



IES Academy's Master Word List

A

Abandon (n.) careless disregard for consequences

Synonym: wanton

Antonym: uphold [IES-2002]

Use: The abandoned site is a safe heaven for miscreants to carry their unlawful activities

Abate (v.) to reduce in amount, degree, intensity, etc.; lessen; diminish

Synonym: Decrease

Antonym: Increase [NTPC]

Use: The increasing temperature is sure to **abate** with the oncoming rain in the next few days.

Aberrant (adj.) departing from the right, normal, or usual course.

Synonym: unusual [GAIL]

Antonym: Ordinary

Use: The dog's sudden **aberrant** eating patterns alerted its owner to a possible health problem.

Abjure (v.) to renounce, repudiate, or retract, esp. with formal solemnity;

Synonyms: Renounce [GRE, CDS-2010]

Use: recant the woman also confessed her share in the crime at Find on and both **abjured** the read.

Abominable (adj.) unacceptable and rude behaviour

Synonym: disgusting, shameless [IES-2009]

Antonym: civilized

Use: We were shocked at his abominable act of eve teasing the teacher.

Aborigine (n.) One of the original or earliest known inhabitants of a country or region

Synonym: Primitive inhabitant

Antonym: Foreigner

Use: A large population of Australia were **aborigines**.

Abortive (adj.) failing to achieve a goal

Synonym: fiasco

Antonym: effective, potent [IES-2009]

Use: The rocket mission was abortive because of faulty design

Abridge (v.) to cut short

Synonym: downsize

Antonym: expand, enlarge. [IES-1997]

Use: The abridged passage could not be understood.

Abscond (v.) to depart in a sudden and secret manner, esp. to avoid capture and legal prosecution.

Synonym: Run off

Use: The cashier **absconded** with the money.

Abstemious (adj.) sparing or moderate in eating and drinking; temperate in diet.

Synonym: Temperate

Moderate [RAILWAYS-1996]

Antonym: Unrestrained

Use: Persons with **abstemious** habits can adjust themselves in any social set up.

Abstinence (n.) Restrained eating or drinking, self denial

Synonym: Restrained eating or drinking

Antonym: Indulgence

Use: The doctors have called for a total abstinence from alcohol.

Abstinence (n.) forbearance from any indulgence of appetite, Self-restraint, Self-discipline, Moderation, Asceticism

Synonym: Restrained eating or drinking

Antonym: Indulgence [HCL]

Use: Spiritual ascetics preach a complete **abstinence** from the world.

Abysmal (adj.) of or like an abyss; immeasurably deep or great, extremely or hopelessly bad or severe, Unfathomable

Synonym: Appalling

Bottomless

[DMRC]

Antonym: Superb

Use: When one studies more, one sees one's **abysmal** ignorance.

Accede (v.) Comply, Grant, Allow, to give consent, approval, or adherence; agree;

Synonym: Consent

[SAIL]

Antonym: Reject

Use: The senior command did not accede to these requests.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Synonym: Friendly

Antonyms: Rude [EIL]

Use: Accustomed to cold, aloof supervisors Nicholas was amazed at how **affable** his new employer was affability, N.

Affluent (adj.) having an abundance of wealth, property, or other material goods; prosperous; rich

Synonym: Prosperous [Railways-1993]

Antonym: Poor

Use: Design is vital to the competitiveness of businesses and the affluence of society.

Agglomeration (n.) a jumbled cluster or mass of varied parts Collection, Heap

Synonym: Aggregation

Antonym: Dispersal

Use: It took weeks to assort the agglomeration of miscellaneous items she had collected on her trip.

Aghast (adj.) Horrified, Dumbfounded

Synonym: Amazed

Antonym: Unsurprised [BHEL]

Use: Teacher was aghast at the crude behaviour of the senior students at the annual party.

Agility (n.) Suppleness, Quickness, Dexterity, the power of moving quickly and easily

Synonym: Nimbleness

Antonym: Slow

Alacrity (n.) cheerful readiness, promptness, or willingness

Synonym: Eagerness [IES-2009]

Antonym: Sluggishness

Use: We accepted the invitation with alacrity.

Alluvial (adj.) physically concerning land or its inhabitants

Synonym: Mortal

Antonym: Immaterial

Aloof (adj.) at a distance, esp. in feeling or interest;

Synonym: Remote [HPCL]

Antonym:

Use: Shy by nature, she remained aloof while all the rest conversed.

Altruistic (adj.) showing a wish to help or bring advantages to other people

Synonym: benevolent

Antonym: selfish [IES-2001]

Use: Her motives for donating the money are seemingly altruistic.

Amalgamate (v.) to mix or merge so as to make a combination; blend; unite; combine.

Synonym: Mix [S.S.C.-1995]

Antonyms: Separate [SAIL]

Use: The data is also now amalgamated with the Library's online catalog.

Ambivalence (n.) Uncertainty or fluctuation, esp. when caused by inability to make a choice or by a simultaneous desire to say or do two opposite or conflicting things.

Synonym: Confusion

Antonym: Decisiveness

Use: A constant theme of these reports is a marked ambivalence about the nature of the inmates.

Ambles (v.) to go at a slow, easy pace; stroll; to walk slowly in a relaxed way

Synonym: Meander, Saunter

Antonym: Hasten

Use: He ambled around the town.

Ameliorate (v.) To make or become better, more bearable, or more satisfactory; improve; meliorate

Synonym: Improve

Antonym: Worsen [S.B.I. P.O.-1994]

Make worse [Stenographers' -1994]

Use: A smile often goes a long way to ameliorate the situation.

Amiable (adj.) agreeable; lovable; warmly friendly.

Synonym: Good-natured [NTPC]

Antonym: Ill natured, Unfriendly

Use: In Little Women Beth is the **amiable** daughter whose loving disposition endears her to all who know her.

His **amiable** manners win him respect everywhere.

Amoral (adj.) having no moral standards, restraints, or principles;

Synonym: Immoral

Antonym: Moral

Echical

[EIL]

Use: Jerry is almost totally amoral. He cares only about making money and having fun and couldn't care less about right or wrong.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Apothegm (n.) Pithy,

Synonym: Moral

Use: Compact saying Proverbs is **apothegm** that has become familiar sayings.

Appease (v.). Pacify or soothe; relieve.

Synonym: To Pacify

Anonym: Agitate

[NTPC]

Use: Tom and Jody tried to appease the crying baby by offering him one toy after another. However, he would not calm down until they appeased his hunger by giving him a bottle, appeasement, N.

Applaud (v.) to appreciate; clap for

Synonym: acclaim, adulation [IES-1998]

Antonym: denounce

Use: His pathbreaking work was applauded by his colleagues.

Apposite (adj.) suitable; well-adapted; pertinent; relevant;

Synonym: Appropriate

[NTPC]

Antonym: Inappropriate

Use: The term "lifeless pallor" seems very apposite.

Approbation (n.) approval

Synonym: Approval

Antonym: Disapproval

[IES-2006]

Use: Wanting her parents 'regard' she looked for some sign of their approbation. Benjamin Franklin, that shrewd observer of mankind, once wrote. "We must not in the course of public life expect immediate approbation and immediate grateful acknowledgment of our services."

Aquiline (adj.) shaped like an eagle's beak; hooked

Synonym: Curved

Hooked

Antonym: Straight

Use: The profile of the head is slightly aquiline, with a grey/brown muzzle.

Arable (adj.) fit for growing crops.

Synonym: Suitable for ploughing

[SAIL]

Use: The first settlers wrote home growing reports of the New World, praising its vast acres of **arable** land ready for the plow.

Arduous (adj.) Hard, Strenuous, Difficult; Arduous means involving a lot of effort and energy.

Synonym: Difficult

Antonym: Facile

Use: Her arduous efforts had sapped her energy.

Arraign (v.) Charge in court indict

Synonym: Indict

[UPSC, CDS]

Antonym: Pardon

[IES-2009]

Use: After his indictment by the Grand Jury, the accused man was arraigned in the Country Criminal Court.

Arrant (adj.) downright; thorough; notorious

Synonym: Unmitigated

[NTPC]

Antonym: Mitigated

Artifact (n.) Object made by human beings, either handmade or mass-produced.

Synonym: Man-made

[Railways-1995]

Antonym: Natural object

Use: Archaeologists debated the significance of the artifacts discovered in the ruins of Asia Minor but came to no conclusion about the culture they represented.

Ascetic (adj.) practicing self-denial; austere.

Ascetic means not involving in pleasures.

Synonym: Austere

[BEL]

Antonym: Extravagant

Use: The wealthy self-indulgent young man felt oddly drawn to the strict, ascetic life led by members of some monastic orders, also N. asceticism, N.

Askance (adv.) with suspicion, mistrust, or disapproval

Synonym: Sceptically, Suspiciously

Use: Jane looked **askance** at John to see if he were watching her."

Asperity (n.) harshness or sharpness of tone, temper, or manner; severity; acrimony:

Synonym: Good temper

Antonym: Harshness

Kindness

[GAIL]

Use: The cause of her anger did not warrant such **asperity**.

Assent (v.) to agree or concur; subscribe to;

Synonym: Consent

Agreement

[C.B.I. 1995]

Antonym: Disagree

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

B

Babble (v.) to utter sounds or words imperfectly, indistinctly, or without meaning,

Synonym: Burble

Antonym: Quiet

Use: She **babbles**, gurgles, giggles, sucks on her bottle and cries when waking up.

Badger (v.) Ask again and again, Hassle, to harass or urge persistently; pester; nag

Synonym: To pester persistently [IES-2008]

Antonym: Gratify, make happy,

Use: I had to badger him into coming with us.

Baffling (adj.) Unsolved, Inexplicable

Synonym: Mysterious

Antonym: Simple [HPCL]

Use: Exactly how birds acquired the ability to fly has **baffled** scientists for years.

Balmy (adj.) Pleasant, Mild, Gentle, Soft, pleasantly warm and mild in climate, mild and refreshing; soft; soothing

Synonym: Temperate

Antonym: Wintry, Hard

Use: Spain's **balmy** climate allows for a long golf season.

Bamboozle (v.) To deceive or get the better of (someone) by trickery, flattery, or the like; humbug;

Synonym: Swindle, Dupe [HPCL]

Antonym: Be honest

Use: They **bamboozled** us into joining the club

Banal (adj.) Ordinary, Dull, Trivial, Facile, Commonplace, boringly ordinary and lacking in originality, devoid of freshness or originality; hackneyed; trite

Synonym: Mundane

Commonplace [SAIL]

Antonym: Original

Use: The **banal** realities of the film industry really do determine what we see on screen.

Bane (n.) Nuisance, Blight, Cause of ruin

Synonym: Curse

Antonym: Blessing

Use: Sudha's little brother was the **bane** of her existence, scribbling on walls with her lipstick and pouring her shampoo down the drain.

Barbarian (n.) somebody with no interest in culture, an extremely aggressive or violent person

Synonym: Uncivilized

Antonym: Civilised

Use: I think Iraqi's like being killed by Iraqi's better than by foreign **barbarians**.

Barbaric (adj.) pertains to crudeness and incivility,

Synonym: Bestly, savage [HCL]

Antonym: Calm

Use: Whipping and torturing people is **barbaric**.

Barge (v.) a to bump into, collide with,

Synonym: Intrude

Use: He started to run away and barged into a passer-by.

Baroque (n.) the baroque style of architecture and art, or its period in European history

Synonym: Flamboyant

Antonym: Simple

Plain [Tax & Excise, 1990]

Use: To stay at the Hotel Ritz is to step inside a **baroque** palace, an experience you won't forget.

Beatific (adj.) Showing or producing joy, Innocent, Pure, Adorable, Virtuous

Synonym: Saintly

Antonym: Dreadful

Use: When Johnny first saw the new puppy, a **beatific** smile spread across his face.

Beaver away (v.) to work hard for a long time

Synonym: persevere [IES-2008]

Antonym: indolent

Use: She has been beavering away at that essay for hours.

Beguile (v.) to win and hold somebody's attention, interest, or devotion, to mislead or deceive somebody

Synonym: Bluff

Antonym: Persuade [S.S.C. 1993]

Use: Utopianism is something to which **beguiles** a great many people.

Beleaguer (v.) to surround or beset, as with troubles

Synonym: Harras, Pester

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Bewail (v.) to express great sadness about something, Lament, Bemoan, Regret, Grumble about, Grieve, Deplore

Synonym: Bemoan, Mourn [GAIL]

Antonym: Joyous, Exalt

Use: His sins were not grievous, and he did not **bewail** them.

Bewilder (v.) to confuse or puzzle somebody completely

Synonym: Confound

Antonym: Explain [BEL]

Use: These shifting attitudes **bewilder** me.

Bifurcate (v.) to be split or branched off into two parts, or split something into two parts,

Synonym: Split,

Antonym: Converge

Use: There one finds a similar behavior in the local and the global **bifurcation**.

Bizarre (adj.) amusingly or grotesquely strange or unusual, unusual

Synonym: Odd

Strange

Antonym: Normal

Usual

[EIL]

Use: He found himself in a bizarre situation.

Blanch (v.) to become pale suddenly, decolour

Synonym: Bleach

Antonym: Darken

Darken

[NHPC]

Use: He **blanched** at the mention of her name

Bleak (adj.) Dreary, Depressing, Uninviting, without hope or expectation of success or improvement

Synonym: Drab

Antonym: Bright [NDA-2009]

Cheerful

[GRE]

Use: The company's future looks **bleak**.

Blemish (n.): marks or scars on skin

Synonym: disfigure, flaw [IES-2009]

Antonym: beautiful

Use: She is worried at her skin blemishes as she is appearing for a fashion show.

Blithe (adj.) Carefree, Casual, Unthinking,

Synonym: Cheerful

Antonym: Cheerless

[EIL]

Use: Happy-go-lucky, Amiable Everyone loved her for her **blithe** spirit.

Bohemian (n.) to be a non-conformist.

Synonym: unconventional [IES-1996]

Antonym: usual

Use: The actor impressed the audience with his bohemian looks and behavior.

Boisterous (adj.) full of noisy enthusiasm and energy, and often roughness or wildness

Synonym: Raucous

Antonym: Calm, Serene

Use: She is good with children of all ages but might be a little too boisterous for toddlers.

