List of 1,000 Common SAT Vocabulary Words with Latin and Greek Roots

This list is made free to students everywhere by FreeTestPrep.com and BWSEducationConsulting. All students should have the opportunity to master vocabulary for the SAT and PSAT at no cost. This list of SAT and PSAT words has the definitions of the words, the roots of the words, and the use of the words in sentences. Studying these vocabulary words will help you with the Critical Reading section of the SAT and the PSAT, as well as the GRE. This will be helpful on the SAT until it changes in April, 2016 and does not have as many difficult vocabulary words. You can print this list, share it with anyone, and link to it. Best of luck on your test!

Much of the English language is derived from Greek and Latin roots. These roots are found throughout many words on the SAT vocabulary section. In order to learn the most amount of words and be able to deduce what unknown words mean on the test, it is important to learn these roots.

For instance the root “crypt” means hidden or secret so the word “cryptic” means “puzzling, or secret”

Ab-, a-, abs- away

-Abrasive: rough, coarse, harsh
  Ab: away
  Ras: scrape, shave
  Ive: like
  “The teacher had an abrasive nature and was often harsh in her critiques.”

-Abasement: humiliation, degradation
  Ab: away
  ment: act of, result
  “Our coach abased us when we made mistakes on the court”

-Abrogate: cancel, deny, repeal
  Ab: away
  Rog: ask
  Ate: to make
  “Since I found the book cheaper, I abrogated my original order”

-Abstain: desist, go without, withdraw
  Ab: away
  St: stand
  “During Ramadan, Muslims abstain from food during the daylight hours”
Abstemious: self denying, sparing in diet
  Ab: away
  ous: characterized by
  “Tina thought she needed to lose weight so she adopted an abstemious diet”
Abdicate: to give up
  ab: away
  dict: say, speak
  ate: to make
  “The prince didn’t feel qualified to be king so he abdicated the throne in favor of his little brother”
Abduction: a carrying away of a person against his will
  ab: away
  duct: lead
  ion: act of, state of, result of
  “The child was thought to be abducted, but it turned out he had just wandered off
Abjure: to recall, recant or repudiate under oath
  ab: away
  jur: law, justice
  “The witness later recanted his statement because they found out he was lying”
Abrade: to wear away the surface or some part of by friction
  ab: away
  rad: scrape, shave
  “The button’s on Casey’s phone were abraded from constant texting”
Abeyance: a state of suspension or temporary inaction
  ab: away
  ance: action, process, state
  “The committee couldn’t come to a decision so the problem was held in abeyance”
Abnormal: not conformed to the ordinary rule or standard
  ab: away
  al: relating to
  “Kelly’s behavior of blowing off homework was abnormal for a straight A student”
Manufacture: the making or producing of anything
  manu: hand
  act: do
  “The company manufactured products for the electronics company”
Activate: to cause to function
  act: do
  ate: cause, make
  “The screen lit up because pressing the button activated the computer”
Aerial: of pertaining to, or like the air
  aer: air
  al: pertaining to
  “Birds are considered aerial animals”
Aeronaut: one who navigates the air
aero: air
naut: ship
“The hot air balloon driver was an aeronaut”

Aeronautics: the art or practice of flying aircraft
aer: air
naut: ship
ic: like, pertaining to
“Jet pilots must go through aeronautics training.”

Aerostat: a balloon or other apparatus floating in or sustained by the air
aer: air
stat: stationary, still
“The helium balloons were aerostat”

Agr- farming
Agrarian: pertaining to land
agr: farming
ian: native of, pertaining to
“The agrarian products were sold at the farmer’s market”

Ambi-, amphi both, on both sides, around
Ambidextrous: having the ability of using both hands
ambi: both
dextr: right
ous: full of
“Sam switched easily between his hands while dining showing his ambidexterity”

Ambiguous: having a double meaning
ambi: both
ous: full of
“The agreement between the countries was ambiguous and lead to many more conflicts”

Amphibious: living both on land and in water
amphi: both
bi: two
ous: full of
“Since frogs can move between land and sea they are amphibious”

Ambul- walk, move
Perambulate: to walk about
per: through
ambul: walk, move
ate: to make
“The dog perambulated around the field looking for his frisbee”

Ambulate: to walk about
ambul: walk, move
ate: to make
“The concerned person ambulated back and forth lost in thought”
Ami-love
Amicable: done in a friendly spirit
   ami: love
   able: capable of
   “The papers were signed amicably and the former partners parted as friends”

Amity: friendship
   ami: love
   ity: state of, quality of
   “Lisa and Joey were in a state of amity prior to their fight”

Pusillanimous: without spirit or bravery
   sil: quiet, or still
   amin: life spirit
   ous: characterized by
   “The pusillanimous soldier deserted his comrades right before the battle”

Animate: to make alive
   anim: life, spirit
   ate: to make
   “The girl was animated as she talked about her favorite comedy”

Captivating: to attract and hold attention to
   capt: take, hold
   “The painting’s rich colors were captivating and held everyone’s attention”

Acceptable: pleasing to the receiver
   Ac: to, toward
   Cept: take, hold
   Able: capable of
   “The waitress found her large tip very acceptable”

Conclusive: putting an end to debate or question especially by reason of irrefutability
   Con: with, jointly
   Clus: close
   Ive: like
   “The findings of the forensic technician were conclusive, even in court”

Credible: believable
   Cred: believe, trust
   lble: capable of
   “The newspaper writer believed his source was credible, but his information ended up being false”

Creditable: praiseworthy
   cred: believe, trust
   able: capable of
   “The president’s actions were creditable and eventually recognized by the Nobel Peace Prize Committee”

Credulous: ready to believe anything
   cred: believe, trust
   ous: full of
“The trusting girl believed every lie her friend told her, she was quite **credulous**”

Credence: belief
- **cred**: believe, trust
- **ence**: action, state of, quality

“His previous actions gave his current sentiments **credence**”

discredit- the state of being held in low esteem
- **dis**: negation
- **cred**: believe, trust

“After lying about his credentials, the applicant was **discredited**”

accredit: to attribute to
- **ac**: to, toward
- **cred**: believe, trust

“Popular quotes are often **accredited** to multiple people”

Accumulate: to become greater in quantity or number
- **ac**: to, toward
- **cumul**: mass, heap
- **ate**: to make

“The little girl **accumulated** a lot of candy on Halloween.”

Cryptic: puzzling, enigmatic
- **crypt**: hidden
- **ic**: like, pertaining to

“The rationale behind the criminal’s actions were **cryptic** to the jury”

Cryptogram: Anything written in characters that are secret or so arranged as to have hidden meaning.
- **crypt**: hidden
- **gram**: writing

“The siblings wrote all their notes in **cryptogram** so their parents couldn’t read them”

Counterfeit: fake, false
- **counter**: against
- **feit**: to make, to do

“The mob was manufacturing **counterfeit** money to use in their industry”

Contraband: trade forbidden by law or treaty
- **contra**: against

“The kid traded **contraband** candy even though they weren’t allowed to at school”

Contradiction: The assertion of the opposite of that which has been said
- **contra**: against
- **dict**: say or speak

“The boy told the girl he liked her but **contradicted** himself by dating someone else the next day”

contraposition: A placing opposite.
- **contra**: against
- **posit**: put

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“The fork was first laid down, then the spoon was laid contraposition to the fork.

controversial: argumentative, contentious, disputatious
  contro: against
  vers: turn
  al: relating to
  There are many issues in the world of politics that are controversial.

counteract: to act in opposition to
  counter: against
  Martin Luther King Jr. attempted to counteract racism in the United States.

Anticyclone: an atmospheric condition of high central pressure, with currents flowing outward
  anti: against, opposed to
  cycl: circle, ring

Cycloid: like a circle
  cycl: circle, ring
  oid: like
  The design of her tattoo was cycloid.

Encyclical: intended for general circulation
  en: intensification, put into, or on
  cycl: circle, ring
  al: relating to
  “An encyclical letter was sent out from the principal of the school”

Epicycle: a circle that rolls upon the external or internal circumference of another circle
  epi: upon
  cycl: circle, ring

Tricycle: a three wheeled vehicle
  tri: three
  cycl: circle, ring
  “Matt learned to ride bikes by first riding on a tricycle”

Endemic: peculiar to some specified country or people
  en: put into or on, bring into the condition of, intensification
  dem: people
  ic: nature of, like
  “Some species are endemic and only found in a certain country”

Pandemic: affecting a whole people or all classes
  pan: all
  dem: people
  ic: nature of, like
  “There are occasionally break outs of pandemic diseases”

Dendroid: like a tree
  dendr: tree
  oid: like
  “The dendroid bush was not actually even related to trees”
Dendrology: the natural history of trees
  dendr: tree
  ology: study, science, theory
  “The dendrology of a tree can sometimes be determined from its rings”

Dentifrice: any preparation used for cleaning the teeth
  dent: tooth
  ice: condition, state, quality

Derm-
  skin

Dermatology: the branch of medical science which relates to the skin and its diseases
  derm: skin
  ology: study, science, theory
  “Because of her family’s history of skin cancer, Megan was interested in dermatology”

Epidermis: the outer skin
  epi: upon
  derm: skin
  “The girl marked her epidermis with a marker.”

Hypodermic: pertaining to the area under the skin
  hypo: under
  derm: skin
  ic: nature of, like
  “The hypodermic needle dispensed the necessary medication”

Taxidermy: the art or process of preserving dead animals
  tax: arrangement, order
  derm: skin
  “Western restaurants sometimes feature taxidermy animals.”

Dictum: a positive utterance
  dict: speak
  “The monarch issued a dictum about the recent rash of violence”

Edict: a decree issued by a sovereign or other authority
  dict: speak
  “

Indict: to bring formal accusation against
  in: into, towards
  dict: speak
  “The accused was indicted of multiple counts of burglary”

Malediction: curse, imprecation
  male: bad, wretched
  dict: speak
  “The witch uttered malediction against the people who imprisoned her”

Predict: to tell in advance
  pre: before in time or place
dict: speak
“The fortune-teller predicted the outcome of an important basketball game”

Benediction: utterance of good wishes
ben: good, well
dict: speak
ion: act of, state of, result of
“At the end of the service, the pastor said a benediction to send people on their way”

Dominate: to influence controllingly
domin: master
ate: to make
“Plantation owners dominated their slaves and treated them like property”

Domineer: to rule with insolence
domin: master
eer: person who
“The CEO was domineering and had a lot of influence over people”

Predominate: superior in power
pre: before in time, place, order or importance
domin: master
ate: to make
“The vice president has a lot of power but the president is predominate”

Endurable: tolerable
en: put into or on, intensification
dur: tolerable
able: capable of
“Janice twisted her ankle but said the pain was endurable and that she would be okay.”

Egoism: selfishness
ego: self
ism: system, manner, condition
“Ben exhibited extreme egoism and cared only for himself”

Anesthetic: loss of sensation
an: not, without
esth: feeling, sensation, beauty
ic: nature of, like
“Poppy’s headache was so severe that she required anesthetic to stay at work”

Esthetic: pertaining to the sense of the beautiful
esth: feeling, sensation, beauty
ic: like, pertaining to
“The art museum appealed to the group’s esthetic side”

Extraneous: external, foreign
extra: outside, beyond
ous: characterized by
“The ideas of the religion seemed extraneous to those of others”

Fidelity: loyalty
fid: faith
ity: state of being
“Mia’s dog exhibited extraordinary fidelity even after she had lost him on vacation”

Fudicial: indicative of faith or trust
fud: faith
ial: pertaining to
“The couple’s willingness to be separated was fudicial”

Infidel: unbeliever
in: not, without
fid: faith
“The Catholic Church often persecutes infidels”

Perfidy: deliberate breach of faith or trust
per: thoroughly, through
fid: faith
“The lie was an express act of perfidy”

Confidant: one to whom secrets are entrusted
con: with, jointly, completely
fid: faith
ant: full of
“The psychologist was many people’s only confidant”

Diffidence: self distrust
di: negation, removal, expulsion
fid: faith
ence: action of, state of, quality
“Jamie was insecure about his scholarly work, he showed a lot of diffidence”

genuflection: act of bending the knee or touching it to the ground in worship
ge: earth
flect: bend
tion: state of being
“Genuflection is a big part of prayer in many religions”

Flection: the act of bending
flect: bend
ion: state of being
“Gymnasts have high ability for flection”

Reflectible: able to cast back light
re: again
flect: bend
ible: capable of being
“The police officer’s glasses were reflectible”
Deflect: to bend or turn aside

de: down, away, completely, removal, reversal
flect: bend
“The girl deflected all of her friend’s questions about where she had been”

Inflexible: resistant to being bent

in: not, without
flex: bend
ible: able, can do
“The piece of metal was very inflexible”

Efflorescence: state or period of flowering

ef: out upward, completely previous
flor: flower
ence: state or quality of
“Springtime is often one of efflorescence for various species”

Flora: plants of a particular region or period

flor: flower
“Madagascar’s flora is very unique and sometimes seen no where else in the world”

Florid: reddish, rosy

flor: flower
“After being out in the wind, Josh’s cheeks were florid”

Fracture: a break

fract: break
“Dan fractured his wrist when he fell off his bike”

Refract: to alter or distort from a straight path undergone by a light ray or energywave in passing obliquely

re: again
fract: break

Fragile: easily broken

frag: break
“The delicate cup was so fragile it broke when it was knocked over”

Refragable:

re: again
frag: break
able: capable of being

Fugacious: fleeting

fug: flee, run away, escape
ous: characterized by
“Damien’s thoughts were fugacious and he couldn’t hold onto them”

Subterfuge: evasion

sub: at a lower position, lower in rank, nearly, approximately
fug: flee, run away, escape
“Many armies practice subterfuge to avoid detection”
Functionary: an official
 funct: perform, work
 tion: state of beng
 ary: relating to, quality of, place
 “The dignitary was accompanied by numerous functionaries”

