

Word	Definition	Example
caoutchouc	pure rubber	<i>"This caoutchouc was occasionally called Indian rubber or rubber of twist, and was no doubt one of the numerous fungi."</i>
restitution	a making good for loss or damage	<i>"The settlement was a fair restitution for the accident."</i>
irascible	easily angered; quick-tempered	<i>"The irascible old man is constantly picking fights."</i>
coetaneous	contemporary	<i>"We selected the coetaneous furniture."</i>
offal	waste parts; esp. the entrails, etc., of a butchered animal	<i>"The offal is used by meat processors for dog food."</i>
incidental	not of prime or central importance	<i>"The models themselves are incidental on "Scouted," merely empty planets around which revolve some fascinating characters and plenty more dull ones."</i>
oligarchy	a form of government in which the ruling power belongs to a few persons	<i>"Political office was restricted to those who knew a member of the oligarchy."</i>
gnosis	knowledge of spiritual matters; mystical knowledge.	<i>"That is to say, his gnosis neutralizes all that is empirical and historical, if not always as to its actuality, at least absolutely in respect of its value."</i>
besiege	harass, as with questions or requests	<i>"The actor would walk down the street and the paparazzi would besiege him."</i>
recrudesce	to break out again after lying latent or relatively inactive	<i>"Political violence in Ireland began to recrudesce in 1971."</i>

potoo	any of several nocturnal birds of Mexico and Central and South America, related to the goatsuckers.	"He had been blockading the island of potoo , where many English ladies had taken refuge."
mignonette	annual plant bearing spikes of small greenish white or reddish flowers	"We always had borders of mignonette in our flower garden."
linguistics	science of language; study of the structure, etc. of languages	" Linguistics are usually divided into descriptive, historical, comparative and geographical."
cacography	Bad handwriting; incorrect spelling	"His cacography always brought his grades down."
marquee	roof-like structure or awning over an entrance	"The marquee over the entrance to the theater helped protect us from the rain as we waited for our car to be brought to us."
edification	an act or process of instructing and improving especially in moral and religious knowledge	"Because Shirley is a committed lifelong learner, she visits the library at least once a week for personal edification and intellectual enrichment."
ecclesiastical	of the church	"His writings were based on ecclesiastical discipline."
sanguinary	bloodthirsty	"Some corsairs were very sanguinary ."
quadrumanous	four-handed; having all four feet adapted for use as hands, as monkeys.	The only other quadrumanous animal found in Ceylon is the little loris, which, from its sluggish movements, nocturnal habits, and consequent inaction during the day, has acquired the name of the Ceylon Sloth.'
braggadocio	a braggart	"You are handsome, but you don't have to be such a braggadocio ."
adnate	grown fast to something; congenitally attached	When they are attached squarely and firmly to the stem they are said to be adnate .

opulent	very wealthy or rich	<i>"The car's interior was opulent."</i>
tranquilizer	a person or thing that tranquilizes	<i>"The doctor gave his nervous patient a tranquilizer."</i>
prolegomenon	Speak beforehand; preliminary remark or essay	<i>"The prolegomenon by the chairman gave the audience some idea of what to expect of the lecture."</i>
moquette	carpet or upholstery fabric with a thick, soft, napped surface	<i>"The carpet moquette was warm in color and comfortable to walk on."</i>
bivouac	temporary encampment, esp. in the open	<i>"We decided this would be a good place to bivouac for one night."</i>
zabaglione	a frothy dessert made of eggs, sugar, and wine, typically Marsala, beaten together over boiled water	<i>"The waiter tempted us with a delightful zabaglione."</i>
acanthoid	Spiny or spiny-shaped	<i>"The cactus plant is an acanthoid."</i>
redolence	The quality or state of being redolent, fragrant, aromatic	<i>"I liked the redolence of the pine boughs."</i>
tchotchke	a knickknack, collectible, trinket, etc.	<i>"Mrs. Adams had a room full of tchotchke from her native Russia."</i>
faction	a dissenting clique	<i>"One faction declared it would begin an armed struggle against the government of the United States."</i>
mimetic	characterized by, exhibiting, or of the nature of imitation or mimicry:	<i>"The second and third of these laws are confirmed by what we know of mimetic resemblances among spiders."</i>

costermonger	A person who sells fruits or vegetables from a cart or street stand	"A costermonger is not known for his delicacy."
peripeteia	a sudden change of fortune or reversal of circumstances, as in a drama	"In 'The Great Gatsby', Myrtle's accidental death is the peripeteia that signals the protagonist's change of fortune."
ebullient	overflowing with enthusiasm, high spirits	"After winning the game, the fans were ebullient ."
scrumptious	Very pleasing, attractive esp. to the taste; delicious	"Not a crumb of the scrumptious cake was left."
enumerated	to find out the number of, to list one after another	"Let me enumerate my reasons for doing this."
terraqueous	consisting of land and water	"From our plane we looked down on a beautiful terraqueous area."
ingratiate	to make acceptable, esp. to seek favor or good graces	"Bringing apples to the teacher may not ingratiate you with her."
meerschaum	soft, white, heat-resisting clay-like mineral	"His favorite pipe was of meerschaum ."
rennet	the lining membrane of the fourth stomach of a calf or of the stomach of certain other young animals.	"In the morning, put the arnotta-water into the tub of milk along with the infusion of rennet , indispensable in making cheese."
psalmist	composer of sacred songs or poems	King David is the psalmist to whom all or certain of the Psalms are variously attributed."
tempeh	a fermented soybean cake	A cousin of tofu, tempeh is a "cake" made of whole soybeans that has been fermented.

spectroscopy	the use of the spectroscope to study optics	<i>"The study of optics is aided by spectroscopy."</i>
deciduous	shedding leaves annually	<i>"The fall colors on the deciduous trees are beautiful."</i>
zaibatsu	a great industrial or financial combination of Japan; the group or combine comprising a few wealthy families that controls industry, business, and finance in Japan	<i>"Valerie's family were a part of a powerful zaibatsu in Japan."</i>
facetiae	witty sayings	<i>"Woody Allen's facetiae are happy combinations of slapstick comedy and literary satire."</i>
arbitrary	based on or subject to individual discretion or preference	<i>"Sandra Nurse, a member of Occupy's direct action working group, said police treated demonstrators roughly and made arbitrary arrests."</i>
bibelot	a small object of curiosity, beauty, or rarity.	<i>"She was terribly hurt; in her heart she had always feared her husband regarded her as a bibelot."</i>
isotopic	of or regarding or obtaining the connection of an isotope	<i>No error is possible in isotopic readings, he told the reporter.</i>
personnel	a group of persons employed (as in a public service, a factory, or an office)	<i>"A memo will be sent to all personnel asking them to stick to the dress code provided in the company handbook."</i>
therapeutic	serving to cure or heal; curative	<i>"The therapeutic treatment hastened his recovery.</i>
cinnamon	a spice consisting of the pleasant-smelling bark of any of several Asian trees related to the laurels	<i>"Their bread is spiced with cinnamon."</i>
noncooperationist	person failing cooperation with government or groups, organizations	<i>"Mohandas Gandhi was a noncooperationist who, as a form of protest against the British rule in India, refused to pay taxes."</i>

exoneration	to clear from a charge of wrongdoing or from blame : declare innocent	"The committee offered complete exoneration for his actions."
tautology	needless repetition of an idea in a different word, phrase, or sentence	"The call for a 'renaissance of renewal' was the professor's favorite tautology ."
numismatist	coin collector	"The woman was a well-known numismatist ."
doyen	the senior member, or dean, of a group	"For years, Bob Hope has been the doyen of American comedians."
questionnaire	form used for gathering information; set of questions	"The questionnaire was lengthy but fun to do."
spontaneity	the quality or state of being spontaneous	"Because I am an extreme planner who needs to control everything, I never engage in spontaneity ."
valedictory	farewell speech, esp. one delivered at graduation	"The president's valedictory speech pointed up the highlights of his term in office."
depredation	to lay waste	"The hurricane left much depredation in the city."
casualty	a serious or fatal accident. a person or thing injured, lost, or destroyed	"As the casualty number mounted, the army commander worried that they were about to lose the war."
agglomeration	a jumbled heap, mass, etc.	"The agglomeration of articles for the rummage sale was staggering."
affenpinscher	one of a breed of toy dogs having a dense, wiry, red or gray coat with tufts of hair around the eyes, nose, and chin, cropped ears, and a docked tail.	"The dog show was filled with assorted affenpinscher toy dogs, none of which earned any accolades."

