

ABHOR	to hate
ABSTINENCE	deliberate self-restraint
ABSTRUSE	difficult to understand
ACCLAIM	to praise
ACCORD	agreement
ACERBIC	bitter
ACRIMONY	hostility
ACUITY	sharp perception or vision
ADEPT	very skilled
ADMONISH	to gently criticize or warn
ADORN	to decorate
ADROIT	very skilled
ADULATION	excessive flattery
ADVERSITY	great hardship
ADVOCATE	to speak in favor of, promote
AESTHETIC	concerning beauty
AFFABLE	friendly
AFFLUENT	wealthy
ALACRITY	eagerness, enthusiasm
ALIENATE	to make unfriendly or hostile
ALLEVIATE	to make more bearable
ALTRUISTIC	unselfishly concerned for the welfare of others
AMALGAM	a combination of diverse elements
AMBIGUOUS	unclear
AMBIVALENT	having opposing feelings; uncertain
AMELIORATE	to improve
AMENABLE	open to advice or suggestion
AMIABLE	friendly
AMICABLE	friendly
AMORPHOUS	lacking definite form
ANACHRONISTIC	in the wrong time period
ANECDOTE	a short account of an interesting or humorous incident
ANIMOSITY	bitter hostility
ANTAGONISTIC	hostile
APATHETIC	lacking interest, concern, or emotion
APPEASE	to bring peace, quiet, or calm to; to relieve
APPREHENSIVE	fearful
ARBITRARY	determined by impulse or chance, without reason
ARCHAIC	outdated; really old
ARDOR	energy, intensity, enthusiasm
ARID	dry
ARTICULATE	characterized by clear and expressive language
ASCERTAIN	to discover
ASPIRE	to have a great ambition
ASSESS	to make a judgment about
ASSIDUOUS	hard working

ASTUTE	having sharp judgment
ATROPHY	to waste away
AUDACITY	disrespectful boldness
AUGMENT	to make greater in size or quantity
AUSPICIOUS	favorable; successful
AUSTERE	strict or severe in discipline
AUTONOMY	independence
AVARICE	greed
AVERSE	reluctant
AWE	a mixed emotion of respect, wonder, and dread
BANAL	ordinary and commonplace
BANE	a cause of death or ruin
BELIE	to represent falsely
BELITTLE	to speak of in an insulting way
BELLIGERENT	eager to fight
BEMUSE	to confuse, stun, or stump
BENEVOLENT	inclined to perform kind acts
BENIGN	kind; beneficial
BERATE	to criticize severely or angrily
BOISTEROUS	noisy; disorderly
BOLSTER	to support; to reinforce
BOMBASTIC	using arrogant or pretentious speech
BRAZEN	rudely bold
BRUSQUE	rudely brief
BUOYANT	cheerful
BURGEON	to grow
BUTTRESS	to support or strengthen
CACOPHONY	jarring, disagreeable sound
CAJOLE	to persuade by flattery
CALLOUS	emotionally hardened or unfeeling
CAMARADERIE	goodwill among friends
CANDID	honest and straightforward
CANTANKEROUS	ill-tempered
CAPRICIOUS	impulsive, unpredictable
CARNIVOROUS	meat-eating
CATHARTIC	emotionally cleansing or relieving
CAUSTIC	harsh, stinging; sarcastic
CENSURE	to criticize severely
CEREBRAL	intellectual
CHRONIC	continuing or lingering
CIRCUITOUS	being or taking a roundabout course
CIRCUMSPECT	cautious and wise
CIRCUMVENT	to avoid or get around
CLAIRVOYANCE	the power to see things that cannot be perceived by the senses
CLANDESTINE	kept or done in secret

