

A study word list has been compiled to aid students in preparing for the competition. However, actual words used throughout the competition will not be limited to this list or any other word list. Rather,
words may be chosen from any source deemed appropriate by the Judges and the Spelling Master. We encourage students to look up the pronunciation and to practice writing the words in a sentence.

| abate | to make less in amount, degree, force <br> *"We could tell by the sun peeking through the clouds that the storm would soon abate." |
| :---: | :---: |
| abhor | to shrink from in fear; disgust or hatred; detest "I abhor baiting my fishhook with worms." |
| abode | a place where one lives or stays; home; residence <br> *"They remained in their warm abode." |
| absurd | so clearly untrue or unreasonable as to be ridiculous "It was absurd to say the baby could reach the counter." |
| abyss | A deep immeasurable space, gulf or cavity; vast chasm; anything profound, unfathomable or infinite <br> "Throughout history, people have jumped into the unknown abyss, wondering if they would ever return." |
| active | lively, busy, agile <br> "Last night I babysat for a very active two-year old." |
| advise | to give advice or an opinion to; counsel <br> *"The lawyer will advise clients in the most effective way possible." |
| against | in opposition to <br> "The student council voted against school uniforms." |
| almond | the edible, nutlike kernel of the small, dry peachlike fruit of a tree "Modesto is known as an almond growing region." |
| amaze | to fill with great surprise or sudden wonder "The musician's talent will amaze the audience." |
| antics | odd and funny; ludicrous; pranks, capers <br> *"The antics of the puppy made everyone laugh." |
| appoint | to name or select officially for an office, position "We will appoint a Board Member." |
| argue | to dispute or quarrel. <br> "My friend and I often argue over trivial details. |
| arrange | to put in the correct, proper, or suitable order "The librarian will arrange the books." |
| ascend | to go upward <br> "My ears always pop when planes ascend." |


| aspirin | a white crystalline drug used as a pain and fever remedy "The doctor prescribed aspirin and bed rest for my cold." |
| :---: | :---: |
| ballad | a romantic or sentimental song with the same melody for each stanza "The singer sang a beautiful ballad." |
| ballot | a ticket or paper by which a vote is registered; act or method of voting "The class president was elected by a written ballot." |
| balsa | a tropical American tree that yields an extremely light and buoyant wood used for airplane models, rafts <br> "The balsa provides wood for models." |
| bankrupt | a person legally declared unable to pay his debts <br> "The store's owner was bankrupt and had to go out of business." |
| banter | to tease or make fun of in a playful, good-natured way "The children banter with each other." |
| barley | a cereal grass; grain used in making soups, malts and as feed for animals *"The chef always added barley to the soup to thicken it." |
| barren | not bringing useful results, unproductive; unprofitable "The barren field was eroding." |
| barter | to trade for goods or services without using money "The market offered to barter groceries for custodial work." |
| basin | a washbowl or sink <br> "Rinse your contact lenses over a basin with the drain closed." |
| believe | to take as true; to have confidence in the promise of another *"I believe in the goodness in the world." |
| benefit | promotion of welfare or prosperity "This project will benefit all mankind." |
| boggle | to confuse or overwhelm <br> *"These magic tricks will boggle your mind." |
| brief | condensed; short; outline of an argument <br> "The synopsis of the story was very brief." |
| burglar | a person who commits burglary <br> "The burglar was brought to trial." |
| business | a commercial or industrial enterprise <br> "Starting a new business requires money and dedication." |


| caboose | the trainmen's car on a freight train, usually at the rear "The caboose was the last car." |
| :---: | :---: |
| cauldron | a large kettle or boiler <br> "The stew simmered in the cauldron." |
| career | one's progress through life or in a particular vocation *"It is important to choose a career carefully." |
| casserole | earthenware or glass baking dish, or food cooked in one "Please bring a vegetable casserole to the pot luck." |
| category | one of the divisions used in a system of classification "This chemistry book should be placed in the science category." |
| character | a person in a novel, story or play <br> "The author created a very believable character in this novel." |
| chocolate | a food prepared from ground cacao beans. <br> "For dessert we are serving chocolate cake." |
| chorus | music written for group singing "The group joined together for the chorus." |
| chronic | constant; habitual; continuing a long time or recurring frequently *"For three months, I have had a chronic headache." |
| collar | the part of a garment that encircles the neck; band or chain or leather for the neck of a dog, cat or other pet <br> *"Some pet owners pull their dogs by the collar." |
| compel | to enforce or constrain, as to do something <br> "The new laws compel judges to issue the maximum sentence." |
| computer | a programmable electronic device that performs operations on data at high speed <br> "Knowing how to use a computer can help you get a better job." |
| convert | to change from one form to another "We learned how to convert fractions to decimals." |
| convoy | a protecting escort, as for ships or troops; a group traveling together "Destroyers will convoy the troopships." |
| copra | the source of coconut meat or coconut oil "Hawaii produces a great amount of copra." |
| corral | an enclosure for holding or capturing horses or other livestock; pen; to confine; roundup "The wild horses were penned in the corral on the ranch." |


| corrupt | spoiled; contaminated; morally unsound "The corrupt official accepted a bribe." |
| :---: | :---: |
| creeper | a person or animal that moves along close to the ground; lowest gear in a truck; one-piece garment for a baby; vine with tendrils <br> "The small bird was a creeper searching for insects." |
| crick | a painful muscle spasm or cramp in the neck or back, etc. <br> *"Watching a tennis match can give you a crick in the neck." |
| crimson | deep red color <br> "The sky, at sunset, became beautifully crimson." |
| crisis | a turning point in the course of anything; decisive or crucial time, stage of event <br> *"The child's fever reached its crisis at three in the morning." |
| custom | usual practice of behaving; habit; duties or taxes imposed by a government on imported or exported goods <br> "Having parties at Halloween was the custom of the neighborhood." |
| dampen | to make moist; to deaden, depress or lessen <br> "The dry cleaners needed to dampen the clothes before they could be ironed." |
| dapper | small and neat; trim; active and smart <br> *"The students looked dapper in their class photo." |
| data | things known or assumed; facts or figures for information "The computer analyst fed the data into the machine." |
| deafen | overwhelm with noise <br> "The volume of the loudspeaker will deafen the audience." |
| debark | to unload from or leave a ship or aircraft <br> "We will proceed to debark the material as soon as the plane stops." |
| decipher | decode "I could not decipher the doctor's handwriting." |
| defect | lack of something for completeness; deficiency; forsake one's cause and join the opposition <br> "It was on sale because of a defect in the pattern." |
| deflect | to turn or make bend to one side; swerve <br> "They used their shields to deflect the arrows." |
| deft | skillful in a quick, sure and easy way; dexterous "With deft fingers, I knitted the sweater." |


| depress | to press down; push or pull down; lower <br> "If you depress this button, water comes out." |
| :---: | :---: |
| depth | distance from the top downward; deepness; intensity, as of colors "They dropped a stone in the well to try to determine its depth." |
| desist | to cease; stop; abstain from action <br> "The librarian urged them to desist their discussion so others could study and concentrate." |
| dessert | usually the sweet course of a dinner; pie; cake, puddings, etc. "Lemon pie is my favorite dessert." |
| destroy | to tear down; demolish; to break up; ruin; crush "The demolition crew will destroy the whole building." |
| detract | to take something desirable away from <br> "Some feel that the new fences detract from the beauty of the old house." |
| devoid | completely without; empty or destitute <br> *"If I spend my last few dollars, my wallet will be devoid of cash." |
| dictionary | wordbook, lexicon <br> "If you can't spell the beginning of a word, it is hard to look it up in a dictionary." |
| direct | consisting of the exact words of the writer or speaker; to show the way to <br> "It was a direct quotation by the speaker." |
| discard | to throw away, abandon; get rid of as having no value "They planned to discard the unwanted clothing." |
| discipline | training that develops self-control or character "In obedience classes, pet owners learn to discipline their pets consistently." |
| dismal | causing gloom; depressing; bleak; dreary "It was a dark and dismal day." |
| disrupt | to break up; rend asunder; to disturb or interrupt "Bringing up the subject will disrupt the orderliness of this meeting." |
| distinct | clearly perceived or marked off; plain, well-defined; individual "The medal he received showed a distinct and special honor." |


| distract | to draw the mind away in another direction; divert <br> *"Some argue that fidget spinners help some students and others claim that the toys only distract from learning." |
| :---: | :---: |
| distress | to cause sorrow or misery; pain; suffering <br> *"When the boat caught fire, the captain issued a distress call." |
| dither | to be nervously excited or confused <br> *"Before the curtain rose, the actors were all in a dither." |
| dogged | not giving in readily; persistent; stubborn <br> *"If it wasn't for the politician's dogged commitment, the bill would never have been passed." |
| dormant | sleeping; quiet; still; inoperative; inactive <br> "Some plants and animals are dormant during the cold weather." |
| dosage | the system to be followed in taking doses, as of medicine <br> *"Don't forget to check the dosage of medicine before taking it." |
| doting | foolishly fond; excessively <br> *"As doting pet owners, the couple always treat their beloved dogs as if they are children." |
| dowdy | not neat or stylish in dress or appearance; shabby "Many of the candidates appeared dowdy." |
| downy | soft and fluffy, like down "The child petted the downy chick." |
| draggy | slow moving; lethargic; dull; boring "Some of us are draggy, especially in the early morning." |
| dreadful | inspiring dread; terrible or awesome "The volcano's eruption was dreadful." |
| drizzle | a fine, mistlike rain <br> "The drizzle was just enough to make the sidewalks slippery." |
| dual | of two; having or composed of two parts or kinds; double *"The Governor had a dual personality, sometimes very kind, sometimes very aloof and severe." |
| dusky | lacking light; dim; shadowy <br> *"In the dusky room, they could only identify outlines." |