Engender: cause, produce
 en: put into or on, brng into the conditio of, intesification
 gen: birth, production
 er: one, who
 “Farming engenders produce”

Generate: to produce or cause to be
 gen: birth production
 ate: become
 “The machine generated many electronic parts”

Genesis: creation
 gen: birth, production
 “The genesis of the world is explained by evolution”

Genitive: indication source, origin, possession, or the like
 gen: birth, production
 ive: having the nature of

Genteel: well-bred or refined
 gen: birth, production
 “Many genteel people reside in New York’s upper east side”

Monogram: a character consisting of two or more letters interwoven into one
 mono: one
 gram: letter
 “When people get married they sometime create a monogram from their initials”

Phonogram: a graphic character symbolizing an articulate sound
 phon: sound
 gram: letter
 “

Anagram: the letters of a word or phrase so transposed as to make a difference word or phrase
 ana: again, against, back, up
 gram: letter
 “‘Spend it’ is an anagram of ‘stipend’”

Epigram: a pithy phrasing of a shrewd observation
 epi: upon
 gram: letter, written
 “

Lithograph: producing a writing using a specially prepared stone and ink

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litho: stone

graph: writing, written, recording

Monograph: a treatise on a particular subject

mono: one

graph: writing, recording, written

“Many people have written monographs about particular presidents”

Typographical

typ: stamp, model

graph: writing, recording, written

al: pertaining to

Barograph: recordings of a barometer

baro: weight, pressure

graph: writing, recording, written

Bibliography: a complete or selective list of works compiled upon some common principle

bibl: book

graph: writing, written, recording

y: characterized by

“The reference book was ended by a bibliography of all the references used to create it”

Cosmography: a description or representation of the main features of the universe.

cosmo: universe

graph: writing, recording, written

y: characterized by

“The students studied a cosmography for their science class”

Gratification: satisfaction

grat: pleasing

fic: make

tion: state of being

“The cake provided gratification for the sweet toothed child”

Gratuitous: voluntarily

grat: pleasing

ous: characterized by

“The scholarship was given gratuitously by Freetestprep.com”

Gratuity: tip

grat: pleasing

ity: quality of

“Because the waiter was so attentive, the customers left a large gratuity”

Ingratiate: to establish in the favor of good graces of others

in: in, into towards, inside

grat: pleasing

ate: become

“The new girl ingratiated herself with everyone at the party”

Introgression: entrance

intro: inward, within
gress: to step, to go
sion: state of being
“The bride’s introgression is many people’s favorite part of weddings”

Progression: a moving forward
pro: in support of, acting for, motion forward
gress: to step, to go
sion: state of being
“The progression of the disease was spelled out for the unfortunate patient”

Regress: to return to a former place or condition
re: again
gress: to step, to go
“After making a lot of progress, Cindy regressed to her former fear of heights.”

Retrogression: moving backward
retro: backward, behind
gress: to step, to go
sion: state of being
“Bob retrogressed because something in the store window had caught his eye”

Transgress: to break a law
trans: across
gress: to step, to go
“Jails are full of transgressors”

Aggress: to make the first attack
ag: movement to, change into, addition, increase
gress: to step, to go
“Dogs don’t often aggress unless they feel threatened”

Digress: to turn aside from the main subject
di: negation, removal, expulsion
gress: to step, to go
“The teacher digressed from point of the lecture when she was reminded of another story”

Egress: any place of exit
e: out, upward, completely, previous
gress: to step, to go
“The flight attendant pointed out the places of egress from the plane”

Retrograde: to move backward
retro: backwards
grad: to step, to go
“After the car accident, Jenny had retrograde amnesia and couldn’t remember anything prior to the crash”

Gradation: any process or change taking place through a series of stages
grad: to step, to go
tion: act of, state of, result of
“The color wheel shows the gradation of hues”

Gradient: moving or advancing by steps
grad: to step, to go
“Skin tone is often determined in terms of **gradients**”

Gynecocracy: female supremacy
- gyn: woman, female
- cracy: government, rule
- “There are a few **gynecocracies** around the world in which females are the top of society”

Misogyny: hatred of women
- mis: hate
- gyn: woman, female
- “Talli accused her manager of being a **misogynist** when he treated her worse than the male employees”

Philogynist: one who is fond of women
- phil: love, friendship
- gyn: woman, female
- “Phil the philogynist had many female friends”
- ist: one who, that which

Exhausting: producing fatigue
- ex: from, out
- haust: draw
- “The work out was **exhausting**”

Hemorrhage: discharge of blood from a ruptured or wounded blood-vessel
- hem: blood
- “There is always a risk of **hemorrhage** when people undergo surgery”

Hemorrhoids: tumors composed of enlarged and thickened blood vessels
- hem: blood

Herbarium: a collection of dried plants scientifically arranged for study
- herb: grass, plant
- “The science room featured a large **herbarium**”

Herbivorous: feeding on herbs or other vegetable matter, as animals
- herb: grass, plant
- vor: swallow
- ous: characterized by
- “Kola’s only eat eucalyptus and thus are **herbivorous**”

Herbaceous: like an herb
- herb: grass, plant
- ous: characterized by
- “The food looked **herbaceous** but it was hard to tell”

Heteromorphic: deviating from normal
- hetero: different
- morph: form, shape
- ic: pertaining to
- “The **heteromorphic** man wasn’t carrying an umbrella in the rain”

Heterodox: at variance with any commonly accepted doctrine
- hetero: different
dox: opinion, tenet
“Wiccan religions are often heterodoxic”

heterogeneity: unlikeness of constituent parts
hetero: different
gen: race, kind
ity: quality of
“The soup had many heterogenitic chunks”

heterogenous: consisting of dissimilar elements or ingredients of different kinds
hetero: different
gen: race, kind
ous: characterized by
“The heterogenous mixture had many visible parts”

homogeneity: congruity of parts
homo: same
gen: race, kind
ity: quality of
“The chef stirred the batter until it was homogeneous”

homogeneous: made up of similar parts
homo: same
gen: race, kind
ous: characterized by
homologous: identical in nature
homo: same
log: thought, word, speech
ous: characterized by
“Because of evolution, many animals have homologous body parts”

homonym: a word the same as another in sound and spelling but different in meaning
homo: same
onym: name
“Do and dew are homonyms”

homophone: a word pronounced the same but different in meaning
homo: same
phon: sound

hydroelectric: pertaining to electricity developed water or stream
hydro: water

hydrous: watery
hydro: water
ous: characterized by
“The residue was hydrous and dripped everywhere”

hypercritical: faultfinding
hyper: too much, over, excessive
crit: judge
al: pertaining to
“The hypercritical teacher criticized the students work often”

Icon: an image or likeness
icon: image
Iconoclast: an image-breaker
icon: image
clast: broken
“The iconoclast refused to go to church”

Fastidious: hard to please
idio: peculiar, personal, distinct
“The fastidious customer sent the worker back five times to find the right product”

Idiom: use of words peculiar to a particular language
idio: peculiar, personal, distinct
“Idioms vary from culture to culture and sometimes inhibit communication”

Idiosyncrasy: a mental quality of habit peculiar to an individual
idio: peculiar, personal, distinct
syn: with
y: characterized by
“The flamboyant boy had many idiosyncratic behaviors”

Isochronous: regularly, at equal time intervals
iso: equal
chron: time
ous: characterized by
“Josh’s isochronous medication had to be taken every six hours”

Isothermal: occurring to constant temperature
iso: equal
therm: heat, warm
al: pertaining to
“The delicate pastry had to be cooked isothermally”

Eject: to expel
e: out, upward, completely, previously
ject: throw
“Callie ejected the CD from the sound system”

Inject: to force into a passage
in: not, without, in, into, towards, inside
ject: throw
“The medication was injected into the patients arm”

Trajectory: the curve described by a projectile
tra: across
ject: throw
“The trajectory of the golf ball was charted out by the player”
forejudge: to judge of before hearing evidence
fore: before
jud: law
“The case was so well publicized that is was hard to find a jury that hadn’t forejudged the accused”
judgement: make a decision or form an opinion objectively
jud: law
ment: condition of
“The baby sitter used judgement to decide which sibling was at fault”
judicature: distribution and administration of justice by trial and judgement
jud: law
cat: down
“Judicature is handed down by the judicial branch of our government”
judicial: pertaining to the administration of justice
jud: law
ical: pertaining to
“The parents were judicial in their handing out of punishment to their children”
judiciary: system of courts of justice in a country
jud: law
y: characterized by
“After the case was appealed, it moved higher up the judiciary system”
judicious: prudent
jud: law
ous: characterized by
“People should be more judicious in their fat intake”
prejudice: judgement or opinion formed before examination of facts
pre: before in time, place, order or importance
jud: law
“The professor was prejudiced against the student because he hadn’t like her sibling”
extrajudicial: happening out of court
extra: outside, beyond
jud: law
ical: pertaining to
“Vigilantes perform acts extrajudicially”
Junction: condition of being joined
junct: join
tion: state of being
“There was an accident at the junction of Main Street and 1st Street today”
juncture: articulation, joint, seam
junct: join
“The knee is a juncture of the lower leg bones and the femur”
adjunct: something joined with another thing but holding a subordinate place
  ad: movement to, change into, addition or increase
  junct: join
  “The adjunct professor didn’t have as many privileges as the others”

conjunction: the state of being joined together
  con: with, jointly, completely
  junct: join
  tion: state of being
  “The medication was used in conjunction with therapy for the injury”

disjunctive: helping or serving to disconnect or separate
  dis: negation, removal, expulsion
  junct: join
  ive: having the nature of
  “Communication between the groups was disjunctive”

Juvenile: characteristic of youth
  juven: young
  “The juvenile boys played football in the mud”

Rejuvenate: to restore youth
  re: again
  juven: young
  ate: become
  “The cream was supposed to rejuvenate facial skin”

Labyrinth: Maze
  lab: work
  “The city’s complicated streets seemed like a labyrinth”

Labrinthine: complicated, highly convoluted
  “The labyrinthine design had many intersecting lines”

syllabus: outline of a subject, course, lecture or treatise

Collaborate: To labor or cooperate with another or others, especially in literary or scientific pursuits.

Laborious: toilsome
  lab: work
  “The laborious work lasted for hours and seemed to accomplish very little”

Laceration: a cut
  lacer: tear
  tion: state of being
  “After the boy fell off his bike he had a laceration on his knee”

Lachrymose: tearful, sad
  lacrym: cry, tears
“The people were lachrymose after watching the movie”

Lactic: of, pertaining to, or obtained from milk
  lact: milk
  ic: pertaining to
  “The lactic solution was sustenance for the baby”

Lacteal: consisting of, or resembling milk, milky
  lact: milk
  al: pertaining to
  “Sometimes the stars and skies look lacteal which is how the ‘Milky Way’ got its name”

Lateral: directed toward the side
  later: side
  al: pertaining to
  “The defensive player moved laterally to block the offense”

Bilateral: two sided
  bi: two
  later: side
  al: pertaining to
  “The bilateral promise changed the country boundaries of two nations”

Lexicon: dictionary
  lex: word, law, reading
  “Every generation has had its own lexicon of slang terms”

Alleviate: to make easier
  al: movement to, change into, addition or increase
  lev: lift, light
  ate: become
  “The medication alleviated the girl’s headache”

Liberate: to set free
  liber: free
  ate: become
  “The dog felt liberated when he was let off his leash”

Liberality: generosity
  liber: free
  ity: quality of
  “The church’s liberality saved many people from poverty”

Lingua: the tongue
  lingu: language, tongue
  “The hot pizza burned Marco’s lingua when he bit into it”

Lingual: pertaining to the tongue
  lingu: language, tongue
  al: act or process of
Linguist: specialist in linguistics  
lingu: language, tongue  
“The linguist knew many dead languages and could translate a variety of texts”

Linguistics: science of language  
lingu: language, tongue

Sublingual: situated under the tongue  
sub: at a lower position, lower in rank, nearly  
lingu: language, tongue  
al: act or process of

Lithograph: a print made by printing from stone  
lith: rock, mineral, fossil  
graph: draw, write

Monolith: obelisk, column, large statue  
mono: one  
lith: rock, mineral, fossil  
“The Washington monument is a monolith”

Neolithic: pertaining to the last phase of the stone age  
neo: new  
lith: rock, mineral, fossil  
ic: pertaining to  
“Archeologists have discovered many neolithic artifacts”

Anthracite: hard coal  
anthr:  
ite: rock, mineral, fossil  
“Before oil, many boats were powered by anthracite”

Grandiloquent: speaking in a lofty style  
grand: grand  
loqu: speak  
ent:  
“The politician’s grandiloquent speech alienated many of his would be voters”

Loquacious: talkative  
loqu: speak  
ous: characterized by  
“The two loquacious friends hadn’t seen each other in a while and talked incessantly”

Soliloquy: a monologue  
sol: alone, only  
loqu: speak  
y: characterized by  
“Shakespeare is famous for the many soliloquys in his plays”

Colloquial: characteristic or appropriate to ordinary conversation  
col: with, together

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loqu: speak
al: pertaining to
“Colloquials shouldn’t be used in formal papers”

Eloquent: exercising the power of fluent and forceful speech
e: out, upward, completely, previous
loqu: speak
ent:
“The eloquent acceptance speech brought many people to tears”

elocution: person’s manner of speaking aloud in public
e: out, upward, completely, previous
locu: speak
tion: state of being
“Speech classes teach students proper elocution”

Interlocutor: perso who takes part in a conversation or dialogue
inter: between, smong
locu: speak
or: one, who
“Peter and Cindy were in the middle of a conversation when an interlocutor interrupted them”

Elucidate: to bring out more clearly the facts concerning
e: out, upward, completely, previous
luc: light
ate: become
“The preacher elucidated some of the more complicated parts of the text”

Lucid: mentally sound
luc: light
“In order to stand trial, people have to be lucid”

Translucence: permitting light to pass through, but diffusing it
trans: across
luc: light
ence: state or quality of
“The translucent colored glass produced a red shadow”

