

Words are listed with a sample part of speech and definition or possible synonym.
Note that denotative and connotative usages of words may be used on tests.

1. **abate** (*v.*) reduce, lessen
2. **abide** (*v.*) put up with
3. **abjure** (*v.*) to renounce formally; to reject
4. **abstruse** (*adj.*) difficult to understand
5. **acolyte** (*n.*) a devoted follower or assistant
6. **accretion** (*n.*) growth; increase
7. **acquit** (*v.*) conduct or perform oneself in a particular way, esp. under stress; to handle a situation successfully
8. **acrimony** (*n.*) bitterness, discord
9. **adulation** (*n.*) excessive praise or admiration
10. **affinity** (*n.*) likeness based on relationship or causal connection
11. **affirmation** (*n.*) positive assertion; confirmation
12. **affluent** (*adj.*) rich, wealthy
13. **agenda** (*n.*) list or outline of things to be considered or done
14. **alacrity** (*n.*) eagerness, speed
15. **aloof** (*adj.*) distant; emotionally detached
16. **amalgamate** (*v.*) to combine into one whole
17. **amenable** (*adj.*) willing, compliant
18. **anachronism** (*n.*) something out of its proper historical time
19. **anodyne** (*adj.*) not likely to cause offense; bland
20. **antiseptic** (*adj.*) clean, sterile
21. **apathy** (*n.*) lack of interest or concern
22. **apothecary** (*n.*) pharmacist, druggist
23. **apprehension** (*n.*) anxiety, worry, or fear that something unpleasant might happen
24. **aquatic** (*adj.*) relating to water
25. **arbitrary** (*adj.*) based on whim rather than reason
26. **ascendancy** (*n.*) a position of dominance or influence
27. **aspire** (*v.*) have a great ambition or ultimate goal; strive toward something high
28. **attribute** (*v.*) credit, assign
29. **bard** (*n.*) poet
30. **bereavement** (*n.*) the state of having lost a loved one
31. **bracing** (*adj.*) giving strength, vigor, or freshness
32. **brazen** (*adj.*) excessively bold, brash
33. **cajole** (*v.*) to persuade through flattery
34. **campaign** (*n.*) connected series of operations designed to bring about a particular result
35. **candid** (*adj.*) frank, honest, or straightforward
36. **candor** (*n.*) honesty and openness
37. **canny** (*adj.*) shrewd, careful
38. **capitulate** (*v.*) surrender
39. **catharsis** (*n.*) emotional release or purification
40. **censure** (*v.*) rebuke formally
41. **circumspect** (*adj.*) cautious and prudent
42. **clandestine** (*adj.*) secret; concealed
43. **clip** (*n.*) pace; rate
44. **cobbler** (*n.*) person who repairs shoes
45. **coercion** (*n.*) the act of forcing someone to act



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46. **collier** (*n.*) coal miner or coal dealer
47. **colloquial** (*adj.*) pertaining to conversational or common speech
48. **colossus** (*n.*) a gigantic statue or thing
49. **complacency** (*n.*) self-satisfied ignorance of danger
50. **compunction** (*n.*) distress caused by feeling guilty
51. **concord** (*n.*) harmonious agreement
52. **confluence** (*n.*) a gathering together
53. **congregation** (*n.*) a gathering of people, esp. for religious services
54. **connoisseur** (*n.*) an expert judge in matters of taste
55. **consensus** (*n.*) an agreement of opinion
56. **contemporaneous** (*adj.*) existing during the same time
57. **contralto** (*n.*) singing voice between tenor and mezzo-soprano
58. **contrition** (*n.*) sincere remorse or regret
59. **convivial** (*adj.*) characterized by feasting, drinking, merriment
60. **convoy** (*n.*) group of vehicles, ships, or people traveling together, usually for protection, organization, or a common purpose
61. **cooper** (*n.*) maker of barrels
62. **copious** (*adj.*) abundant; plentiful
63. **cornchandler** (*n.*) dealer in grain or seed
64. **corroborate** (*v.*) support with evidence
65. **culmination** (*n.*) the climax toward which something progresses
66. **debunk** (*v.*) expose the falseness of something
67. **decorum** (*n.*) proper behavior; dignity
68. **defer** (*v.*) postpone something; yield to another's wisdom or judgment
69. **defunct** (*adj.*) no longer used or existing
70. **demarcation** (*n.*) marking of boundaries or categories
71. **denigrate** (*v.*) to belittle or disparage
72. **deplore** (*v.*) feel or express sorrow or disapproval
73. **destined** (*adj.*) certain or intended to happen in the future; fated
74. **desultory** (*adj.*) lacking a clear plan or purpose
75. **deviation** (*n.*) departure or change from the usual, expected, planned, or correct course
76. **dialect** (*n.*) variation of a language
77. **diffident** (*adj.*) shy; lacking self-confidence
78. **discomfit** (*v.*) put into a state of perplexity and embarrassment
79. **disgruntled** (*adj.*) upset, not content
80. **disperse** (*v.*) scatter
81. **dissuade** (*v.*) persuade someone not to do something
82. **distinguished** (*adj.*) marked by excellence
83. **dither** (*v.*) to be indecisive
84. **doleful** (*adj.*) full of or expressing grief
85. **dynamic** (*adj.*) active; efficient; energetic; forceful
86. **eclectic** (*adj.*) selecting from various sources
87. **ecstatic** (*adj.*) excited, elated, enthusiastic
88. **edifice** (*n.*) a large building; a complex system
89. **efficacious** (*adj.*) effective
90. **effulgent** (*adj.*) radiant, splendid
91. **elegy** (*n.*) a mournful poem or lament
92. **elude** (*v.*) evade, escape