Boorish (adj.) lack of good manners, whether arising from ignorance or brashness, unmannered; crude; insensitive

Synonym: Impolite

Antonym: Well-mannered, Refined

Genteel

[I.Tax & Excise, 1993]

Use: He was a **boorish** man but had a good taste for music and brought Handel to England.

Bouillon (n.) a clear liquid that is traditionally made by boiling meat, bones, and vegetables together. It is sometimes served as a soup, but usually used as a stock for soups and Stews

Synonym: Concoction

Clear soup

[SAIL]

Use: You can use beef or chicken **bouillon** cubes for seasonings.

Bowdlerise (v.) to remove parts of a work of literature that are considered indecent selectively remove

Synonym: Ban;

Antonym: Approve, endorse

Use: The editor **bowdlerised** those words and expressions which cannot with propriety be read aloud in a family.

Braggadocio (n.) somebody who boasts in a swaggering self-aggrandizing way,

Synonym: Braggart

Antonym: Meekness

Bravura (n.) great skill that is shown when something artistic is done in an exciting or innovative way, showy style or behavior

Synonym: Courage [HCL]

Antonym: Timidity

Use: This is a **bravura** piece of filmmaking that demands to be seen.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Cacophony (n.) an unpleasant combination of loud, often jarring sounds,

Synonym: Dissonance

Discord [BSNL]

Antonym: Harmony

Use: We were greeted by a **cacophony** of sound as we entered the road.

Cadge (v.) to scrounge or beg something from somebody **Cadge** v. beg, mooch; panhandle. While his car was in the shop

Synonym: Peddle

Use: Bob had to cadge a ride to work each day, Unwitting to be a compiece moocher, however, he offered to pay for the gas.

Cajole (v.) to persuade somebody to do something by flattery or gentle but persistent argument,

Synonym: Coax [BEL]

Antonym: Dissuade [C.B.I. 1991]

Use: Cher tried to cajole her father into letting her drive the family car cajolery.

Calamity (n.) a disastrous situation or event, misery or distress resulting from a disastrous event **Calarrity** N. disaster, misery

Synonym: Catastrophe

Antonym: Boon

Use: As news of the calamity spread, offers of relief poured in to the stricken community.

Callous (adj.) showing no concern that other people are or might be hurt or upset, **Callous** Adj. hardened; unfeeling.

Synonym: Uncaring

Antonym: Warmhearted Sensitive [S.S.C. 1993]

Use: He had worked in the hospital for so many years that he was callous to the suffering in the wards, callus.

Callow (adj.) youthful; immature; inexperienced. As a freshman, Jack was sure he was a man of the world; as a sophomore, he made fun of freshmen as callow youths.

Synonym: Immature [MTNL]

Antonym: Sophisticated

Use: In both cases, his judgment showed just how callow he was.

Candid (adj.) honest or direct in a way that people find either refreshing or distasteful, forthright, straightforward.

Synonym: Outspoken [GAIL]

Frank [Steno, Exam, 1994]

Antonym: Guarded

Secretive [Bank P.O. 1990]

Use: He is a candid politician

Cantankerous (adj.) easily angered and difficult to get along with, difficult to work with or use.

Synonym: Bad tempered [SAIL]

Quarrelsome [Asstt. Grade, 1996]

Antonym: Pleasant

Use: The doctor told the young man to go out and find the ugliest, most **cantankerous** woman he could find and marry her.

Capacious (adj.) big enough to contain a large quantity,

Synonym: Voluminous

Antonym: Limited [M.B.A. 1994]

Use: Sarah promised to open the room, and at the opening meeting the **capacious** building was crowded.

Caprice (n.) a tendency to sudden impulsive decisions or changes of mind, a sudden unexpected action or change of mind

Synonym: Impulse

Sudden change in attitude

[IES-2006]

Antonym: Steadfastness

Steady behaviour [I.E.S 2008]

Use: It is not human **caprice**, but a principle of public order, which controls property.

Capricious (adj.) tending to make sudden unexpected changes.

Synonym: Whimsical

Antonym: Predictable

Steadfast [U.D.C. 1995]

Use: He proved utterly capricious in his dealings with his friends.

Carnal (adj.) fleshly is the public more interested in carnal pleasures than in spiritual matters?

Synonym: Sensual

Antonym: Chaste [IES-2009]

Spiritual

Use: Compare the number of people who read Playboy daily to the number of those who read the Bible every day.

Castigation (v.) to criticize or rebuke somebody or somebody's behavior severely, Chastisement,

Synonym: Reprimand [BSNL]

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Use: scold, Grendma began to chide Steven for his lying.

Chivalrous (adj.) relating to or reflecting the values of the medieval code of knighthood, especially courtesy, self-sacrifice, and a sense of fair play,

Synonym: Gallant

Antonym: Boorish

Use: Essentially, you start off as a lowly squire and work your way up the ladders of society by performing chivalrous deeds.

Choleric (adj.) showing or tending to show anger or irritation,

Synonym: Irritable [VIZAG]

Antonym: Calm
Even-tempered [IES-2006]

Use: He has a highly **choleric** temperament

Churlish (adj.) characteristic of somebody with bad manners, **Churlish** Adj. boorish; rude.

Synonym: Rude

Impolite [EIL]

Antonym: Courteous
Polite [Tax & Excise, 1990]

Use: Dismayed by his churlish manners at the party, the girls vowed never to invite him again.

Circuitous (adj.) lengthy because very indirect,

Synonym: Roundabout

Indirect [BSNL]

Antonym: Direct

Use: Rivers are often uneven, untidy and take **circuitous** courses.

Circumspect (adj.) Judicious, Vigilant, watchful and discreet; prudent, circumspect behavior, well-considered

Synonym: Cautious

Antonym: Reckless

Use: Circumspect Adj. Prudent; Investigating before acting. She tried always to be circumspect.

Clandestine (adj.) needing to be concealed, usually because it is illegal or unauthorized

Clandestine (adj). Secret.

Synonym: Secret [EIL]

Antonym: Open

Use: After avoiding their chaperon, the lovers had a clandestine meeting

Clemency (n.) to forgive the guilt done

Synonym: mercy, compassion [IES-2009]

Antonym: harsh

Use: The clemency petition of the war criminal has been rejected.

Classterphobia (n.) fear of being locked in.

Synonym: Fear of closed places [HPCL]

Use: His fellow classmates laughed at his claustrophobia and often threatened to lock him in his room.

Clique (n.) a close group of friends or coworkers with similar interests and goals, whom outsiders regard as excluding them
Ctique N. small, exclusive group.

Synonym: Elite

Use: Fitzgerald wished that he belonged to the crique of popular athletes and big men on campus who seemed to run Princeton's social life.

Coerce (v.) to make somebody do something against his or her will by using force or threats

Synonym: Compel

Force [NHPC]

Antonym: Persuade

Use: A leader doesn't **coerce** people into change that they resist.

Cogent (adj.) to use effective language

Synonym: compelling

Antonym: unconvincing, ineffective [IES-2000]

Use: She argued most cogently for a relaxation of the sanctions.

Cogitate (v.) to think deeply and carefully about something.

Synonym: Consider

To think deeply about something

[IES-2005]

Antonym: Ignore

Use: The philosopher cogitated about the meaning of life very deeply.

Cognizance (n.) knowledge or awareness of something, the extent or range of what somebody can know and understand
Cognizance N. knowledge.

Synonym: Knowledge [SAIL]

Antonym: Ignorance

Use: During the election campaign, the two candidates were kept in full **cognizance** of the international situation.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Synonym: exhaustive

Antonym: superficial, selective. [IES-1996]

Use: The taxation reforms initiated are comprehensive in nature and scope.

Conciliatory (adj.) tending to conciliate: a conciliatory manner; conciliatory comments. resolve differences, to work with opposing parties with the goal of bringing them to an agreement or reconciliation,

Synonym: Foolish [UPSC]

Antonym: Provocative

Use: He has not seen the need to change his ways or become more **conciliatory**.

Concise (adj.) precise and relevant.

Synonym: nutshell

Antonym: verbose; elucidate. [IES-1995]

Use: The answers written in the exam were concise.

Concoct (v.) prepare by combining; make up in concert.

Synonym: Formulate

Invent

[VIZAG]

Use: How did the inversive chef ever concoct such a strange dish? Concoction. n.

Concur (v.) to have the same opinion as somebody else, or reach agreement independently on a specific point,

Synonym: Agree

Antonym: Conflict

Use: We are in broad agreement with the recommendations and are happy to **concur** with the conclusions on the key issues as identified.

Condign (adj.) well deserved and completely appropriate, **Condign** Adj. appropriate; deserved (almost always, in the sense of deservedly severe, as in condign punishment).

Use: To be concerned about a possible miscarriage of justice is rational; to brood over a guilty man's just and condign punishment makes no sense.

Confirm (v.) to validate

Synonym: ratify.

Antonym: deny, reject. [IES-1997]

Use: The presence of untested chemicals was confirmed by the inspectors.

Confiscate (v.) to take somebody's property with authority, or appropriate property for

personal use as if with authority, to seize property legally forfeited to the public treasury as a penalty.

Synonym: Impound

Deize

To seize by authority [SSC]

Antonym: Restore

Use: The goods were **confiscated** by customs.

Conjecture (n.) the formation of judgments or opinions on the basis of incomplete or inconclusive information.

Synonym: Guess [HCL]

Antonym: Fact

Use: The origin of this ritual is a matter of **conjecture**.

Connoisseur (n.) a person who is especially competent to pass critical judgments in an art, particularly one of the fine arts, or in matters of taste

Synonym: Expert Authority, Specialist

Lover of art

[EIL]

Lover of art

[Railways, 1996]

Antonym: Ignoramus

Use: I am becoming a **connoisseur** of these sermons over the years.

Connubial (adj.) relating to marriage,

Synonym: Nuptial

[HPCL]

Antonym: Divorce

Use: Conjugal Marriages in youth are more likely to produce connubial happiness.

Consanguinity (n.) relationship by descent from the same ancestor, and not by marriage or affinity, a close relationship or connection

Synonym: Kinship

Use: Issues of **consanguinity** arise in several aspects of the law; it is directly relevant in determining whether a couple can marry.

Conscientious (adj.) controlled by or done according to conscience; scrupulous, meticulous; careful; pains-taking; particular, Meticulous, Hard-working,

Synonym: Careful

[IES-1993]

Thorough

Diligent

Antonym: Careless

Use: He is a conscientious worker.

Conservation (n.) protection of flora, fauna or monuments

Synonym: preservation

[IES-2002]

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Use: The Court will decide if your failure to pay is due to willful refusal or **culpable** neglect.

Cumbersome (adj.) awkward to carry or handle because of weight, size, or shape; difficult to use or deal with because of length or complexity

Synonym: Unwieldy

Antonym: Manageable

Use: It is unlikely they would have taken their laptops before as they are too **cumbersome** to carry all day long.

Cynosure (n.) the center of admiration, attention, or attraction, somebody or something acting as a guide or used for direction

Synonym

Antonym: Abomination [EIL]

Use: Guidebooks are the **cynosure** of the inexperienced traveler.

D

Dainty (adj.) delicate and pretty, choice, delicious, or tasty, excessively fastidious or particular

Synonym: Small and graceful

Antonym: Tastless [Railways-1995]

Use: Swiftly and skillfully, as if aided by invisible hands, her **dainty** fingers opened curtain and window.

Damnation (n.): the act of sending someone the state of being in hell

Synonym: curse

Antonym: salvation [IES-2009]

Use: He believed that he would be condemned to eternal damnation for what he had done.

Dampen (v.) to lose strength

Synonym: undermine

Antonym: strengthen [IES-1999]

Use: The team was dampened by the injury of players.

Dank (adj.) wet, cold and unpleasant

Synonym: damp; drippy [IES-2007]

Antonym: dry

Use: We had to suspend the match due to dank weather.

Dapper (adj.) describes a man who is neat and elegant in dress and manner; alert and lively or brisk

Synonym: Elegant

Antonym: Scruffy

Untidy

[GAIL]

Use: Dressing tastefully, he gave the impression of a **dapper** gentleman.

Daunt (v.) immediate; frighten, "Boast all you like of your prowess.

Use: Mere words cannot daunt me," the hero answered the villain.

Dauntless (adj.) bold. Despite the dangerous nature of the undertaking

Synonym: Fearless and determined [HPCL]

Antonym: cowardly [IES-1999]

Use: The dauntless soldier volunteered for the assignment.

Dawdle (v.) to walk or move slowly and reluctantly or idly, to spend far more time than is necessary in doing something

Synonym: Loiter

[MTNL]

Antonym: Hurry

Use: We'll get there in time if you don't dawdle.

Dazed (n.) a state of confusion and unclear thinking, often the result of a blow or shock, to leave somebody wholly or partly unconscious or unable to think clearly, especially as a result of a blow or shock

Synonym: Shocked

[EIL]

Antonym: Expect

Use: Things happened so quickly I was left in a daze.

Dearth (n.) a scarcity of something

Synonym: Deficiency

Scarcity

[S.S.C. 1991]

Antonym: Glut

Abundance

[GRE, C.B.I. 1990]

Use: There is a **dearth** of budget to run the project

Debacle (n.) a sudden disaster, defeat, or humiliating failure; a sudden breakup of river ice in the spring thaw, causing a violent rush of water and ice

Synonym: Fiasco

Antonym: Boon

Progress

[BHEL]

Rise

[U.D.C. 1995]

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Synonym: Redundant, Extinct

[Stenographers' Exam, 1994]

Antonym: Current, modern

Use: Please inform me of any broken links or defunct sites.

Deify (v.) turn into a god ; idolize. Admire the rock star at you want ; just don't deify him.

Synonym: Worship [C.B.I. 1995]

Antonym: degrade

Deleterious (adj.) having a harmful or damaging affect on somebody or something,

Synonym: Lethal

Antonym: Harmless [DMRC]

Use: No deleterious effects on the eyes have been reported.

Delineate (v.) to describe or explain something in detail, to sketch or draw something in outline, to indicate the physical boundaries of something

Synonym: Demarcate, describe

Antonym: unite

Use: He delineated the state of Texas on the map with a red pencil.

