abandon n. lacking restraint or control; feeling of extreme emotional intensity; unbounded enthusiasm
With her parents out of town, Kelly danced all night with abandon.
abortion n. termination of pregnancy; failure of a plan
Instead of doing what many young Egyptian women in her situation do, that is, have an abortion, she went public and took the alleged father to court.
absurd a. preposterous; ridiculous; foolish
Alice thought the whole thing very absurd, but they all looked so grave that she did not dare to laugh.
abuse n. improper use or handling; misuse
Thanks to Vito, the commenter said, he has stopped 7 years of girl abuse in this area.
academic a. related to school; not practical or directly useful; relating to scholarly organization; based on formal education
The dean's talk about reforming the college admissions system was only an academic discussion.
academy n. school for special instruction; society of scholars, scientists, or artists
The mission of our academy is actually to ensure the health and the well-being of all children.
access n. approach; entry; entrance
It remains to be seen whether the multinationals like Chevron, Exxon Mobil, and BP will give in to Mr Chavez's brinksmanship as they know he needs them as much as they need access to his oil.
account n. narrative or record of events; reason given for a particular action or event
What is the account for this loss?
accountant n. one who maintains and audits business accounts
Our business and finance group is looking for a dynamic accountant to join accounting team in support of the Company's new area.
accurate a. capable of providing a correct reading or measurement; performing with care and precision
Very Interesting, can anyone tell me, how accurate is the English translation in the posted clip?
accuse v. blame; condemn
He then went on to accuse the West of hypocrisy in criticising Russia's human rights record.
accused n. defendant or defendants in a criminal case; person charged with an offense
The testimony expected by the accused from the witness will be regarded as having been actually taken.
acid n. sour; water-soluble compounds having a sour taste; quality of being sarcastic, bitter, or scornful
There is a barrage of acid comments in today's newspapers.
acknowledge v. declare to be true or admit; express obligation, thanks
Although I acknowledge that the Beatles' tunes sound pretty dated today, I still prefer them to the songs my brothers play.
across ad. from side to side; crosswise, or in a direction opposed to the length
The footbridge swayed when I ran across.
address v. make a formal speech to; deal with or discuss; direct efforts or attention of
Brown planned to address the issue of low-income housing in his speech.
adjust v. adapt; regulate
The opera house was handed over by the builders nearly a year ago, but it's taken many months to install new stage machinery and to adjust the acoustics.
administration n. management; supervision; people who are in charge for management; activity of government for powers and duties
Obviously, the key person in administration is the man in the White House.
adopt v. accept; take on; raise; take into one's family
In a late-night session, the United States, which has blocked most of the recent efforts to adopt resolutions on the Middle East, put forward its own proposal and rallied Council support.
adore v. worship with profound reverence; pay divine honors to; regard with the utmost esteem and affection
All the girls in our school adore the handsome mathematics teacher who happens to be a bachelor.
adult n. one who has attained maturity or legal age; fully grown
Not clear from the video if the adult is a man or woman, but he or she is facing charges of endangering the welfare of a child.

**affect v.** have an emotional or cognitive impact upon

The move is likely to affect women and girls all over the world as international brands such as Mango and Zara have signed up to the agreement.

**affection n.** fondness; tender feeling toward another; fondness

I happen to think that the physical expression of love and affection is just about the best thing we humans do.

**afford v.** pay; provide; have the financial means for; bear the cost of

The deal not only reduces the cost of certain AIDS drugs, but it also gives poor countries the confidence that they can afford to treat citizens in the long-term.

**agency n.** a business that serves other businesses; an administrative unit of government

The FDA press office tells me the agency is aware of the incident and is currently investigating.

**agenda n.** items of business at a meeting; list or program of things to be done or considered

His agenda is certainly different from the President's and the administration's, but we will seek additional opportunities to work together with him.

**aggressive a.** making assaults; unjustly attacking; combative; hostile; tending to spread quickly

During his tenure in Beijing, Huntsman was known as an aggressive advocate for human rights and pushed to expand U.S. economic ties with China.

**agreement n.** state of agreeing; harmony of opinion, statement, action, or character

We are in agreement with their decision.

**aid n.** person or thing that promotes or helps in something done; helper; assistant

The company has also asked for an additional 3.50 billion dollars in aid from the government.

**aid v.** support; help; assist; improve the condition of

Diana took the word, "Do you mean," she asked, "that we have now given to aid you is useless?"

**air v.** be broadcast on television or radio

The tidbits that will air on tonight's 6 o'clock news.

**aisle n.** passageway between rows of seats, as in an auditorium or an airplane; wing of a building

I am glad that one side of the aisle is still trying to make this country work.

**alarm n.** any sound or information intended to give notice of approaching danger

"Come, my head is free at last!" said Alice in a tone of delight, which changed into alarm in another moment, when she found that her shoulders were nowhere to be found.

**album n.** a list of names; a register for visitors; a blank book, in which to insert autographs sketches, memorial writing of friends, photographs

My album of boyhood photographs often reminds me of the past happiness.

**alien a.** dissimilar, inconsistent, or opposed in nature; very different place, society, or person

If you think about it, that's totally alien to what a drug company might be expected to do, because if you eradicate a disease, there's no need for that drug at all.

**alliance n.** state of being alloyed; act of alloying or uniting; a union or connection of interests between families, states, parties

Now sources close to Sharon and Peres, say they could lead to a long-term alliance - or even a joint party.

**ally n.** confederate; partner; collaborator

The trouble is that selling arms to this particular ally regularly involves 'commissions' - in plain language, bribes - to well-placed people including members of the Saudi ruling family.

**alone a.** solitary; by oneself

Alice cried with a sudden burst of tears, 'I do wish they WOULD put their heads down! I am so VERY tired of being all alone here!'

**along ad.** by the length; in a line with the length; onward; forward; in company; together

The committee split along party lines over the issue.

**alternative a.** one of two or more things, ideas or courses of action that may be used; option; choice

Electron Instruments believed its desktop SEM was vastly superior to the next best alternative from a Japanese competitor.

**ambassador n.** authorized messenger or representative
He was appointed ambassador to the United States.  

ambulance n. field hospital organized as to follow an army in its movements; wagon for conveying the wounded to hospital.  

His breathing had become so labored she called an ambulance to send him to hospital immediately.  

amount n. total of two or more quantities; aggregate; sum.  

The amount of money sent home by migrant workers to their families in Latin America has reached more than $62 billion.  

anniversary a. annual; yearly; annual return of the day on which any notable event took place.  

He gave me a necklace as an anniversary gift.  

annual a. occurring or payable every year.  

It says that the Queen's role in the annual state opening of parliament should be changed.  

anonymous a. having no name; having unknown or unacknowledged name.  

The buyer, who wished to remain anonymous, is a foreigner with homes in Europe.  

antique n. any furniture old and valuable; out of fashion.  

The woeful ongoing situation of open archaeological sites which are being systematically plundered by antique smugglers will be another priority issue.  

anxiety n. concern something in state of painful uneasiness; state of restlessness and agitation.  

To wait in anxiety is perhaps the hardest thing in life; tea, tobacco, and hot baths are the possible anodynes.  

anyhow ad. in any way or manner whatever; at any rate; in any event.  

I couldn't think of the name of that man anyhow.  

apart ad. separately; in regard to space or company; in a state of separation as to place; aside.  

In fact, I doubt anyone knew his real name apart from the security staff.  

appeal n. attraction; charm; attract; fascinate; challenge.  

Oxfam is making a big appeal for humanitarian aid to Darfur and neighbouring Chad, where millions of people have been made homeless by fighting.  

appetite n. instinctive physical desire, especially one for food or drink.  

China's fashion conscious urban young are developing a growing appetite for the cool white look of platinum jewellery.  

apply v. exert; put into service; avail oneself to.  

You cannot apply all money to your mortgage.  

appointment n. act of putting a person into a non-elective position; arrangement.  

Mr. Straw's appointment as Foreign Secretary has triggered speculation in London about the Prime Minister's motives for the change.  

appreciate v. be thankful for; increase in worth; be thoroughly conscious of.  

I am truly thankful for the stocks, which would appreciate in value considerably in future years.  

approach n. access; method.  

Faced with an increasingly competitive jobs market and frequent bad publicity over pay and conditions, the army is getting ever more sophisticated and corporate in its approach to recruitment.  

appropriate v. acquire; take possession of for one's own use; set apart for specific use.  

The ranch owners appropriate the lands that have originally been set aside for the Indians' use.  

approval n. official approbation; endorsement; act of approving.  

First, Ehrlich knows it would be extremely unlikely to win approval from the Democratic-dominated General Assembly.  

area n. plane surface, as of the floor of a room; open space in a building; the enclosed space; extent; scope; range.  

His special interest lies in the area of literature.  

argue v. invent and offer reasons to support or overthrow a proposition, opinion, or measure; debate.  

The United States should, they argue, attempt to remain aloof.  

arrogant a. arising from feeling or assumption of one's superiority toward others.  

He often speaks in an arrogant tone, which doesn't encourage others to discuss with him.  

article n. essay; editorial; individual thing or element of a class.  

The protests were caused by an article in a national newspaper.
ashamed  a. affected by shame; abashed or confused by guilt
Are you ashamed for having lied?
aside  ad. on, or to, one side; out of a straight line, course, or direction; at a little distance from the rest
All joking aside, can you swim 15 miles?
aspirin  n. white crystalline compound drug to relieve pain and reduce fever and inflammation
Plavix, along with aspirin, is widely used to prevent heart attacks and strokes.
assault  n. attack; onslaught
He’s charged with interfering with the performance of a flight crew by assault or intimidation.
assist  v. give help or support to, especially as a subordinate
A good way to assist is to bring entrepreneurial and business skills to them.
associate  v. connect or join together; combine
The public is likely to associate a word or mark with a given company.
assume  v. suppose; presume; take on; bear
He looked at me long and hard: I turned my eyes from him, fixed them on the fire, and tried to assume and maintain a quiet.
assure  v. solidify; guarantee; convince
I know it, and I don’t wish to palliate them, I assure you.
attack  n. offensive move; expression of strong criticism; hostile comment
A national newspaper received an anonymous phone call warning about the attack just minutes before the first device exploded.
attempt  n. action of trying at something
I also want to claim that this attempt is a romantic one.
attend  v. be present at; go to; take care of; tend
Britain’s House of Lords has been described as the best club in London and for many of the hereditary members who rarely attend debates, that’s just what it is.
attitude  n. posture, action, or disposition of a figure or a statue
One of the major reasons for this change in attitude is that there’s more money around.
attorney  n. lawyer; one who is appointed by another to act in his place or stead; proxy
Did this attorney mean to throw away his client’s life without an effort?
attractive  a. appealing; pleasing; inviting; tempting
The mobile phone companies argue that reducing taxes will make legally imported phones more attractive than the cheaper smuggled models.
auction  n. public sale of property to the highest bidder
The auction is over and the winning bid was 1000 dollars.
audience  n. a group of people within hearing; crowd seeing a stage performance
You should have a clear idea about who your audience is and how you can exploit your product to them through the correct platform.
authority  n. jurisdiction; power to enforce laws, exact obedience, command, determine, or judge; government
The laws will reinforce Australia’s authority to turn boats away from Australia.
available  a. convenient for use or disposal; not busy, free; obtainable; accessible
Vaccines are available but are costly and only offer relatively short-term protection so the animals need regular booster vaccinations.
avoid  v. shield away from; prevent
If you are the press secretary to the President of the United States, the main thing to avoid is becoming the story yourself.
aware  a. knowing; having knowledge or cognizance
BPA, as you’re likely aware, is a chemical commonly found in plastics, food cans, and water bottles.
awful  a. causing fear, dread, or terror; extremely bad or unpleasant; terrible
He says the budget is in awful shape and we need to take steps to fix it.
awkward  a. difficult to handle or manage
John Kerry recently spoke of his faith, but he’s more awkward about it than the born again President Bush. 

**bachelor n.** unmarried men; the first or lowest academic degree conferred by universities and colleges

A soon-to-be-married man's friends throw him the ultimate bachelor party.

**bacon n.** back and sides of a pig salted and smoked

They built a fire against the side of a great log, and then cooked some bacon in the frying-pan for supper.

**badge n.** distinctive mark, token, or sign worn on the person

He was awarded a merit badge for his bravery in the battle.

**baggage n.** trunks, bags, parcels, and suitcases in which one carries one's belongings while traveling; luggage

When you fully engage in the present, there is no room for baggage from the past or fear of the future.

**bait v.** harass; tease; lure, entice, or entrap

The school bully will bait the smaller children, terrorizing them.

**bake v.** prepare, as food, by cooking in a dry heat, either in an oven or under coals, or on heated stone or metal

In some places, people still bake bricks in the sun.

**balance n.** being in equilibrium; equilibrium; symmetry; stability

Many here see the ruling against US cotton subsidies as just the first step in tipping the balance of future world trade talks in favour of developing countries.

**balcony n.** platform projecting from the wall of a building

He planted some flowers on the balcony that projects over the street.

**bald a.** hairless; lacking a natural or usual covering

Although he carried, under his wig, a perfectly bald and shiny head, he had only reached middle age.

**ballet n.** a sort of theatrical representation by dancers

That school strives to be an international leader in ballet training.

**band n.** orchestra; team; strip; ribbon; belt; unite; ally

The band, made up of four previously unknown young actors, have provoked hysteria across Asia since starring in the Taiwanese TV series.

**bang n.** a vigorous blow; a conspicuous success

But there are fears that if the Egyptian side doesn’t play well, the crowds will stay away and the African Cup may go off with a whimper rather than a bang.

**banner n.** flag; sign; a newspaper headline that runs across the full page

The red top refers to the color of the banner at the top of the paper.

**bar n.** a counter where you can obtain food or drink; cafe; strip; stick

For low paid male workers - many from South Asia - the cafeterias are a social focus - the equivalent of a bar or pub in non-Muslim countries, a place to meet friends and workmates.

**barbecue n.** a rack to hold meat for cooking over hot charcoal usually out of doors

The authorities believe it could have been started by a barbecue which had not been put out properly and have announced that they will be questioning suspects in the morning.

**bare a.** lacking the usual or appropriate covering or clothing

Silent in bare feet, he swiftly crossed the cold marble floor, sliding into bed just as the door creaked open.

**barely ad.** just; only; hardly; scarcely
Only a few years ago there were no mobile phones, landlines barely worked.

bargain n. agreement between parties concerning the sale of property
"A part of me you must become," he answered steadily; "otherwise the whole bargain is void."

barn n. an outlying farm building for storing grain or animal feed and housing farm animals
You start--did you hear a noise? I daresay it is only a rat scrambling along the rafters of the adjoining schoolroom: it was a barn before I had it repaired and altered, and they are generally haunted by rats.

barrel n. vessel; large cylindrical container
With the oil price soaring above thirty dollars a barrel and the pumps going nearly at full capacity, Gulf Arab coffers are overflowing with unforeseen wealth.

baseball n. game played with a bat and ball by two opposing teams of nine players; ball used in this game
baseball is more popular than any other sport in Japan.

basement n. cellar; storage room
There are so many things of India which are either lying in the basement of the Victoria and Albert Museum or in the India Office Library.

battery n. beating or pounding; set of guns or heavy artillery; dry cell that produces electric current
I'm hoping the battery is just dead and that a quick charge will solve everything.

bay n. inlet of the sea, usually smaller than a gulf; small body of water set off from the main body
In the library, the books on history are all kept in one bay.

beam n. ray of light; long piece of metal or wood; long piece fixed or movable in structure, machine, or tool
During a severe earthquake, each beam will absorb the shock by crumpling, thereby preventing serious damage to the tower.

bear v. support; sustain; carry; have; yield; give birth; hold up or support
They studied the ways in which the relativity theory can bear on the history of science.

bearing n. carrying another part; patient endurance; suffering without complaint; act of producing or giving birth
The U.S. Mint is set to unveil a new $1 coin bearing the image of President Abraham Lincoln.

beat v. whip; strike; defeat; hit repeatedly
Speak roughly to your little boy; And beat him when he sneezes; He only does it to annoy; Because he knows it teases.

beaten a. formed or made thin by hammering; totally worn-out; exhausted
Finally we saw a village located well off the beaten path.

become v. suit or be suitable to; be worthy of, or proper for; cause to appear well; grow or come to be
I am tired and let me answer this question tomorrow, I will become clearer in the morning.

behalf n. represent; advantage, benefit, interest of someone
And I'm going to work to assure that that voice that is heard on their behalf is a roar and not a whisper.

behave v. perform; conduct oneself in a proper way
How we behave is up to us, but Nikolai believes that everything is predetermined by one's particular circumstances.

belly n. part of human body which extends downward from breast to thighs, and contains bowels; womb
His belly is like a cooking pot, Which happens when you eat a lot.

beloved a. greatly loved; dear to the heart
But if I go on until my beloved is my bride, and she has taken up my fate, and we are one, and the world knows no difference, what then?

bend v. strain or move out of a straight line; curve; turn toward some certain point
Few will have the greatness to bend history itself, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events.

benefit n. advantage; something that aids or promotes well-being; welfare; gain
Another benefit for business is the elimination of currency risk in the Euro area - the possibility that you might lose money in cross border trade because of exchange rate movements.
bent  a. determined to do or have
   We are bent on going to the theater no matter how heavy the snow is.

bet  n. stake or pledge upon the event of a contingent issue; amount or object risked in a wager
   I truly believe this set back, my bet is they will recover and move on, hopefully sooner than soon.

betray  v. be unfaithful; reveal unconsciously or unwillingly
   The two spies betray their country by selling military secrets to the enemy.

bid  v. make an offer of; propose; offer in words; declare, as a wish, a greeting, a threat, or defiance
   “Then you and I must bid good-bye for a little while?” “I suppose so, sir.”

bite  v. pierce skin with teeth; seize with the teeth; sting with a stinger; eat into; have a sharp taste
   Our laws must bite. that is the only language that the criminals will understand.

bitter  a. harsh or corrosive in tone; painful; acrid; acrimonious
   He is perhaps the best qualified person for many years to solve a long standing and bitter dispute.

bizarre  a. fantastic; violently contrasting; strangely unconventional in style or appearance
   The plot of the novel was too bizarre to be believed.

blame  v. condemn; rebuke; find fault with; censure
   Dr David Viner from the Climatic Research Unit at the University of East Anglia in Britain says that natural
   variability in the weather is probably to blame but human influence can’t be ruled out.

blank  a. of a white or pale color; without color; empty; void
   But he stares out over my shoulder at the skyline, his expression blank, seemingly disinterested in whether I
   choose to go with him or not.

blast  n. explode; burst; gale; very strong gust of wind or air
   The blast is the deadliest such incident since a series of ones killed three people in Bangkok on New Year’s Eve
   in 2006.

bleed  v. emit blood; lose blood; withdraw blood from the body
   All the young soldiers are ready to bleed for the country.

bless  v. make or pronounce holy; consecrate; make happy
   My family and I will be praying along with Rick that God will again bless your country.

block  v. hinder; obstruct; indicate broadly without great detail; sketch
   He failed to get enough allies to block the reform.

blonde  a. of a fair color; light-colored; as, blond hair; a blond complexion.
   It was the wig this woman wore during a two-day robbery across New York that earned her the name blonde
   bandit.

board  n. a committee having supervisory powers; a flat piece of material designed for a special
   purpose
   Instruments on board include the Neutral Gas and Ion Mass Spectrometer which will analyse the chemical
   composition of the comet nucleus - the icy core in the head of the comet.

boarding  n. wooden boards collectively; act of entering a ship; supplying with meals and lodgings
   for pay
   If I had a kid like that, I’d put him in boarding school.

bold  a. brave; daring; intrepid; impudent
   The release of the bold young newspaper editor-in-chief after five months detention without trial marks a
   significant victory for those who mounted a vigorous campaign against the injustice he faced.

bolt  v. dash or dart off; move or jump suddenly
   Jack was set to bolt out the front door.

bond  n. link; connection; uniting force or tie; binding agreement; duty
   Last year, the average short-term bond fund gained about 9%, according to Morningstar.

bonus  n. an extra dividend to the shareholders; money paid in addition to a stated compensation
   She’s very dissatisfied at not getting a bonus.