comprehensive	broad in scope	"The United States Army developed a comprehensive plan to address problematic race relations in the 1970s, recognizing that they were hampering military effectiveness."
hypotenuse	the side of a right angled triangle opposite the right angle	"Our property line extended along the hypotenuse of the triangle."
xerophilous	capable of thriving in a hot, dry climate	"The cactus is a xerophilous plant which grows in the desert."
stamina	Vigor. Endurance	"If the athlete does not have great stamina , he will not be able to complete the triathlon."
disparate	very different : unique in quality or character	"Even though they are identical twins, they have such disparate personalities that it's impossible to get them confused."
chlorophyll	the green pigment found in plants	"The chlorophyll in plants is deeper in those that grow in bright sunlight."
superlative	better than all others : SUPREME	"She was a superlative student, getting nearly perfect grades on every assignment."
pseudonymous	bearing a false or fictitious name.	"Moreover, the chief ground for the development of a pseudonymous literature was absent in the early Christian church."
suffrage	a legal right to vote	"There has been a great deal said in this country of late in regard to giving the right of suffrage to women."
effervescent	bubbling up; foaming; vivacious	"Her happy and effervescent mood made all of us happier, too."
whelp	a young dog	"The whelp chewed a hole in my socks before I caught him."

disproportionate	not in proportion	"The harsh punishment was disproportionate to the infraction."
referendum	the idea or practice of letting voters approve or disapprove laws or suggested laws	"The employees were asked to vote on a referendum about the company insurance plan."
piscatorial	of or relating to fishermen or fishing	"Everything in the old man's life had a piscatorial bent."
oligopsony	control of the purchase of a commodity or service in a given market by a small number of buyers	"The disastrous coffee crop produced a high-priced oligopsony ."
villatic	of or relating to the country or to a farm; rural.	"Then, on another point, we are certain—namely, that rural thunder is many hundred times more powerful than villatic ."
abecedarian	beginning student; learning the alphabet	"The abecedarian in his class had never attended school until now."
plebiscite	a direct vote by the entire people to accept or refuse the measure or program	"It was decided by plebiscite to continue with the old form of government."
idiosyncrasy	a strange or unusual habit, way of behaving, or feature	"She often cracks her knuckles when she's speaking - it's an annoying idiosyncrasy ."
encomiastic	of, belonging to, or bestowing praise; eulogistic	"The dinner in honor of Dr. King featured encomiastic addresses by several local dignitaries."
parsimonious	miserly	"Scrooge was a parsimonious man."
repetitious	something done or said over and over again; tiring; boring repeatedness	"The repetitious admonitions to 'be careful', 'come right home', and 'don't be late', seemed so unnecessary."

somnolent	sleepy, drowsy	<i>"The somnolent truck driver stopped for coffee."</i>
diurnal	of or relating to a day or each day; daily.	<i>"The tigers in the park have become diurnal, making it one of the best places to see tigers in India."</i>
parallax	the apparent displacement of an observed object due to a change in the position of the observer; the apparent angular displacement of a celestial body due to its being observed from the surface instead of from the center of the earth	<i>"The researches of the astronomers have proved that there is not one star for which the parallax is equal to that of another."</i>
gustation	the act of tasting; the sense of taste	<i>"The gustation of thirty cakes was an alarming prospect to the judges of the cooking contest."</i>
stymie	to block; impede	<i>"Bad weather may stymie our picnic plans."</i>
rasorial	given to scratching the ground for food, as chickens;	<i>"For want of a better term, we must call this the rasorial type, as it corresponds to that Ornithological group."</i>
telescope	a tubular instrument for viewing distant objects (as objects in outer space) by focusing light rays with mirrors or lenses	<i>"If you need to see something very far away clearly, you will need to use a magnifying tool like a telescope to do so."</i>
tercentenary	Of or relating to a span of 300 years or to a 300th anniversary.	<i>"The tercentenary was celebrated in 1908."</i>
deglutition	the act or process of swallowing	<i>"Painful deglutition is one of the after-effects of a tonsillectomy."</i>
contumelious	insulting and humiliating	<i>"Oscar Wilde bore the contumelious remarks of his critics with admirable dignity."</i>
celebrosity	of, relating to, expressing, or characterized by celebration	<i>"Graduating from college will be a celebrosity achievement for me because I will never have to take a math class again."</i>

ochlocracy	government by the mob; mob rule	<i>"An ochlocracy is only popular with the mob."</i>
bunraku	a form of puppet show in Japan with nearly life-size puppets, each operated by two or three on-stage puppeteers, while dialogue and narration are spoken by performers just offstage	<i>"While my brother was in Japan, he went to as many bunraku as he could."</i>
agglutinated	stuck together as with glue; joined by adhesion	<i>"The blood cells formed an agglutinated mass suspended in the fluid."</i>
metalliferous	containing, yielding or producing metal or ore	<i>"He studies metallography since his was the metalliferous business."</i>
invigorating	having an enlivening or stimulating effect	<i>"The invigorating jog gave me extra energy."</i>
oppugn	to call in question	<i>"The strategy was to oppugn all arguments for a new school system."</i>
oneiromancy	practice of claiming to tell the future by interpreting dreams	<i>"He was fascinated by the study of oneiromancy."</i>
catachresis	incorrect use of a word or words	<i>"The editor checks for catachresis."</i>
panacea	supposed cure or remedy for all ills; cure-all	<i>"The new drug was a panacea for many people."</i>
precatory	of, having the nature of, or expressing entreaty	<i>"Beggars raised precatory hands to the rich tourists."</i>
dactylic	of or comprising dactyls	<i>"While its authorship is often contested, the fact remains that epic poems like <i>The Iliad</i>, written in dactylic hexameters, not only contributed to the evolution of the poetry genre but also to the proliferation of the written word."</i>

postiche	A substitute; a counterfeit	<i>"The jeans were a cheap postiche of designer originals."</i>
allegiance	devotion or loyalty to a person, group, or cause	<i>"Max's feelings of allegiance will always rest with England, because he was born there."</i>
liaison	a linking up or connecting of the parts of the whole	<i>"The negotiator acted as a liaison between players and management."</i>
fribble	to waste time; trifle	<i>"He seemed destined to fribble away a fortune on hare-brained schemes."</i>
manumission	liberation; emancipation	<i>"After Harriet Tubman's manumission, she helped runaway slaves on the Underground Railroad."</i>
narcissus	a yellow, white, or orange flower, similar to a daffodil	<i>"The narcissus typically bloom in spring."</i>
bowdlerize	to remove passages considered offensive from (a book, etc.)	<i>"The strait-laced teacher tried to bowdlerize Genesis for his Sunday school class."</i>
ophiology	branch of zoology dealing with snakes	<i>"I had never liked snakes, so my class in ophiology was almost hated"</i>
dissociate	to consider as separate and not related	<i>"I can't dissociate the man from his political opinions - they're one and the same thing."</i>
solecism	a violation of the conventional usage, grammar, etc.	<i>"Between he and I' is an annoying solecism."</i>
sconce	a bracket attached to a wall for holding a candle; candles, or the like	<i>"There was a huge, wax-encrusted sconce on the wall of the castle's great hall."</i>

