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1. CONCOCT (VERB): formulate, think up

Synonyms: contrive, discover Antonyms: ruin, wreck

Example Sentence:

The false evidences in the case were deliberately concocted by the media, to make me the main defendant.

2. PUNCTILIOUS (ADJECTIVE): careful, finicky

Synonyms: meticulous, exact Antonyms: careless, informal

Example Sentence:

The convert who is more punctilious in his new faith than the lifelong communicant is a familiar figure in Catholic lore.

3. RABBLE-ROUSE (VERB): influence, provoke

Synonyms: kindle, spur Antonyms: deter, discourage

Example Sentence:

The strike was rabble- housed by the ambitious union president who wanted his name to appear in the newspapers.

4. COUP (NOUN): achievement, often by maneuver

Synonyms: action, overthrow Antonyms: failure

Example Sentence:

Winning a medal at the Olympics was a real coup for the skinny, fifty year old man.

5. NIMBLE (ADJECTIVE): dexterous, smart

Synonyms: adroit, skillful Antonyms: inept, clumsy

Example Sentence:

After the recession, many companies had proved nimble in identifying new market opportunities.

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6. FECKLESS (ADJECTIVE): without purpose

Synonyms: aimless, carefree Antonyms: purposeful, efficient

Example Sentence:

Government IT projects either fail because of under-achieving suppliers or because of incompetent and feckless civil servants.

7. IMPIOUS (NOUN): not religious

Synonyms: apostate, unholy Antonyms: religious, pious

Example Sentence:

The next story is a common parable of a god-fearing poor man and an arrogant, impious rich man.

8. LUDICROUS (ADJECTIVE): absurd, ridiculous

Synonyms: foolish, comical Antonyms: reasonable, wise

Example Sentence:

The reality show has earned huge ratings by having idiots perform ludicrous stunts.

9. IMPERMEABLE (ADJECTIVE): impenetrable

Synonyms: airtight, dense Antonyms: porous, unsealed

Example Sentence:

He points out that many people can avoid illness simply by ensuring that the basement

of dwellings is made impermeable to such gases.

10. INSOLENT (ADJECTIVE): bold, disrespectful

Synonyms: abusive, arrogant Antonyms: modest, polite

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When the insolent young man yelled my name, I ignored him and walked towards my car.

1. BENISON (NOUN): closing prayer

Synonyms: invocation, blessing Antonyms: disfavour, execration

Example Sentence:

In the beginning, Gibran's small estate was worth some \$50,000, benison enough for a village of ten thousand souls.

2. ARCANUM (NOUN): secret

Synonyms: hidden, mystery Antonyms: known, reveal

Example Sentence:

The European monarch craved the formula or Arcanum for the philosopher's stone, the magical compound that would turn base metal into gold.

3. DIABLERIE (NOUN): black magic

Synonyms: devilish, Satanism

Example Sentence:

The tantrik constructed an enchanted closet, within which the deeds of diablerie are to be effected on an extensive scale.

4. ELDRITCH (ADJECTIVE): weird and sinister or ghostly.

Synonyms: strange, peculiar Antonyms: common, natural

Example Sentence:

In the eldritch light of evening in Nevada's Black Rock Desert, the eye plays tricks on the brain.

5. IDYLL (NOUN): pause, break

Synonyms: lull, respite Antonyms: continuation, start

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Sheep are the docile, pleasant creatures of the pastoral idyll.

6. REPINE (VERB): complain

Synonyms: lament, mourn Antonyms: praise, be happy

Example Sentence:

Deserted at birth by his natural father, sentenced at the age of eleven, Amit did not repine; instead, he returned love for hatred and sought salvation through work.

7. TROGLODYTE (NOUN): crude, savage person

Synonyms: beast, brute Antonyms: humanitarian, sophisticate

Example Sentence:

I am an admitted electronics-averse troglodyte, who writes with a fountain pen and shaves with a mug and brush.

8. ABEYANCE (NOUN): being inactive or suspended

Synonyms: dormancy, inactivity Antonyms: action, activity

Example Sentence:

Once the famine was over, the food rationing dictated by the government was put in

abeyance.