| earnest | Serious in intention, purpose or effort; sincerely zealous; showing depth <br> of sincerity of feeling; seriously important, as of intention or purpose <br> *"When the teacher viewed the poor test grades, it was obvious the <br> students had not studied in earnest for the test." |
| :--- | :--- |
| eclipse | the partial or total obscuring of the sun when the moon comes between <br> it and the earth; or of the moon when the earth’s shadow is cast upon it. <br> "We studied the lunar eclipse in class." |
| edict | an official proclamation or public order made by authority or decree <br> *"The edict issued by the government had to be obeyed by all." |
| efface | to rub out, as from a surface; erase; wipe out; obliterate <br> "They tried to efface the memory." |
| elude | to avoid or escape from by quickness, cunning, evade <br> "We will try to elude the traffic congestion." |
| embark | to board a ship, airplane; to begin a journey, an enterprise <br> "We embark on our journey to Europe at 7:00 p.m." |
| emblem | a visible symbol of a thing, class of people; a sign <br> *"The national emblem of Canada is a maple leaf." |
| emboss | to cover or decorate with designs; to carve, raise or print a design so it is <br> above the surface; embellish; ornament <br> *"The artist likes to emboss jewelry with a design of flowers." |
| encamp | to develop or evolve as something new, improved <br> "A new town will emerge after construction." |
| emerge | provide with money, talent, quality or property, etc. <br> *"The family’s desire is to endow the hospital with a large sum of <br> money." <br> to devour greedily <br> *"The hungry bear seemed to engorge all the salmon in the river." <br> "The new business is seeking to employ fifty qualified workers." |
| endorse | to set up a campsite; to put in a camp <br> "The meadow along the river looked like a good site to encamp." |
| "to give approval to; support; sanction |  |
| *"Their acting will enchant all who see the play." |  |


| engross | to occupy one's whole attention *"This book will thoroughly engross the students." |
| :---: | :---: |
| engulf | to swallow up; overwhelm "The raging river will engulf the house." |
| enough | sufficient <br> "Do you have enough clothes for your trip?" |
| enrich | to give greater value, importance, effectiveness, etc., to "The new class will enrich the curriculum." |
| error | mistake <br> "Be careful that you don't make an error in spelling this word." |
| erupt | burst forth or out; to break out in a rash "Lava will erupt from the volcano." |
| ethnic | designating any, or of any, of the basic groups or divisions of mankind, having the same customs, characteristics, history or language *"It is a great idea to take an ethnic studies class." |
| excel | to be better or greater than; superior to *"We all want to excel in whatever we do." |
| facet | any of a number of sides or aspects, as of a personality <br> *"They had never noticed the generous facet of the principal's personality." |
| facile | not hard to do or achieve <br> *"After years of practice, playing a musical instrument appears facile." |
| faithful | having or showing a strong sense of duty or responsibility "My dog is a very faithful companion." |
| famine | any acute shortage <br> "The people were suffering from the famine." |
| feather | the lightweight body covering of birds "Use the feather duster to clean these figurines." |
| February | the second month of the year <br> *"Groundhog Day is a popular tradition celebrated in the United States and Canada on February 2." |
| feeble | without force or effectiveness <br> "Their feeble attempt was not successful." |
| fiction | anything made up or imagined, as a statement or story "The librarian directed us to the fiction section." |


| flaming | burning with fire; blazing; intensely emotional "We watched the fire flaming and casting sparks high in the air." |
| :---: | :---: |
| flimsy | thin and easily broken or damaged; poorly made and fragile "The door was flimsy and could not be locked." |
| fluent | moving or flowing smoothly; able to write or speak easily, expressively "The teacher was fluent in three languages." |
| fracas | noisy fight or loud quarrel; brawl <br> "They were having a fracas in the hall." |
| frenetic | Frantic; frenzied; fast and energetic in a rather wild and uncontrolled way <br> "The match had started at a pretty frenetic pace, as both boxers looked to impose their will early on." |
| fulcrum | The support, or point of rest, on which a lever turns in a moving body; any prop, support or hinge <br> "Kitchen scissors have the fulcrum located farther from the handles to provide more leverage and thus more cutting power." |
| furnish | supply, provide or equip; to put furniture into a room <br> "They decided to furnish the den with modern pieces." |
| gallant | stately; imposing <br> "The gallant ship cruised into the harbor." |
| gamut | the entire range or extent, as of emotions <br> *"The poet demonstrated the gamut of emotions in each poem." |
| garble | to confuse or mix up unintentionally <br> *"To me, that's so much unnecessary garble." |
| genius | remarkable intellectual aptitude "Only a genius can join Mensa, the high IQ society." |
| giraffe | large, cud-chewing animal with a very long neck "Seeing the giraffe made our trip to the zoo more enjoyable." |
| glisten | to shine or sparkle with reflected light, as a wet or polished surface "The new car did glisten in the sunlight." |
| glossy | having a smooth, shiny appearance or finish "The glossy finish on the paint sample was perfect.." |
| goulash | a beef stew with onion, paprika and caraway seeds. <br> "My Hungarian grandmother's favorite dish was goulash." |


| govern | to exercise authority over; rule, administer; direct or control <br> "The officials will govern in an orderly manner." |
| :--- | :--- |
| grammar | the system of word structures and word arrangements of a given <br> language at a given time <br> "In order to speak the language, an understanding of grammar is <br> helpful." |
| granite | a very hard, crystalline, plutonic rock, gray to pink in color, consisting <br> of feldspar, quartz, and smaller amounts of other minerals <br> "The polished granite shone in the sunlight." |
| graze | to feed on (growing grass, herbage, a pasture, etc.) <br> "The cattle will graze on the slopes all winter." |
| gritty | of, like, or containing sand; brave; plucky <br> "Water from the creek left a gritty substance in the bottom of the cup." |
| gruel | thin, easily digested broth made of meal with water or milk <br> "The delicious, warm gruel did not hurt my sore throat." |
| heap | a group of things placed, thrown or lying one on another; a pile <br> *"The dirty laundry sat in a heap on the floor." |
| hunger | to annoy or harass by interrupting with questions or taunts <br> "The audience began to heckle the speaker." |
| hockle | a joint or device on which a door, gate, lid, etc., swings <br> "The hinge needed oiling." |
| honge | "My hunger pangs kept me from concentrating on the test." |


| idler | person who does no work; wastes time; lazy person *"You are not lazy, and still you are an idler." |
| :---: | :---: |
| ignite | to set fire to; cause to burn "They will ignite the trees with a torch." |
| ignore | to disregard deliberately; pay no attention to; refuse to consider "The driver appeared to ignore the road signs." |
| impede | to bar or hinder the progress of; obstruct or delay "Some members tried to impede the program." |
| impish | mischievous <br> *"The child gave an impish grin and then ran down the street." |
| impose | to force on another or others without right or invitation; obtrude *"Although they did not receive an invitation, they tried to impose on the family." |
| incite | to set in motion, to urge to action; stir up, rouse "The news of the riot may incite others to act." |
| induct | to lead in; install, as in office; initiate; enroll in the services <br> "The chairman used a candlelight ceremony to induct new members." |
| inert | having few or no active properties <br> "The inert gas is not considered to be a danger." |
| inkling | a vague idea or notion; suspicion <br> *"The child had an inkling that the smallest present was the best one." |
| innate | existing naturally rather than acquired; possessed at birth, inherent *"Is leadership an innate quality or can it be taught to those who aspire to greatness?" |
| inset | to insert into something else; a map set inside the border of a larger one; a piece of material sewed into a garment <br> "The inset shows the downtown section of the city." |
| inspire | to fill with high or reverent emotion; stimulate to creativity or action *"The concert did inspire them to be musicians." |
| jabber | fast, incoherent, nonsensical talk; gibberish <br> "No one could understand the jabber of the twins." |
| jacket | a short coat <br> "This blue jacket would look nice with your new skirt." |
| jagged | having sharp projecting points; notched or ragged "The jagged edge scratched the smooth surface of the table." |


| jargon | incoherent speech; gibberish; specialized vocabulary and idioms of those in their own line of work <br> "They recognized the jargon of their classmates taking computer classes." |
| :---: | :---: |
| jetsam | that part of the cargo thrown overboard to lighten the ship in danger; discardings <br> "Some of the jetsam they threw overboard might be sorely missed later." |
| jitney | formerly old slang for five cents, a nickel; small car or bus which travels a regular route and charges a low fare for passengers to ride <br> "The driver of the jitney now charges passengers a dollar." |
| jostle | to bump or push, as in a crowd; elbow or shove roughly "As the number increased, the crowd began to jostle the players." |
| journal | a brief account of daily events <br> "We kept a journal of our vacation." |
| kapok | fiber used for stuffing mattresses, sleeping bags, pillows, etc. "After such a long time of use, the kapok had to be replaced." |
| kettle | a metal container for boiling or cooking "I'll boil some water in the kettle for your tea." |
| kindling | bits of dry wood or other easily-lighted material for starting a fire "The campers gathered kindling for the fire." |
| kosher | loosely, prepared according to traditional Jewish recipes "The kosher pickles were very tasty." |
| ladle | to dip out and pour as with a ladle <br> "The cook will ladle the soup for each customer." |
| lament | an outward expression of sorrow; lamentation; wail "A long lament was heard in the garden." |
| lawyer | an attorney <br> "You should consult your lawyer before signing this contract." |
| lecture | an informative talk given before an audience, class, etc., and usually prepared beforehand <br> "The history lecture was very interesting." |
| leer | to look with a sideways or oblique glance, especially suggestive of lascivious interest or sly and malicious intention *"I walked faster when the street cat started to leer at me." |