boom  n. bonanza; prosperity; prosper; expand; flourish
   It is a hi-tech boom town, the centre for dozens of successful biotech and IT firms and the home to an ever-
   expanding middle class, many of whom have studied in the US or worked for US companies.

booth  n. house or shed built for temporary occupation; covered stall or temporary structure
There is a telephone booth near the cinema.

border n. outer part or edge of anything, as of a garment, a garden; margin; verge; brink; boundary

This table had a cover made out of beautiful oilcloth, with a red eagle painted on it, and a painted border all around.

bore v. drill; make a hole in or through, with or as if with a drill

Three types of protein that enable the cells to bore in and out of blood vessels.

bother v. annoy; trouble; make agitated or nervous; fluster

But that doesn’t bother me because I don’t want love, I want my music.

bounce v. jolt; rebound after having struck an object or a surface

All patients bounce back to good health with that particular medicine.

bound n. tied; held; committed; limit; constraint; leap; jump

Supreme Court ended a term bound to affect our lives in significant ways in the months ahead.

boutique n. shop or place where sold at retail; small shop within a large department store or supermarket

Located in historic Fabric Row, the boutique is a good place for gem buyers.

brand n. burning piece of wood; mark made by burning with a hot iron; distinctive mark upon in any way

He has his own brand of humor and always brings laugh for us.

break n. opportunity to do something; pause or interval, as from work; sudden change

A former boxer, he got his break as an actor when he replaced Marlon Brando in the Broadway production of ‘A Streetcar Named Desire’.

breakdown n. process of failing to function or continue; sudden collapse in physical or mental health; summary of itemized data

His frequent depressions were the prelude to a complete mental breakdown.

breeze n. light current of air; gentle wind; progress swiftly and effortlessly

Tomorrow Night: A light but steady breeze from the southwest keeps temperatures warmer than tonight.

bribe n. something serving to influence or persuade; reward or gift with a view to prevent judgment

The businessman offers bribe to him to get that contract.

brief a. short in time, duration, length, or extent; concise

When my brief career as a pop star ended, I found I had done fairly well.

briefcase n. portable, often flat case with a handle, used for carrying papers or books

After each campaign stop, he returned to his car, where his black-leather briefcase is always in its place beside him.

brilliant a. full of light; shining; bright; sharp and clear in tone

The refreshing meal, the brilliant fire, the presence and kindness of her beloved instructress, had roused her powers among them.

brutal a. like a brute; savage; cruel; inhuman; merciless

In many cases, a rich businessman reached the top by trampling on others in the most brutal way.

bubble n. foam; dome-shaped covering made of transparent glass or plastic; fantastic or impracticable idea or belief

This is the most anticipated public offering since the dotcom bubble burst four years ago.

buck v. move quickly and violently; jump vertically; strive with determination

John is trying to buck for a promotion.

bucket n. vessel for drawing up water from a well; vessel for hoisting and conveying coal, ore, grain

It may be a drop in the bucket, but when it comes to violence, any drop is a dangerous one.

bud n. one that is not yet fully developed; sprout

The first thing to be thought of is to pluck the disease in its bud, which is best done by injections.

budget n. estimate; a sum of money allocated for a particular purpose

Earlier this week EU governments voted to bend the rules so that France and Germany wouldn’t be penalized for breaking the rules on budget deficits.

bug n. general name applied to various insects

It might have seemed to him a waste of ammunition to kill a bug with a battery of artillery.
bull n. male of any species of cattle; large, strong, and aggressive person; optimist regarding business conditions

We are in a medium-term bull market, which is a corrective move within a long term bear market.

bully n. noisy, blustering fellow; one who is threatening and quarrelsome; insolent, tyrannical fellow
I found early in life that the best way to defeat a bully is a punch to the nose.

bump n. impact as from a collision; lump on the body caused by a blow
Have you ever found a small lump or a bump on your body?

bunch n. clump; cluster; gathering
They found the sharp new heap they were seeking, and ensconced themselves within the protection of three great elms that grew in a bunch within a few feet of the grave.

bush n. place abounding in trees or shrubs; wild forest
We was in the path to the mill; and when they got pretty close on to us we dodged into the bush and let them go by, and then dropped in behind them.

business n. rightful concern or responsibility; occupation, work, or trade in which a person is engaged; commercial enterprise
I think that women doing big things in business is inspirational to others because it helps to eliminate role discrimination.

bust n. occasion for excessive eating or drinking; complete failure; sculpture of the head and shoulders of a person
The chairman warned that a deal with the banks must be struck by May; or, with major debt repayments due over in 18 months, the business could go bust.

calendar n. orderly arrangement as years, months, weeks, and days; a table showing months, weeks, and days
He didn't like the desk calendar and put it on the shelf.

campus n. field where the buildings of a university are situated
Usually a campus includes libraries, lecture halls, student residential areas and park-like settings.

cancel v. revoke; call off; omit or delete
The meeting in Addis Ababa has heard Chinese promises to cancel debts and increase Chinese investments in Africa.

candidate n. person who is considered for something; person who seeks or is nominated for an office, prize, or honor
The European Union is welcoming these ten candidate countries with open arms and wide smiles.

capable a. having the ability required for a specific task
Canadian politicians have been in capable of ending this primitive practice.
capacity n. mental or physical ability; ability to accommodate
Mike had the capacity to handle several jobs at once.

dape n. piece or point of land, extending beyond the adjacent coast into the sea or a lake; sleeveless outer garment
Out on the cape is a fine lighthouse which we had admired as we came up the coast on the ship.

capital n. wealth in form of money or property; assets available for use; city that is the official seat of government
It has so far received $45 billion in capital from the Treasury and the Treasury is insuring $300 billion dollars of their assets.

capture n. act of seizing by force, or getting possession of by superior power; thing taken by force, surprise, or stratagem
He presently got safely beyond the reach of capture and punishment.

card n. flat, rectangular piece of stiff paper, cardboard, or plastic; business card; credit card
I have received only one Christmas card by now.

carrot n. root of cultivated varieties of the plant, usually spindle-shaped, and of a reddish yellow color
The dish of boiled beef and carrot tastes good.

carry v. convey or transport in any manner from one place to another; hold or support while moving; bear
They carry the news by word of mouth to every settlement in a few days.

cart n. common name for various kinds of vehicles; two-wheeled vehicle; light business wagon
The horse pulled a cart loaded with potatoes.

cash n. money paid at the time of purchase; money in the form of bills or coins; currency
You must pay cash there; we don't offer credit.

cast v. assign the roles of; choose at random
More interesting still is the fact that the producers say they're going to use a television reality show to cast the three actors who will play Evo Morales in the different stages of his life.

cast v. throw with force; hurl; deposit or indicate; choose actor for; give a form to; arrange
We saw waves that cast driftwood far up on the shore.

casual a. informal; purposeless; occurring by chance
The wildlife officer, in casual conversation, asks Hunter Joe where that deer came from.

catch v. capture or seize, especially after a chase; take by or as if by trapping; reach just in time
A person's genetic makeup has a strong influence on the likelihood that they catch HIV.

catching a. act of seizing or taking hold of; captivating; alluring
That is the appeal in catching them I think, it is amazing to pull something so massive out of muddy water, that few people actually see.

catholic a. broadly sympathetic; universal; related to Roman Catholic Church
He was extremely catholic in his taste and read everything he could find in the library.


cellar n. room or rooms under a building, and usually below the surface of the ground
The New Zealand wineries are similar to the American wineries and welcome visitors to what they call the cellar door.

cemetery n. place or ground set apart for the burial of the dead; graveyard
A vehicle for conveying a coffin is to a church or cemetery.

cereal n. grass such as wheat, oats, or corn, the starchy grains of which are used as food.
I have a bowl of cereal every morning.

ceremony n. formal act or set of acts performed as prescribed by ritual or custom
A swearing in ceremony is set for this afternoon for a man who will replace the late Senator Ted Kennedy.

certificate n. document attesting to the truth of certain stated facts; document issued to a person completing a course
A diploma or certificate is given on graduation from university.

challenge v. assert a right; raise a formal objection; take exception to
Nowadays no one will challenge the fact that the earth is round.
chamber n. cell; compartment; room
Before being taken to the execution chamber he acknowledged that he deserved punishment, but he said it was unfair that he was paying the ultimate price while his co-defendant, his girlfriend, who was charged as a juvenile, had the chance of a normal life.

champagne n. light wine, of several kinds, originally made in the province of Champagne, in France
Why don’t we crack open a bottle of champagne to celebrate?

champion v. protect or fight for as first place
Martin Luther King, Jr., they believe he could champion the oppressed in their struggle for equality.

channel n. passage for water or other fluids to flow through; bed of a stream or river; route of communication or access
You should take her request through official channel, there is no private room for her issue.

chaos n. disorder; condition or place of great disorder or confusion; disorderly mass
Their job is to stop a repeat of the chaos that blighted the last election in 2002.

chapel n. place of worship that is smaller than and subordinate to a church; service conducted in a chapel
Slightly smaller than the shrine, the chapel is also a domed structure cruciform in plan.

chapter n. division of a book or treatise; assembly of monks; bishop's council; organized branch of some society
A new chapter in a novel is something like a new scene in a play.

charge v. set or ask for a certain price; load to capacity; fill; instruct or urge authoritatively; command
The barbers share same service price of haircut: they charge six dollars for boy and ten for girl.

charity n. activity or gift that benefits the public at large
This is potentially embarrassing for those involved in the concerts, as the rock stars use charity to disguise self promotion.

charm n. power or quality of pleasing or delighting; attractiveness; item worn for its supposed magical benefit
Her spirit and charm is going to be a great lesson to all young women and teens.

chart n. graph; diagram; map showing coastlines, water depths, or other information of use to navigators
A fisherman's chart may be the crucial evidence which finally help to put to rest the mystery of what happened to Roald Amundsen.

chase v. pursue for the purpose of killing or taking; hunt; follow as if to catch
He saw the policeman chase the mugger down the alley.

chat n. talk without exchanging too much information; informal conversation
Inviting others into the chat is as simple as sending them a human-readable URL, and nobody has to sign up or answer an invitation email.

check v. stop motion; curb or restrain
"Young man," she said, "you'd better check your temper."

check n. ticket or slip of identification; written order to bank to pay from deposit
He paid all his bills by check.

cheer n. lightness of spirits or mood; source of joy or happiness; festive food and drink; refreshment
The best way to spread Christmas cheer is to sing loud for everyone to hear!

cherish v. harbor; treasure; treat with affection and tenderness; hold dear
One aspect of my marriage that I truly cherish is the way Darrell and I work together as a team.

chew v. bite and grind with the teeth
You must chew your food well before you swallow it.

chief a. highest in office or rank; principal; head
The chief difficulty Alice found at first was in managing her flamingo.

chill a. cool; freeze
When mists as chill as death wandered to the impulse of east winds along those purple peaks, and rolled down "ing" and holm till they blended with the frozen fog of the beck!
chin n. central forward portion of the lower jaw; bottom of face
The face is mild and weak, especially in the thin short chin and feeble mouth.

chip v. cut small pieces from; diminish or reduce to shape; break or crack
The snow stopped and they began to chip ice from the windows.

choir n. band or organized company of singers, especially in church service
TSome people will say that being in choir is lots of involvement because you have both rehearsals and services, which is true.

choke v. breathe with great difficulty, as when experiencing a strong emotion; reduce the air supply
He so worked upon his feelings with the pathos of these dreams, that he had to keep swallowing, he was so like to choke; and his eyes swam in a blur of water, which overflowed when he winked, and ran down and trickled from the end of his nose.

circuit n. electrical device that provides a path for electrical current to flow
But, on rare occasions, microscopic metal particles can lead to a short circuit within the cell, causing overheating and potentially flames.

circus n. public entertainment of performances by acrobats, clowns, and trained animals
I am not an animal rights person, but training animals to perform in a circus is cruelty.

civil a. having to do with citizens or the state; courteous and polite
Although Internal Revenue Service agents are civil servants, they are not always courteous to suspected tax cheats.

civilian a. of or relating to nonmilitary life
The first is integrating former rebels back into civilian life.

claim n. demand for something as rightful or due
They stuck in support of their claim for a shorter work day.

classic n. work of acknowledged excellence and authority, or its author; creation of the highest excellence
His face was like a Greek face, very pure in outline: quite a straight, classic nose; quite an Athenian mouth and chin.

clear ad. out of the way; completely away
Read the book clear to the end.

clearance n. act of clearing; space cleared; permission to proceed or trust
Professors who wish to work with human genetic material need clearance from their university's review board.

click v. make a slight, sharp noise by gentle striking; tick
Students prefer to click mouse rather than to strike keyboard.

client n. someone who pays to get goods or services
Gentlemen, my plan is broken up: what this lawyer and his client say is true: I have been married, and the woman to whom I was married lives!

clinic n. healthcare facility for outpatient care
In one of the worst-hit villages in the Bachu area, authorities say about a thousand homes collapsed and at least one school and a clinic.

clip n. small section of filmed or filed material
Phil's job at Fox Sports involved selecting the most important clip of the day's sporting highlights for later broadcast.

closet n. small room or apartment; room for privacy
Please put the coats back into the closet.

clue n. a ball of thread or cord; thread; something guides or directs anything of a doubtful or intricate nature
A main clue is a sample of blood that was found at the scene.

coach n. tutor; teacher; a vehicle carrying many passengers
When the players and coach arrive back later today they'll be greeted as national heroes in the stadium where the first modern Olympics were held.

cocaine n. drug extracted from coca leaves as a surface anesthetic or taken for pleasure, that can become addictive
The dog sniffed out more than $1.6 million in cocaine from a sports utility vehicle, officials said.

**code n.** body of law; system of rules or regulations relating to one subject; system of symbols, letters, or words

*Do you know the postal code of this postal district?*

**coin v.** make pieces of money from metal; invent or fabricate

*Slanderers coin nasty rumors.*

**coincidence n.** two or more things occurring at the same time by chance

*Was it just a coincidence that John and she had chanced to meet at the market, or was he deliberately trying to seek her out?*

**column n.** pillar; cylindrical or polygonal support for roof; anything resembling, in form or position; upright body or mass

*This column is the latest in our series of interview articles.*

**combat v.** struggle as with an opposing force; fight with

*The ship has to combat the wind and waves this morning.*

**comedy n.** light and humorous drama with a happy ending

*Anne Bancroft was also a regular in the comedy films made by her beloved second husband Mel Brooks.*

**comic a.** arousing or provoking laughter; ridiculous; amusing; humorous

*And, because the comic strips take place in superhero land, there are hints of the super-human.*

**comment v.** express an opinion; remark

*She refused to comment about David Beckham's eye injury.*

**commercial a.** money-making; involved in work that is intended for the mass market

*China's economic growth has been fuelled by investment in new factories and other commercial premises, many of them producing low-cost goods.*

**commission n.** fee for services; group of people appointed to find out about something; authorize

*China has hit back, its foreign ministry urging the Congressional commission to wipe out its prejudice, respect the truth.*

**commit v.** do something that cannot be changed; cause to be admitted

*And small bands of extremists may again commit heinous crimes in the name of faith.*

**commitment n.** pledge, undertaking; act of binding yourself to a course of action

*My main commitment is in the promotion of human values; this is what I consider the key factor for a happy life at the individual level, family level and community level.*

**committee n.** special group delegated to consider some matter

*He was director of the central bank's monetary policy committee which sets Brazil's interest rates.*

**communicate v.** send information about; make known; impart; reveal clearly

*Well, it came to me that the best way to communicate is to have direct, personal contact with people.*

**communication n.** activity of communicating; activity of conveying information

*They predict that the vast majority of internet connections will be by mobile communication devices closer to pocket computers than portable telephones.*

**community n.** society; a group of people living in the same locality and under the same government

*Where governments manage public life, human freedom in community is compromised.*

**company n.** team; guard team; group of persons; business enterprise

*I slipped out of the room, unobserved by any eye - for the company were gathered in one mass about the trembling trio just returned.*

**compare v.** examine and note the similarities or differences of

*We compare the copy with the original, but there was not much difference.*

**competition n.** struggle; rivalry; act of competing as for profit or a prize

*There she's against tough competition such as Meryl Streep but this award will give her extra momentum towards what's undoubtedly the bigger prize in movies.*

**competitive a.** of or pertaining to competition; producing competition; showing a fighting disposition

*Nobody can entirely keep away from this competitive world.*

**complex a.** complicated in structure; a whole structure, as a building, made up of interconnected or related structures
Prescott’s speech comes as ministers from around the world struggle to overcome complex arguments about how the Kyoto agreement on cutting greenhouse gas emissions should work.

**complicated** a. difficult to analyze or understand

Legally this is a hugely complicated case and it will take months for the judge to reach the verdict.

**compliment** n. praise; commendation; say something to someone that expresses praise

A compliment is a gift, not to be thrown away carelessly, unless you want to hurt the giver.

**compound** v. combine; mix; constitute; pay interest; increase

The makers compound the ingredients by design.

**compromise** v. adjust or settle by making mutual concessions; endanger the interests or reputation of Sometimes the presence of a neutral third party can help adversaries compromise their differences.

**concentrate** v. bring to or direct toward a common center; unite more closely; gather into one body I was now able to concentrate my attention on the group by the fire.

**concept** n. something formed in the mind; thought or notion

The local chain concept is simple: identify your customer, cater to their tastes and once successful, expand within a neighborhood.

**concern** n. interest in any person or thing; regard; solicitude; anxiety

There is no telling what might have happened, now, but luckily the concern passed out of Aunt Polly's face.

**concrete** n. solid mass; covering with cement; hard, strong construction material consisting of sand, conglomerate, and gravel

The anti-nuclear campaigners used concrete blocks to attach themselves to the line; it is difficult to release them without damaging the rails.

**condition** n. mode or state of being; fitness; existing circumstances

The Organization Man survives as a modern classic because it captures a permanent part of our social condition.

**conduct** v. direct the course of; manage or control; lead or guide

You cannot conduct business like this.

**confess** v. acknowledge; admit

Now, when any vicious simpleton excites my disgust by his paltry ribaldry, I cannot flatter myself that I am better than he: I am forced to confess that he and I are on a level.

**confidence** n. feeling secure or certain about something

He said the aim was to restore baseball fans' confidence, but the new penalties for players who test positive for drugs fall far short of those in other sports.

**confident** a. assured; having or marked by assurance

The spate of suicide bombings has provoked a massive military reaction from the Israeli government, a government which is confident of public backing.

**confidential** a. treated with confidence; trusted in; trustworthy; secret

He has been on confidential missions to Berlin; all of us don't know his secret trip.

**confirm** v. support or establish the certainty or validity of; verify

In the aftermath of Saturday's mass poisoning, the authorities imposed a virtual news blackout, refusing even to confirm how many people had died.

**conflict** n. fight; struggle; incompatibility of dates or events

Malnutrition rates have now been cut by half since the start of the conflict, according to the United Nations.

**confront** v. be face to face with; oppose in hostility or competition; deal with

Here in the heart of conservative Texas, young criminals, murderers and thugs are forced to confront military style discipline, a traditional view of right and wrong.

**confusion** n. mistake that results from taking one thing to be another; lack of clarity or order

My uncle got into the back of the car, scratching his head in confusion, having missed the episode completely.

**congress** n. meeting of elected or appointed representatives

Just a day after congress granted him special powers he has begun turning the screws on the international oil companies.