penumbra	a part of a shadow in which only some of the light is blocked, used especially about a shadow made during an eclipse:	"In a lunar eclipse, the outer shadow or penumbra is a zone where Earth blocks a portion of the sun's rays."
seraglio	the palace of a Turkish sultan	"The crown jewels were located in the seraglio ."
lustrum	a period of five years.	"According to Plutarch, a cat placed in a lustrum denoted the moon, illustrating the mutual symbology."
jetsam	that part of the cargo thrown overboard to lighten the ship in danger; discards	"Some of the jetsam they threw overboard might be sorely missed later."
messuage	a dwelling/house with its outbuildings and adjacent land	"In Law, a messuage is a dwelling/house with its outbuildings and adjacent land."
umbrageous	shady; easily offended	"The umbrageous pepper tree had a park bench under it."
hibernaculum	a structure in which a dormant animal passes the winter	"The bear retreated to his hibernaculum in a North Woods cave."
tessellated	laid in small square blocks; arranged in a mosaic pattern	"The entryway was a mosaic of tessellated ceramics in two colors."
slumgullion	any inexpensive stew or hash	"He used last night's pot roast to make a slumgullion ."
maquillage	makeup	"The rice powder and the maquillage were thick on her cheek, whilst the rest of her face was frankly ochre."
yean	to bring forth (young); said of a sheep or goat	"The ewe waited until spring to yean her last lamb."

seigniory	a feudal lord's estate; the power and authority of a feudal lord.	"His seigniory extended beyond his castle walls."
nacreous	iridescent; lustrous	"The Rolls-Royce was painted a rich nacreous gray."
shibboleth	Any phrase, custom, etc. distinctive of a particular party, class, etc.	<i>The Piedmont accent along the east coast is the shibboleth of the landed gentry.</i>
raillery	light, good-natured ridicule or satire	"Sir Winston Churchill's raillery often provoked laughter."
resonance	the sound produced in the percussion of some part of the body, especially of the chest.	"The deep resonance of his voice was his radio trademark."
tract	a system of body parts that serve some particular purpose	"When probiotics flourish in the digestive tract , nutrients are better absorbed and bad bugs are held at bay, research suggests."
roentgenize	to subject to the action of X-rays	"She had to be taken to the emergency room of the hospital so the injury to her ankle could be checked with a possibility of the necessity for them to roentgenize it."
autarky	National policy of getting along without imports	"In its disastrous attempt to achieve autarky , the Cambodian government abolished foreign trade."
fuchsia	shrubby plants of the evening primrose family; purplish red color	"The fuchsia were in bloom—a riot of pink, white and red color!"
inveigle	to lead on with deception	"The salesman intended to inveigle me into buying the car."
plebeian	vulgar, coarse, or common	"She has such a plebeian taste in home decorating."

peripeteia	A sudden change of fortune or reversal of circumstances, as in a drama	"In 'The Great Gatsby', Myrtle's accidental death is the peripeteia that signals the protagonist's change of fortune."
larghetto	relatively slow, but faster than largo	"The section of the sonata must be played larghetto ."
confabulation	to talk together in an informal way; chat	"The students met for a confabulation before going to class."
garrulous	talking too much; loquacious	"The elderly prospector was an interesting though garrulous person."
austere	severely simple	"A certain austere simplicity was noticeable all over Longfellow's house."
pineapple	a tropical plant with stiff spiny sword-shaped leaves and a short flowering stalk that develops into an edible fruit with usually pale yellow sweet juicy flesh and very thick skin	"The pineapple was sweet and juicy"
anhinga	any of various swimming birds with four fully webbed toes, of the family Anhingidae, having a very long and flexible neck	"It was an anhinga , one of the most singular specimens of web-footed birds that can be found anywhere."
Cyrillic	noting or pertaining to a script derived from Greek uncial and traditionally supposed to have been invented by St. Cyril, first used for the writing of Old Church Slavonic and adopted with minor modifications for the writing of Russian, Bulgarian, Serbian, and Slavic languages of Central Asia.	"Nearly at the same time, 1492, they began in Servia and Herzegovina To print with Cyrillic types."
beseech	ask for or request earnestly	"Seeing the potential danger of the upcoming storms, the fire fighters would beseech the citizens to evacuate."
imposed	set forth authoritatively as obligatory	"The Arab League has already suspended Syria and imposed economic sanctions."
carcinogen	a substance that causes cancer:	"The American government classifies environmental tobacco smoke as a class one carcinogen ."

wrought	elaborated; embellished; not rough or crude	"DeMille's intricately wrought movie epics were breathtaking but laborious."
astrobleme	A scar on the earth's surface left from the impact of a meteorite.	"One can determine the movement of rock masses in the formation of an astrobleme by ascertaining the displacements of stratigraphic reference levels before and during the impact."
oscitancy	drowsiness, dullness, apathy, etc.	"The lecturer stared out at row upon row of students with oscitancy .
deprecate	to deprecate; belittle	"The tutor tended to deprecate his pupil's efforts to write fiction."
stigma	a mark of shame, an identifying mark or characteristic	"Often people are afraid to admit they have a mental illness because of the stigma attached to psychiatric disorders."
vacillating	wavering in motion or opinion	"We were inclined to not pay much attention to her vacillating ideas."
oligochaete	class of segmented worms lacking a definite head and few body bristles	"The earthworm, an oligochaete , is found chiefly in moist soil and fresh water."
triskaidekaphobia	fear or a phobia concerning the number 13.	"The girl suffered a severe case of triskaidekaphobia ."
ratiocinate	to reason logically and methodically	"Fred needed to ratiocinate in order to win the debate."
accede	yield to another's wish or opinion	"Therefore he made up his mind to accede to his uncle's desire."
remorseful	moved or marked by a gnawing distress arising from a sense of guilt for past wrongs	"He is remorseful and feels guilty for what he's done."

satiety	the state of being sated; surfeit	<i>"They ate until their stomachs stretched with a pleasant satiety."</i>
latitude	freedom from normal restraints in conduct	<i>"Great employees often get more latitude to bring up controversial subjects in a group setting because their performance allows more freedom."</i>
ubiquitous	found or existing everywhere	<i>"Leather is very much in fashion this season, as is the ubiquitous denim."</i>
rhapsody	a great delight; ecstasy	<i>"She was in a rhapsody over her new dress."</i>
tribunal	an assembly to conduct judicial business	<i>"The military has historically been protected from civilian courts, with any crimes committed by soldiers being decided in closed military tribunals."</i>
rebuke	an act or expression of criticism and censure	<i>"Afterward, the leaders fought court orders to release records showing what they had done, drawing an uncommonly sharp rebuke from a federal judge."</i>
admonition	a mild rebuke; reprimand	<i>"The children remembered their mother's admonition and returned home on time."</i>
bardolatry	idolatry or excessive admiration of William Shakespeare	<i>"Jake suffered from a serious case of bardolatry as he has seen each of Shakespeare's plays at least five times."</i>
atamasco	relating to an American lily of the genus Zephyranthes	<i>"The florist used an abundance of atamasco lilies in the bouquet as that was the bride's favorite flower."</i>
arcana	secrets or mysteries.	<i>His knowledge of federal budget arcana is legendary.</i>
judicious	having, applying, or showing sound judgment; wise and careful	<i>The judicious driver stopped at the crosswalk."</i>

