

Question	Answer
Abate	To reduce in amount, degree, or severity
Abscond	To leave secretly
Abstain	To choose not to do something
Abyss	An extremely deep hole
Adulterate	To make impure
Advocate	To speak in favor of
Aesthetic	Concerning the appreciation of beauty
Aggrandize	To increase in power, influence, and reputation
Alleviate	To make more bearable
Amalgamate	To combine, mix together
Ambiguous	Doubtful or uncertain; able to be interpreted in many ways
Ameliorate	To make better; to improve
Anachronism	Something out of place in time
Analogous	Similar or alike in some way; equivalent to
Anomaly	Deviation from what is normal
Antagonize	To annoy or provoke to anger
Antipathy	Extremely dislike
Apathy	Lack of interest or emotion
Arbitrate	To judge a dispute between opposing parties
Archaic	Ancient, old fashioned
Ardor	Intense and passionate feeling
Articulate	Able to speak clearly and expressively
Assuage	To make something unpleasant less severe
Attenuate	To reduce in force or degree; to weaken
Audacious	Fearless or daring, bold
Austere	Severe or stern in appearance, undecorated

Banal	Predictable, cliched, boring
Bolster	To support; to prop up
Bombastic	pompous in speech and manner
Cacophony	Harsh, jarring noise
Candid	Impartial and honest in speech
Capricious	Changing one's mind quickly and often
Castigate	To punish or criticize harshly
Catalyst	Something that brings about a change in something else
Caustic	biting in wit
Chaos	great disorder and confusion
Chauvinist	Someone prejudiced in favor of a group to which he or she belongs
Chicanery	Deception by means of craft or guile
Cogent	convincing and well-reasoned
Condone	To overlook, pardon, or disregard
Convolutd	intricate and complicated
Corroborate	to provide supporting evidence
Credulous	Too trusting, gullible
Crescendo	Steadily increasing volume, or force
Decorum	Appropriateness of behavior or conduct, propriety
Deference	Respect, courtesy
Deride	To speak of or treat with contempt; to mock
Desiccate	To dry out thoroughly
Desultory	Jumping from one thing to another, disconnected
Diatribes	An abusive, condemnatory speech
Diffident	lacking self-confidence
Dilate	To make large, to expand
Dilatory	Intended to delay

Dilettante	Someone who has amateurish and superficial interest in a topic
Dirge	A funeral hymn or mournful speech
Disabuse	To set right, to free from error
Discern	To perceive, to recognize
Disparate	Fundamentally different; entirely unlike
Dissemble	To present a false appearance; To disguise one's real intentions or character
Dissonance	A harsh and disagreeable combination; often of sounds
Dogma	A firmly held opinion, often a religious belief
Dogmatic	Dictatorial in one's opinions
Dupe	To deceive; a person who is easily deceived
Eclectic	Selecting from or made up from a variety of sources
Efficacy	Effectiveness
Elegy	A sorrowful poem or speech
Eloquent	Persuasive and moving, especially in speech
Emulate	To copy, or try to equal or excel
Enervate	to reduce in strength
Engender	to produce, cause or bring about
Enigma	A puzzle, a mystery
Enumerate	To count, list, or itemize
Ephemeral	Lasting a short time
Equivocate	To use expressions of double meaning in order to mislead
Erratic	Wandering and unpredictable
Erudite	Learned, scholarly, bookish
Esoteric	Known or understood by only a few
Estimable	Admirable
Eulogy	Speech in praise of someone
Euphemism	Use of an inoffensive word or phrase in place of a more distasteful one