| lettuce | any of a genus of plants grown for its edible green leaves "I'll begin washing the lettuce for the salad." |
| :---: | :---: |
| license | a document, printed tag, permit, etc., indicating that such permission had been granted <br> *"The officer asked to see the driver's license." |
| lightning | a flash of light in the sky caused by the discharge of atmospheric electricity from one cloud to another or between a cloud and the earth "The lightning flashed in the sky." |
| limb | an arm, leg, or wing <br> *"Be careful not to break a limb while roller skating." |
| lining | to cause to or to bring to a straight row or conformity; in alignment *"The astronomers were lining up their telescopes to look at the stars." |
| linkage | a linking or being linked <br> "The investigator studied the linkage between the clues." |
| listless | having no interest in what is going on about one, as a result of illness, weariness, dejection, etc., spiritless; languid "The listless dog lay on the floor by the fire." |
| lonely | alone, solitary <br> "I was very lonely when I first moved to town." |
| loose | not confined or restrained; free; unbound "The sails were loose in the breeze." |
| lucid | clearheaded; rational "The lucid thinker explained the axiom." |
| lure | anything that attracts, entices or allures; a decoy <br> "By now they had to know that they weren't going to lure him away from the scene." |
| macaroon | a cookie made chiefly of egg whites, sugar and coconut or almond paste "I'll bring some macaroon cookies for the bake sale." |
| machinery | the working parts of a machine or instrument "The workers had the day off when the machinery broke down." |
| mackerel | a fish, commonly used in cat food. <br> "Canned mackerel is my cat's favorite food." |
| magnet | a piece of iron or steel that attracts metal <br> "We use a magnet on our refrigerator to hold our shopping list." |


| margarine | a food product usually made from vegetable oils and skim milk <br> "Would you like margarine or butter on your toast?" |
| :--- | :--- |
| medley | a musical piece made up of tunes or passages from various works <br> "The chorus performed the medley very well." |
| method | a way of doing anything <br> "What method did you use to arrive at your answer?"" |
| milling | circular or random motion of or as a herd or crowd <br> "The ducks were milling around the bread crumbs." |
| mimic | imitative; inclined to copy; to ape; make believe; mock <br> "The actor could mimic many of his fellow artists." |
| murmur | a low indistinct sound <br> "Sitting on the patio, I could hear the murmur of the wind in the trees." |
| mutton | the flesh of sheep, especially full-grown or more mature sheep, used as <br> food <br> *"The travelers ordered a large bowl of soup and a leg of mutton from <br> the traditional restaurant." |
| narrate | to tell in writing or speech <br> "The teacher began to narrate the story." |
| nectar | any very delicious drink; sweetish liquid in flowers gathered by bees to <br> make honey <br> "The icy cold lemonade was like nectar." |
| nomad | a frightening or oppressing dream <br> "I had a really scary nightmare last night." <br> direction than in the other, esp. longer horizontally, (b) elliptical one <br> "They wondered what was in the oblong box." |
| notice | "overed with small nubs, or lumps; having a rough, knotted surface <br> "The nubby fabric was rough to touch." |
| the ordinal number 9th |  |
| "In many districts ninth grade is the first year of high school." |  |


| obstacle | something that stands in the way or opposes "Scaling the wall was the final challenge of the obstacle course." |
| :---: | :---: |
| occur | to take place; happen <br> "The celebration will occur next week." |
| offense | the condition of being offended, esp. of feeling hurt, resentful, or angry; umbrage <br> *"Please don't take offense from my jokes." |
| optic | of the eyes; sense of sight <br> "The optic nerve was not damaged." |
| orchid | the flower of a tropical plant <br> "As we stepped off the plane in Hawaii, we were given an orchid lei." |
| ostrich | a large, swift-running bird of Africa and the Near East, the largest and most powerful of living birds: it has a long neck, very long legs with two toes on each foot, and small, useless wings; the white tail and wing feathers of the male are used in millinery and as trimming *"The white ostrich feather was a rare find." |
| owing | due; unpaid; because of "The balance owing was ten dollars." |
| ozone | an unstable, pale-blue gas, with a penetrating odor; it is an allotropic form of oxygen <br> *"The ozone layer protects the planet from that which can cause serious harm." |
| package | a wrapped or boxed thing or group of things "I hope the package will arrive in the mail today." |
| pamphlet | a short publication with no cover <br> "Please send me your pamphlet about summer camp." |
| parallel | extending in the same direction and same distance apart <br> "Center Avenue runs parallel to Maple Street." |
| partner | a person who takes part in some activity in common with another or others <br> *"Most climbers have a partner with their gear, ready to help." |
| passage | permission, right, or a chance to pass <br> "The hunters received passage through the field." |
| passive | offering no opposition or resistance; submissive; yielding; patient "The passive cat was carried to the veterinarian's office." |


| pastime | something that helps time pass enjoyably "Cooking and making pastry is my favorite pastime." |
| :---: | :---: |
| pasture | to graze or feed on (grass, etc.) <br> "The cattle will pasture in the meadow." |
| pattern | a regular, mainly unvarying way of acting or doing "The psychologist will study the animal's behavior pattern." |
| people | human beings <br> "A large group of people gathered to watch the parade." |
| perturb | to cause to be alarmed, agitated, or upset; disturb or trouble greatly "The loudspeaker may perturb the musician in the adjoining room." |
| pesky | annoying; disagreeable; troublesome <br> "We all swatted at the pesky mosquitoes." |
| pigment | coloring matter, usually insoluble powder, mixed with oil or water, etc., to make paints; coloring matter in the cells, tissues of plants, animals "Pigment in some plants is increased when they grow in full sun." |
| pilgrim | person who wanders; traveler to shrine or holy place; any member of the English Puritans who founded Plymouth colony in 1620 <br> *"The English pilgrim traveled from England to Massachusetts in a boat named the Mayflower." |
| placid | Pleasantly calm or peaceful; unruffled; tranquil; serenely quiet or undisturbed <br> "The elderly couple enjoyed the placid water of the lake." |
| plummet | Fall or drop straight down at high speed; decrease rapidly in value or amount <br> *"The increase in the bear population has caused the salmon population to plummet." |
| plunder | to rob or despoil by force, esp. in warfare "The military will plunder the village after the battle." |
| polar | opposite in character, nature, direction, etc. <br> "The twins were polar in their taste in music." |
| poncho | a cloak like a blanket with a hole in the middle for the head "The warm poncho is valuable in winter weather." |
| portion | share; part of "They were willing to give up a portion of their food." |


| portly | large and heavy in a dignified, stately way; stout; corpulent *"The portly mouse gets stuck in his mouse hole after a big meal." |
| :---: | :---: |
| possess | to have as an attribute, quality, faculty, etc. <br> *"The Dali Lama is known to possess wisdom." |
| posture | the position or carriage of the body in standing or sitting; bearing "Good posture is important for good health." |
| powder | any dry substance in the form of very fine, dustlike particles, produced by crushing, grinding, etc. <br> "Without rain, the soil became a powder." |
| prepare | to make ready, usually for a specific purpose <br> "How are you going to prepare for the spelling competition?" |
| prior | preceding in time; earlier; previous <br> "References from a prior employer were needed." |
| proceed | to advance or go on; to move along or to be carried on; come forth "After answering this question, please proceed to the next." |
| prompt | quick to act or do; ready; punctual; done, spoken, without delay *"The teacher distributed a prompt for the in-class essay." |
| prosper | succeed; thrive; grow vigorously; wealth; good fortune <br> *"Having found the right soil conditions, the farmer's crop began to prosper." |
| prying | improperly curious or inquisitive <br> *"Someone was prying into their personal affairs." |
| raccoon | a small carnivore of North America, usually nocturnal "A raccoon raided our campsite while we were asleep." |
| rally | to summon or bring together for a common purpose; assist; support a cause <br> *"The Sergeant was sent to rally the troops." |
| rampant | growing luxuriantly; flourishing <br> "The roses were rampant in the garden." |
| ransom | consideration paid for the release of a captured person <br> "The kidnapper demanded \$500,000 in ransom for the child." |
| raspberry | small round fleshy red or black berry <br> "These raspberry preserves won a blue ribbon at the county fair." |
| rating | a placement in a certain rank or class <br> "The program received the top rating." |


| razor | sharp-edged cutting instrument for shaving or cutting off hair *"A child should not play with a razor." |
| :---: | :---: |
| react | to act in return or reciprocally "The director did not expect the actress to react that way." |
| receive | to take into one's hand or possession "I hope I receive a new phone for my birthday." |
| redeem | to get back; recover, as by paying a fee <br> *"It's exciting to redeem points for prizes in school." |
| refuge | a place of safety; shelter; safe retreat <br> "The deer sought a refuge from the hunters." |
| relent | to soften in temper; become less severe, stern, stubborn <br> *"Perhaps my principal will relent and allow me to go it I promise to return on time." |
| remnant | what is left over; remainder; residue <br> "The small piece of cloth left from the bolt will sell as a remnant." |
| render | to give, hand over, submit, as for approval; to give in return <br> "When you finish shopping, the clerk will render a bill for payment." |
| rescue | to free or save from danger, imprisonment, evil, etc. <br> *"They were heroes because the rescue had been a success." |
| retain | to keep in mind <br> "After studying the words for six weeks, we should be able to retain most of them." |
| retrieve | to get and bring back <br> "That dog certainly loves to retrieve the ball." |
| revenge | to inflict damage, injury, or punishment in return for an injury, insult, etc. <br> "The leaders plotted revenge for the bombing." |
| riddle | any puzzling, perplexing, or apparently inexplicable person or thing, as a difficult problem or enigmatic saying: enigma <br> *"My best friend loves a good riddle." |
| romaine | a variety of lettuce <br> "Caesar salad recipes usually call for romaine lettuce." |
| roommate | one of two or more persons sharing a room <br> "Luckily, my roommate at camp didn't snore." |