innuendo	an indirect remark, gesture, or reference, usually implying something derogatory	"He has been criticizing me through innuendo , which I didn't realize until later."
lavalier	an ornament hanging from a chain, worn around the neck	"She wore the lavalier on a chain around her neck."
engineer	a person who is trained in or follows as a profession a branch of engineering, a designer or builder of engines	"We need an engineer to design us something better."
dilettante	a person who follows an art or science only for amusement and in a superficial way	"The needs of the dilettante were satisfied by the Los Angeles artistic community."
syncopation	syncopated music, a syncopated rhythm, etc.	" Syncopation is very typical of New Orleans jazz."
obfuscate	cloud over; obscure; unclear	"When the darkness began, it was only a small area that began to obfuscate on the near horizon."
ceraceous	waxy; waxlike	" Ceraceous , cheap, chocolate chunks were in the dime store ice cream."
inspissate	to thicken, as by evaporation	"Kathy's chili began to inspissate after several hours of simmering."
sesquipedalian	given to using long words;(of a word) containing many syllables.	"Fact was, he had monologued it in his most sesquipedalian phraseology."
fianchetto	chess move; the development of a bishop, in an opening move, by advancing one or two pawns so as to permit movement along the bishop's diagonal.	"The chess master won tournament after tournament due to his incessant and diabolical use of the fianchetto ."
piassava	stiff, elastic palm fiber used in making brooms, brushes	"Leopoldinia piassava is a palm from Brazil from which fiber to make brushes and brooms is obtained."

pernicious	fatal; deadly	<i>"The common cold is usually not a pernicious disease."</i>
opuscule	a small or petty work	<i>"An obscure opuscule came to light as I did my research."</i>
ostracize	to banish, bar, exclude	<i>"Cheating caused his friends to ostracize him."</i>
malingering	to pretend to be ill or otherwise incapacitated in order to escape duty or work	<i>"My brother will malingering whenever there are dishes to do."</i>
rinceau	an ornamental foliate or floral motif.	<i>"The wallpaper had a spring like rinceau and worked with the location of her home perfectly."</i>
matronymic	derived from the name of the mother or a female ancestor	<i>"From way back there had always been a 'Rebecca' in the family, so the newborn child was christened 'Rebecca', a matronymic name."</i>
pejorative	disparaging or derogatory	<i>"Her pejorative comment discouraged me from trying."</i>
pageantry	pageants and the presentation of pageants. splendid display	<i>"I like the tradition and pageantry that come with graduations."</i>
anathema	a thing or person greatly detested	<i>"Censorship is anathema to Americans."</i>
manifestation	a clear appearance	<i>"Singing and dancing are each a manifestation of what many describe as a much broader cultural flowering."</i>
viridescent	slightly green; greenish	<i>"He's one of those helpless bachelors whose refrigerator holds only a few viridescent lumps of unknown origin."</i>

verdigris	a green or greenish-blue coating that forms like rust on brass, bronze, or copper	"The verdigris on the city hall dome must be removed."
mellifluous	sounding sweet and smooth; honeyed	"She was possessed of a mellifluous voice."
panjandrum	a self-important, pompous official	"We can't help but laugh when he marches through the office with his thumbs in his lapels, the proud panjandrum of all he surveys."
chelicera	The first pair of appendages of spiders	"The spider uses its chelicera to grasp and crush with."
solenoid	a coil of wire, usually surrounding a movable iron core, that acts as a magnet when carrying a current: used as an electromagnetic switch or relay	"The solenoid was above the iron cylinder, the supporting rod of which passed through it as a core."
fathom	come to understand	"But after flying for so many years, the idea of hanging up his sparkling wings is hard for him to fathom ."
allelopathy	suppression of growth of a plant by a toxin released from a nearby plant of the same or another species.	Allelopathy can have an adverse effect in the garden, resulting in reduced seed germination and plant growth.
hoomalimali	something designed basically to attract attention, but usually not serving the purpose for which it was made	Many a rock star rely on hoomalimali , but rarely does it work out in their favor.
insurgent	in opposition to a civil authority or government	"An insurgent group made of defecting soldiers and based in southern Turkey, claimed responsibility for both attacks."
divination	a successful guess; clever conjecture	"Her divination of the winner was accurate."
zucchetto	skull cap worn by Roman Catholic ecclesiastics	"The priest's zucchetto is black, the bishop's purple, the cardinal's red, and the pope's zucchetto is white."

riposte	a sharp, swift response or retort	"Told of Coolidge's death, Dorothy Parker's reputed riposte was 'How can you tell?'"
sinistrous	ill-omened; unlucky; disastrous; sinistral	"She avoided black cats and ladders for fear of sinistrous influences."
conscientious	characterized by extreme care and great effort	"A conscientious hostess would be very much mortified if she served chicken out of its proper course."
schipperke	any of a breed of small dog with a dense, black coat forming a ruff about the neck, a foxlike head, and erect ears: traditionally the tail is docked	"The doctor was determined that his next pet would be a schipperke ".
patriarchate	position, rank, jurisdiction, territory, etc. of the ruling patriarch	"The Bishop's immediate patriarchate was the city of Rome"
endow	furnish with a capital fund	"The widow plans to endow the grammar school here, founded in 1533, with scholarships and exhibitions."
canon	a collection of books accepted as holy scripture	"For me, all novels of any consequence are literary, and they take their place, high and low, in the canon of English literature."
voortrekker	A Boer pioneer, who trekked into the hinterland of South Africa during the 1830's	"Many a voortrekker were lost due to the unimaginable hardships suffered during their travels."
cohere	cause to form a united, orderly, and consistent whole	"Two antagonistic values may cohere in the same object."
yttria	a heavy white powder, insoluble in water, used in electronics	" Yttria is used in making color television tubes."
sacrilegious	violation of something sacred; disrespectfulness of something religious	"To some, the opening of the tombs of Egyptian mummies seems sacrilegious ."

maudlin	foolishly and tearfully or weakly sentimental	<i>"Their maudlin sympathy angered me."</i>
camelopard	early name for the giraffe	<i>"The giraffe was called a camelopard because of its long neck like a camel and spots like a leopard."</i>
tenuous	not substantial, slight, flimsy	<i>"The tenuous bridge was washed away in the storm."</i>
opprobrious	abusive; disrespectful; disgraceful	<i>"His opprobrious conduct at the picnic led to another row with his guardian."</i>
impel	cause to move forward with force	<i>"Some power beyond his comprehension would impel him toward the neighboring city."</i>
topazolite	A green-yellow to yellow-brown variety of andradite, similar in color and transparency to topaz	<i>"The geologist's find of a vein of topazolite in the foothills, gave him the opportunity to write and speak to his fellow scientists about his discovery."</i>
ensue	issue or terminate in a specified way	<i>"An uproar will ensue when opponents realize the online gambling measure had been slipped in."</i>
vernacular	commonly spoken by the people of a particular country or place	<i>"The vernacular of the South is dotted with colorful metaphors."</i>
sapphire	hard, transparent precious stone of deep blue color	<i>"My sapphire had a six-pointed star in it."</i>
sacrosanct	very sacred, holy, or inviolable	<i>"The congregation felt the church was sacrosanct."</i>
maladroitly	awkwardly; clumsily; badly handled	<i>"She came to the rescue with a remedy for the situation which she could see was being maladroitly handled."</i>