Illuminate: to supply with light
il: in, into, towards, inside
lumin: light
ate: become
“The lamp illuminated the room with a yellow glow”

Luminary: celestial body
lumin: light
ary: relating to, quality, place where
“The luminarys lite up the night sky”
Luminescent: showing an increase of light
  lumin: light
  escent: in the process of
  “The fader switch made the lights luminescent”
Luminosity: quality of being intellectually brilliant
  lumin: light
  ity: state, quality of
  “The luminosity of the applicant impressed the interviewers”
Macrocosm: great world or universe
  macro: large, great
  cosm: universe
  “The macrocosm incorporates everything in the world”
Magnanimous: generous in treating or judging others
  magn: large, great
  anim: breath
  ous: characterized by
  “The magnanimous man always gave people a second chance”
Magnate: a person of rank or importance
  magn: large, great
  ate: become, cause, make
  “The magnate out ranked everyone else in the company”
Magnificent: making a splendid appearance or show
  magn: large, great
  “The wedding was magnificent and beautiful”
Magnitude: importance
  magn: large, great
  “The issue was of great magnitude and was the main one to be discussed at the meeting”
Malady: disorder or disease of the body
  mal: bad, ill, wrong
  ady: characterized by
  “The infant’s malady prevented her from digesting properly”
Malcontent: dissatisfied with current conditions
  mal: bad, ill, wrong
  “Jimmy was malcontent with his living situation”
Malefactor: one who injures another
  mal: bad, ill, wrong
  fact: make
  or: on who, that which
  “The principal was having trouble deciding who the malefactor was in the schoolyard brawl”
Maleficent: michievous
  mal: bad, ill, wrong
fic: make
“The maleficent boy blamed his little sister for the mess in their play room”

Malevolence: ill will
mal: bad, ill, wrong
vol: wish
ence: action, state of, quality
“Betty felt such malevolence for her ex-boyfriend that people were a little concerned”

Malign: to speak evil of
mal: bad, ill, wrong
“The newspaper malign the corrupt politician”

Malignant: evil in nature
mal: bad, ill, wrong
ant: performing, agent
“The malignant wizard performed many curses on innocent people”

Maneuver: planned and regulated movement
man: hand
er: on who, that which
“Chole had trouble maneuvering her car around the pole”

Manumit: to set free from bondage
man: hand
mit: thread
“Abraham Lincoln was instrumental in manumitting the slaves”

Pyromania: compulsion to set things on fire
pyro: heat, fire
mania: madness, insanity, excessive desire
“Pyromaniacs are often the perpetrators behind arson”

Bibliomania: passion for collecting books
bibl: book
mania: madness, insanity, excessive desire
“The bibliomaniac had three rooms filled with books”

Monomania: psychosis characterized by thoughts confined to one idea
mono: one
mania: madness, insanity, excessive desire
“OCD people may also have monomania and have a single compulsion”

Marine: pertaining to the sea
mari: sea
ine: having the nature or characteristic of
“The marine setting made people calm”

Maritime: connected to the sea
mari: sea
“The sailors maritime adventures were chronicled in a journal”
Maternal: pertaining to the mother
mater: mother
al: relating to
“The older sister was very maternal to her younger siblings.”

Emigrant: one who moves from one place to settle in another
e: out, upward, completely, previous
migr: move
ant: performing, agent
“The emigrant moved from the city to the suburbs”

Immigrant: a foreigner who enters a country to settle there
im: in, into, towards, inside
migr: move
ant: performing, agent
“Natasha was an immigrant to the United States.”

Migrant: wandering
migr: move
ant: performing, agent
“Gypsies are often time a migrant people”

Migratory:
migr: move
ory: relating to, quality, place where
“Some migratory birds move from place to place”

Monumental: exceptionally great
mon: one
ment: mind
al: relating to
“The chief said this case was of monumental importance”

Immortalize: to bestow unending fame on
im: not, without
mort: death
ize: to make like
“Many presidents have been immortalized in statues and memorials all over Washington D.C.”

Immutable: unchangeable
im: not, without
mut: change
able: able, can do
“Some laws of the universe are immutable”

Mutation: the act or process of change
mut: change
tion: act of, state of, result of
“Gene mutation can lead to abnormalities in appearance or behavior”
Mutilate: disfigure
   mut: change
   ate: cause, make
   “The car crash mutilated Paul’s face”
Permutation:
   per: thoroughly, through
   mut: change
   tion: act of, state of, result of
Transmute: to change in nature, substance or form
   trans: across
   mut: change
Mythical: imaginary or fictitious
   myth: story
   al: relating to
   “Ancient religions are made up of mythical creatures and stories”
Notable: worthy of note or notice
   not: letter, note, paper
   able: able, can do
   “The book was notable for its beautiful language”
Noxious: harmful, poisonous, lethal
   innocuous: harmless

Nu- nod
Nuzzle: cuddle, snuggle
   nu: nod
   “The dog nuzzled the girl’s leg to get her attention”
Nullify: to counter, make unimportant
   null: none
   fy: make
   “The paperwork nullified the previous agreement”
Numerous: very many
   numer: number
   ous: characterized by
   “There were numerous examples of post modernist art at the museum”
Obfuscate: deliberately making something difficult to understand
   ob: against
   fusc: dark
   ate: cause, make
   “The poet obfuscated his main point with his complicated language”

Objective: unbiased
Teachers are supposed to be objective in their grading. Oblique: indirect, slanting

“The snow obscured the animals tracks on the ground.”

“Obdurate man refused to compromise.”

“In times of war, people will write articles under pseudonyms to protect their identity.”

“The placid lake was still under the sunrise.”

Jean leaned back in her recliner in complete complacence.”

“The mediator was able to placate both sides with an intricate compromise.”

“The movie won numerous plaudits for its interpretation of the movie.”
explosion: a sudden and violent outbreak
  ex: out, upward, completely, previous
  plos: clap
  ion: act of, state of, result of
  “When the violinist finished her piece there was an explosion of applause”

Replete: full
  re: again
  plet: fill
  “The dorm came replete with dirt, dust and bugs”

complement v. To make complete
  com: with, together
  ple: fill
  ment: condition of
  “The colors of the painting complemented each other nicely”

deplete: To reduce or lessen
  de: down, away, completely, removal, reversal
  ple: fill
  “The child slowly depleted his cup of juice”

incomplete adj. Lacking some element, part, or adjunct necessary or required
  in: not, without
  com: with, together
  ple: fill
  “Since the homework was incomplete, Stan didn’t receive full marks on his homework”

Plethora: an excess
  pleth: full
  “There was a plethora of feathers on the floor after the pillow ripped”

Reprehensible: shameful, very bad
  re: again
  prehens: grasp
  ible: able, can do
  “The lie to her friends was a reprehensible act that ruined their friendship”

inapprehensible: Not to be understood
  in:
    prehens: grasp
    ible: able, can do
    “The acts of violence committed by prison guards was inapprehensible to the general management”

incomprehensible: Not understandable
  in: not, without
  com: with, together
  prehens: grasp
  ible: able, can do
“The homework assignment was completely incomprehensible”

prehensible: Capable of being grasped
prehens: grasp
ible: able, can do

“Dogs have
prehensile: Adapted for grasping or holding
prehens: grasp
ile:
“Monkeys have prehensile tails”

prehension: The act of laying hold of or grasping
prehens: grasp
ion: act of, state of, result of

comprehensive: of large scope
com: with, together
prehens: grasp
ive: causing

Re-, red- back, again
Rescind: retract, repeal
predecessor n. An incumbent of a given office previous to another
-redemption n. The recovery of what is mortgaged or pledged, by paying the debt
-redound n. Rebound
-relieve: to easy or alleviate from pain
-resolute: firmly determined
-regretted: to feel sorrow or remorse for

Sanguine: reddish, ruddy
“After running around in the cold the young boys cheeks were sanguine”

Sensible: having using or showing good sense

Tangent: on a completely different or divergent course
tang: touch
tent: full of
“The presenter was reminded of a story and went off on a tangent story”

Tangible: can be touched
tang: touch
ible: able, can do
“The law requires tangible evidence for certain hearings”
tangency: the state of touching
tang: touch
tency: action, state of, quality
“The line was in tangency to the circle”
Intangible: not perceptible to the touch
   in: not, without
tang: touch
ible: can do, able
   “Atheists don’t believe in God because the evidence is intangible”

Tardy: slow, late, overdue, delayed
tard: slow
y: characterized by
   “The girl missed her bus so she was tardy to school”
Tenacious: stubborn, resolute, holding firm to a purpose
ten: hold
ious: characterized by
   “The tenacious candidate wouldn’t budge on his agenda”
glutinous: sticky
glutin: glu
ous: characterized by
   “The glutinous substance held the two pieces of paper together”
retention: the keeping of a thing within one’s power
re: again
ten: hold
tion: state of being
   “
Tenuous: flimsy, not solid
ten: hold
ous: characterized by
   “After their fight, the relationship between the coworkers were tenuous”
Covert: hidden, undercover
co: with, jointly, completely
vert: turn
   “The covert agents infiltrated the mob”
averse: reluctant
a: not, without
vers: turn
   “Vince was not averse to taking risks”
conversion: Change from one state or position to another, or from one form to another
con: with, jointly, completely
vers: turn
ion: act of, state of, result of
   “When the ice melted, the ice underwent conversion”
introversion: The act of turning or directing inward, physically or mentally
intro: within
vers: turn
ion: act of, state of, result of
“After his melt down, the boy turned to introversion to resolve his issues”

inverse adj. Contrary in tendency or direction
in: not, without
vers: turn
“No that’s the inverse direction of where we want to be going!”

revert: To return, or turn or look back, as toward a former position or the like
re: again
vert: turn
“After our revision failed we reverted to the original plan”

avert: To turn away or aside
a: not, without
vert: turn
“Leslie averted her eyes during the violent scene in the movie”

divert v. To turn from the accustomed course or a line of action already established
di: negation, removal, expulsion
vert: turn
“The presenter asked the group to divert their attention to the edge of the screen where there was a picture”

divertible: Able to be turned from the accustomed course or a line of action already established
di: negation, removal, expulsion
vert: turn
ible: able, can do
“Lacy’s attention was easily divertible when her favorite things were involved”

evert: To turn inside out
e: out, upward, completely, previous
vert: turn

incontrovertible: not open to question or dispute
in: not, without
contro: against
vert: turn
ible: able, can do
“The ideas set forth by church were considered incontrovertible”

Reciprocate: to give, feel, receive in return
Cap-, -cip-, capt-, -cept-: hold, take
Prefix: Re-, red-: back, again
Suffix: ate: to make
“Evan reciprocated the feelings Julia said she had for him”
Capricious:
  Capri: goat
  icious: full of

Esoteric: understood by or meant for only the select few who have special knowledge or interest;
  Eso: within
  Suffix: like, pertaining to
  “The reference to the movie was pretty esoteric”

Erroneous: containing error, mistaken, incorrect
  Err: stray
  Suffix: ous: full of
  “It was an erroneous assumption on the part of the police that Angela has committed the crime”

Impugned: to challenge as false
  Prefix: im: not
  Pugn: fight
  “Caitlin impugned her mother’s decision that she was at fault in the fight with her brother”

Mollified: to soften in feeling or temper
  Moll: soft
  “The puppy mollified Emma’s angry mood”

Benevolent: characterized by or expressing goodwill or kindly feelings
  Ben: good, well
  Vol: wish
  Suffix: ent: full of
  “The benevolent man handed out Valentine’s on the corner”

Mercurial: changeable, volatile, flighty, erratic
  Mer: part
  “The mercurial weather in Ohio changed a lot from day to day”

Corrosive: having the quality of eating away, erosive
  Ros: gnaw
  Ive: like
  “The corrosive acid ate through the beaker that was supposed to be containing it”

Phlegmatic: having a stolid or unemotional disposition
  Phleg: heat
  Ic: like, pertaining to
  “The phlegmatic man showed no emotion during the documentary on urban violence”

Cosmopolitan: at home all over the world
  Cosmo: universe
  Poli: city
  “The cosmopolitan girl traveled a lot and never felt lost”

Reconcile: to accept or be resigned to something not desired
  Re: again, back
Con: with, together
Ile: pertaining to capable of
“Rapunzel reconciled herself to the fact that she would never leave the tower”

Appalling: causing dismay or horror
Ap: movement to or toward, in addition to
Pal: stake
“Images the PETA uses in their anti-violence campaigns are often appalling”

Irrelevant: not applicable or pertinent
Ir: not, un-
Lev: lift, light
ant: performing, agent
“The fact that he was doing poorly in school was irrelevant to his work situation”

Benign: having a kindly disposition
Ben: good, well
“The man looked intimidating but he was completely benign”

Docile: easily managed or handled
Doc: teach
Ile: pertaining to, capable of
“The docile dog was very trainable and learned to behave quickly”

Sanctimonious: making a hypocritical show of religious devotion
Sanc: holy
Tim: be afraid
Ous: full of
“The sanctimonious movie was condemned by religious leaders”

Perused: to read through with thoroughness
Per: thoroughly, through
Us: use
“Jillian perused the book before taking her English test”

Obliterated: to remove or destroy all traces of
Ob: against
Liter: letter
Ate: to make
“The bomb obliterated all traces of the field it was tested in”

Panacea: a remedy for all disease or ill
pan: all
“The company said the medicine was a panacea”

Provocation: something that incites or instigates
pro: for, forward
voc: voice
tion: act of, state of, result of
“The police’s action were provocation for the students’ riot”
Miscreants: villainous
  mis: hate
  cre: make
  ant: performing, agent
  “The miscreants ransacked the village and took all their food”

Revisionists: an advocate of revision, especially in terms of politics and religion
  re: back, again
  vis: see
  ist: one who, that which
  “Martin Luther King was a revisionist of the Christian faith”

Anomalies: deviation from the common rule
  A: away
  Homal: even, flat
  “The food tasting good at the dining hall was an anomaly on the college’s campus”