$\left.\begin{array}{|l|l|}\hline \text { ruin } & \begin{array}{l}\text { the remains of a fallen building, city, etc., or something destroyed, } \\ \text { devastated, decayed, etc. } \\ \text { "The explorer discovered the ruin deep within the jungle." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { rumor } & \begin{array}{l}\text { definite talk not based on knowledge; hearsay; gossip } \\ \text { "We have heard a rumor that there will be no test tomorrow." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { rustle } & \begin{array}{l}\text { to make or cause to make an irregular succession of soft sounds } \\ \text { "The leaves rustle in the wind." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { safety } & \begin{array}{l}\text { freedom from danger; security } \\ \text { "Safety precautions are very important both at home and at school." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { scarlet } & \begin{array}{l}\text { very bright red with a slightly orange tone } \\ \text { "The scarlet car captured everyone's attention." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { scissors } & \begin{array}{l}\text { a cutting instrument with handles and a pair of blades } \\ \text { "Using sewing scissors for cutting paper makes them dull." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { scribble } & \begin{array}{l}\text { illegible or careless handwriting; scrawl } \\ \text { "The doctor's scribble was hard to read." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { scurry } & \begin{array}{l}\text { to run hastily; scamper } \\ \text { "The rabbits will scurry through the woods." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { skeptic } & \begin{array}{l}\text { free from fear, care, doubt, or anxiety; not worried, troubled, or } \\ \text { apprehensive } \\ \text { "Within the fort, the cavalry felt secure." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { secure } & \begin{array}{l}\text { sentinel, esp. any of the military guard posted to warn of danger } \\ \text { "The sentry would not open the gate to anyone without identification." } \\ \text { generally accepted matters } \\ \text { *"You can believe in ghosts if you like, but I'm a skeptic" }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { sentry } & \begin{array}{l}\text { "The bugle will signal the attack." } \\ \text { a school term or period of study } \\ \text { "The fall session of school was about to end." } \\ \text { a sign or event fixed or understood as the occasion for prearranged } \\ \text { shepherd }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { not firm; weak, unsteady; trembling, not dependable; questionable } \\ \text { "After the earthquake, the walls were shaky." }\end{array}\right\}$

| skirmish | a brief encounter between small groups, usually an incident of a battle "The skirmish was quickly forgotten after the peace treaty was signed." |
| :---: | :---: |
| slacken | to become less active, intense, brisk "The runners began to slacken their pace." |
| smoky | emitting smoke, especially in large quantities "A smoky fire doesn't provide much warmth." |
| suet | the hard fat about the kidneys and loins of beef and mutton "I asked the butcher to prepare the suet I need for the plum pudding." |
| surround | to enclose on all sides; encircle <br> "For safety reasons we needed to surround our pool with a fence." |
| tactics | any method used to gain an end; esp., skillful methods or procedure <br> *"Although successful, their tactics were questioned." |
| tarnish | to dull or discolor the surface of a metal object; to spoil, mar or debase a memory; lose luster from oxidation <br> "Silver needs to be polished often or it will tarnish." |
| tariff | duty or tax placed by a government on imports and some exports; any list or scale of prices, charges etc. <br> "We felt the tariff was too high." |
| technology | applied science <br> "The rate of technology seems to increase every day." |
| terrific | extraordinary; astounding <br> "We saw a terrific movie last night." |
| terse | abruptly, neatly or effectively concise; brief and pithy, as language "The submitted statements ranged in length from a few terse words to pages and pages of narrative." |
| threshold | a doorsill, a beginning point <br> "The guest paused at the threshold, stunned by the beauty of the room." |
| traffic | the movement or number of automobiles along a street "There is a lot more traffic on the freeway these days." |
| tribute | something given, done, or said, as a gift, testimonial, etc., to show gratitude, respect, honor, or praise <br> *"Veteran's Day is an official celebration designed to act as a tribute for the veterans of our country." |
| truism | A self-evident, obvious truth "It's a truism that democracy can't be established at gunpoint." |


| upheaval | the action or instance of lifting up from beneath, especially the earth's crust <br> "Ancient volcanoes caused a great deal of upheaval in this area." |
| :---: | :---: |
| uproar | loud, confused noise; din "The uproar was very difficult to quiet." |
| useful | that can be used to advantage; helpful "The fork is a useful implement." |
| utensil | an instrument or container used in a household <br> "A ladle is the proper utensil to use for serving soup." |
| vaccine | any preparation of killed microorganisms, living weakened organisms, etc., introduced into the body to produce immunity to a specific disease by causing the formation of antibodies "The polio vaccine was a tremendous advance in medicine." |
| veteran | a former member of the armed forces <br> "Only one World War I veteran attended the ceremony this year." |
| vial | A small container, usually glass, for holding liquids "They found a vial of an unknown chemical mixture on the desk in the laboratory." |
| vigil | watchful staying awake; a watch kept for a period of time <br> *"After their morning vigil was interrupted, the rest of the day seemed to be full of nothing but trouble." |
| villain | an evil person; scoundrel <br> "In a melodrama the audience boos whenever the villain appears." |
| volume | the quantity, strength, or loudness of sound "The volume of the music was deafening." |
| warbler | a bird which sings in trills, runs or quavers; songster *"Though we could not see it, we heard the melodious song of the warbler." |
| warmth | state of giving off moderate degree of heat; moderate, mild heat "We could feel the warmth of the sun on our faces." |
| whistle | to make a clear, shrill cry; said of some birds and animals "We heard the birds whistle in the trees." |
| whittle | to reduce, destroy, or get rid of gradually, as if by whittling away with a knife <br> "We hope to whittle down the cost of the project." |


| whoosh | to make a quick, hissing or rushing sound of something moving swiftly <br> through the air <br> "At takeoff, the rocket will whoosh by the airport." |
| :--- | :--- |
| width | distance from side to side; breadth <br> "We have to measure the width of the shelf to make sure it will fit the <br> space." |
| wiring | the action of a person or thing that wires <br> "The electrician did the wiring very quickly." |
| worsted | a smooth compact yarn from long wool fibers, or the fabric made from <br> the yarn <br> "These worsted wool trousers will last a long time." |
| wrapper | that in which something is wrapped; covering; cover <br> "The gum wrapper was a shiny silver." |
| yawn | an act of yawning or opening wide <br> "The movie was boring, and the audience began to yawn." |
| yearling | an animal one-year-old or in its second year <br> "The rancher brought the yearling into the barn." |
| yearn | To have an earnest or strong desire; a longing <br> "I yearn for the day when I can delegate my work to others." |

## LEVEL II

| abdicate | to give up formally (a high office, authority, throne, etc.) <br> *"If police officers were to abdicate their role in the community, there may be safety issues." |
| :---: | :---: |
| abdominal | lower part of the trunk of the human body; in, on or for the abdomen "The abdominal bandage seemed too tight." |
| aberrant | abnormal or deviant <br> *"The student's rude, aberrant behavior was quite a shock." |
| abrogate | to cancel or repeal by authority <br> "Congress must abrogate the new tax law." |
| acetylene | a colorless, poisonous, highly flammable gaseous hydrocarbon "This most brilliant of the illuminating gases is acetylene." |
| acrimonious | stinging, caustic <br> "Those acrimonious remarks will make you unpopular." |
| acquittal | discharge of duty; being set free by the court <br> "From lack of evidence submitted, the judge decreed an acquittal." |
| adolescence | the time of life between puberty and maturity; youth "During adolescence, one is often uncertain." |
| aesthetic | sensitive to art and beauty <br> "In order to help develop their children's aesthetic tastes, many family trips to art galleries were planned." |
| affinity | close relationship <br> "Fish have an affinity with water." |
| agglomeration | a jumbled heap, mass, etc. <br> "The agglomeration of articles for the rummage sale was staggering." |
| aghast | feeling great horror or dismay <br> "Upon seeing the tornado's destruction, he was aghast." |
| aluminum | most abundant metal element in the Earth's crust "Don't put aluminum foil in the microwave." |
| ambiguous | not clear <br> "The treaty is very ambiguous." |
| anachronism | anything that is or seems to be out of its proper time in history "A black and white television is an anachronism today." |
| anathema | a thing or person greatly detested <br> "Censorship is anathema to Americans." |


