brother”

Mollified: to soften in feeling or temper

Moll: soft

“The puppy mollified Emma’s angry mood”

Benevolent: characterized by or expressing goodwill or kindly feelings

Ben: good, well

Vol: wish

Suffix: ent: full of

“The benevolent man handed out Valentine’s on the corner”

Mercurial: changeable, volatile, flighty, erratic

Mer: part

“The mercurial weather in Ohio changed a lot from day to day”

Corrosive: having the quality of eating away, erosive

Ros: gnaw

Ive: like

“The corrosive acid ate through the beaker that was supposed to be containing it”

Phlegmatic: having a stolid or unemotional disposition

Phleg: heat

Ic: like, pertaining to

“The phlegmatic man showed no emotion during the documentary on urban violence”

Cosmopolitan: at home all over the world

Cosmo: universe

Poli: city

“The cosmopolitan girl traveled a lot and never felt lost”

Reconcile: to accept or be resigned to something not desired

Re: again, back

Con: with, together

Ile: pertaining to capable of

“Rapunzel reconciled herself to the fact that she would never leave the tower”

Appalling: causing dismay or horror

Ap: movement to or toward, in addition to

Pal: stake

“Images the PETA uses in their anti-violence campaigns are often appalling”

Irrelevant: not applicable or pertinent

Ir: not, un-

Lev: lift, light

ant: performing, agent

“The fact that he was doing poorly in school was irrelevant to his work situation”

Benign: having a kindly disposition

Ben: good, well

“The man looked intimidating but he was completely benign”

Docile: easily managed or handled

Doc: teach

Ile: pertaining to, capable of

“The docile dog was very trainable and learned to behave quickly”

Sanctimonious: making a hypocritical show of religious devotion

Sanc: holy

Tim: be afraid

Ous: full of

“The sanctimonious movie was condemned by religious leaders”

Perused: to read through with thoroughness

Per: thoroughly, through

Us: use

“Jillian perused the book before taking her English test”

Obliterated: to remove or destroy all traces of

Ob: against

Liter: letter

Ate: to make

“The bomb obliterated all traces of the field it was tested in”

Panacea: a remedy for all disease or ill

pan: all

“The company said the medicine was a panacea”

Provocation: something that incites or instigates

pro: for, forward

voc: voice

tion: act of, state of, result of

“The police’s action were provocation for the students’ riot”

Miscreants: villainous

mis: hate

cre: make

ant: performing, agent

“The miscreants ransacked the village and took all their food”

Revisionists: an advocate of revision, especially in terms of politics and religion

re: back, again

vis: see

ist: one who, that which

“Martin Luther King was a revisionist of the Christian faith”

Anomalies: deviation from the common rule

A: away

Homal: even, flat

“The food tasting good at the dining hall was an anomaly on the college’s campus”

Impetuous: characterized by sudden or rash action

Im: not, un-

Pet: strive towards

Ous: full of

“The impetuous man was prone to expressing his feelings with little forethought”

Tacit: understood without being openly expressed

tac: be silent

“There was a tacit understanding between the husband and wife”

Inevitable: unable to be avoided, evaded, or escaped; certain; necessary

in: not, without

vit: life

able: able, can do

“It was inevitable that the mother would discover her son’s lie”

Diplomacy: negotiations between government officials

dipl: double, two fold

acy:

“The diplomacy between the two nations was tenuous”

Finagle: to trick, swindle or cheat

fin: end

agle:

“The peddler finagled a high price for the counterfeit bag”

Interchangeable: capable of being put or used in the place of each other

inter: among, between

able: able, can do

“The two terms were interchangeable because they had the same meaning”

Collude: to act together through a secret understanding

col: strain

“The young boys colluded in order to steal cookies fresh from the oven”

Conspire: to agree to do something wrong, evil, or illegal

con: with, together

spir: breathe

“The coach conspired with his team to make sure they would win in the finals”

reimburse: to make payment for losses incurred

re: again

burs: pouch

“The store reimbursed Mr. Smith for the faulty washing machine he bought”

venture: an undertaking involving uncertainty of the outcome

vent: come

“The cat ventured to the edge of the pool, took one step too far and fell in”

objectify: to present as an object

ob: against

ject: cast, throw

fy: make

“They train soldiers to objectify the enemy so they won’t react as much to the violence”

vicariously: performed, exercised, received or suffered in the place of another

vic: change

ous: characterized by

“The quiet girl lived vicariously through the characters in her favorite adventure novel”

voluminously

vol: fly, wish

collaboration: to work jointly with others

col: with, together

labor: toil

tion: act of, state of, result of

“The final book was a collaboration of multiple author’s work”

hostility: enmity, antagonism, unfriendliness

host: enemy

ity: state of, quality

“Jane couldn’t understand the hostility with which the cashier responded”

heretical: pertaining to opinion or doctrine at variance with the orthodox or accepted doctrine

her: cling

“The church claimed that the acts of the shady pastor were heretical”

incoherent: without logical or meaningful connection

in: not, without

co: with, together

her: cling

“The texting was incoherent and had many mistakes”

sagacious: having or showing acute mental discernment

sagac: wise

ious: characterized by

“The sagacious guru gave his followers very good advice”

reenumeration:

re: back, again

numer: number

acrid: sharp or biting, especially in taste or smell

acr: sharp, pungent, bitter

id: something connected to or belonging to

“The acrid smelling food seemed very unappetizing”

acrophobia: fear of heights

acro: height, summit, tip

phob: fear

“Nelson’s acrophobia prevented him from climbing the mountain with his friends”

resplendent: shining, gleaming, splendid

re: back, again

plen: full

ent:

“The resplendent outfit reflected the glowing lights”

acuity: sharpness, acuteness, keenness

acu: sharp

ity: state of, quality

“Tommy’s mental acuity helped him score very high on the SAT!”

polemical: a controversial argument, as one against some opinion

polem: war

ical: pertaining to

“There have been numerous polemic books written throughout the ages”

equivocate: to use ambiguous or unclear expressions

equ: even, level

voc: voice

ate: become

“

timorous: full of fear, fearful

tim: be afraid

ous: characterized by

“The timorous stray dog wouldn’t approach the man trying to rescue it”

brevity: shortness of time or duration

brevi: brief, short (time)

“The brevity of life indicates that we should live each moment to its fullest”

largess: generous bestowal of gifts

larg: large

“Nina was able to pay her rent because of the largess of her parents”

histrionic: overly emotionl in behavior or speech, self consciously emotional

histri: actor

ic: nature of, like

“The mother became histrionic when her son was in a mild car accident”

obstreperous: resisting control or restraint in a difficult manner

ob: against

alacrity: promptness of response

al: movement to or toward, in addition to

acr: sharp, pungent, bitter

ity: state of, quality

“Toby’s alacrity surprised the teacher”

deleterious: injurious to health, harmful

de: from, away from, removing, down

euphemism: substitution of a mild, indirect or vague expression for one thought to be offensive

eu: well, good

ism:

potable: suitable for drinking

pot: drink

able: able, can do

“It was questionable whether the water from the well was potable”

ignominious: marked or characterized by disgrace or shame

ig:

nomin: name

ous: characterized by

“After the scandal with the money, the man was ignominious”

cacophony: harsh, discordance of sound; dissonance

caco: bad

phon: sound

“What was supposed to be an orchestra sounded more like cacophony”

saccharin: sweet, white soluble powder

sacchar: sugar

“The saccharin dessert was chocolatey and delicious!”

sacrosanct: extremely sacred or inviolable

sancr: sacred

sanc: holy

“The relationship between a priest and his parishioner is sacrosanct”

exculpate: to clear from a charge of guilt or fault

ex: from, out

culp: blame, fault

ate: cause, make

“The judge exculpated the suspect when DNA cleared him of all charges”

execrable

ex: from, out

impecunious: poor

im: not, without

pecun: money

ious: characterized by

“The impecunious family couldn’t afford new clothes for their kids”

precipice: high cliff

pre: before

cip: hold, take

capacious: able to hold a lot

cap: hold, take

“The capacious suitcase was a favorite of the teenage girl’s”

ameliorate: improve, make better

melior: better

“After being elected, the mayor diverted funds to park amelioration”

capitulate: to surrender

capit: head

“The capture the flag team capitulated after being behind by many points”

ossify: to cause to harden like bone

oss: bone

“Ossification turns cartilage into bone”

ostentatious: rich and showy

os: against

tent: hold

“Bambi’s costume was ostentatious and a little tasteless”

expatriate

ex: from, out

parti: part

sanguinary

sanguin: blood

maelstrom

mael: bad

strom:

unctuous: characterized by excessive piousness or moralistic fervor

unct: hooked

“The unctuous girl wanted everyone to convert to her religion”

caustic: capable of burning, corroding or destroying living tissue

caus: burn, heat

ic: nature of, like

“The caustic substance caused third degree burns”

palisade: a fence of stakes set firmly in the ground

pal: stake

“Tom painted the palisade with white wash”

celerity: swiftness, speed

celer: quick

ity: state of, quality of

“The rabbit’s celerity didn’t end up helping him win the race against the turtle”

fallacious: deceptive, misleading

fall: false

ious: characterized by

“Juan’s fallacious nature was similar to the boy who cried wolf”

malefactor: person who violates the law, criminal

mal: bad, wretched

fact: make

“Jails are full of malefactors that are being punished”

malingering: to pretend illness

mal: bad

“Jessica malingered so the nurse let her go home”

antediluvian: very old, old fashioned

ante: before, in front of, prior to

ian: native of, pertaining to

“Grandma Cooper was antediluvian in her views of the way a young lady should dress”

anthropocentrism: regarding the human being as the central fact of the universe

anthropo: human

centr: center

ism: system, manner, condition

“People who believe in anthropocentrism don’t regard animals as equal to humans”

antiquated: continued from, resembling or adhering to the past

anti: before, in front of, prior to

“Antiquated furniture is very popular in interior design”

parity: equality, as in amount, status or character

par: part

ity: state of, quality

“There isn’t much parity in young people’s athletics”

servile: slavishly submissive or obsequious

serv: save, protect, serve

ile:

“The dogs servile nature clearly showed that it had suffered abuse”

apathetic: having or showing little or no emotion

a: not, without

path: feel, hurt

ic: nature of, like

“Jason was apathetic to the plight of his roommate”

chronicle: an historical account of events arranged in order of time

chron: time

“The history book chronicled the events leading up to World War II”

felicitous: well suited for the occasion, as an action, manner or expression

felic: happy, merry

ous: characterized by

“Olivia was felicitous at the Christmas themed party”

profundity: a profoundly deep place

pro: for, forward

fund: bottom

ity: state of, quality

“The profundity of the sermon left many at the service at a loss for words”

circuitous: roundabout, not direct

circ: circle

ous: characterized by

“The circuitous roads left the tour bus quite lost in the middle of the city”

circumlocution: a roundabout or indirect way of speaking

circum: around

locut: speak

ion: act of, state of, result of

“Politicians often employ circumlocution to avoid being tied to a particular statement”

discern: to perceive by the sight or some other sense or by intellect

dis: negations, removal, expulsion

cern: sift

“

matriarchy: family, society, community

matr: mother

arch: ruler

“While American society may be characterized by patriarchy, our deviant family was definitely a matriarchy”

vacuous: without contents, empty

vac: empty

ous: characterized by

“The vacuous bag had just been emptied of snacks by the students”

circumspect: watchful and discreet

circum: around

spect: look

“The guard was circumspect in his rounds of the building”

vagrant: a person who wanders about idly and has no permanent home

vag: wander

ant: performing, agent

“Vagrants wander around cities looking for somewhere to stay”

arable: capable of producing crops, suitable for farming

ar: plow, till

able: able, can do

“Ohio’s vast quantities of arable land make it very suitable for farming”

circumvent: to go around or bypass

circum: around

vent: come

“The son circumvented his mother by going to his father”

partisan: an adherent or supporter of a person, group, party or cause

parti: part

an: native of, pertaining to

“The democratic partisan handed out fliers for his candidate on the street corner”

solace: comfort in sorrow, misfortune, or trouble

sol: alone, only

“Penny found solace sitting on the dock over her family’s lake”

vapid: lacking liveliness

vap: lack of

id: something connected to or belonging to

“The vapid girl had very little to talk about other than herself”

somnambulist: an abnormal condition of sleep in which motor acts are performed

somn: sleep

ambul: walk, move around

ist: one who, that which

“Somnambulists are at risk for injury especially if they have stairs in their house”

archaic: marked by the characteristics of an earlier period

archo: ancient

ic: nature of, like

“The archaic artifacts were found by the archeologists”

patronize: to behave in an offensively condescending manner toward

part: father

ize: to make (like)

“The father patronized his daughter for the mistakes on her final”

Atheist: unbeliever in God

a: not, without

the: god

ist:

“The atheist refused to go to church with his Catholic friends”

misnomer: unsuitable name

mis: hate

nom: arrangement, law

“It was a misnomer to name the Pitbull ‘Fluffy’”

vilification

vil: cheap

peremptory

per: thoroughly, through

epmt: buy

augment: to make larger

aug: grow, increase

ment: mind

“As the birthday girl breathed into the balloon it augmented”

intransigence: refusing to agree or compromise

in: in, on

trans: across

“The intransigent employer wouldn’t even speak to the Union representative about increasing wages”

peripatetic: walking or travelling about

peri: around

pat: be open

“Peripatetic herds of animals wander around Yellowstone National Park”

vitriolic: bitter hatred

vitri: glass

“Vitriolic, was the only way to describe the relationship between the two enemies”

moratorium

mor: mortal, death

“

moribund: being in the state of dying

mor: mortal, death

“Hospice is a home for moribund people”

vociferous: vehement outcry

voc: voice

“The class responded vociferously to the anti-gay statements”

archetype: universally understood symbol

arche: ancient

typ: stamp, model

“A circle with a vertical line and two smaller radially lines coming off of it is an archetype for peace”

paucity: smallness of quantity

pauc: few

“Because of the paucity, the girls shared the cake”

sophomoric: immature

soph: wise

“The sophomoric girl laughed at really stupid jokes”

peccadillo: minor offense

pecc: sin

“Johnny’s peccadillo earned him a time out on the stairs”

inimical: not favorable

in: not, un (negation)

imic: friend

“Inimical conditions meant the sixteen year olds couldn’t go to the movies”

veracity: truth, accuracy

ver: true

ac: sharp, pointed

“The veracity of her statement couldn’t be determined”

aberration: something that differs from the norm

ab: away

err: stray

“The odd actions of the fraternity were an aberration”

abnegation: denial of comfort to oneself

ab: away

neg: say no

“Ascetics often practice abnegation and possess no material goods”

abscond: to sneak away and hide

ab: away

scend: climb

absolution: freedom from blame, guilt, sin

ab: away

solut: loosen, set free

“People go to confession seeking absolution from God”

abstruse: hard to comprehend

abs: away

trus: thrust

“The abstruse math problem confused all the students”

accede: to agree

ac: movement to or toward, in addition to

ced: go

“The country acceded to the terms of the treaty”

accessible: obtainable, reachable

ac: movement to or toward, in addition to

cess: to go

accolade: high praise, special distinction

ac: movement to or toward, in addition to

col: strain

“The book's distinctive interpretation of the war earned it many accolades”

accord: an agreement

ac: movement to or toward, in addition to

cord: heart

“Amanda and her roommate made an accord about the rules of the room”

accretion: slow growth in size or amount

ac: movement to or toward, in addition to

cre: make

“The investment accreted \$100 over three years”

acerbic: biting, bitter in tone or taste

ac: sharp, pointed

“The officer's acerbic tone intimidated the traffic violator”

acquiesce: to agree without protesting

ac: movement to or toward, in addition to

qui: rest

“Because of the subpoena, the doctor acquiesced the court's request”

acrimony: bitterness, discord

acri: sharp, pungent, bitter

“Her acrimony was in opposition to her usually forgiving and cheerful manner”

acumen: keen insight

acu: sharp

“Four years of college gave Elliot a strong political acumen”

acute: sharp, severe

acu: sharp

“Fred gave Roberta last minute directions so her turn was very acute”

adamant: impervious, immovable, unyielding

ad: movement to or toward, in addition to

man: stay

“Stephanie was adamant that the tigers in India needed to be protected”

adhere: to stick to something

ad: movement to or toward, in addition to

her: cling

“Tape adhered the poster to the wall”

advocate: to argue in favor of something

ad: movement to or toward, in addition to

voc: voice

ate:

“The lawyer became an advocate for victim’s rights”

aggrandize: to increase or make greater

ag: movement to or toward, in addition to

grand: grand

ize:

“The bank account aggrandized over time with interest”

amorous: showing love, particularly sexual

amor: love, loved

ous:

“The amorous feeling between them was very obvious from observing their interaction”

amorphous: without definite shape or type

a: away

morph: form, shape

ous:

“Mindy’s amorphous drawing received an A+ from the kindergarten teacher, even though she didn’t know what it was”

anachronistic: being out of correct chronological order

ana: again, against, back, up

chron: time

istic:

“The movie’s anachronistic structure made it hard to follow”

analgesic: something that reduces pain

an: again, against, back, up

alg: pain

“An analgesic was required after the volleyball player broke her ankle”

anonymous: being unknown, unrecognized

an: again, against, back, up

onym: name

“The critical letter was submitted anonymously to avoid detection”

antithesis: the absolute opposite

anti: against, opposed to, preventive

the: put

“Good is the antithesis of evil”

aquatic: relating to water

aqu: water

“Fish and other aquatic animals often possess gills to breathe underwater”

atrophy: to wither away, decay

a: away

troph: feed, grow

“Physical therapy is needed for coma patients so their muscles don’t atrophy”

cadence: rhythm, progression of sound

cad: fall

“The drummer’s cadence kept the soldiers marching at the same pace”

choreography: the arrangement of dances

choreo: relating to dance

graph: draw, write

“The ballet’s choreography won it many awards”

clemency: mercy

clement: mild

“Clemency is granted to the accused in the U.S. until they are proven guilty”

cognizant: aware, mindful

cogn: know

“If doctors are cognizant of child abuse they have to report it.”