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93. **embellish** (*v.*) decorate, adorn; add details to, enhance
94. **emulate** (*v.*) imitate
95. **encore** (*n.*) the audience's demand for a repeat performance and the artist's performance in response
96. **enfranchise** (*v.*) grant the vote to
97. **enigma** (*n.*) a mystery or puzzle
98. **ephemeral** (*adj.*) lasting a very short time
99. **equivocal** (*adj.*) ambiguous; uncertain
100. **eschew** (*v.*) shun, avoid
101. **euphoric** (*adj.*) elated, uplifted
102. **exacerbate** (*v.*) to make worse
103. **exasperate** (*v.*) irritate, irk
104. **exculpate** (*v.*) to clear from blame
105. **excursion** (*n.*) a trip or journey, often taken for a special purpose or as an adventure
106. **expedient** (*adj.*) advisable, advantageous, or serving one's self-interest
107. **façade** (*n.*) wall of a building
108. **farinaceous** (*adj.*) containing, made from, or resembling flour, grain, or meal
109. **farrier** (*n.*) maker of horseshoes
110. **fashion** (*n.*) particular manner, way, or style of doing something
111. **fathom** (*v.*) understand, comprehend
112. **fertility** (*n.*) state of being able to produce many crops
113. **fervor** (*n.*) intense enthusiasm
114. **fete** (*v.*) honor or commemorate with an elaborate party
115. **fickle** (*adj.*) marked by lack of steadfastness, constancy, or stability
116. **finalize** (*v.*) put in final or finished form
117. **fletcher** (*n.*) maker of arrows
118. **forestall** (*v.*) prevent, thwart, or delay
119. **fortuitous** (*adj.*) happening by chance, often fortunately
120. **frugal** (*adj.*) thrifty, economical
121. **garrulous** (*adj.*) talkative, wordy
122. **gauntlets** (*n.*) long, sturdy gloves
123. **gorge** (*v.*) eat a very large amount of food greedily or ravenously
124. **gormandize** (*v.*) eat greedily, gluttonously, or with excessive enthusiasm
125. **grandiloquence** (*n.*) lofty, pompous language
126. **gratifying** (*adj.*) giving pleasure or satisfaction
127. **haberdasher** (*n.*) dealer in men's clothing and accessories
128. **hackneyed** (*adj.*) unoriginal, trite
129. **harangue** (*n.*) a lengthy, forceful speech
130. **hegemony** (*n.*) domination over others
131. **hiatus** (*n.*) break or gap in duration or continuity
132. **hostler** (*n.*) one who takes care of horses or mules
133. **iconoclast** (*n.*) one who attacks established beliefs
134. **idiosyncratic** (*adj.*) peculiar of constitution, behavior, or temperament; distinctive or characteristic
135. **igneous** (*adj.*) produced by fire; volcanic
136. **impasse** (*n.*) a deadlock; inability to proceed
137. **impecunious** (*adj.*) poor
138. **impertinent** (*adj.*) rude, insolent
139. **implicate** (*v.*) involve in an incriminating way
140. **in flux** (*phrase*) in a state of change, movement, or uncertainty; not yet settled or stable