sgraffito	Incising the outer coating of slip or glaze to reveal different ground color on ceramics, murals, etc to produce a design	"The effect of sgraffito on the ceramics we bought is really striking."
fuliginous	full of smoke or soot	"The chimney sweepers' coats had a fuliginous color."
soliloquy	a speech in a play which the character speaks to himself or herself or to the people watching rather than to the other characters	"Hamlet's soliloquy begins, 'To be or not to be'."
pervasive	spread throughout so thoroughly as to be seen or felt everywhere	"The media's pervasive coverage of the epidemic has most of the country living in fear."
sepulcher	tomb	"Many thousands of pilgrims visited the sepulcher of Saint Thomas Becket."
repristinate	to restore to the first or original state or condition.	"The historians worked to repristinate the document to its original state."
facsimile	an exact reproduction or copy	"The painting was a facsimile of the original."
wont	an established custom	"He made his customary slick feeds to open teammates, but as is their wont , the Nets struggled at times to convert points on his passes."
heinous	outrageously wicked or evil; abominable	"Everyone was appalled at the heinous crime."
nickeliferous	containing nickel	"The ore brought up from the mine was nickeliferous ."
interregnum	interval between two successive reigns; period without the usual ruler	"Queen Anne of England had no heirs and died without naming her successor, so there was a short interregnum before King James was crowned."

zealot	a person who is zealous to an extreme degree; fanatic	<i>"The zealot was dedicated to the cause."</i>
escrioire	a writing desk or table	<i>"The escrioire in the museum was very old and well preserved."</i>
testaceous	of, like or from shells; having a hard shell	<i>"The waiter gave us small mallets to crack the testaceous crab."</i>
homiletics	the branch of theology dealing with the writing and preaching of sermons	<i>"His inspired and instructive manner of communicating helped him excel at homiletics."</i>
mutual	having the same relation one to the other. owned, shared, or enjoyed by two or more at the same time	<i>"The son and his father were both sports fanatics, sharing a mutual love for all things athletic."</i>
phylophagous	feeding on leaves	<i>"Deer, caribou, reindeer and other ruminant animals can be called phylophagous animals since leaves and greenery are their food source."</i>
conjure	summon into action or bring into existence	<i>"Vacation homes typically conjure up dreams of blue skies, pristine sand and crystalline waters."</i>
maleficent	harmful; hurtful; evil	<i>"Most people view terrorists as maleficent individuals."</i>
acquiesce	agree or express agreement	<i>"American officials initially tried to resist President Karzai's moves but he would eventually acquiesce."</i>
deceptively	tending or having power to deceive : MISLEADING	<i>"The deceptive woman led me to believe that she was divorced when in fact she was married with children."</i>
anachronism	anything that is or seems to be out of its proper time in history	<i>"A black and white television is an anachronism today."</i>

laccolith	a mass of igneous rock formed from magma that did not find its way to the surface but spread laterally into a lenticular body, forcing overlying strata to bulge upward	<i>"When studying volcanic eruptions and its aftermath, one cannot overlook the great amount of information one can gain from the layer of laccolith formed below the surface."</i>
cantankerous	difficult or irritating to deal with	<i>"The leading character in the movie was a cantankerous old man who hated the world."</i>
fanfaronade	empty boasting; bluster	<i>"Once the fight began, the heavyweight contender's prediction of a quick victory was exposed as the usual fanfaronade."</i>
guerrilla	member of small defensive force of irregular soldiers	<i>"He volunteered to be a guerrilla and take part in the surprise raid behind enemy lines."</i>
terpsichorean	having to do with dancing	<i>"It was terpsichorean music, not just music to listen to."</i>
noctambulism	walking in one's sleep	<i>"He was a victim of noctambulism but so far had not come to any harm from walking in his sleep."</i>
prosperous	having or showing success or financial good fortune	<i>"The company had a prosperous year."</i>
mannequin	woman or man used for modeling clothing; model of a human	<i>"The window dresser was busy dressing the mannequin in the store window."</i>
impecunious	having no money; penniless; poor	<i>"In this impecunious state, he was forced to seek help from his family."</i>
consortium	a connection or a mix, at the time of businesses, financial institutions, or people, for the true purpose of engaging in a joint venture	<i>The consortium is just one part of a growing movement uniting academics, librarians, developers, and players around game preservation.</i>
precept	rule of personal conduct	<i>"The law of nature has but one precept, 'Be strong.' "</i>

restrained	not showy or obtrusive	<i>"By contrast, Mr. Pei's restrained design took time to claim my attention, particularly since it sat quietly next door to Saarinen's concrete gull wings."</i>
assail	attack someone physically or emotionally	<i>"His campaign manager would lose control and rant and assail those protesting the candidate."</i>
uveal	the vascular tunic of the eye, comprising the iris, choroid coat, and ciliary body	<i>Uveitis is a swelling of the uveal area, which is the middle layer of the eye.</i>
risible	causing laughter	<i>After losing thirty pounds, he took on a risible appearance in his roomy suits."</i>
paduasoy	rich, corded silk cloth	<i>"The garments were beautifully tailored of the paduasoy material."</i>
ptarmigan	northern or alpine grouse which undergo seasonal color changes	<i>"The ptarmigan changes its color to blend in with the landscape."</i>
paraphernalia	personal belongings; articles used in a particular activity	<i>"Bring along your fishing paraphernalia when we go camping next week."</i>
arenaceous	sandy	<i>"The cactus grows well in arenaceous soil."</i>
lassitude	state of being weary; tired and listless	<i>"The dry desert heat caused a feeling of lassitude in all of us."</i>
propriety	correct behavior	<i>"I felt a trifle doubtful about the propriety of taking a short cut across private grounds, and said as much."</i>
catarrh	inflammation of a mucous membrane, especially of the respiratory tract, accompanied by excessive secretions.	<i>"The menus for colds, catarrh, hay fever, and asthma may be used for influenza."</i>

roentgen	a basic unit of exposure to X-rays, gamma rays, or other ionizing radiation	"I have seen my own heart beating as its image was thrown on the screen by the roentgen rays."
perilous	full of or involving the exposure to the risk of being injured, destroyed, or lost	" <i>You should avoid driving during the snowstorm because the icy roads are perilous.</i> "
oscitancy	drowsiness, dullness, apathy, etc.	" <i>The lecturer stared out at row upon row of students with oscitancy.</i> "
moire	a design pressed on silk, rayon, etc., by engraved rollers; any silk, rayon, etc., fabric with a watery or wavelike appearance.	" <i>She was resplendent in a moiré skirt of lilac and silver.</i> "
exertion	use of physical or mental energy; hard work	" <i>One day, overcome by exertion, she fainted in the street.</i> "
kohlrabi	a garden vegetable related to the cabbage: the edible part is a bulbous portion of the stem just above the ground	" <i>The kohlrabi grew very well in the fertile soil.</i> "
consecrate	render holy by means of religious rites	" <i>The Priest will consecrate the building as a Protestant Episcopal church in May, 1814.</i> "
behoove	to be morally necessary or proper	" <i>It would behoove a jury to examine the evidence carefully.</i> "
plenipotentiary	a person, esp. a diplomatic agent, given full authority to act as representative of a government	" <i>The union has named me its plenipotentiary for the purpose of this bargaining session.</i> "
olfactory	of the sense of smell	" <i>Civilized life has blunted the keen olfactory facilities man once needed to stalk his prey.</i> "
persiflage	light, frivolous or flippant style of writing or speaking	" <i>Comedians commonly use persiflage in their acts.</i> "