Impetuous: characterized by sudden or rash action
  Im: not, un-
  Pet: strive towards
  Ous: full of
  “The impetuous man was prone to expressing his feelings with little forethought”

Tacit: understood without being openly expressed
  tac: be silent
  “There was a tacit understanding between the husband and wife”

inevitable: unable to be avoided, evaded, or escaped; certain; necessary
  in: not, without
  vit: life
  able: able, can do
  “It was inevitable that the mother would discover her son’s lie”

diplomacy: negotiations between government officials
  dipl: double, two fold
  acy:
  “The diplomacy between the two nations was tenuous”

finagle: to trick, swindle or cheat
  fin: end
  agle:
  “The peddler finagled a high price for the counterfeit bag”

interchangeable: capable ot being put or used in the place of eachother
  inter: among, between
  able: able, can do
  “The two terms were interchangeable because they had the same meaning”

collude: to act together through a secret understanding
  col: strain
  “The young boys colluded in order to steal cookies fresh from the oven”
conspire: to agree to do something wrong, evil, or illegal
  con: with, together
  spir: breathe
  “The coach **conspired** with his team to make sure they would win in the finals”
reimburse: to make payment for losses incurred
  re: again
  burs: pouch
  “The store **reimbursed** Mr. Smith for the faulty washing machine he bought”
venture: an undertaking involving uncertainty of the outcome
  vent: come
  “The cat **ventured** to the edge of the pool, took one step too far and fell in”
objectify: to present as an object
  ob: against
  ject: cast, throw
  fy: make
  “They train soldiers to **objectify** the enemy so they won’t react as much to the violence”
vicariously: performed, exercised, received or suffered in the place of another
  vic: change
  ous: characterized by
  “The quiet girl lived **vicariously** through the characters in her favorite adventure novel”
voluminously
  vol: fly, wish

**collaboration**: to work jointly with others
  col: with, together
  labor: toil
  tion: act of, state of, result of
  “The final book was a **collaboration** of multiple author’s work”
hostility: enmity, antagonism, unfriendliness
  host: enemy
  ity: state of, quality
  “Jane couldn’t understand the **hostility** with which the cashier responded”
heretical: pertaining to opinion or doctrine at variance with the orthodox or accepted doctrine
  her: clinging
  “The church claimed that the acts of the shady pastor were **heretical**”
incoherent: without logical or meaningful connection
  in: not, without
  co: with, together
  her: clinging
  “The texting was **incoherent** and had many mistakes”
sagacious: having or showing acute mental discernment
  sagac: wise
  ious: characterized by
“The sagacious guru gave his followers very good advice”

reenumeration:
  re: back, again
  numer: number

acrid: sharp or biting, especially in taste or smell
  acr: sharp, pungent, bitter
  id: something connected to or belonging to
  “The acrid smelling food seemed very unappetizing”

acrophobia: fear of heights
  acro: height, summit, tip
  phob: fear
  “Nelson’s acrophobia prevented him from climbing the mountain with his friends”

resplendent: shining, gleaming, splendid
  re: back, again
  plen: full
  ent:
  “The resplendent outfit reflected the glowing lights”

acuity: sharpness, acuteness, keenness
  acu: sharp
  ity: state of, quality
  “Tommy’s mental acuity helped him score very high on the SAT!”

polemical: a controversial argument, as one against some opinion
  polem: war
  ical: pertaining to
  “There have been numerous polemic books written throughout the ages”

equivocate: to use ambiguous or unclear expressions
  equ: even, level
  voc: voice
  ate: become
  “

timorous: full of fear, fearful
  tim: be afraid
  ous: characterized by
  “The timorous stray dog wouldn’t approach the man trying to rescue it”

brevity: shortness of time or duration
  brevi: brief, short (time)
  “The brevity of life indicates that we should live each moment to its fullest”

largess: generous bestowal of gifts
  larg: large
  “Nina was able to pay her rent because of the largess of her parents”

histrionic: overly emotional in behavior or speech, self consciously emotional
  histri: actor
ic: nature of, like
“The mother became histrionic when her son was in a mild car accident”

obstreperous: resisting control or restraint in a difficult manner

ob: against

alacrity: promptness of response
al: movement to or toward, in addition to
acr: sharp, pungent, bitter
it: state of, quality
“Toby’s alacrity surprised the teacher”

deleterious: injurious to health, harmful
de: from, away from, removing, down

euphemism: substitution of a mild, indirect or vague expression for one thought to be offensive
eu: well, good
ism:
potable: suitable for drinking
pot: drink
able: able, can do
“It was questionable whether the water from the well was potable”

ignominious: marked or characterized by disgrace or shame
ig:
nomin: name
ous: characterized by
“After the scandal with the money, the man was ignominious”

cacophony: harsh, discordance of sound; dissonance
caco: bad
phon: sound
“What was supposed to be an orchestra sounded more like cacophony”

saccharin: sweet, white soluble powder
sacchar: sugar
“The saccharin dessert was chocolatey and delicious!”
sacrosanct: extremely sacred or inviolable
sancr: sacred
sanc: holy
“The relationship between a priest and his parishioner is sacrosanct”
exculpate: to clear from a charge of guilt or fault
ex: from, out
culp: blame, fault
ate: cause, make
“The judge exculpated the suspect when DNA cleared him of all charges”
execrable
ex: from, out
impecunious: poor
   im: not, without
   pecun: money
   ious: characterized by
   “The impecunious family couldn’t afford new clothes for their kids”
precipice: high cliff
   pre: before
   cip: hold, take
capacious: able to hold a lot
   cap: hold, take
   “The capacious suitcase was a favorite of the teenage girl’s”
ameliorate: improve, make better
   melior: better
   “After being elected, the mayor diverted funds to park amelioration”
capitulate: to surrender
   capit: head
   “The capture the flag team capitulated after being behind by many points”
ossify: to cause to harden like bone
   oss: bone
   “Ossification turns cartilage into bone”
ostentatious: rich and showy
   os: against
   tent: hold
   “Bambi’s costume was ostentatious and a little tasteless”
expatriate
   ex: from, out
   parti: part
sanguinary
   sanguin: blood
maelstrom
   mael: bad
   strom:
unctuous: characterized by excessive piousness or moralistic fervor
   unct: hooked
   “The unctuous girl wanted everyone to convert to her religion”
caustic: capable of burning, corroding or destroying living tissue
   caus: burn, heat
   ic: nature of, like
   “The caustic substance caused third degree burns”
palisade: a fence of stakes set firmly in the ground
   pal: stake
   “Tom painted the palisade with white wash”
celebrity: swiftness, speed
celer: quick
ity: state of, quality of
“The rabbit’s celerity didn’t end up helping him win the race against the turtle”
fallasious: deceptive, misleading
fall: false
ious: characterized by
“Juan’s fallacious nature was similar to the boy who cried wolf”
malefactor: person who violates the law, criminal
mal: bad, wretched
fact: make
“Jails are full of malefactors that are being punished”
malinger: to pretend illness
mal: bad
“Jessica malingered so the nurse let her go home”
antediluvian: very old, old fashioned
ante: before, in front of, prior to
ian: native of, pertaining to
“Grandma Cooper was antediluvian in her views of the way a young lady should dress”
antropocentrism: regarding the human being as the central fact if the universe
anthropo: human
centr: center
ism: system, manner, condition
“People who believe in anthropocentrism don’t regard animals as equal to humans”
antiquated: continued from, resembling or adhering to the past
anti: before, in front of, prior to
“Antiquated furniture is very popular in interior design”
parity: equality, as in amount, status or character
par: part
ity: state of, quality
“There isn’t much parity in young people’s athletics”
servile: slavishly submissive or obsequious
serv: save, protect, serve
ile:
“The dogs servile nature clearly showed that it had suffered abuse”
apathetic: having or showing little or no emotion
a: not, without
path: feel, hurt
ic: nature of, like
“Jason was apathetic to the plight of his roommate”
chronicle: an historical account of events arranged in order of time
chron: time
“The history book chronicled the events leading up to World War II”
felicitous: well suited for the occasion, as an action, manner or expression  
   felic: happy, merry  
   ous: characterized by  
   “Olivia was felicitous at the Christmas themed party”
profundity: a profoundly deep place  
   pro: for, forward  
   fund: bottom  
   ity: state of, quality  
   “The profundity of the sermon left many at the service at a loss for words”
circuitous: roundabout, not direct  
   circ: circle  
   ous: characterized by  
   “The circuitous roads left the tour bus quite lost in the middle of the city”
circumlocution: a roundabout or indirect way of speaking  
   circum: around  
   locut: speak  
   ion: act of, state of, result of  
   “Politicians often employ circumlocution to avoid being tied to a particular statement”
discern: to perceive by the sight or some other sense or by intellect  
   dis: negations, removal, expulsion  
   cern: sift  
   “
matriarchy: family, society, community  
   matr: mother  
   arch: ruler  
   “While American society may be characterized by patriarchy, our deviant family was definitely a matriarchy”
vacuous: without contents, empty  
   vac: empty  
   ous: characterized by  
   “The vacuous bag had just been emptied of snacks by the students”
circumspect: watchful and discreet  
   circum: around  
   spect: look  
   “The guard was circumspect in his rounds of the building”
vagrant: a person who wanders about idly and has no permanent home  
   vag: wanter  
   ant: performing, agent  
   “Vagrants wander around cities looking for somewhere to stay”
arable: capable of producing crops, suitable for farming  
   ar: plow, till  
   able: able, can do  
   “Ohio’s vast quantities of arable land make it very suitable for farming”
circumvent: to go around or bypass
“The son circumvented his mother by going to his father”

“The democratic partisan handed out fliers for his candidate on the street corner”

“The democratic partisan handed out fliers for his candidate on the street corner”

“Penny found solace sitting on the dock over her family’s lake”

“The vapid girl had very little to talk about other than herself”

“Somnambulists are at risk for injury especially if they have stairs in their house”

“The archaic artifacts were found by the archeologists“

“The father patronized his daughter for the mistakes on her final”

“The atheist refused to go to church with his Catholic friends”

“It was a misnomer to name the Pitbull ‘Fluffy’”

vilification

peremptory

augment: to make larger
ment: mind

“As the birthday girl breathed into the balloon it augmented”

intransigence: refusing to agree or compromise
in: in, on
trans: across

“The intransigent employer wouldn’t even speak to the Union representative about increasing wages”

peripatetic: walking or travelling about
peri: around
pat: be open

“Peripatetic herds of animals wander around Yellowstone National Park”

vitiolic: bitter hatred
vitr: glass

“Vitiolic, was the only way to describe the relationship between the two enemies”

moratorium
mor: mortal, death

moribund: being in the state of dying
mor: mortal, death

“Hospice is a home for moribund people”

vociferous: vehement outcry
voc: voice

“The class responded vociferously to the anti-gay statements”

archetype: universally understood symbol
arche: ancient
typ: stamp, model

“A circle with a vertical line and two smaller radially lines coming off of it is an archetype for peace”

paucity: smallness of quantity
pauc: few

“Because of the paucity, the girls shared the cake”

sophomoric: immature
soph: wise

“The sophomoric girl laughed at really stupid jokes”

peccadillo: minor offense
pecc: sin

“Johnny’s peccadillo earned him a time out on the stairs”

inimical: not favorable
in: not, un (negation)
imic: friend

“Inimical conditions meant the sixteen year olds couldn’t go to the movies”

veracity: truth, accuracy
ver: true
ac: sharp, pointed
“The veracity of her statement couldn’t be determined”

aberration: something that differs from the norm
  ab: away
  err: stray
  “The odd actions of the fraternity were an aberration”

abnegation: denial of comfort to oneself
  ab: away
  neg: say no
  “Ascetics often practice abnegation and possess no material goods”

abscend: to sneak away and hide
  ab: away
  scend: climb

absolution: freedom from blame, guilt, sin
  ab: away
  solut: loosen, set free
  “People go to confession seeking absolution from God”

abstruse: hard to comprehend
  abs: away
  trus: thrust
  “The abstruse math problem confused all the students”

accede: to agree
  ac: movement to or toward, in addition to
ced: go
  “The country acceded to the terms of the treaty”

accessible: obtainable, reachable
  ac: movement to or toward, in addition to
  cess: to go

accolade: high praise, special distinction
  ac: movement to or toward, in addition to
col: strain
  “The books distinctive interpretation of the war earned it many accolades”

accord: an agreement
  ac: movement to or toward, in addition to
cord: heart
  “Amanda and her roommate made an accord about the rules of the room”

accretion: slow growth in size or amount
  ac: movement to or toward, in addition to
cre: make
  “The investment accreted $100 over three years”

acerbic: biting, bitter in tone or taste
  ac: sharp, pointed
  “The officer’s acerbic tone intimidated the traffic violater”

acquiesce: to agree without protesting
“Because of the subpoena, the doctor **acquiesced** the court’s request”

**acrimony**: bitterness, discord
- acri: sharp, pungent, bitter
  - “Her **acrimony** was in opposition to her usually forgiving and cheerful manner”

**acumen**: keen insight
- acu: sharp
  - “Four years of college gave Elliot a strong political **acumen**”

**acute**: sharp, severe
- acu: sharp
  - “Fred gave Roberta last minute directions so her turn was very **acute**”

**adamant**: impervious, immovable, unyielding
- ad: movement to or toward, in addition to
- man: stay
  - “Stephanie was **adamant** that the tigers in India needed to be protected”

**adhere**: to stick to something
- ad: movement to or toward, in addition to
- her: cling
  - “Tape **adhered** the poster to the wall”

**advocate**: to argue in favor of something
- ad: movement to or toward, in addition to
- voc: voice
- ate:
  - “The lawyer became an **advocate** for victim’s rights”

**aggrandize**: to increase or make greater
- ag: movement to or toward, in addition to
- grand: grand
- ize:
  - “The bank account **aggrandized** over time with interest”

**amorous**: showing love, particularly sexual
- amor: love, loved
- ous:
  - “The **amorous** feeling between them was very obvious from observing their interaction”