COGENT	forcefully convincing
COGNIZANT	aware
COHERENT	logically connected; making sense
COHESIVE	sticking or holding together
COLLABORATE	to work together
COMMEND	to praise
COMPEL	to exert a strong, irresistible force on
COMPETENT	having adequate ability
COMPLACENT	self-satisfied to the point of inactivity; unconcerned
COMPLICITY	participation in a bad act or a crime
COMPOSED	calm
COMPROMISE	to expose to danger or suspicion
CONCEDE	to acknowledge, often reluctantly, as being true
CONCILIATE	to bring peace, quiet, or calm to; to relieve
CONCISE	expressing much in few words
CONCORD	agreement
CONCUR	to agree
CONDESCEND	to deal with people in a superior manner
CONDONE	to excuse or overlook
CONFORM	to be similar; to adapt
CONFOUND	to confuse
CONJECTURE	guesswork
CONSCIENTIOUS	thorough and careful
CONSENSUS	general agreement
CONSOLIDATE	to combine
CONSTITUENT	a component
CONSTRAIN	to hold back; to restrict
CONSTRUE	to interpret
CONTEMPT	a lack of respect and intense dislike
CONTEND	to compete; to argue
CONTRITE	feeling or expressing remorse
CONTRIVED	obviously planned or made up
CONVIVIAL	sociable
CONVOLUTED	complicated
COPIOUS	plentiful, abundant
CORDIAL	friendly, warm, polite
CORROBORATE	to strengthen or support with evidence
CREDIBLE	believable
CUNNING	clever, sneaky
CURSORY	performed with haste and little attention to detail
CURTAIL	to cut short
CYNICAL	believing that people are motivated by selfishness; pessimistic
DAUNT	to intimidate or lessen one's courage
DEARTH	a scarce supply
DEBILITATE	to weaken

DEBUNK	to disprove or expose the falseness of
DECORUM	correct or appropriate behavior
DECRY	to condemn openly
DEFER	to submit or yield to another's wish or opinion
DELETERIOUS	harmful
DELINEATE	to depict or describe
DEMEAN	to lower in status or worth
DENIGRATE	to attack the reputation of
DENOUNCE	to condemn openly
DEPRECATE	to mildly insult or belittle
DERIDE	to speak of or treat with cruelty
DESPAIR	a complete loss of hope
DESPONDENT	depressed, having no hope
DETER	to prevent or discourage from acting
DIFFIDENCE	a lack of self-confidence, shyness
DIGRESS	to stray from the main subject
DILATORY	tending to delay; late or slow
DILIGENT	hard working
DIMINUTIVE	tiny
DISCERN	to detect or perceive
DISCORD	lack of agreement, quarreling
DISCREDIT	to bring shame or dishonor on
DISCREET	careful in one's conduct or speech
DISCREPANCY	an unexpected difference
DISCRETE	separate; distinct
DISDAIN	intense dislike
DISGRUNTLED	unhappy
DISMISS	to reject
DISPARAGE	to speak of in an insulting way
DISPARITY	the state of being different
DISPASSIONATE	not influenced by emotion or bias
DISPEL	to rid of
DISPOSITION	one's usual mood
DISSEMBLE	to conceal behind a false appearance
DISSEMINATE	to spread out
DISSENT	disagreement
DISSIPATE	to disappear
DIVERGENT	drawing apart from a common point; differing from another
DIVISIVE	creating disagreement or dissent
DIVULGE	to make known, reveal
DOCILE	easily managed or taught
DOGGED	stubbornly persevering
DOGMATIC	stubbornly and arrogantly opinionated
DOUR	gloomy
DUBIOUS	doubtful, questionable
DUPLICITY	deception, deceit

EARNEST	showing deep sincerity or seriousness
EBULLIENT	enthusiastic, lively
ECCENTRIC	strange; unconventional
ECLECTIC	having elements from a variety of sources
ECSTASY	intense joy or delight
EFFACE	to erase
EFFICACIOUS	effective
EFFUSIVE	overflowing (usually referring to emotions)
ELATED	filled with delight
ELITE	superior in status
ELOQUENT	well spoken
ELUCIDATE	to make clear
ELUSIVE	tending to escape
EMBELLISH	to add fictitious details to
EMINENT	outstanding; distinguished
EMPIRICAL	based on observation or experiment
EMULATE	to equal through imitation
ENCOMPASS	to enclose; to include
ENCROACH	to advance beyond limits
ENERVATE	to weaken or drain of energy
ENHANCE	to make greater or better
ENIGMATIC	puzzling
ENMITY	hatred
ENTHRALL	to hold spellbound, captivate
ENTICE	to lure
ENTRENCH	to fix firmly or securely
ENUMERATE	to specify individually; to count
ENUNCIATE	to pronounce with clarity
EPHEMERAL	lasting for a brief time
EQUANIMITY	calmness
EQUIVOCAL	uncertain, vague, misleading
ERADICATE	to eliminate
ERRATIC	irregular
ERUDITE	scholarly, well educated
ESOTERIC	understood by only a few
ESPOUSE	to give one's support to
ESTEEM	to value highly, to respect
ESTRANGE	to cause to become unfriendly or hostile
EULOGY	a written or spoken tribute (usually for someone who has died)
EUPHEMISM	the substitution of inoffensive term for one considered offensive
EUPHORIA	a feeling of great happiness
EVANESCENT	fading away
EVASIVE	tending to escape
EVOKE	to summon or call forth