aberration	a departure from what is right, true, correct	<i>"Her rude behavior was an aberration from her friendly nature."</i>
fervent	characterized by intense emotion	<i>"The fervent applause and scattered fist pumps gave the musicians enough encouragement to continue to play despite the rain."</i>
escarole	A variety of endive having relatively broad, mildly bitter leaves.	<i>"If you tasted escarole, expecting green-leaf lettuces bland taste and delicate texture, you'd be in for a welcome surprise."</i>
reiterate	to say or do over again or repeatedly	<i>"Since I could not hear the instructions, I asked the teacher to reiterate them once more."</i>
scullion	a servant doing the rough, dirty work in a kitchen	<i>"The sweaty scullion basted the huge turkey."</i>
enchiridion	handbook, manual	<i>"We expected the librarian would be able to help locate an enchiridion for us."</i>
leviathan	a sea monster; any huge marine animal, as the whale; anything of immense size and power, as a huge, oceangoing ship.	<i>In the ocean, the whale is considered a leviathan because of its tremendous size.</i>
propaedeutic	an elementary or introductory subject or study	<i>"In some areas a propaedeutic class in Beginning Algebra is offered."</i>
basalt	a dark, tough, fine to dense-grained, extrusive volcanic rock commonly occurring in sheet like lava flows	<i>"The basalt was discovered in the mountain."</i>
sentinel	a person employed to keep watch for some anticipated event	<i>"The prisoners undressed themselves as usual, and went to bed, observed by the sentinel."</i>
cormorant	any of several voracious, seabirds of having a long neck and a distensible pouch under the bill for holding captured fish	<i>"There are those who, like a cormorant, can digest all sorts of detritus, even after the fullest dinner of meats and vegetables, for they suffer nothing to be wasted."</i>

abnegate	Deny or refuse; renounce; to give up all claims to	<i>"He said he would abnegate all claims to the property."</i>
aciniform	clustered like grapes.	<i>"The aciniform sculpture of the children was at once moving and creepy."</i>
intaglio	a design or figure carved, incised, or engraved into a hard material so that it is below the surface	<i>"The artist carved a beautiful intaglio into the granite."</i>
symbol	something that stands for something else. a letter, character, or sign used instead of a word or group of words	<i>"Most people recognize the big yellow arches as the symbol for McDonald's."</i>
assiduous	showing hard work, care, and attention to detail	<i>"The government has been assiduous in the fight against inflation."</i>
tenebrous	shut off from light; dark; hard to understand; causing or marked by gloom	<i>"His warning was delivered in a tenebrous tone that filled us with dread."</i>
zori	A flat sandal with thongs, frequently made from straw or leather	<i>Moments later an ancient Rolls-Royce pulls up front and a bride dressed in an extravagantly decorated Shinto wedding dress climbs out and steps slowly through the lobby, carefully balanced on her wooden zori.</i>
myriad	a great number of persons or things	<i>"The defense raised a myriad of objections during the prosecutor's examination."</i>
carrefour	Crossroads or intersection; public square or plaza	<i>"We planned to meet in the carrefour when we finished our errands."</i>
chagrin	a feeling of being upset, disappointed, or annoyed, esp. because of a failure or mistake	<i>"We grow lots of squash, much to my children's chagrin."</i>
semaphore	An apparatus or system for signaling	<i>"The Navy often uses a semaphore system to send messages between ships at sea."</i>

inimical	unfriendly; hostile	"The inimical participants at the rally prevented the audience from having fun."
balustrade	a railing	"The balustrade was made of cedar."
euphemism	use of a word considered less distasteful even though less direct	"Instead of referring to the body as a corpse, they used the euphemism 'remains'."
saponaceous	soapy or soaplike	"Glucosides found in soapwort, soapbark, etc., become saponaceous when dissolved in water or used as detergents."
idyllic	pleasing and simple; pastoral or picturesque	"We spent an idyllic vacation in the country."
eidolon	An image without real existence; apparition	"The horse and rider appeared out of the fog like an eidolon ."
provincial	a person living in or coming from a province	"Since my cousin lives in a trailer on a dirt road, many people consider her to be provincial ."
augment	to increase especially in size, amount, or degree	"The plan is to augment what we're doing and not replace it."
monosyllabic	having only one syllable; to seem terse; uncommunicative	"He seemed dazed, and his answers to questions were monosyllabic ."
odium	state of disgrace resulting from detestable behavior	"This was one of the men who bring odium on the whole class of prisoners, and prejudice society against them."
occurrence	happening; event; something that takes place	"The second occurrence of the conference will not be until next year."

vignette	a short, delicate literary sketch	<i>The vignette was a great work by the promising author.</i>
stratum	people having the same social or economic status	<i>She belonged to the upper stratum of the profession, and, knowing it, could not sink.</i>
terpsichorean	having to do with dancing	<i>It was terpsichorean music, not just music to listen to.</i>
caprice	a sudden desire	<i>Nobody is really in charge, and decisions are made on whim and caprice.</i>
scrupulous	having ethical or moral principles	<i>The reason is that the vast majority of businesses are scrupulous and treat their employees well.</i>
caisson	a chest for holding ammunition; a two-wheeled wagon for transporting ammunition	<i>Cossacks, foot and horse soldiers, wagons, caissons, and cannon were everywhere.</i>
intumesce	to swell, bubble up, as with heat	<i>The tar used along the pavements for repair will intumesce with the heat of the sun.</i>
pizzicato	To pluck the strings of musical instruments instead of using the bow	<i>The direction to the musician to play a note or a passage of the score in a pizzicato manner means to pluck the strings.</i>
balalaika	stringed instrument like a guitar but with only three strings	<i>The balalaika is a favorite instrument of the Russian people.</i>
velutinous	soft and velvety	<i>Thick moss turned the tree trunk into a velutinous couch.</i>
hypaethral	open to the sky; roofless	<i>The new stadium was still hypaethral, but a roof was planned for later.</i>

onomatopoeia	formation of a word by imitating the natural sound associated with the object or action involved	"He used onomatopoeia to create sounds in his poetry."
gratuitous	given or received without charge or payment; free	"I reject offers of so-called gratuitous merchandise, as some kind of later payment is often expected."
adorned	to enhance the appearance of with ornaments	"George adorned his office with expensive paintings so that everyone knew how wealthy he was."
gudgeon	a small, European, freshwater fish, Gobio gobio, of the minnow family, having a threadlike barbel at each corner of the mouth, used as bait.	"Dick seized the line, and as the gudgeon swam off he dropped the bladder over the side, and it was slowly towed away."
anaglyph	Ornament carved in low relief, such as a cameo	"The anaglyph sometimes seems three dimensional."
expunge	to rub off or remove information from a piece of writing	"We will expunge his name from the list of members."
lorgnette	a pair of eyeglasses mounted on a handle.	"Most of them are fairly hostile to genius or look at it with a lorgnette ."
tergiversate	to desert a cause, party, etc.; become a renegade; equivocate	"We were dismayed when our publicity chairman decided to tergiversate in the middle of the campaign."
parfleche	rawhide with hair removed by soaking in water and lye	"His warm, heavy robe was made by the Indians of parfleche ."
flavescence	Turning yellow; yellowish.	"Instead, fields of waving wheat like grass stretched to the distant horizon, interrupted only by isolated thicketts of slender, buttery-yellow trees that rose from the flavescence savanna like stiff whiskers on a cat's face."
undulant	moving in or as in waves; undulating	"The undulant Blue Hills roll to meet the coast near Boston."