9. GAMINE (NOUN): boyish girl

Synonyms: hoyden, romp

Example Sentence:

The gigantic success of this film in France has made a national, and maybe soon international star of its 23-year-old lead Audrey Tautou, who plays Amelie Poulain, the delectable young gamine employed as a waitress in a Montmartre café.

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10. SEDITION (NOUN): rebellion

Synonyms: mutiny, insubordination Antonyms: calm, submission

Example Sentence:

At several points in his long career, Jinnah was threatened by the British with imprisonment on sedition charges for speaking in favour of Indian home rule or rights

1. REPLETION (NOUN): satiation

Synonyms: filling, satiety Antonyms: lack, need

Example Sentence:

With distended belly and bursting waistcoat, his eyes glazed with repletion, he picks listlessly at his teeth with a fork.

2. TRANSMUTE (VERB): convert

Synonyms: mutate, alter Antonyms: increase, stagnate

Example Sentence:

It now seems as if she no longer had the strength or will to transmute life into art.

3. FORGO (VERB): give up, do without

Synonyms: abandon, abdicate Antonyms: assert, retain

Example Sentence:

If my deepest wish is to sit on a beach in Maine fishing for bass, I might cheerfully forgo stock options in Microsoft to do it.

4. FOIBLE (NOUN): personal imperfection

Synonyms: shortcoming, weakness Antonyms: perfection, strength

Example Sentence:

Your good-hearted acceptance and tolerance of others' foibles, goes a long way in maintaining harmony in your relationships.

5. SURLY (ADJECTIVE): gruff, bearish

Synonyms: boorish, irritable Antonyms: polite, refined

Example Sentence:

Maggie drank a little too much and got surly and made snide comments during the final toast.

6. FATIDIC (ADJECTIVE): prophetic

Synonyms: augural, mantic Antonyms: short-sighted

Example Sentence:

Throughout his very considerable body of work, there is an obsession with time, with dates, with temporal coincidences, with the fatidic power of numbers over our birth and death.

7. ENJOIN (VERB): order, command

Synonyms: admonish, adjure Antonyms: permit, allow

Example Sentence:

Few judges were friendly to unions, as demonstrated by a steady stream of decisions enjoining strikes, boycotts, picket lines, and other collective actions.

8. TURBID (ADJECTIVE): cloudy

Synonyms: dark, dense Antonyms: clear

Example Sentence:

The author's mind while writing the later half of the book seems to have been in a turbid and restless state.

9. RENEGE (VERB): go back on one's word

Synonyms: default, reverse

Example Sentence:

Today, politicians everywhere routinely renege on pledges in the belief that any problem can be solved by short-term fixes, spin-doctoring or character assassination.

10. PROSCRIBE (VERB): condemn, exclude

Synonyms: forbid, prohibit Antonyms: permit, include

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Example Sentence:

The doctor proscribed smoking in the waiting room of his clinic.

1. POIGNANT (ADJECTIVE): affecting, painful

Synonyms: disturbing, heartbreaking Antonyms: cheerful, wonderful

Example Sentence:

More than 50 years later she went there to see his grave and wrote a poignant memoir of their lost life together.

2. SEVERANCE (NOUN): division

Synonyms: detachment, demarcation Antonyms: union, juncture

Example Sentence:

Doubts and tensions between the two sides further exacerbated after US President announced the severance of ties with Taiwan in 1978.

3. COLLUDE (VERB): conspire

Synonyms: plot, intrigue Antonyms: forget, neglect

Example Sentence:

In the last two years, more than 15 of the market's traders have been kidnapped. One businessman says that corrupt government officials and the Afghan security services often collude in these crimes.

4. MAZY (ADJECTIVE): difficult to understand

Synonyms: complicated, convoluted Antonyms: easy, clear

Example Sentence:

All day and all night, the waves threw themselves dementedly against their rocky barricade, sending an endless roar like heavy traffic through the glacial rooms and mazy, echoing corridors of the old house.

5. GLADE (NOUN): dell

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Synonyms: meadow, valley

Example Sentence:

We had broken suddenly into a lovely glade of greensward surrounded by ancient trees.