consecrate: to dedicate something to a holy purpose

con: with, together

secr: sacred

“The consecrated ground was fought over by Muslims and Hindus”

contemporaneous: existing during the same time

con: with, together

tempor: time

“Chelsea wanted to take Shakespeare and Chemistry but they were contemporaneous”

debacle: a disastrous failure, disruption

deb: owe

“The Watergate debacle severely tarnished President Nixon’s reputation”

defunct: no longer used or existing

de: from, away from, removing, down

funct: do

“The defunct barn fell into disrepair because of weathering”

deliberate: intentional, reflecting careful consideration

de: from, away from, removing, down

liber: free

ate:

“Deliberate acts of violence led to the breakdown of society and outbreak of civil war”

delineate: to describe, outline, shed light on

de: from, away from, removing, down

lin: line

ate:

“Ryan delineated his paper in order to get his topic approved”

denigrate: to belittle, diminish the opinion of

de: from, away from, removing, down

nigr: black

ate:

“It is important for their development to never denigrate children”

depravity: wickedness

de: from, away from, removing, down

prav: crooked

ity:

“Many orthodox religions think American culture demonstrates the highest levels of depravity”

desecrate: to violate the sacredness of a thing or place

de: from, away from, removing, down

secr: sacred

ate:

“The desecration of holy places is looked down upon in the international field”

desiccated: dried up, dehydrated

de: from, away from, removing, down

sicc: dry

“AHHH! There’s a desiccated bug on my floor!”

desolate: deserted, dreary, lifeless

de: from, away from, removing, down

sol: alone, only

ate:

“Wanda was amazed at how desolate the desert was”

despondent: feeling depressed, discouraged, hopeless

de: from, away from, removing, down

spond: a surety, guarantee, give assurance, promise solemnly

ent:

“After attempting the study guide Josh felt despondent”

devious: not straightforward, deceitful

de: from, away from, removing, down

vi: way

ous:

“Devious tactics in advertising sometimes lead people to buy products they shouldn’t”

diffuse: to scatter, thin out, break up

di: negation, removal, expulsion

“The shade diffused the light of the lamp so it wasn’t quite as bright”

fus: pour

discordant: not agreeing, not in harmony with

dis: negation, removal, expulsion

cord: heart

ant:

“The discordant note stuck out in an otherwise flawless performance”

discursive: rambling, lacking order

dis: negation, removal, expulsion

curs: run

ive:

“The discursive speech of the driver convinced the police officer he was drunk”

dissuade: to persuade someone not to do something

dis: negation, removal, expulsion

suad: urge

“Rebecca tried to dissuade her roommate from her risky behavior”

dogmatic: aggressively and arrogantly certain about unproved principles

dogmat: opinion, tenet

“Children are often dogmatic in the parroting of their parents beliefs”

dormant: sleeping, temporarily inactive

dorm: sleep

“When left untouched, a computer will go into a dormant state”

dubious: doubtful, of uncertain quality

dub: doubtful

ious:

“While many claimed the poem was perfect, many others were dubious”

duplicity: crafty, dishonesty

du: two

plic: fold

“The principal made the student repeat her story multiple times and found no duplicity”

dynamic: actively changing

dynam: power

ic:

“The girl’s dynamic personality made it hard to be her friend sometimes”

ebullient: extremely lively, enthusiastic

e: out, upward, completely, previous

bull: bubble, flask

“South Africans were ebullient when apartheid was ended”

egregious: extremely bad

e: out, upward, completely, enthusiastic

greg: flock

“The performer told some egregious jokes that earned groans from the crowd”

emollient: soothing

e: out, upward, completely, previous

moll: soft

“Lotion is an emollient for rough hands from hard work”

etymology: the history of words, their origin and development

etymo: true

“Much of the etymology of the English language can be traced back to Germanic languages”

excursion: trip or outing

ex: from, out

curs: run

“The boat took the tourists on an excursion around the bay”

exorbitant: excessive

ex: from, out

orb: circle

“The jeweler charged an exorbitant fee for the bracelet”

expunge: to obliterate, eradicate

ex: from, out

pung: prick

“When he turned 18, Richard asked the court to expunge his record of the minor offense in his file”

fatuous: silly, foolish

fatu: foolish, useless

“The fatuous kids laughed all night”

fractious: troublesome or irritable

fract: break

“She was fractious after not getting enough sleep”

idolatrous: excessively worshipping one object or person

ido: shape

“Early religions were occasionally marked by idolatrous worship, but most had multiple deities”

impeccable: exemplary, flawless

im: not, without

pecc: sin

able: able, can do

“The celebrity’s dress was impeccable, and all the fashion blogs agreed”

incarnate: existing in the flesh, embodied

in:

carn: flesh

“After he died, people claimed to see Elvis Presley incarnate but he was assuredly dead”

insurgent: one who rebels

in: in, into, towards, inside

surg: rise

“Insurgents in Liberia wanted to reform the government and end the human rights violations”

interminable: without possibility of end

in: not, without

termin: boundary, limit, end

able: able, can do

“The night class seemed interminable, but in reality it ended at 8:30”

juxtaposition: the act of placing two things next to each other for implicit comparison

juxta: beside, near

posit: put

ion:

“The juxtaposition of the colors with the interesting design were very interesting”

laudatory: expressing admiration or praise

laud: praise

“Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address has earned him many laudatory comments

lenient: demonstrating tolerance or gentleness

leni: gentle

“Melinda’s father was much more lenient in his punishments than her mother”

obsequious: excessively compliant or submissive

ob: against

sequ: follow

“

pacific: soothing

pac: peace

“Drinking hot tea can often have a pacific affect”

penultimate: next to last

pen: almost

ultim: farthest

ate:

“The penultimate book in the series just came out; it made Jose sad the series was almost over”

philanthropic: charitable, giving

phil: love, friendship

“Mother Theresa is often considered a philanthropic woman”

primeval: original, ancient

prim: first

“It was amazing the primeval structures were still standing even after thousands of years”

profligate: wasteful

pro: for, forward

flig: strike

ate:

“The profligate man would throw out perfectly wearable clothing”

ruminate: to contemplate, reflect

rumin: throat

“The book required a lot of rumination to understand the author’s message”

somnolent: sleepy, drowsy

somn: sleep

“The somnolent girl eventually fell asleep at her desk”

stupefy: to astonish, make insensible

stup: wonder

“The brilliance of the video stupefied the viewers”

terrestrial: relating to the land

terr: dry land

“Terrestrial animals don’t like being put in water”

tortuous: winding

tort: twist

“The instructor’s lecture was tortuous and never made a final point”

verbose: wordy, impaired by wordiness

verb: word

“Edwin thought his verbose speech made him sound intelligent, but he was just wordy.”

venerate: to regard with respect or to honor

vener: respectful

“The child venerated her uncle and wanted to be just like him”

viscous: not free flowing, syrupy

visc: thick

“The viscous syrup poured slowly out of the bottle”

vocation: the work in which someone is employed, profession

voc: voice

“Mr. Johnson’s vocation was in the legal professions”

vociferous: loud, boisterous

voc: voice

“The vociferous party was eventually broken up by a noise compliant”

abscond

adumbrate: to sketch out in a vague way

ad: movement to or toward; in addition to

umbr: shade, shadow

“The novel’s entire plot was adumbrated on the back cover”

aggregate: a whole or total

ag:

greg: flock

“Leighton’s friends supported her, but she worried about gaining the trust of the aggregate group”

approbation: praise

ap:

prob: try

assiduous: hard-working, diligent

as:

sid: sit

compunction: distress caused by feeling guilty

com:

punct: prick

“After lying to her parents the girl was consumed with compunction”

conflagration: great fire

con:

flag:

consummate: to complete a deal

con:

sum: take

demagogue: a leader who appeals to a people's prejudices

dem: people

"The demagogue represented a minority of the people with certain beliefs"

demarcation: the marking of boundaries

dem: people

"After the World War's foreign country's demarcated Africa into various countries"

disrepute: a state of being held in low regard

dis:

rep: crawl, creep

effrontery: impudence, nerve, insolence

ef:

front: forehead

"Blair had the effrontery to accuse her teacher of favoritism"

equanimity: composure

equ: even, level

anim: breath

"Her equanimity at her friend's funeral impressed everyone"

ethereal: heavenly

expurgate: to delete offensive or incorrect parts

ex:

purg: cleanse

"The editor expurgated the parts of the story he thought would be unpopular with readers"

fetid: foul odor

fet: stink

"The fetid lake made the hikers gag and cover their noses"

flaccid: limp

flacc: flabby

"As the balloon animal deflated it became flaccid"

gourmand: someone fond of eating and drinking

gour: (its like gourmet)

mand: hand

"It was a family of gourmands who ordered one of everything on the menu"

hypocrisy: pretending to believe what one doesn't

hypo: under

cris: judge

"Hypocrisy is common among politicians who say one thing to get into office then do another once they are elected"

implacable: incapable of being appeased

im: not

plac: please

“The implacable 12 year old was the pickiest eater the daycare worker had encountered”

impregnable: resistant to capture or penetration

im: not

incendiary: a person who agitates

incessant: unending

in: not

cess: go

“The incessant superficial talk at parties bored Erin”

incurable: incapable of correction

in: not

indefatigable: incapable of defeat, failure, decay

in: not

de: from, away from, removing, down

fat: say, speak

“Sister Margaret was an indefatigable worker who was always volunteering at the local homeless shelter”

indomitable: not capable of being conquered

in: not

dom: house

able:

“While the army was clearly outnumbered, their indomitable spirit was hard to battle”

inoculate: to introduce a microorganism, serum, or vaccine into an organism in order to increase immunity to illness

in: in, on

ocul: eye

intimation: an indirect suggestion

cogent: relevant, pertinent

cog: know

“While Daniel presented a cogent counter argument, Blake refused to listen to her opinion”

seminal: strongly influencing later event

semin: seed

“What college someone attends is seminal to their future”

redact

re: back, again

dact:

paragon

para: beside, near

synopsis

syn: with

exorbitant: unreasonably high, excessive

ex: from, out

orb: circle

“The restaurant charge an exorbitant fee for food that wasn’t very good”

meritorious: deserving praise reward, esteem

quotidian: daily, usual, customary

quot: how many, how great

“The quotidian chores of a maid bored Angelica who had bigger dreams.”

neologism: a new word

neo: new

log: thought, word, speech

“The neologism of the English language makes it very difficult to learn and keep up to date with”

commendable

profuse: spending or giving freely

pro: for, forward

fus: pour

“The teacher embarrassed the student with profuse praise in front of the whole class”

abundant: present in great quantity

ab: away

und: wave

forestall: to prevent, hinder

for: bore

stall:

myriad: a huge number of things

myri: countless

“The sky was full of a myriad of stars”

fabricate

facile: a remark that is too simple and shows a lack of careful thought or understanding

fac: make

“Because they played a team that was younger than them, their win was facile”

mandatory: obligatory, compulsory

mand: hand

“Mandatory attendance is key to elementary education”

perfunctory: performed merely as a routine duty

per: thoroughly, through

funct: do

“What once was a fun action for Penn, soon became perfunctory”

pedagogue: a teacher

ped: child

“Nathaniel was an unlikely pedagogue but he had a way with children that got them to listen”

notoriety: widely known

not: letter, note, paper

“The book acquired the author world wide notoriety”

officious: meddling, aggressive in offering unwanted services

of: against

“The mother was officious and constantly trying to take care of her child”

punctilious: showing great attention to detail

punct: prick

“The punctilious man paid great attention when sculpting the marble.”

propriety:

invectives: vehement, violent denunciation

in:

vect: carry

“The fisherman screamed invectives when the bird stole his catch”

umbrage: offense, giver of shade

umbr: shade, shadow

“The palm tree acted as an umbrage, keeping the sun out of the baby’s face”

domicile: somebody’s home

dom: house

“Pam wished her permanent domicile was on the beach in Florida.”

dilapidated: in disrepair

di:

lapid: stone

“It saddened Amy that her childhood home had fallen into disrepair”

assuage

claustrophobic: fear of enclosed spaces

claus: close

phob: fear

“The claustrophobic man refused to go on elevators”

strenuous

redoubtable

austere

taciturn: silent by nature

tac: be silent

“The taciturn class didn’t even need to be told to quiet down”

spectral: ghostly

spect: watch, look at

“The group saw a spectral figure when they were walking through the graveyard”

impervious: not responsive, not letting something through

im: not

per: through, thoroughly

“Harry’s rain coat was impervious to the rain”

presumptuous: rude or arrogant

pre: before

sumpt: take

“Nate was presumptuous and judged the rich girl before he knew her”

pulchritude: beauty

pulchr: beauty

“Marilyn Monroe is often cited as an example of pulchritude”

sated sat = cultivate

satiated

somnolent: sleepy, lacking activity

somn: sleep

“The somnolent students weren’t participating in class”

stagnate: not develop or make progress, stop flowing

stagn: pool of standing water

“The young girl started out top of her class, but lately her progress had become stagnate”

stagnant: still, unmoving

stagn: pool of standing water

“The stagnant water began to gather scum on the top”

undulating: move like waves

und: waves

“The dancer’s undulating made it look like he had no bones”

physiognomy: facial features

phys: nature

manifold: many and various

salient: noticeable, striking

Sali: jump

“The salient points in the book were most talked about in reviews”

propensity: tendency

pro: for, forward, before, in front of

pen: almost

“Chuck had a propensity for bad behavior”

malaise: feeling of illness, general feeling of discontent

mal: bad, wretched

“Her feeling of malaise was cured by a nap and a hot meal”

volition: choosing, ability to choose

vol: wish

“He decided to go to school of his own volition even though he was sick”

prestidigitation: a sleight of hand

pres

digit: finger

“Magicians are masters of prestidigitation”

veracious: truthful, honest

ver: true

“People who’s super ego controls them tend to be veracious”

peregrination: a journey, to travel from place to place

per: thoroughly, through

egri: field

“Amanda brought back souvenirs from her peregrination”

infinitesimal: infinitely small

in: not

fin: end

perspicacity: shrewdness, astute

per: thoroughly, through

spic: look

“Vanessa’s perspicacity helped her be a master of social situations”

tepid: slightly warm, luke warm

tep: be warm

“The pool water was tepid, so the manager turned the heat up”

adverse: preventing success, harmful, unfavorable

ad: movement to or toward

vers: turn

rhetorical

rhe: flow

confront: meet face to face

con: with, together

front: forehead

“Christina was confronted by Ellen after she lied to her about why she missed her party”

exponent

ex: from, out

pon: put

execute

ex: from, out

cut: skin

peremptory

per: through, thoroughly

empt: buy

antipathy: deep dislike

anti: against, opposed to, preventative

path: feel, hurt

“Avery, who grew up poor, had antipathy for people who didn’t value the education their parents paid for”

peripheral: relating to the edge of something

peri: around

pher: bear, carry

“The society spent much more time on peripheral topics rather than the meetings main agenda”

dilapidated: in a state of disrepair because of age

di: two

lapid: stone

derogatory: showing a critical or disrespectful attitude

de: from, away from, removing down

rog: ask

consequential: following as a result or effect

con: with, together

sequ: follow

“Teddy’s insurance consequentially increased after her car accident”

gratitude: quality of being thankful

grat: thank, please

demoniac

dem: people

tenable: able to be maintained

ten: hold

able: able

“After doing much research, Preston submitted a tenable paper to his English teacher”

talisman

salacious

sal: salt

duplicitous

du: two

plic: fold

obtruding: become noticeable in an unwelcome way

ob: against

trud: thrust

“Parents have a habit of obtruding on their children’s privacy”

immolate: kill or offer as sacrifice

im: not, negation

mol: grind

aberration: departure from the normal

ab: away

err: stray

“Lexie’s scandalous behavior was an aberration compared to her normally reputable demeanor”

abnegate: renounce or reject

ab: away

neg: say no

“It’s hard to abnegate your habits if you grew up with them”

abrupt: unexpected, sudden

ab: away

rupt: break

“Abruptly, Sloane interrupted Owen’s story with derisive laughter”

abscission: a cutting off

ab: away

sciss: split

“The doctor needed to perform an abscission on the appendix”

achromatic: without color

a: not, without

chrom: color

“While the piece of metal used to be a sign, deterioration had left it achromatic”

adherence: attachment, faithful support for a cause or political party or religion

ad: movement to or toward, in addition to

her: cling

“Her adherence to the Democrats was rewarded with a full time position in the party”

adhesion: action or process of adhering to a surface or object

ad: movement to or toward, in addition to

hes: cling

“Meredith pressed firmly to ensure the adhesion to the wall would stay”

adjacent: next to or adjoining something

ad: movement to or toward, in addition to

jac: lie

“In dorms, it is often easy to hear noise from adjacent rooms”

advert: refer to in speaking or writing

ad: movement to or toward, in addition to

vert: turn

“The speaker adverted to numerous famous politicians without saying anything original”

aggravate: make worse or more serious

ag: movement to or toward, in addition to

grav: heavy

“Because Ellis didn’t stop playing after she twisted her ankle, she aggravated the injury”

animadversion: criticism or censure

anima: breath

ad: movement to or toward, in addition to

vers: turn

antecedent: a thing or event that existed before or logically precedes another

ante: before, in front of, prior to

ced: go

“Some antecedents to blues and jazz are in traditional songs of the slaves”

antenatal: before birth, during, relating to pregnancy

ante: before, in front of, prior to

nat: born

“Antenatal surgeries often increase the risk of complications later in life”

apogee: farthest point in the orbit of the moon

apo: away from, separate, at the farthest point

“The astronomy class had to find the apogee of the moon on a map of its orbit”

apology: regretful acknowledgment of an offense or failure

apo: away from, separate, at the farthest point

log: thought, word, speech

“While she said she was sorry, Sandra’s apology was not heard”

apostasy: abandonment of religious beliefs

apo: away from, separate, at the farthest point

“The suffering in Rwanda led many to apostasy”