campanile	a bell tower, esp. one that stands apart from any other building	<i>"The bell in the campanile rang loudly."</i>
thalassic	of the sea or ocean	<i>"Earth was once a shallow thalassic mass slowly nurturing life."</i>
illation	inference; the conclusion drawn	<i>"Inexperienced writers sometimes use 'therefore' to point out an obvious illation."</i>
exasperate	irritate	<i>"Shopkeepers, exasperated at the impact of higher taxes and reduced consumer spending, are planning to close down for the day."</i>
derelict	not cared for and in bad condition	<i>"The theatre has been left to stand derelict."</i>
turbinado	A type of partially refined, light brown cane sugar with large crystals.	<i>The chef replaced granulated sugar in the recipe with turbinado.</i>
etymology	The origin and development of a word, affix, phrase, etc.	<i>"The origin and development of words is a branch of linguistics called etymology."</i>
oriflamme	any symbol of courage or devotion	<i>"The demonstrators followed a banner bearing a peace symbol, the oriflamme of the sixties."</i>
venerable	impressive by reason of age	<i>"Thus, after much more than two hundred years, the venerable building looks almost as it did when the first students entered its doors."</i>
utilitarian	of or having to do with utility; usefulness	<i>"A garbage can is a very utilitarian gift."</i>
avalanche	a large mass of snow and ice or of earth and rock sliding down a mountainside	<i>"The falling tree triggered an avalanche of rocks and snow that plunged down the mountain."</i>

precision	the quality of being reproducible in amount or performance	"At this time, home ranges of small rodents cannot be measured with great precision , therefore any such calculations are, at best, only approximations."
absquatulate	to flee; abscond	"To "vamose the ranch" means to clear out, to depart, to cut stick, to absquatulate ."
applique	applying decorative material to another by sewing or adhesive	"We embroidered flowers from a printed cloth to applique on her sweater."
allonym	another name, usually historical, adopted by an author	"The writer's allonym was Socrates."
miscellaneous	various; mixed; many sided	"The drawer contained a miscellaneous collection of odds and ends."
objurgate	to chide; to rebuke; to upbraid sharply	"The judge's tirade to objurgate the attorney was suffered in silence."
velleity	a mere wish that does not lead to the slightest action	"The valet cheerfully ignored the velleity of his capricious master."
usurp	seize and take control without authority	"After Dot's mom said she couldn't go to the dance, her dad would usurp his wife's authority and allow it."
toroidal	having the shape of a toroid, which is a doughnut-shaped coil	" Toroidal wound coils produce a small external magnetic field and so make very inefficient motors."
inconspicuous	attracting little attention	"The spy attempted to enter the room in an inconspicuous manner."
cranium	Skull, especially the part that encloses the brain	"A thin cover of skin, called the scalp, covers most of the cranium ."

kindle	catch fire	"A match used as kindle started the fire."
galimatias	meaningless talk; gibberish	"A baby's galimatias is understood only by the mother."
exercise	the act of putting into use, action, or practice. bodily activity for the sake of physical fitness. something done to develop skill	"She did stretching exercises before her daily run."
qualms	sudden brief feelings of sickness, faintness, nausea; feelings of doubt	<i>He had qualms about having cheated on the test.</i>
aardvark	burrowing African mammal; earth pig	"The aardvark feeds on ants and termites and is active at night."
chanteuse	female singer, particularly a nightclub singer.	<i>Talented, spunky and a natural presence onstage, Adele may hardly look like your average, major-label chanteuse.</i>
nocturnal	of, relating to, or occurring in the night. active at night	<i>Bats are nocturnal creatures because they tend to be more active during the night hours.</i>
partisan	devoted to a cause or party	<i>But given the bitter partisan divide in an election year, Democrats said they would never be able to get such legislation passed.</i>
girandole	revolving cluster of fireworks, water jet; branched candleholder	<i>The Fourth of July girandole lasted about ten minutes.</i>
fluorescent	giving off a very bright light when electricity or other waves go through it	<i>The map was marked with a thin, fluorescent green line.</i>
pedagogue	a teacher	<i>Only a great pedagogue could have taught that complex course.</i>

eclectic	Selecting from various systems, doctrines, or sources	"The great movie palaces of the twenties were eclectic extravaganzas of Spanish, Egyptian, and Indian architecture."
debacle	an overwhelming defeat or rout	"His resignation from power caused the greatest debacle in the history of his country."
picayunish	smallness; trivial; petty	"Of little value now, the centavo, once like our American penny, worth 1/100 of the peso, is so picayunish as to be almost worthless."
incoherent	lacking cohesion; disjointed; rambling	"During her attack of fever, she became incoherent and rambling in her speech."
celestial	of, relating to, or suggesting heaven	"Stars, planets, asteroids, and all celestial bodies."
sublime	of high moral or intellectual value	"He was uneven, disproportional, saying ordinary things on great occasions, and now and then, without the slightest provocation, uttering the most sublime and beautiful thoughts."
quebracho	Tropical tree of the cashew family in America	"The hard wood of the quebracho yields an extract used in tanning."
methoxychlor	Insecticide used against flies and mosquitoes	"The mosquitoes were especially bad at night, and we were glad to find we had methoxychlor in spray bottles in our supplies."
pinion	to confine or shackle	"The police threatened to pinion the suspect."
brumal	of winter; wintry	"The brumal temperatures produced frost blossoms on the window panes."
enfranchise	to give a franchise to; specify, to admit to citizenship, esp. to the right to vote	"The 19th Amendment to the Constitution was passed to enfranchise all adult women in the United States."

ominous	threatening or foreshadowing evil or tragic developments	"The Count's words were so ominous , so full of sinister meaning that for the moment he felt like crying out with fear."
caliginous	dark; gloomy; obscure	"We lit candles which really didn't help much in the caliginous cellar."
photogenic	suitable for being photographed : likely to photograph well	"This is the city's most photogenic park."
surrogate	a deputy or substitute	"The captain played surrogate for the absent fathers of the men in his command."
archetype	the perfect example of a type or group	"Mickey Mouse is the archetype for cartoon characters."
latifundium	large landed estate	"He owned a latifundium somewhere in Latin America which was worked by the natives under an overseer."
aesthetic	sensitive to art and beauty	"In order to help develop their children's aesthetic tastes, many family trips to art galleries were planned."
elude	escape, either physically or mentally	"But despite racking up world titles, Olympic gold would elude him."
indulgent	indulging or showing indulgence. willing to allow excessive leniency, generosity, or consideration	"A pampering salon service is the perfect indulgent fix for the beach bride!"
rutilant	glowing or glittering with ruddy or golden light	"Standing against the wall and blinking at the rutilant glare of the room, Goliath the dwarf waited nervously."
nankeen	buff-colored, durable cotton cloth	"The farmwomen looked like sunflowers in their nankeen bonnets."

blasphemous	showing lack of respect to God or to a religion	"Some people believe such art is blasphemous ."
laureate	worthy of honor; distinguished; pre-eminent, especially among poets	"Rudyard Kipling was a poet laureate of England."
perceptible	capable of being noticed or observed	"The sound was so quiet it was barely perceptible ."
abscissa	The coordinate representing the distance of a point from the y-axis measured along a line parallel to the x-axis.	"The abscissa is the value of all x-coordinates."
prophylactic	preventing disease	"Some dentists are convinced that the addition of fluoride in water is ineffective as a prophylactic treatment."
roustabout	an unskilled or transient laborer, as on a ranch or in an oil field	"The burly roustabout ran to the gushing well."
propylaeum	An entrance; vestibule or portico	"The propylaeum to the Acropolis is well known to architects."
scholarship	money given (as by a college) to a student to help pay for further education	"The organization is offering five \$5,000 scholarships ."
philosophical	relating to the investigation of existence and knowledge	"His arguments, like Einstein's, were qualitative, verging on highly philosophical ."
dissemble	to hide one's true feelings : put on a false appearance	"Rather than answer the reporter's questions directly, the politician chose to dissemble his responses."
omniscient	having infinite knowledge	Goethe was omniscient in his era."