**conscience** n. motivation deriving logically from ethical or moral principles; source of moral or ethical judgment
The truth in conscience is immediately near to me, as near as the seed that rests upon the wayside.

conscious a. awake; alert
I was conscious that a moment’s mutiny had already rendered me liable to strange penalties, and, like any other rebel slave, I felt resolved, in my desperation, to go all lengths.

conspiracy n. plot; intrigue; agreement to perform together an illegal, wrongful, or subversive act
Information minister Jerry Gana released a statement in which he says there has been an international media conspiracy against Nigeria.

constant a. invariable; repeating; continually occurring; persistent
Yemen’s state news agency says the president visited the three wounded officials at the Saudi hospital, and expressed happiness about constant progress in their health.

constitution n. law determining the fundamental political principles of a government; the act of forming something
President Putin said Britain knew Russia’s constitution prohibits such an extradition.

consult v. seek advice or information of; take into account; consider
I will consult with our friends, but it’s going to be what’s in the interests of our country first and foremost.

contact v. get in touch with; reach
But Britney, 21, says he called her at two of her homes, and even tried to contact her at her parents’ house.

contempt n. state of being despised or dishonored; disgrace; disobedience to, or open disrespect of
The poor fools, who hold science in contempt, have no ability to realize that science proves them wrong at every turn.

content n. volume; something contained; material, including text and images
The brain is hungry not for method but for content, especially the latter which contains generalizations that are powerful, precise, and explicit.

contest v. contend for; call in question; oppose; dispute
The lawyer decided to contest the claim, and tried to prove that it was false.

contract v. constrict; make smaller; compress or concentrate
The heat will contract the woollen garment.

contract n. binding agreement between two or more persons that is enforceable by law
Because he has filed for bankruptcy, the bankruptcy court could decide whether this contract should be paid in time.

contrary a. relation of direct opposition; very opposed in nature or character or purpose
Our boat took a course contrary to theirs.

convention n. social or moral custom; formal meeting of members, representatives, or delegates; agreement between states
Moreover, following this convention is our friend’s normal behavior when in such a mood.

convict v. find or declare guilty
If jury decided to convict him of manslaughter, he could face up to 20 years in prison.

conviction n. judgment that someone is guilty of crime; strongly held belief
Even her conviction for murder did not shake Peter’s judgment that Harriet was innocent of the crime.

convince v. overpower; force to yield assent to truth; satisfy by proof; prove guilty
Your argument is too weak to convince me; we need more evidence.

cooperate v. work or act together toward a common end or purpose
The best way to get Pakistan to cooperate is to find the reasons why it is so keen to retain influence in Afghanistan and try to meet its concerns.

core n. basic, center, or most important part; essence
But at the core is a story about two men who can’t let go of the sense that they are dreaming their way through what might be an ultimately meaningless life.

corner n. position at which two lines, surfaces, or edges meet and form an angle
I sat by myself in the corner without speaking.

corporate a. united or combined into one body; collective; belonging to corporation or incorporated
The demonstrators inspired thousands of allies to take to the streets to protest economic inequality and corporate greed.

corporation n. business firm; a group of people combined into or acting as one body
The Disney corporation has announced that it's buying Pixar film studios for more than seven-billion dollars.

costume n. dress; attire; aset of clothes appropriate for a particular occasion or season
His dark eyes and swarthy skin suited the costume exactly.

couch n. sofa; arrange or dispose as in a bed
His black leather couch looks expensive.

counsel v. advise; suggest
A pilot study has seen tribal chiefs agree to the training of local community teams, who counsel women and have their violent husbands arrested.

counter n. flat surface on which money is counted, business is transacted; one that is an opposite
There are always long lines in every bank and the people behind the counter are very busy.

couple n. a male and female associated together; a pair who associate with one another
He caught an married couple from Chicago.

courtesy n. polite behavior; act of civility or respect; consent or agreement in spite of fact
They call this pond a lake by courtesy only.

coward n. person who lacks courage to face danger; timid
This coward is always hiding and pointing fingers, you never see him in front of any real challenges.

crack v. break into simpler molecules by means of heat; split; hit forcefully; pass through
Now the Gates Foundation hopes that its funding will help co-ordinate large scale collaborative projects that can crack the major scientific problems.

The crocodile can crawl along the riverbed.

crawl v. move slowly, as people or animals with the body near the ground
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Aceh as they try to crush the separatist movement there.

crystal n. quartz; glassware made of quartz; high-quality, clear, colorless glass

In short the *crystal* is about the exterior form, not about the displays or the experience inside the building.

cue n. end of a thing; queue; last words of a play actor's speech; hint or intimation; humor

He said she would be back very soon, and, right on *cue*, she walked in.

culture n. all the knowledge and values shared by a society; foster; raising of plants or animals

Last week the Italian Prime Minister apologised to parliament in Rome for his alleged remarks about the superiority of western *culture* over that of Islam, claiming his words had been taken out of context.

curb v. bend or curve; guide and manage, or restrain

Paradoxically, Ray's strong-arming may be helping to *curb* violence in Bangalore.

cure n. medical or hygienic care; remedial treatment of disease; removal of disease or evil

The cats proved to be a good *cure* for our mouse problem.

current n. stream; flow; up-to-date; present

The *current* was so swift, and then I got into the dead water and landed on the side towards the Illinois shore.

curse v. call upon divine or supernatural power to send injury upon; bring great evil upon

The taxi driver who felt he didn't get a high enough tip used to *curse* his passenger.

cute a. ingenious; delightfully pretty or dainty

We were just remembering when our husky was a puppy; how small and *cute* is was.

cycle n. periodically repeated sequence of events; long period of time; entire round in a circle or a spire

*Do they not understand that the spin cycle* is an important part of the washing machine?

data n. collection of facts, observations, or other information related to a particular question or problem

Now that *data* is required from around the world, the IEA must obtain them from a wide variety of sources.

date v. mark the time of; assign a date to

Scientists *often* cannot *date* precisely archeological findings.

dawn n. time each morning at which daylight first begins; beginning; start

When I again unclosed my eyes, a loud bell was ringing; day had not yet begun to *dawn*, and a rush light or two burned in the room.

deaf a. unable to perceive sounds; hard of hearing; unwilling to hear or listen; regardless; not to be persuaded

He turned a *deaf* ear to all requests for help.

dean n. dignitary or presiding officer; head in the faculty of some colleges or universities

He was elected the *dean* of our department.

debate n. discussion; dispute; discussion involving opposing points

Robert Potts, who recently retired as chancellor at Arkansas State University, witnessed the nickname *debate* in two states.

decent a. suitable; modest; honorable; meeting accepted standards

I wandered the theatre – an old one from the thirties - kept in *decent* repair by those that love movies.

deck n. a pack of 52 cards; any of various floor-like platforms built into a vessel

She was leaning over, with part of her upper *deck* above water, and you could see every little chimmy-guy clean and clear, and a chair by the big bell, with an old slouch hat hanging on the back of it, when the flashes come.

declare v. state clearly; make known formally or officially

A distinct and near voice said, "The marriage cannot go on: I *declare* the existence of an impediment."

dedicated a. devoted to a cause or ideal or purpose; designed for a particular use or function

The bus rapid transit system carries a half million passengers daily in *dedicated* bus lanes.

defeat v. disfigure; destroy; frustrate; overcome or vanquish; resist with

*Internal conflicts* defeat the purpose of teamwork.

defendant n. one required to make answer in an action or suit
1200 IELTS Words by Pacific Lava School

The courtroom buzzed as the defendant was led in.

**define v.** determine the nature of; give a definition; describe the nature or basic qualities of; explain
That argument may define the political parties and help shape the 2012 elections.

**definite a.** fixed; exact; having distinct limits
He introduced the closed circuit of oscillation into wireless telegraphy, and was one of the first to send electric waves in definite directions.

**delicate a.** pleasing to the senses, especially in a subtle way; easily hurt; very subtle in difference
It was a fragile forest that survived in delicate balance for hundreds of thousands of years.

**delicious a.** extremely pleasing to the sense of taste; greatly pleasing or entertaining
In addition, many soaps and shampoos come in delicious scents that can be tempting for a child.

**deliver v.** set free from restraint; set at liberty; release; give or transfer
Whether Mr. Obama can deliver is a matter of considerable dispute among economists.

**denial n.** act of refusing or disowning; negation; refusal to admit the truth; refusal to grant; rejection of a request
The government has issued a denial of an election in May.

**dentist n.** a person qualified to practice dentistry
When it comes to dental care, you and your dentist share a common objective.

deny v. disagree with; refuse; declare untrue
What I do deny is that we have been inconsistent with respect to our view of the Constitution

deposit n. money given as a guarantee or security
In the meantime, she could keep the $400,000 in a secure investment such as a term deposit or money market fund.

depression n. recession; economic slump; concavity in a surface produced by pressing ; sadness; low spirits
The researchers believe that growing up in a home where parents had difficulties with depression or alcohol was often a trigger.

depot n. one appointed as the substitute of another, and empowered to act for him; substitute in office
I must find someone to act as a deputy for me during my absence.

description n. act of describing; sketch or account of anything in words
They went in to the Facebook advertising page and changed the title description from "Advertising" to "Lying".

desert n. area with little or no vegetation; forsake; abandon
An outburst of relief as Stardust finally landed in the Utah desert after a four and a half billion kilometre journey that had taken the craft half way out to Jupiter and through the tail of a comet.

deserve v. be worthy of; have a right to
The publishers say they are not cashing in, just treating the emergency services with the respect they deserve.

design n. act of working out the form of something; creation of something in the mind; formulate a plan for
He is hired to design a marketing strategy for the new product.

desperate a. having lost all hope; dangerous; extremely intense
Alice felt so desperate that she was ready to ask help of any one.

despise v. dislike intensely; regard with contempt or scorn
What they truly despise is the European Union, not any country.

despite n. lack of respect accompanied by a feeling of intense dislike; disdain, contemptuous feelings, hatred

He didn't hide his despite in the party because he believed the host cheated.

destiny n. event that will inevitably happen in the future

Your certain destiny is to grow much bigger and stronger.

destructive a. devastating; ruinous

Professor Paterson thinks there's merit in another plan for floating artificial marshes in the Lagoon to help break up the most destructive waves.

detective n. investigator; one, usually of police force, who investigates crimes and obtains evidence

Yes, I know as a detective you are not at liberty to make promises off-hand, but my case is a very peculiar one.

device n. technique or means; instrument; machine used to perform one or more relatively simple tasks

Anti-gravity device could change air travel.

diet n. nutritional plan; nourishment; a prescribed selection of foods

An unhealthy diet together with little exercise and smoking are the key risks of diseases.

dignity n. quality or state of being worthy of esteem or respect.

They thought whatever wrongs had been done under his leadership, he had the right to retire with dignity.

dimension n. measure of spatial extent, especially width, height, or length; size; aspect; element

Describing time as a dimension is a natural assumption.

dip v. insert into a fluid and withdraw again; immerse for baptism; wet, as if by immersing; moisten; appear to move downward

Our properties dip towards the river, we lost them forever.

disaster n. catastrophe; misfortune

He's asked President Bush to declare the area a disaster zone to free up federal funds.

discipline n. trait of being well behaved; act of punishing; system of rules of conduct or method of practice

Here in the heart of conservative Texas, young criminals, murderers are forced to confront military style discipline.

discount v. give reduction in price on

I never discount these books, they sell like hot cakes.

disguise n. dress or exterior put on for purposes of concealment or of deception

The ring, Adele, is in my breeches-pocket, under the disguise of a sovereign.

disorder n. neglect of order or system; irregularity; disturbance; sickness

The room is in dreadful disorder, you have no chance to find that box.

display v. exhibit; present or hold up to view; show; demonstrate; give evidence of; manifest

The airport authorities decided to remove all Christmas trees because a Jewish rabbi threatened to sue them if they didn't also display a menorah.

distract v. cause to turn away from original focus; pull in conflicting emotional directions; unsettle

No need to distract from the center ring of this circus.

distraction n. extreme mental or emotional disturbance; obsession; confusion of affairs; being drawn apart

He drives me to distraction, I have to take a break.

distress n. discomfort; cause strain, anxiety, or suffering to

Nations have been in distress from the days of Julius Caesar.

disturb v. upset; bother; trouble emotionally or mentally; put out of order; disarrange

He has vowed to challenge government warnings not to disturb the country's stability and continue his political work.

ditch n. trench made in the earth by digging; any long, narrow receptacle for water on the surface of the earth

This village needs a deep ditch or channel to run water after a prolonged downpour.

dizzy a. having or causing a whirling sensation
I am a bit dizzy from the effort of writing and distributing, and receiving the responses. 

**dock** v. deprive someone of benefits; remove or shorten the tail of an animal
They will **dock** us of two days of our annual leave.

**dock** n. solid bony part of the tail of animal; platform where trucks, ship, or trains can be loaded or unloaded

*The ship arrived at the dock more than a day late.*

**document** v. provide written evidence; record in detail
She kept all the receipts from her business trip in order to **document** her expenses for the firm.

**dodge** v. avoid a blow by moving or shifting quickly aside; shifty or ingenious trick
Before summer, one challenge lawmakers can't **dodge** is the budget.

**domestic** a. house-hold; of or relating to the home; within the country or home
*Only a substantial increase in the price of domestic fuel will make local refineries more profitable.*

**donation** n. grant; act of giving to a fund or cause
However, viewers can watch it online or download the film for free by clicking here - a **donation** is highly recommended.

**dose** n. quantity of medicine given; sufficient quantity; portion
Since the additional **dose** is not harmful and provides extra protection, everyone is recommended to get the second one.

**dot** n. the shorter of two telegraphic signals used in Morse code; very small circular shape
Financial markets haven't seen anything like this since the **dot com** boom of the late 1990s, which was followed by an equally dramatic crash.

**downtown** n. commercial center of a town or city
*From a distance, downtown Johannesburg looks impressive, a collection of skyscrapers and neon lights.*

**draft** n. rough outline; draw up an outline; sketch
*Now governments are re-writing the EU's governing treaty and the **draft** version is considered by the EU's leaders in Brussels.*

**drama** n. play; literary work intended for theater
*The Danes have now taken the top **drama** award at the Emmys for three out of the past four years.*

**dramatic** a. striking; sensational in appearance or thrilling in effect
*The technique could lead to a **dramatic** increase in the worldwide stocks of blood available for transfusion.*

**drill** v. bore; pierce; make a hole; practice; train
*Don't **drill** here, there's a gas pipe.*

**drown** v. kill by submerging and suffocating in water; overwhelm in water; deaden one's awareness of
*Probably all know that a fish could **drown**, if the functions of the gills fail.*

**due** a. owed and payable immediately or on demand; proper and appropriate; fitting
We have **due** cause to honor them.

**dull** a. lacking responsiveness or alertness; intellectually weak or obtuse
*It seemed quite **dull** and stupid for life to go on in the common way.*

**dumb** a. mute; lacking the power of speech
*A ceremony followed, in **dumb** show, in which it was easy to recognize the pantomime of a marriage.*

**dump** v. sell at artificially low prices; throw away as refuse
*Critics argue they encourage Europe's farmers to **dump** produce on world markets.*

**ease** n. satisfaction; pleasure; entertainment; freedom from care
*I don't feel at **ease** in the strange place.*

**economy** n. efficient use of resources; reduction in cost; specific type of economic system
*The tribe's main **economy** is primitive agriculture and its wealth is sometimes counted in people as well as animals.*

**edge** n. brink; perimeter; margin
*She stretched herself up on tiptoe, and peeped over the **edge** of the mushroom.*
**edition n.** whole number of copies of a work printed and published; single copy; act of editing  
_She is an improved edition of her mother._

**ego n.** self, especially as distinct from the world and other selves; exaggerated sense of self-importance  
_His ego is as large as the Space Shuttle, all guests dislike him._

**electrical a.** pertaining to electricity; electric  
_There are many lights and electrical instruments on the computer console._

**element n.** fundamental or essential constituent of a composite entity; basic assumptions or principles of a subject  
_There's always an element of danger in mountain climbing._

**elbow n.** lifting device consisting of a platform or cage  
_At least one elevator got stuck each day, trapping people inside, although no-one was injured._

**eliminate v.** eradicate; abolish; rule out  
_So the EU’s offer to eliminate the subsidy was almost universally welcomed._

**embarrass v.** humiliate; shame; cause to feel self-conscious or ill at ease; disconcert  
_Walk naked has serviced you, or does the idea embarrass you?_  
**embarrass** v.  
_Walk naked has serviced you, or does the idea embarrass you?_  

**emergency n.** sudden unforeseen crisis; condition of urgent need for action or assistance  
_An air traffic manager reported to the Air Force that he had a signal from an emergency beacon._

**emotion n.** feeling; mood; state of mental agitation or disturbance  
_To win they are trying to capitalize on the raw emotion that voters are feeling, and that is anger._

**encounter v.** face; confront; meet, especially unexpectedly; come upon  
_Even children who can swim are at risk as they often move too far away from their families and then encounter difficulties getting back to dry land._

**energy n.** exertion of force; capacity for work or vigorous activity; usable heat or power  
_Each year Americans consume a high percentage of the world’s energy._

**engagement n.** act of engaging, pledging, enlisting, occupying, or entering into contest; state of being in gear  
_After their engagement was announced in the papers, friends expected a wonderful wedding in near future._

**enormous a.** very great in size, extent, number, or degrees; huge; massive  
_An enormous puppy was looking down at her with large round eyes, and feebly stretching out one paw, trying to touch her._

**entertainment n.** amusement; fun  
_We feasted that evening as on nectar and ambrosia; and not the least delight of the entertainment was the smile of gratification with which our hostess regarded us, as we satisfied our famished appetites on the delicate fare she liberally supplied._

**enthusiasm n.** great excitement for or interest in a subject or cause; feeling of excitement  
_But this year, you know, again, the energy and enthusiasm is with the Republicans._

**entry n.** admission; entrance; item inserted in a written record  
_Beggars waited just outside the entry way to the cathedral._

**environment n.** surroundings; totality of surrounding conditions  
_We shall never understand the natural environment until we see it as a living organism._

**envy n.** malice; ill will; discontent or uneasiness at another's excellence or good fortune, accompanied with hatred  
_Their new pool made them in the envy of their neighbors._

**episode n.** a brief section of a literary or dramatic work that forms part of a connected series  
_But Mr Chissano said he respected the views of others in the Commonwealth and didn’t think the episode should bring about enmity between member states._

**equal a.** having the same quantity, measure, or value as another; identical  
_By combining their weight, China and Russia are making it clear: they have a voice of equal importance to the United States._

**erase v.** rub letters or characters written, engraved, or painted  
_The only way to erase old file is to overwrite the file with special patterns._
errand n. short trip taken to perform a specified task; mission; embassy
Because his errand is a secret one, we need lock all his records until his returning.

essay n. effort made for performance of anything; short literary composition on a single subject
I take advantage of all possible resources to win, not a mere essay of my power.

essay n. composition of any particular subject, usually shorter than formal paper
The student has to finish his essay before Sunday.

essence n. most essential or most vital part of some idea or experience
The two things are the same in outward form but different in essence.

establish v. set up or found; build
His first novel did not establish his fame as a writer, but second one did.

estate n. extensive landed property; everything you own; all of your assets
Jackson's estate is also subject to federal inheritance taxes.

esteem v. regard with respect; favorable regard
Jill and sisters esteem Jack's taste in music, but they deplore his taste in clothes.

eternal a. forever; being without beginning or end; existing outside of time; infinite
Every sin has two punishments attached to it, one called the eternal and the other the temporal.

evolved ad. ultimately; in the final result or issue; in the end
Some believe California's move will shame other states and eventually the federal government into action on the matter.

exchange n. substitute; trade in; give in return for something received
It's demanding fuel oil and an end to sanctions in exchange for a nuclear freeze.

exclusive a. not divided or shared with others; excluding much or all; not allowing something else
As an American I do not believe in exclusive ethnic, racial or tribal states.

execution n. accomplishment; putting into practice; putting a person to death
He immediately pleaded guilty, but broke down and wept as the presiding judge, Justice Michael Scott, donned a ceremonial black cap to order his execution by hanging.

executive n. role of government which makes sure that laws are carried out; administrator
It was also about restoring faith in a political system that limits and divides power between the executive, the legislature and the judiciary.

exhibit v. show, make visible or apparent
The Metropolitan Museum plans to exhibit Goya's works this month.

exotic a. from another part of the world; foreign; strikingly strange or unusual
Because of his exotic headdress, he was followed in the streets by small children who laughed at his strange appearance.

expert n. person with a high degree of skill in or knowledge of a certain subject
If this expert is as good as Foote says, he can tie up the process for a long time.

explode v. erupt; blow up; burst violently as a result of internal pressure
Three bombs explode outside a police station in the Greek capital Athens.

explore v. investigate systematically; examine; search
One day she might look into the abyss at her leisure, explore its secrets and analyze its nature.

expose v. set forth; set out to public view
It will once again expose their intent to prevent an agenda that people clearly want.

extra a. something additional of the same kind
We made an extra steering-oar, too, because one of the others might get broke.

extreme a. outermost; utmost; farthest; most remote; at the widest limit
Please take extreme measures to conserve fuel, you know; this winter will be coldest one of recent years.