Delirium (n.) a state marked by extreme restlessness, confusion, and sometimes hallucinations, caused by fever, poisoning, or brain injury; a state of extreme excitement or emotion

Synonym: Disorientation

Antonym: Dejection [VIZAG]

Use: Scientists, publishers and librarians all seem to suffer delirium when it comes to electronic publishing.

Demagogue (n.) a person, esp. an orator or political leader, who gains power and popularity by arousing the emotions, passions, and prejudices of the people,

Synonym: rabble-rouser

Use: Adolf Hitler was considered a demagogue because of his ability to incite the people.

Demeanor (n.) somebody's behavior, manner, or appearance, especially as it reflects on character

Synonym: Conduct [NTPC]

Antonym: deject

Use: She gets along much better with Payal who has a gentle demeanor.

Demise (n.) the death of somebody, especially when it happens slowly and predictably; the end of something that used to exist, especially when it happens slowly and predictably

Synonym: End

Antonym: Creation

Use: Easy access to resources for homework answers could mean the demise of real learning in education.

Demotic (n.) the colloquial form of modern Greek, adopted as the official variety of the language, relating to or involving ordinary people, of or pertaining to the ordinary, everyday, current form of a language; vernacular: a poet with a keen ear for demotic rhythms.

Synonym: popular.

Antonym: Standard

Use: This is a short, lively, and readable introduction to recent developments in demotic language.

Denigrate (v.) blacken. All attempts to denigrate the character of

Synonym: blacken [EIL]

Antonym: Praise

Use: Our late president have failed; the people sell love him and cherish his memory.

Denouement (n.) a final part of a story or drama in which everything is made clear and no questions or surprises remain; the final stage or climax of a series of events

Synonym: Finish

Antonym: Start

Use: This politician has plenty of drama and a climax but never a denouement.

Depravity (n.) a state of moral corruption, a morally corrupt or wicked act

Synonym: Immorality

Antonym: Righteousness

Use: The Bible teaches us that the answer lies in the depravity of the human heart.

Depredation (n.) an attack involving plunder and pillage

Synonym: Ravages

Antonym: Boon

Use: Even after the depredations of the war with Iran, it remained a state whose provision of welfare was massive and efficient.

Depress (v.) sorrowful; painful.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Dictum (n.) an authoritative saying, statement, or pronouncement;

Synonym: Adage

Use: One of Einstein's dictums was to make everything as simple as possible, but no simpler.

Digress (v.) to move away from the central topic or line of argument in speaking or writing, usually temporarily

Synonym: Deviate [EIL]

Antonym: continue

Use: In order to explain I need to digress slightly.

Dilapidated (adj.) partly ruined or decayed, especially as a result of neglect

The **dilapidated** apartment flew to pieces during the artillery barrage.

Synonym: Ramshackle

Antonym: Pristine
Renovated [HPCL]

Dilapidated (adj.) partly ruined or decayed, especially as a result of neglect,

Synonym: Ramshackle

Antonym: Broken-down [NTPC]

Use: The dilapidated apartment flew to pieces during the artillery barrage.

Dilettante (n.) somebody who takes up a subject or interest in a superficial or desultory way, somebody who is very interested in the fine arts, relating to somebody who has only a superficial understanding of something

Synonym: Amateur

[Stenographers' Exam, 1995]

Antonym: Stupid [Bank P.O.1996]

Use: His ambitions were high, but he became a dilettante.

Diligent (adj.) showing persistent and hard-working effort in doing something

Synonym: Industrious [U.D.C. 1994]

Antonym: Lazy, Careless

Use: A **diligent** search was made, but without result.

Diminution (n.) a lessening, decreasing, or reduction of something;

Synonym: Attenuation

Antonym: Growth
Orderliness [HCL]

Use: There is a gradual **diminution** with age in the power of some spinal reflexes, for example the knee-jerk reflex.

Dirge (n.) a song of mourning or lament, especially one about death or intended for a funeral, a song or piece of music that sounds sad or depressing

Synonym: Lament

Antonym: Praise

Use: After his death the mourning pupil wrote a funeral **dirge** in memory of his master.

Dirge (n.) a song of mourning or lament, especially one about death or intended for a funeral; a song or piece of music that sounds sad or depressing

Synonym: Lament

Use: After his death the mourning pupil wrote a funeral **dirge** in memory of his master.

Disconsolate (adj.) miserable or disappointed and unable to be cheered up,

Synonym: Dejected

Antonym: Content, Cheerful [HPCL]

Use: The **disconsolate** soul (that was, at Road here found peace and pardon, and rejoiced with joy unspeakable.

Disdain (n.) to treat someone downgraded

Synonym: antipathy

Antonym: admiration, respect [IES-1999]

Use: He was let down by his boss's disdainful treatment.

Disdainful (n.) extreme contempt or disgust for something or somebody, to regard somebody or something as not worthy of respect

Synonym: Dismissive [SAIL]

Antonym: Respectful

Use: He tells a revealing anecdote about the **disdainful** attitude of the then United States captain, Arnold Palmer.

Disgorge (v.) to pour out liquid, gas, or other contents in a gushing stream; to let a large number of people come out of a building or vehicle at the same time; to vomit or regurgitate food that has been eaten or partly eaten, as some birds and mammals do to feed their young

Synonym: Expel

Antonym: Retain

Use: Living plants have been **disgorging** millions of tons of the potent greenhouse gas into the atmosphere every year

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Dormant (adj.) in an inactive state, when growth and development slow or cease, in order to survive adverse environmental condition, temporarily inactive or not in use, describes a volcano that is not erupting, but not extinct

Synonym: Latent [IES-1997]

Antonym: Active [U.D.C. 1994]

Use: Removal of the seed coat promotes germination in **dormant** seed.

Doughty (adj.) brave and determined, steadfastly courageous and resolute; valiant

Synonym: Brave and strong, Valiant

Antonym: Feeble

Use: He was a **doughty** warrior and found a deep joy in battle.

Dour (adj.) severe or gloomy, and unfriendly and unresponsive toward others; grimly and stubbornly determined

Synonym: Unfriendly

Antonym: Kindly

Use: The home side were never really in contention and their innings drifted into a **dour** struggle for a draw.

Dregs (n.) the least valuable or most unpleasant part of something, especially a group of people; the last remaining, and often least attractive part of something;

Synonym: Residue

Use: The invitees sat through the **dregs** of a long boring evening.

Dubious (adj.) not sure about an outcome or conclusion; likely to be dishonest, untrustworthy, or morally worrisome in some way

Synonym: Suspicious
Doubtful [Railways, 1991]

Antonym: Certain

Use: I was a little **dubious** about whether or not to trust him.

Dulcet (adj.) pleasant to hear, especially because of being soft or soothing

Synonym: Melodic

Antonym: Harsh [MTNL]

Use: The **dulcet** sounds of the birds at dawn were soon drowned out by the roar of traffic in the city.

Dupe (v.) to persuade or induce somebody to do something by trickery or deception,

Synonym: Hoodwink, fool

Antonym: Cognizant, aware

Use: He was **duped** into thinking that they intended to pay.

Duress (n.) the use of force or threats to make somebody do something; illegal force or coercion, as used against a criminal suspect or a prisoner in lawful custody before trial

Synonym: Compulsion

Antonym: Persuasion

Use: The statement you gave should be inadmissible in court because it was given under **duress**.

Dwindle (v.) to decrease little by little in size, number, or intensity and approach zero, or make something decrease in this way

Synonym: Diminish

Antonym: Increase

Use: As the sun sets the light in the sky slowly **dwindles** into darkness.

E

Earnest (adj.) intensely or excessively serious and grave in manner or attitude; undertaken or made in a spirit of deep sincerity and conviction, or with deep feeling

Synonym: Solemn

Antonym: Frivolous

Use: He spoke earnestly last night at the meeting.

Eccentricity (n.) a quality of being unconventional, especially in a whimsical way;

Synonym: Strangeness

Antonym: Normality

Use: No one can deny that there has been considerable **eccentricity** in his treatment of his son.

Ecclesiastical (adj.) belonging to or involving the Christian Church or clergy,

Synonym: Priestly

Antonym: Secular

Use: Her work is mainly **ecclesiastical** and can be seen in many churches in East Anglia.

Echelon (n.) a level of authority or rank in an organization or system,

Synonym: Stratum

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Elegy (n.) a mournful or reflective poem, a poem written in elegiac couplets or stanzas

Synonym: Composition

Use: The film is a beautiful **elegy** on being different.

Eloquent (adj.) said or saying something in a forceful, expressive, and persuasive way, expressing a feeling or thought clearly, memorably, or movingly

Synonym: Fluent [IES-2010, HPCL]

Antonym: inarticulate

Use: I would require to be very **eloquent** on the occasion in order to be successful.

Elude (v.): to avoid; escape.

Synonym: flee, circumvent. [IES-1995]

Antonym: entice.

Use: The businessman was shrewd enough to elude tax authorities.

Elusive (adj.) difficult to find or catch, difficult to understand, define, or identify, not easily called to mind or memory, Hard to get hold of, Hard to pin down

Synonym: Indefinable, evasive

Antonym: enticing

[HCL]

Use: A clear understanding of how fiber might protect against colon cancer risk remains somewhat **elusive**.

Emaciated (adj.) extremely thin, especially because of starvation or illness,

Synonym: Withered, thin

Antonym: heavy

Use: Deep down in the recesses of the coffin lay an **emaciated** figure.

Embargo (n.) a government order restricting or prohibiting commerce, especially trade in a given commodity or with a particular nation, any official restraint or prohibition,

Synonym: Ban

Antonym: allowance

Use: Organizers have imposed strict drinks **embargo** on party goers.

Embellish (v.) to increase the beauty of something by adding ornaments or decorations, to make an account or description more interesting by inventing or exaggerating details,

Synonym: Adorn

[HPCL]

Antonym: deface

Use: Every year, the children would **embellish** the Christmas tree with ornaments and candy canes.

Embezzlement (v.) to take for personal use money or property that has been given on trust by others, without their knowledge or permission;

Synonym: Misappropriation

Antonym: return

Use: It will be nice; it will be almost paradise when President Obama incarcerates many heads of important financial institutions for the crimes of **embezzlement** which they carelessly undertook against America's working citizens.

Embroid (v.) to involve somebody or yourself in trouble, disagreement, or conflict; to make something confused or overly complicated

Synonym: Enmesh, entangle

Antonym: exclude

[SAIL]

Use: Thousands of workers in Thailand are currently **embroiled** in a row over energy privatization.

Emolument (n.) a payment for work done,

Synonym: compensation

Use: The Chairman and Convenor work voluntarily, while the Secretary receives a small **emolument** for a part-time job.

Encounter (n.): to meet or to face someone or something

Synonym: confront.

[IES-1993]

Antonym: evade.

Use: One has to encounter hardships in their lives.

Endeavour (n.) put considerable effort to succeed.

Synonym: strive, thrive

[IES-1993]

Antonym: indolent.

Use: The students endeavoured to succeed in their project.

Enervate (v.) Sap your strength; to weaken somebody's physical, mental, or moral vitality

Synonym: Debilitate

Antonym: empower

Use: I was feeling quite **enervated** by the strain of moving.

Enervate (v.) to weaken somebody's physical, mental, or moral vitality

Synonym: Debilitate

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Eschew (v.) to avoid doing or using something on principle or as a matter of course,
Synonym: Abstain from, Avoid

[Stenographers' Exam, 1995]

Antonym: Participate

Use: The moment you **eschew** evil, love will automatically enter your heart.

Eulogistic (adj.) full of praise for somebody or something,

Synonym: Laudatory [GAIL]

Antonym: Critical

Use: At this time we also find the first record of narrative rather than **eulogistic** poetry.

Eulogy (n.) a speech or piece of writing that praises somebody or something very highly, especially a tribute to somebody who has recently died,

Synonym: Tribute [GAIL]

Antonym: criticism

Use: This Saturday, I have been asked to deliver the **eulogy** at his memorial service at St Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh.

Euphemism (n.) a word or phrase used in place of a term that might be considered too direct, harsh, unpleasant, or offensive; the use of a word or phrase that is more neutral, vague, or indirect to replace a direct, harsh, unpleasant, or offensive term.

Synonym: Delicacy

Use: Being treated 'like a girl' is a common **euphemism** for not being taken seriously.

Euthanasia (n.) the act or practice of killing somebody who has an incurable illness or injury, or of assisting that person to die.

Synonym: annihilation

Antonym: existence

Use: **Euthanasia** is illegal in most countries.

Evoke (v.) to bring to mind a memory or feeling, especially from the past, to provoke a particular reaction or feeling

Synonym: Inducing

Antonym: halt

Use: Her question **evoked** a bitter retort.

Exacerbate (v.) to make an already bad or problematic situation worse,

Synonym: Aggravate [Bank P.O. 1996]

Antonym: Improve

Use: Her silence merely **exacerbated** the problem.

Exaction (n.): to demand often through intimidation

Synonym: hush money [IES-2007]

Antonym:

Use: Rouge elements routinely resort to exaction in this market area.

Excruciating (adj.) extremely painful, physically or emotionally; intolerably embarrassing, tedious, or irritating,

Synonym: Unbearable

Antonym: Mild

Use: The first act was bad enough, but the second was just **excruciating**.

Exculpate (v.) to free somebody from blame or accusation of guilt,

Synonym: Absolve

Antonym: Convict, blame

Use: Sometimes the line is very fine between empathically understanding the motives of historical actors and morally **exculpating** their actions.

Exhaustive (adj.) provide complete information

Synonym: comprehensive, lengthy [IES-1999]

Antonym: concise

Use: The survey was exhaustively documented.

Exculpate (v.) Free from blame; to free somebody from blame or accusation of guilt

Synonym: Exonerate

Antonym: Convict, blame [EIL]

Use: Sometimes the line is very fine between empathically understanding the motives of historical actors and morally **exculpating** their actions.

Exhort (v.) to urge somebody strongly and earnestly to do something; to give somebody urgent or earnest advice

Synonym: Urge

Use: The artist's real function is merely to exhibit things. He should not prove things nor exhort men to good works.