6. RETICENT (ADJECTIVE): secretive, quiet

Synonyms: hesitant, shy Antonyms: extrovert, outgoing

Example Sentence:

Sensitive to the victimization of blacks throughout American history, whites tend to be reticent about criticizing them, especially on racial matters.

7. BLEB (NOUN): swelling

Synonyms: sore, abscess

Example Sentence:

One day, as he was bathing her, a bleb of shampoo had streamed into her eye, and she had kept a hand pressed to it for the rest of the day.

8. VET (VERB): analyze, test

Synonyms: inspect, ponder Antonyms: overlook, ignore

Example Sentence:

She was the right age (in her fifties), and her personal background had been vetted

during the Senate confirmation hearings.

9. ACCLIMATE (VERB): make or become adjusted, adapted

Synonyms: accustom, accommodate Antonyms: soften

Example Sentence:

The Korbels did not have much time to pull their lives together and acclimate themselves to English culture.

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10. PREROGATIVE (NOUN): right, privilege

Synonyms: immunity, perquisite Antonyms: duty, obligation

Example Sentence:

It is the prerogative of the High Court to accept or reject the public interest litigation in many countries

1. RUMINATE (VERB): think about seriously

Synonyms: brainstorm, meditate Antonyms: discard, ignore

Example Sentence:

Before I make any major decisions, I need to ruminate on all the facts.

2. CULINARY (ADJECTIVE): able to be consumed

Synonyms: edible, dietary Antonyms: uneatable, distasteful

Example Sentence:

Her culinary skills were amazing. I especially loved her pasta dish.

3. INVIDIOUS (ADJECTIVE): hateful

Synonyms: jealous, calumnious Antonyms: lovable, likeable

Example Sentence:

So many officials have made so many mistakes over so many years that it would be invidious to select a single example of incompetence.

4. FIRMAMENT (NOUN): heaven

Synonyms: vault, welkin Antonyms: hell

Example Sentence:

But to judge by the twinkling summer stars that filled the firmament, the dawn was still far off.

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5. RIVULET (NOUN): small river

Synonyms: brook, stream

Example Sentence:

But, requesting anonymity, some customs staff told the BBC that at night, smugglers fix ropes at both sides of a rivulet that separates the Nepal-Tibet border.

6. CONCILIATORY (ADJECTIVE): placid, yielding

Synonyms: appeasing, calm **Antonyms:** fighting, stubborn

Example Sentence:

After the war was over, the formerly warring countries were suddenly conciliatory at the peace conference.

7. JAMBOREE (NOUN): noisy celebration

Synonyms: gathering, party

Example Sentence:

In 1929 some of our scouts attended the jamboree held at Arrowe Park, Birkenhead.

8. HOSPICE (NOUN): hospital

Synonyms: clinic, emergency room

Example Sentence:

How much money do you need to build the new hospice?

9. BROACH (VERB): bring up a topic

Synonyms: moot, mention Antonyms: withdraw, take back

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My friend was proud of her new dress, so no one knew how to broach the subject with

her of how ugly someone can look in leather pants.

10. CATHARSIS (NOUN): purging, purification

Synonyms: ablution, cleansing Antonyms: dirtying

Example Sentence:

To someone with psychological problems, discussing things with a psychiatrist can lead to a catharsis.

1. OFFSHOOT (NOUN): development, product

Synonyms: sprout, out-growth Antonyms: origin, source

Example Sentence:

Psychology began as a purely academic offshoot of natural philosophy.

2. PERSPICACIOUS (ADJECTIVE): observant, perceptive

Synonyms: alert, keen Antonyms: ignorant, unobservant

Example Sentence:

He was a distinguished member of the Parliament, a man of immense learning, elegant oratory and a perspicacious personality, who died in the very young age.

3. LUSH (ADJECTIVE): profuse and delightful

Synonyms: abundant, dense Antonyms: scarce, barren

Example Sentence:

I cannot explain to you the beauty of the lush green Mughal Gardens that are situated at the back of the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi; you must visit to experience it.

4. CERISE (ADJECTIVE): bright red color

Synonyms: blooming, claret Antonyms: dull

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However much the cerise -capped and frocked crowd willed the black flash to catch the leader.

5. OBEISANCE NOUN): salutation

Synonyms: homage, honour Antonyms: disregard, disrespect

Example Sentence:

The family would visit Punjab's famous Golden temple to "pay obeisance for his success".