eye n. small hole or loop; good discernment; organ of vision or of light sensitivity
As good human resource manager, she has an eye for fresh talent.

fabric n. cloth; stuff; artifact made by weaving or synthetic fibers; structure; framework
He took away half the fabric of an ordinary swimsuit - to reveal the belly button - and a superstar was born.

fabulous a. related in fable; devised; invented; not real
He is a fabulous hero in that book.
face v. confront; encounter; be opposite
The two sofas face each other.
facility n. service, space, and equipment provided for a particular purpose
Reports say that three police officers guarding an oil facility were killed but no hostages were taken.
factor n. anything that contributes causally to a result; element; variable
The Federation warns that unless the world's population acts now to eat a healthier diet and to take more exercise, obesity will rapidly overtake smoking as the leading lifestyle risk factor for heart disease and strokes.
faint a. lacking strength or vigor; weak
She set off at once, and ran till she was quite tired and out of breath, and till the puppy's bark sounded quite faint in the distance.
faith n. loyalty or allegiance to a cause or a person; complete confidence
He lost his faith but not his morality.
one a. imitation; counterfeit; having a false or misleading appearance
The Football Association says it all began with a fake advertisement on a website, inviting foreign managers to be the new national team coach.
fall v. drop; sink; lose an upright position suddenly; decrease in size, extent, or range
The pilgrims fall to their knees, but up to their soul.
fame n. favorable public reputation; great renown
His fame as a poet did not come until after his death.
familiar a. well known or easily recognized
To pass his driver test, John tried to be familiar with those roads.
fancy n. capricious notion; something many people believe that is false
For it was at that hour of a warm afternoon when my fancy is able to hear the silent voices.
fantastic a. excellent; extraordinary; strange in form, conception, or appearance
The turn of the millennium has impelled some scientists to predict a fantastic future.
fantasy n. dream; daydream; imagination unrestricted by reality
This is a typical schoolgirl fantasy.
fascinating a. capable of arousing and holding the attention
But as matters really stood, to watch Miss Ingram's efforts at fascinating Mr. Rochester.
fatal a. causing death
An attack by a swarm of the reddish-brown insects can cause allergic reactions which can be fatal in extremely rare cases.
fault n. crack; a crack in the earth; defect; flaw; a wrong action
Here she was a-bothering about Moses, which was no kin to her, and no use to anybody, being gone, you see, yet finding a power of fault with me for doing a thing that had some good in it.
favour n. act of gracious kindness; inclination to approve
All I need add is that, whatever its quality, your story will be received in favour of the glory of literature.
federal a. of or relating to central government; national
The new president has to face current and long term federal deficits.
fee v. give a tip beyond the agreed-on compensation
Please remember to fee the steward.
female n. for or composed of women or girls
One recent study in the country found at least half of female drug users had engaged in commercial sex.
festival n. a day or period of time for feasting and celebration
One of the major themes of this year's festival is Africa's tortured relationship with the west, with several films making a strong case that Africa continues to be exploited.
fetch v. take away or remove; reduce; go or come after and bring or take back
He lets them fetch dinner from a cooking-school in the neighborhood.
figure n. model of a bodily form; impression produced by a person; written or printed symbol representing a number
The fact that the main figure is screaming his throat on the front page is enough for me.
file v. line; proceed in line
The students file into the classroom.

final a. forming or occurring at the end; terminating; ultimate; conclusive
The game is now in its **final** stages, I can see its result already.

fist n. hand with the fingers doubled into the palm; closed hand
The **fist** is still there, but it wears that infamous velvet glove.

fit v. be the right size or shape; conform to some shape or size
This piece won't **fit** into the puzzle, none will work for it.

fitting n. small accessory to a larger system; small detachable part for a machine or apparatus; act of trying on clothes
How much time and mess could you save if the **fitting** was already clean?

flame n. stream of burning vapor or gas, emitting light and heat; passion of love
She tried to fancy what the **flame** of a candle is like.

flash n. emit a brief burst of light; appear briefly; sudden intense burst of radiant energy
Dozens of people are believed to have been killed by a **flash** flood in a popular tourist area.

fleet n. a group of steamships under the same ownership; a group of vessels or vehicles
The general ordered the **fleet** to remain where they were and wait for the further instructions.

flesh n. soft tissue of body, mainly muscle and fat; substance; reality; surface or skin of human body; meat of animals
I always believe that killing innocent animals and consuming their **flesh** is amoral.

fling v. throw with force or recklessness; throw or cast away; move in an abrupt
This news made him angry and **fling** his dish against the wall.

flip v. go mad, go crazy; turn upside down, or throw so as to reverse; toss with a sharp movement
He will **flip** if he hear that he is laid off.

float v. drift along; make the surface of level or smooth; move lightly
I formed an idea of my own: shadowy, like all the half-comprehended notions that **float** dim through children’s brains, but strangely impressive.

flush v. turn red, as from fever, embarrassment, or strong emotion; glow, especially with a reddish color; flow suddenly
We saw the sky **flush** pink at dawn.

flush v. flow and spread suddenly; flood
Interestingly enough, the plunging caused the toilet to again **flush**, which is something I’ve never witnessed.

focus n. most important thing; a fixed reference point; center of interest or activity
Who is responsible and who coordinates the attack is now the **focus** of discussion.

forgive v. give wholly; cease to feel resentment against; excuse for a fault or an offense; give up; resign
To **forgive** is the ultimate grace and is in the best tradition of Jesus who taught to turn the other cheek.

formula n. plan; directions for making something; a group of symbols that make a mathematical statement
He gave us a general **formula** for attacking polynomials.

fort n. a fortified defensive structure; permanent army post
Suddenly something flashed from the ramparts, a swirl of smoke jetted from the **fort**, a hellish explosion rocked the battlements.

forward ad. at or to or toward the front; toward the future
They went slowly **forward** in the mud and trusted they would get there in time.

foster v. rear; promote the growth of; help develop
Don't forget to **foster** our children’s well-being and education.

foul n. act that violates of the rules of a sport
But the deal involves a fifteen billion euro cash injection, and may yet fall **foul** of regulators in Brussels.

found v. establish or set up, especially with provision for continuing existence; melt metal and pour into a mold
This professor is trying to **found** a new theory on firm evidence.

foundation n. basis on which something is grounded
There is little foundation for his objections, nobody follow him.

fragile a. easy to destroy, delicate, not strong

Archaeologists are amazed that such a fragile ancient document could have survived for so long.

fraud n. getting money by lying or cheating; something intended to deceive

Supporters waited outside Meshchansky Courthouse in Moscow, where Russia’s richest man has been accused of fraud, embezzlement and tax evasion.

freak n. rare and unpredictable event; person or animal that is markedly unusual or deformed

We talked to a spokesman for the balloon company, expressed his regrets of course, and says they’re trying to determine what caused the freak fire.

fridge n. container in which the coolant is pumped around by an electric motor

Commercial fridge and freezer units, which go by many other names, were in use for almost 40 years prior to the common home models.

fuel n. substance that can be consumed to produce energy

The newspaper article provided him with fuel for his speech.

full a. filled to satisfaction with food or drink; containing as much or as many as is possible or normal

Luckily for Alice, the little magic bottle now had its full effect, and she grew no larger.

function n. act of executing or performing any duty; assigned duty or activity

The function of an adjective is to describe or add to the meaning of a noun.

fund n. money; capital; a reserve of money set aside for some purpose; finance; subsidize

An activist from Burundi lambasted the world’s richer nations for not putting money into the global fund to fight AIDS.

funeral n. ceremony held in connection with burial; burial procession accompanying body to grave; end of existence

For most people, attending a funeral is a time to pay respects and lend support.

furious a. extreme anger; raging; full of activity; energetic or rapid

In a very short time the Queen was in a furious passion, and shouting ‘Off with his head!’ or ‘Off with her head!’ about once in a minute.

fusion n. union; act of melting together by heat

True, the energy released in fusion is less than using He-3, but is magnitude cheaper and faster.

fuss n. angry disturbance; excited state of agitation; needlessly nervous or useless activity; protest; quarrel

It also made me want to read a Jane Austen novel just to see what the fuss is all about.

gale n. very strong wind; gust of wind; emotional outburst as laughter or tears

The Weather Channel warned viewers about a rising gale, with winds of up to sixty miles per hour.

gallery n. long usually narrow room ; covered corridor

The museum’s main gallery is reserved for the sculptures.

gamble v. play or game for money or other stake; lose or squander by gaming

He used to gamble all his cash on pay day.

gang n. group of criminals who band together for mutual protection and profit; herd of buffalo or elk

When police investigate a gang rape, the girl’s parents have released a message.

garbage n. trash; worthless or nonsensical matter; food wastes

So many better candidates and this garbage is what you picked?

gear n. toothed machine part, such as a wheel or cylinder, to transmit motion or to change speed or direction

We are getting word that the nose gear has been lowered, but the main one is not down.

generation n. all offspring at same stage from common ancestor; interval of time between the birth of parents and their offspring

They lived a long time, their generation is 100 years to us.

generation n. act of producing offspring or multiplying by such production; production of heat or electricity

Dams were built for the generation of electricity.
generous a. more than adequate; willing to give and share unstintingly
David Gilmour, the guitarist of Pink Floyd is known as a generous donor.

genetic a. of or relating to the science of gene; relating to, or influenced by origin of something
This increases the vulnerability of crops to a major outbreak of pests or diseases; so the old breeds are needed for their valuable genetic material.

genius n. exceptional creative ability; unusual mental ability; someone who is dazzlingly skilled in any field
They chattered all the time about Tom's plan and admired the genius of it.

gentle a. well-born; of a good family or respectable birth; mild; meek; bland; amiable; tender
His aunt Polly stood surprised a moment, and then broke into a gentle laugh.

genuine a. authentic; real; true
Previous efforts at establishing a framework for joint action foundered on the rocks of lingering suspicion and genuine differences over issues like the crisis in the Balkans.

gesture n. motion of hands or body to emphasize or help to express a thought or feeling
This hand gesture is not unique, and it is to be found all over the world – in Australia, Africa, Asia, and Europe.

global a. worldwide; international; having the shape of a globe
President Putin has said that Russia has not yet decided whether to ratify the Kyoto Protocol, the treaty aimed at reducing global warming.

glorious a. having or deserving glory; famous; characterized by great beauty and splendor; magnificent; wonderful
Hopefully this artwork will be in glorious black and white, as it originally appeared.

glow v. shine with an intense or white heat; give forth vivid light and heat; exhibit a strong, bright color
The children's cheeks glow from the cold.

glue v. be fixed as if by sticky substance; join or attach with or as if sticky substance
The kids glue their eyes to the TV set, watching a cartoon.

goal n. end; objective; final purpose or aim
My goal, said one, is to share this knowledge with other Afghans, especially Afghan women.

gorgeous a. dazzlingly beautiful; magnificent
Just one word of warning: a Swiss team has actually qualified for the World Cup - so those Swiss men, gorgeous or otherwise, might all be watching the match.

gossip n. rumor; malicious report about other people; light informal conversation for social occasions
Every Italian chat show, gossip column, and newspaper, is full of the speculation of where the Hollywood couple will marry.

gown n. loose, flowing upper garment; ordinary outer dress of woman; official robe of certain professional men
But she had stopped now with a folded gown in her lap, and had her face in her hands, crying.

grab v. take or grasp suddenly; snatch; capture
You can copy the list from that email, but it's also nice to grab from the collection on your hard drive.

grace n. elegance and beauty of movement or expression; short prayer of thanks before a meal
Miss Ingram had now seated herself with proud grace at the piano.

gracious a. beneficent; merciful; disposed to show kindness or favor
He actually went on to praise John McCain for giving a gracious concession speech.

grade n. step or degree in any series, rank, quality, order; relative position or standing
He's not in the first grade as a musician, why do you want to learn piano from him?

grand a. large and impressive in size, scope, or extent
Alice had no idea what Latitude was, or Longitude either, but thought they were nice grand words to say.

grant v. allow to have; give on the basis of merit; be willing to concede
I grant the genius of your plan, but you still will not find backers.

grateful a. state of being grateful; warm and friendly feeling toward a benefactor; thankfulness
His face lit up with a glow of gratitude, though he did not know it.

grieve n. place for the burial; death or extinction
He put flowers on his mother's grave.

grease n. oil; fat; state of being covered with unclean things
The widow she didn't scold, but only cleaned off the grease and clay, and looked so sorry that I thought I would behave awhile if I could.

grief n. pain of mind; mental suffering arising from any cause, as misfortune, loss of friends; sorrow; sadness
Trying to follow their directions was nothing but grief.

grill v. question severely; torture or afflict
In violation of the Miranda law, the policemen grill the suspect for several hours before reading him his rights.

grip n. hold fast or firmly; seize as in a wrestling match
The pipeline is the first to directly link Kazakhstan's oil riches with the open sea and it decisively weakens Moscow's grip on Central Asia's oil reserves.

gross a. of huge size; excessively large; coarse; rough; not fine or delicate
You can tell from his gross language that the man was uneducated.

ground n. solid surface of the earth; bottom; lowest part
The other was sitting on the ground near the door, staring stupidly up into the sky.

grudge v. be unwilling or reluctant to give or admit; be envious; show discontent
The students have to stop protesting and grudge the higher tuition money.

guarantee n. pledge that something will happen or that something is true
If it has decided to build a stockpile of nuclear weapons as the best guarantee of its security, then a more dangerous confrontation will be unavoidable.

guardian n. one who guards, preserves, or secures; one who has, or is entitled to custody of person or property
The movie allows admission only to persons older than 17, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

guilty a. deserving of blame; adjudged to have committed crime
Don't use the word guilty in civil case decisions.

hail n. call for; salute; greet; praise vociferously
The US Embassy in Manila found itself under a hail of rotten fruit early today, the latest symptom of anti-American feeling reverberating across Asia in recent days.

handsome a. skillful; handy; agreeable to the eye or to correct taste; having a pleasing appearance or expression; attractive
"If it had grown up," she said to herself, "it would have made a dreadfully ugly child: but it makes rather a handsome pig, I think."

hang v. suspend; fasten to some elevated point without support from below; hold for support
Why don't your juries hang murderers? Because they're afraid the man's friends will shoot them in the back, in the dark -- and it's just what they WOULD do.

harassment n. feeling of intense annoyance caused by being tormented; worry; annoyance; anxiety.
The facts seem to indicate that her harassment is the direct result of her employer's discriminatory attitude regarding her disability.

hardware n. mechanical, magnetic, electronic, and electrical components making up a computer system
Computer hardware is the physical part of a computer, as distinguished from the computer software that executes within it.

harmony n. compatibility in opinion and action; an agreeable sound property
I was a discord in Gateshead Hall: I was like nobody there; I had nothing in harmony with Mrs. Reed or her children, or her chosen vassalage.

harsh a. rough; coarse; severe; unpleasantly stern
This was a harsh blow for the families of missing people who'd waited for decades for news of them.

haul v. draw slowly or heavily; pull or drag forcibly; shift direction
He tried to haul the huge companies into court.

haunt v. be a regular or frequent visitor to a certain place; bother; disturb
Jason will once again haunt the cursed campgrounds of Crystal Lake, but this time, hockey-masked Jason is the
real killer.
hawk n. bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail
The hawk snatched the chicken and flew away.

heal v. cure; make or get healthy again
Blair memorably described the continent as a scar on the conscience of the world and insisted that the international community could heal it.

hearing n. opportunity to be heard; capacity to hear; judicial investigation of a suit at law
If you're interested in hearing from the guy who's helping drive the fundraising train, read it here.

heir n. person who inherits some title or office
He'd seen himself as the political heir of the Egyptian president, Gamal Abdel-Nasser, who had captured Arab hearts with his calls for Arab unity.

helicopter n. aircraft without wings that obtains its lift from the rotation of overhead blades
Three men were lifted by helicopter from the burning ship.

hell n. place of the dead, or of souls after death where sinners suffer eternal punishment; any place of pain and turmoil
He said, "The hottest place in hell is reserved for those who, in a period of moral crisis, maintain their neutrality."

herb n. plant lacking a permanent woody stem, some having medicinal properties
A herb is a plant that is valued for qualities such as medicinal properties, flavor, scent.

hike v. long walk usually for exercise or pleasure
We plan to hike the Rockies this summer.

hike n. increase in cost; the amount a salary is increased; long walk or march
You are now telling me that the massive hike is coincidence and not the industrial revolution?

hint n. allusion; clue; brief or indirect suggestion
Give me a hint about the big news.

hobby n. auxiliary activity; activity or interest pursued outside one's regular occupation
The Show is Canada's largest three day hobby and craft exhibition.

hold v. keep from departing; take and maintain control over; stop dealing with
Please hold all calls to the President's office while he is in a meeting.

hop v. move by successive leaps, as toads do; spring or jump on one foot
They have a clown-like personality and are known to hop rather than run.

horrible a. exciting, or tending to horror or fear; hideous
You have saved my life! - snatched me from a horrible death!

hose n. a flexible pipe for conveying a liquid or gas
This fire hose is about sixty feet long.

host n. great number; person entertaining guests
Well, the tapes were brought to an area radio show that the host is a friend of the Hogan family, and they were played on the radio here in the area.

hostage n. prisoner who is held by one party to insure that another party will meet specified terms
The surviving pirate accused of taking an American ship captain hostage is here, and we're getting our first look at him.

hostile a. unfriendly; showing the disposition of an enemy
The authorities say negative reports on Zimbabwe are a false creation by what they term a hostile Western media.

hug v. crowd together; keep close to; tight or amorous embrace
The judge said he could hug her for her words; so he cried, and his wife cried again.

hum n. low, prolonged sound; humming noise; singing with shut mouth
My guess is you can hear the hum from a mile away, is it true?

humanity n. kindness; virtue; all of the inhabitants of the earth
Yugoslavia surrendered Mr Milosevic to the war crimes tribunal in The Hague, to face charges of genocide and crimes against humanity.

humble a. low or inferior in station or quality; modest
'May it please your Majesty,' said Two, in a very humble tone, going down on one knee as he spoke, 'we were trying--'

humiliate v. cause to feel shame; hurt the pride of
Please do not humiliate anyone in a restaurant or supermarket.

hurricane n. big storm; severe tropical cyclone
There's speculation that increased hurricane activity is related to global warming; two scientific papers this year have linked their intensity to climate change.

hysterical a. marked by excessive or uncontrollable emotion; affected, or troubled, with fear or panic
During hysterical conditions various functions of the human body are disordered.

identical a. duplicate; alike; being the exact same one
This is the identical room we stayed in before.

identify v. detect; find out; discover
Together they intercept millions of telephone calls, emails and faxes, and with special software, searching for key words and numbers, attempt to identify threats from terrorists, arms proliferators and so on.

idiot n. foolish or stupid person; unlearned, ignorant, or simple person
This idiot is addicted to spending our money to buy votes.

illusion n. misleading vision; being deceived by a false perception or belief
Puncturing this illusion is the key to winning the battle of ideas.

image n. visual representation; representation of a person
The emperor's tomb had his image carved in stone.

immune a. resistant to; free or exempt from; not subject to
Still, the company doesn't expect to remain immune from the effects of the downturn.

impact n. forceful consequence; strong effect; influencing strongly
It's hard to characterize the cultural effects, although easier to the vital economic impact on China's neighbors.

impressive a. making a strong or vivid impression; producing a strong effect
From a distance, downtown Johannesburg looks impressive, a collection of skyscrapers and neon lights.

impulse n. act of applying force suddenly; an impelling force or strength
When mists as chill as death wandered to the impulse of east winds along those purple peaks, and rolled down "ing" and holm till they blended with the frozen fog of the beck!

income n. gain from labor, business, property, or capital
I can never do that again, two-thirds of my income goes in paying the interest of mortgages.

incredible a. unbelievable; beyond belief or understanding
It was an amazing year for female performances and to be nominated amongst them was really incredible.

indicate v. point out; direct to a knowledge of
Researchers indicate that men find it easier to give up smoking than women.

individual n. single person or thing; human regarded as a unique personality
If this individual is to be the leader of this country, she will lead us to total defeat.

inevitable a. unavoidable; incapable of being avoided or prevented
Though taxes are supposedly inevitable, some people avoid paying taxes for years.