Exhume (v.) to praise somebody or something with great enthusiasm and admiration; to reveal, reestablish, or refer again to something long forgotten or neglected

Synonym: Unearth (Bank P.O. 1995)

Antonym: Bury, inter [BEL]

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Use: Sandra was so enamored of her new boyfriend that she was constantly attempting to **extol** his virtues to all her friends

Extravaganza (n.) a lavish and spectacular entertainment, any spectacular or elaborate display

Synonym: Burlesque, Spectacular show
[Railways, 1995]

Use: People visited the mall in hordes to watch the **extravaganza** of new house wares.

Extravert (n.) person interested mostly in external objects and actions.

Synonym: Gregarious
Antonym: introvert [BHEL]

Use: A good salesperson is usually an extrovert who likes to mingle with people.

F

Facetious (adj.) intended to be humorous but often silly or inappropriate, Tongue in cheek

Synonym: Teasing

Antonym: formal

Use: I tried to be nice to the jerk, but he was very facetious and just kept making trouble.

Factotum (n.) somebody employed to do a variety of jobs for somebody else

Synonym: personal assistant

Use: My boss had just hired a factotum to do variety of jobs.

Fallacious (adj.) Deceptive; containing or involving a mistaken belief or idea, misleading

Synonym: Erroneous

Use: Damage from addictive substances and processes is mostly dose related but it is **fallacious** to assume that addicts necessarily use the greatest quantities.

Fallible (adj.) liable to make mistakes, liable to be wrong or misleading

Synonym: Unsound

Antonym: Perfect

Use: JT is fallible when he takes a test.

Fantastic (adj.) impressive though imaginary.

Synonym: whimsical, wonderful. [IES-1993]

Antonym: ordinary.

Use: The Avatar movie had many fantastic scenes.

Fastidious (adj.) giving too much attention to small details

Synonym: meticulous [IES-2001]

Antonym: uncritical

Use: He is very fastidious about how a party to be arranged.

Fatigue (n.) extreme tiredness or weariness resulting from physical or mental activity, the temporary inability of somebody to respond to a situation as a result of overexposure or excessive activity

Synonym: Exhaustion

Antonym: Energy
Weariness

[Stenographers'Exam,1995]

Use: Rahul became weak with fatigue after the long march

Fatuous (adj.) showing a lack of intelligence or thought combined with complacency

Synonym: Absurd

Antonym: Sensible [BHEL]

Use: The employee was fired for his fatuous and unprofessional attitude toward customers.

Fatuous (adj.) showing a lack of intelligence or thought combined with complacency,

Synonym: Absurd [SAIL]

Antonym: Sensible [HPCL]

Use: In those circumstances, the idea that the US and the British are getting their hands on Iraqi oil is completely **fatuous**.

Faux Pas (n.) an embarrassing mistake that breaks a social convention,

Synonym: Blunder

Use: committed a terrible faux pas at the office Christmas Party when I commented to my friend that I didn't like my boss who was standing directly behind me and heard the conversation.

Fawning (v.) a pale yellowish brown color; to seek attention or try to win favor by flattery and obsequious behavior; to attempt to please somebody by showing enthusiastic affection

Synonym: Submissive

Antonym: Assertive

Use: He started **fawning** all over me as soon as I walked in

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Failure [Central Excise, 1994]
Use: I was one of the crowds who saw this famous **fiasco**.

Fickle (adj.) likely to change ones feelings suddenly
Synonym: mercurial
Antonym: constant, steady [IES-2010]
Use: The world of popular music is notoriously fickle.

Fickle (adj.) likely to change, especially in affections, intentions, loyalties, or preferences
Synonym: Erratic
Antonym: Consistent
 Changeable [Stenographers'Exam, 1993]
 loyal [DMRC]
Use: Joan grew tired of her friend's fickle behavior when her friend changed clothes five times before they left the house.

Filch (v.) to steal something opportunistically, usually a small item or amount of little value
Synonym: Snatch
Antonym: Contribute
 Purloin [GAIL]
Use: You can't trust him, I saw him filch this guys wallet.

Filthy (adj.) extremely or disgustingly dirty, considered extremely morally objectionable or obscene, used to express contempt or strong disapproval
Synonym: unclean
Antonym: Clean [S.S.C. 1995]
Use: Your hands are **filthy**.

Flabby (adj.) having excess body fat or sagging flesh, done without vitality or force
Synonym: Flaccid
Antonym: Fit, Athletic [BSNL]
Use: We all have hang-ups about our appearance, whether it's our **flabby** arms or discolored teeth.

Flaccid (adj.) soft, limp, or lacking firmness; lacking energy, enthusiasm, or competence
Synonym: Loose
Antonym: Firm
 Taut [Assistant Grade, 1998]
Use: His sedentary life had left him with flaccid muscles.

Flamboyant (adj.) showy and dashing in a self-satisfied way, brightly colored and striking, elaborate or richly decorated, unrestrained by prevailing standards of propriety
Synonym: Gaudy
Antonym: Reserved
 Quiet [SSC]
Use: Tameka was flamboyant with her over-the-top gestures and physical drama.

Fledgling (n.) a young bird that has recently become capable of flight, a young or inexperienced person
Synonym: Hatchling
Antonym: Expert
 beginning [NHPC]
Use: Luckily, the fledgling pilot's egregious blunder was discovered before the plane departed.

Flippant (adj.) showing a lack of seriousness that is thought inappropriate
Synonym: Frivolous
 Disrespectful [IES-2009]
Antonym: Serious
Use: lacking proper seriousness. When mark told Mona he loved her, she dismissed his earnest declaration with a flippant 'Oh, you say that to all the girls' flippancy, N.

Flounder (v.) to act in a way that shows confusion or a lack of purpose, to have serious problems and be close to failing
Synonym: Dither
Use: struggle and thrash about, proceed clumsily or clumsily of falter, up to him knees in the bog. Floyd floundered about, Flow foundered until Jan showed her how to get started.

Fluke (n.) something surprising or unexpected that happens by accident, Stroke of luck
Synonym: Coincidence
Antonym: certainty
Use: That was a fluke; I got an A without studying.

Foe (n.) an enemy or opponent of somebody or something
Synonym: Antagonist [GAIL]
Antonym: Friend
Use: He is neither a friend nor a foe.

Foment (v.) to cause or stir up trouble or rebellion,

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Frugality (n.) to cause or stir up trouble or rebellion, involving very little expense,
Synonym: Penny-pinching [HPCL]
Antonym: Generosity
Use: The man was filled with frugality that he ordered a cheap meal.

Furor (n.) an angry or indignant public reaction to something, a state of intense excitement or activity,
Antonym: calm
 Excitement [HCL]
Use: The verdict of not guilty created a **furor** in the courtroom.

Furtive (adj.) done in a way that is intended to escape notice; presenting the appearance, or giving the impression, of somebody who has something to hide
Synonym: Sneaky
Antonym: Open
 [Stenographers' Exam, 1993]
 Stealthy [M.B.A. 1991]
Use: He gave a **furtive** look at the deserted shops on the opposite side of the road.

Fusillade (n.) the firing of several guns at once or in quick succession, to subject an enemy to a sustained burst of gunfire
Synonym: barrage
Use: The fusillade caught them by surprise.

G

Gabble (v.) to speak or say something rapidly and incoherently, to make the high throaty sounds that geese and some other birds make
Synonym: Prattle
Use: The man gabbled loudly as she stared into space.

Gadfly (n.) somebody regarded as persistently annoying or irritating, a fly that irritates livestock by biting them and sucking their blood.
Synonym: Nuisance [I. Tax, 1994]
Use: Horseflies are a type of **gadfly**.

Gaiety (n.) a lighthearted and lively feeling or way of behaving, Joyful and lively activity or festivity,
Synonym: Joviality [GAIL]
 Jollity

Antonym: Seriousness
Use: The showiness or bright colorful appearance of something such as clothing **gaiety** gives cricket its character.

Gall (n.) impudent boldness, a feeling of bitterness or resentment
Synonym: Infuriate
Antonym: Please
Use: And then he had the **gall** to tell us to leave!

Gargoyle (n.) a spout in the form of a grotesque animal or human figure that projects from the gutter of a building and is designed to cast rainwater clear of the building, a grotesque carved figure, somebody thought to resemble a carved gargoyle
Use: The man was a gargoyle, his angry face looming down from the roof.

Garish (adj.) unpleasantly overcoloured
Synonym: tardy [IES-2007]
Antonym: impressive, tasteful.
Use: The painting was pathetic as it the depiction was garish.

Garrulous (adj.) excessively or pointlessly talkative, using many or too many words
Synonym: Talkative
 Quaint
Antonym: Taciturn
 Tiresome
 Reticent [SAIL]

Use: She was unable to sleep on the flight because of the **garrulous** passenger sitting beside her.

Gauche (adj.) lacking grace or tact in social situations,
Synonym: Awkward [NHPC]
Antonym: Elegant
Use: Some people use a fork to eat pizza because they think it is gauche to use their fingers.

Gaudy (adj.) brightly colored or showily decorated to an unpleasant or vulgar degree,
Synonym: Extravagant
 Showy [BHEL]
Antonym: Tasteful

Gaunt (adj.) extremely thin and bony in appearance, stark in outline or appearance
Synonym: Lean

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Goad (v.) to provoke or incite somebody into action, to prod an animal with a long pointed stick, a long pointed stick used for prodding cattle and other animals, something that encourages an activity or process to begin, increase, or develop

Synonym: Stimulate

Antonym: Calm

Use: He calves are driven out of their crates with electric goads.

Gouge (v.) to cut or scoop a hole or groove in something, usually using a sharp too, to form something by roughly cutting it out of surrounding material, to attack somebody's eye with the thumb, to cheat somebody or act dishonestly by demanding an unreasonably high price for goods or services

Synonym: Chisel

Use: The wounded soldier had a gouge in his chest, from the bullet.

Grandiose (adj.) pretentious; high-flown; ridiculously exaggerates; impressive.

Synonym: Magnificent

Antonym: Simple [Bank P.O. 1996]

Use: The aged matinee idol still had grandiose notions of his supposed importance in the theatrical world.

Gratify (v.) to make somebody feel pleased or satisfied, to satisfy a desire

Synonym: Satisfy

Pacify [U.D.C.1995]

Antonym: Displease

Use: I wish i could gratify your needs but i just do not have the time.

Gregarious (adj.) very friendly and sociable, describes organisms that live in groups, describes plants that grow in clusters

Synonym: Expressive

Sociable

Antonym: Shy

Introvert

Use: Bill has a gregarious personality.

Groggy (adj.) feeling weak or dizzy, especially because of illness or overindulgence,

Synonym: Unsteady [S.S.C. 1995]

Antonym: Alert

Use: He was groggy after the late night at the sleepover.

Grotesque (adj.) misshapen, especially in a strange or disturbing way, seeming strange or ludicrous through being out of place or unexpected,

Synonym: Bizarre

Monstrous

Fantastic

[IES-2010]

[HPCL]

Antonym: Attractive

Natural

Use: The scene of the crime was grotesque.

Grouse (n.) to complain regularly and continually, often in a way that is not constructive, a large game bird that nests on the ground on moors and in forests and is usually reddish brown with feathered feet and legs.

Synonym: Grumble

Use: Students traditionally grouse about the abysmal quality of "mystery meat" and similar dormitory food.

Grubby (adj.) slightly dirty, infested with grubs, disliked or despised, especially for being sordid or dishonorable,

Synonym: Grimy

Unwashed

Antonym: Clean

Use: A grubby lives in the famous Guildford County school and spends most of his time raping small children.

Gruesome (adj.) involving or depicting death or injury in a disturbing or sickening way, involving or depicting death or injury in a disturbing or sickening way

Synonym: Horrific

Frightful

[NTPC]

Antonym: Pleasant

Use: Horror movies often rely on gruesome effects for their shock value.

Gruff (adj.) abrupt, angry, or impatient in manner or speech; harsh-sounding or throaty

Synonym: Brusque

Antonym: Friendly

[GAIL]

Use: Although he was blunt and gruff with most people, he was always gentle with children.

Grumpy (adj.) bad-tempered or sullen,

Synonym: Cantankerous

Bad-tempered

Antonym: Cheerful

Cheerful

[EIL]

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Hasten (v.) to do or say something without delay, often in order to correct what might otherwise be a misleading impression, to make something happen more quickly

Synonym: Hurry

Antonym: lag [EIL]

Use: A vacation would **hasten** his recovery.

Haughty (adj.) behaving in a superior, condescending, or arrogant way,

Synonym: Arrogant [NHPC]

Antonym: Modest
Humble [IES-1999]

Use: The haughty ways she displayed her work turned off her peers.

Hazy (adj.) unclear, especially because partially obscured or obstructed by mist, cloud, or smoke, not specific or clearly remembered, showing a lack of understanding or knowledge

Synonym: Misty [EIL]

Antonym: Clear

Use: I have a **hazy** recollection of having met her.

Headstrong (adj.) to be stubborn.

Synonym: obstinate, swagger. [IES-1996]

Antonym: docile.

Use: The rather headstrong man claimed himself to be a gentleman.

Hearsay (n.) information that is heard from other people

Synonym: Rumor

Antonym: Fact
Authentic [IES-2005]

Use: The problem which the hearsay rule has for Christianity has been discussed at length above.

Heed (v.) to give serious attention to a warning or advice and take it into account when acting, serious attention paid to somebody or to something such as a warning, piece of advice, or request

Synonym: Observe

Antonym: Ignore [SAIL]

Use: **Lame excuse** (false excuse): The teachers generally do not pay heed to lame excuses of the students

Heretic (n.) a holder or adherent of an opinion or belief that contradicts established religious teaching, somebody whose opinions,

beliefs, or theories in any field are considered by others in that field to be extremely unconventional or unorthodox

Synonym: Skeptic

Use: His teaching style was very heretical, but it actually helped his students learn the required material.

Heretical (adj.) Contrary to accepted belief, Sacrilegious, Profane

Synonym: Unorthodox, Impious [GAIL]

Antonym: Orthodox

Use: His teaching style was very heretical, but it actually helped his students learn the required material.

Hermitage (n.) a building or shelter where a hermit lives or where a group of people live an isolated religious life, a place of isolation or solitude where somebody can live apart from society

Synonym: Retreat

Use: The hermitage was hidden to keep it a secret from the nearby village.