EXACERBATE	to make more severe
EXACTING	requiring great care or effort
EXALT	to elevate, glorify, or praise
EXASPERATE	to anger or irritate
EXEMPLARY	worthy of imitation
EXONERATE	to free from blame or responsibility
EXORBITANT	excessive
EXPEDITE	to speed the progress of
EXPLOIT	to utilize fully or advantageously (often selfishly or unethically)
EXTOL	to praise
EXTRAVAGANT	excessive
EXUBERANT	lively
FACILE	simple; easy
FACILITATE	to make easier
FATUOUS	foolish, ridiculously stupid
FEASIBLE	possible, workable, practical
FELICITY	great happiness
FERVENT	greatly emotional or enthusiastic
FLAGRANT	obviously bad or offensive
FLAMBOYANT	highly elaborate; showy
FLORID	elaborately or excessively ornamented; flowery
FLOURISH	to grow well
FORTHRIGHT	honest, direct, straightforward
FOSTER	to promote the development of
FRENETIC	wildly excited; frenzied; frantic
FRIVOLOUS	unworthy of serious attention
FRUGAL	careful with money, stingy
FUTILE	having no useful result
GALVANIZE	to stimulate
GARISH	flashy, tastelessly loud and brightly colored
GARRULOUS	talkative
GENIAL	friendly, cheerful
GRANDIOSE	falsely exaggerating one's worth
GRATE	to irritate
GRATUITOUS	unnecessary
GREGARIOUS	sociable
GUILE	skillful deceit
HACKNEYED	overused
HAIL	to salute or greet
HAMPER	to prevent the movement or action of
HARANGUE	a long, angry speech
HAUGHTY	snobbish; overly proud
HEED	to pay close attention to
HERETICAL	characterized by departure from accepted beliefs or standards
HINDER	to be or get in the way of

HOMOGENEOUS	all of the same or similar kind
IDIOSYNCRATIC	peculiar to an individual
ILLICIT	not permitted by custom or law
ILLUSORY	based on or producing illusion; deceptive
IMPARTIAL	not biased
IMPASSIONED	filled with passion
IMPASSIVE	having or showing little emotion
IMPECCABLE	perfect
IMPEDE	to be or get in the way of
IMPERIOUS	arrogantly authoritative or overbearing
IMPETUOUS	impulsive, unthinking
IMPUGN	to attack as false or wrong, to challenge or question
INACCESSIBLE	not easily approached, entered, or obtained
INCISIVE	penetrating, clear and sharp
INCONGRUOUS	inappropriate; inconsistent
INCONSEQUENTIAL	lacking importance
INCONTROVERTIBLE	impossible to dispute
INCORRIGIBLE	incapable of being corrected or reformed
INCREDULOUS	disbelieving
INDICT	to accuse of wrongdoing
INDIFFERENT	having no preference
INDIGENOUS	native
INDIGNATION	anger (over something unjust)
INDUCE	to bring about the occurrence of;
INDULGE	to please or satisfy
INFLAMMATORY	arousing strong emotion, esp. anger
INGENUOUS	innocent; honest and straightforward
INHERENT	naturally occurring; essential
INHIBIT	to hold back; to restrain
INNATE	inborn
INNOCUOUS	harmless
INNOVATIVE	new and creative
INQUISITIVE	showing curiosity
INSINUATE	to suggest subtly; to hint
INSIPID	lacking flavor or zest; dull
INSOLENT	disrespectfully arrogant
INSTIGATE	to stir up
INSULAR	isolated; narrow-minded
INTELLIGIBLE	capable of being understood
INTRANSIGENT	uncompromising
INUNDATE	to overwhelm with, to flood
INVIGORATE	to give life or energy to
INVOKE	to enforce or put into operation
IRATE	enraged
JADED	weary, worn out
JUDICIOUS	having good judgment, prudent