6. GLUT (NOUN): overabundance

Synonyms: saturation, surplus Antonyms: lack, need

Example Sentence:

We had a glut of contributions but scarcity volunteers; it seemed people would rather give their money than their time.

7. CHIMERA (NOUN): dream, fantasy

Synonyms: bubble, illusion Antonyms: reality, truth

Example Sentence:

Susan's dream of becoming a movie star turned out to be just a chimera.

8. MATRICULATE (VERB): begin, enroll

Synonyms: join, register Antonyms: withdraw, leave

Example Sentence:

The player said he was going to Harvard University, but he had actually matriculated

in the local college.

9. LUGUBRIOUS (ADJECTIVE): dismal

Synonyms: gloomy, sorrowful Antonyms: cheerful, joyful

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Example Sentence:

The man's lugubrious eulogy at his dog's funeral eventually made everyone giggle.

10. HOMILY (NOUN): sermon

Synonyms: lecture, doctrine

Example Sentence:

The principal often began his conversation with parents by a lengthy homily on the virtues of discipline at home.

1. PRIMROSE (ADJECTIVE): gratifying to senses

Synonyms: voluptuous, sensual Antonyms: despicable, distasteful

Example Sentence:

Oenothera speciosa is also known as the pink evening primrose or the Mexican primrose.

2. ASTOUND (VERB): amaze

Synonyms: astonish, bewilder Antonyms: expect, clarify

Example Sentence:

If we did all the things we are capable of, we would literally astound ourselves.

3. PHLEGMATIC (ADJECTIVE): unemotional

Synonyms: frigid, indifferent Antonyms: emotional, passionate

Example Sentence:

They are phlegmatic, dependable people, and have more facial hair than anybody else.

4. SALVO (NOUN): clapping and cheers

Synonyms: acclaim, applause Antonyms: blame, disapproval

The Assembly gave a standing salvo to the school students who secured above 95% marks in the exam.

5. DEBONAIR (ADJECTIVE): charming, elegant

Synonyms: pleasant, refined Antonyms: clumsy, awkward

Example Sentence:

He was the most popular and debonair man who was killed in a plane crash in 1977.

6. GROWL (NOUN): animal-like sound

Synonyms: howl, moan

Example Sentence:

Most puppies of this breed bite their owners, and even growl, especially when they are playing.

7. PRAETORIAN (ADJECTIVE): corrupt

Synonyms: immoral, unethical Antonyms: principled, upright

Example Sentence:

It is evident that the whole country is being ruled by some of the praetorian leaders.

8. CAPITULATE (VERB): give in

Synonyms: surrender, succumb Antonyms: conquer, win

Example Sentence:

All these leaders have got us into this trouble and now they are on the brink of capitulating completely.

9. DROLL (ADJECTIVE): strange, odd

Synonyms: peculiar, weird Antonyms: normal, common

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The capital of this beautiful country is situated around a droll harbor.

10. SCALLYWAG (NOUN): rascal

Synonyms: fraud, cheater

Example Sentence:

The person who drew up the agreement is a great scallywag.

1. IMPOVERISH (VERB): make poor

Synonyms: deplete, ruin Antonyms: enrich

Example Sentence:

Critics of the IMF and World Bank believe the policies of the institutions further impoverish poor countries.

2. UMBRAGE (NOUN): personal displeasure

Synonyms: grudge, offence Antonyms: glee, delight

Example Sentence:

He had published some such religious articles, which had given umbrage to some sects.

3. INSURRECTION (NOUN): rebellion

Synonyms: coup, riot Antonyms: calm, peace

Example Sentence:

In 1923 he took part in the communist insurrection in Germany.

4. RECTITUDE (NOUN): uprightness

Synonyms: integrity, virtue Antonyms: evil, deceit

Example Sentence:

It remains to be seen whether the newfound rectitude of these first-time taxpayers' citizens will last.

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5. NUMINOUS (ADJECTIVE): spiritual

Synonyms: divine, sacred Antonyms: unholy, impure

Example Sentence:

A numinous experience involves being in the presence of someone or something holy.