Hew (v.) to cut, break, or destroy something, especially wood or stone, with a cutting implement, especially an axe, to form or create something by cutting wood or stone, to cut something off from a larger block or mass

Synonym: Hack [NHPC]

Use: At this age, he's not able to hew trees anymore; he's just too old for this highly physical job.

Hiatus (n.) a break in something where there should be continuity,

Synonym: Interruption, Gap [HPCL]

Antonym: continuity [IES-2005]

Hindrance (n.) somebody or something that prevents or makes it difficult for somebody to do something, the act of obstructing progress

Synonym: Impediment

Antonym: aid [Stenographers' Exam 1995]

Use: Heavy traffic is a **hindrance** to my getting to work on time

Hinterlands (n.) a region that is remote from cities or their cultural influence, the land that lies next to coastline or a river

Synonym: Frontier

Use: I went exploring in the hinterland with my friends, and found many different artifacts hidden beneath the ground.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Use: After his mother's death, Ravi wrote poetry **imbued** with melancholy.

Immaculate (adj.) absolutely clean, neat, and free from blemishes; showing faultless perfection

Synonym: Spotless [HPCL]

Antonym: Messy

Use: These books are in **immaculate** condition, having only been used a couple of times.

Immolate (v.) to kill a person or an animal, e.g. as a ritual sacrifice, or commit suicide as a protest, especially by burning

Synonym: Sacrifice

Antonym: bear [HPCL]

Use: Everyone was **horrified** by the immolation that took place in there town.

Impalpable (adj.) not capable of being perceived by the senses, difficult to understand or grasp

The ash is so fine that it is impalpable to the touch but it can be seen as a fine layer covering the window ledge.

Synonym: Insubstantial

Antonym: significant, substantive. [IES-1997]
Palpable

Use : There was an **impalpable** aura of genius about him.

Impecunious (adj.) having little or no money, and so unable to lead a comfortable life;

Synonym: Impoverished

Antonym: Well-off [IES-2007]
Affluence [NDA-2007]
Affluence

Use: In my present **impecunious** state, i will not be able to pay for dinner.

Impecuniousness (n.) in a very poor condition

Synonym: destitution

Antonym: affluence, opulence [IES-2007]

Use: The impecuniousness of these rag pickers is horrifying

Impecuniousness (adj.) having little or no money, and so unable to lead a comfortable life

Synonym: Deprivation

Antonym: Wealth [I.E.S.2007, NDA-2007]
Affluence

Use: When I was an **impecunious** student, I eked out my meager means by offering private tuition in elementary mathematics.

Impede (v.) to interfere with the movement, progress, or development of something or somebody

Synonym: Hinder

[Investigators' Exam, 1988]

Antonym: Facilitate

Use: I hope that the weight I have gained won't **impede** the progress I made in sports.

Impervious (adj.) remaining unmoved and unaffected by other people's opinions, Arguments or suggestions

Synonym: Impermeable

Antonym: Pervious
Penetrable

[Stenographers' Exam, 1994]

Use: He was **impervious** to the growing resentment among the staff.

Impetuous (adj.) acting on the spur of the moment, without considering the consequences, done without thought as a reaction to an emotion or impulse, moving with great force and energy

Synonym: Impulsive

Antonym: Considered
Rash

[Railways, 1996, S.B.I.P.O.1991]

Use : She was the **impetuous** type, who always acted on impulse, rather than giving thought to her actions beforehand.

Implore (v.) to plead before someone earnestly

Synonym: crave, beseech, entreat [IES-2010]

Antonym:

Use: He had to implore before him to secure the job.

Importune (v.) to ask somebody continually, repeatedly, or forcefully for something, especially in a troublesome way;

Synonym: Harass

Antonym:

Use: My brother knows how to **importune** me to get help with his math homework.

Impromptu (adj.) not prepared or planned in advance, in an unrehearsed way, something done or said without planning

Synonym: Improvised

Antonym: Prepared
Studied

[IES-2002]

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Iconoclastic (n.) somebody who challenges or overturns traditional beliefs, customs, and values, somebody who destroys religious images or opposes their use in worship

Synonym: Rebel

Use: The iconoclast doesn't go to a church because he doesn't believe in any faiths.

Incubus (n.) Something that causes somebody much worry or anxiety, especially a nightmare or obsession,

Synonym: devil

Use: The psychiatrist concluded that the woman was hallucinating her nightly visits with an **incubus**.

Incumbent (n.) somebody currently holding an official post, especially in a church or political organization

Synonym: Current

Antonym: Past

Use: **Incumbents** are generally at a decided advantage in elections

Incur (v.) to suffer something undesirable such as another person's anger or a financial loss as a result of an action, to become burdened with something such as a debt

Synonym: Acquire

Use: Drivers who are convicted of speeding **incur** a penalty.

Indelible (adj.) physically impossible to rub out, wash out, or alter; impossible to remove from the mind or memory and therefore remaining forever

Synonym: Ineffaceable

Antonym: destructible

Use: President's speech made an **indelible** impression on us.

Indemnify (v.) to provide somebody with protection, especially financial protection, against possible loss, damage, or liability; to pay compensation to somebody for loss, damage, or liability incurred

Synonym: Assure

Use: This plan **indemnifies** workers against wages lost through illness

Indict (v.) to charge somebody formally with commission of a crime, to accuse somebody of wrongdoing

Synonym: Accuse

Antonym: acquit

Accuse

[C.B.I.1995]

Use: The man was **indicted** by the grand jury on his account of capital murder.

Indictment (n.) a formal accusation of a serious crime, presented to a grand jury, a statement or indication that something is wrong or somebody is to blame,

Synonym: Condemnation

Antonym: absolution

Use: The auditor made a stinging **indictment** of our prison system

Indignation (n.) anger because something seems unfair or unreasonable

Synonym: Annoyance

Antonym: Calm

Use: Ashley felt **indignation** when she heard the bad news at her job.

Indolent (adj.) lethargic and not showing any interest or making any effort, describes a disease or condition that is slow to develop or be healed, and causes no pain

Synonym: Lethargic

Antonym: Industrious

Lively

Energetic

[DMRC]

[I. Tax, 1993]

Use: "Mary was **indolent** in the heat of summer."

Inebriate (v.) drunken state

Synonym: Intoxicated.

[IES-1996]

Antonym: normal

Use: The inebriated driver dashed his car at the bridge.

Ineluctable (adj.) impossible to avoid,

Synonym: Inevitable

Antonym: Avoidable

Use: The phrase ' family newspaper ' is an **ineluctable** part of our lives.

Inept (adj.) lacking the competence or skill for a particular task; not in keeping with what is right or proper for the circumstances

Synonym: Incompetent

Antonym: Competent

Clumsy

[BEL]

Use: I strongly criticize the area office for their **inept** handling of the matter.

Inert (adj.) not moving or not able to move; lacking in energy or motivation

Synonym: Passive

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Insensible (adj.) without feeling or consciousness; unaware of or unresponsive to something; so small or gradual as to be almost imperceptible

Synonym: Numb

Antonym: Sensitive

Use: The politician was **insensible** to any criticism.

Insidious (adj.) slowly and subtly harmful or destructive,

Synonym: Sinister

Antonym: honest

Cunning

[NTPC]

Use: The investigators uncovered an **insidious** scheme to rob people of their life savings.

Insinuate (v.) to hint at something unpleasant or suggest it indirectly and gradually, to introduce yourself gradually and cunningly into a position, especially a place of confidence or favor

Synonym: Intimate

Antonym: hide

Use: The quotations **insinuate** different ways of making sense of what is happening.

Insipid (adj.) dull because lacking in character and lively qualities; bland and without flavor

Synonym: Bland

Antonym: Exciting

Flat

[C.B.I.1991]

Pungent

[U.D.C.1994]

Use: His **insipid** speeches failed to win over the voters.

Insolent (adj.) rudeness of extreme kind

Synonym: discourteous

[IES-2005]

Antonym: polite

Use: No girl could become his friend due to his insolent behaviour.

Insouciant (adj.) not worrying about or paying attention to possible problems;

Synonym: Debonair

Antonym: anxious

Use: His **insouciant** manner irritated everyone.

Instill (v.) to imbibe or cultivate certain worthy qualities

Synonym: inculcate

[IES-2002]

Antonym: dislodge

Use: Her mother instilled in her patriotism through legendary stories.

Intermittent (adj.) irregular and discontinuous.

Synonym: sporadic, infrequent [IES-1995]

Antonym: continual.

Use: The weatherman forecasts intermittent rainfall for the day.

Intervene (v.) to involve you deliberately in a situation, especially in a conflict or dispute, in order to influence what is happening and, most often, to prevent undesirable consequences to occur or take effect in such a way as to stop or delay something

Synonym: Intrude

Antonym: ignore

Use: The referee had to **intervene** to stop the fight.

Intransigence (n.) an unreasonable refusal to change your ideas or behavior

Synonym: Stubbornness

Antonym: Flexibility

Use: Little will get accomplished if the legislators of both parties maintain their **intransigent** attitudes.

Intrepid (adj.) courageous and bold,

Synonym: Valiant

Antonym: Cowardly

Timid

[NTPC]

Use: The soldier had a brave and **intrepid** personality.

Inundate (v.) to overwhelm somebody with a huge quantity of things that must be dealt with, to flood a place with water

Synonym: Submerge

[EIL]

Antonym: under whelm

Use: The Institute has been **inundated** with requests for such training.

Inured (v.) to make somebody used to something unpleasant over a period of time, so that he or she no longer is bothered or upset by it; to come into legal operation or effect

Synonym: Habituated

Antonym: Untrained

Accustomed

[HPCL]

Use: Humans living in Africa became **inured** to hot weather over many millennia of evolution.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Jubilant (adj.) Showing great joy, satisfaction, or triumph; rejoicing; exultant
Synonym: Triumphant

[Assistant Grade, 1996]

Antonym: Gloomy

Use: Your reward, however, is a feeling of ecstatic **jubilation** as you survey the magnificent panorama from the top.

Judicious (adj.) using or showing judgment as to action or practical expediency; discreet, prudent, or politic

Synonym: well-judged [HCL]

Antonym: unwise, indiscreet

Use: His judicious handling of the matter saved the situation from going out of Control

Juvenile (adj.) of, pertaining to, characteristic of, or suitable or intended for young persons

Synonym: Young [Railways, 1991]

Antonym: Mature [M.B.A.1997]

Juxtapose (v.) to place close together or side by side, esp. for comparison or contrast.

Synonym: place in proximity

Antonym: distance

Use: We have put **juxtaposed** controls across all the ports.

K

Kemp (n.) a strong, brave warrior.

Synonym: Champion [Railways, 1992]

Use: Gunman who testified about **Kemp** murder gets 19-year sentence

Kibitz (v.) to offer advice or criticism to as a kibitzer

Synonym: admonish [HPCL]

Antonym: deceive

Kindle (v.) to light up, illuminate, or make bright

Synonym: blaze

Antonym: quench [BSNL]

Incite

Extinguished

Use: Happiness **kindled** her eyes.

Kinship (n.) relationship by nature, qualities, the state or fact of being of kin; family relations

Synonym: likeness

Antonym: dissimilarity

Use: The overworked assistant felt a kinship with the workers in the office mailroom.

Kleptomaniac (n.) somebody with an obsessive urge to steal, especially when there is no economic necessity

Use: Ramesh hails from a rich family yet he is Kleptomaniac by nature.

Knave (n.) an unprincipled, untrustworthy, or dishonest person.

Synonym: Fraud

Antonym: Honest [GAIL]

Use: He is neither a knave nor a fool.

Knoll (n.) a small, rounded hill or eminence; hillock.

Synonym: cliff

Use: There are mounds and **knolls** on the glen floor.

Knotty (adj.) very difficult to understand or solve

Synonym: tricky [SAIL]

Antonym: simple

Use: A **knotty** problem that appeared in the Geometry paper puzzled me.

Kudos (n.) honor; glory; acclaim:

Synonym: applause [GAIL]

Antonym: criticism

Use: He received **kudos** from everyone on his performance.

L

Labile (adj.) likely to change; unstable

Use: Because the hormonal changes they undergo affect their spirits, adolescents may become emotionally labile and experience sudden shifts of mood.

Labyrinth (n.) maze.

Synonym: Complication

Use: Hiding from Indian Joe, Tom and Becky soon lost themselves in the **labyrinth** of secret underground caves.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

lethargic; she felt as if she was about to nod off.

Levee (n.) earthen or stone embankment to prevent flooding.

Synonym: Earthwork

Use: As the river rose and threatened to overflow the levee, emergency workers rushed to reinforce the walls with sandbags.

Levity (n.) lack of seriousness or steadiness; frivolity. Stop giggling and wriggling around in the pew: such levity is improper in church.

Synonym: Seriousness

Antonym: Solemnity [IES-1996]

Use: The happy audience strolled back out into the stormy night feeling much **levity** in comparison to the evening's heavy weather.

Licentious (adj.) amoral: lewd and lascivious; unrestrained.

Synonym: Immoral [Central Excise, 1994]

Antonym: moral

Use: Unscrupulously seducing the daughter of his host. Don Juan felt no qualms about the immorality of his **licentious** behavior.

Limber (adj.) flexible, **Synonym:** Loose

Antonym: Rigid

Use: Hours of ballet classes kept him **limber**

Lissome (adj.) agile, nimble, or active.

Synonym: Graceful

[Stenographers' Exam, 1995]

Antonym: Ungainly [C.B.I. 1990]

Listless (adj.) lacking in spirit or energy.

Synonym: Passive

Antonym: Active

Use: We had expected her to be full of enthusiasm and were surprised by her listless attitude.

Litotes (n.) understatement for emphasis.

Use: To say, 'He little realizes,' when we mean that he does not realize at all, is an example of the kind of understatement we call **litotes**.

Livid (adj.) lead-colored; black and blue; ashen; enraged.

Synonym: Gloomy

Antonym: Radiant

Use: His face was so **livid** with rage that we were afraid that he might have an attack of apoplexy.

Lofty (adj.) extending high in the air; of imposing height

Synonym: High-rise

Antonym: Mean [HCL]

Use: It is a small edifice, surrounded by lofty fells and mountains.