**amorphous**: without definite shape or type
- a: away
- morph: form, shape
- ous:
  - “Mindy’s **amorphous** drawing received an A+ from the kindergarten teacher, even though she didn’t know what it was”

**anachronistic**: being out of correct chronological order
- ana: again, against, back, up
chron: time
istic:
“The movie’s anachronistic structure made it hard to follow”
analgesic: something that reduces pain
an: again, against, back, up
alg: pain
“An analgesic was required after the volleyball player broke her ankle”
anonymous: being unknown, unrecognized
an: again, against, back, up
oynm: name
“The critical letter was submitted anonymously to avoid detection”
antithesis: the absolute opposite
anti: against, opposed to, preventive
the: put
“Good is the antithesis of evil”
aquatic: relating to water
aqu: water
“Fish and other aquatic animals often possess gills to breathe underwater”
atrophy: to wither away, decay
a: away
troph: feed, grow
“Physical therapy is needed for coma patients so their muscles don’t atrophy”
cadence: rhythm, progression of sound
cad: fall
“The drummer’s cadence kept the soldiers marching at the same pace”
choreography: the arrangement of dances
choreo: relating to dance
graph: draw, write
“The ballet’s choreography won it many awards”
clemency: mercy
clement: mild
“Clemency is granted to the accused in the U.S. until they are proven guilty”
cognizant: aware, mindful
cogn: know
“If doctors are cognizant of child abuse they have to report it.”
consecrate: to dedicate something to a holy purpose
con: with, together
secr: sacred
“The consecrated ground was fought over by Muslims and Hindus”
contemporaneous: existing during the same time
con: with, together
tempor: time
“Chelsea wanted to take Shakespeare and Chemistry but they were contemporaneous”
debacle: a disastrous failure, disruption
    deb: owe
    “The Watergate debacle severely tarnished President Nixon’s reputation”
defunct: no longer used or existing
    de: from, away from, removing, down
    funct: do
    “The defunct barn fell into disrepair because of weathering”

deliberate: intentional, reflecting careful consideration
    de: from, away from, removing, down
    liber: free
    ate:
    “Deliberate acts of violence led to the breakdown of society and outbreak of civil war”
delineate: to describe, outline, shed light on
    de: from, away from, removing, down
    lin: line
    ate:
    “Ryan delineated his paper in order to get his topic approved”
denigrate: to belittle, diminish the opinion of
    de: from, away from, removing, down
    nigr: black
    ate:
    “It is important for their development to never denigrate children”
depraft: wickedness
    de: from, away from, removing, down
    prav: crooked
    ity:
    “Many orthodox religions think American culture demonstrates the highest levels of depravity”
desecrate: to violate the sacredness of a thing or place
    de: from, away from, removing, down
    secr: sacred
    ate:
    “The desecration of holy places is looked down upon in the international field”
desiccated: dried up, dehydrated
    de: from, away from, removing, down
    sicc: dry
    “AHHH! There’s a desiccated bug on my floor!”
desolate: deserted, dreary, lifeless
    de: from, away from, removing, down
    sol: alone, only
    ate:
“Wanda was amazed at how desolate the desert was”
despondent: feeling depressed, discouraged, hopeless
de: from, away from, removing, down
spond: a surety, guarantee, give assurance, promise solemnly
ent:
“After attempting the study guide Josh felt despondent”
devious: not straightforward, deceitful
de: from, away from, removing, down
vi: way
ous:
“Devious tactics in advertising sometimes lead people to buy products they shouldn’t”
diffuse: to scatter, thin out, break up
di: negation, removal, expulsion
“The shade diffused the light of the lamp so it wasn’t quite as bright”
fus: pour
discordant: not agreeing, not in harmony with
dis: negation, removal, expulsion
cord: heart
ant:
“The discordant note stuck out in an otherwise flawless performance”
discursive: rambling, lacking order
dis: negation, removal, expulsion
curs: run
ive:
“The discursive speech of the driver convinced the police officer he was drunk”
dissuade: to persuade someone not to do something
dis: negation, removal, expulsion
suad: urge
“Rebecca tried to dissuade her roommate from her risky behavior”
dogmatic: aggressively and arrogantly certain about unproved principles
dogmat: opinion, tenet
“Children are often dogmatic in the parroting of their parents beliefs”
dormant: sleeping, temporarily inactive
dorm: sleep
“When left untouched, a computer will go into a dormant state”
dubious: doubtful, of uncertain quality
dub: doubtful
ious:
“While many claimed the poem was perfect, many others were dubious”
duplicity: crafty, dishonesty
du: two
plic: fold
“The principal made the student repeat her story multiple times and found no duplicity”
dynamic: actively changing
dynam: power
ic:
“The girl’s dynamic personality made it hard to be her friend sometimes”
ebullient: extremely lively, enthusiastic
e: out, upward, completely, previous
bull: bubble, flask
“South Africans were ebullient when apartheid was ended”
egregious: extremely bad
e: out, upward, completely, enthusiastic
greg: flock
“The performer told some egregious jokes that earned groans from the crowd”

emollient: soothing
e: out, upward, completely, previous
moll: soft
“Lotion is an emollient for rough hands from hard work”
etymology: the history of words, their origin and development
etymo: true
“Much of the etymology of the English language can be traced back to Germanic languages”
excursion: trip or outing
ex: from, out
curs: run
“The boat took the tourists on an excursion around the bay”
exorbitant: excessive
ex: from, out
orb: circle
“The jeweler charged an exorbitant fee for the bracelet”
expunge: to obliterate, eradicate
ex: from, out
pung: prick
“When he turned 18, Richard asked the court to expunge his record of the minor offense in his file”
fatuous: silly, foolish
fatu: foolish, useless
“The fatuous kids laughed all night”
fractious: troublesome or irritable
fract: break
“She was fractious after not getting enough sleep”
idolatrous: excessively worshipping one object or person
ido: shape

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“Early religions were occasionally marked by idolatrous worship, but most had multiple deities”

impeccable: exemplary, flawless
im: not, without
pecc: sin
able: able, can do
“The celebrity’s dress was impeccable, and all the fashion blogs agreed”

incarnate: existing in the flesh, embodied
in:
carn: flesh
“After he died, people claimed to see Elvis Presley incarnate but he was assuredly dead”

insurgent: one who rebels
in: in, into, towards, inside
surg: rise
“Insurgents in Liberia wanted to reform the government and end the human rights violations”

interminable: without possibility of end
in: not, without
termin: boundary, limit, end
able: able, can do
“The night class seemed interminable, but in reality it ended at 8:30”

juxtaposition: the act of placing two things next to each other for implicit comparison
juxta: beside, near
posit: put
ion:
“The juxtaposition of the colors with the interesting design were very interesting”

laudatory: expressing admiration or praise
laud: praise
“Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address has earned him many laudatory comments

lenient: demonstrating tolerance or gentleness
leni: gentle
“Melinda’s father was much more lenient in his punishments than her mother”

obsequious: excessively compliant or submissive
ob: against
sequ: follow

“pacific: soothing
pac: peace
“Drinking hot tea can often have a pacific affect”

penultimate: next to last
pen: almost
ultim: farthest
ate:
“The penultimate book in the series just came out; it made Jose sad the series was almost over”

philanthropic: charitable, giving
phil: love, friendship

“Mother Theresa is often considered a philanthropic woman”

primeval: original, ancient

prim: first

“It was amazing the primeval structures were still standing even after thousands of years”

profligate: wasteful

pro: for, forward

flig: strike

ate:

“The profligate man would throw out perfectly wearable clothing”

ruminate: to contemplate, reflect

rumin: throat

“The book required a lot of rumination to understand the author’s message”

somnolent: sleepy, drowsy

somn: sleep

“The somnolent girl eventually fell asleep at her desk”

stupify: to astonish, make insensible

stup: wonder

“The brilliance of the video stupified the viewers”

terrestrial: relating to the land

terr: dry land

“Terrestrial animals don’t like being put in water”

tortuous: winding

tort: twist

“The instructor’s lecture was tortuous and never made a final point”

verbose: wordy, impaired by wordiness

verb: word

“Edwin thought his verbose speech made him sound intelligent, but he was just wordy.”

venerate: to regard with respect or to honor

vener: respectful

“The child venerated her uncle and wanted to be just like him”

viscous: not free flowing, syrupy

visc: thick

“The viscous syrup poured slowly out of the bottle”

vocation: the work in which someone is employed, profession

voc: voice

“Mr. Johnson’s vocation was in the legal professions”

vociferous: loud, boisterous

voc: voice

“The vociferous party was eventually broken up by a noise compliant”

abscond

adumbrate: to sketch out in a vague way

ad: movement to or toward; in addition to
umbr: shade, shadow
“The novel’s entire plot was adumbrated on the back cover”

aggregate: a whole or total
  ag:
  greg: flock
  “Leighton’s friends supported her, but she worried about gaining the trust of the aggregate group”

approbation: praise
  ap:
  prob: try

assiduous: hard-working, diligent
  as:
  sid: sit

compunction: distress caused by feeling guilty
  com:
  punct: prick
  “After lying to her parents the girl was consumed with compunction”

conflagration: great fire
  con:
  flag:

consummate: to complete a deal
  con:
  sum: take

demagogue: a leader who appeals to a people’s prejudices
  dem: people
  “The demagogue represented a minority of the people with certain beliefs”

demarcation: the marking of boundaries
  dem: people
  “After the World War’s foreign country’s demarcated Africa into various countries”

disrepute: a state of being held in low regard
  dis:
  rep: crawl, creep

effrontery: impudence, nerve, insolence
  ef:
  front: forehead
  “Blair had the effrontery to accuse her teacher of favoritism”
equanimitity: composure
  equ: even, level
  anim: breath
  “Her equanimitity at her friend’s funeral impressed everyone”
ethereal: heavenly

expurgate: to delete offensive or incorrect parts
ex:
  purg: cleanse
“The editor expurgated the parts of the story he thought would be unpopular with readers”
fetid: foul odor
  fet: stink
“The fetid lake made the hikers gag and cover their noses”
flaccid: limp
  flacc: flabby
“As the balloon animal deflated it became flaccid”
gourmand: someone fond of eating and drinking
  gour: (its like gourmet)
  mand: hand
“It was a family of gourmands who ordered one of everything on the menu”
hypocrisy: pretending to believe what one doesn’t
  hypo: under
  cris: judge
“Hypocrisy is common among politicians who say one thing to get into office then do another once they are elected”
implacable: incapable of being appeased
  im: not
  plac: please
“The implacable 12 year old was the pickiest eater the daycare worker had encountered”
impregnable: resistant to capture or penetration
  im: not
incendiary: a person who agitates
incessant: unending
  in: not
  cess: go
“The incessant superficial talk at parties bored Erin”
incorrigible: incapable of correction
  in: not
indefatigable: incapable of defeat, failure, decay
  in: not
  de: from, away from, removing, down
  fat: say, speak
“Sister Margaret was an indefatigable worker who was always volunteering at the local homeless shelter”
indomitable: not capable of being conquered
  in: not
  dom: house
  able:
“While the army was clearly outnumbered, their indomitable spirit was hard to battle”
inoculate: to introduce a microorganism, serum, or vaccine into an organism in order to increase immunity to illness
in: in, on
ocul: eye
intimation: an indirect suggestion
cogent: relevant, pertinent
cog: know
“While Daniel presented a cogent counter argument, Blake refused to listen to her opinion”
seminal: strongly influencing later event
semin: seed
“What college someone attends is seminal to their future”
redact
re: back, again
dact:
paragon
para: beside, near
synopsis
syn: with
exorbitant: unreasonably high, excessive
ex: from, out
orb: circle
“The restaurant charge an exorbitant fee for food that wasn’t very good”
meritorious: deserving praise, reward, esteem
quotidian: daily, usual, customary
quot: how many, how great
“The quotidian chores of a maid bored Angelica who had bigger dreams.”
neologism: a new word
neo: new
log: thought, word, speech
“The neologism of the English language makes it very difficult to learn and keep up to date with”
commendable
profuse: spending or giving freely
pro: for, forward
fus: pour
“The teacher embarrassed the student with profuse praise in front of the whole class”
abundant: present in great quantity
ab: away
und: wave
forestall: to prevent, hinder
for: bore
stall:
myriad: a huge number of things
myri: countless
“The sky was full of a myriad of stars”
fabricate

facile: a remark that is too simple and shows a lack of careful thought or understanding
fac: make
“Because they played a team that was younger than them, their win was facile”

mandatory: obligatory, compulsory
mand: hand
“Mandatory attendance is key to elementary education”

perfunctory: performed merely as a routine duty
per: thoroughly, through
funct: do
“What once was a fun action for Penn, soon became perfunctory”

pedagogue: a teacher
ped: child
“Nathaniel was an unlikely pedagogue but he had a way with children that got them to listen”

notoriety: widely known
not: letter, note, paper
“The book acquired the author world wide notoriety”

officious: meddlesome, aggressive in offering unwanted services
of: against
“The mother was officious and constantly trying to take care of her child”

punctilious: showing great attention to detail
punct: prick
“The punctilious man paid great attention when sculpting the marble.”

propriety:

invectives: vehement, violent denunciation
in:
 vect: carry
“The fisherman screamed invectives when the bird stole his catch”

umbrage: offense, giver of shade
umbr: shade, shadow
“The palm tree acted as an umbrage, keeping the sun out of the baby’s face”

domicile: somebody’s home
dom: house
“Pam wished her permanent domicile was on the beach in Florida.”

dilapidated: in disrepair
di:
lapid: stone
“It saddened Amy that her childhood home had fallen into disrepair”

