

Word	Defintion
Abeyance	Temporary suspension, inactivity (related to hiatus, dormant, deferment, or deferral)
Abjur	Give up, renounce; repudiated recant or shun (related to forswear, eschew)
Aplomb	self-confidence or reassurance, especially in a demanding situation
Abstruse	Difficult to understand; obscure
Acerbic	Harsh in tone - sharp and forthright
Acumen	keen, quick, accurate insight or judgement (related to perspicacity - acuteness of perception)
Adjuvant	Something that aids or assists; Applied after initial treatment for cancer; a substance which enhances the body's immune response to an antigens
Admonitory	Serving to warn; expressing reproof or reproach especially as a corrective.
Alacrity	Eagerness;
Apocryphal	Of questionable authenticity; false (related to ersatz, faux, specious)
Appose	place something in juxtaposition to
Arrant	complete or utter
Askance	With a look of suspicion or disapproval
Asperity	Rigor, severity; harshness or sharpness of tone; roughness of surface (description of unpleasant things)
Assiduous	Persevering, diligent, constant (related to sedulous, tenacious)

Word	Defintion
Attenuate	To weaken or lessen
Auspicious	Conducive to success
Avarice	Greed
Belie	to contradict or misrepresent
Bellicose	warlike
Bilious	related to bile -- to be constantly irritable
Bleated	speak or complain in a weak, querulous, or foolish way
Blithe	showing a casual and cheerful indifference considered to be callous or improper.
Boon	A desirable state
Brusquely	Markedly short and abrupt; blunt manner of speech
Calumnious or Calumny or Calumniate	Slander; Malicious lie intended to hurt someone's reputation the act of telling such lies (related to slander, libel. traduce, vilify, defame)
Capricious	Acting on impulse, erratic (related to whimsical , lark, mercurial, arbitrary
Carping	Persistently petty and unjustified criticism — nagging
catholic	universal, or all embracing.
Caustic	Sarcastic in a scathing and bitter way or able to burn or corrode organic tissue by chemical action (acerbic)
Censure	Strong disapproval of or official reprimand

Word	Defintion
Chary	Wary
Choleric	Irascible -- able to be easily angered
Churlish	Lacks manners or refinement
Circumspect	Cautious, prudent; careful to consider the circumstances and consequences
Confound	Utterly confused
Contretemps	a minor despite or disagreement; an unexpected and unfortunate occurrence
Contrite	Remorseful; feeling sorry for one's offenses or sins (related to atone, and penitent)
Contrition	The feeling of remorse or guilt that comes from doing something bad
Contrive	Pull off a plan or scheme through deceit or trickery
Contumacious	rebellious stubborn
Crack	very good
Craven	Very cowardly; lacking courage (related to timorous; pusillanimous; dastardly)
Credulous	gullible; prone to believing or trusting too easily or without evidence
Cupidity	Greed for money
Decorous	Behaving with propriety and good taste; polite (related to propriety)
Demur	object
Demure	To be modest and shy

Word	Defintion
Desuetude	State of disuse
Detractor	A person who disparages someone or something
Diffident	Lacking confidence, shy (related to timorous, self-effacing)
Disabuse	To persuade someonee that their belief is invalid
Dissemble	To put on a false face; conceal feelings
Dulcet	Sweet and soothing
Ebullient	Very enthusiastic, lively or excited; bubbling as though being boiled (related to exuberant)
Effete	Affected, overrefined, ineffectual — no longer capable of effective action
Effusive	Expressing feelings of gratitude, pleasure, or approval in an unrestrained or heartfelt manner
Enervate	to sap energy from
Equivocal or Equivocate	Vague, undecided — open to multiple interpretations
Ersatz	Artificial, synthetic; being an inferior substitute (related to apocryphal, faux, bogus, specious)
Eschew	Shun, avoid, abstain from (related to abjure, forswear)
Evanescent	soon passing out of sight, memory, or existence; quickly fading or disappearing
Exasperate	To irritate intensely
Excogitate	Think out, plan, or devise