Loquacious (adj.) talking or tending to talk much or freely; talkative; chattering; babbling; garrulous

Synonym: Talkative [VIZAG]

Antonym: Silent

Lucrative (adj.): profitable.

Synonym: remunerative, moneymaking.

[IES-1994]

Antonym: unprofitable.

Use: The public sector oil corporation signed a lucrative deal to exploit gas resources in the neighbouring country.

Lumber (n.) to heap together in disorder.

Synonym: Lump

Antonym: Glide

Use: We lumbered more than a million acres last year.

Lurid (adj.) wild; sensational; graphic; gruesome

Synonym: Shocking and violent [NHPC]

Sensational [R.R.B. 1995]

Antonym: Dull

Use: Do the **lurid** cover stories in the Enquirer actually influence people to buy that trashy tabloid?

Lush (adj.): area that has green and healthy plants

Synonym: bountiful

Antonym: cramped, parched [IES-2010]

Use: The five star hotel had an eye-catching lush at the entrance.

M

Macabre (adj.) including gruesome and horrific details of death and decay

Synonym: Frightening [HCL]

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Use: The feuding neighbors frequently called the police to report **mendacious** complaints about each other.

Miasma (n.) a dangerous, foreboding, or deathlike influence or atmosphere.

Synonym: Noxious fumes [SAIL]

Miffed (adj.) annoyed or offended

Synonym: Irked
Annoyed [IES-2005]

Antonym: appease

Use: He is a bit **miffed** about his bandage which covers his entire front leg.

Minuscule (adj.) very small.

Synonym: Tiny

Antonym: Huge

Use: A **minuscule** amount of snow fell.

Misanthrope (n.) a hater of humankind

Synonym: Man-hater

Antonym: Philanthropist

Use: He was labeled a **misanthrope** by his community after years of his constant disdain and mistrust of everyone.

Misappropriate (v.) accumulate through unfair means

Synonym: embezzle [IES-1999]

Antonym: appropriate

Use: The official was suspended for misappropriating public funds.

Miscellaneous (adj.) consisting of a mixture of various disconnected things.

Synonym: discrete, varied.

Antonym: classified, arranged. [IES-1993]

Use: Miscellaneous items were discussed at the meeting.

Mitigate (v.) to make an offense or crime less serious or more excusable; to make something less harsh, severe, or violent

Synonym: Alleviate

Antonym: Aggravate [M.B.A. 1994]

Use: In an attempt to **mitigate** the pain of a headache, I took some medicine on my way to work.

Mollify (v.) to calm or soothe somebody who is angry or upset; to make something less intense or severe; to make something less hard, rigid, or stiff

Synonym: Appease

[S.S.C.1994GRE, C.B.I.1990]

Antonym: Enrage

Use: The frightened child attempted to **mollify** his angry mother by giving her a big hug.

Monotheism (n.) the doctrine or belief that there is only one god.

Use: The plague narrative is reading back a pure **monotheism** into the account which was not there at the time of the plagues.

Moratorium (n.) a suspension of activity

Synonym: Delay [BHEL]

Use: I want to declare a **moratorium** on further words.

Morbid (adj.) given to unwholesome thought; moody; characteristic of disease.

Synonym: Diseased [EIL]

Antonym: Happy [IES-1996]

Use: People who come to disaster sites just to peer at the grisly wreckage are indulging their **morbid** curiosity.

Mordant (n.) the devising of secret, cunning, or complicated plans and schemes, a secret, cunning, or complicated plan or scheme

Synonym: Trenchant [HPCL]

Sarcastic

[Stenographers' Exam, 1995]

Antonym: Gentle

Use: He was a good speaker, lucid in his lectures, persuasive in conversation; and he had a **mordant** wit.

Morose (adj.) ill-humored; sullen; melancholy.

Synonym: Sullen [GAIL]

Gloomy

[Stenographers' Exam, 1995, M.B.A. 1989]

Antonym: Friendly

Use: Forced to take early retirement. Bill acted **morose** for months; then, all of a sudden, he shook off his gloom and was his usual cheerful self.

Mundane (adj.) worldly as opposed to spiritual; everyday. Uninterested in philosophical or spiritual discussions,

Synonym: Ordinary

Antonym: Heavenly [NHPC]

Use: Tom talked only of **mundane** matters such as the daily weather forecast or the latest basketball results.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Nostalgia (n.) Homesickness; longing for the past.

Synonym: Fond memories

Use: My grandfather seldom spoke of life in the old country; he had little patience with **nostalgia**.

Nostrum (n.) questionable medicine.

Synonym: Cure

Use: No quack selling **nostrums** is going to cheat me.

Nugatory (adj.) futile; worthless

Synonym: Worthless [I. Tax 7 Excise, 1989]

Use: This agreement is **nugatory** for no court will enforce it.

O

Obdurate (adj.) not easily persuaded or influenced; not influenced by emotions, especially not inclined to feel sympathy or pity

Synonym: Obstinate

Antonym: yielding [BHEL]

Use: He was **obdurate** in his refusal to listen to our complaints.

Obfuscate (v.) to make something obscure or unclear, especially by making it unnecessarily complicated; to make somebody confused

Synonym: Confuse

Remove [Central Excise, 1989]

Antonym: Clarify [I. Tax, 1992]

Use: The illusionist was **obfuscating** because he did amazing tricks that nobody had ever seen.

Obliterate (v.) to destroy something so that nothing remains; to erase or obscure something completely, leaving no trace

Synonym: Eradicate

Blot out [Bank P.O. 1996]

Antonym: construct

Use: The bomb was designed to obliterate the shielding around a bunker.

Obloquy (n.) statements that severely criticize or defame somebody; a state of disgrace brought about by being defamed

Synonym: Humiliation

Defamation [Asstt. Grade, 1996]

Verbal abuse [M.B.A. 1997]

Antonym: Praise [GRE]

Use: I resent the **obloquy** that you are casting upon my reputation.

Obnoxious (adj.) very offensive and unpleasant;

Synonym: Repugnant

Antonym: Nice [HPCL]

Use: Her attitude towards the guests at her birthday party was **obnoxious** to say the least.

Obscure (adj.) difficult to understand because of not being fully or clearly expressed; not able to be seen or heard distinctly

Synonym: Vague, indistinct

Antonym: Obvious [IES-2000]

Well known

Clear

[NTPC]

Use: Its outlines are **obscure**, but the object seems roughly cigar-shaped.

At times he seemed purposely to obscure his meaning, preferring mystery to clarity.

Obsequious (adj.) excessively eager to please or obey;

Synonym: Flattering

Antonym: Assertive

Supercilious

Offensive

[BEL]

Use: Helen valued people who behaved as if they respected themselves; nothing irritated her more than an excessively **obsequious** waiter or a fawning salesclerk.

Obstreperous (adj.) boisterous; noisy.

Synonym: Defiant

Unruly

[IES-1994, 2006]

Antonym: Quiet, calm

[NHPC]

Use: What do you do when an **obstreperous** horde of drunken policemen carouses through your hotel, crashing into potted plants and singing vulgar songs?

Obtuse (adj.) slow to understand or perceive something; not sharp or pointed

Synonym: Thickheaded

Antonym: Intelligent

Shrewd

[EIL]

Use: What can you do with somebody who's so **obtuse** that he can't even tell that you're insulting him?

Obviate (v.) to make something unnecessary; to anticipate and so avoid something

Synonym: Avert

To remove a difficulty

[BEL]

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Ostracize (v.) to banish or exclude somebody from society or from a particular group, either formally or informally; to banish somebody by a popular vote because that person is regarded as dangerous to society, as was the practice in ancient Greece

Synonym: Snub

Cut off [Section officers, 1993]

Antonym: Include

Use: She was **ostracized** by all her former friends.

Overt (adj.): to be explicit

Synonym: manifest

Antonym: covert, conceal. [IES-1996]

Use: His critics found in his overt statements some hidden designs.

Overweening (adj.) intolerably arrogant or conceited; intolerably arrogant or conceited

Synonym: Arrogant

Antonym: Humble

[GRE, Central Excise, 1993]

Use: His **overweening** pride in his accomplishments was not justified.

P

Paean (n.) a written, spoken, or musical expression of enthusiastic praise or rapturous joy;

Synonym: praise

Use: After the horrific war was over, the bards sang a **paean** to show triumph, but also to remember the people lost in the battle

Palliate (v.) to reduce the intensity or severity of something; to make or attempt to make an offense seem less serious by providing excuses or mitigating evidence

Synonym: Alleviate

[HCL]

Antonym: Aggravate

Use: The medical staff used strong narcotics to **palliate** the terminally ill patient's pain.

Palpable (adj.) so intense as to be almost able to be felt physically; obvious or easily observed

Synonym: Conspicuous

Antonym: Imaginary [M.B.A. 1997]

Use: The tension in the room was palpable as we waited for the results to be announced

Pandemonium (n.) Hell, or any place of chaos or torment; a place or situation that is noisy and chaotic

Synonym: Wild and noisy disorder

Antonym: Order, Peace, Calm

Use: **Pandemonium** broke out in the ladies' Sewing circle as the poor little mouse ran.

Paranoia (n.) extreme and unreasonable suspicion of other people and their motives

Synonym: Delusion

Antonym: Reality

Use: It isn't necessarily **paranoia** if they're really out to get you.

Pariah (n.) somebody who is despised and avoided;

Synonym: Exile

[EIL]

Antonym: Admire

Use: The strange boy was viewed as a social **Pariah** by his entire student body.

Parochial (adj.): of narrow concerns

Synonym: bigoted

Antonym: broad-minded

[IES-2010]

Use: The parochial remarks of the politician received condemnation.

Parochial (adj.) concerned only with narrow local concerns without any regard for more general or wider issues; relating or belonging to a parish or parishes

Synonym: Narrow-minded

[U.D.C. 1994]

Antonym: Open-minded

Use: After years of living a sophisticated liberal life in the city, Ramon found his parents' small-town mindset, unbearably **parochial**.

Paroxysm (adj.) a sudden and uncontrollable expression of emotion;

Synonym: Convulsion

Use: She had a **paroxysm** of fear when she saw the rag in the dark and thought it was a rat.

Parsimonious (adj.) very frugal or ungenerous

Synonym: Thrifty

[U.D.C. 1995]

Antonym: Extravagant

[EIL]

Use: The rich man was extremely **parsimonious** with his wealth.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Perfunctory (adj.) done as a matter of duty or custom, without thought, attention, or genuine feeling; done hastily or superficially

Greeting

Synonym: Token

Antonym: Thoughtful

Use: The operator answered the call with a **perfunctory**

Perigee (n.) the point in the orbit of a satellite, moon, or planet at which it comes nearest to the object it is orbiting;

Synonym: Nearest [NTPC]

Antonym: Farthest

Use: The moon seems slightly larger in January of each year during its **perigee**.

Pernicious (adj.) causing great harm, destruction, or death; wicked or meaning to cause harm

Synonym: Destructive

Antonym: Harmless
Beneficial [IES-2001]

Use: The storm was very **pernicious** in strength.

Perpetual (adj.) lasting for an indefinitely long time; occurring over and over

Synonym: Everlasting

Antonym: Temporary

Use: He agreed to become **perpetual** Patron and made a gift of Rs.1000000 to the building fund.

Pernickety (adj.) overly attentive to detail and trivia; snobbish in terms of choice, and thus wanting or accepting only the finest things

Synonym: Fussy

Antonym: Easy

Use: There is a fine line between feeding a child properly and becoming **pernickety** about the exact feed.

Perpetual (adj.) to last long.

Synonym: constant, continual. [IES-1997]

Antonym: ephemeral

Use: The festival dance of the tribe has been perpetually observed.

Perplex (v.) to puzzle or confuse somebody, especially causing doubt; to make something overly complicated or intricate

Synonym: Confound

Antonym: Clarity [DMRC]

Use: Your question is not difficult enough to **perplex** me.

Perspicuity (n.) the quality of being perspicuous, Self-expression, Lucidity, Eloquence

Synonym: Clarity

Antonym: vagueness

Use: Her strong interpersonal skills and keen sense of **perspicuity** make her an irreplaceable asset to the interview team

Persuasive (adj.) having the ability to persuade people or the effect of persuading them

Synonym: Convincing

Antonym: Unconvincing [C.B.I. 1990]

Use: Even though I had no intention of buying the cell phone, the salesperson was very **persuasive** in their sales pitch and I ended up purchasing two new cell phones.

Pertinacious (adj.) determinedly resolute in purpose, belief, or action;

Synonym: Determined [Railways, 1991]

Antonym: Malleable

Use: The **pertinacious** doctor refused to accept the judgment of a younger doctor when he himself had become the patient.

Pertinent (adj.): relating directly to the subject being considered

Synonym: relevant, apposite [IES-2010]

Antonym: insensible

Use: This issue is pertinent to their livelihood concerns.

Pervasive (adj.) spreading widely or present throughout something

Synonym: Insidious [HPCL]

Antonym: Contained

Use: The **pervasive** odour of garlic spread through the house.

Pettifogging (adj.) petty or trivial; quibbling or fussing over trivial matters

Synonym: Bicker

Antonym: Agree [VIZAG]

Use: **Pettifogging** colleagues bring disaster to the company.

Philanthropy (n.) a desire to improve the material, social, and spiritual welfare of humanity, especially through charitable

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Ponder (v.) to think about something carefully over a period of time;

Synonym: Contemplate

Antonym: ignore

Use: Sometimes I **ponder** the meaning of life

Pontificate (v.) to speak about something in a knowing and self-important way, especially when not qualified to do so;

Synonym: Preach [SAIL]

Use: My husband loves to **pontificate** on any Subject, regardless of whether or not he knows What he's talking about or not.

Portentous (adj.): too serious and trying to be very important

Synonym: ominous, appalling [IES-2007]

Antonym: pleasant

Use: The problem with the book is that it sometimes descends into portentous philosophizing.

Precarious (adj.) uncertain; Risky,

Synonym: Critical, hazardous

Antonym: Safe [ASSTT. Grade, 1996]
Comfortable [IES-2001]

Use: Saying the stock was currently overpriced and would be a precarious investment, the broker advised her client against purchasing it.