Exacerbate	To make worse
Exculpate	To clear from blame; prove innocent
Exigent	Urgent, requiring immediate action
Exonerate	To clear of blame
Explicit	Clearly stated or shown; forthright in expression
Fanatical	Acting excessively enthusiastic; filled with extreme unquestioned devotion
Fawn	To grovel
Fervid	Intensely emotional; feverish
Florid	Excessively decorated or embellished
Foment	To arouse or incite
Frugality	A tendency to be thrifty or cheap
Garrulous	Tending to talk a lot
Gregarious	Outgoing, sociable
Guile	Deceit or trickery
Gullible	Easily Deceived
Homogeneous	Of a similar kind
Iconoclast	One who opposes established beliefs, customs, and institutions
Imperturbable	Not capable of being disturbed
Impervious	Impossible to penetrate; incapable of being affected
Impetuous	Quick to act without thinking
Implacable	Unable to be calmed down or made peaceful
Inchoate	Not fully formed, disorganized
Ingenuous	Showing innocence or childlike simplicity
Inimical	Hostile, unfriendly
Innocuous	Harmless
Inspid	Lacking interest of flavor
Intransigent	Uncompromising, refusing to be reconciled

Inundate	To overwhelm to cover with water
Irascible	Easily made angry
Laconic	Using few words
Lament	To express sorrow or grieve
Laud	To give praise, to glorify
Lavish	To give unsparingly; extremely generous or extravagant
Lethargic	Acting in an indifferent or slow, sluggish manner
Loquacious	Talkative
Lucid	clear and easily understood
Luminous	Bright, brilliant, glowing
Malingering	To evade responsibility by pretending to be ill
Malleable	capable of being shaped
Metaphor	a figure of speech comparing two different things; a symbol
Meticulous	Extremely careful about details
Misanthrope	a person who dislikes others
Mitigate	To soften, or lessen
Mollify	to calm or make less severe
Monotony	lack of variation
Naive	Lacking sophistication or experience
Obdurate	hardened in feeling, resistant to persuasion
Obsequious	overly submissive and eager to please
Obstinate	stubborn, unyielding
Obviate	to prevent, to make unnecessary
Occlude	To stop up; to prevent the passage of
Onerous	troublesome and oppressive; burdensome
Opaque	Impossible to see through; preventing the passage of light
Opprobrium	public disgrace
Ostentation	excessive showiness

Paradox	A contradiction or dilemma
Paragon	model of excellence or perfection
Pedant	Someone who shows off learning
Perfidious	willing to betray one's trust
Perfunctory	done in a routine way, indifferent
Permeate	To penetrate
Philanthropy	charity; a desire or effort to promote goodness
Placate	to soothe or pacify
Plastic	able to be molded, altered, or bent
Plethora	Excess
Pragmatic	practical as opposed to idealistic
Precipitate	to throw violently or bring about abruptly lacking deliberation
Prevaricate	to lie or deviate from the truth
Pristine	fresh and clean; uncorrupted
Prodigal	lavish, wasteful
Proliferate	to increase in number quickly
Propitiate	to conciliate; to appease
Propriety	correct behavior; obedience to rules and customs
Prudence	wisdom, caution, or restraint
Pungent	Sharp and irritating to the senses
Quiescent	motionless
Rarefy	to make things thinner or sparser
Repudiate	to reject the validity of
Reticent	silent, reserved
Rhetoric	Effective writing or speaking
Satiate	to satisfy fully or overindulge
Soporific	causing sleep or lethargy
Specious	deceptively attractive; seemingly plausible but fallacious

Stigma	a mark of shame or discredit
Stolid	unemotional, lacking sensitivity
Sublime	lofty or grand
Tacit	Done without using words
Taciturn	Silent, not talkative
Tirade	long harsh speech or verbal attack
Torpor	extreme mental or physical sluggishness
Transitory	temporary, lasting a brief time
Vacillate	to sway physically; to be indecisive
Venerate	to respect deeply
Veracity	filled with truth and accuracy
Verbose	wordy
Vex	to annoy
Volatile	easily aroused or changeable; lively or explosive
Waver	to fluctuate between choices
Whimsical	acting in a fanciful or capricious manner; unpredictable
Zeal	Passion, excitement