| anonymous | no name known or acknowledged; name withheld <br> "The poem read was written by an anonymous poet." |
| :--- | :--- |
| antiquated | no longer used or useful; obsolete <br> "The old cabin contained some antiquated relics of the olden days." |
| antithesis | the direct opposite <br> "Love is the antithesis of hate." |
| apocryphal | spurious; counterfeit <br> "The apocryphal memories of the countess cannot be admitted as <br> evidence." |
| apostle | the first advocate of a view point or reform <br> "The student body president was an apostle for year-round school." |
| apparition | a strange figure appearing suddenly and thought to be a ghost <br> "After hearing the spooky story, the children thought they saw an <br> apparition." |
| appropriate | to take for one's own, often without right <br> "I wish my roommate would not appropriate my clothes." |
| aqueduct | large pipe made for bringing water from a distant source <br> "The aqueduct provided the farmers with the much needed water for <br> crops." |
| awkward | the perfect example of a type or group <br> "Mickey Mouse is the archetype for cartoon characters." |
| aschetype | not graceful, clumsy <br> "My walk was very awkward right after my cast was removed." |
| the act of ascending |  |
| "We watched the balloon's ascension into the clouds." |  |


| baccalaureate | an address or sermon delivered to a graduating class at commencement <br> "The graduating seniors and their families will attend the <br> baccalaureate." |
| :--- | :--- |
| bailiwick | one’s particular area of authority, activity, interest <br> "The coach's bailiwick is tennis." |
| balustrade | a railing <br> "The balustrade around the porch was made of cedar." |
| barrage | a heavy, prolonged attack of words, blows <br> "Suddenly the speaker was under a barrage of questions."" |
| battalion | a large group of soldiers arrayed for battle; any large group joined in <br> some activity <br> "He had command of a battalion during World War II." |
| benign | Having a kind disposition; not harmful; mild and favorable <br> "The doctor determined that the growth was benign." |
| biennial | happening every two years <br> "The reunion is held on a biennial basis." |
| balligraphy | of or in two languages; capable of using two languages with equal skill <br> *"It is an advantage to be bilingual when applying for a job." |
| bringual | marked by extreme contrasts and incongruities of color, design, or style <br> *"The bizarre movie we watched last night was so odd we left the <br> theater in stunned silence." |
| boulevard | loud, rowdy <br> "The security officer had to quiet the boisterous group." |
| beautiful handwriting; penmanship |  |
| "Calligraphy is an art - a talent to be thankful for." |  |


| camaraderie | loyalty and warm, friendly feeling among comrades *"Even though we were all different, we established a sense of camaraderie while taking a class together." |
| :---: | :---: |
| camouflage | disguise or concealment of this kind "The tanks' camouflage prevented enemy planes from seeing them." |
| capitulation | statement of the main parts of a subject; conditional surrender "Their leader decided that capitulation was best." |
| carcinogen | cancer causing "Scientists seem to discover a new carcinogen every day." |
| carburetor | a device in which air is mixed with gasoline spray to make an explosive mixture in an internal combustion engine <br> "The carburetor in the truck had to be replaced." |
| carnivorous | meat-eating <br> "The lion is a carnivorous animal." |
| cataclysm | any great upheaval that causes sudden and violent changes "The weakened government could not withstand another cataclysm." |
| catastrophe | calamity <br> "The Northridge Earthquake was a catastrophe." |
| caulk | to stop up and make tight against leakage; material used to caulk "The caulk has to cover the gap between the tub and the wall." |
| censure | strong or vehement expression of disapproval; an official reprimand, as by a legislative body or one of its members; to criticize or reproach in a harsh or vehement manner "The media was unanimous in their censure of the tax proposal." |
| centrifugal | radiating or departing from the center <br> "The road was banked to counteract the centrifugal force." |
| chamois | a soft leather made from the hide of a chamois, deer or sheep "The gloves were made of chamois leather." |
| chandelier | lighting fixture hanging from a ceiling, with branches for candles or bulbs <br> "The chandelier swayed, and we hurried out from under it." |
| chaotic | completely confused or disordered condition <br> "The era of the Hundred Years’ War was very chaotic." |
| charlatan | fake <br> "The phony scientist was a charlatan." |


| chasm | A yawning fissure or deep cleft in the earth"s surface; gorge; a marked <br> interruption of continuity; gap <br> "By working together, the team was able to cross the chasm." |
| :--- | :--- |
| chimerical | imaginary <br> *"The police refused to listen to the man's chimerical tale of an alien <br> abduction." |
| chivalry | the noble qualities a medieval knight was supposed to have; courage; <br> courteous conduct <br> *"An act of chivalry could include holding the door open for someone." |
| chromosome | one of the DNA containing bodies in a cell nucleus <br> "This particular gene is found at the end of chromosome 23." |
| cinematographer | a motion-picture cameraman <br> *"A cinematographer is essential to making a film." |
| circumference | a line that goes around or encloses a circle <br> "When drawing a snowman, the head usually has a smaller <br> circumference than the body." |
| commingle | keen perception or insight <br> *"The fortune teller's clairvoyance with a crystal ball was amazing." |
| clique | a small, exclusive group of people <br> *"Slang terms are often known only within a clique or ingroup." |
| coercive | of coercion or tending to coerce <br> "During the American Revolution, the colonists fought against the <br> coercive government of Great Britain." |
| colleague mingle together; intermix, blend |  |
| "The separate tribes began to commingle through marriage." |  |


| compassionate | feeling or showing compassion "The compassionate nurse listened to the patient's tale." |
| :---: | :---: |
| condolence | expression of sympathy with another in grief <br> "A note of condolence is appropriate at time of death." |
| conjecture | an inference, theory, or prediction based on guesswork; guess *"I've made a conjecture on how the situation would turn out." |
| connoisseur | a person who has expert knowledge and keen discrimination in some field, especially in the fine arts or in matters of taste *"The head chef at the popular seafood restaurant is viewed as a lobster connoisseur." |
| consensus | an opinion held by all or most <br> "The consensus of party professionals was sought." |
| contemptuous | full of contempt; scornful; disdainful <br> "The speaker was very contemptuous of the hecklers." |
| convoluted | extremely involved; intricate <br> "The convoluted plot was difficult to understand." |
| correspondence | a communication by exchange of letters <br> "Please file this correspondence alphabetically." |
| counterfeit | to imitate or copy, especially with intent to deceive "There is a way to check if a bill is counterfeit." |
| crevasse | A fissure of deep cleft, typically in glacial ice; a deep open crack "The team had to watch their steps carefully so as to not fall into a crevasse as they made their way across the glacier." |
| critique | the act or art of criticizing; criticism "The director did not like the critique of his movie." |
| croissant | a crescent roll <br> "A hot, buttery croissant was enjoyed by each one attending the festive brunch." |
| crucifixion | a crucifying or being crucified <br> "The punishment of crucifixion was practiced in ancient times." |
| crustacean | Any chiefly aquatic arthropod of the class Crustacea, typically having the body covered with a hard shell or crust, including lobsters, shrimps, crabs, barnacles and wood lice <br> "Shellfish and crustaceans are very ancient forms of life that have existed for on earth for an extremely long time." |


| cylindrical | Having straight and parallel sides and a circular or oval cross-section; in <br> the shape or form of a cylinder <br> "To the right of the main gate was a large cylindrical tower." |
| :--- | :--- |
| debacle | an overwhelming defeat or rout <br> *"We have much to learn from the latest military debacle." |
| decelerate | to reduce speed; slow down <br> *"The driver began to decelerate around the bend." |
| deciduous | shedding leaves annually <br> "The fall colors on the deciduous trees are beautiful." |
| delicatessen | a shop where sandwich items meats and cheeses are sold <br> "Let's stop at the delicatessen to pick up things for our picnic."" |
| depressant | lowering the rate of muscular or nervous activity; to sadden or lower <br> "The medicine was given as a depressant." |
| derrick | large apparatus for lifting and moving heavy objects; tall tapering <br> framework over an oil well <br> *"Don't stand under the arm of a derrick." |
| disguise | to point or mark out; specify; appoint <br> "I will designate one of my friends to chair this committee." |
| designate | skill in using one’s mind; cleverness <br> *"The baby's dexterity was amazing." |
| dexterity | predicament; a situation in which one must choose between alternatives <br> *"The witness was struggling with a dilemma on whether or not to take <br> the stand and testify." |
| dialysis | to change the manner or appearance of in order to prevent recognition <br> "I will need a mask to disguise myself for the Halloween Party." <br> impurities from of crystalloids from colloids as the elimination of during kidney failure <br> "One of our child movie stars has to be hospitalized for dialysis." |
| dilapidated | division into two (contrasting) halves, pairs of sets <br> "Reconciling the dichotomy between public and private interests is a <br> difficult job." |
| broken down; shabby and neglected |  |
| "We bought a dilapidated house and tried to repair it." |  |


| disproportionate | not in proportion "The harsh punishment was disproportionate to the infraction." |
| :---: | :---: |
| disseminate | to scatter seed; to sow widely; spread abroad <br> "When the dandelion becomes that feathery little puffball, the breezes cause it to disseminate." |
| dissertation | a formal and lengthy discourse or treatise on some subject <br> *"Students can either do a dissertation or take part in a practical project." |
| divination | a successful guess; clever conjecture <br> *"A fortune teller is able to tell the future through divination." |
| ebullient | overflowing with enthusiasm, high spirits <br> "After winning the game, the fans were ebullient." |
| ecclesiastical | of the church *"The ecclesiastical history of our church was a topic of discussion during the morning service." |
| echelon | any of the levels of responsibility or importance in an organization <br> *"The prominent college ranks among the top echelon of schools in the nation." |
| eczema | an inflammatory, itching disease of the skin <br> *"Dishwashing liquid can be a skin irritant and cause hand eczema." |
| effectuate | to bring about; cause to happen; effect "The team members are trying to effectuate change in spring training rules." |
| egalitarian | advocating, or characterized by the belief that all men should have equal political, social and economic rights "The country's government was egalitarian." |
| ellipsis | the omission of a word or words necessary for complete grammatical construction but understood in the context "Add ellipsis where I have indicated on the rough draft of the legal pleading." |
| embarrass | to cause to feel self-conscious, ill at ease <br> *"My poem was not meant to embarrass you." |
| emulate | to try to equal or surpass; to rival successfully <br> "The baby birds strutted back and forth trying to emulate the actions of their parents." |