influence n. power affecting person or thing; effect of one thing on another; flowing in or upon; influx
She used her parent's influence to get the job quickly.

innocent a. naive; lacking sense or awareness; free from evil or guilt
We all knew the innocent child leaving Argentina in 2008.

insane a. exhibiting disordered of mind; deranged in mind; very foolish
He has an insane desire to finish that foolish thing.

inspiration n. sudden intuition as part of solving a problem; arousing to a particular emotion or action
The theme of the ceremony is Isles of Wonder and draws much of its inspiration from Shakespeare's "The Tempest."

instance n. example that is cited to prove a contention or illustrate a point; case or occurrence
The framework applies equally to all ecosystems and in this instance is adapted for wetlands.
instinct  n. inborn pattern of behavior; nature
It often puts EU into conflict with members, such as Germany, whose natural instinct was to protect industries that employed thousands of people.

insult  v. offend; affront; treat, mention, or speak to rudely
You insult me by talking such nonsense!

insurance  n. protection against future loss; act, business, or system of insuring
The insurance industry is well prepared to make a quick estimate of the loss it will suffer.

integrity  n. quality or condition of being whole or undivided; completeness
Protecting global supply chain integrity is of the utmost importance for manufacturers.

intelligence  n. ability to comprehend; understand and profit from experience; intellect; power of cognition
More than half the variance between people in intelligence is also genetic, Mr. Shane reports, adding that smarter people "tend to be less satisfied with their jobs."

intelligence  n. secret information about an enemy or potential enemy
We sent out planes to gather intelligence on their radar coverage.

intense  a. extreme; acute; in an extreme degree
The Israeli and Palestinian girls engage in intense discussions and heated arguments.

intent  n. something that is intended; aim or purpose
Your main intent is to accurately capture a scene as your eye sees it, and then report to me.

internal  a. inside; interior; located within the limits or surface
An internal audit led to Julie Wall's downfall and her vast collection has now been auctioned to pay back some of what she owes.

intimate  v. give to understand; imply as a possibility; make known subtly and indirectly
Did Dick intimate that Jane had bad breath when he asked if she'd like a breath mint?

investigate  v. explore; observe or inquire into in detail; examine systematically
NASA has launched its Contour spacecraft, one of a series of missions designed to investigate comets.

invisible  a. incapable of being seen; impossible or nearly impossible to see
The poor guys are politically invisible, it is the reason why they suffered so much in dark time.

involve  v. wind round; connect with something; include necessarily; engage thoroughly
How should we involve ourselves in school life?

irony  n. expression by deliberate contrast between apparent and intended meaning; witty language used to insult
That most of us miss the irony is a vivid demonstration of our blindness.

issue  n. subject; topic; problem; edition; publication; release; publish
The issue could be settled by requiring public education for everyone.

item  n. a whole individual unit; a distinct part that can be specified separately in a group
He noticed an item in the New York Times that reported his hometown.

jail  n. building for confinement of persons held in lawful custody
The jail was a little brick den that stood at the edge of the village, and no guards were afforded for it.

jam  v. crush or bruise; get stuck; press tightly together
The driver had to jam the brake pedal to the floor to avoid entering the intersection.

jealous  a. resentful or bitter in rivalry; envious
I think they're jealous, they wish they could share in that freedom but failed.

jerk  v. pull, or move with a sudden movement; move with abrupt, seemingly uncontrolled motions
We saw him turn the handle and jerk the door open.

journal  n. magazine; periodical; log; diary; a ledger in which transactions have been recorded as they occurred
Published twice yearly, the journal is an open access, online publication.

jungle  n. land densely overgrown with tropical vegetation; dense, confused mass
In the last few months, the big cats have increasingly emerged from the forest and into the urban jungle, killing twenty-two people including children.

junior  a. less advanced in age than another; younger; lower in standing or in rank
He is studying at a junior middle school.

**junk** n. a fragment of any solid substance; old iron, or other metal, glass, paper; discarded material

Today's swim isn't so bad except that there was crazy wind on the beach, and these huge waves that brought all the junk on the sea floor up.

**justify** v. adjust the spaces between words; show to be reasonable; explain, clear away

"And old Madam Reed, or the Misses, her daughters, will be solicited by you to seek a place, I suppose?" "No, sir; I am not on such terms with my relatives as would justify me in asking favours of them--but I shall advertise."

**kidnap** v. take by force or fear, and against one's will; seize and detain unlawfully and usually for ransom

She says she only pretended to kidnap the children and never wanted to get money from them.

**kidney** n. glandular organ which excretes urea and other waste products from the animal body

In case the donor of kidney is a non relative, we have to investigate if there is any organ trafficking.

**knot** n. fastening together of one or more threads, cords, ropes; lump or loop formed in thread; ornamental tie

"Only take off the red cloak, sir, and then - " "But the string is in a knot - help me."

**label** n. paper affixed to anything by inscription; slip of ribbon, parchment; writing annexed by way of addition

There was no label this time with the words "DRINK ME," but nevertheless she uncorked it and put it to her lips.

**lamb** n. the young of the sheep; simple, unsophisticated person

None believes that the lion and the lamb could lie down together.

**lame** a. moving with pain or difficulty because of injury; disabled so that movement is difficult or impossible

A lame wing kept the bird from flying, it was in danger when winter was coming.

**lane** n. passageway between fences which is not traveled as a highroad; narrow country road

In this instance, I think a bike lane is better than a cycle track.

**lap** v. take in food or drink with one's tongue; splash gently

The kitten used to neatly lap up her milk.

**lap** n. flap that lies over another part; area of control or responsibility; upper side of the thighs of a seated person

The job fell right in my lap. I was very busy last week to finish it on time.

**launch** v. begin; originate; initiate; send off; take off

Four years ago, the country became the third African nation, after South Africa and Algeria, to launch an observation satellite.

**laundry** n. washing; workplace where clothes are washed and ironed

During the gold rush era, our town's laundry seemed innocent enough.

**lawn** n. landscape; grassland, usually tended or mowed; meadow

In a ceremony on the White House lawn, President Bush will remember the victims of September the eleventh.

**lay** v. put into a certain place; cause to lie down; spread over a surface

Then, Myrna crossed the room, the gun fired, and Kevin lay still and silent.

**leak** v. escape fluid from container through a hole or crack; tell anonymously; reveal

Then I tied up the rip in the meal sack with a string, so it wouldn't leak no more.

**leap** n. jump; hop; place jumped over or from

The Mouse gave a sudden leap out of the water, and seemed to quiver all over with fright.

**lease** n. rent; charter; engage for service under a term of contract

We provide details of commercial and residential property available for lease.

**lecture** n. teaching by giving a discourse on some subject; speech that is open to the public

The students could not follow the lecture on modern chemistry.

**legal** a. created by, permitted by law; according to the law of works

I could not rid myself of it by any legal proceedings: for the doctors now discovered that my wife was mad.

**legend** n. explanatory list of symbols on a map; unverified story handed down from earlier times
The *legend* is a truth, even as to names as well as general facts.

**legend n.** story about mythical or supernatural beings or events

The connection established in Chinese legend between the hare and the moon is probably traceable to an Indian original.

**legitimate a.** accordant with law; lawful; based on logical reasoning; reasonable

*He would help legitimate homeowners who are facing foreclosure, but not offer help for speculators.*

**lethal a.** deadly; causing or capable of causing death

_In a decision the court upheld the use of all three drugs in lethal injections._

**lick v.** draw or pass the tongue over; pass or lap quickly and rapidly; beat thoroughly in a competition or fight

_The flames lick at our feet; all of us keep moving as fast as possible._

**light n.** brightness; something that admits illumination; source of fire; particular aspect of a situation

*Many smaller developing nations see them in a different light - as a kind of guaranteed share of the very profitable markets of the developed world.*

**limb n.** arm; leg; any of the main branches arising from the trunk or a bough of a tree

*But he shares Mary's apathetic and listless look: he seems to have more length of limb than vivacity of blood or vigour of brain._

**line n.** thin continuous mark, as that made by a pen, pencil, or brush applied to a surface; border or boundary

_Some people are pride of the Great Wall; but others think it is just a line of stones._

**link v.** be or become joined or united; connect, fasten, or put together two or more pieces

*After a whole day shopping, the travelers will link up again at the airport._

**liquor n.** any liquid, as water, milk, blood, sap, juice; alcoholic or spirituous fluid

*If you study the numbers closely, you see that liquor is probably wildly popular with women in their 20s, and unpopular with men the same age._

**literally ad.** with meaning; word for word; letter by letter

_The word literally translates to ‘dispeller of darkness,’ or ‘one who brings light.’_

**loan n.** give temporarily; temporary provision of money

_A margin loan is a facility given to an investor for the purpose of buying securities._

**lobby n.** a group of people who try to influence legislation; hall; room; a large entrance or reception room or area

*The anti-tobacco lobby suspects that the tobacco industry is behind the weakening of many of the draft treaty provisions._

**locate v.** find; monitor; settle; determine or specify the position or limits o

_It will also develop techniques to locate and tap underground water reservoirs._

**lock n.** strand or cluster of hair; fastening together; a closing of one thing upon another; device operated by a key

_I got up and turned around in my tracks three times; and then I tied up a little lock of my hair with a thread to keep witches away._

**locker n.** storage compartment for clothes and valuables, usually it has a lock

_On my locker is a stack of books that fills the space between the lower and upper metal boxes._

**lodge n.** small house on the grounds of an estate or a park, used by a caretaker or gatekeeper

*From this window were visible the porter’s lodge and the road._

**log n.** record of a voyage or flight; record of day to day activities

*His anxiety was increasing with the advance of the season, and his log is a record of deep yearning to be free and active again._

**logic n.** reasoned and reasonable judgment; a system of reasoning

*Your paper lacks the logic to prove your thesis._

**loop v.** circle; ring; move in loops; make a loop in; join with a loop

_The old lady made one end of the silk thread fast to Tom's tooth with a loop and tied the other to the bedpost._

**loose a.** unbound; untied; not attached, fastened, fixed, or confined

*"Here, Bill! catch hold of this rope - Will the roof bear? - Mind that loose slate - Oh, it's coming down! Heads
below!"

**lose v.** fail to keep or to maintain; cease to have; be deprived of; fail to win

Ah, my dear! Let this be a lesson to you never to lose your temper!

**lounge n.** public room with seating where people can wait; living room; lobby

A large lounge is situated at the last floor; a perfect place to see some of the the best views of Johannesburg.

**loyal a.** steadfast in allegiance or duty; faithful to a person, ideal, custom, cause, or duty

When he fails, you cannot do more for him, but you can be loyal.

**luxury n.** something that is an indulgence rather than necessity; excessively expensive

A luxury tax on large cars was introduced last year.

**magnificent a.** grand or noble in thought or deed; outstanding of its kind

This was not only a game to decide which team will win magnificent prizes, it was also a game where the Mayor will decide who will be final champion.

**maintain v.** keep in any particular state or condition; keep up or carry on; continue

What we are actually trying to maintain is never ending growth.

**maintenance n.** preservation; support; continuance; court-ordered support paid by one spouse to another

She would be entitled to just the same rights over the children, and just the same rights to income support and maintenance for the children.

**major a.** greater in number, quantity, or extent; more important

We have met with major problems in the project and they will be addressed as schedule.

**majority n.** greater number or part; a number more than half of the total

He is not planning to expel foreign companies, but he does want majority control of all ventures and a greater share of the profits.

**mall n.** shopping center; public area set aside as a pedestrian walk

Is it greener to stay at home and order presents online or head to the mall?

**maniac a.** raving with madness; raging with disordered intellect; wildly disordered

The doctor's words pained me, but I deserved it, and it wasn't the first time I'd been called maniac depressive by a doctor.

**manipulate v.** operate with one's hands; control or play upon people, forces artfully

Meanwhile, greed and vanity, using lies and fear, will once again manipulate ignorance and resentment.

**mansion n.** dwelling-house of the better class; a large or stately residence

Colerain mansion is listed on the national register of historic places.

**manual n.** guide book; hand-operated

Three workers at the plant followed an illegal manual and caused a nuclear reaction late last month.

**marble n.** walking with regular steps; a procession of people walking together; steady advance

In July, 1792, the united armies of Prussia and Austria commenced their march from the German fortresses upon the Rhine into France.

**marine a.** sea-dwelling; maritime; naval

Led by Professor David Paterson, the British team have begun a three-year project to map tidal flows and marine life, using remote sensing techniques.

**marsh n.** tissue which fills the cavities of most bones; the essence; the best part

It was so cold that he felt frozen to the marrow.

**marsh n.** swamp; bog; low lying wet land with grassy vegetation

The jail was a trifling little brick den that stood in a marsh at the edge of the village.

**marvelous a.** wonderful; extraordinarily good

Queen Victoria is a marvelous ship best suited to well-traveled guests.

**mask v.** try to conceal something; disguise; hide under a false appearance

He wants to mask his disappointment.

**massive a.** enormous; colossal; consisting of great mass; containing a great quantity of matter

A lot has been said about the massive influence of the US retail group Wal-Mart.

**match n.** something that resembles or harmonizes with

That tie makes a good match with your jacket.
mature v. develop and reach maturity; grow old or older
*I need to mature my thoughts in future college years.*
maximum n. the largest possible quantity
*The object of invention is to provide a method for limiting the maximum pressure of a power-assisted steering system.*
measure v. determine the size of something; mark, lay out, or establish dimensions; estimate by evaluation or comparison
*He actually took out his watch and laid it upon the table to measure the time.*
media n. public institutions that report the news, such as newspapers, magazines, radio, and television
*Science fiction in media is exponentially bigger as a market than science fiction in literary form.*
medium n. state that is intermediate between extremes
*Certainly Shostakovich was lucky to work in a wordless abstract medium, where interpretation is strongly subjective.*
mental a. involving mind or intellectual process; affected by disorder of mind
*All doctors agreed this is a mental patient.*
mercy n. compassionate treatment of unfortunate and helpless; willingness to spare or to help; disposition to be kind
*We saw two cars crashed on street, it was a mercy that no one was hurt.*
mess n. soft semi liquid food; a quantity of food set on a table at one time; provision of food for one meal
*The old lady enjoyed a mess of porridge every night.*
mess n. disagreeable mixture or confusion of things
*She says, "Take your hands away, Huckleberry; what a mess you are always making!"*
method n. orderly procedure or process; regular manner of doing anything
*She told us a simple method for making a pie crust.*
mighty a. having or showing great strength or force or intensity
*Investment guru Warren Buffett comes in at number two, worth ten billion less than the mighty Bill.*
military a. pertaining to soldiers, to arms, or to war; of whole body of soldiers
*In some countries all the young men have to do a year’s military service.*
minimum a. the smallest possible quantity
*The questions range from simple tests of knowledge such as - what's the minimum age for buying alcohol?*
minister n. one who performs service for another; officer of justice; executive head of a government department
*The former Environment Canada minister is asking for people to protest the current Ontario administration.*
minor a. of lesser importance or stature or rank; not of legal age; limited in size or scope
*These two books had minor differences, reading one of them is enough.*
minus a. less; requiring to be subtracted; negative
*Seven minus three equals four.*
minute a. extremely small; short note
*The twins resembled one another closely; only minute differences set them apart.*
miracle n. wonderful thing; something that excites admiration or astonishment
*"The main miracle is that with money or no money, we have life,” said Yadira Rivera.*
miserable a. very unhappy; full of misery; wretched
*The miserable Hatter dropped his teacup, and went down on one knee. 'I'm a poor man, your Majesty,' he began.*
misery n. great unhappiness; extreme pain of body or mind
*One by one they stepped in at last and took shelter under the tent; but to have company in misery seemed something to be grateful for.*
mission n. assignment that is given to a person or group; operation that is assigned by a higher headquarters; job; task
*The planes were on a bombing mission of 1000 miles away.*
monitor  v. observe; watch; keep an eye on
In this city, religious police, government officials and squads of schoolboys monitor women and girls’ behavior and appearance.

monitor n. someone who gives a warning so that a mistake can be avoided; someone who supervises
The teacher suggested the tall pupil as monitor to assist in routine duties.

monster n. beast; ugly creature; someone or something that is abnormally large and powerful
Their persistence is a proof that the Dragon is not only a popular monster but also a true archetype.

mortal n. man, human being; liable or subject to death; accompanying death
Nothing betrays the fact that he is now engaged in a mortal fight.

motel n. motor hotel; lodging rooms adjacent to a parking lot
She said the motel is about 10 kilo meters from the entrance of the park.

motion n. movement; act of changing location; ability or power to move
For a similar reason, a collision head-on between two cars in motion is much more violent than if one of them is at rest.

motive n. emotion, desire, physiological need; that which gives purpose and direction to behavior
Pat’s main motive is to keep the racial divide alive.

mount v. go up or advance; fix onto a backing; put up or launch
Following the guidance, we had to thread some complex passages, and mount a staircase before we reached her apartment.

mutual a. common to or shared by two or more parties; shared
The main thrust is to make progress on practical issues - with mutual trade and business at the top of the agenda.

naked a. bare and pure; completely unclothed
The brightened comet in the constellation Virgo may even be visible to the naked eye, allowing members of the public around the world to join in this historic moment in astronomy.

nap n. a period of time spent sleeping
There wasn’t time for a nap in the last 20 hours.

nasty a. very dirty, foul; disgusting; nauseous
I was frightened when I saw the nasty gash in her arm.

native a. being as origin; as found in nature in the elemental form
In the small town, the native north American sugar maple can be seen everywhere.

neat a. clean or orderly
As she said this, she came upon a neat little house, on the door of which was a bright brass plate.

negative a. adverse; involving disadvantage or harm; pessimistic
I think our countries are very similar in the negative attitudes that people have towards mathematics.

network n. any system of lines or channels crossing like the fabric of a net; complex, interconnected group or system
At USA the network of railroads hasn’t increased in past decades.

nickel n. coin worth one twentieth of a dollar
The United States five-cent coin, commonly called a nickel, is a unit of currency equaling one-twentieth, or five hundredths, of a United States dollar.

nightmare n. dream arousing feelings of intense fear, horror, and distress; event or experience that is intensely distressing
His main nightmare is voluntarily enlisting in the Army again and being sent back to Iraq.

notion n. general or universal conception; belief or opinion
With all her knowledge of history, Alice had no very clear notion how long ago anything had happened.

novel a. previously unknown; strikingly new, unusual, or different; young
Piercing any part of the body other than the earlobes was novel in 1950s, but now it is quite common.

novel n. printed and bound book that is an extended work of fiction
His bookcases were filled with anything but no one novel.

nowhere ad. not anywhere; not in any place or state
She began hunting for them, but they were nowhere to be seen.
nuclear a. of, relating to, or forming a nucleus of an atom; pertaining to, or using nuclear weapons
The resolution states that CPS Energy should invest further in nuclear energy.
nursery n. room for baby; area in a household set apart for the use of children
Anyhow, freedom of movement in a nursery is the reward of learning to walk.
oath n. solemn promise; commitment to tell the truth
Their oath is to do no harm, but they haven’t even spoken about healthcare reform before now.
object v. be averse to or express disapproval of
His lawyers object to the testimony and doubt the qualification of the witness.
option n. act of expressing earnest opposition or protest
Of course the objection wrought my eagerness to a climax: gratified it must be, and that without delay; and I told him so.
objective a. not influenced by emotions; having actual existence or reality
Even though he was her son, she tried to be objective about his behavior.
obligation n. act of binding oneself by a social, legal, or moral tie; written promise to repay a debt
The government has found it particularly hard to meet its benefit and pensions obligation.
objectionable a. causing disapproval or protest; very annoying or objectionable; offensive
I find your behavior objectionable: please mend your ways.
obsess v. be on the watch respecting; pay attention to; notice with care; see; perceive
Sometimes all suspended their by-play to observe and listen to the principal actors.
obsessed a. having or showing excessive or compulsive concern; influenced or controlled by a powerful force
So when people say I’m obsessed, which is a clever way of saying please shut up, I don’t like your facts.
obsession n. compulsive, often unreasonable idea or emotion
This obsession is aimless and brainless and ends with your oblivion in American politics.
obvious a. exposed; easily discovered; plain
It is a stone pillar set up where four roads meet: whitewashed, I suppose, to be more obvious at a distance and in darkness.
occur v. take place; be found to exist; come to one’s mind
Global warming can occur from a variety of causes, both natural and human induced.
odd a. not easily explained; beyond from the usual or expected; not divisible by two
It is odd that his name is never mentioned.
odds n. probability of a specified outcome; likelihood of the occurrence of one thing, as in a contest
Bookmakers have now slashed his odds from 400/1 to 28/1.
offer n. act of presenting; something, such as a suggestion, proposal, bid, or recommendation
If our offer is agreeable to you, please fill in the proper blank space.
opinion n. notion or conviction founded on probable evidence; belief stronger than impression; favorable estimation
You may say what you want to, but in my opinion she had more sand in her than any girl I ever see.
opportunity n. favorable or advantageous circumstance; chance for progress or advancement
Though this was not a very good opportunity for showing off her knowledge, as there was no one to listen to her, still it was good practice to say it over.
opposed a. having an opponent; averse of
Americans remain opposed to closing the Guantanamo Bay prison in Cuba.
opposite n. two words that express opposing concepts; contrariwise; directly facing each other
People out there probably think about Switzerland as a conservative country and I think this shows that we are the opposite.
opportunity n. act of choosing; power or freedom to choose
The Euro made its debut in the financial markets three years ago and it has been an option for any non-cash transaction ever since.
original a. not second hand; not copied or translated from something else
The first problem is who is responsible for the material: the original author, or the Internet service provider?