apothecary: person who prepares and sells medicine and drugs

apo: away from, separate, at the farthest point

theca: case

“In some third world countries, there are still apothecaries used as doctors”

apotheosis: highest point in the development of something

apo: away from, separate, at the farthest point

the: put

“The apotheosis of the doctor’s career was when he found a cure to a communicable disease”

apposite: apt in the circumstances or in relation to something

ap: movement to or toward, in addition to

posit: put

“Spencer had to go shopping for an apposite outfit for the funeral”

aspirant: a person with ambitions to achieve something

a: away

spir: breathe

aspiration

a: away

spir: breathe

assimilate: take in and understand fully

as: movement to or toward, in addition to

simil: likeness, trust, group

“Aria took steps to assimilate into her new school which focused a lot more on popularity than her previous one”

dissimilar: not the same, different

dis: negation, removal, exclusion

simil: likeness, trust, group

“The friends were so dissimilar it was amazing their relationship lasted so long”

facsimile: an exact copy

fac: make

simil: likeness, trust, group

“It was such a beautiful painting, Hannah wanted a facsimile of it”

similar: having resemblance in appearance

simil: likeness, trust, group

“The girls were furious that their dresses for the dance were so similar”

simile: figure of speech comparing things of different kinds

simil: likeness, trust, group

“King Richard was brave like a lion which earned him the moniker Richard the Lion Heart”

similitude: state of being similar

simil: likeness, trust, group

“The teacher called in the students because there was a high level of similitude between their assignments”

assonance: poetic tool using a repeating vowel sound

as: movement to or toward, in addition to

son: sound

“Dylan Thomas showed his master of assonance in his poem ‘Do Not Go Gently Into That Good Night’

assonate

as: movement to or toward, in addition to

son: sound

atone

a:

ton:

audacious: willingness to take risks

aud: hearing, listening, sound

“Many called King Suleyman’s attempt to capture Vienna audacious”

audible: able to be heard

aud: hearing, listening, sound

“The phone was so far away it’s ring was barely audible”

auditory: relating to the sense of hearing

aud: hearing, listening, sound

“The band was so bad, their music felt like an auditory assault”

aura: distinctive atmosphere of something

aur: relating to gold or gold-colored

“There was an aura of good feelings in the classroom because the weather was so nice!”

auricle: structure resembling an ear or an earlobe

auri: relating to the ear

“No auricle mechanical device works as well as a real ear”

auricular:

auri: relating to the ear

autocracy: system of government in which one person has absolute power

auto: self, directed from within

cracy: government, rule, authority

“Prior to reformations, England had a autocracy where the King had all the power”

automaton: essentially a robot

auto: self, directed from within

“Recently scientists have invented automaton vacuums”

autonomous: self-government

auto: self, directed from within

nom: arrangement, law

“Through the Revolutionary War, the United States became autonomous”

autonomy

auto: self, directed from within

nom: arrangement, law

autopsy

auto: self, directed from within

avocation

a:

voc: voice

beatify: make blissfully happy

beat: bless

“John’s marriage proposal beatified Miranda”

beatitude: supreme blessedness

beat: bless

“After a long soak in the hot tub, I was in a state of beatitude”

bellicose: demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight

belli: war

“Some bellicose people will fight over anything”

belligerent: hostile

belli: war

“The belligerent student argued relentlessly with the professors opinion”

cadence: modulation or inflection of the voice

cad: fall

campaign: series of military operations intended to achieve a certain objective

camp: field

candid: truthful, straightforward

cand: glowing, iridescent

candor:

cand: glowing, iridescent

cantata: medium length piece of music with vocal solos

cant: sing

“The cantata had a beautiful melody but the harmony was what really made the piece”

cataclysm: large scale and violent natural event

cata: down

“People who were directly involved in Hurricane Katrina felt the event was a cataclysm”

cataract: a large waterfall, a downpour

cata: down

“Niagara falls is one of the world’s biggest cataracts”

catastrophe: an event causing great and sudden damage or suffering

cata: down

troph: grow, feed

“When Israel bombed Egypt in the June War it was a catastrophe”

centenary: of or relating to a hundredth anniversary

cent: hundred

“The town had a centenary festival to celebrate its 100th year”

conjugal: relating to marriage or the relationship between husband and wife

con: with, together

jug: yoke

“Young girls often dream of their wedding and their subsequent conjugal days”

conjugation: a link or connection between things

con: with, together

jug: yoke

“And, but and or are conjugations and join sentences that could stand alone but are better together”

contagion: the communication of disease from person to person

con: with, together

tag: touch

“The rumors of school closing for snow spread quicker than a contagion among the high schoolers”

cornucopia: ornamental container shaped like a horn

corn: horn

“The cornucopia was filled with Fall fruits and used as a centerpiece”

cosmetic:

cosm: universe

cosmogony: branch of science dealing with origins of the universe

cosm: universe

“There are various theories dealing with cosmogony, one of the most popular is the big bang”

cosmos: the universe viewed as well-ordered and whole

cosm: universe

“The cosmos is full of many stars and planets that shine brightly in the night sky”

culpable: deserving blame

culp: blame, fault

“While not all the country’s problems could be blamed on the new President, he was culpable for some of them”

culprit: person responsible for a crime

culp: blame, fault

“The police were having trouble finding the culprit of the recent robbery”

cursive: writing with joined characters

curs: run

“Her writing was so pushed together it looked like cursive”

cursor: hasty and therefore not thorough or detailed

curs: run

“The professor gave a cursor glance to the students papers and let his TA actually grade them”

Decamp: depart suddenly

De: from, away from, removing, down

camp: field

“The hikers had to decamp before the rain hit”

decapitate: cut the head off of

de: from, away from, removing, down

capit: head

“During the French Revolution, many people were decapitated as a punishment.”

deciduous: shedding leaves annually

de: from, away from, removing, down

cid: fall

“Deciduous trees shed their leaves in the fall”

declarative: of the nature of or making a declaration

de: from, away from, removing, down

clar: clear

“The declarative speech made by the senator explained some new laws”

defensible: justifiable by argument

de: from, away from, removing, down

fens: strike

“The castle was easily defensible as it had an ocean on one side and mountains on another”

deformity: malformation, misshapen

de: from, away from, removing, down

form: shape

“The ceramic pot had some deformities after it was fired”

defraud

de: from, away from, removing, down

degenerate: having lost the physical, mental, or moral qualities considered normal

de: from, away from, removing, down

gen: race, kind, birth

“

dehydrate: loss of large amounts of water from the body

de: from, away from, removing, down

hydr: water

“Walking around in the desert for a few hours severely dehydrated the hiker”

denude: strip something of its covering

de: from, away from, removing, down

nud: naked

“Oranges have to be denuded before they can be eaten”

deponent

de: from, away from, removing, down

pon: put

desperado: a desperate or reckless person

de: from, away from, removing, down

sper: hope

“The desperado stole money from the bank to pay his bills”

desultory

de: from, away from, removing, down

diacritical

dia: apart through

crit: judge

diaphanous

dia: apart, through

discomfit: make uneasy or embarrassed

dis: not, negation

com: with, together

“The disagreement between their parents made the whole family feel discomfit”

discomfort: lack of physical comfort

dis: not, negation

com: with, together

fort: strong

“The bitterly cold wind put Eliza in a state of discomfort”

discursive: digressing from subject to subject

dis: not, negation

curs: run

“The discursive teacher was hard to follow during lecture”

dishabille: state of being only partly or scantily clothed

dis: not, negation

hab: have

“In Risky Business, Tom Cruise was in dishabille”

dissentious: dissenting

dis: not, negation

senti: feel

dissever: divide or sever something

dis: not, negation

sever: stern, strict, serious

“The duckling was dissevered from his family when he couldn’t hop over the curb”

divagation: digression

vag: wander

“The tour leaders divagation distracted everyone from the lion that was very close to the truck”

divisor

di:

vis: see

divulge: make known

di:

vulg: common, crowd

“The chatty girl divulged her best friend’s secret to the whole third grade”

dogmatic: inclined to lay down principles as incontrovertibly true

dogmat: opinion, tenet

“The priest was dogmatic in his sermons”

domesticity: home or family life

dom: house

doublet

dramatist

dubious: hesitating or doubting

dub: doubtful

“While the President said the war was over, many citizens were still dubious”

effeminacy: men with feminine qualities

ef: from, out

femin: women, female

“Brad’s effeminacy was a product of having 5 sisters”

effervesce

ef: from, out

fer: carry

effluvium: an unpleasant or harmful odor

ef: from, out

flu: flow

“The effluvium of the sewer made people plug their noses when they walked by”

eugenic: pertaining to or causing improvement in offspring produced

eu: well, good

gen: race, kind, birth

“The Nazis in Germany were attempted to practice eugenics by weeding out those they thought weak”

excavate: make a hole by digging

ex: from, out

cav: hollow

“The children excavated the sandbox with plastic shovels”

expectorate: cough, spit out phlegm from throat or lung

ex: from, out

pector: chest

“Emma expectorated often while she had her respiratory infection”

extensive: covering or affecting a large area

ex: from, out

tens: stretch, strain

“The exam covered an extensive amount of material”

extenuate: make guilt seem less serious or more forgivable

ex: from, out

tenu: slender, thin

“Mary’s life situation extenuated the circumstances of her mistake”

ferocious: savagely fierce

feroc: fierce

“The ferocious lion growled and scared the children”

flippant

fluent: able to express oneself easily

flu: flow

“After studying the language for four hard years, Lily was finally fluent in French”

foible

folio: leaf number in a printed book

foli: leaf

“

Foliage:

Foli: leaf

“The foliage in spring is a beautiful array of greens”

forgery

sacrifice: act of slaughtering an animal or person or surrendering a possession as an offering to God

sacr: sacred

“The Aztecs practiced human sacrifice to appease their gods”

sacrilege: violation or misuse of what is regarded as sacred

sacr: sacred

“Working on the Sabbath is sacrilege in Judaism”

amateur: a person who does something for the love of it rather than for money

amat: love

“Tricia played amateur soccer because she loved the game”

Amatory: related to or induced by sexual love or desire

amat: love

“The boy did his friends homework because of the amatory feelings he had toward her”

enamored: be filled with a feeling of love for

en: in

am: love

“The girl was enamored with her professor and worked hard to do well in his class”

arid: having little or no rain

ar: be dry

“The Kalahari desert is an arid climate and cannot grow crops”

vulnerable: exposed to the possibility of being attacked or harmed

vulner: wound

“The girl was crouched behind a bush but still felt her position was vulnerable”

invulnerable: impossible to harm or damage

in: not

vulner: wound

“Young people often feel their youth makes them invulnerable”

votive: offered or consecrated in fulfillment of a vow

vot: vow

“

vote: a formal indication of a choice between candidates

vot: vow

volition: faculty or power of using one’s will

vol: wish

“The exam wasn’t required but Miguel went to it of his own volition”

veteran: person who has had long experience in a particular field

veter: old

“The professor had taught in many universities and was a veteran in the field of education”

verbatim: in exactly the same words as were originally used

verb: word

“The professor spoke so fast it was hard to write what he said verbatim”

vacancy: an unoccupied position or job

vac: empty

“The hotel had a sign that said ‘vacancy’ indicating that they had rooms available”

Urban: relating to a city or town

urb: city

suburban:

sub: below

urb: city

dystrophy: impaired nourishment of a body part

dys: badly, ill

troph: feed, grow

“The ailing child suffered from muscular dystrophy”

torque: twisting force that tends to cause rotation

torque: twist

“If you apply too much torque to a screw it’ll strip it”

ectomy: act of cutting out

tom: cut

atom: basic unit of a chemical element

tom: cut

“The atom got its name from scientists thinking it was the smallest unit and unable to be cut”

tome: a book

tom: cut

distinct: recognizably different in nature

stinct: apart

“The girl’s perfume was distinct from the others at the dance”

distinguish: recognize or treat someone as different

stingu: apart

“It was easy to distinguish Cati’s roots from her dyed hair”

semantics: branch of linguistics and logic concerned with meaning

sema: sign

“People often argue over semantics without really accomplishing anything”

eruptions: a sudden outpouring

rupt: break

“

rupture: break or burst suddenly

rupt: break

“The bubble floated for several minutes before rupturing”

corroboration:

robor: oak, strength

antonym: a word opposite in meaning to another

ant: against, opposed to, preventive

onym: name

“Big is an antonym of little”

synonym: word or phrase that means exactly or nearly the same as another

syn: with

onym: name

“Cold is synonymous with chilly”

mortuary: a funeral home or morgue

mort: death

“The mortuary was very adept at dealing with family grief”

heuristic: enabling a person to discover or learn something for themselves

heur: find

“Heuristic teaching is the most effective for teaching children”

prohibition: action of forbidding something

pro: before in front of, for, forward

hib: have

“The mother issued a prohibition on her children that they couldn’t leave the house”

habit: a settled or regular tendency

hab: have

“Amanda has a habit of biting her nails”

global: of or relating to the whole world

glob: sphere

“Serena had a global view and could see the interconnections between issues”

globule: small round particle of a substance

glob: sphere

“Mrs. Carpenter dropped a globule of cookie dough onto the baking sheet”

frigid: very cold in temperature

frig: cold

“The weather was so frigid, Jake had to wear a coat and hat”

fragment: a small part broken or separated from something

frag: break

“Harry picked up a small piece of reflective material and then realized it was a fragment of a mirror”

frangible: fragile, brittle

frang: break

“The frangible vase was off limits to the children”

volitive: willed action

vol: wish

“Andrea was a volitive person and often worked hard to get what she wanted”

Volant: able to fly or glide

Vol: fly

“The glider made Patrick volant and he was able to hang in the air”

Vivisection: ruthlessly sharp and detailed criticism or analysis

Viv: live

Sect: cut

“The professor offered a vivisection of the student’s work and left many notes”

Vivify: enliven or animate

Viv: live

“The movie from her childhood always vivified Christine”

Vivacity: characterized by high spirits and animation

Viv: live

“The child displayed such vivacity that everyone around her was instantly cheered”

Triplicate: existing in three copies

Tri: three

Plic: please

“The CEO asked his secretary to produce all documents in triplicate, a copy for him, one for her and one for the client”

Transfusion:

Trans: across

Fus: pour

Transferable: transferred or made over to the possession of another person

Trans: across

Fer: carry

“The money was transferable between the accounts”

Terminus: final point in space or time

Termin: boundary, limit, end

“The Mayans thought the terminus of the world would occur in 2012”

Terminate: bring to an end

Termin: boundary, limit, end

“Rufus terminated his employment with the ice cream parlor”

Sibilate: utter with a hissing sound

Sibil: hiss

“The girl’s lisp caused her to sibilate on her s’s”

Presentiment: an intuitive feeling about the future

Pre: before

Senti: feel

“Lily had a presentiment that something bad was going to happen”

Precursor: person or thing that comes before another of the same kind, forerunner

Pre: before

Curs: run

“High blood pressure is often a precursor to later heart problems”

Plenipotentiary: one with full power of independent action on behalf of one’s government

Plen: full

Pot: drink

“The British government sent a plenipotentiary to India to try to negotiate with the locals”

Planisphere: map formed by projection of a sphere on a flat surface

Plan: flat

Spher: ball

“The planisphere showed accurately the relative distance between countries but not their size”

Philognist: a person who likes or admires women

Phil: love, friendship

Gyn: woman

“The philogynist was often accused of being a feminist”

Philologist: studier of literature

Phil: love, friendship

Log: thought, word, speech

“The philologist had an extensive vocabulary and knowledge base”

Pertinacious: holding firmly to an opinion

Per: thoroughly, through

Tin: hold

“The scientist was pertinacious even though there were many studies proving him wrong”

Percolate: filter gradually through a porous surface

Per: thoroughly, through

Col: strain

“The water percolated through the strainer”

Opprobrium: harsh criticism or censure

Op: against

Prob: try

“Jared’s parents’ opprobrium of his actions scared him out of misbehaving again”

Officious: assertive of authority in an annoyingly domineering way

Of: against

Fic: make

“The presenter was officious in how he portrayed his findings”

Octogenarian: person who is from 80 to 89 years old

Oct: eight

Gen: race, kind, birth

“The octogenarian was started to develop health problems”

Mnemonics: study and development of systems for improving and assisting memory

Mne: memory

“The tutor specialized in mnemonics which made him skilled at helping students”

Misanthropic: believing the worst of human nature and motives

Mis: hate

Anthrop: human

“The misanthropic man had become cynical after years of observing how humans treat each other”

Mercantile: of or relating to trade, commerce, commercial

Merc: reward, wages, hire

“The mercantile man was very good at negotiating with people”

Mellifluous: sweet or musical, pleasant to hear

Mell: honey

Flu: flow

“Kwon’s mellifluous voice instantly drew people to him”

Manumission: formal act of freeing from slavery

Manu: hand

Miss: send

“Abraham Lincoln helped with the manumission of African Americans in the United States”

Maltreat: treat cruelly or with violence

Mal: bad wretched

“Because the owner so maltreated his dog, an animal protection group took it away”

Interrogate: ask questions of

Inter: among, between

Rog: ask

“The mother interrogated her son about why he broke curfew”

Insuppressible: impossible to control

In: not, negation

Press: press

“Kristin’s feelings of hatred for her math class were insuppressible”

Insulate: protect by using a material that prevents the loss of heat or intrusion of sound

Insul: island

“The band insulated their practice space so they wouldn’t annoy their neighbors”

Insuperable: impossible to overcome

In: not, negation

Super: above, beyond

“The mountains created an insuperable obstacle for the truck”

Insinuate: suggest or hint

In: in, on

Sinu: to draw a line

“Jacob didn’t actually call Izzie a name, but he insinuated its meaning”

Insentient: incapable of feeling or understanding things

In: not, negations

Senti: feel

“Doctors sometimes become insentient because they are constantly surrounded by sadness”

Inquisition: a period of prolonged and intensive questioning or investigation

In: in, on

Quisit: search, see

“The principal’s inquisition got no results because the students wouldn’t cooperate”

Extort: obtain by force, threats or unfair means

Ex: from, out

Tort: twist

“Her powers of manipulation led her to extort others to get what she wanted”

Extensible: capable of being protruded or stretched or opened out

Ex: from, out

Tens: stretch, strain

“The porch had an extensible covering that would be used when it rained”

Extemporaneous: spoken or done without preparation

Ex: from, out

Tempor: time

“Even though his speech was extemporaneous, it still got his point across”

Euphemism: mild or indirect word or expression for one too harsh or blunt

Eu: well, good

“Kelly used euphemisms to describe her feelings toward her overbearing mother”

Euphonious: pleasing to the ear

Eu: well, good

Phon: sound

“The euphonious chord progression made the song a number 1 hit”

Distensible:

Dis:

Tens: stretch, strain

“The distensible clay was soon stretched over the entire table”

Disparage: regard or represent as being of little worth

Dis: not, negation

Para: beside, near

“The girl disparaged her teacher every time she received a low grade”

Corpulent: fat

Corp: body

“The corpulent man ordered five courses at dinner!”