6. COMPENDIOUS (ADJECTIVE): abridged

Synonyms: concise, compact Antonyms: enlarge, lengthened

Example Sentence:

If you would like to know a compendious way to mortify your desires, then surrender yourself to the God.

7. IMPLORE (VERB): beg

Synonyms: beseech, plead Antonyms: turn off, refuse

Example Sentence:

I respectfully implore you to help us, and to spread this message to friends and loved ones.

8. PROPOUND (VERB): propose

Synonyms: introduce, recommend Antonyms: retreat, withdraw

Example Sentence:

Two minutes of consultation with Wikipedia shattered the theory you propound.

9. STINT (NOUN): period of responsibility

Synonyms: assignment, duty Antonyms: failure, passtime

Example Sentence:

It was after her stint teaching in Portugal that Rowling began to write the premise for Harry Potter.

10. CANTICLE (NOUN): song

Synonyms: chant, chorus

Example Sentence:

This book is a canticle to India, yet it emanates from the pen of a United Nations Official who has lived outside India for most of his adult life

1. CHASM (NOUN): gap, abyss

Synonyms: gorge, rift Antonyms: closure, solid

Example Sentence:

A huge rock, falling from above, boomed past me, struck the path, and bounced over into the chasm.

2. BEREAVEMENT (NOUN): death; loss

Synonyms: sorrow, misfortune Antonyms: health, comfort

Example Sentence:

In some manner he had learned of my own sad bereavement, and his sympathy was shown in his manner rather than in his words.

3. GROTESQUE (ADJECTIVE): ugly, misshapen

Synonyms: eerie, absurd Antonyms: familiar, usual

Example Sentence:

I confess that I had not up to now taken a very serious view of the case, which had seemed to me rather grotesque and bizarre than dangerous.

4. EMULATE (VERB): copy the actions of

Synonyms: imitate, mimic Antonyms: neglect, ignore

Example Sentence:

I have throughout my life tried to emulate my father in my own world of science and technology.

5. REVELATION (NOUN): disclosure, telling

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Synonyms: announcement, discovery Antonyms: concealment, secret

Example Sentence:

The Pamban Bridge collapsed with a train full of passengers in it. Until then, I had only seen the beauty of the sea, now its uncotrollable energy came as a revelation to me

6. CATECHUMEN (ADJECTIVE): person unskilled in something

Synonyms: novice, newcomer Antonyms: expert, professional

Example Sentence:

Since this is my daughter's first swim lesson, she is definitely a catechumen in the sport.

7. CORYBANTIC (ADJECTIVE): excited; very happy

Synonyms: delighted, frantic Antonyms: troubled, sorrowful

Example Sentence:

The bird's corybantic attempt to free itself from the thorn bush finally exhausted it.

8. PALTRY (NOUN): small or meager

Synonyms: paucity, insufficiency Antonyms: abundance, enough

Example Sentence:

Although I paid a great deal for the gournet meal, I only received a paltry amount of food on my plate.

9. SKULK (VERB): lurk; shirk

Synonyms: crouch, prowl Antonyms: confront, encounter

Example Sentence:

At midnight, when there was a moon, I sometimes met with hounds in my path prowling about the woods, which would skulk out of my way, as if afraid, and stand silent amid the bushes till I had passed.

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10. HEATH (NOUN): grassy field

Synonyms: grassland, pasture

Example Sentence:

The heath was covered with golden patches of flowering gorse, gleaming magnificently in the light of the bright spring sunshine.

1. INCANTATION (NOUN): spell, magic

Synonyms: enchantment, hymn Antonyms: reality, truth

Example Sentence:

To our surprise, the wizard's incantation eventually turned the small pebble into gold coins.

2. PERIPATETIC (ADJECTIVE): constantly traveling

Synonyms: nomadic, itinerant Antonyms: settled, fixed

Example Sentence:

The multinational executive's peripatetic lifestyle began to feel less glamorous to her after her first child was born.

3. REPLETE (ADJECTIVE): full, well-stocked

Synonyms: filled, loaded Antonyms: empty, lacking

Example Sentence:

Following the good rains this year, the lakes of Udaipur, once replete with water hyacinth, are a wonder of natural beauty today.