outfit n. a set of clothing, often with accessories; a set of tools or equipment for a specialized purpose
Every day her outfit is analyzed as if it were fashion week.

outfit n. association of persons, especially a military unit or a business organization
No one has said they carried out the attack, but security officials believe this was a well-planned operation, masterminded by a major terrorist outfit.

outrageous n. of the nature of an outrage; exceeding the limits of right, reason
At least President Obama finally sent an envoy to Europe yesterday to explore joint action to stop outrageous violence against protesters.

owe v. be in debt; be obliged to pay or repay
I owe a lot to my wife and children; I must spend more time with them in future.

own a. belonging to oneself or itself; not foreign; domestic
She was always considering in her own mind and ignoring our suggestions.

pace n. single movement from one foot to the other in walking; slow gait; step
Their interest grew stronger, and their industry kept pace with it.

pad n. soft or small cushion; a kind of cushion for writing upon, or for blotting
The nurse put a clean pad of cotton over his wound.

pair n. two people or things considered as a unit; two items of the same kind; couple
He returned with a pair of white gloves in one hand and a large fan in the other.

palm n. inner surface of the hand between bases of fingers and wrist; tropical evergreen trees of the family Palmae
The coconut palm is a plant of many uses, as seen in this photograph from West Central Mexico.

panel n. a group of people gathered for a special purpose; small board or pad
The Constitutional Court, a senior panel of judges often accused of siding with Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, has voted to annul his third election victory, according to one of the judges.

panic n. sudden mass fear and anxiety
Marty shouted in panic, patting his coat, digging crazily into his pockets.

pants n. trousers; underwear; garment extending from waist to knee or ankle
When we got up-stairs to his room he got me a coarse shirt and pants of his, and I put them on.

parade n. march in a procession; ceremonial procession; visible display
Last year’s fashion parade led to protests from medical associations and women's rights groups, who complained that the participants were unhealthily skinny.

paradise n. garden of Eden; any place of complete delight and peace
They know marriage in paradise is better than on earth.

partner n. person who is a member of a partnership; associate who works with others toward a common goal
She has a live-in partner, is 39 years old, and has three children.

passion n. strong feeling or emotion ; fervor
In a very short time the Queen was in a furious passion, and shouting 'Off with his head!' or 'Off with her head!' about once in a minute.

passport n. legal document identifying the bearer as citizen of a country and allowing to travel abroad
The first thing I put in my bag beside my passport is my iPod because I need sound and music in trip.

patch n. a piece of cloth; small area of ground covered by specific vegetation
I put on my clean flight suit, with rank on my shoulders and name patch on my chest.

paternity n. relation of a father to his child
Families can become guardians to a child, as long as the child’s true paternity is maintained.

pathetic a. causing sadness, compassion, or pity
The old, rather shabby room struck her as extraordinarily pathetic.

patrol n. activity of going on an area at regular intervals for security purposes
In military tactics, a patrol is a small tactical grouping sent out by land, sea or air to perform a specific task.

**peel** v. come off in flakes or thin small pieces; strip the skin off; get undressed

Would you peel me an orange?

**penalty** n. punishment established by law or authority for a crime or offense; fine

For a second offence, the penalty is a guaranteed 30 days in jail, up from 14 days.

**percent** n. out of each hundred; per hundred; one part in a hundred

She has invested a large percent of her salary.

**performance** n. act of performing; dramatic or musical entertainment; process or manner

However, the G14 group also announced a commitment to link pay more closely to performance on the field.

**penalty** v. pleasing, agreeable scent or odor

As British companies withdraw Jade's top-selling perfume from the shelves, it's losing work for people in Mumbai where its bottles are manufactured.

**percent** n. outer boundary length; closed curve bounding a plane area

Find the largest possible width if the perimeter is at most 64 cm.

**period** n. duration, continuance, term; end of something

Death put a period to his endeavors.

**penalty** n. an amount of time

The Clinton campaign has raised more money in the first three months of this year than all nine Democratic candidates combined in the equivalent period for the 2004 election.

**permanent** a. remaining without essential change

The five permanent members of the Security Council will now share the task of making an early assessment of the declaration.

**permit** v. consent to; give permission

Now he made an effort to rest his head on my shoulder, but I would not permit it.

**personal** a. particular to a given individual; concerning or affecting a particular person

I have something personal to tell you, do you have a break?

**perception** a. complex of all the attributes of a person; totality of qualities and traits of a person

The judge said Moura showed a violent personality, unsuited to living in society and that the killing was carried out in a violent and cowardly manner.

**personnel** n. group of people willing to obey orders

The physical security of United Nations personnel may be uppermost in the minds of UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

**perspective** n. appearance of things; view, outlook, or vista

An essential fact that should put the debate in perspective is that Mary was released after less than four months.

**physical** a. trivial; of small importance; very small

She had no major complaints to his work, only a few petty issues that were almost too minor to state.

**phase** n. any distinct time period in a sequence of events; stage

But there's far less consensus on how much the EU might be willing to pay towards reconstruction in a post-war phase, now that it's clear that a conflict will not have United Nations approval.

**philosophy** n. body of highest truth; investigation of nature, causes, or principles of reality, knowledge, or values, based on logical reasoning

He holds a master's degree in philosophy from the University of Virginia and served as press secretary for Kucinich for President in 2004.

**physician** n. person skilled in physic, or the art of healing; one duty authorized to treat diseases; doctor of medicine

The physician asked his clinic to buy a new X-ray machine.

**pick** v. remove something with the fingers, or with the teeth; separate as choice or desirable

Sure, I will go to airport to pick up your friends.

**picnic** v. eat in the open air; have informal meal eaten outside or on an excursion

We will picnic near the lake on this gorgeous Sunday.
pier n. landing place; platform built out from shore into water and supported by piles; provides access to ships
The land in front of the pier is almost dry and you could easily drive a couple of trucks there.

pierce v. penetrate; make a hole into
Did the needle pierce her flesh?

pillow n. a cushion to support the head of a sleeping person
For herself, she did nothing but caper about in the front chambers, jump on and off the bedsteads, and lie on the mattresses and piled-up bolsters and pillow before the enormous fires roaring in the chimneys.

pilot n. one who guides a course of action for others; one who operates or is licensed to operate an aircraft in flight
I'm the captain, the pilot, and watchman; and sometimes I'm the freight and passengers.

pin n. a piece of wood, metal, generally cylindrical, used for fastening separate articles together
Then they all stuck a pin in their fingers to get blood to sign with, and I made my mark on the paper.

pine v. have desire for something or someone; yearn; grieve or mourn for
Though she tried to be happy living with Clara in the city, Heidi used to pine for the mountains and for her gruff but loving grandfather.

pit v. confront; set into opposition or rivalry
You have to pit a chess player against the Russian champion.

pitch n. action or manner of throwing something
His pitch fell short and his hat landed on the floor.

pitch v. set firmly; throw, usually with careful aim; discard by throwing
She will pitch her speech to the teenagers in the audience.

plague n. epidemic disease with a high death rate; annoyance
This research tells us the ravages of the plague that swept through Europe in the mid 14th century.

plea n. request for help; excuse or pretext
He did not attend the dinner; his plea was that he was too busy to come.

plead v. appeal or request earnestly; enter a plea; offer as an excuse
Now, she may file for divorce, and all she must plead is that the marriage has broken down.

pledge n. promise solemnly and formally; binding commitment to do something
The world leaders celebrated the year 2000 with a solemn pledge to reduce poverty and hunger by 2015.

plot n. small extent of ground; secret scheme or strategy
My father and my brother Rowland knew all this; but they thought only of the thirty thousand pounds, and joined in the plot against me.

plug n. something, such as a cork or a wad of cloth, used to fill a hole tightly; stopper
She pulled the plug out of the bathtub and the dirty water ran away.

plus a. involving advantage or good; on the positive side or higher end of a scale
This company controls main gas resource plus many of the pipelines that supply it to Europe.

pole n. a long rod; one of two divergent or mutually exclusive opinions
But the Clinton stash keeps her in pole position in the race to secure the party nomination in a year's time.

policy n. settled method of government to administer; system of public or official administration
His overall Latin American policy is just as troubling so no country welcomes his visiting until now.

polish v. remove flaws from; perfect or complete
These boys polish their piano techniques for years.

porch n. covered and enclosed entrance to building; covered passage
Coffee Gallery's screened in porch is a perfect place to cool off, relax, and talk for a while.

port n. place on waterway with facilities for loading and unloading ships
The people would be docked in the port from a cruise ship.

pose v. pretend to be someone you are not; assume a posture as for artistic purposes
We don’t know the woman who pose for Leonardo so often.

positive a. involving advantage or good; greater than zero; very sure; confident
An executive involved in the meetings told that Mrs. Bush plans to write a positive book with a minimum of criticism.

**possession n.** act of having and controlling property; belongings
She will also retain possession of her father's home, and many of his personal effects.

**poster n.** sign posted in public place as an advertisement
The women's group running the poster campaign says that's because Turkey is still a very patriarchal society, a place where politics is seen as man's work.

**postpone v.** hold back to a later time; delay; defer
Malaysians planning to travel to Pakistan have been advised to postpone their visit.

**potential a.** existing in possibility; expected to become or be
The volume of unconventional gas isn't significant on a U. K. wide scale, supplying enough electricity for only 1,200 homes, but the potential is there, analysts say.

**pour v.** flow in a spurt; rain heavily; supply in large amounts
We pour money into the education of our children.

**practical a.** based on experience; useful
He was a practical man, opposed to theory.

**practically ad.** virtually; actually; for all practical purpose
Eight years and billions of dollars later, we learned that the North Koreans were breaking their word practically from day one.

**precious a.** of high worth or cost
It also means that parents place huge amounts of pressure on their precious only child to succeed in China.

**preliminary a.** prior to or preparing for the main matter; introductory
According to preliminary, unofficial figures, a large majority, some 84 percent, voted in favor.

**prescription n.** written instructions from doctor; written order; act of establishing official rules, laws, or directions
It won't detect prescription drugs or medication such as cold or flu tablets.

**presence n.** state of being present; current existence
Your presence is a gift, your being with us a joy.

**present n.** being in existence; something presented as a gift; period of time that is happening now
We allow so much suffering in the present, because we want to leave a beautiful world for our children.

**presentation n.** show or display; act of presenting something to sight or view
The professor decided to gave a presentation on drug abuse in public.

**presume v.** take for granted as true in absence of proof; venture without authority
We are asked to presume that she is innocent.

**previous a.** existing or occurring before something else
That brings the total number of storms to 26, roundly beating the previous record of 21, set 70 years ago.

**primary a.** of first rank or importance or value; essential or basic
Many ordinary Iraqis appreciated that the primary UN role was humanitarian.

**prime a.** first in excellence, quality, or value; at the best stage; peak; first in degree or rank; chief
Jordan tonight announced that his group arrested the prime suspect in last week's rocket attack.

**principal a.** highest in rank, authority, character, importance, or degree
Lots of the principal people gathered around the king, to let him see they was on his side.

**principle n.** basic truth or law or assumption; rule or law of nature; rule of personal conduct
This decision was based on principle rather than expediency.

**prior a.** preceding in the order of time; former; previous
All the arrangements should have been completed prior to our departure.

**priority n.** preceding in time, importance, or urgency
The company says its number one priority is restoring profits, not gaining market share at any price.

**privacy n.** quality of being secluded from view of others; condition of being hidden
The best way to avoid a possible break down in privacy is to prohibit any employee from connecting with Internet.

**privilege n.** special advantage or benefit not enjoyed by all; right reserved exclusively
David Beckham said it had been an honour and a **privilege** to have captained England.

**probation** n. act of proving; trial period  
He was basically on **probation** from the moment he took over the chairmanship.

**procedure** n. act or manner of moving forward; act performed; steps taken in an action  
What's the **procedure** for opening a bank account?

**proceed** n. follow a certain course; move ahead; travel onward  
'The trial cannot **proceed,'** said the King in a very grave voice, 'until all the jurymen are back in their proper places.'

**process** n. act of proceeding; continued forward movement; a series of actions  
In short, I began the **process** of ruining myself in the received style, like any other spoony.

**professional** a. engaged in, or suitable for a profession  
Medical workers on trial face criminal charges that range from **professional** recklessness to illegal sale of donor blood.

**profile** n. outline; biographical sketch  
On Wednesday morning, a higher **profile** US army presence was on the streets outside the hotels where most foreigners stay.

**profit** n. advantageous gain or return; income received from investments or property  
As long as the **profit** is there, prices will never go down, they will just go to: higher salaries and bigger bonuses.

**project** n. any piece of work that is undertaken or attempted; program; plan; scheme  
The **project** is run by the top-secret Phantom Works in Seattle, the part of the company which handles Boeing's most sensitive programmes.

**promise** n. declaration assuring that one will or will not do something; indication of something favorable to come  
Unfortunately, this long-term **promise** is bumping up against short-term reality.

**promising** a. likely to develop in a desirable manner; affording hope  
President Bush today applauded a **promising** sign of progress by Iraq's leaders.

**property** n. any tangible or intangible possession that is owned by someone  
US officials fear that the treaty might undermine the commercial protection afforded to gene tech companies through the World Trade Organisation deal on intellectual **property** rights.

**propose** v. make a proposal, declare a plan for something  
Eshton, observing me, seemed to **propose** that I should be asked to join them; but Lady Ingram instantly negatived the notion.

**proposition** n. plan suggested for acceptance; a matter to be dealt with; subject for discussion or analysis  
Finding affordable housing can be a difficult **proposition** in many large cities.

**protest** n. expression of disagreement and disapproval; complain against  
Many believe last night's **protest** is the first of many demonstrations to commemorate the riots in July 1999.

**protocol** n. code of correct conduct ; rules governing socially acceptable behavior; record of transaction  
When it comes to weddings, the **protocol** is actual similar to other churches.

**pry** v. move or force to get something open; make an uninvited inquiry  
Couldn't find any keys, they tried to use an iron bar to **pry** the lock.

**psychology** n. science that deals with mental processes and behavior  
One of the things we always focus on in **psychology** is that you have to separate the behavior from the person.

**publicity** n. state of being public; information to attract public notice  
No one would be interested so the **publicity** is the only way to build a base of buyers.

**pull** v. steer or move into a certain direction; take away; remove from a fixed position; extract  
This company will **pull** the old soup cans from its supermarket shelf.

**pump** v. draw fluid or gas by pressure or suction; supply in great quantities  
"No one could be comfortable,” he said, "at the prospect of continuing to **pump** out the large amounts of carbon dioxide.

**purchase** n. act or an instance of buying; something bought
Rules can differ depending whether the purchase is a residence or an investment.

**pursue v.** follow in; go in search of or hunt for
They will bring together 165 researchers from 19 countries to pursue a range of innovative strategies.

**pursuit n.** follow after; follow with a view to obtain; endeavor to attain
He exercises everyday in pursuit of health.

**puzzle n.** difficult question or problem
I noticed that she was working on the crossword puzzle from the Post when we first got there.

**quest n.** act of searching for something
The majority of the searchers had given up the quest and gone back to their daily avocations, saying that it was plain the children could never be found.

**quote v.** cite or repeat a passage from; repeat or copy the words of another
He said he could quote several instances of this behavior.

**quote v.** name the price of; state a price for securities, goods, or services
The two dealers finally quote prices for this car today.

**rack n.** framework for holding objects
The newspapers were arranged on a rack.

**radar n.** measuring instrument to detect distant objects by microwave
This enables a radar to detect objects at ranges where other emissions, such as sound or visible light, would be too weak to detect.

**rage n.** something that is desired intensely; state of extreme anger
The sea hurled itself in thundering rage against the rocks.

**raid n.** search without warning; surprise attack by a small armed force
Mr. Lebedev is referring to a raid last year on his father's bank, National Reserve Bank in Moscow, by masked Russian police.

**rally v.** call up or summon; call together for a common purpose
Washington quickly decided to rally his troops to fight off the British attack.

**random a.** without definite purpose, plan, or aim; having no specific pattern
He used to get super drunk in random places; I don't know where he is now.

**range n.** limits within which something can be effective; variety of different things or activities
Medical workers on trial face criminal charges that range from professional recklessness to corruption, to illegal sale of donor blood.

**rarely ad.** not often; in an unusual degree; exceptionally
Kazakhstan, a vast territory, broke away from the former Soviet Union only ten years ago and is rarely in the international limelight.

**rational a.** consistent with; based on; using reason
One strong proof of my wretchedly defective nature is, that even her expostulations, so mild, so rational, have not influence to cure me of my faults.

**raw a.** in the natural unprocessed condition; cruel and unfair; uncooked; untrained and inexperienced
I apologize that the set is in raw form, without labels and any documents.

**react v.** act against or in opposition to; show a response or a reaction
They react negatively to everything I say, because they don't trust me.

**realm n.** kingdom; domain ruled by a king or queen
In the animal realm, the lion is the king of beasts.

**rear n.** side of an object that is opposite its front; hind part; point or area farthest from the front
His room was toward the rear of the hotel.

**reasonable a.** showing reason or sound judgment; capable of reasoning; rational; being within bounds of common sense
They will arrive the hall at a reasonable time, not too early.

**recall v.** remember; call back; cause to be returned
This part of the brain doesn't develop fully until about the age of four, which could explain why memories of early childhood are difficult to recall.

**receipt n.** act of receiving; acknowledgment of goods delivered or money paid
Please send me a receipt for the money.

**reception n.** act of receiving; manner in which something is greeted

She did not expect the cold reception she received from her superiors.

**recipe n.** medical prescription; a set of directions for making or preparing something, especially food

This cornmeal muffin recipe is extremely simple.

**reckless a.** headstrong; rash; indifferent to or disregardful of consequences

This time, the killer appeared to have been much more reckless about being seen.

**reckon v.** compute; take account of; have faith or confidence in

Well-a-well, man that is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble, as the Scripture says, and I reckon it’s so.

**recommendation n.** making attractive or acceptable; pushing for something

The taskforce’s main recommendation is to reduce Government operating spending to 29 per cent of gross domestic product by 2012.

**recover v.** get or find back; regain a former condition

He is very ill and unlikely to recover in this month.

**reference n.** act of referring or consulting; remark that calls attention to something or someone

Her speeches have special reference to environmental policy.

**regarding ad.** with respect to; by concerning

His suggestion regarding business would hint that he isn’t a supporter of small business.

**regardless a.** without consideration; in spite of everything; anyway

And the aspiring singer will be signed to the label regardless of where she finishes in the competition.

**register v.** give outward signs of; express; record in writing; enroll as a student

New students will have to register is tomorrow before getting their books.

**reject v.** turn down; refuse to accept; dismiss from consideration

He would reject the idea of starting a war.

**relax v.** make less severe or strict; become less tense

Our new colleague should relax if he sees that we are a friendly group.

**release v.** give off; liberate; grant freedom to; make something available

He wanted to release the list with the names of the prisoners before Monday.