| encapsulate | to put in concise form; condense <br> "We tried to encapsulate the week's news in five minutes." |
| :---: | :---: |
| entomology | the study of insects <br> "My career in entomology began with a fascination about butterflies." |
| entourage | A group of attendants or associates, as a person of rank or importance "The singer traveled with an entourage of upwards of 20 people." |
| ephemeral | lasting a very short time "The sunset was ephemeral in its beauty." |
| epitome | a short statement of the main points of a book, report, incident; abstract; summary; representative or typical of a class <br> *"The fashions presented were the epitome of the style of the 1930s." |
| equivocal | two or more meanings; purposely vague; misleading; ambiguous *"The scientist's theory is equivocal and has not been proven in a lab experiment." |
| esoteric | beyond the understanding or knowledge or most people "Few people attended the esoteric lecture on holography." |
| etymology | The origin and development of a word, affix, phrase, etc. "The origin and development of words is a branch of linguistics called etymology." |
| eulogy | speech or writing in praise of a person, event or thing; commendation "We listened with full hearts to the eulogy on President Kennedy." |
| euphoria | a feeling of vigor, well-being, or high spirits <br> "The team had the euphoria that comes from winning." |
| exacerbate | to exasperate; annoy; irritate; embitter <br> *"If you do not take your medicine, your condition will exacerbate, and you will feel worse." |
| exonerate | to relieve of a burden; unload; free from guilt; absolve *"By looking at the surveillance tapes, the store manager was able to exonerate the morning cashier of the register theft." |
| expedient | useful for effecting a desired result *"While the patient has no insurance, it is expedient that the hospital staff take all life-saving methods, regardless of their costs." |
| expertise | the skill, knowledge, judgment of an expert <br> *"Because of my expertise in criminal justice, I was invited to be the guest speaker at our town's police conference." |


| expletive | an oath or exclamation <br> *"It is inappropriate to shout an expletive in professional settings." |
| :--- | :--- |
| expropriate | to deprive of ownership; dispossess <br> "The state will expropriate acreage for the new airport." |
| facetious | joking, or trying to be jocular, esp. at an inappropriate time <br> *"Although my offer may have sounded facetious, I really want to help <br> you with your problem."" |
| Fahrenheit | a temperature scale <br> "Normal body temperature is 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit." |
| fastidious | not easy to please; very critical or discriminating <br> "With fastidious attention to detail, the musician practiced the piece <br> again."" |
| feasible | capable of being done or carried out; possible; practicable <br> "Chartering a bus seems the most feasible method of transportation." |
| flabbergast | well-chosen; appropriate; apt; yielding great pleasure <br> *"Even though it is raining today, we are still having a felicitous time <br> indoors." |
| finagle | fierce; savage; violently cruel <br> "The lion has a ferocious growl." |
| fictitious | imaginary happening; not real; false; pretended; assumed for disguise <br> "Some novelists use a fictitious name under which they write." |
| fissure | to make speechless with amazement; astonish <br> "Seeing a dog climb a tree may flabbergast you." |
| to obstruct the passage of a bill by making long speeches, introducing |  |
| irrelevant issues, etc. |  |
| *"The senator carried out the filibuster, ignoring remarks from the |  |
| floor." |  |


| flourish | grow vigorously; thrive; prosper <br> "These plants will flourish if you give them proper water and fertilizer." |
| :---: | :---: |
| fluctuate | to move back and forth, up and down; to be continually changing "Bank interest rates fluctuate from time to time." |
| forfeit | to lose, give up, or be deprived of "You forfeit privileges by not registering." |
| fraudulent | deceitful; based on trickery; intentional deception "The investigation proved the papers to be fraudulent." |
| fricassee | a dish of meat cut into pieces and stewed in a gravy "Chicken fricassee tastes good on a cold evening." |
| galleon | large Spanish ship of the $15^{\text {th }} / 16^{\text {th }}$ century "The galleon had four decks at the stern." |
| gambol | to jump and skip about in play; frolic "To gambol about the dance floor is to have a good time." |
| gauche | lacking social grace; tactless <br> "My companion’s gauche remarks to the staff were very embarrassing." |
| gazetteer | a geographical dictionary <br> "The gazetteer portion of this dictionary contains more than seven thousand place names." |
| geriatrics | branch of medicine dealing with the elderly "As the population ages, geriatrics will become more lucrative." |
| gourmet | a connoisseur of fine food and drink <br> "A good gourmet restaurant covets a recommendation from a food critic." |
| grievance | circumstance thought to be unjust; resentment or complaint <br> *"The company's grievance policy requires you to contact your direct supervisor to make a sexual harassment claim." |
| guileless | candid, frank; open <br> *"The guileless baby was not afraid of strangers." |
| harangue | to deliver a long, scolding speech "I hope the coach doesn't harangue us for the lousy game we played." |
| harassment | worrying or annoying with repeated attacks "Sexual harassment in the workplace will not be tolerated." |


| heartily | friendly, sincere, cordial way; with zest, enthusiasm *"The audience laughed heartily throughout the play." |
| :---: | :---: |
| hegemony | leadership or dominance, especially that of one state or nation over others <br> "The Chinese say the Soviets are establishing military hegemony over the free world." |
| hemorrhage | heavy bleeding <br> *"To terminate the internal hemorrhage, the surgeon must operate and stop the bleeding." |
| hepatitis | an inflammation of the liver <br> "Exposure to the hepatitis virus prevents a person from donating blood." |
| herbivorous | feeding on plants <br> "Deer and sheep are herbivorous animals." |
| hospitable | friendly, kind and solicitous toward guests; favoring comfort of new arrivals; receptive or open to new ideas <br> "Southern people are said to be most hospitable even to strangers." |
| humanity | human; human characteristics or nature; mankind; people <br> "Humanity everywhere does not always have the same kindness or sympathy." |
| hybrid | anything of mixed origin, unlike parts <br> "Rock and roll is a hybrid of blues and jazz." |
| hygiene | science of health and its maintenance; sanitary practices; cleanness <br> "We are taught hygiene for the preservation of health and prevention of disease." |
| hyperbole | obvious and intentional exaggeration "A clown uses hyperbole to make the stunts funnier." |
| hypochondriac | a person who has hypochondria <br> *"My college roommate was a hypochondriac who wore a facial mask to avoid inhaling germs." |
| hypocrisy | a pretending to be what one is not, or to feel what one does not feel *"When you agree to serve a cause and then back out, I would call that hypocrisy." |
| ideology | the doctrines, opinions, or way of thinking of an individual class, etc. "Democracy is the American ideology." |


| idiosyncrasy | personal peculiarity or mannerism <br> *"The home's colorful idiosyncrasy made it stand out in the neighborhood of white houses." |
| :---: | :---: |
| ignominy | shame and dishonor <br> *"Our team has to face the ignominy of a long losing streak." |
| immunity | resistance to disease; projection against disease <br> "Having a childhood disease does not always develop an immunity to it." |
| impasse | deadlock <br> "Russia and the United States reached an impasse in their negotiations." |
| impecunious | having no money <br> "I am sorry to announce that the school board is in an impecunious situation as a result of Proposition 13." |
| impertinent | not showing proper respect or manners <br> "The impertinent child must be taught some manners." |
| imperturbable | that cannot be disconcerted, disturbed, or excited; impassive "The imperturbable cat sat in the midst of the moving." |
| implement | any article or device used or needed for a given activity; fulfill "The hammer and the saw are needed by the carpenter to implement his job." |
| inaugurate | to introduce into office with ceremonies <br> "Every four years we inaugurate a President." |
| incongruous | lacking harmony or agreement <br> "Hiking boots were incongruous to the wet suit outfit." |
| incorrigible | that cannot be corrected, improved, or reformed <br> *"Even after spending a year in jail, the thief remains incorrigible and unafraid of the law." |
| incredulous | showing doubt or disbelief "Their eyes were large with incredulous joy." |
| indiscreet | lacking prudence; unwise; careless *"You are likely ill-suited to be a secret agent if you are indiscreet and do not know how to act with caution." |
| indomitable | not easily discouraged <br> "Even after three unsuccessful attempts, the new skier was indomitable." |