Precipitate (adj.), rash; premature; hasty;

Synonym: Impulsive

Antonym: Considered

Use: sudden though I was angry enough to resign on the spot, I had enough sense to keep myself from quitting a job in such a precipitate fashion.

Precursor (n.) somebody or something that comes before, and is often considered to lead to the development of, another person or thing; somebody who held a position or job before somebody else

Synonym: Predecessor

Antonym: Successor

Use: Uncontrolled high blood pressure is often a **precursor** to heart disease or stroke

Predilection (n.) a special liking or preference for something;

Synonym: Fondness [Section Officers' 1993]

Antonym: aversion, Antipathy

Use: He has **predilection** for collecting stamps.

Preen(v.) make oneself tidy in appearance; feel self-satisfaction.

Synonym: Groom [Asstt, Grade,1995]

Antonym: deprecate

Use: As Kitty preened before the mirror, carefully smoothing her shining hair, she couldn't help preening herself on her good looks.

Prepossessing (adj.): interesting and something noticeable

Synonym: attractive [IES-2005]

Antonym: repulsive

Use: He wasn't a very prepossessing sort of person.

Preposterous (adj.) going very much against what is thought to be sensible or reasonable

Synonym: Absurd

Antonym: Sensible [DMRC]

Use: I know homeopathy sounds **preposterous** in its basic concept - the smaller the dose, the more powerful the treatment.

Prescient (adj.) having or showing knowledge of actions or events before they take place

Synonym: Prophetic

Use: My mother taught me that being **Prescient** when choosing who to trust or have as a friend was an important social skill to have.

Presumptuous (adj.) inconsiderate, disrespectful, or overconfident, especially in doing something when not entitled or qualified to do it

Synonym: Conceited

Antonym: Modest [HPCL]

Use: The woman was **presumptuous** when talking to her future employer.

Pretentious (adj.) acting as though more important or special than is warranted, or appearing to have an unrealistically high self-image; intended to seem to have a special quality or significance, but often seeming forced or overly clever

Synonym: Pompous

Antonym: Humble [Clerks' Grade, 1993]

Use: Celebrities often suffer from inflated egos and live **pretentious** lives.

Prevaricate (v.) to avoid giving a direct and honest answer or opinion, or a clear and

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Use: You should seek medical advice on the best malarial **prophylactics** to take for the areas you will be visiting.

Propinquity (n.) nearness in space, time, or relationship

Synonym: Proximity

Antonym: Remoteness

Use: I have become an avid reader due to library's **propinquity** to my home.

Propitiate (v), appease.

Synonym: Appease

Antonym: Arouse [BSNL]

Use: The natives offered sacrifices to propitiate the gods.

Propitious (adj.) favorable and likely to lead to success; kindly disposed or gracious

Synonym: Auspicious, Favourable

Antonym: Unfavourable

Use: It is when fortune is the most **propitious** that she is least to be trusted

Prosaic (adj.) not having any features that are interesting or imaginative;

Synonym: Uninspiring [IES-2010]

Antonym: imaginative

Use: The teacher's speech was **prosaic** and uninspiring

Protract (v.) to make something last longer;

Synonym: Prolong

Antonym: shorten, To cut short [NDA-2007]

Use: My mom says that I **protract** my bedtime routine by taking a long time to get ready for bed.

Provincial (adj.) having or showing the manners, viewpoints, etc., considered characteristic of unsophisticated inhabitants of a province; narrow or illiberal; parochial

Synonym: rustic;

Antonym: sophisticated

Use: Ramu's outlook is very childish and **provincial**.

Puerile (adj.) childish

Synonym: Childish [IES-2006, BEL]

Antonym: adult, Matured

Use: His **puerile** pranks sometimes offended his more mature friends.

Puissant (adj.) powerful; strong; potent,

Synonym: Archaic [SAIL]

Antonym: weak

Use: we must keep his friendship for he will make a puissant ally.

Putative (adj.) supposed; reputed.

Synonym: Purport [BEL]

Antonym: undisputed

Use: Although there are some doubts, the putative author of this work is Massinger.

Q

Quagmire (n.) soft, wet, boggy land ;

Synonym: Whirlpool

Antonym : success

Use: complex or dangerous situation from which it is difficult to free oneself. Up to her knees in mud, Myra wondered how on earth she was going to extricate herself from this **quagmire**.

Quaint (adj.): to appear rather strange though old

Synonym: nostalgia [IES-1998]

Antonym: usual

Use: That quaint cartoon character still lingers in our memories.

Quake (v.) to shake or tremble from cold, weakness, fear, anger, or the like

Synonym: fluctuate

Antonym: be still

Use: He spoke boldly even though his legs were **quaking**.

Quash (v.), subdue; crush ; squash.

Synonym: suppress [NHPC]

Antonym: aid

Use: The authorities acted quickly to **quash** the student rebellion, sending in tanks to cow the demonstrators.

Queasy (adj.) feeling ill in the stomach, as if on the point of vomiting; easily made to feel nauseated

Synonym: Easily upset [NHPC]

Antonym : Well

Use: I was very **queasy** after riding the loopy roller coaster.

Queer(adj.)strange or odd from a conventional viewpoint; unusually different; singular

Synonym: atypical

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Use: One ramification of the change in programming is that fewer students are allowed time in the gymnasium.

Rapport (n.) emotional closeness; harmony, in team teaching.

Use: It is important that all teachers in the group have good rapport with one another.

Synonym: Harmonious accord [BEL]

Antonym: unfriendliness

Rarefied (adj.) made less dense [of a gas].

Synonym: private

Antonym: commonplace

Use: The mountain climbers had difficulty breathing in the rarefied atmosphere, rarefy, v, rarefaction, N.

Raucous (adj.) harsh and shrill; disorderly and boisterous.

Synonym: Acute

Antonym: mellifluous

Use: The raucous crowd of New Year's Eve revelers grew progressively noisier as midnight drew near.

Raze (v.) destroy completely. Spelling matters: to raise building is to put it up;

Synonym: Tear down [VIZAG]

Antonym: construct

Use: To raze a building is to tear it down.

Rebuke (v.) to express sharp, stern disapproval of; reprove; reprimand.

Synonym: admonition

Antonym: praise [HCL]

Use: Secret love is not so good as open rebuke.

Recalcitrant (adj.) obstinately stubborn; determined to resist authority; unruly.

Synonym: contrary

Antonym: passive

Use: Which animal do you think is more recalcitrant, a pig or a mule?

Recant (v.) disclaim or disavow; retract a previous statement; openly confess error.

Synonym: abrogate

Antonym: confirm

Use: Hoping to make Joan of Arc recant her sworn testimony, her English captors tried to convince her that her visions had been sent to her by the Devil.

Recapitulate (v.) summarize.

Synonym: Recap [DMRC]

Antonym: Take back

Use: Let us recapitulate what has been said thus far before going ahead.

Reckless (adj.) doing things irresponsibly

Synonym: careless

Antonym: careful [IES-2001]

Use: His reckless driving cost him his limbs.

Recluse (n.), hermit; loner. Disappointed in love,

Synonym: Withdrawn [NTPC]

Antonym: Social person

Gregarious

Use: Miss Emily became a recluse; she shut herself away in her empty mansion and refused to see another living soul.

Recondite (adj.) abstruse; profound:- secret.

Synonym: abstruse

Antonym: Easily comprehensible [NTPC]

Use: He read many recondite books in order to obtain the material for his scholarly thesis.

Recuperate (v.) recover.

Synonym: Recover [Bank P.O.1995]

Antonym: decline

Use: The doctors were worried because the patient did not recuperate as rapidly as they had expected.

Refurbished (v.) to bring something back to a cleaner, brighter, or more functional state;

Synonym: Renovate [IES-2001]

Antonym: Destroy

Use: The cottage has a light and airy feel and has been beautifully refurbished in a modern cottage style.

Refute (v.) disprove.

Synonym: Counter

Antonym: Prove

Use: The defense called several respectable witnesses who were able to refute the lying testimony of the prosecution's sole witness.

Relinquish (v.) give up something with reluctance ; yield.

Synonym: Abandon

Antonym: Assume [S.S.C. 1994]

Use: Once you get used to fringe benefits like expense-account meals and a company car, it's very hard to relinquish them.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Reserve [R.R.B. 1995]
Antonym: Openness
Use: His reticence made him lonely and a less friendly person.

Reticent (adj.) Reserved ; uncommunicative ; inclined to silence.
Synonym: hesitant
Antonym: unrestrained
Use: Fearing his competitors might get advance word about his plans from talkative staff members, Hughes preferred reticent employees to loquacious ones.

Retreat (n.): to depart from a position
Synonym: withdraw [IES-2002]
Antonym: advance
Use: The enemy army retreated after facing heavy losses.

Retribution (n.) vengeance; compensation; punishment for offenses.
Synonym: Compensation
Use: The evangelist maintained that an angry deity would exact retribution from the sinners.

Retrograde (adj.) moving backward in space or time; worsening or returning to an earlier worse condition
Synonym: Retrospective
Antonym: progressing [HCL]
Use: Venus' motion is retrograde in relation to the Earth's.

Reverent (adj.) feeling or expressing profound respect or awe;
Synonym: Reverential
Antonym: Irreverent
Use: The root of my spirituality is reverence for nature.

Rhetorical (adj.) used for, belonging to, or concerned with mere style or effect.
Synonym: eloquent
Antonym: concise
Use: He was being rhetoric at the game and so we all acted stupid

Ricochet (n.) The motion of an object or a projectile in rebounding or deflecting one or more times from the surface over which it is passing or against which it hits a glancing blow.
Synonym: deflect

Use: The bullet missed the intended target but it glanced off a lamp post and the **ricochet** killed an innocent passer by.

Rife (adj.) found widely or frequently; full of something undesirable, or experiencing a widespread and very frequent occurrence of something, especially something undesirable
Synonym: Widespread [EIL]
Antonym: Scant
Use: As per newspaper reports, Common Wealth Games Organization Committee is an establishment **rife** with corruption.

Rigorous (adj.) very strict and stringent norms.
Synonym: exact, inflexible [IES-1997]
Antonym: lenient
Use: The rigorous norms introduced by the principal made learning unenjoyable.

Rosette (n.) a carved or painted ornament resembling the open flower of a rose; a circular badge made from gathered loops of ribbon or pleated material, worn to demonstrate support for a team or political party or to indicate having won a prize
Synonym: Badge [EIL]
Use: She was awarded the **rosette** for the best girl riding a pony.

Rotund (adj.) having a rounded body shape and, usually, a greater body weight than is advisable; having a full, rich sound
Synonym: Fat [Stenographers' exam, 1993]
Antonym: Slim [BEL]
Use: His rotund body could not fit through the door.

Rotundity (adj.) having a rounded body shape and, usually, a greater body weight than is advisable
Synonym: Roundness
Antonym: Slimness
Use: His rotund body could not fit through the door.

Rueful (adj.) feeling, showing, or causing regret; causing people to feel pity
Synonym: mournful
Antonym: content [BSNL]
Use: "Okay Grandpa, you caught me out," admitted the boy, with a rueful expression on his freckled face.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Scurrilous (adj.) containing abusive language or defamatory allegations; using or containing coarse, vulgar, or obscene language; behaving in ways thought to be evil or immoral

Synonym: Scandalous

Antonym: decent

[HCL]

Use: Vandals tagged the building with scurrilous graffiti.

Sea change (n.) complete change; path-breaking.

Synonym: upheaval, transformation.

[IES-1994]

Antonym: conservative, unchanged.

Use: The higher education policy witnessed a sea change insofar it emphasized on rigorous academic standards.

Secede (v.) to make a formal withdrawal of membership from an organization, state, or alliance

Synonym: To withdraw

[BSNL]

Antonym: Affiliate

Use: One day the Kingdom of Disneyland may want to **secede** from the USA and establish its own affairs of state.

Secluded (adj.) cut off from other places and therefore private and quiet; having or involving little or no contact with others

Synonym: Isolated

Antonym: Public

Use: Facilities at the resort is in a totally **secluded** setting, surrounded by unspoiled moorland and with instant access to lovely walks.

Sedulous (adj.) working with great zeal and persistence; carried out with great care, concentration, and commitment

Synonym: Diligent

Antonym: indolent

[NHPC]

Lack of steady effort

[IES-2008]

Use: The **sedulous** landscaper refused to leave until his work was done, even though it was raining heavily.

Sequent (adj.) following as a consequence or result; following one after another; a consequence or result

Synonym: Chronological

Antonym: Intermittent

Use: We can also speak of a counterexample to a semantic **sequent**.

Sequester (v.) isolate; retire from public life; segregate. Seclude.

Synonym: hide

Antonym: reveal

Use: To prevent the jurors from hearing news broadcasts about the case, the judge decided to sequester the jury.

Serene (adj.) without worry, stress, or disturbance; bright and without clouds

Synonym: Calm [Hotel management, 1992]

Antonym: Agitated

[I. Tax & Excise-1990, Bank P.O. 1996]

Use: When everyone around her were arguing and shouting, Sarla was quiet and **serene**.

Servile (adj.) slavish; cringing constantly fawning on his employer,

Synonym: humble

Antonym: aggressive

Use: humble Uriah heep was a servile creature. Servility, n.

Shallow (adj.) not strong.

Synonym: hollow.

Antonym: deep, thoughtful, learned.

[IES-1995]

Use: The shallow argument made by the accused was not accepted by the judge.

Shoddy (adj.) sham; not genuine; inferior.

Synonym: cheesy

Antonym: fine

Use: You will never get the public to buy such shoddy material.

Siesta (n.) an early afternoon rest or nap

Synonym: Snooze

Use: In some parts of Mexico it is customary to take a **siesta** at four pm.

Sinuuous (adj.) twisting like.

Synonym: winding

[IES-1998]

Antonym: straight

Use: The sinuous explanation given by the teacher was unconvincing.

Skeptical (n.) a doubter of accepted beliefs;

Synonym: Disbeliever

Antonym: Devotee

Use: The scientific **skeptical** will not accept anything without evidence.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Use: The conventional dome design has been given a wider **splay** making it extremely sturdy in high winds.