**reliable a.** worthy of being depended on; trustworthy

In lawless states like Somalia, which lack a strong central government, they’re trying to find reliable proxy forces.

**relief n.** easing of burden or distress, such as pain or anxiety; release from post or duty; pleasant or amusing change

As he heard the news he was suddenly flooded with relief.

**rely v.** rest with confidence; have confidence; depend

I rely implicitly on His power, and confide wholly in His goodness.

**remarkable a.** worthy of notice; extraordinary

I recognized his decisive nose, more remarkable for character than beauty.

**remind v.** recall knowledge from memory; have a recollection

I would remind you of your lady’s existence, sir, which the law recognizes, if you do not.

**remove v.** move away from the position occupied; cause to change place; take away

The leaving of her mother will remove the last obstacle to their marriage.

**represent v.** stand for; describe or present; play a role or part

Senator John McCain said he was disappointed, but added that the rule changes do represent significant progress.

**reputation n.** state of being held in high esteem; general estimation in which a person is held by the public

We have long been aware that our reputation is affected by our day-to-day dealings and negotiations with all of our society.

**request v.** express the need or desire for; ask for

I request that she inputs the entire manuscript in 2 days.
require v. insist upon having; request and expect
We require our secretary to be on time, otherwise we have to cancel the event.

rescue n. free from harm or evil; take from legal custody by force
Whale and dolphin rescue is an international issue.

research v. inquire into; attempt to find out in scientific manner
The students who research the history of English are all in this group.

resent v. feel bitter; consider as injury or affront; be in angry
What people resent is that CEOs are earning many hundreds of times more than the average employee.

reserve n. lack of enthusiasm; skeptical caution; something saved for future use; self-restraint in expression
The bank had put $3.9 billion in reserve to cover such costs.

residence n. official house; large house; act of dwelling in a place
Crowds of fans gathered outside the Bachchan residence in suburban Mumbai as news of the engagement spread.

resolve n. determination; formal expression by a meeting; agreed to by a vote
Civic leaders say their resolve is as strong as it was when they rebuilt downtown.

resort n. vacation spot; act of turning to for assistance
“We lied in the morning, we lied in the evening and we lied at night”, he made a speech in the resort town.

respond v. show a reaction to something favorably or as hoped
Doctors hope his cancer to respond to the aggressive therapy.

restore v. give or bring back; return to its original condition
He told BBC News that they will restore it using 200-year-old techniques and all their old tools.

resume v. give a summary; return to a previous location or condition
The performers need a sufficient interval to resume their ordinary costume, before they re-entered the dining-room.

retreat n. receding; pull back or move away or backward; withdrawal of troops to a more favorable position
Everywhere that freedom takes hold, and terror will retreat.

reveal v. make known; disclose or show
"The secret of your birth! Do you mean to say - " "Gentlemen," says the young man, very solemn. "I will reveal it to you, for I feel I may have confidence in you."

revenge v. do punishment in return for injury or insult; avenge
The knight swore he would revenge his father's death.

reverse v. overturn; turn inside out or upside down; turning in the opposite direction
The Commission has now launched a high-level diplomatic offensive to reverse the ban.

review n. summary of a longer discussion; formal examination; practice to refresh memory
This review only came about after some environmental groups sued the government to take action.

reward n. satisfying return or result; profit, return for performance of a desired behavior; positive reinforcement.
When an officer risks his own life in protecting the public, he has no time to think his reward.

ribbon n. fillet or narrow woven fabric, commonly of silk; narrow strip of fine material used for trimming
Her hair was tied back with a black ribbon.

ridge n. long, narrow upper section or crest; chain of hills or mountains
Here's the study's technical explanation of why the location of the western ridge is so important for determining regional rainfall.

ridiculous a. completely lacking of wisdom or good sense
'Yes, but I grow at a reasonable pace,' said the Dormouse: 'not in that ridiculous fashion.'

rig v. manipulate dishonestly; make or construct in haste
The boss was able to rig the election by bribing people to stuff the ballot boxes with ballots marked in his candidate's favor.

righteous a. morally justified; equitable; free from wrong, guilt, or sin
Noah was a righteous man, the one blameless man of his time; he walked with God.

riot n. state of disorder involving group violence; rebellion
She said her main fear was that she would become the focus for a riot once people knew that she was in the prison.

rip v. tear or be torn violently; criticize or abuse strongly and violently
The candidates rip into their opponents each other mercilessly.

rise v. move from a lower position to a higher; mount up; move upward; reach a higher level
We hear the sound of their voices rise and fall according to the music.

ritual n. procedure for religious ceremonies; any customary practice
The Catholic wedding will follow the next day with a final ritual.

roast v. cook with dry heat, usually in an oven; subject to laughter or ridicule
His former students roast the professor at his 60th birthday.

role n. normal activity of a person in particular social setting; part played by a performer
Amrozi naively admitted his role in the attack, they said, but the law needs more than confessions, it needs evidence.

rot v. become decomposed by a natural process; perish slowly; become corrupt
The meat will rot if it isn't kept cool.

rough a. not perfected; having or caused by an irregular surface
The company offered a rough outline of how a deal could be structured in Matthews.

round ad. by moving in or forming a circle; from beginning to end; throughout; to a specific place or person
There were doors all round the hall, but they were all locked.

route n. way for travel or transportation
The pipeline would cross on route from Iran, earning the Pakistani government millions of dollars in transit fees.

routine n. unvarying or habitual method of procedure; occurring at fixed times or predictable intervals
I believe she was happy in her way: this routine sufficed for her.

rub v. move over the surface with pressure and friction; spread a substance thinly over
They rub an old tin lamp or an iron ring.

rule n. governing direction for a specific purpose; regulation; systematic method
She was doubtful whether to lie down on her face, she couldn't remember ever having heard of such a rule.

sabotage v. destroy property or hinder normal operations
The Resistance used to sabotage railroad operations during the war.

sack n. bag made of paper or plastic for holding customer's purchases; enclosed space
There was a fifty-pound sack of corn meal, and a side of bacon, ammunition, and a four-gallon jug of whisky, and an old book and two newspapers for wadding, besides some tow.

sacred a. concerned with religion; worthy of respect or dedication
The cleric remains in a strong position, with Shia Islam's holiest site under the rule of his militia and US-led forces reluctant to cause any damage to the sacred city.

sacrifice n. offering of something to god; victim offered to god; surrender or loss of profit for higher object
Without that struggle, his sacrifice is a meaningless loss or gesture.

sake n. purpose; reason for wanting something done
I could dare it for the sake of any friend who deserved my adherence; as you, I am sure, do.

sauce n. stewed fruit served with other foods; appetizing ingredients for meat, fish or puddings
Since the sauce is a bit watery, it always benefits from letting the pasta sit in it for five minutes before serving.

scale v. climb up or over; alter according to a standard; estimate or measure; remove in layers
We scale the model to be one tenth of actual size.

scan v. make a wide, sweeping search of; examine
He was taken back into the operating theatre after a brain scan revealed a rise in pressure inside his cranium and more bleeding.
scandal n. publicized incident that brings about disgrace; damage to reputation by disclosure of improper behavior
The President is at the center of a recent scandal over revelation about his financial interests.

scar n. mark of damage; mark left on the skin after injury
Clayton remains convinced this scar is due to an experimental operation to collect his DNA.

scenario n. screenplay; outline or model of an expected sequence of events
The scenario is the same throughout the West countries, all of whose governments are responding to the collapse in similar ways.

scent n. distinctive odor that is pleasant; fragrance; perfume
How fragrant was the steam of the beverage, and the scent of the toast?

schedule n. plan for an activity or event; arrange
Now, after the failure of Cancun, there's a much bigger question mark over concluding the new deal on schedule.

scheme n. elaborate and systematic plan of action; chart or outline of a system or object
As well as the baby bonus scheme, Prime Minister says his government is to encourage more immigration as a way of bringing in more talent.

scholarship n. knowledge resulting from study and research; grant of financial aid awarded to student
Bearing in mind that the scholarship is a private one, which is specifically named after Mr. Sitole.

scissors n. edge tool having two crossed pivoting blades
Most types of scissors are not particularly sharp; it is primarily the shearing between the two blades which cuts.

scoop n. vessel with a long handle, used for dipping liquids; deep shovel for digging out and dipping; spoon-shaped instrument
Handy lift-and-drain scoop is better than messy baskets.

score n. act of getting point in a game or sport; facts about an actual situation
Also, you guys talking about how much you despised the score is also quite good.

scout v. find paths through unexplored territory
He joined our team and planned to scout that area we never touched.

scratch v. cut the surface of; cause friction
"Hey, Huck!—you hear that?" Huck began to dig and scratch now.

screw n. cause to penetrate with a circular motion; fastener with shank and slotted head
He was held in his precarious position by ice screw and rope.

script v. prepare text for filming or broadcasting
The playwright agreed to script the movie in three months.

scroll n. a roll of paper; a writing formed into a roll; schedule or list; mark added to signature, intended to represent a seal
Near the King was the White Rabbit, with a trumpet in one hand, and a scroll of parchment in the other.

scum n. impure matter that forms on or rises to the surface of a liquid or body of water; worthless people
When scum is thick and compact, remove with a slotted spoon.

seal n. middle size aquatic mammal; stamp used for authentication or security
Because the seal on this bottle is broken, we have to discard it for security reason.

section n. one of several parts; pieces that fit with others to constitute a whole object
The mob ran out of control along a 5 kilometer section of the main highway to Delhi, smashing fences, looting food and beating up shopkeepers.

sector n. particular aspect of life or activity; body of people who form part of society or economy
He was helpless in an important sector of his life.

secure v. free from fear, care, or anxiety; not have reason to doubt
The troops secure the area before the civilians are allowed to return.

seek v. make an effort to; try to get; try to discover
I always seek to do good in the world.

sense n. faculty through which to know external world; feeling produced by stimulus
We are interdependent, therefore, we have no other choice than to develop a sense of universal responsibility.

sensitive adj. able to feel; responsive to external conditions; susceptible to attitudes of others

Making this situation extra sensitive is the fact that while benchmark interest rates have continued to rise over the course of the week.

series n. a number of things or events standing or succeeding in order; sequence

There are a series of books for dogs: I just read one regarding to my puppy.

session n. meeting devoted to a particular activity; time for school to hold classes

It was the opening session of the legislature.

setting n. context and environment in which something is set

Just how much the times have changed could be seen from the setting of this concert.

settle v. take up residence; form a community; come to rest; bring to an end; fix firmly

The moment Alice appeared, she was appealed to by all three to settle the question, and they repeated their arguments to her.

severe adj. serious in feeling or manner; not light, lively, or cheerful

No severe or prolonged bodily illness followed this incident; it only gave my nerves a shock of which I feel the reverberation to this day.

sewer n. waste pipe that carries away sewage or surface water; someone who sews

A sewer is an artificial pipe or system used to remove human liquid waste and to provide drainage.

shallow adj. lacking physical depth; not deep or strong

People dig or pan for gold or diamonds, risking their lives in shallow mines which frequently collapse.

shave n. act of removing hair with a razor; thin slice or scraping

He had a shave and a bath before leaving.

shave v. touch the surface of lightly; remove the beard or other body hair from

His back can shave the counter in passing.

shed v. get rid of; cast off; cause to pour forth

In the three decades after 1945, Britain shed virtually all of the colonies that had taken centuries to acquire.

sheet n. bed linen consisting of a large rectangular piece; any broad thin surface

Under this sheet is the head of one of the most recent victims of Mexico's drug wars.

shelter n. structure that provides privacy and protection from danger

I undressed hastily, and sought shelter from cold and darkness in my crib.

shepherd n. a herder of sheep; someone who keeps the sheep together in a flock

I should have been a careless shepherd if I had left a lamb so near a wolf's den.

shield n. protective covering or structure; protect; guard

Mr. Putin poured scorn on the plans to build a new missile shield in Eastern Europe.

shift n. moving from one setting or context to another; moving very slightly

Twenty-one developing nations have come together to say, that they believe the meeting will be doomed unless there's a radical shift by the rich nations.

shock n. unpleasant or disappointing surprise; surprise greatly; effect of such a collision or blow

The shot of the girl standing in shock is one of the most disturbing scenes you'll witness.

short adj. not long; unwilling to endure; inadequate or insufficient; most direct; lasting a brief time

She was short with the slower students.

shower n. one who shows or exhibits; brief fall of precipitation, such as rain, hail; bath in which the water is sprayed

What they call a storm here is just a rain shower with some thunder.

shrink v. become smaller or draw together; compress

She waited for a few minutes to see if she was going to shrink any further.

sign n. public display of message; visible mark or indication

When I was a little girl, I heard that to dream of children was a sure sign of trouble, either to one's self or one's kin.

signal n. a sign made for the purpose of giving notice to a person

He awaited the signal to start.

signature n. name written in own handwriting
All the bill needs to come into effect is the signature of President George Bush.

significant a. fairly large; important in effect or meaning
This kind of planning presents the government with a significant problem.

similar a. nearly corresponding; somewhat like; having a general likeness
In return, it wants the US to make similar moves, as to cut tariffs and increase quotas for EU goods.

sincere a. open and genuine; not deceitful; pure; unmixed
He was a good man, decent and sincere.

single a. one only; consisting of one alone; alone; having no companion
"No, Jim, you couldn't understand any word they said - not a single word."

sink v. fall by, force of gravity; descend lower; decline gradually; enter deeply
They both sat silent and looked at poor Alice, who felt ready to sink into the earth.

site n. physical position in relation to the surroundings; position; location
When someone asks me where to look for help, your site is always on the list - so thanks.

sketch v. draw or describe briefly; give the main points; summary of
I offered to sketch their portraits; and each, in turn, sat for a pencil outline.

skip v. jump lightly; hop; bypass
It appears that Serbia and Montenegro's withdrawal will allow their old enemy, Croatia, to skip qualification and go straight to the final.

slack n. area of still water; lack of tension; cord, rope, or cable that is hanging loosely; unused capacity; casual trousers
His eyes were dark and blank, his expression slack.

slam v. shut with force and a loud noise; strike with force
Please don't slam the door; children are reading inside.

slap n. sharp blow from a flat object as an open hand; smack; sharp insult
His decision was a slap in the face to those who had tried to change his mind.

slide v. slip; move usually in an uncontrolled manner; move smoothly along a surface
We slide until the bottom of the hill.

slight n. almost no; very little; deliberate discourtesy
"Countries like France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Ukraine, and the UK were all essentially flat or even in slight decline," Telegeography says.

slim a. small in quantity; being of delicate or slender build
I remember her as a slim young woman, with black hair, dark eyes, very nice features, and good, clear complexion.

slip v. move smoothly and easily; move out of position; move stealthily
The ship tried to slip away in the darkness.

smart a. clever; intelligent; showing mental alertness and calculation
In an age of smart missiles and precision-guided weaponry President Bush is going to have to rely upon good old-fashioned charm if he is to win over America's sceptical NATO allies.

smooth v. free from obstructions; make surface shine
They decided to smooth the way towards peace negotiations.

snack v. eat light informal meal; eat lightly
I never lose weight because I snack between meals.

snap v. make a sharp sound; break suddenly as under tension; utter in angry or sharp tone
The sales clerk did not snap a reply at any angry customers.

sober a. not extreme; marked by seriousness or gravity; not affected by use of drugs; self-restraint
They agree that half the fun of being sober is watching how really stupid their drunk friends behave.

sole n. bottom; underside of foot or shoe or boot; bottom surface of a plow
The back of the sole is attached to the shoe by a semi-circle of nails driven from the outside.

solo a. composed or performed by a single voice or instrument; unaccompanied; single
After a long and anxious night waiting for just the right conditions for launch, Steve Fossett and his ground crew decided to go ahead with his latest attempt at a solo circumnavigation.

solution n. method for solving a problem; successful action of solving a problem
Their **solution** to crippling financial problems has been to merge with one another in an attempt to get bigger and hopefully stronger.

**somehow** **ad.** in one way or another; in some way not yet known; by some means

The thing must be done **somehow** today, no matter what method you choose.

**somewhat** **ad.** to some extent or degree; rather; a bit; slightly

There is a Caribbean feel to the song and that type of energy and enthusiasm to the song that makes it **somewhat** mystifying.

**sophisticated** **a.** wide-ranging knowledge; complex; intellectually appealing

We could have secured our homeland -- investing in **sophisticated** new protection for our ports, our trains and our power plants.

**sore** **n.** skin infection; hurting; inflamed and painful; source of pain, distress, or irritation

I already had a bleeding **sore** from the pole so when we stopped and I was allowed to sit down.

**sort** **n.** kind or species; a class of;

And here Alice began to get rather sleepy, and went on saying to herself, in a dreamy **sort** of way.

**sound** **n.** sensation perceived by the ear; distinctive noise; long narrow inlet

The **sound** of TV is so loud that we have to talk in next room.

**sour** **a.** taste experience when vinegar or lemon juice; showing ill humor

The incident now appears to be closed but it has left a **sour** taste among senior Italian diplomats responsible for relations with the Arab world.

**source** **n.** point of origin, such as spring, of stream or river; one that causes, creates, or initiates

Walters was not expecting an application from this **source** for the next ten years.

**spare** **v.** give up what is not strictly needed; hold back from; withhold or avoid; save or relieve from action

The terms of their new mandate were hard for Iraq to accept, but it had no choice to **spare** the country war.

**spare** **a.** just sufficient; kept in reserve; extra; free for other use

You can keep a **spare** rechargeable battery; if you are out and can't recharge, it will let you work double hours.

**species** **n.** a specific kind of something

I walked fast till I got warm, and then I walked slowly to enjoy and analyse the **species** of pleasure brooding for me in the hour and situation.

**specific** **a.** stated explicitly or in detail; definite

FBI officials stressed that they were aware of no **specific** plot to attack any other aircraft.

**spectacular** **a.** impressive or sensational; lavishly produced performance; grand

Although the continent has been the worst affected by AIDS, it also boasts some of the world's most **spectacular** success stories.

**spill** **v.** pour; sudden drop from an upright position; flow or run out

He made the former employee to **spill** all details of project.

**spin** **v.** turn round rapidly; move round rapidly; move swiftly

We laid there all day, and watched the rafts and steamboats **spin** down the Missouri shore.

**spiritual** **a.** not tangible or material; belonging to religion; sacred; supernatural

As the **spiritual** is the home of wonders, so also is it the field of brightest exploits.

**spit** **v.** expel or eject from the mouth; rain gently

It's rude to **spit** in public except soccer players.

**splendid** **a.** shining; very bright; magnificent; brilliant

Pretty soon a **splendid** young man come down the road, setting his horse easy and looking like a soldier.

**split** **v.** break apart; cut; devide

They **split** up after a year of marriage.

**spoil** **v.** go bad; rot; decay; become unfit for consumption or use

I couldn't **somehow** bear to **spoil** this party, that Russell prepared for 3 weeks.

**spontaneous** **a.** arising without external cause; growing without cultivation or human labor

The children's inherent love of learning is encouraged by giving them opportunities to engage in **spontaneous**, meaningful activities under the guidance of a trained adult.

**spray** **n.** a quantity of small objects flying through air
Telescopes across the world, and in Earth orbit, will be watching the giant spray of debris thrown out by the impact.

**spring v.** develop suddenly; jump; move forward by leaps and bounds

New businesses would spring up rapidly in this area.

**square v.** be compatible with; cause to match; cut to rectangular shape; bring into agreement or balance; settle

She could not square the request with her principles.

**squeeze v.** force something into or through a restricted space; compress with violence

It uses its market power to squeeze the incomes of farmers and other suppliers.

**stable a.** not easily moved or disturbed

Keeping insulin stable is important all day long, so avoiding all sugar and anything that breaks down quickly into glucose in the body is the goal.

**staff n.** personnel who assist superior to carry out assigned task

The information is intended to help big firms set salaries and other benefits for staff working away from their home country.

**stake n.** money risked on gamble; pole set up to mark something; right or legal share of something

The corner of the lot was indicated by a stake.

**stall n.** small area set off by walls for special use; booth

They usually buy food from a market stall.

**standard n.** criteria; basis for comparison

And this will bring us to a final standard product of the human genome fully and publicly available for all to use for biomedical research.

**standing a.** high reputation; esteem; maintaining an erect position

At the end they received the leader who was a person of standing in the community.