Collapsible: able to be folded into a small space

Col: strain

Laps: slide, slip

“The collapsible chair folded up so small it fit in the corner”

Carnage: killing of a large number of people

Carn: flesh

“The carnage of the video game made many people think it would affect kids negatively”

Belligerent: hostile, aggressive

Belli: war

Ger: bear, carry

“Zac was belligerent when he felt threatened by others”

Elapse: pass or go by

Laps: slide, slip

“Time elapsed so quickly during vacation”

Relapse: suffer deterioration after a period of improvement

Re: back, again

Lapse: slide, slip

“Gina had been doing so well with her cancer treatment, but sadly she relapsed”

Stringent: strict, precise, exacting

string: upright, stiff

“Ariel was stringent in her rules for her children”

Apposition: the positioning of things or things being side by side

Ap: movement to or toward, in addition to

Posit: put

“A nervous habit of hers was to apposition the knick knacks on her shelf”

Appertain: relate to, concern

Ap: movement to or toward, in addition to

Per: thoroughly, through

“Dan appertained the two historical situations”

Antipodes: direct opposite of something

Anti: against, opposed to, preventive

Pod: foot

“Vanessa’s cool room was antipodes of the summer heat”

Annalist: chronicler, historian

Ann: year, yearly

“The annalist chronicled the events of 9/11 for future generations to read about”

Anhydrous: containing no water

An: not, without

Hyrd: water

“The desert is often thought of as anhydrous”

Adversity: difficulties, misfortune

Ad: movement to or toward, in addition to

Vers: turn

“Jennifer worked hard to overcome the adversity her condition created”

Aesthetic: concerned with beauty

Aesthet: feeling, sensation

“The art dealer was concerned with the aesthetic quality over price”

Camaraderie: mutual trust, and friendship among people

Amar: love, loved

“The camaraderie between the teammates made them play flawlessly”

Compassion: sympathetic pity and concern for misfortunes of others

Com: with, together

Pass: pace, step

“The nurse’s compassion caused her to be popular among patients”

Condescending: acting in a way that betrays a feeling

Con: with, together

De: from, away from, removing, down

Scend: climb

“Mr. Marley’s condescending tone made people feel bad about themselves”

Conformist: a person who conforms to accepted behaviors

Con: with, together

Form: shape

“Often times when starting a new job, it is necessary for people to conform to certain customs”

Empathy: the ability to understand and share the feelings of another

Em: buy

Path: feel, hurt

“Psychologists are often very adept at using empathy to help their clients”

Emulate: match or surpass

Emul: striving to equal, rivaling

“Alli emulated her sister very much and worked hard to get as good of grades as her”

Evanescence: soon passing out of sight, memory, or existence

E: from, out

Van: empty, vain, idle

“While at first the break up was quite difficult it soon became evanescent”

Fortitude: courage in pain

Fort: strong

“Her fortitude in the face of her surgery was admirable”

Inconsequential: not important or significant

In: in, on, not, negation

Con: with, together

Sequ: follow

“Jackson was full of inconsequential trivia that failed to interest his co-workers”

Longevity: long life

Long: long

Vit: life

“To ensure the longevity of your toaster, you must follow all the care instructions”

Orator: a public speaker

Or: mouth

“The orator was very good at persuading people over to his beliefs”

Pretentious: attempting to impress by affecting greater importance

Pre: before

Tent: hold

“Michael’s pretentious nature tended to make others think he thought he was better than himself”

Rancorous: deep seated resentment

Ranc: rancidness, grudge, bitterness

“The politician’s speech made many people rancorous”

Reclusive: avoiding company of others

Re: again, back

Clus: close

“Blair’s reclusive nature caused her to have very few friends”

Renovation: act of improving or restoring

Re: again, back

Nov: new

“The houses renovations tripled its value”

Submissive: meekly, obedient or passive

Sub: below

Miss: send

“Submissive people are often those most vulnerable to hazing”

Substantiate: provide evidence to support or prove the truth of

Sub: below

St: stand

“Olivia claimed she had been to France but the school was unable to substantiate that information”

Superficial: existing or occurring at or on the surface

Super: above, over

Fic: make

“Her apology was very superficial and Mackenzie could tell her ‘friend’ didn’t mean it”

Superfluous: unnecessary

Super: above, over

Flu: flow

“Jenny’s extra credit work was superfluous since she already had an A in the course”

Surreptitious: kept secret because it would not be approved of

Su: below

Rept: crawl, creep

“Dan was surreptitious when he went to see Amalia because he knew his friends would disapprove”

Tactful: having or showing a sense of what is fitting and considerate

Tact: touch

“Chuck was tactful in telling his mother what he thought of her new boyfriend”

Venerable: accorded a great deal of respect

Vener: respectful

“Cotillion is a venerable process, especially in New England”

Query: a question

Quer: search, seek

“Tripp’s query confused the reporter”

Nihilism: rejection of all religious and moral principles

Nihil: nothing

“Nihilists are often highly individualistic and conform to no set of beliefs”

Bathos: insincere, or grossly sentimental pathos

Batho: deep, depth

“We were disappointed by the film’s bathos, the critics said it was deep and stimulating”

Ineluctable: unable to be resisted or avoided

In: in, on, not, negation

e: from, out

luc: bright, light

“The cake looked so delicious it was ineluctable!”

Symptomatic: serving as a symptom or sign

Sym: with

Pto: fall

“Milo’s runny nose was symptomatic of the flu”

Oblivious

Ob: against

Non sequitur: a conclusion or statement that does not logically follow from the previous argument or statement

Non: not

Sequ: follow

“The comedian used non sequiturs to get laughs from the crowd that even they weren’t expecting”

Supine: lying face upward

Supin: lying back

“The patient reclined to a supine position in order to be examined by the doctor”

Punctilio: fine, or petty point of conduct or procedure

Punct: prick

“

Chronic: persisting for a long time

Chron: time

“Eva’s chronic heartburn led her to explore other treatment options”

Bibulous: excessively fond of drinking alcohol

Bib: drink

“Nate was bibulous and spent much of his weekends at bars”

Viable: capable or working successfully; feasible

Vi: way

“The skin graft wasn’t viable so the doctor couldn’t use it”

Decimate: kill, destroy, remove large percentage of

Decim: tenth part

“The dog decimated its toy quite quickly even though it was supposed to be tough”

Pejorative: expressing contempt or disapproval

Pejor: worse

“Brittany was pejorative toward her mother and spoke disrespectfully to her”

Devious: showing a skillful use of underhanded tactics to achieve goals

De: from, away from, removing, down

Vi: way

“Connie was devious in her take down of her nemesis”

Saturnine: slow and gloomy

Sat: cultivate

“The saturnine day made everyone feel a little down”

Deprecate: express disapproval of

De: from, away from, removing, down

Prec: pray

“Kurt’s self-deprecating nature made others think he had low self esteem”

Equity: quality of being fair and impartial

Equ: even, level

“Everyone valued the principal’s equity in dealing with conflicts between students”

Desuetude: state of disuse

De: from, away from, removing, down

Su: sew

“The desuetude shack had many urban legends surrounding it”

Affront: an action or remark that causes outrage or offense

Af: movement to or toward, in addition to

Front: forehead

“Noah’s commentary on the basketball’s performance was affronting”

Germane: relevant to a subject under consideration

Ger: bear, carry

Man: flow

“The teacher requested that all discussion points be germane to the topic at hand”

Reputed: according to general belief

Re: again, back

Put: prune, reckon

“Coach Smith was reputed to be the best basketball instructor in the country”

Utopian: modeled on or aiming for a state in which everything is perfect

U:

Top: place

“Communism was supposed to create a utopian society but in most cases it fell to corruption”

Indictment: a formal charge or accusation of a serious crime

In: in, on, no, negation

Dict: say, speak

“At the trial, the indictment was read to the accused”

Inordinate: unusually or disproportionately large

In: in, on, no, negation

Ordin: order

“Danielle spent an inordinate amount of time with her boyfriend”