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claustrophobic: fear of enclosed spaces
  claus: close
  phob: fear
  “The **claustrophobic** man refused to go on elevators”

strenuous

redoubtable

austere

taciturn: silent by nature
  tac: be silent
  “The **taciturn** class didn’t even need to be told to quiet down”

spectral: ghostly
  spect: watch, look at
  “The group saw a **spectral** figure when they were walking through the graveyard”

impervious: not responsive, not letting something through
  im: not
  per: through, thoroughly
  “Harry’s rain coat was **impervious** to the rain”

presumptuous: rude or arrogant
  pre: before
  sumpt: take
  “Nate was **presumptuous** and judged the rich girl before he knew her”

pulchritude: beauty
  pulchr: beauty
  “Marilyn Monroe is often cited as an example of **pulchritude**”

sated sat = cultivate

satiated

somnolent: sleepy, lacking activity
  somn: sleep
  “The **somnolent** students weren’t participating in class”

stagnate: not develop or make progress, stop flowing
  stagn: pool of standing water
  “The young girl started out top of her class, but lately her progress had become **stagnate**”

stagnant: still, unmoving
  stagn: pool of standing waterau
  “The **stagnant** water began to gather scum on the top”

undulating: move like waves
  und: waves
  “The dancer’s **undulating** made it look like he had no bones”

physiognomy: facial features
phys: nature

manifold: many and various

salient: noticeable, striking
   Sali: jump
   “The salient points in the book were most talked about in reviews”

propensity: tendency
   pro: for, forward, before, in front of
   pen: almost
   “Chuck had a propensity for bad behavior”

malaise: feeling of illness, general feeling of discontent
   mal: bad, wretched
   “Her feeling of malaise was cured by a nap and a hot meal”

volition: choosing, ability to choose
   vol: wish
   “He decided to go to school of his own volition even though he was sick”

prestidigitation: a sleight of hand
   pres
   digit: finger
   “Magicians are masters of prestidigitation”

veracious: truthful, honest
   ver: true
   “People who’s super ego controls them tend to be veracious”

peregrination: a journey, to travel from place to place
   per: thoroughly, through
   egri: field
   “Amanda brought back souvenirs from her peregrination”

infinitesimal: infinitely small
   in: not
   fin: end

perspicacity: shrewdness, astute
   per: thoroughly, through
   spic: look
   “Vanessa’s perspicacity helped her be a master of social situations”

tepid: slightly warm, luke warm
   tep: be warm
“The pool water was tepid, so the manager turned the heat up”
adverse: preventing success, harmful, unfavorable
ad: movement to or toward
vers: turn
rhetorical
rhe: flow
confront: meet face to face
con: with, together
front: forehead
“Christina was confronted by Ellen after she lied to her about why she missed her party”
exponent
ex: from, out
pon: put
execute
ex: from, out
cut: skin
peremptory
per: through, thoroughly
empt: buy
antipathy: deep dislike
anti: against, opposed to, preventative
path: feel, hurt
“Avery, who grew up poor, had antipathy for people who didn’t value the education their parents paid for”
peripheral: relating to the edge of something
peri: around
pher: bear, carry
“The society spent much more time on peripheral topics rather than the meetings main agenda”
dilapidated: in a state of disrepair because of age
di: two
lapid: stone
derogatory: showing a critical or disrespectful attitude
de: from, away from, removing down
rog: ask
consequential: following as a result or effect
con: with, together
sequ: follow
“Teddy’s insurance consequentially increased after her car accident”
gratitude: quality of being thankful
grat: thank, please
demoniac
dem: people
tenable: able to be maintained
ten: hold
able: able
“After doing much research, Preston submitted a tenable paper to his English teacher”
talisman
salacious
sal: salt
duplicitious
du: two
plic: fold
obtruding: become noticeable in an unwelcome way
ob: against
trud: thrust
“Parents have a habit of obtruding on their children’s privacy”
immolate: kill or offer as sacrifice
im: not, negation
mol: grind
aberration: departure from the normal
ab: away
err: stray
“Lexie’s scandalous behavior was an aberration compared to her normally reputable demeanor”
abnegate: renounce or reject
ab: away
neg: say no
“It’s hard to abnegate your habits if you grew up with them”
abrupt: unexpected, sudden
ab: away
rupt: break
“Abruptly, Sloane interrupted Owen’s story with derisive laughter”
abscission: a cutting off
ab: away
sciss: split
“The doctor needed to perform an abscission on the appendix”
achromatic: without color
a: not, without
chrom: color
“While the piece of metal used to be a sign, deterioration had left it achromatic”
adherence: attachment, faithful support for a cause or political party or religion
ad: movement to or toward, in addition to
her: clinging
“Her adherence to the Democrats was rewarded with a full time position in the party”
adhesion: action or process of adhering to a surface or object
ad: movement to or toward, in addition to
hes: clinging
“Meredith pressed firmly to ensure the adhesion to the wall would stay”

adjacent: next to or adjoining something
ad: movement to or toward, in addition to
jac: lie
“In dorms, it is often easy to hear noise from adjacent rooms”

advert: refer to in speaking or writing
ad: movement to or toward, in addition to
vert: turn
“The speaker adverted to numerous famous politicians without saying anything original”

aggravate: make worse or more serious
ag: movement to or toward, in addition to
grav: heavy
“Because Ellis didn’t stop playing after she twisted her ankle, she aggravated the injury”

animadversion: criticism or censure
anima: breath
ad: movement to or toward, in addition to
vers: turn

antecedent: a thing or event that existed before or logically precedes another
ante: before, in front of, prior to
ced: go
“Some antecedents to blues and jazz are in traditional songs of the slaves”

antenatal: before birth, during, relating to pregnancy
ante: before, in front of, prior to
nat: born
“Antenatal surgeries often increase the risk of complications later in life”

apogee: farthest point in the orbit of the moon
apo: away from, separate, at the farthest point
“The astronomy class had to find the apogee of the moon on a map of its orbit”

apology: regretful acknowledgment of an offense or failure
apo: away from, separate, at the farthest point
log: thought, word, speech
“While she said she was sorry, Sandra’s apology was not hear felt”

apostasy: abandoning of religious beliefs
apo: away from, separate, at the farthest point
“The suffering in Rwanda lead many to apostasy”

apothecary: person who prepares and sells medicine and drugs
apo: away from, separate, at the farthest point
theca: case
“In some third world countries, there are still apothecaries used as doctors”

apotheosis: highest point in the development of something
apo: away from, separate, at the farthest point
the: put
“The apotheosis of the doctor’s career was when he found a cure to a communicable disease”
apposite: apt in the circumstances or in relation to something
    ap: movement to or toward, in addition to
    posit: put
    “Spencer had to go shopping for an apposite outfit for the funeral”
aspirant: a person with ambitions to achieve something
    a: away
    spir: breathe
aspiration
    a: away
    spir: breathe
assimilate: take in and understand fully
    as: movement to or toward, in addition to
    simil: likeness, trust, group
    “Aria took steps to assimilate into her new school which focused a lot more on popularity than her previous one”
dissimilar: not the same, different
    dis: negation, removal, expulsion
    simil: likeness, trust, group
    “The friends were so dissimilar it was amazing their relationship lasted so long”
facsimile: an exact copy
    fac: make
    simil: likeness, trust
    “It was such a beautiful painting, Hannah wanted a facsimile of it”
similar: having resemblance in appearance
    simil: likeness, trust, group
    “The girls were furious that their dresses for the dance were so similar”
simile: figure of speech comparing things of different kinds
    simil: likeness, trust, group
    “King Richard was brave like a lion which earned him the moniker Richard the Lion Heart”
similitude: state of being similar
    simil: likeness, trust, group
    “The teacher called in the students because there was a high level of similitude between their assignments”
assonance: poetic tool using a repeating vowel sound
    as: movement to or toward, in addition to
    son: sound
    “Dylan Thomas showed his master of assonance in his poem ‘Do Not Go Gently Into That Good Night”
assonate
    as: movement to or toward, in addition to
    son: sound
atone
    a:
    ton:
audacious: willingness to take risks
aud: hearing, listening, sound
“Many called King Suleyman’s attempt to capture Vienna audacious”

audible: able to be heard
aud: hearing, listening, sound
“The phone was so far away its ring was barely audible”

auditory: relating to the sense of hearing
aud: hearing, listening, sound
“The band was so bad, their music felt like an auditory assault”

aura: distinctive atmosphere of something
aur: relating to gold or gold-colored
“There was an aura of good feelings in the classroom because the weather was so nice!”

auricle: structure resembling an ear or an earlobe
auri: relating to the ear
“No auricle mechanical device works as well as a real ear”

auricular:
auri: relating to the ear

autocracy: system of government in which one person has absolute power
auto: self, directed from within
cracy: government, rule, authority
“Prior to reformations, England had a autocracy where the King had all the power”

automaton: essentially a robot
auto: self, directed from within
“Recently scientists have invented automaton vacuums”

autonomous: self-government
auto: self, directed from within
nom: arrangement, law
“Through the Revolutionary War, the United States became autonomous”

autonomy
auto: self, directed from within
nom: arrangement, law

autopsy
auto: self, directed from within

avocation
a:
voc: voice

beatify: make blissfully happy
beat: bless
“John’s marriage proposal beatified Miranda”

beatitude: supreme blessedness
beat: bless
“After a long soak in the hot tub, I was in a state of beatitude”

bellicose: demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight
belli: war
“Some bellicose people will fight over anything”

belligerent: hostile
  belli: war
  “The belligerent student argued relentlessly with the professors opinion”
cadence: modulation or inflection of the voice
  cad: fall
campaign: series of military operations intended to achieve a certain objective
  camp: field
candid: truthful, straightforward
  cand: glowing, iridescent
candor:
  cand: glowing, iridescent
cantata: medium length piece of music with vocal solos
  cant: sing
    “The cantata had a beautiful melody but the harmony was what really made the piece”
cataclysm: large scale and violent natural event
  cata: down
    “People who were directly involved in Hurricane Katrina felt the event was a cataclysm”
cataract: a large waterfall, a downpour
  cata: down
    “Niagara falls is one of the world’s biggest cataracts”
catastrophe: an event causing great and sudden damage or suffering
  cata: down
troph: grow, feed
    “When Israel bombed Egypt in the June War it was a catastrophe”
centenary: of or relating to a hundredth anniversary
  cent: hundred
    “The town had a centenary festival to celebrate its 100th year”
conjugal: relating to marriage or the relationship between husband and wife
  con: with, together
  jug: yoke
    “Young girls often dream of their wedding and their subsequent conjugal days”
congregate: a link or connection between things
  con: with, together
  jug: yoke
    “And, but and or are conjugations and join sentences that could stand alone but are better together”
contagion: the communication of disease from person to person
  con: with, together
  tag: touch
    “The rumors of school closing for snow spread quicker than a contagion among the high schoolers”
cornucopia: ornamental container shaped like a horn
  corn: horn
“The cornucopia was filled with Fall fruits and used as a centerpiece”

cosmetic:
  cosm: universe

cosmogony: branch of science dealing with origins of the universe
  cosm: universe
  “There are various theories dealing with cosmogony, one of the most popular is the big bang”

cosmos: the universe viewed as well-ordered and whole
  cosm: universe
  “The cosmos is full of many stars and planets that shine brightly in the night sky”

culpable: deserving blame
  culp: blame, fault
  “While not all the country’s problems could be blamed on the new President, he was culpable for some of them”

culprit: person responsible for a crime
  culp: blame, fault
  “The police were having trouble finding the culprit of the recent robbery”

cursive: writing with joined characters
  curs: run
  “Her writing was so pushed together it looked like cursive”

cursory: hasty and therefore not thorough or detailed
  curs: run
  “The professor gave a cursory glance to the students papers and let his TA actually grade them”

Decamp: depart suddenly
  De: from, away from, removing, down
camp: field
  “The hikers had to decamp before the rain hit”

decapitate: cut the head off of
  de: from, away from, removing, down
capit: head
  “During the French Revolution, many people were decapitated as a punishment.”

deciduous: shedding leaves annually
  de: from, away from, removing, down
cid: fall
  “Deciduous trees shed their leaves in the fall”

declarative: of the nature of or making a declaration
  de: from, away from, removing, down
clar: clear
  “The declarative speech made by the senator explained some new laws”

defensible: justifiable by argument
  de: from, away from, removing, down
fens: strike
  “The castle was easily defensible as it had an ocean on one side and mountains on another”

deformity: malformation, misshapen
  de: from, away from, removing, down
form: shape
“The ceramic pot had some deformities after it was fired”
defraud
de: from, away from, removing, down
defegrate: having lost the physical, mental, or moral qualities considered normal
de: from, away from, removing, down
gen: race, kind, birth

dehydrate: loss of large amounts of water from the body
de: from, away from, removing, down
hydr: water
“Walking around in the desert for a few hours severely dehydrated the hiker”
denude: strip something of its covering
de: from, away from, removing, down
nud: naked
“Oranges have to be denuded before they can be eaten”
deonent
de: from, away from, removing, down
pon: put
desperado: a desperate or reckless person
de: from, away from, removing, down
sper: hope
“The desperado stole money from the bank to pay his bills”
desultory
de: from, away from, removing, down
diacritical
dia: apart through
crit: judge
diaphanous
dia: apart, through
discomfit: make uneasy or embarrassed
dis: not, negation
com: with, together
“The disagreement between their parents made the whole family feel discomfit”
discomfort: lack of physical comfort
dis: not, negation
com: with, together
fort: strong
“The bitterly cold wind put Eliza in a state of discomfort”
discursive: digressing from subject to subject
dis: not, negation
curs: run
   “The discursive teacher was hard to follow during lecture”
dishabille: state of being only partly or scantily clothed
dis: not, negation
   hab: have
   “In Risky Business, Tom Cruise was in dishabille”
dissentious: dissenting
dis: not, negation
   senti: feel
dissever: divide or sever something
dis: not, negation
   sever: stern, strict, serious
   “The duckling was dissevered from his family when he couldn’t hop over the curb”
divagation: digression
div: wander
   “The tour leaders divagation distracted everyone from the lion that was very close to the truck”
divisor
di:
   vis: see
divulge: make known
di:
   vulg: common, crowd
   “The chatty girl divulged her best friend’s secret to the whole third grade”
dogmatic: inclined to lay down principles as incontrovertibly truw
dogmat: opinion, tenet
   “The priest was dogmatic in his sermons”
domesticity: home or family life
dom: house
doublet
dramatist
dubious: hesitating or doubting
dub: doubtful
   “While the President said the war was over, many citizens were still dubious”
effeminacy: men with feminine qualitites
ef: from, out
   femin: women, female
   “Brad’s effeminacy was a product of having 5 sisters”
effervesce
ef: from, out
   fer: carry
effluvium: an unpleasant or harmful odor
ef: from, out
flu: flow
“The effluvium of the sewer made people plug their noses when they walked by”
eugenic: pertaining to or causing improvement in offspring produced
eu: well, good
gen: race, kind, birth
“The Nazis in Germany were attempted to practice eugenics by weeding out those they thought weak”
excavate: make a hole by digging
ex: from, out
cav: hollow
“The children excavated the sandbox with plastic shovels”
expectorate: cough, spit out phlegm from throat or lung
ex: from, out
pector: chest
“Emma expectorated often while she had her respiratory infection”
extensive: covering or affecting a large area
ex: from, out
tens: stretch, strain
“The exam covered an extensive amount of material”
extenuate: make guilt seem less serious or more forgivable
ex: from, out
tenu: slender, thin
“Mary’s life situation extenuated the circumstances of her mistake”
ferocious: savagely fierce
feroc: fierce
“The ferocious lion growled and scared the children”
flippant
fluent: able to express oneself easily
flu: flow
“After studying the language for four hard years, Lily was finally fluent in French”
foible
folio: leaf number in a printed book
foli: leaf
“The foliage in spring is a beautiful array of greens”
sacrilege: violation or misuse of what is regarded as sacred
sacr: sacred
“The Aztecs practiced human sacrifice to appease their gods”
“Working on the Sabbath is sacrilege in Judaism”