| inducement | motive; incentive; persuasion <br> *"Delicious looking desserts in the bakery window were an inducement <br> for the dieting walker passing by the store." |
| :--- | :--- |
| inertia | a tendency to remain in a fixed condition without change <br> "The nation was declining due to inertia." |
| infatuated | lacking sound judgment; foolish <br> *"Even as a young child, the singer was infatuated with music." |
| infirmity | feebleness; weakness; frailty or ailment; defect <br> *"The elderly are much more likely to fall victim to a serious <br> infirmity." |
| inimical | unfriendly; hostile <br> "The inimical participants at the rally prevented the audience from <br> having fun." |
| inordinate | lacking restraint or moderation <br> "The press and public took an inordinate interest in everything he did." |
| insatiable | constantly wanting more; that cannot be satisfied or appeased <br> "After two banana splits, we knew he had an insatiable appetite." |
| inscrutable | that cannot be easily understood <br> "Charley Chan was often inscrutable." |
| irreparable | sly hint or suggestion <br> "Your insinuation of unfairness on my part is unjust." |
| insinuation | "If the condors disappear, that will be an irreparable loss." <br> intermittent <br> "Heavy traffic forced us into intermittent driving." |
| intravenous | in, or directly into, a vein or veins <br> "The doctor prescribed intravenous feeding for the patient." |
| to lead on with deception |  |
| "The salesperson intended to inveigle me into buying the car." |  |
| easily angered; quick-tempered |  |
| annoyed by any little noise." |  |


| isthmus | a neck; a narrow passage; narrow strip of land, having water at each side and connecting two larger bodies of land "The Isthmus of Panama connects Central America and South America." |
| :---: | :---: |
| jamboree | a large festive gathering <br> "They scheduled a jamboree in the town park for this weekend." |
| javelin | a slender metal-tipped shaft thrown for distance <br> "The next javelin thrower holds the Olympic record for this event." |
| judicious | having, applying, or showing sound judgment; wise and careful "The judicious driver stopped at the crosswalk." |
| kayak | an Eskimo canoe, or one similar <br> "The ocean was too rough to go out in the kayak." |
| khaki | a light yellowish brown color <br> "The soldiers wore their khaki uniforms." |
| knowledge | understanding or skill gained by experience or learning <br> "Two weeks of tennis lessons increased my knowledge of the game." |
| lackadaisical | listless; languid <br> *"If I receive lackadaisical service in a restaurant, I generally will not return to that establishment." |
| languid | sluggish <br> "Those two acted like languid people, lacking force and quickness." |
| laryngitis | inflammation of the voice box <br> "I always get laryngitis at the end of a cold." |
| laureate | worthy of honor; distinguished; pre-eminent, especially among poets <br> "Rudyard Kipling was a poet laureate of England." |
| leisurely | without haste; deliberate; slow; unhurried <br> *"They enjoyed a leisurely stroll along the boardwalk." |
| leniency | mildness; permissiveness <br> *"Police may not need to practice leniency, but many officers do so for minor violations." |
| leukemia | a cancerous disease of the tissues and often the blood <br> "The leukemia patient needed a bone marrow transplant." |
| lieutenant | an officer empowered to act for a higher official "The lieutenant brought the message to the meeting." |


| luminous | giving off light; shining; bright <br> "The moon was luminous in the night." |
| :---: | :---: |
| maelstrom | a strong violent whirlpool; a great turmoil <br> "Their dog's illness caused the family a maelstrom of emotions." |
| malfeasance | wrongful conduct, especially by a public official <br> "The mayor's malfeasance resulted in a recall election." |
| malleable | capable of being changed, molded, trained, etc. "Tin is a very malleable metal." |
| maneuver | any movement or procedure intended as a skillful or shrewd step toward some objective <br> "The large ship's maneuver brought it closer to port." |
| masquerade | a party at which people wear masks and costumes <br> "What are you wearing to the masquerade ball?" |
| mediocre | ordinary; commonplace <br> "Because the service was only mediocre, we left a small tip." |
| mercurial | changeable; volatile; fickle; flighty; erratic <br> "Many sports fans are mercurial and show very little loyalty to their socalled favorite teams." |
| metamorphosis | change of form, shape, structure, or substance <br> "The metamorphosis of a caterpillar into a butterfly is one of nature's miracles." |
| mimicry | the action, art or instance of imitating "With your gift of mimicry, you should be in show business." |
| miniature | something much smaller than the usual size <br> "That is an impressive collection of miniature cars." |
| miscellaneous | consisting of many things of different sorts <br> "Most people have a drawer for all their miscellaneous things." |
| mischievous | conduct that is often playful but causes harm or annoyance <br> "My mischievous puppy chewed the corner off my favorite book." |
| morgue | A place in which bodies are kept, typically if pending identification or burial "The cadavers were bagged and removed to the city morgue." |
| mulligatawny | an East Indian soup of meat, etc., flavored with curry "Mother had a very special recipe for mulligatawny." |


| munificence | very generous in giving; lavish <br> "The President thanked the donor for her munificence." |
| :--- | :--- |
| mystique | a set of beliefs and attitudes developing around an object <br> "The true mystique of jogging cannot be appreciated by non-runners." |
| nauseous | affected with or tending to cause stomach distress <br> "I felt nauseous after eating too much ice cream." |
| nautical | of the sea or navigation <br> "This fish restaurant has a nautical decor."" |
| novelette | short fictional story <br> "The novelette was made into a movie script." |
| nuptial | of or relating to marriage or a wedding <br> "The nuptial ceremony will begin at 7:00 p.m." " |
| obsolescent | going out of use; becoming outmoded <br> "Phonograph records are becoming obsolescent."" |
| occasion | fact or event making something possible; happening; occurrence <br> "A chance meeting was the occasion of the renewal of their friendship." |
| orthodox | happening; event; something that takes place <br> "The second occurrence of the conference will not be until next year." |
| ophthalmologist | a form of government in which the ruling power belongs to a few <br> persons <br> "Political office was restricted to those who knew a member of the <br> oligarchy." |
| oligarchy | a physician specializing in diseases of the eye <br> "The ophthalmologist had to dilate the patient's eyes." <br> traditional; conservative in belief <br> *"Unfortunately, the new bacteria is resistant to the usual roster of <br> orthodox antibiotics." |
| having infinite knowledge |  |
| cameras and communication devices in all the rooms." |  |


| pachyderm | any of various thick-skinned, hoofed mammals <br> "The pachyderm house at the zoo is home for the elephants." |
| :--- | :--- |
| paraphernalia | personal belongings; articles used in a particular activity <br> "Bring along your fishing paraphernalia when we go camping next <br> week." |
| parsimonious | miserly <br> "Ebenezer Scrooge was a parsimonious man." |
| pasteurize | partial sterilization of a fluid by exposure to heat <br> "The dairy will pasteurize the milk before bottling." |
| patriarch | the father and ruler of a family <br> *"In the African tribe, the patriarch decides which woman will marry <br> which man." |
| penicillin | Any of several antibiotics of low toxicity, produced naturally by molds <br> of the genus Penicillium and also semi-synthetically <br> "Then came Alexander Fleming and his penicillin, saving millions of <br> lives." |
| perceptible | capable of being noticed <br> "The difference between the two brands of hot dogs is hardly <br> perceptible." |
| phonetic | lasting or active throughout the whole year <br> "To cut down on yardwork I planted mostly perennial plants." |
| perennial | corresponding to pronunciation <br> "The Korean writing system, Hangul, is phonetic." |
| fatal; deadly |  |
| "The common cold is usually not a pernicious disease." |  |

$\left.\begin{array}{|l|l|}\hline \text { pirouette } & \begin{array}{l}\text { a rapid whirling or turning on the toe or ball of the foot } \\ \text { "The ballerina performed the pirouette perfectly." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { plagiarize } & \begin{array}{l}\text { to take (ideas, writings, etc.) from (another) and pass them off as one's } \\ \text { own } \\ \text { "The teacher told the class not to plagiarize any work." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { plausible } & \begin{array}{l}\text { seemingly true; seemingly honest, trustworthy, etc. } \\ \text { "The story he gave us sounded plausible." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { plebeian } & \begin{array}{l}\text { vulgar, coarse, or common } \\ \text { *"The millionaire called the hotel a plebeian accommodation because it } \\ \text { did not offer room service." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { plenary } & \begin{array}{l}\text { for attendance by all members } \\ \text { "The plenary session of the association was called to order by the } \\ \text { president." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { pneumonia } & \begin{array}{l}\text { a disease of the lungs characterized by inflammation and congestion } \\ \text { "Seniors, particularly, are advised to have flu shots to guard against } \\ \text { pneumonia developing as a secondary infection." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { poinsettia } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Mexican and Central American plant with yellow flowers surrounded by } \\ \text { tapering red leaves resembling petals } \\ \text { "The name of the poinsettia plant is often mispronounced." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { prevision } & \begin{array}{l}\text { happening after ones death } \\ \text { "The athlete’s posthumous induction into the Hall of Fame was very } \\ \text { emotional." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { presthumous } & \begin{array}{l}\text { premiere } \\ \text { to cause to happen before expected } \\ \text { "The jolt may precipitate an explosion." }\end{array} \\ \hline \text { foresight or foreknowledge } \\ \text { * "Facing the downpour, they were thankful for their prevision to bring } \\ \text { umbrellas." } \\ \text { a person, thing or act so extraordinary as to inspire wonder } \\ \text { "Mozart was a child prodigy." }\end{array}\right\}$