Word	Defintion
Excoriate	To criticize really harshly
Exculpate	Clear from guilt or blame (related to vindicate or exonerate)
Execrable or execrate	to curse or hiss at
Exegesis	Critical interpretation of a scholarly work
Exigent	Requiring immediate action, attention, or aid; excessively demanding (related to dire)
Expurgate	Censor; remove objectionable or offensive parts (expurge)
Extant	not extinct
Extemporaneous	Off the cuff
Facetious	Treating serious issues with deliberately inappropriate humor
Feckless	Lazy and irresponsible
Fecund	Fruitful, fertile, capable of abundantly producing offspring, vegetation, or creative and intellectual works (related to prolific, teeming)
Felicitous	Admirably appropriate, very well-suited for the occasion; pleasant, fortunate, marked by happiness (related to apt, fortuitous)
Furtive	Done secretly, stealthy, sly, shifty (related to clandestine, covert, surreptitious)
Garrulous	talkative; wordy; rambling (related to prolix, verbose, and loquacious)
Gauche	Lacking ease or grace
Germane	Relevant and appropriate, on-topic (related to pertinent, akin)

Word	Defintion
Glib	Fluent in a way that suggest superficiality or insincerity (related to flippant; impertinent, saucy)
Gratuitous	Uncalled for; lacking reason
Gregarious	Sociable, pertaining to a flock or a crowd (related to genial, congenial, convivial)
Hale	(Of a person) healthy
Heuristic	Enabling a person to discover or learn something for themselves
Histrionic	Overemotional
Ignominious	Deserving or bringing disgrace or shame
Immutable	Not able to be changed
Impecunious	Poor, without money (penurious, indigent, insolvent)
Impertinent	Rude, cheeky
Impetuous	Passional impulsive , marked by sudden, hasty emotion; forceful violent (related to rash)
Impudent	Impertinent
Inchoate	Just begun, undeveloped, unorganized (related to nascent, incident)
Incorrigible	Impervious to correction by punishment.
Indefatigable	Somebody who stands up for something and doesn't give up
Indigence	Extreme poverty (impecunious, penurious (penuary), indigent, insolvent)

Word	Defintion
Ineffable	too great or extreme to be expressed or described in words
Inexorable	relentless, unyielding; not moved by pleading (unflagging or indefatigable; insuperable; indomitable)
Ingenuous	innocent or naive
Ingratiate	Bring oneself into favor with someone through flattery.
Inimical	Hostile, adverse, harmful
Inscrutable	Not able to be understood scrutinized; mysterious
Insidious	Proceeding in a gradual way with harmful effects
<i>Inspid</i>	Dull, stale, lacking taste or interest (related to banal, hackneyed, inane, insipid trite)
Insolvent	unable to pay debts
Interlocutor	A person who takes part in a dialogue or conversation
Intractable	hard to control or deal with, stubborn (related to recalcitrant, obdurate)
Intransigent	Unwilling or refusing to change one's views or to agree about something.
<i>Inure</i>	Toughen up; accustom or habituate to pain, hardship (related to stoic, hardy, fortitude, grit)
Invective	harsh, critical language
Inveigling or inveigle	Entice, lure; get something by flattery, cleverness, or offering incentives (related to coax, cajole)
Inveterate	habitual

Word	Defintion
Invidious	likely to arouse or incur resentment or anger in others, Hateful, offensive, injurious (malicious or malevolent)
Irascible	Having or showing a tendency to be easily angered
Irredentist	A person advocating the restoration to their country of any territory formerly belonging to it
Jaundice	To be biased against something - prejudiced (yellow thought to be associated with prejudice in 17th century).
Jejune	Lackluster
Laconic	Using few words, concise (related to reticent; taciturn; pithy)
Lacuna	an unfilled space of interval; a gap
Lagniappe	unexpected gift
Languid	Drooping from exhaustion, sluggish, slow; lacking in spirit (related to torpid, lassitude)
Lassitude	Tiredness, weariness; lazy indifference (related to languid, torput, slothful, indolent)
Licentious	promiscuous and unprincipled in sexual matters.
Limpid	Clear, transparent, pellucid
Lissome	(Of a person) thin, supple, and graceful
Loquacious	Talkative, wordy (related to prolix, verbose, magniloquent, grandiloquent)
Lugubrious	Mournful or gloomy (related to lachrymose, maudlin, lament)
LummoX	a clumsy, stupid person

Word	Defintion
Magnanimous	High-minded, noble, lofty; generous in forgiving others, free of resentment (related to munificent)
Martinent	Strict disciplinarian
Maudlin	Excessively sentimental, showing sadness or some other emotion in a foolish or silly way - Based on Mary Magdalene who cried after Jesus was crucified (related to cloying really, saccharine, lugubrious)
Mawkish	Overly sentimental to the point that it is disgusting
Mellifluous	musically sweet — pleasant to hear
Mendacious	Lying, habitually dishonest (related to disingenuous, dissembling, prevaricating)
Mercurial	Quickly and unpredictably changing moods; fickle; flighty (related to erratic, and capricious)
Modicum	a small amount
Mollify	To soften or calm and soothe (related to appease, placate, assuage)
Moot	Subject to debate, dispute, or uncertainty
Mordant	biting humor
Morose	Sullen or ill-temperedd
<i>Motley</i>	Incongruously varied in appearance or character
Mulct	To fine someone or defraud them
Munificent	Generous, giving liberally (related to magnanimous, philanthropic)