Concatenation: the state of being linked together as in a chain

Con: with, together

Caten: chain

“Many view time as concatenate, with one event effecting another”

Preempt: take action in order to prevent from happening

Pre: before

Empt: buy

“Studying is a way to preempt failing”

Emanate: issue or spread out from

E:

Man: flow, stay

“The steam emanated from the boiling pot”

Requite: make appropriate return for

Re: back, again

“Emma’s love was requited by her fiancée as indicated when he proposed”

Insatiable: impossible to satisfy

In: in, on, not, negation

Sat: cultivate

“After going into overtime in the game, Bryce’s thirst was insatiable”

Exacerbate: make worse

Ex: from, out

Ac: sharp, pointed

“The pain of Grace’s bruise was exacerbated when Kat poked it”

Nascent: just coming into existence

Nasc: born

“The idea of green building is nascent in the United States”

Primordial: existing at or from the beginning of time

Prim: first

“The sixth grade had been using the same primordial book since the 1960’s”

Reverberate: be repeated several times as an echo

Re: back, again

Verb: word

“The sound of her yell reverberated through the forest”

Consternation: feelings of anxiety or dismay

Con: with, again

Stern: spread, strew

“Finn’s consternation was interfering with his performance at school”

Recondite: little known

Re: back, again

Con: with, together

“Lea was aware of many recondite facts about Spain”

Inception: establishment or starting point of something

In: in, on, not, negation

Cept: hold, take

“The inception of the French club demonstrated the globalization of the school”

Prerogative: a right or privilege exclusive to a particular individual

Pre: before

Rog: ask

“It is a parent’s prerogative to question everything their children do”

Millennium: period of a thousand years

Mill: thousand

Enn: year, yearly

“Many were scared that the new millennium would cause technological devices to shut down”

Supplicate: ask or beg for something earnestly

Su: sew

Plic: please

“He supplicated himself to his girlfriend for forgiveness”

Fractious: easily irritated

Fract: break

“Shannon’s fractious demeanor made many people feel uncomfortable around her”

Prognosticate: foretell or prophesy

Pro: before, in front of, for, forward

“The gypsy prognosticated that Rachel would get into Yale”

Disconsolate: without consolation or comfort

Dis: not, negation

Con: with, together

Sol: sun, comfort, soothe, alone, only

“Stephen was disconsolate when he heard about the car accident”

Relegate: consign or dismiss to an inferior rank or position

Re: back, again

Leg: law

“The CEO relegated more menial tasks to employers lower in the company”

Definitive: done or reached decisively and with authority

De: from, away from, removing, down

Fin: end

“Liam went through many hours of work before reaching a definitive answer to his question”

Culpable: deserving blame

Culp: blame, fault

Able: able

“Shaun was culpable in the cheating fiasco”

Infraction: a violation or infringement of a law

In: in, on

Fract: break

“Hosting underage drinking parties is a major legal infraction”

Sedentary: tending to spend much time seated

Sed: apart, settle, calm, sit

“Elderly people often become sedentary which leads to further health problems”

Ostensible: stated or appearing to be true, but not necessarily so

Os: against

Tens: stretch, strain

“Laura’s ostensible motive was to be good friend but she really wanted information for gossip”

Expatriate: speak or write in detail

Ex: from, out

Pat: be open

“Mandy expatriated the science behind her research project”

Infirmity: physical or mental weakness

In: in, on, not, negation

Firm: fix, settle

“Cam’s infirmity made many question whether she was suitable for the coaching position”

Turgid: swollen and distended or congested

Urg: work

“The sports injury left Sherry’s fingers extremely turgid to the point where she couldn’t bend them”

Profligate: recklessly extravagant

Pro: before, in front of, for, forward

Flig: strike

“Bryan was a profligate partier, and his friends often worried about his health”

Poltroon: a coward

Pol: pole

“The poltroon was afraid to stand up for himself against his oppressors”

Risible: such as to provoke laughter

Ris: laugh

“Jesse’s risible jokes had the whole room crying with laughter”

Lucubration: study, meditation

Luc: bright, light

“Emme’s lucubration made her able to excel at the country’s top college”

Obloquy: strong public criticism

ob: against

Loqu: speak

“Sue’s obloquy made many people turn against her”

Palliate: make less severe or unpleasant without removing the cause

Pall: be pale

“Terminally ill patients often receive palliative treatment since the can’t be cured”

Verisimilitude: appearance of being true or real

Ver: true

Simil: likeness, trust, group

“The play was supposed to be based on the actress’s life but its verisimilitude was questioned by many experts”

Solecism: breach of good manners

Sol: alone, only

“Artie’s solecism made many people dislike him”

Aficionado: person who is very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about an activity

A: movement to or toward

Fic: make

“Shelby was a dance aficionado, and was always pleased to share her knowledge with others”

Peccadillo: a small relatively unimportant offense or sin

Pecc: sin

“Will’s peccadillo was barely punished by the principal”

Gratis: without charge, free

Grat: thanks, please

“Because the food took so long to come out, the restaurant gave it to them gratis”

Traumatic: emotionally disturbing or distressing

Traum: wound

“Brittany often relived her traumatic car wreck in her nightmares”

Exculpate: show or declare that someone is not guilty of wrongdoing

Ex: from, out

Culp: blame, fault

“Brandon was exculpated of the accusation that he had tracked mud into the house”

Belabor: argue or elaborate in excessive detail

Be: bless

Labor: toil

“Gene belabored the plan to his teammates”

Largesse: generosity in bestowing money or gifts upon others

Larg: large

“JK Rowling’s largesse for charities made her drop from the top earners in the world”

Asseverate: assert, state categorically

As: movement to or toward, in addition to

Sever: stern, strict, serious

“Tina asseverated that she didn’t cheat on her exam”

Attenuate: reduce the force, effect or value of

At: movement to or toward, in addition to

Tenu: slender, thin

“Too much water in the mix can attenuate the dying power of henna”

Cognizant: having knowledge or being aware of

Cogn: know

“Elodie was cognizant of her opponent’s ability but it didn’t intimidate her”

Abstruse: difficult to understand

Abs: away

Trus: thrust

“The abstruse math problem puzzled all the test takers”

Depraved: morally corrupt

De: from, away from, removing, down

Prav: crooked

“Tuck’s depraved behavior led to his arrest”

Minutiae: trivial detail of something

Min: less, smaller

“Subtle minutiae made the novel a top seller”

Exhume: dig out from ground

Ex: from, out

Hum: ground

“The archaeologists exhumed the bones of a dinosaur”

Intermittent: occurring at irregular intervals, not steady

Inter: among, between

Mitt: send

“The intermittent beeping was very distracting to the students”

Increment: an increase or addition

In: in, on, not, negation

Cre: make

“I split up my reading assignment into more doable increments”

Interpolate: insert between fixed points

Inter: among, between

Pol: pole

“Dr. Darcy interpolated his lesson with bits of humor”

Impeccable: in accordance with the highest standards or propriety

Im: in, on, not, negation

Pecc: sin

“Jane’s impeccable behavior made her really popular with her friend’s parents”

Arrogate: take or claim something for oneself without justification

Ar: movement to or toward, in addition to

Rog: ask

“The king arrogated all the surrounded land into his kingdom”

Concomitant: naturally accompanying or associated

Con: with, together

Com: with, together

“Natural ability concomitant with hard work often leads to success”

Deride: express contempt for, ridicule

De: from, away from, removing, down

Rid: laugh

“Mike derided his opponent in the election”

Expunge: erase or remove completely

Ex: from, out

Pung: prick

“Diana had to have her record expunged before she could get a job”

Impetuous: acting or done quickly and without thought or care

Im: in, on, not, negation

Pet: strive towards

“Lana walked impetuously down the street, carelessly bumping into many people”

Implacable: unable to be placated, relentlessly

Im: in, on, not, negation

Plac: please

“The parent had trouble cooking food for their implacable child”

Ingenuous: innocent and unsuspecting

In: in, on, not, negation

Gen: race, kind, birth

“Britney’s ingenuous nature made her trust everyone”

Inveterate: having a particular habit, activity or interest so long established and unlikely to change

In: in, on, not, negation

Veter: old

“Pat’s routine was inveterate and had been for many years”

Multifarious: many and or various types

Mult: many, much

“Becky’s multifarious interests in addition to her high test scores helped her get into an Ivy league college”

Odious: extremely unpleasant, repulsive

Od: hate

“Quinn found washing dishes to be an odious task”

Pellucid: translucently clear

Pell: drive

Luc: bright, light

“The pellucid window cast a green shadow on the floor”

Perfidious: deceitful and untrustworthy

Per: thoroughly, through

Fid: faith, trust

“Lily’s perfidious nature made it hard for people to get close to her”

Prescient: having knowledge before something occurs

Pre: before

Sci: know

“Marsha was prescient about her team winning state”

Solipsistic: the philosophical theory that the self is all that you know to exist

sol: alone, only

sist: cause to stand

“Many people find solipsistic thinkers to be self-centered”

apocalypse: complete, final destruction of the world

calyp: cover

“Mayans predicted that the apocalypse would occur in the year 2012”