| profligate | extremely wasteful; recklessly extravagant <br> "The profligate spender was soon penniless." |
| :---: | :---: |
| progeny | children, descendants, or offspring collectively <br> * "When the puppies were born, we hoped the progeny we decided to keep would have the same calm temperament as its mother." |
| proliferate | to multiply rapidly "As nuclear weapons proliferate, we are all concerned." |
| propriety | conformity with what is proper or fitting <br> "An etiquette book gives rules of propriety." |
| pterodactyl | an extinct flying reptile <br> "The rendition of the pterodactyl was my favorite part of the dinosaur exhibit." |
| pulchritude | beauty; comeliness "The damsel's pulchritude was apparent to everyone." |
| quadratic | an algebraic term involving the square and no higher power of an unknown quantity <br> "Solve this quadratic equation for the value of $x$." |
| query | to question <br> "Use the query command when you want to search a database for information." |
| quixotic | extravagantly chivalrous or romantically idealistic <br> "Patrolling the streets with knights in white armor is the quixotic method of solving crime." |
| raillery | light, good-natured ridicule or satire *"I'm never offended by my manager's raillery because I know it's simply good -natured teasing." |
| rapport | relationship, esp. a close one; agreement; harmony <br> *"They enjoyed a friendly rapport with their neighbor." |
| rapscallion | a rascal; rogue <br> "The rapscallion ran off with the money." |
| receipt | written acknowledgement; to mark paid <br> "The receipt showed the invoice had been paid in full." |
| reciprocal | done or felt equally by both sides <br> "They had a reciprocal feeling of admiration for each other." |


| reconciliation | the act of restoring friendly relations <br> "The treaty provided for a reconciliation between the two countries." |
| :--- | :--- |
| reconnaissance | an exploratory survey or examination <br> "The corporal led a special squad on a reconnaissance mission." |
| redolence | the quality or state of being redolent, fragrant, aromatic <br> "Iliked the redolence of the pine boughs." |
| rejuvenate | to make seem fresh or new again <br> *"A long vacation will rejuvenate the teachers." |
| reminisce | to think, talk or write about remembered events or experiences <br> "We sat at the table to reminisce about our childhood experiences." |
| rendezvous | a planned meeting; a place for a planned meeting <br> "We will rendezvous at the Park and Ride, then go on together to the <br> party." |
| repatriate | to send back or return to the country of birth, citizenship, or allegiance <br> "We hope they will repatriate our prisoners of war." |
| repertoire | the stock of special skills, devices, techniques of a particular person or <br> particular field of endeavor <br> *"The band drew whimsically from a repertoire of hundreds of tunes." |
| reverie | a box, chest, closet, or room in which things may be placed for safe <br> keeping <br> "The jewels were missing from the repository." |
| repository | "The retroactive pay increase was appreciated by all of the workers." <br> a place where water is stored in quantity <br> "During the drought the reservoir was dangerously low." |
| reservoir | " dreamy, fanciful, or visionary notion or daydream <br> *"To me, music is a reverie that allows me to escape my tedious job." |
| recovering strength, spirits, good humor, etc., quickly; buoyant |  |
| "The American people are very resilient; they bounce back no matter |  |
| what happens." |  |


| rhetoric | the art of speaking correctly <br> "I have to prepare a ten minute speech for my rhetoric class <br> tomorrow." |
| :--- | :--- |
| ricochet | a glancing rebound <br> "If you hit the ball here, it will ricochet off the table and land in the <br> pocket." |
| rigmarole | a foolishly involved, fussy, or time-wasting procedure <br> "Registration for school is full of rigmarole." |
| rosette | ornament made of ribbons gathered in the shape of a rose <br> *"A rosette is perfect for the buttonhole of a lapel." |
| sacrosanct | very sacred, holy, or inviolable <br> *"They say the psychiatrist-patient relationship is sacrosanct and <br> confidential." |
| sanguinary | bloodthirsty <br> "Some corsairs were very sanguinary." |
| satchel | A small flat-bottomed bag, sometimes with a shoulder strap <br> "Before backpacks became popular, schoolchildren usually carried <br> their books in a satchel." |
| segue | variety of onion; long stem and almost bulbless root <br> "We prefer the scallion rather than the large white or yellow onion." |
| scallion | to make a smooth transition, as from one topic to another <br> "The speaker was noted for an ability to segue between opening jokes <br> and the serious topic at hand." |
| scheme | a systemic or organized design <br> "That's a very nice color scheme you have picked out." |
| scrumptious | "South Carolina was the first state to secede from the Union."" <br> a split or division in an organized group or society <br> "The selection of a new minister caused a schism in the church." |
| in football, the play that follows the snap of the ball |  |
| "The tailback carried the ball twenty yards from the line of |  |
| scrimmage." |  |
| "Not a crumb of the scrumptious cake was left." |  |
| "Not |  |


| seismologist | a scientist who studies earthquakes <br> "The seismologist confirmed that the earthquake was centered twenty miles offshore." |
| :---: | :---: |
| seraglio | the palace of a Turkish sultan "The crown jewels were located in the seraglio." |
| serene | not disturbed or troubled <br> "The serene lake did not have a ripple on the surface." |
| serviette | a table napkin <br> *"Do you have a serviette, please?" |
| Siege | a continued attempt to gain possession of something <br> "During the Civil War, the siege of Vicksburg lasted 186 days." |
| silhouette | an outline of a figure, garment, etc. <br> *"From the building's dark silhouette in the painting, I can recognize it as the tallest structure in the world." |
| sleuth | detective, or to act like a detective <br> "It took a real sleuth to determine the origin of that word." |
| solemn | done or made seriously and thoughtfully <br> "The veterans hold a solemn ceremony on Memorial Day." |
| solicitous | showing care, attention, or concern <br> "The parents were solicitous about the child's health." |
| solstice | either of two points on the sun's ecliptic at which it is farthest north or south of the equator "In the northern hemisphere, the winter solstice comes just before Christmas." |
| somnolent | sleepy; drowsy <br> "The somnolent truck driver stopped for coffee." |
| sophomoric | of, like, or characteristic of a sophomore or sophomores, often regarded as self-assured, opinionated, though immature "The sophomoric antics of our government were exposed." |
| spasmodic | having an involuntary contraction, temporarily or intermittently *"People who have spasmodic seizures may have warning signs that alert them of the upcoming convulsions." |
| spectroscopy | the use of the spectroscope to study optics "The study of optics is aided by spectroscopy." |


| stanchion | an upright bar, post or support <br> "Be sure you tie the sail securely to the stanchion." |
| :---: | :---: |
| statuary | sculpture, a collection of statues <br> "The statuary lining the rose garden beckoned the visitors." |
| sturgeon | Any of various large fishes of the family Acipenseridae, inhabiting fresh and salt North Temperate waters, and has commercial importance for its caviar and flesh <br> "The friends went on a week-long fishing trip, hoping to come back with fresh sturgeon." |
| subterfuge | an expedient used to evade, escape or conceal "The students pretended to be sick as a subterfuge to taking the test." |
| succinct | clearly and briefly stated *"The ideal summary is succinct and to the point." |
| succumb | give away to; yield or submit *"I will not succumb to the temptations offered by the donut shop." |
| superfluous | not needed, unnecessary, irrelevant <br> "I have cut down every superfluous expense." |
| surreptitious | acting in a secret, stealthy way <br> "The conspirators held a surreptitious meeting." |
| surveillance | supervision or inspection <br> "The police kept the prisoners under constant surveillance." |
| svelte | slender, lithe <br> "I looked very svelte in my new outfit." |
| sympathize | to share or understand another's feelings; express pity <br> "They could sympathize with their neighbors who had been robbed." |
| synthesis | the putting together of parts or elements so as to form a whole "A good composition is the synthesis of many skills." |
| tachometer | a device for indicating speed of rotation "Some sports cars have a tachometer located next to the speedometer." |
| taciturn | habitually unwilling to talk; reserved in speech *"On the witness stand, the normally vocal suspect became taciturn and refused to answer the lawyer's questions." |
| therapeutic | serving to cure or heal; curative "The therapeutic treatment hastened his recovery." |


| thesaurus | a dictionary of synonyms <br> "This word processing program features an excellent thesaurus, making it easy for the user to find appropriate synonyms." |
| :---: | :---: |
| tortoise | a land turtle <br> "In one of Aesop's fables the tortoise wins a race against the hare." |
| treacherous | providing insecure footing or support <br> "It was a very treacherous climb along the rock cliffs." |
| trough | A long, narrow, open receptacle, usually box-like in shape, used chiefly to hold food or water for animals "The pig ate his food from the trough next to the barn." |
| umbrage | resentment; offense <br> "I take umbrage at that outrageous remark." |
| unconscionable | not being in accordance with what is right or just "Such unconscionable behavior will result in expulsion from school." |
| unscathed | not hurt, uninjured, unharmed <br> *"The author was unscathed by their criticism." |
| utilitarian | of or having to do with utility; usefulness "A garbage can is a very utilitarian gift." |
| variegated | having patches, stripes or marks of different colors "This variegated ivy would look nice on the trellis." |
| vaudeville | light theater featuring variety acts <br> *"For several decades, the vaudeville comedian performed in front of sold-out crowds." |
| vertigo | a subjective sensation of dizziness in which an individual feels that he, or his surrounding, is whirling about sickeningly <br> *"During my doctor's visit, I was told my lightheadedness was caused by vertigo brought on by an ear infection." |
| ventriloquist | someone whose voice can seemingly be made to come from another source <br> "The conversation between the ventriloquist and the wooden dummy delighted the audience." |
| vignette | a short, delicate literary sketch <br> "The vignette was a great work by the promising author." |
| xenophobia | fear or hatred of strangers or foreigners or of anything foreign or strange "Xenophobia limits people from learning about others." |


| xylophone | a musical percussion instrument <br> "The xylophone is an instrument in the percussion family." |
| :--- | :--- |
| zealous | very eager; very enthusiastic <br> "The politician's zealous supporters campaigned vigorously." |