corroborate	confirm; bolster; support; prove validity	<i>"The evidence will corroborate her testimony."</i>
scrutiny	a close inspection : EXAMINATION	<i>"Because my mother is a clean freak, she inspects my room with scrutiny."</i>
wanton	unprovoked or without motive or justification	<i>"I am not a sentimentalist by any means, yet I abominate wanton cruelty."</i>
magniloquent	boastful or bombastic	<i>"Joe McCarthy's magniloquent delivery could not hide the absurdity of his accusations."</i>
accipiter	a hawk of the genus Accipiter, having short, rounded wings and a long tail and feeding chiefly on small mammals and birds.	<i>"Under the term "accipiter" we have to look, not only for the sparrow-hawk and gos-hawk, but for many other birds of the family (as we now call it) removed comparatively far from those species by modern ornithologists."</i>
contrived	artificially formal	<i>"In lesser hands the story about a young man who discovers life among the dead could be impossibly cute and contrived."</i>
attenuate	to make something less or weaker	<i>"Radiation from the sun is attenuated by the earth's atmosphere."</i>
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	<i>"The driver of the jitney now charges passengers a dollar."</i>
profundity	great knowledge or understanding	<i>"My psychologist's profundity has talked me through some of my darkest moments."</i>
venerate	regard with feelings of respect and reverence	<i>"He would venerate me like a being descended from an upper world."</i>
bourgeoisie	the class that, in contrast to the proletariat or wage-earning class, is primarily concerned with property values.	<i>"First we have to over-throw the bourgeoisie through revolution and change the relations of production."</i>

litigious	quarrelsome	<i>"His litigious nature involved him in five lawsuits at the same time."</i>
rhetoric	using language effectively to please or persuade	<i>"His fiery rhetoric in support of limiting cuts to projected defense spending has surprised and impressed some of his toughest critics."</i>
gazetteer	a book or part of a book that contains a list of names of places, usually with some extra information	<i>"The Omni Gazetteer is a national gazetteer of the United States that is as comprehensive as possible."</i>
cirriped	Subclass saltwater crustaceans such as barnacles	<i>"We hauled the cruiser out of the water to scrape the cirriped from the keel."</i>
mettlesome	spirited; ardent; brave, etc.	<i>"Teddy Roosevelt had the mettlesome character needed in a reform movement."</i>
embouchure	the mouth of a river; the opening out of a valley into a plain.	<i>"The banks of the river about its embouchure are bordered by high-cultivated fields, in some parts covered with low wooded land."</i>
acetylene	a colorless, poisonous, highly flammable gaseous hydrocarbon	<i>"This most brilliant of the illuminating gases is acetylene."</i>
lackadaisical	listless; languid	<i>"Tom was lackadaisical in the hot, humid weather."</i>
legation	a diplomatic minister and his staff collectively, representing his government in a foreign country	<i>"The French legation provided travel information."</i>
somnambulism	sleepwalking	<i>"The bungling bureaucrats operated as though in a state of somnambulism."</i>
mythopoeia	the making of myths	<i>"The events of Washington's lifetime give us a rich base for mythopoeia."</i>

hegemony	leadership or dominance, especially that of one state or nation over others	"The Chinese say the Soviets are establishing military hegemony over the free world."
serricorn	Any one of a numerous tribe of beetles (Serricornia). The joints of the antennæ are prominent, thus producing a serrate appearance.	<i>The scientist was particularly keen on studying one of the serricorn beetles, identifiable by their serrated antennae.</i>
prosody	the science or art of versification	"Her understanding of prosody was limited to the ode."
arboreal	Living in trees or adapted for living in trees	"Monkeys are arboreal creatures."
triptych	set of three panels or pictures hinged so two side panels fold over the middle	"We walked up the aisle of the church to examine the altar piece which was a triptych ."
niveous	snowy; snow like	"We like the cold, brisk, niveous weather."
multifarious	numerous and varied; manifold	"The conglomerate's multifarious divisions employ thousands."
incorrigible	that cannot be corrected, improved, or reformed	"They held out little hope for the prisoner because he was incorrigible ."
chiaroscuro	the treatment of light and shade in a painting, drawing, etc., to produce the illusion of depth, a dramatic effect	"Many painters use chiaroscuro to heighten the drama in their paintings."
felicitous	well-chosen; appropriate; apt; yielding great pleasure	"He was a felicitous choice for the new position."
quixotic	extravagantly chivalrous or romantically idealistic	"Patrolling the streets with knights in white armor is the quixotic method of solving crime."

panegyric	formal speech of praise; laudation; tribute	"The speaker made a panegyric presentation to the workers who had all helped in this year's United Fund campaign."
seclusion	the act of being removed or separate: the state of being secluded	"In some societies women are kept in seclusion , so that they are hardly ever seen in public."
neurasthenia	a type of neurosis, usually the result of emotional conflicts, characterized by irritability, fatigue, weakness, anxiety, and often localized pains or distress without apparent physical causes	"The nagging pains of neurasthenia kept him out of the office for weeks."
lachrymator	a substance that irritates the eyes and produces tears	"The SWAT team used tear gas as a lachrymator to force the men out."
mahlstick	Long, light stick used by painters	"Using the mahlstick to rest and steady his hand, the artist was able to work longer."
stertorous	characterized by a harsh snoring or grasping sound	"The next time my husband's stertorous breathing wakes me, I'll push him right out of the bed!"
exploit	draw from; make good use of	"As humans increasingly exploit the deep seas for fish, oil and mining, understanding how species are dispersed is crucial, Copley said."
subterfuge	strategem; artifice	"Using a false name is a common subterfuge to dodge taxes."
gasconade	boastful or blustering talk	"The gasconade of the athlete stopped with his defeat."
abhor	to shrink from in fear; disgust or hatred; detest	"I abhor baiting my fishhook with worms."
recalcitrant	hard to handle or deal with	"Even the most recalcitrant students came to respect the teacher's authority."

synthesis	the putting together of parts or elements so as to form a whole	<i>"A good composition is the synthesis of many skills."</i>
orogeny	the formation of mountains through structural disturbance of the earth's crust	<i>"The Mesozoic era, called the age of orogeny, spawned the Rockies."</i>
hypochondriac	a person who has hypochondria	<i>"The hypochondriac made his tenth visit to the hospital in ten days."</i>
anadiplosis	A rhetorical device in which a word or phrase used at the end of a sentence or clause is repeated near the beginning of the next sentence or clause.	<i>In an anadiplosis one repeats a word near the end of one phrase or clause at the beginning of the next.</i>
rambunctious	wild, disorderly, boisterous, unruly, etc.	<i>"With a substitute teacher, first-graders are even more rambunctious than usual."</i>
pneumonectomy	the surgical removal of an entire lung	<i>"His recovery from pneumonectomy was faster than expected."</i>
edifice	a structure that has a roof and walls	<i>"They are here erecting a fine stone edifice for an Episcopal Church."</i>
entreat	ask for or request earnestly	<i>"Let me go now, please,' she would entreat, her eyes unable to meet his any longer."</i>
nonchalance	calm behavior that suggests you are not interested or do not care	<i>"He leaned back in his chair with apparent nonchalance."</i>
hemorrhage	heavy bleeding	<i>"Jim had a bad hemorrhage in his arm after the auto accident."</i>
annihilate	to bring to nothing; destroy completely	<i>"Nuclear war would annihilate the earth."</i>