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141. **inchoate** (*adj.*) unformed, formless; in a beginning stage
142. **incredulous** (*adj.*) unwilling to believe
143. **indigent** (*adj.*) very poor, impoverished
144. **induce** (*v.*) bring about, stimulate
145. **ineffable** (*adj.*) unutterable; cannot be expressed in speech
146. **inexorable** (*adj.*) impossible to stop or prevent
147. **infamy** (*n.*) notoriety; extreme ill repute
148. **influx** (*n.*) arrival or movement of a large number of people, things, or resources into a place
149. **ingenuous** (*adj.*) innocent and straightforward
150. **innovate** (*v.*) do something in an unprecedented way
151. **insipid** (*adj.*) dull, boring
152. **intentness** (*n.*) quality of being focused, attentive, or absorbed in something
153. **interface** (*v.*) interact, communicate, or work together with another person, group, system, or piece of equipment
154. **interminable** (*adj.*) without possibility of end
155. **intermingle** (*v.*) mix together
156. **inure** (*v.*) cause someone or something to become accustomed to a situation
157. **jubilee** (*n.*) a celebration, especially of an anniversary
158. **judicious** (*adj.*) showing good judgment; wise
159. **juxtaposition** (*n.*) act of placing two things next to each other for implicit comparison
160. **kaleidoscopic** (*adj.*) constantly changing in pattern or form
161. **kinetic** (*adj.*) relating to motion or movement
162. **kudos** (*n.*) praise or acclaim for an achievement
163. **laceration** (*n.*) a cut or tear
164. **laconic** (*adj.*) terse in speech or writing; concise to the point of seeming rude or mysterious
165. **latent** (*adj.*) hidden, dormant, present but not apparent
166. **laudatory** (*adj.*) expressing admiration or praise
167. **lethargy** (*n.*) sluggishness; lack of energy
168. **litigant** (*n.*) someone engaged in a lawsuit
169. **logistical** (*adj.*) relating to the planning, organization, transportation, and coordination needed to carry out an activity or project
170. **lucid** (*adj.*) clear, easily understandable
171. **lurid** (*adj.*) ghastly, sensational
172. **magnanimous** (*adj.*) generous and forgiving
173. **magnate** (*n.*) person of rank, power, influence, or distinction often in a specified area
174. **malediction** (*n.*) a curse
175. **mason** (*n.*) stoneworker
176. **matricide** (*n.*) murder of a mother by a child
177. **maxim** (*n.*) a common saying expressing a principle of conduct
178. **medley** (*n.*) a mixture of differing things
179. **mercurial** (*adj.*) characterized by rapid change or temperamentality
180. **meticulous** (*adj.*) extremely careful and precise



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181. **modulate** (*v.*) pass from one state to another, especially in music
182. **monastic** (*adj.*) related to monks
183. **morose** (*adj.*) gloomy or sullen
184. **mortifying** (*adj.*) causing feelings of strong shame or embarrassment
185. **mutable** (*adj.*) able to change
186. **myriad** (*adj.*) consisting of a very great number
187. **nebulous** (*adj.*) vaguely defined; cloudy
188. **nocturnal** (*adj.*) relating to or occurring during the night
189. **nomad** (*n.*) an individual who roams about
190. **nurture** (*v.*) assist the development of
191. **obdurate** (*adj.*) unyielding to persuasion or moral influences
192. **obsolete** (*adj.*) no longer used; out of date
193. **ominous** (*adj.*) foreboding or foreshadowing evil
194. **orthodox** (*adj.*) conventional; conforming to established protocols
195. **panacea** (*n.*) remedy for all ills or difficulties
196. **paradigm** (*n.*) a model or pattern
197. **partake** (*v.*) experience something along with others; have a portion of food or drink
198. **patent** (*adj.*) readily seen or understood; clear
199. **patina** (*n.*) green crust on old bronze works
200. **pejorative** (*adj.*) derogatory; uncomplimentary
201. **penitential** (*adj.*) feeling or showing repentance for a fault, mistake, or sin
202. **penurious** (*adj.*) miserly, stingy
203. **perfidy** (*n.*) betrayal of trust
204. **pernicious** (*adj.*) highly harmful
205. **perplex** (*v.*) confuse
206. **pertinacious** (*adj.*) stubbornly persistent
207. **petulant** (*adj.*) easily irritated or annoyed; tending to show an attitude of haughty annoyance
208. **pillage** (*v.*) seize or plunder, esp. in war
209. **pliable** (*adj.*) flexible
210. **pompous** (*adj.*) arrogant; having or exhibiting self-importance
211. **pore** (*v.*) read or study attentively; reflect or meditate steadily
212. **portent** (*n.*) an omen
213. **pragmatic** (*adj.*) practical
214. **preclude** (*v.*) prevent, avert
215. **premises** (*n.*) a building and the land connected with it; a place of business and its property
216. **presage** (*n.*) an omen
217. **prescient** (*adj.*) having foreknowledge; characterized by foresight
218. **prescribe** (*v.*) lay down a rule; dictate
219. **probity** (*n.*) virtue, integrity
220. **procure** (*v.*) obtain or acquire
221. **proficiency** (*n.*) advancement in knowledge or skill
222. **prolix** (*adj.*) verbose; drawn out
223. **propagate** (*v.*) multiply, spread out
224. **propound** (*v.*) put forward, present, or ask a question, idea, or problem for consideration
225. **proscribe** (*v.*) condemn; outlaw
226. **publicity** (*n.*) device designed to attract public interest
227. **pugnacious** (*adj.*) quarrelsome, combative
228. **puissant** (*adj.*) powerful
229. **putrid** (*adj.*) rotten, foul