JUXTAPOSE	to place side by side
KEEN	sharp, perceptive
LACONIC	using few words (often rudely or mysteriously)
LAMENT	to regret; to show grief for
LANGUID	lacking energy or spirit
LATENT	existing in hidden or dormant form
LAUD	to praise
LAVISH	excessive; plentiful
LUCID	clear
LUXURIOUS	rich and superior in quality
MAGNANIMOUS	noble and generous in spirit
MANDATE	an authoritative command
MANIFEST	to make evident or certain by displaying or demonstrating
MEAGER	small, inadequate, or insufficient
MEDIOCRE	ordinary; so-so
MELANCHOLY	sad; gloomy
MERCENARY	motivated solely by a desire for monetary or material gain
MERCURIAL	changeable, erratic
METICULOUS	extremely careful
MIRTH	gladness, amusement, laughter
MITIGATE	to lessen in force or intensity
MOLLIFY	to soften, to ease the anger of
MOROSE	gloomy
MUNDANE	ordinary, commonplace
MUTABLE	subject to change
NEBULOUS	hazy, vague, or confused; lacking defined form
NEGLIGENT	guilty of neglect
NEGLIGIBLE	insignificant; really small
NONCHALANT	casually unconcerned (sometimes falsely)
NOSTALGIA	a bittersweet longing for the past
NOTORIOUS	known widely and unfavorably; famous for something bad
NOVEL	strikingly new or different
NURTURE	to help develop, to nourish
OBDURATE	stubbornly persistent in wrongdoing
OBLIVIOUS	forgetful; unaware
OBSOLETE	no longer in use or current
OBSTINATE	stubborn
OBSTREPEROUS	noisily and stubbornly defiant
OBTRUSIVE	sticking out, noticeable; brash, meddling
OBTUSE	lacking intellect
OFFICIOUS	overly eager in offering unwanted help
OMINOUS	menacing; threatening
OPAQUE	not clearly understood, dense
OPPORTUNE	suitable, occurring at an appropriate time
OPULENT	rich or superior in quality
ORNATE	excessively decorated

ORTHODOX	commonly accepted; traditional
PARADOX	a seemingly contradictory statement that may nonetheless be true
PARTISAN	devoted to or biased in support of a group
PATRONIZE	to treat condescendingly
PENITENT	feeling or expressing remorse
PERNICIOUS	deadly or destructive
PERPETUAL	continuing forever or indefinitely
PERSEVERE	to be persistent, refuse to stop
PERSPICACITY	a high level of perception or understanding
PERTINENT	exactly relevant
PERVASIVE	spread throughout
PLACID	calm, quiet
PLAUSIBLE	believable
PLIABLE	easily bent or shaped
POIGNANT	touching
POLARIZE	to set at opposite ends or extremes
POMPOUS	exaggeratedly self-important
PRAGMATIC	practical
PRECARIOUS	dangerously unstable or insecure
PRECIPITOUS	extremely steep
PREDILECTION	a preference; a tendency toward favoring
PRETENTIOUS	claiming unjust standing
PREVALENT	widely occurring
PRISTINE	unspoiled, completely pure
PRODIGIOUS	enormous; extraordinary
PROFOUND	deep; far-reaching
PROLIFERATE	to increase or spread at a rapid rate
PROLIFIC	producing abundant works or results
PROPAGATE	to transmit or cause to broaden or spread
PROPENSITY	tendency
PROPRIETY	the quality of being proper
PROSAIC	lacking in imagination; dull
PROSPERITY	success; being well-off
PROVINCIAL	narrow-minded
PROVOCATIVE	tending to stir to anger or action
PRUDENT	wise; careful
PUGNACIOUS	eager to fight
QUELL	to put down forcibly
RANCOR	hostility
RAVENOUS	violently hungry or greedy
REBUKE	to criticize or find fault with
RECIPROCATE	to show or give in return
RECLUSIVE	seeking or preferring isolation
RECONCILE	to reestablish a close relationship between
REFUGE	protection or shelter