4. OFFICIOUS (ADJECTIVE): self-important, dictatorial

Synonyms: busy, forward Antonyms: shy, timid

Example Sentence:

The officious salesperson was so annoying that we left without buying anything.

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5. IMPROPRIETY (NOUN): bad taste, mistake

Synonyms: indecency, barbarism Antonyms: suitability, correctness

Example Sentence:

The accused was joking in the court as if the bombing was a mere impropriety and not a serious crime.

6. BUNKUM (NOUN): insincere or foolish talk: nonsense

Synonyms: baloney, crap Antonyms: sense, truth

Example Sentence:

I hesitated to voice my opinions, fearful that my companions would deride my views as bunkum.

7. BELLWETHER (NOUN): one that takes the lead or initiative: leader;

Synonyms: forerunner, guide Antonyms: follower

Example Sentence:

The company has long been viewed as a bellwether for the tech market, so analysts are watching it closely.

8. RAMBUNCTIOUS (ADJECTIVE): loud, energetic

Synonyms: rowdy, raucous Antonyms: silent, quiet

Example Sentence:

When Kelly gets a bit too rambunctious, her parents sit her down for a time-out.

9. ROUSTABOUT (NOUN): labourer

Synonyms: worker, farmhand Antonyms: master

Example Sentence:

Nathan worked for years as a roustabout in the oil fields of Alaska until he earned

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enough money to go to college and become a petroleum engineer.

10. CAPARISON (NOUN): rich clothing: adornment

Synonyms: decoration, trappings

Example Sentence:

A group of horses outfitted in medieval caparison were standing near the area where the festival's jousting would begin.

1. INJUNCTION (NOUN): decree

Synonyms: admonition, instruction Antonyms: allowance, permission

Example Sentence:

Our neighbours got a court injunction prohibiting them to park their cars that block the entry to our house.

2. MALLEABLE (ADJECTIVE): pliable

Synonyms: adaptable, flexible Antonyms: rigid, stiff

Example Sentence:

Gold is so malleable in its purest form that it cannot easily be used for making jewellery.

3. DEFERENCE (NOUN): obedience, compliance

Synonyms: yielding, docility Antonyms: disregard, disobedience

Example Sentence:

Showing deference to elders is an integral part of our culture.

4. PONDEROUS (ADJECTIVE): heavy, cumbersome

Synonyms: awkward, clumsy Antonyms: easy, graceful

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The fat man was unable to sit and work on the computer, because his ponderous belly prevented him from pushing his chair up to his desk.

5. PRECEPT (NOUN): law, rule of behavior, action

Synonyms: doctrine, dogma Antonyms: ambiguity, unbelief

Example Sentence:

"Treat others like you want to be treated" is a precept that I have found difficult to follow with some people.

6. ESPOUSE (VERB): stand up for; support

Synonyms: defend, uphold Antonyms: reject, desert

Example Sentence:

The candidate for prime minister espoused a program in which income taxes would be abolished and all revenues would be supplied by sales and property taxes.

7. INFINITESIMAL (ADJECTIVE): small

Synonyms: insignificant, negligible Antonyms: huge, significant

Example Sentence:

Since we lost many early games, our chances of winning the tournament were infinitesimal; but we are playing our hearts out anyway.

8. ARABLE (ADJECTIVE): farmable

Synonyms: cultivable, tillable Antonyms: infertile, barren

Example Sentence:

Except for United States of America, India has the largest amount of arable land; still there is routine occurrence of food shortage due to excessive dependence on rainfall.

9. DESULTORY (ADJECTIVE): random

Synonyms: aimless, erratic Antonyms: organized, systematic

Example Sentence:

The discussion at our meeting today was desultory; no one's comments seemed to be

related to anyone else's and we hardly discussed any of the planned topics.

10. SUBLIME (ADJECTIVE): great, magnificent

Synonyms: glorious, exalted Antonyms: bad, inferior

Example Sentence:

My friend is a sublime thinker; after pondering a difficult problem for just a few minutes, he would arrive at a concise and elegant solution. ou Cide

1. MARCHING (ADJECTIVE): advancing

Synonyms: stepping, walking Antonyms: back warding, stopping

Example Sentence:

Today's generation is marching towards wealth and property.