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230. **quagmire** (*n.*) a difficult or precarious situation
231. **quell** (*v.*) put an end to; suppress
232. **querulous** (*adj.*) complaining in a petulant or whining manner
233. **quixotic** (*adj.*) idealistic but impractical; unrealistic
234. **rebuke** (*v.*) scold; criticize
235. **recalcitrant** (*adj.*) stubbornly resistant to authority or control
236. **redolent** (*adj.*) strongly suggestive or reminiscent
237. **reproachfully** (*adv.*) in a way that expresses disappointment, disapproval, or mild criticism
238. **rescind** (*v.*) revoke, cancel, or repeal officially
239. **resolute** (*adj.*) marked by firm determination
240. **reticent** (*adj.*) reserved; reluctant to speak
241. **rudimentary** (*adj.*) basic; relating to the earliest stage of development
242. **rumble** (*v.*) make a low heavy rolling sound or series of sound; travel with a low reverberating sound
243. **sagacity** (*n.*) wisdom; sound judgment
244. **scrivener** (*n.*) professional copyist or scribe
245. **shipwright** (*n.*) builder of ships
246. **singular** (*adj.*) distinguished by superiority; being out of the ordinary; peculiar
247. **solicitous** (*adj.*) showing care or concern
248. **speculation** (*n.*) a thought, theory, or idea based on imagination rather than certain knowledge
249. **staunch** (*adj.*) loyal, firm, and steadfast
250. **substantiate** (*v.*) support with evidence or proof
251. **sup** (*v.*) take or drink in swallows or gulps
252. **superfluous** (*adj.*) more than is needed; excessive
253. **surreptitious** (*adj.*) secretive; done in a concealed manner
254. **sycophant** (*n.*) person who flatters others to gain advantage
255. **syllogism** (*n.*) logical formula utilizing a major premise, minor premise, and conclusion
256. **tacit** (*adj.*) understood without being stated
257. **tanner** (*n.*) person who prepares leather
258. **tantamount** (*adj.*) equivalent in effect or meaning
259. **thwart** (*v.*) prevent someone from accomplishing something
260. **tonic** (*adj.*) invigorating, refreshing
261. **tortuous** (*adj.*) marked by repeated twists, bends, and turns, winding; crooked, tricky
262. **transcontinental** (*adj.*) extending or going across a continent
263. **transgress** (*v.*) violate a command or law; go beyond a limit or boundary
264. **trepidation** (*n.*) fear or anxiety about something that may happen
265. **trite** (*adj.*) not original; overused
266. **truculence** (*n.*) aggressive defiance
267. **truncate** (*v.*) shorten by cutting off part
268. **turbulent** (*adj.*) disorderly, agitated, or unstable
269. **ubiquity** (*n.*) state of being present everywhere at the same time
270. **ultimately** (*adv.*) in the end; eventually
271. **umbrageous** (*adj.*) giving shade; gloomy or overshadowing



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272. **underwrite** (*v.*) guarantee or provide financial support of
273. **ungrudgingly** (*adv.*) without resentment, reluctance, or complaint
274. **urbane** (*adj.*) refined, courteous, or sophisticated
275. **usurp** (*v.*) seize power or a position without right
276. **vacillation** (*n.*) indecision between choices
277. **vacuous** (*adj.*) lacking intelligence, thought, or meaningful content
278. **venerable** (*adj.*) worthy of respect because of age or character
279. **verisimilitude** (*n.*) the appearance of being true
280. **vestige** (*n.*) trace or remnant of something that once existed
281. **vex** (*v.*) annoy, frustrate, or trouble
282. **vicissitude** (*n.*) a change in circumstances, often unfavorable
283. **visage** (*n.*) a person's face or facial expression
284. **vituperate** (*v.*) criticize harshly or abusively
285. **wainwright** (*n.*) builder of wagons
286. **wary** (*adj.*) cautious; watchful for danger
287. **waylay** (*v.*) ambush or stop unexpectedly
288. **welter** (*n.*) state of confusion
289. **wheelwright** (*n.*) maker of wheels
290. **whimsical** (*adj.*) playfully unusual or fanciful
291. **whittle** (*v.*) reduce gradually; carve by cutting small pieces
292. **wistful** (*adj.*) expressing longing or gentle sadness
293. **withhold** (*v.*) hold back; refuse to give
294. **wretched** (*adj.*) extremely or deplorably bad or distressing; appearing mean, miserable, or contemptible
295. **xeric** (*adj.*) characterized by dry conditions
296. **yearn** (*v.*) long deeply for something
297. **yoke** (*v.*) join together
298. **yokel** (*n.*) an unsophisticated rural person
299. **zany** (*adj.*) comically eccentric or foolish
300. **zealotry** (*n.*) fanatical devotion to a cause