Spleen (n.) anger or bad temper;

Synonym: Bad temper

Antonym: Good humour

Sporadic (adj.) occurring irregularly.

Synonym: Occasional [DMRC]

Irregular

[I. Tax & Central Excise, 1989]

Antonym: Continuous

Regular

Use: Although you can still hear sporadic outbursts of laughter and singing outside, the big Halloween parade has passed; the party's over till next year.

Spunk (n.) spiritedness or eager willingness; a combustible material, especially soft wood or twigs, that can be used to kindle fires

Synonym: Mettle

Antonym: Cowardice

Ttimidity

[SAIL]

Use: Show some **spunk**. Get in there and stand up for your rights.

Staccato (adj.) played in an abrupt manner; marked by abrupt, sharp sound.

Synonym: Faltering

Antonym: legato

Use: His staccato speech reminded one of the sounds of a machine gun.

Stereotyped (n.) an oversimplified standardized image of a person or group;

Synonym: Typecast

Antonym: original

Use: She took the role deliberately to keep from getting stereotyped.

Sterile (adj.) completely clean and free from dirt

Synonym: hygiene,

Antonym: fertile

[IES-2006]

Use: The operation must be carried out under sterile conditions.

Stern (adj.) rigid, strict, and uncompromising; grim, austere, or forbidding in appearance

Synonym: Unyielding

Antonym: Easygoing

Use: The father had a **stern** face when confronting his naughty child.

Stint (v.) be thrifty; set limits.

Synonym: Spell

Use: "Spare no expense," the bride's father said, refusing to stint on the wedding arrangements.

Stipulate (v.) make express conditions, specify.

Synonym: Particularize

Antonym: Imply

Use: Before agreeing to reduce American military forces in Europe, the president stipulated that NATO teams be allowed to inspect Russian bases.

Stoical (adj.) somebody who is unemotional, especially somebody who shows patience and endurance during adversity

Synonym: Indifferent

Antonym: Flinching

[BEL]

Use: Ruchi is **stoical** in the face of her mother's death.

Stoicism (n.) impassiveness, patience

Synonym: Indifference

Antonym: Cowardice

[NTPC]

Use: We look with awe and wonder at the courage they displayed and their **stoicism** in the face of six long years of conflict.

Strafe (v.) to attack a position or troops on the ground with machine-gun or cannon fire from a low-flying aircraft

Synonym: Blast

Use: He passed to and fro across ground that was **strafed** by heavy fire.

Suavity (n.) Urbanity; polish.

Synonym: urbanity

[BSNL]

Use: He is particularly good in roles that require suavity and sophistication, suave, adj.,

Sublime (adj.) of elevated nature.

Synonym: exalted

Antonym: mean, average.

[IES-1997]

Use: The sublime character of the leader won the hearts of many.

Subpoena (n.) writ summoning a witness to appear.

Synonym: Decree

Use: The prosecutor's office was ready to serve a subpoena on the reluctant witness.

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Tautology (n.) the redundant repetition of a meaning in a sentence, using different words;

Synonym: Repetition

Use: A good speaker avoids **tautology**.

Tedium (n.) the quality of being boring, monotonous, too long, or repetitive;

Synonym: Dullness

Antonym: Liveliness [IES-2008]
Delight

Use: The **tedium** of English class caused me to fall asleep in the back of the class.

Temerity (n.) reckless confidence that might be offensive; Temerity N. boldness; rashness.

Synonym: boldness [GAIL]

Antonym: Reticence
Humility [IES-2008]

Use: Do you have the temerity to argue with me?

Tenacious (adj.) tending to stick firmly to any decision, plan, or opinion without changing or doubting it; difficult to loosen, shake off, or pull away from

Synonym: Resolute [GAIL]

Antonym: Irresolute

Use: The dog clung onto the bone in a **tenacious** way.

Tendentious (adj.) to favour someone or something;

Synonym: prejudice

Antonym: Impartial [IES-2008]

Use: The teacher is **tendentious** as he unfairly evaluates the paper.

Tentative (adj.) likely to have changes before becoming final and complete; said or done in a slow, hesitant, and careful way that reveals a lack of confidence

Synonym: Provisional

Antonym: Final [IES-2002, 2010 S.S.C.1991]

Use: Mahesh made a **tentative** draft of the document.

Tenuous (adj.) thin ; rare ; slim.

Synonym: Not substantial [HCL]

Antonym: Strong
Substantial [IES-2005]

Use: The allegiance of our allies is held by such tenuous ties that we have little hope they will remain loyal.

Terse (Adj.) concise; abrupt; pithy.

Synonym: Curt

Antonym: Detail

Verbose

Detailed

[CDS-2007-I, Clerks'Grade,1991]

Use: There is a fine line between speech that is terse and to the point and speech that is too abrupt.

Thespian (n.) somebody who acts on the stage; relating to the theater or the profession of acting.

Synonym: Theatrical

Use: My brother is such a **thespian** because he never cleaned his room even though he said he would clean it two days ago

Thwart (v.) to prevent somebody or somebody's plan from being successful;

Synonym: Opposed [BEL]

Antonym: Supported
Encourage [IES-2005]

Use: The army **thwarted** the opposing side by invading them unexpectedly.

Timorous (adj.): nervous and without much confidence

Synonym: timid, tremulous [IES-2007]

Antonym: bold

Use: He is too timorous to be act in the play

Tirade (n.) a long angry speech, usually of criticism or denunciation;

Synonym: Diatribe

Antonym: Approval

Use: Ramu got a **tirade** from his parents because he didn't do his homework

Titillate (v.) to cause a tingling sensation in somebody by touching him or her lightly;

Synonym: Rouse

Use: Pole dancing was designed as a means of **titillating** people.

Torpor (n.) lack of mental or physical energy;

Synonym: Lethargy

Antonym: Vigour

Use: The workers moved with extreme **torpor** under the heat of the blazing sun.

Tractable (adj.) docile; easily managed .

Synonym: Disobedient

Antonym: unmanageable [HPCL]

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

U

Ubiquitous (adj.) Being everywhere; omnipresent.

Synonym: Present everywhere [EIL]

Antonym: Out of fashion [GAIL]

Use: The Christmas "The Little Drummer Boy" seemed ubiquitous; Justin heard the tune everywhere he went. ubiquity. N.

Unbridled (adj.) Violent [EIL]

Synonym: Uncontrolled

Antonym: Contained
Restrained [IES-2006]

Use: She had a sudden fit of unbridled rage.

Uncanny (adj.). strange; mysterious.

Synonym: Strange [Railways, 1992]

Antonym: usual

Use: You have the uncanny knack of reading my innermost thoughts.

Unequivocal (adj.) in no uncertain terms.

Synonym: categorical, unmistakable. [IES-1995]

Antonym: vague.

Use: The activist was unequivocal in sending a message to the authorities to hear the pleas.

Unfeigned (adj.), genuine; real

Synonym: Genuine

Antonym: pretended [NTPC]

Use: She turned so pale that I am sure her surprise was unfeigned.

Unravel (v). disentangle; solve. With equal ease Miss Marple unraveled tangled balls of yarn and baffling murder mysteries.

Synonym: Unknot

Unsullied (adj.), untarnished.

Synonym: Unblemished

Antonym: Tarnished
Foul [GRE, Railways, 1993]

Use: I am happy that my reputation is unsullied.

Untenable (adj.) indefensible; not able to be maintained. Wayne is so contrary that, the more untenable a position is, the harder he'll try to defend it.s

Synonym: flawed

Up the creek (adj.): in very troubling difficulties

Synonym: downcast, dead duck [IES-2008]

Antonym: facile

Use: The families were up the creek when they lost their property in flood damage.

Usurp v. seize another's power or rank.

Synonym: To seize power or position illegally

Antonym: Surrender

Use: The revolution ended when the victorious rebel general succeeded in his attempt to usurp the throne usurpation, N.

V

Vainglorious (adj.) excessively proud or boastful

Synonym: Arrogant [DMRC]

Antonym: Humble

Use: **Vainglorious** is an antique word for self promotion, boastfulness in one's self.

Valedictory (adj.). Pertaining to farewell.

Synonym: Farewell

Antonym: Welcome

Use: I found the valedictory address too long ; leave-taking should be brief, also N.

Valor (v.) bravery.

Synonym: Bravery

Antonym: Cowardice

Use: He received the Medal of Honor for his valor in battle. Valor courage, especially that shown in war or battle

Valorous (adj.) having or showing courage, especially in war or battle

Synonym: Courageous

Antonym: Cowardly

Use: Among the borrowed notions by which his barbarism had become semified was that of the public arena, in which, by exhibitions of manly and beastly **valor**, the minds of his subjects were refined and cultured.

Vanquish (v.) to defeat an opponent or opposing army in a battle or fight; to prove convincingly superior to somebody in a contest,

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Use: The large table in the room was well spread with costly **viands**.

Vibrant (adj.): energetic, exciting and full of enthusiasm

Synonym: pulsating

Antonym: shabby, dull, pale [IES-2010]

Use: He always uses vibrant colours in his paintings.

Vicarious (adj.) experienced through somebody else rather than at first hand, by using sympathy or the power of the imagination; done or endured by somebody as a substitute for somebody else

Synonym: Not experienced personally [BEL]
Substitutional

Antonym: Bland

Use: I liked my children to live my dreams for me in a **vicarious** manner.

Vicissitudes (n.): witness surprising changes

Synonym: about-face [IES-1996]

Antonym: stable

Use: The great artist's life was full of vicissitudes.

Vigilance (n.) the condition of being watchful and alert, especially to danger;

Synonym: watchfulness [HCL]

Antonym: Callous

Use: The guards had great **vigilance**, and paced back and forth in front of the barracks.

Vilify (v.) to make malicious and abusive statements about somebody;

Synonym: Defame [Asstt. Grade, 1991]

Antonym: Compliment
Commend [Bank P.O. 1991]

Use: Farmers are often misunderstood and sometimes **vilified** by the public.

Vindicator (n.) to show that somebody or something is justified or correct; to defend or maintain something such as a cause or rights

Synonym: Exonerate, Punish

Vindictive (adj.) looking for revenge or done through a desire for revenge; feeling, showing, or done through a desire to hurt somebody

Synonym: Revengeful

[S.B.I.P.O. 1991, Bank P.O.1995]

Antonym: Merciful

Use: A **vindictive** person will not let things go easily.

Virtuoso (n.) somebody who shows exceptional technique or ability in something; somebody who is knowledgeable and cultivated in appreciating the fine arts

Synonym: Exceptionally skilled [SAIL]

Use: He was a **virtuoso** pianist with a highly personal style.

Virulent (adj.) extremely poisonous, infectious, or damaging to organisms; showing great bitterness, malice, or hostility; extremely obnoxious or harsh

Synonym: malignant [VIZAG]

Antonym: Harmless [Railways, 1991]

Use: The judge had a **virulent** criticism after his affair with the intern.

Visage (n.) somebody's face or facial expression; the appearance or look of something

Synonym: face [BHEL]

Use: John had an angry **visage** yesterday

Vituperation (n.) an outburst of violently abusive or harshly critical language; verbal abuse or castigation; violent denunciation or condemnation

Synonym: Vilification

Antonym: Praise

Use: Constant **vituperation** and abuse was detrimental to her personality and life.

Vociferate (v.) to shout something out loudly

Synonym: protest

Use: Such protests, while often **vociferous**, rarely (if ever) degenerate into violence

Vulpine (adj.) having or displaying a trait such as cunning that is commonly associated with foxes

Synonym: Crafty [Clerks' Grade, 1995]

Use: The **vulpine** theme is carried through with fox masks and foxy cut-out menus.

W

Waif (n.), homeless child or animal. Although he already had eight cats,

Synonym: castaway

**This page is
intentionally left
blank.**

Synonym: Anger

Antonym: Delight [I. Tax, 1993]

Use: She turned to him, full of wrath, and said, "What makes you think I'll accept lower pay for this job than you get?" A soft reply turns away wrath.

Wreak (v.) inflict.

Synonym: inflict [NTPC]

Use: I am afraid he will wreak his vengeance on the innocent as well as the guilty.

Wrought (adj.) made in a skillful or decorative way

Synonym: be gainfully employed

Antonym: idle

Use: The magnificent shiny statue was wrought from marble.

Y

Yeoman (n.) a loyal, reliable, or diligent worker, formerly, an assistant to a sheriff or other official, formerly, a servant or minor official employed in a royal or noble household

But no matter how hard

Synonym: middle-class farmer [HPCL]

Use: the yeoman's wife or daughter might work, certain tasks were considered inappropriate for their station.

Yokel (n.) person who is mired in local custom

Synonym: Rustic

Use: The child was the offspring of a single mother with a thick yokel accent

Yonder (n.) the far distance, located in that place over there

Synonym: distant

Antonym: nearby

Use: Why don't we go over yonder there?

Z

Zany(adj.) entertainingly strange or amusingly unusual, a stock character in Renaissance comedies who mimicked other characters crazy: comic.

Synonym: Crazy

Thief

[M.B.A. 1994]

Antonym: Sane

[Asstt, Grade, 1991]

Use: I can watch the Marx brothers' zany antics for hours.

Zealot (n.) a member of a group of Jewish rebels who attempted the military overthrow of Roman rule in Palestine in the 1st and 2nd centuries ad, a zealous supporter of a cause, especially a religious causefanatic; person who shows excessive zeal.

Synonym: Believer

[GAIL]

Antonym: Skeptic

Use: Though gienn was devout, he was no zealot he never tried to force his religious belets on his friends.

Zenith(n.) he high point or climax of something, the point of the celestial sphere that is directly over the observer and 90 degrees from all points on that person's horizon, the highest point reached by an astronomical object point directly overhead in the sky: summit. When the sun was at its zenith, the glare was not as strong as sunrise and sun-To be at the zenith of (to be at the highest point of fame, glory, etc.):

Synonym: Top

[M.B.A. 1997]

Antonym: Nadir

Use: Dhoni has been at the zenith of his career for the past couple of months.

Zest (n.) lively enjoyment and enthusiasm; an exciting or interesting aspect of something that makes it particularly enjoyable

Synonym: Passion [I.Tax & Cent. Exci-1990]

Antonym: Apathy

Use: The chef added some zest to the food with the spices

IES Academy