2. GALLOP (VERB): bolt, race with slight jumping motion

Synonyms: jump, hurry Antonyms: slow, halt

Example Sentence:

The gallop that the youth has taken in moulding and modifying their lifestyle is much beyond the imagination capacity of an average human being.

3. ABSTRACT (ADJECTIVE): conceptual, theoretical

Synonyms: hypothetical, complex Antonyms: real, material

Example Sentence:

This is not question that can be convincingly answered by abstract reasoning, or by information collected under prohibition.

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4. TIRADE (NOUN): abuse, outburst

Synonyms: denunciation, invective Antonyms: compliment, praise

Example Sentence:

During the parent teacher meeting, the head of the parents association launched into a tirade against the sale of sweetened soft-drinks in the school cafeteria.

5. FLOUT (VERB): show contempt for

Synonyms: defy, mock Antonyms: approve, commend

Example Sentence:

The youthful driver flouted all traffic laws and drove through red lights, knocked down pedestrians and finally stopped only to buy more alcohol.

6. NUANCE (NOUN): slight difference; shading

Synonyms: distinction, gradation Antonyms: information, light

Example Sentence:

In a Chinese dialect, the difference between one word and its opposite can sometimes be nothing more than just a nuance of inflection; so it is easy for beginners to inadvertently convey a completely wrong message.

7. MILIEU (NOUN): environment, atmosphere

Synonyms: ambience, surroundings

Example Sentence:

A caring and involved neighborhood community is the proper milieu for raising a family and develop necessary social skills in children.

8. MARSHAL (VERB): organize, guide

Synonyms: assemble, mobilize Antonyms: confuse, disorder

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Example Sentence:

The general in the army marshaled his troops in anticipation of launching an attack on the enemy fortress in the wee hours of next morning.

9. INANE (ADJECTIVE): stupid

Synonyms: absurd, frivolous Antonyms: smart, bright

Example Sentence:

Their plan to create an indoor swimming pool by filling water in the basement of their house was inane.

10. CLIQUE (NOUN): group of friends

Synonyms: cabal, gang Antonyms: individual

Example Sentence:

The senior engineers in a company we used to work for had a real clique; they all had meetings together, ate lunch together and would not talk to anyone else; so it was no fun working there.

1. GABBLE (VERB): talk a lot

Synonyms: babble, chatter Antonyms: quiet, silent

Example Sentence:

It goes on far too long, and I forget my lines and gabble nervously.

2. JARGON (NOUN): specialized language; dialect

Synonyms: argot, patois Antonyms: standard, sense

Example Sentence:

Gas and electricity bills are filled with jargon that makes them difficult to understand.

3. PARAPET (NOUN): bulwark

Synonyms: embankment, protection Antonyms: harm, opening

The low wall along the edge of a balcony is called parapet.

4. BACKBITE (VERB): defame

Synonyms: slander, denigrate Antonyms: honour, praise

Example Sentence:

Do not backbite one another in the name of religion.

5. DEFLOWER (VERB): ravish; take away beauty

Synonyms: assault, despoil Antonyms: sanctify, disenchant

Example Sentence:

His honesty was deflowered by the prospect of easy money.

6. SHINDIG (NOUN): happiness and celebration

Synonyms: feast, function Antonyms: unhappiness, sorrow

Example Sentence:

For some reason, however, he did not welcome the idea; perhaps there was too much shindig going on.

7. CACHINNATE (VERB): laugh

Synonyms: cackle, roar

Example Sentence:

Every time you take a full and deep breath, or when you cachinnate well, you get extra energy instantly.

8. ZANY (ADJECTIVE): crazy, funny

Synonyms: comical, campy Antonyms: serious

Example Sentence:

w Cride

A television team was also in attendance, seeking out suitably zany people with which to film interviews.

9. MACERATE (VERB): liquefy

Synonyms: emaciate, mash Antonyms: dehydrate, dry

Example Sentence:

Remove from heat and stir, letting peaches macerate in the liquid for ten minutes

10. XANTIPPE (NOUN): foxy person

Synonyms: cat, harpy

Example Sentence:

He called his wife Xantippe, and she was so furious that she almost threw him out of the room.