Word	Defintion
Nonplussed	bewildered
Nostrum	Ineffective remedy; especially one that is not considered effective, prepared by an unqualified person
Nugatory	Without Value
Obdurate	stubborn, hardheaded, hardened in wrongdoing (related to flinty, glacial, stony, callous, reprobate and unregenerate)
Obloquies	calumny
Obsequious	Servile, very compliant, fawning (related to sycophant, lackey, toady, myrmidon, truckle, fawn, kowtow,)
Officious	Excessively eager at giving unwanted advice or intruding where one is not wanted; meddling, push.
Opprobrium	Disgrace and disapproval that result from outrageously shameful actions (related to infamy, notorious, obloquy)
Ossify	Become inflexible in attitude, opinions; become bone or become hard like bone (related to doctrinaire, dogmatic)
Ostentatious	Intended to attract notice and impress others tawdry or vulgar
Pacific	calm
Paeon	A song of praise or triumph
Palimpsest	Something that has been written on numerous times, but former iterations can still be seen.
Parsimonious	frugal

Word	Defintion
Pedant	Person who pays excessive attention to book learning and rules, or uses his or her learning to show off (related to didactic, fastidious)
Pellucid	Translucently clear
Penumbra	the partially shaded out region of the shadow cast by an opaque object
Perfidious	Disloyal, treacherous, violating one's trust (related to Apostate, Recreant, Quisling, Infidel)
Perfunctory	Done superficially, without much care, or merely as a routine (related to cursory, glib)
Peripatetic	Traveling from one place to another traveling on foot (related to itinerant, wayfaring, peregrinate, transient)
Pernicious	Exceedingly harmful; working or spreading in a hidden and injurious way.
Perquisite	PERK — A right reserved exclusively by a particular person or group (especially an hereditary or official right).
Peruse	To read careful
Petulant	Easily Irritated or annoyed
Philippic	A verbal attack or denunciation
Philistine	Uncultured; A person who is guided by materialism and is disdainful of or indifferent to intellectual or artistic values.
Phlegmatic	sluggish, gloomy, apathetic, not easily excited or made emotional (related to torpid, indolent, sluggish, idle, lethargic, loafing, and slack)

Word	Defintion
Platitude	A shallow, overused statement; cliché (related to banal, hackneyed, inane, insipid, trite)
Polemic	A strong verbal attack on someone
Ponderous	dull or laborious; heavy because of great weight
Potable	Safe to drink
Precipitous	Done with great haste and without due deliberation
Preclude	To prevent something
Prevarication	To lie, stray from the truth, mislead (related to dissembling, disingenuous, equivocate)
Probity	Honesty, integrity (related to scrupulous or principled)
Profligate	Completely and shamelessly immoral, or extremely wasteful (related to prodigal, debauched, dissolution)
Prolix	Excessively long and wordy (related to loquacious, and verbose, garrulous)
Propitiate	Win or regain the favor of by doing something that pleases them.
Propitious	Presenting favorable circumstances; likely to result in or show signs of success.
Propitious	A favorable start or beginning
Propriety	Comforting to good manners or appropriate behavior; justness (related to genteel; seemly; decorous; mores)
Prosaic	Dull, ordinary (related to pedestrian, quotidian, middling, humdrum, lackluster) — related to ‘prose’ not as noble as poetry.

Word	Defintion
Proscribe	Prohibit, outlaw; denounce; exile or banish (related to censure, circumscribe)
Protean	Tending to change frequently -- take on different roles -- like an actor or artists.
Providential	Occurring ata favorable time; involving divine foresight
Pugnacious	Willing to fight — quick to argue.
Pulchritude	beauty
Punctilious	<u>Person who keeps everything in perfect order.</u>
Pusillanimous	cowardly (related to craven, timorous)
Querulous	Inclined to complain;irritable
Quisling	One who betrays his country by aiding an invader — eponym Nazi collaborator in Norway (related to perfidious)
Raffish	Marked by a carefree unconventionally or disreputableness
Recalcitrant	Not obedient, resisting authority, hard to manage (related to intractable, intransigent, refractory, and obstreperous)
Recondite	Not easily understood; hidden, dealing with an obscure topic (related to arcane and esoteric)
Recrudescent	Revival, breaking out into a renewed activity (related to renascent, resurgent)
Remonstrate	To make objections when pleading
Repine	Complain or fret over
Reprobate	“A recipient of disapproval” — used affectionally