REFUTE	to prove to be false
REITERATE	to repeat
RELINQUISH	to give up; to release
REMINISCE	to recollect and tell of the past
RENOUNCE	to reject, disown, or formally give up
REPREHENSIBLE	deserving of criticism or disapproval
REPROACH	to criticize or express disappointment
REPUDIATE	to reject the validity of
RESENT	to feel angry and bitter about
RESIGNATION	acceptance of something as inescapable; submission
RESILIENT	able to recover promptly
RESOLUTE	firm or determined
RESOLVE	to make a firm decision about
RETICENT	restrained or reserved
REVERE	to respect, honor or admire
REVOKE	to void by recalling, reversing, or withdrawing
RUDIMENTARY	being or involving basic facts or principles
SAGACIOUS	insightful and wise
SANCTION	to give official authorization or approval to
SANGUINE	cheerful
SCATHING	harshly critical
SCOFF	to express or treat with disrespectful disregard
SCORN	intense hatred or disrespect
SCRUPULOUS	thorough and careful
SCRUTINIZE	to examine carefully
SERENE	calm
SHREWD	smart in a sneaky or tricky manner
SKEPTICAL	doubting, questioning, not believing
SMUG	self-satisfied (especially in a mocking way)
SOLEMN	serious and sober
SOLICITOUS	anxious or concerned
SOMBER	gloomy
SPECIOUS	seemingly true but actually logically false
SPORADIC	occurring at irregular intervals
SPURIOUS	not genuine; false
SPURN	to reject with disrespect
SQUANDER	to waste
STAGNANT	not moving, flowing, or developing
STEADFAST	firm and dependable
STOIC	seemingly unaffected by pleasure or pain
SUBDUE	to bring under control
SUBSTANTIATE	to support with proof
SUBVERT	to ruin; to overthrow
SUCCINCT	precise expression using few words
SUPERFLUOUS	extra, unnecessary
SUPLANT	to take the place of

SUPPRESS	to put down; to hold back
SURREPTITIOUS	done or made by secret or stealthy means
TACT	sensitivity in dealing with others
TEDIOUS	tiresomely long or boring
TEMPER	to soften or moderate
TENACITY	persistence, determination
TERSE	expressing much in few words
THERAPEUTIC	having healing powers
THWART	to stop or prevent
TORPOR	inactivity
TRACTABLE	easily managed, led, or taught
TRANQUIL	calm
TRANSIENT	existing only briefly
TRANSITORY	existing only briefly
TREACHERY	deliberate betrayal of trust
TRITE	uninteresting because of overuse
TRIVIAL	insignificant, unimportant
TUMULTUOUS	disorderly or noisy
UNASSUMING	not showy or arrogant; modest; plain
UNDERMINE	to weaken
UNDERScore	to emphasize
UNIFORM	always the same
URBANE	polite, suave, and cultivated in manner
USURP	to seize and take control without authority and possibly with force
UTILITARIAN	having only a useful function; practical
VACILLATE	to be undecided, to hesitate
VAPID	lacking liveliness or interest; dull
VEILED	concealed or disguised
VENERATE	to respect
VERBOSE	using more words than necessary
VERSATILE	capable of doing many things competently
VICARIOUS	felt or undergone as if one were taking part in the experience or feelings of another
VIGILANT	alert; watchful
VILIFY	to say bad things about, to make into a villain
VINDICATE	to clear of blame or suspicion
VINDICTIVE	seeking revenge
VIVACIOUS	lively
VOLATILE	explosive, tending to change
VOLUBLE	characterized by ready and rapid speech
VOLUMINOUS	big; having large volume
VULNERABLE	not protected against harm; easily injured
WARRANT	to justify
WARY	on guard, cautious, watchful
WAVER	to be unsure or weak

WHIMSICAL	impulsive, fanciful
ZEALOUS	filled with or motivated by enthusiastic devotion