“Tricia played amateur soccer because she loved the game”

“The boy did his friends homework because of the amatory feelings he had toward her”

“The girl was enamored with her professor and worked hard to do well in his class”

“The Kalahari desert is an arid climate and cannot grow crops”

“The girl was crouched behind a bush but still felt her position was vulnerable”

“Young people often feel their youth makes them invulnerable”

“The professor had taught in many universities and was a veteran in the field of education”

“The professor spoke so fast it was hard to write what he said verbatim”

“The hotel had a sign that said ‘vacancy’ indicating that they had rooms available”

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urb: city
dystrophy: impaired nourishment of a body part
dys: badly, ill
troph: feed, grow
“The ailing child suffered from muscular dystrophy”
torque: twisting force that tends to cause rotation
torque: twist
“If you apply too much torque to a screw it’ll strip it”
ectomy: act of cutting out
tom: cut
atom: basic unit or a chemical element
tom: cut
“The atom got its name from scientists thinking it was the smallest unit and unable to be cut”
tome: a book

tom: cut
distinct: recognizably different in nature
stinct: apart
“The girl’s perfume was distinct from the others at the dance”
distinguish: recognize or treat someone as different
stingu: apart
“It was easy to distinguish Cati’s roots from her dyed hair”
semantics: branch of linguistics and logic concerned with meaning
sema: sign
“People often argue over semantics without really accomplishing anything”
eruptions: a sudden outpouring
rupt: break
“rupture: break or burst suddenly
rupt: break
“The bubble floated for several minutes before rupturing”
corroboration:
robor: oak, strength
antonym: a word opposite in meaning to another
ant: against, opposed to, preventive
oynm: name
“Big is an antonym of little”
synonym: word or phrase that means exactly or nearly the same as another
syn: with
onym: name
“Cold is synonymous with chilly”
mortuary: a funeral home or morgue
mort: death
“The mortuary was very adept at dealing with family grief”
heuristic: enabling a person to discover or learn something for themselves
  heur: find
  “Heuristic teaching is the most effective for teaching children”
prohibition: action of forbidding something
  pro: before in front of, for, forward
  hib: have
  “The mother issued a prohibition on her children that they couldn’t leave the house”
habit: a settled or regular tendency
  hab: have
  “Amanda has a habit of biting her nails”
global: of or relating to the whole world
  glob: sphere
  “Serena had a global view and could see the interconnections between issues”
globule: small round particle of a substance
  glob: sphere
  “Mrs. Carpenter dropped a globule of cookie dough onto the baking sheet”
frigid: very cold in temperature
  frig: cold
  “The weather was so frigid, Jake had to wear a coat and hat”
fragment: a small part broken or separated from something
  frag: break
  “Harry picked up a small piece of reflective material and then realized it was a fragment of a mirror”
frangible: fragile, brittle
  frang: break
  “The frangible vase was off limits to the children”
volitive: willed action
  vol: wish
  “Andrea was a volitive person and often worked hard to get what she wanted”
Volant: able to fly or glide
  Vol: fly
  “The glider made Patrick volant and he was able to hang in the air”
Vivisection: ruthlessly sharp and detailed criticism or analysis
  Viv: live
  Sect: cut
  “The professor offered a vivisection of the student’s work and left many notes”
Vivify: enliven or animate
  Viv: live
  “The movie from her childhood always vivified Christine”
Vivacity: characterized by high spirits and animation
  Viv: live
  “The child displayed such vivacity that everyone around her was instantly cheered”
Triplicate: existing in three copies
  Tri: three
“The CEO asked his secretary to produce all documents in triplicate, a copy for him, one for her and one for the client”

Transfusion:
- Trans: across
- Fus: pour

Transferable: transferred or made over to the possession of another person
- Trans: across
- Fer: carry
  “The money was transferable between the accounts”

Terminus: final point in space or time
- Termin: boundary, limit, end
  “The Mayans thought the terminus of the world would occur in 2012”

Terminate: bring to an end
- Termin: boundary, limit, end
  “Rufus terminated his employment with the ice cream parlor”

Sibilate: utter with a hissing sound
- Sibil: hiss
  “The girl’s lisp caused her to sibilate on her s’s”

Presentiment: an intuitive feeling about the future
- Pre: before
- Senti: feel
  “Lily had a presentiment that something bad was going to happen”

Precursor: person of thing that comes before another of the same kind, forerunner
- Pre: before
- Curs: run
  “High blood pressure is often a precursor to later heart problems”

Plenipotentiary: one with full power of independent action on behalf of one’s government
- Plen: full
- Pot: drink
  “The British government sent a plenipotentiary to India to try to negotiate with the locals”

Planisphere: map formed by projection of a sphere on a flat surface
- Plan: flat
- Spher: ball
  “The planisphere showed accurately the relative distance between countries but not their size”

Philogynist: a person who likes or admires women
- Phil: love, friendship
- Gyn: woman
  “The philogynist was often accused of being a feminist”

Philologist: studier of literature
- Phil: love, friendship
- Log: thought, word, speech
  “The philologist had an extensive vocabulary and knowledge base”
Pertinacious: holding firmly to an opinion
   Per: thoroughly, through
   Tin: hold
   “The scientist was pertinacious even though there were many studies proving him wrong”

Percolate: filter gradually through a porous surface
   Per: thoroughly, through
   Col: strain
   “The water percolated through the strainer”

Opprobrium: harsh criticism or censure
   Op: against
   Prob: try
   “Jared’s parents’ opprobrium of his actions scared him out of misbehaving again”

Officious: assertive of authority in an annoyingly domineering way
   Of: against
   Fic: make
   “The presenter was officious in how he portrayed his findings”

Octogenarian: person who is from 80 to 89 years old
   Oct: eight
   Gen: race, kind, birth
   “The octogenarian was started to develop health problems”

Mnemonics: study and development of systems for improving and assisting memory
   Mne: memory
   “The tutor specialized in mnemonics which made him skilled at helping students”

Misanthropic: believing the worst of human nature and motives
   Mis: hate
   Anthrop: human
   “The misanthropic man had become cynical after years of observing how humans treat each other”

Mercantile: of or relating to trade, commerce, commercial
   Merc: reward, wages, hire
   “The mercantile man was very good at negotiating with people”

Mellifluous: sweet or musical, pleasant to hear
   Mell: honey
   Flu: flow
   “Kwon’s mellifluous voice instantly drew people to him”

Manumission: formal act of freeing from slavery
   Manu: hand
   Miss: send
   “Abraham Lincoln helped with the manumission of African Americans in the United States”

Maltreat: treat cruelly or with violence
   Mal: bad wretched
   “Because the owner so maltreated his dog, an animal protection group took it away”

Interrogate: ask questions of
   Inter: among, between
The mother interrogated her son about why he broke curfew.

Insuppressible: impossible to control
- In: not, negation
- Press: press
- “Kristin’s feelings of hatred for her math class were insuppressible”

Insulate: protect by using a material that prevents the loss of heat or intrusion of sound
- Insul: island
- “The band insulated their practice space so they wouldn’t annoy their neighbors”

Insuperable: impossible to overcome
- In: not, negation
- Super: above, beyond
- “The mountains created an insuperable obstacle for the truck”

Insinuate: suggest or hint
- In: in, on
- Sinu: to draw a line
- “Jacob didn’t actually call Izzie a name, but he insinuated its meaning”

Insentient: incapable of feeling or understanding things
- In: not, negations
- Senti: feel
- “Doctors sometimes become insentient because they are constantly surrounded by sadness”

Inquisition: a period of prolonged and intensive questioning or investigation
- In: in, on
- Quis: search, see
- “The principal’s inquisition got no results because the students wouldn’t cooperate”

Extort: obtain by force, threats or unfair means
- Ex: from, out
- Tort: twist
- “Her powers of manipulation led her to extort others to get what she wanted”

Extensible: capable of being protruded or stretched or opened out
- Ex: from, out
- Tens: stretch, strain
- “The porch had an extensible covering that would be used when it rained”

Extemporaneous: spoken or done without preparation
- Ex: from, out
- Tempor: time
- “Even though his speech was extemporaneous, it still got his point across”

Euphemism: mild or indirect word or expression for one too harsh or blunt
- Eu: well, good
- “Kelly used euphemisms to describe her feelings toward her overbearing mother”

Euphonious: pleasing to the ear
- Eu: well, good
- Phon: sound
“The euphonious chord progression made the song a number 1 hit”

Distensible:
Dis:
Tens: stretch, strain
“The distensible clay was soon stretched over the entire table”

Disparage: regard or represent as being of little worth
Dis: not, negation
Para: beside, near
“The girl disparaged her teacher every time she received a low grade”

Corpulent: fat
Corp: body
“The corpulent man ordered five courses at dinner!”

Collapsible: able to be folded into a small space
Col: strain
Laps: slide, slip
“The collapsible chair folded up so small it fit in the corner”

Carnage: killing of a large number of people
Carn: flesh
“The carnage of the video game made many people think it would affect kids negatively”

Belligerent: hostile, aggressive
Belli: war
Ger: bear, carry
“Zac was belligerent when he felt threatened by others”

Elapse: pass or go by
Laps: slide, slip
“Time elapsed so quickly during vacation”

Relapse: suffer deterioration after a period of improvement
Re: back, again
Lapse: slide, slip
“Gina had been doing so well with her cancer treatment, but sadly she relapsed”

Stringent: strict, precise, exacting
String: upright, stiff
“Ariel was stringent in her rules for her children”

Apposition: the positioning of things or things being side by side
Ap: movement to or toward, in addition to
Posit: put
“A nervous habit of hers was to apposition the knick knacks on her shelf”

Appertain: relate to, concern
Ap: movement to or toward, in addition to
Per: thoroughly, through
“Dan appertained the two historical situations”

Antipodes: direct opposite of something
Anti: against, opposed to, preventive
Pod: foot
“Vanessa’s cool room was antipodes of the summer heat”

Annalist: chronicler, historian
Ann: year, yearly
“The annalist chronicled the events of 9/11 for future generations to read about”

Anhydrous: containing no water
An: not, without
Hyrd: water
“The desert is often thought of as anhydrous”

Adversity: difficulties, misfortune
Ad: movement to or toward, in addition to
Vers: turn
“Jennifer worked hard to overcome the adversity her condition created”

Aesthetic: concerned with beauty
Aesthet: feeling, sensation
“The art dealer was concerned with the aesthetic quality over price”

Camaraderie: mutual trust, and friendship among people
Amar: love, loved
“The camaraderie between the teammates made them play flawlessly”

Compassion: sympathetic pity and concern for misfortunes of others
Com: with, together
Pass: pace, step
“The nurse’s compassion caused her to be popular among patients”

Condescending: acting in a way that betrays a feeling
Con: with, together
De: from, away from, removing, down
Scend: climb
“Mr. Marley’s condescending tone made people feel bad about themselves”

Conformist: a person who conforms to accepted behaviors
Con: with, together
Form: shape
“Often times when starting a new job, it is necessary for people to conform to certain customs”

Empathy: the ability to understand and share the feelings of another
Em: buy
Path: feel, hurt
“Psychologists are often very adept at using empathy to help their clients”

Emulate: match or surpass
Emul: striving to equal, rivaling
“Alli emulated her sister very much and worked hard to get as good of grades as her”

Evanescent: soon passing out of sight, memory, or existence
E: from, out

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Van: empty, vain, idle
“While at first the break up was quite difficult it soon became evanescent”

Fortitude: courage in pain
Fort: strong
“Her fortitude in the face of her surgery was admirable”

Inconsequential: not important or significant
In: in, on, not, negation
Con: with, together
Sequ: follow
“Jackson was full of inconsequential trivia that failed to interest his co-workers”

Longevity: long life
Long: long
Vit: life
“To ensure the longevity of your toaster, you must follow all the care instructions”

Orator: a public speaker
Or: mouth
“The orator was very good at persuading people over to his beliefs”

Pretentious: attempting to impress by affecting greater importance
Pre: before
Tent: hold
“Michael’s pretentious nature tended to make others think he thought he was better than himself”

Rancorous: deep seated resentment
Ranc: rancidness, grudge, bitterness
“The politician’s speech made many people rancorous”

Reclusive avoiding company of others
Re: again, back
Clus: close
“Blair’s reclusive nature caused her to have very few friends”

Renovation: act of improving or restoring
Re: again, back
Nov: new
“The houses renovations tripled its value”

Submissive: meekly, obedient or passive
Sub: below
Miss: send
“Submissive people are often those most vulnerable to hazing”

Substantiate: provide evidence to support or prove the truth of
Sub: below
St: stand
“Olivia claimed she had been to France but the school was unable to substantiate that information”

Superficial: existing or occurring at or on the surface
Super: above, over
Fic: make
“Her apology was very superficial and Mackenzie could tell her ‘friend’ didn’t mean it”

Superfluous: unnecessary
Super: above, over
Flu: flow
“Jenny’s extra credit work was superfluous since she already had an A in the course”

Surreptitious: kept secret because it would not be approved of
Su: below
Rept: crawl, creep
“Dan was surreptitious when he went to see Amalia because he knew his friends would disapprove”

Tactful: having or showing a sense of what is fitting and considerate
Tact: touch
“Chuck was tactful in telling his mother what he thought of her new boyfriend”

Venerable: accorded a great deal of respect
Vener: respectful
“Cotillion is a venerable process, especially in New England”

Query: a question
Quer: search, seek
“Tripp’s query confused the reporter”

Nihilism: rejection of all religious and moral principles
Nihil: nothing
“Nihilists are often highly individualistic and conform to no set of beliefs”

Bathos: insincere, or grossly sentimental pathose
Batho: deep, depth
“We were disappointed by the film’s bathos, the critics said it was deep and stimulating”

Ineluctable: unable to be resisted or avoided
In: in, on, not, negation
E: from, out
Luc: bright, light
“The cake looked so delicious it was ineluctable!”