Word	Defintion
Requite	Reciprocate, repay, or revenge (related to redress, recompense) — think “unrequited love”
Restive	restless
Reticent	Not talkative, private, restrained, reserved, Not showing one’s true feelings(related to laconic, and taciturn)
Ribald	humorous in a vulgar way dealing with sex
<i>Risible</i>	Laughable
Sagacious	Wise; showing good judgement and foresight — like a sage (related to sapient, prudent, circumspect, perspicacious)
Salubrious	Related to Health; promoting health (related to salutary)
Sanctimonious	“Holier than thou” -- making a show of being morally superior to other people.
Sanguine	Cheerfully optimistic, hopeful; reddish, ruddy (related to chipper)
Sartorial	Related to dress and clothing.
Saturnine	Slow and Gloomy — saturn thought to be gloomy
Sedulous	Persevering, persistent, diligent in one’s efforts
Senescent	Growing old; aging
Sententious	Moralizing, in a pompous way
Sequela	A condition which is the consequence of a previous disease or injury
Seraph	an angelic being

Word	Defintion
Simulacrum	An image or representation of someone or something; an unsatisfactory imitation
Sinecure	A position requiring little or no work but giving the holder status or financial benefit.
Solicitous	Concerned or anxious (about another person), expressing care; eager or desirous; very careful
Specious	Seemingly true but actually false (related to fallacious, dubious, meretricious, ersatz, and apocryphal)
Stentorian	of a Person's voice — loud and powerful
Stolid	Unemotional; showing little emotion (think stoic)
Supercilious	<u>Behaving like you are better than others — (raising of the eyebrows, cilia — strong thick hairs) Haughty</u>
Surfeit	Excess, excessive amount; overindulgence
Sybarite	A person who indulges in luxury
Ineluctable	unable to be resisted or avoided; inescapable.
Sycophant	Excessively loyal; toady, servile flatterer (Obsequious, truckle, toady, lackey, myrmidon)
Taciturn	Using few words, reserved, silent (related to laconic, pithy, reticent, and laconic)
Tenacious	Stubbornly unyielding
Tendentious	Marked by a strong point of view, biased (related to partisan, bigot) — think “tending towards something)
Timorous	Timid, fearful (related to pusillanimous and craven)

Word	Defintion
Torpid or torpor	lazy (related to languid, indolent, slothful, lassitude)
Trenchant	Forceful or vigorous; effective, keen, caustic, sharp (related to keen)
Trite	Lacking freshness and originality; lacking effectiveness due to overuse, cliché (related to banal, hackneyed, inane, insipid)
Trunculent	Quick to argue; Fierce, cruel, savage; belligerent (related to belligerent, bellicose, pugnacious, sanguinary, minatory, baleful)
Turbid	Cloudy, opaque, or thick in a suspended matter; confuse in meaning or effect
Turgid	Swollen, inflated; metaphorically inflated, such as in overblown or pompous speech (timid, distend, balloon)
Turpitude	Depravity, baseness of character, corrupt or deprived acts (related to base, or debase)
Upbraid	To scold sharply
Urbane	Showing a high degree of refinement and the assurance that comes from wide social experience.
Venal	Corrupt, big offense
Venial	Small offense
Veracious	truthful
Verdant	Green and lush; or inexperienced/green
Vicissitude	Changes or variations over time. Usually unwelcome
Virago	Ill-tempered, violent woman

Word	Defintion
Vitiation or vitiate	to spoil
Vitreous	Like glass in appearance or physical properties
Vituperate	To verbally abuse, rebuke, or criticize harshly (related to pejorative, revile, berate)
Voracious	hungry
Zealot	a person who is fanatical and uncompromising in pursuit of their religious, political or other ideas

Root	Defintion
“cred”	believe (i.e. credulous, credit, creed, credo, discredit, accreditation)
“durare”	hard (durable, endure)
“fid”	trust
“loq”	relating to speech
“magnus”	great (magnanimous, magniloquent, magnify)
“ob”	against
“oss”	bony (ossify, osseous, osteoporosis, ossuary)
“per”	through (perspective, perspicacious)
“sequi”	follow
“spic/spec”	to look (spectacles, spectate, perspective, perspicacious)
“ver”	truth (i.e. aver, verify, veracious, verisimilitude)