Symptomatic: serving as a symptom or sign
Sym: with
Pto: fall
“Milo’s runny nose was symptomatic of the flu”

Oblivious
Ob: against

Non sequitur: a conclusion or statement that does not logically follow from the previous argument or statement
Non: not
Sequ: follow
“The comedian used non sequiturs to get laughs from the crowd that even they weren’t expecting”

Supine: lying face upward
Supin: lying back
“The patient reclined to a supine position in order to be examined by the doctor”

Punctilio: fine, or petty point of conduct or procedure
Punct: prick
“Chronic: persisting for a long time
Chron: time
“Eva’s chronic heartburn led her to explore other treatment options”
Bibulous: excessively fond of drinking alcohol
Bib: drink
“Nate was bibulous and spent much of his weekends at bars”
Viable: capable or working successfully; feasible
Vi: way
“The skin graft wasn’t viable so the doctor couldn’t use it”
Decimate: kill, destroy, remove large percentage of
Decim: tenth part
“The dog decimated its toy quite quickly even though it was supposed to be tough”
Pejorative: expressing contempt or disapproval
Pejor: worse
“Brittany was pejorative toward her mother and spoke disrespectfully to her”
Devious: showing a skillful use of underhanded tactics to achieve goals
De: from, away from, removing, down
Vi: way
“Connie was devious in her take down of her nemesis”
Saturnine: slow and gloomy
Sat: cultivate
“The saturnine day made everyone feel a little down”
Deprecate: express disapproval of
De: from, away from, removing, down
Prec: pray
“Kurt’s self-deprecating nature made others think he had low self esteem”
Equity: quality of being fair and impartial
Equ: even, level
“Everyone valued the principal’s equity in dealing with conflicts between students”
Desuetude: state of disuse
De: from, away from, removing, down
Su: sew
“The desuetude shack had many urban legends surrounding it”
Affront: an action or remark that causes outrage or offense
Af: movement to or toward, in addition to
Front: forehead
“Noah’s commentary on the basketball’s performance was affronting”
Germane: relevant to a subject under consideration
Ger: bear, carry
Man: flow
“The teacher requested that all discussion points be germane to the topic at hand”
Reputed: according to general belief
Re: again, back
Put: prune, reckon
“Coach Smith was reputed to be the best basketball instructor in the country”

Utopian: modeled on or aiming for a state in which everything is perfect
U:
Top: place
“Communism was supposed to create a utopian society but in most cases it fell to corruption”

Indictment: a formal charge or accusation of a serious crime
In: in, on, no, negation
Dict: say, speak
“At the trial, the indictment was read to the accused”

Inordinate: unusually or disproportionately large
In: in, on, no, negation
Ordin: order
“Danielle spent an inordinate amount of time with her boyfriend”

Concatenation: the state of being linked together as in a chain
Con: with, together
Caten: chain
“Many view time as concatenate, with one event effecting another”

Preempt: take action in order to prevent from happening
Pre: before
Empt: buy
“Studying is a way to preempt failing”

Emanate: issue or spread out from
E:
Man: flow, stay
“The steam emanated from the boiling pot”

Requite: make appropriate return for
Re: back, again
“Emma’s love was requited by her fiancée as indicated when he proposed”

Insatiable: impossible to satisfy
In: in, on, not, negation
Sat: cultivate
“After going into overtime in the game, Bryce’s thirst was insatiable”

Exacerbate: make worse
Ex: from, out
Ac: sharp, pointed
“The pain of Grace’s bruise was exacerbated when Kat poked it”

Nascent: just coming into existence
Nasc: born
“The idea of green building is nascent in the United States”

Primordial: existing at or from the beginning of time
Prim: first
“The sixth grade had been using the same primordial book since the 1960’s”

Reverberate: be repeated several times as an echo
Re: back, again
Verb: word
“The sound of her yell reverberated through the forest”

Consternation: feelings of anxiety or dismay
Con: with, again
Stern: spread, strew
“Finn’s consternation was interfering with his performance at school”

Recondite: little known
Re: back, again
Con: with, together
“Lea was aware of many recondite facts about Spain”

Inception: establishment or starting point of something
In: in, on, not, negation
Cept: hold, take
“The inception of the French club demonstrated the globalization of the school”

Prerogative: a right or privilege exclusive to a particular individual
Pre: before
Rog: ask
“It is a parent’s prerogative to question everything their children do”

Millennium: period of a thousand years
Mill: thousand
Enn: year, yearly
“Many were scared that the new millennium would cause technological devices to shut down”

Supplicate: ask or beg for something earnestly
Su: sew
Plic: please
“He supplicated himself to his girlfriend for forgiveness”

Fractious: easily irritated
Fract: break
“Shannon’s fractious demeanor made many people feel uncomfortable around her”

Prognosticate: foretell or prophesy
Pro: before, in front of, for, forward
“The gypsy prognosticated that Rachel would get into Yale”

Disconsolate: without consolation or comfort
Dis: not, negation
Con: with, together
Sol: sun, comfort, soothe, alone, only
“Stephen was disconsolate when he heard about the car accident”

Relegate: consign or dismiss to an inferior rank or position
Re: back, again
Leg: law
“The CEO relegated more menial tasks to employers lower in the company”

Definitive: done or reached decisively and with authority
De: from, away from, removing, down
Fin: end
“Liam went through many hours of work before reaching a definitive answer to his question”

Culpable: deserving blame
Culp: blame, fault
Able: able
“Shaun was culpable in the cheating fiasco”

Infraction: a violation or infringement of a law
In: in, on
Fract: break
“Hosting underage drinking parties is a major legal infraction”

Sedentary: tending to spend much time seated
Sed: apart, settle, calm, sit
“Elderly people often become sedentary which leads to further health problems”

Ostensible: stated or appearing to be true, but not necessarily so
Os: against
Tens: stretch, strain
“Laura’s ostensible motive was to be a good friend but she really wanted information for gossip”

Expatriate: speak or write in detail
Ex: from, out
Pat: be open
“Mandy expatiated the science behind her research project”

Infirmit: physical or mental weakness
In: in, on, not, negation
Firm: fix, settle
“Cam’s infirmit made many question whether she was suitable for the coaching position”

Turgid: swollen and distended or congested
Urg: work
“The sports injury left Sherry’s fingers extremely turgid to the point where she couldn’t bend them”

Profligate: recklessly extravagant
Pro: before, in front of, for, forward
Flig: strike
“Bryan was a profligate partier, and his friends often worried about his health”

Poltroon: a coward
Pol: pole
“The poltroon was afraid to stand up for himself against his oppressors”

Risible: such as to provoke laughter
Ris: laugh
“Jesse’s risible jokes had the whole room crying with laughter”
Lucubration: study, meditation
   Luc: bright, light
   “Emme’s lucubration made her able to excel at the country’s top college”

Obloquy: strong public criticism
   ob: against
   Loqu: speak
   “Sue’s obloquy made many people turn against her”

Palliate: make less severe or unpleasant without removing the cause
   Pall: be pale
   “Terminally ill patients often receive palliative treatment since the can’t be cured”

Verisimilitude: appearance of being true or real
   Ver: true
   Simil: likeness, trust, group
   “The play was supposed to be based on the actress’s life but its verisimilitude was questioned by many experts”

Solecism: breach of good manners
   Sol: alone, only
   “Artie’s solecism made many people dislike him”

Aficionado: person who is very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about an activity
   A: movement to or toward
   Fic: make
   “Shelby was a dance aficionado, and was always pleased to share her knowledge with others”

Peccadillo: a small relatively unimportant offense or sin
   Pecc: sin
   “Will’s peccadillo was barely punished by the principal”

Gratis: without charge, free
   Grat: thanks, please
   “Because the food took so long to come out, the restaurant gave it to them gratis”

Traumatic: emotionally disturbing or distressing
   Traum: wound
   “Brittany often relived her traumatic car wreck in her nightmares”

Exculpate: show or declare that someone is not guilty of wrongdoing
   Ex: from, out
   Culp: blame, fault
   “Brandon was exculpated of the accusation that he had tracked mud into the house”

Belabor: argue or elaborate in excessive detail
   Be: bless
   Labor: toil
   “Gene belabored the plan to his teammates”

Largesse: generosity in bestowing money or gifts upon others
   Larg: large
   “JK Rowling’s largesse for charities made her drop from the top earners in the world”

Asseverate: assert, state categorically
   As: movement to or toward, in addition to
Sever: stern, strict, serious
   “Tina asseverated that she didn’t cheat on her exam”

Attenuate: reduce the force, effect or value of
   At: movement to or toward, in addition to
   Tenu: slender, thin
   “Too much water in the mix can attenuate the dying power of henna”

Cognizant: having knowledge or being aware of
   Cogn: know
   “Elodie was cognizant of her opponent’s ability but it didn’t intimidate her”

Abstruse: difficult to understand
   Abs: away
   Trus: thrust
   “The abstruse math problem puzzled all the test takers”

Depraved: morally corrupt
   De: from. away from, removing, down
   Prav: crooked
   “Tuck’s depraved behavior led to his arrest”

Minutiae: trivial detail of something
   Min: less, smaller
   “Subtle minutiae made the novel a top seller”

Exhume: dig out from ground
   Ex: from, out
   Hum: ground
   “The archaeologists exhumed the bones of a dinosaur”

Intermittent: occurring at irregular intervals, not steady
   Inter: among, between
   Mitt: send
   “The intermittent beeping was very distracting to the students”

Increment: an increase or addition
   In: in, on, not, negation
   Cre: make
   “I split up my reading assignment into more doable increments”

Interpolate: insert between fixed points
   Inter: among, between
   Pol: pole
   “Dr. Darcy interpolated his lesson with bits of humor”

Impeccable: in accordance with the highest standards or propriety
   Im: in, on, not, negation
   Pecc: sin
   “Jane’s impeccable behavior made her really popular with her friend’s parents”

Arrogate: take or claim something for oneself without justification
   Ar: movement to or toward, in addition to
   Rog: ask
“The king arrogated all the surrounded land into his kingdom”

**Concomitant**: naturally accompanying or associated
- **Con**: with, together
- **Com**: with, together
  “Natural ability **concomitant** with hard work often leads to success”

**Deride**: express contempt for, ridicule
- **De**: from, away from, removing, down
- **Rid**: laugh
  “Mike **derided** his opponent in the election”

**Expunge**: erase or remove completely
- **Ex**: from, out
- **Pung**: pric
  “Diana had to have her record **expunged** before she could get a job”

**Impetuous**: acting or done quickly and without thought or care
- **Im**: in, on, not, negation
- **Pet**: strive towards
  “Lana walked **impetuously** down the street, carelessly bumping into many people”

**Implacable**: unable to be placated, relentlessly
- **Im**: in, on, not, negation
- **Plac**: please
  “The parent had trouble cooking food for their **implacable** child”

**Ingenuous**: innocent and unsuspecting
- **In**: in, on, not, negation
- **Gen**: race, kind, birth
  “Britney’s **ingenuous** nature made her trust everyone”

**Inveterate**: having a particular habit, activity or interest so long established and unlikely to change
- **In**: in, on, not, negation
- **Veter**: old
  “Pat’s routine was **inveterate** and had been for many years”

**Multifarious**: many and or various types
- **Mult**: many, much
  “Becky’s **multifarious** interests in addition to her high test scores helped her get into an Ivy league college”

**Odious**: extremely unpleasant, repulsive
- **Od**: hate
  “Quinn found washing dishes to be an **odious** task”

**Pellucid**: translucently clear
- **Pell**: drive
- **Luc**: bright, light
  “The **pellucid** window cast a green shadow on the floor”

**Perfidious**: deceitful and untrustworthy
- **Per**: thoroughly, through
- **Fid**: faith, trust
  “Lily’s **perfidious** nature made it hard for people to get close to her”
Prescient: having knowledge before something occurs  
   Pre: before  
   Sci: know  
   “Marsha was prescient about her team winning state”
Solipsistic: the philosophical theory that the self is all that you know to exist  
   sol: alone, only  
   sist: cause to stand  
   “Many people find solipsistic thinkers to be self-centered”
apocalypse: complete, final destruction of the world  
   calyp: cover  
   “Mayans predicted that the apocalypse would occur in the year 2012”