**statue n.** sculpture representing a human or animal

A garden statue of Buddha was in a light finish approximately 110 cm high and 54 cm by 50 cm wide.

**status n.** position relative to others; standing

He never troubled himself about his status.

**steady a.** securely in position; not shaky; not easily excited

She took a new needle, waxed it carefully, threaded her needle with a steady hand.

**steak n.** slice of meat, typically beef, usually cut thick

Vegetables are not normally served with steak in this manner, but a green salad may follow.

**stick v.** fasten into place by fixing an end; be a follower or supporter

Please stick the corner of the sheet under the mattress.

**stiff a.** not moving or operating freely; lacking ease in bending; resistant

No one doubts, though, the competition will remain stiff indeed.

**sting v.** pierce painfully with sharp pointed structure or organ; cause to suffer keenly in the mind or feelings

Those harsh words sting me bitterly.

**stock n.** certificate for shareholder of corporation; total amount of goods in a shop

The value of corporation stock doubled during the past year.

**strain n.** group of organisms within a species; tension; pressure

The strain of flu is known as H2N2 and if caught by one person, could spread very easily to cause a global pandemic.

**strategy n.** elaborate and systematic plan; plan of action intended to accomplish a specific goal

The centre will carry out research and develop a strategy to fight the spread of the disease.

**stress n.** put special emphasis on; utter with an accent; state of extreme difficulty, pressure, or strain

He presided over the economy during the period of its greatest stress and danger.

**stretch v.** extend; pull in opposite directions; lie down comfortably

They've already undergone surgery to stretch their skin.

**string n.** lightweight cord; a collection of objects threaded on a single strand; plant fiber

If the string is shortened in certain numeric proportions, other sounds will be produced.
strip v. remove the surface from
They *strip* the clothes from a man's back.

stroke n. blow; light touch; sudden loss of consciousness for brain blood vessel lacking oxygen
The doctors need to preserve and re-route those veins or both twins risk suffering a *stroke*.

structure n. complex construction or entity; complex composition of knowledge
Sociologists have studied the changing *structure* of the family.

stubborn a. unreasonably, often perversely unyielding; persistent; difficult to treat
The buses that failed to run were those that were temporarily stuck in *stubborn*, icy patches.

studio n. workplace for the teaching or practice of an art
The Disney corporation in the United States has announced that it's buying Pixar film *studio* for more than seven-billion dollars.

stuff n. unspecified objects; tangible substance
Wheat is the *stuff* they use to make bread.

style n. particular kind; a way of expressing something
All the reporters were expected to adopt the *style* of this newspaper.

subject n. something to be treated; course or area of study
"I won’t indeed!" said Alice, in a great hurry to change the *subject* of conversation. "Are you fond of dogs?"

substitute v. exchange; put in the place of another
Low and middle income countries are suffering from the condition, as they substitute fiber intake for a much higher consumption of saturated fats and sugar.

subtle a. slight; be difficult to detect or grasp by the mind
His whole attitude had undergone a *subtle* change.

suck v. draw liquid into mouth; take in; draw something by vacuum
He should *suck* the poison from the place where the snake bit.

suitcase n. portable rectangular traveling bag for carrying clothes
Most major airlines have recently begun enforcing *suitcase* size and weight policies, which have been on the books for years but seldom applied.

suite n. apartment consisting of a series of connected rooms; a matching set of furniture
Now you can have a full-featured office productivity *suite* that's compatible with Microsoft Office at just a slice of the cost.

summit n. utmost height; highest point of a mountain
I'm not totally convinced that the government or any certain *summit* is going to provide that, frankly.

superior a. greater rank or station or quality; excellent
The army was defeated by *superior* numbers of enemy troops.

supposedly ad. seemingly; believed or reputed to be the case
That sort of private payment, and the two-tiered medicine it implies, is becoming common in *supposedly* universal systems.

supreme a. most outstanding; highest; superior
Last Sunday the *supreme* leader Ayatollah Khamenei asked young people to remain calm in the run up to July the 9th.

surgeon n. one who performs manual operations on a patient
A brain *surgeon* practicing every day may do a faster and better job than someone who does brain surgery once every few years.

surgery n. medical treatment that involves cutting open a person's body
Doctors not involved with his treatment have told the BBC that *surgery* is not particularly effective for patients in Sharon's condition.

surrender v. hand over, give up, give something into another's control
But analysts say national governments may prove highly reluctant to *surrender* control of their radio frequencies to Brussels.

survival n. existence; remaining alive
It's a classic case of *survival* of the fittest and the fight for space between man and beast.

survive v. continue to live; endure or last
In 1998, he was lucky to survive when his balloon plummeted into the sea.

**suspect v.** have doubts about; distrust

They **suspect** that new company is operating in the area, but don't know its name.

**suspicious a.** openly distrustful and unwilling to confide; questionable

For all the current goodwill on display in Aceh, Indonesian and rebel soldiers are still deeply **suspicious** of one another.

**swallow v.** take back what one has said; enclose or envelop completely

The government is expected to persuade the French to **swallow** their doubts on the EU Constitution and vote yes.

**swamp n.** low land that is seasonally flooded; low land region saturated with water

A Florida **swamp** is a bad place to be, if you don't know how to find your way around in the woods.

**swear v.** affirm or utter a solemn declaration; make promise or resolve on oath

"Are you in earnest? Do you truly love me? Do you sincerely wish me to be your wife?" "I do; and if an oath is necessary to satisfy you, I **swear** it."

**sweater n.** knitted garment covering the upper part of the body

If the **sweater** has no sleeves, it is generally called a vest.

**sweep n.** movement in an arc; clean with a broom; wide scope; winning all

The Republican **sweep** is good news for Afghanistan, said Nader Nadery, analyst and director of Human Rights Commission of Afghanistan.

**swell v.** bulge; expand abnormally; increase in size; become filled with pride or anger

The bellies of the starving children began to **swell** yesterday.

**swing v.** sway or move from one side to another; turn round by wind or tide; be hanged

When he played out, Johnny Miller bought in for a dead rat and a string to **swing** it with.

**symbol n.** sign; something visible to represent something else invisible

Often the destruction takes place in public, as a visible **symbol** of peace replacing war.

**tag v.** attach; append; provide with a name or nickname; label

Please **tag** the label to your suitcase.

**talented a.** showing a natural gift for something

It aims to promote the sharing of information and ideas, for teachers and parents, on the education of the gifted and **talented**.

**tap v.** draw upon; strike lightly; make good use of

It will also develop techniques to locate and **tap** underground water reservoirs.

**tape n.** long thin piece of cloth or paper; measuring instrument for length by narrow strip

The carpenter should have used his **tape** measure the room before any other jobs.

**target n.** reference point to shoot at; goal intended to be attained

The iPhone 5 is an obvious **target** for Apple fans to pursue.

**task v.** labor or study imposed by another; undertake; labor

I wished that she would always be so pleasant, and never push me about, or **task** me unreasonably.

**team n.** a number of persons associated together in any work; a flock of wild ducks

Volleyball is a **team** game, how about beach volleyball?

**tear v.** separate or be separated by force; divide or disrupt; fill with tears or shed tears

This puzzle would **tear** the organization between opposing choices: for or against eating shark fins.

**tease v.** tear into pieces; raise the fibers of

They **tease** tissue for microscopic examinations.

**tease v.** annoy persistently; harass with persistent criticism; gain by persistent coaxing

The editor could **tease** great books from an author's first draft.

**technical a.** having special skill or knowledge; according to principle; formal rather than practical; relating to technique

The ASX yesterday halted trading for four hours after detecting a **technical** issue.

**technique n.** practical method or art applied to some particular task; skillfulness

He displayed a flawless **technique** in the competition.

**technology n.** application of science, especially to industrial or commercial objectives
Without a doubt, they say the use of electronic records and other advances in technology is dramatically improving patient care.

**temper v.** moderate; tone down or restrain; bring to a desired consistency; adjust finely
They begin to temper the portfolio to match investor's needs.

**temporary a.** not permanent; not lasting
The Administration says the tariffs were meant to be a temporary measure designed to give the American steel industry time to reorganize.

**tender v.** offer formally; extend; propose a payment
Although no formal charges had been made against him, in the wake of the recent scandal the mayor felt he should tender his resignation.

**tender a.** given to sympathy or gentleness; easily hurt; sensitive; young and vulnerable
We can feel his tender heart from his singing.

**tense a.** stretch or force to the limit; tight
The northern city of Kano, which has a history of sectarian violence is especially tense, but has remained peaceful.

**tension n.** action of stretching something tight; anxiety; feelings of hostility
There's a growing mood of transatlantic tension, both real and imagined; a feeling that European capitals and Washington no longer view the world in quite the same way.

**term n.** limited period of time; point in time at which something ends; termination; deadline
The Treasury Department announced plans to sell $50 billion in short term securities next week.

**terminal n.** causing or ending in or approaching death; station
In February, a jury ordered the company to pay 51 million dollars to a Marlboro smoker with terminal lung cancer.

**terrace n.** row of houses built in a similar style; level shelf of land with steep slopes
In agriculture, a terrace is a leveled section of a hilly cultivated area, designed as a method of soil conservation.

**terrific a.** causing extreme terror; very great; extraordinarily good
And that night there came on a terrific storm, with driving rain, awful claps of thunder and blinding sheets of lightning.

**territory n.** large extent of land; organized portion of country
How much territory does he travel over this year?

**terror n.** extreme fear; violent dread; fright
The consequence was that the smaller boys spent their days in terror and suffering.

**testimony n.** solemn declaration or affirmation; something that serves as evidence
And make it clear, you know, we speak as one voice, what you heard for the last two days in testimony is what I also believe.

**theft n.** act of taking something from someone unlawfully; stealing
The main problem in arresting the theft is a lack of political will.

**theme n.** subject of conversation or discussion; topic; essay
His letters were always on the theme of love.

**theory n.** doctrine or scheme of things; general or abstract principles of any science
The other main theory is that stress during birth somehow leads to left-handedness.

**therapy n.** healing power or quality; treatment of illness
Some struggle for years in therapy with one practitioner after another, and never seem to make any progress.

**thorough a.** accurate or careful; complete
He knew a thorough search would be made for it.

**thoughtful a.** considerate; having intellectual depth; giving close attention
I would say Americans are more thoughtful about foreign policy and domestic policy.

**thrill v.** feel sudden intense sensation or emotion; tremble as from fear or excitement
At such a silent night, the speed and roar of the engine thrill us at first.

**throat n.** part of neck in front of; passage to stomach and lung
The film grabbed me by the throat from the first moment and didn't let go until the very last.
throughout ad. in every part; in or through all parts; everywhere; during the entire time or extent
 Though unsure how her speech would be received, she remained calm and professional throughout.
thumb n. short, thick first digit of human hand
Each boy pricked the ball of his thumb and squeezed out a drop of blood.
thunder n. sound which follows flash of lightning; discharge of electricity; loud noise
They were amazed and alarmed, to see us make, what they called thunder and lightning.
tick v. emit recurring clicking sounds; do well or as designed
He made this factory tick two decades with strong knowledge of the economics and technology.
tissue n. groups of cells that make particular parts of the body; soft thin paper
Doctors planted tiny expandable balloons under each baby's scalp so they'll have enough skin tissue to cover
their heads one they're separated.
title n. right or claim to possession; mark of rank; name of a book or film
Though the penniless Duke of Ragwort no longer held title to the family estate, he still retained as head of one
of England's oldest families.
toast v. dry and brown by heat of fire; warm thoroughly; drink to the health or in honor
Let's toast the friendship between two countries.
tongue n. organ situated in floor of mouth; speech; language; clapper of bell
The dog sat down with its tongue hanging out of its mouth, and its great eyes half shut.
topic n. subject of a speech, essay, thesis, discussion, or conversation
It was a very sensitive topic to discuss, may I have chance to change it?
torch n. large candle or lamp giving flaring flame; flashlight
The yard is so dark, he turned on the torch to look for his keys.
torture n. extreme pain; anguish of body or mind
They began to feel a vague fear, and then the real torture came.
toss v. throw carelessly; throw to see which side comes up; move or stir about violently
He used to toss the newspaper after reading it.
tough a. hard; difficult; feeling physical discomfort or pain; hard to bear
She's against tough competition, such as Meryl Streep, and other excellent movies.
towel n. rectangular cloth or paper for drying or wiping
He grabs a towel from the stack behind him and pats his face dry.
toxic a. poisonous; caused by a toxin or other poison
We must seek an antidote for whatever toxic substance he has eaten.
trace v. follow, discover; make a mark or lines on a surface
The first problem is who is responsible for the material: the original author, who may be impossible to trace, or
the Internet service provider.
track n. road or path affording passage; line or route along which something moves
The negotiators reach agreement and a fast track legislation that would allow passage through the US congress
without amendments.
tradition n. thought or behavior followed from generation to generation; heritage
The state of Massachusetts has always been famous for its history, and especially rich in tradition is the region
around Boston.
tragedy n. disaster; event resulting in great loss and misfortune
Local authorities in Egypt say that 238 people or more have died in the train tragedy south of Cairo.
trail n. path or track roughly through wild or hilly country; overland route
As for him, bareback riding on the mountain trail is out of the question.
tramp v. travel or wander through; cleanse clothes in water
Keep the river road all the way, and next time you tramp take shoes and socks with you.
transfer n. shifting; conveyance or removal of something from one place, person, or thing to another
They are also looking into allegations of the illegal transfer of shares that enabled the Chung family to retain
management control.
transplant n. act of uprooting and moving a plant to a new location
His comeback appearances with other clubs were swiftly curtailed by his drinking, which continued after his
second wife left him and after his liver transplant.

transport v. carry from one place to another; carry away; deport

What I was trying to transport is the oil that is in demand particularly.

trap v. catch; hold or catch as if in a hole

The gaps between the teeth trap food particles.

trauma n. emotional wound or shock having long-lasting effects; serious injury to the body

Brain trauma is a serious public health challenge.

treatment n. handling; care that are intended to relieve illness or injury

The plan aims to improve care, treatment and diagnosis by training thousands of new medical workers.

tremendous a. huge; capable of making one tremble; terrible

After tremendous effort, the Coast Guard called off all search efforts yesterday.

trial n. experiment; act of testing; examination of evidence to determine the charges or claims

The trial of 21 medical workers, allegedly linked to an outbreak of the HIV virus in southern Kazakhstan, has begun.

trick n. cunning or deceitful activity; attempt to get others to do something foolish

These children loved playing a special trick on their teacher.

trigger v. cause something happen; set off

Please skip the remarks that will trigger bitter debates again.

triple a. consisting of three united; multiplied by three; threefold; three times repeated

By convention, many web site names start with triple W, that means world wide web.

trunk n. stem, or body, of a tree; main stem, without the branches; body of animal apart from the head and limbs

Nothing will save a tree after the main trunk is attacked by large numbers of this beetle.

tube n. hollow cylindrical shape; underground railway

The mayor says he’ll pour money on the tube, back into the underground network.

tuck v. make one or more folds in; store in a safe spot; put in a snug spot

He tried to tuck his shirt into his trousers.

tunnel n. passageway through or under something, usually underground

The rabbit-hole went straight on like a tunnel for some way, and then dipped suddenly down.

twist v. turn in the opposite direction; form into a spiral shape

It was to twist it up into a sort of knot, and then keep tight hold of its right ear and left foot, so as to prevent its undoing itself.

typical a. conforming to a type; representative

Its producer plans to shoot the project on a very modest budget, well below the tens, or even hundreds of millions, spent on a typical Hollywood blockbuster in the United States.

ugly a. offensive to the sight; contrary to beauty; disagreeable aspect; unsightly

"If it had grown up," she said to herself, "it would have made a dreadfully ugly child: but it makes rather a handsome pig, I think."

ultimate a. final; being the last or concluding; fundamental; elemental; extreme

As the ultimate arbiter of the Constitution, the Supreme Court occupies a central place in our scheme of government.

ultimately ad. as final consequence; at last; in the end

Every value they create ultimately belongs to each of us.

unconscious a. lacking awareness; senseless; unaware

So I think at this hour, when I look back to the crisis through the quiet medium of time: I was unconscious of folly at the instant.

underestimate v. make too low an estimate of the quantity; undervalue

One thing I think you underestimate is how much in the minority you are.

underneath ad. under or below an object or a surface; lower down on the page

The skin underneath is constantly breaking down and is very painful.

undo v. release; cause the ruin or downfall of; cancel or reverse an action

'A knot!' said Alice, always ready to make herself useful, and looking anxiously about her. 'Oh, do let me help to
undo it!
uniform n. consistent; standardized; clothing of a particular group
At issue is a demand that all imports are accompanied by uniform certificates authorised by the Commission and not the individual member states.
unique a. without an equal; being the only one of its kind
You have to face a problem unique to coastal areas.
unlikely a. improbable; has little chance of being the case or coming about
Even more unlikely is that they would be refused at the border.
update v. supply with recent information; bring up to date; bring to the latest state of technology
We update the kitchen in the old house and add some modern appliances.
upset a. concerned by anxious uneasiness or trouble or grief
As soon as the jury had a little recovered from the shock of being upset, and their slates and pencils had been found and handed back to them.
vacation n. leisure time away from work; act of making something legally void
I wish I could go, but my vacation is already taken up by other upcoming trips.
valid a. logically convincing; sound; legally acceptable; well grounded
He said the large number of people surveyed and the lack of corrupting factors mean certain valid conclusions can be drawn from the results.
valley n. space between ranges of mountains; area drained or irrigated by a river system; internal angle formed by intersection
Only on the hills skirting the valley, the trees were somewhat wild again.
vanquish v. conquer; overcome; come out better in a competition
The time it takes to vanquish is greatly increased by lots of unnecessary backtracking.
vehicle n. automobile; means of conveying; medium
The vehicle was driven to an underground garage where, say police, the robbers transferred four strong boxes full of cash into a getaway car.
vengeance n. punishment inflicted in return for an injury or an offense; retribution
Avenging someone implies that you have been a victim of outrages and vengeance is required.
verdict n. findings of jury on issues of fact for decision; judgment or opinion
For weeks EU institutions have been waiting for the verdict of two nations at the heart of Europe.
version n. written work in a new form; edition; interpretation of a particular viewpoint
He downloaded the latest version of the software from the Internet.
vice n. moral fault or failing; evil, degrading, or immoral practice or habit; physical defect or weakness
I would not ascribe vice to him; I would not say he had betrayed me.
vicious a. by vice or defects; defective; imperfect; having the nature of vice; evil, immoral, or depraved
The beauty queen also spoke, defending herself against vicious attacks.
violent a. turbulent; intensely vivid or loud; by violence or bloodshed
Significantly, he never used the word terrorism, but he hit hard on what he called violent extremism and its consequences.
virus n. disease communicator; something that poisons one's soul or mind; program for unwanted actions in computer
So now I guess the virus is gone but I think we have another one because yahoo still freezes sometimes when you open a new browser window.
vision n. ability to see; sight; vivid mental image
The Boeing vision for a growing aviation business seems to be one of a large number of direct, or 'point to point' flights.
visual a. seen or able to be seen by the eye; visible; optical
Thank you for the visual presentation; it helps very much.
vital a. full of life; animated; necessary to continued existence; living or breathing
Most states are facing drastic cuts in vital services because of the recession.
void n. emptiness; containing nothing; clear or empty a place
Anyone who is still alive now, is found in a void space, maybe it's under a stairwell.

volume n. capacity; amount of space occupied by an object
The remains, much reduced in volume from the original, had been preserved in the silver box.
vow n. solemn promise made to God; promise of fidelity; pledge of love or affection
Not only were they as good as their word, but the vow is kept to this day by their children's children.
vulnerable a. susceptible to wounds; capable of being wounded or hurt
His opponents could not harm Achilles, who was vulnerable only in his heel.
wander v. move about without a definite destination or purpose; range about; stroll; go away; depart
We wander in some strange wilderness, aimlessly without direction.
ward n. guard; defender; protector; state under guard; division of a county; division of a hospital
The patient lay quietly on his bed in the medical ward.
warden n. keeper; guardian; watchman; officer who keeps or guards
What are the duties of a traffic warden?
wardrobe n. tall cabinet, closet, or small room built to hold clothes
Put the wardrobe in the corner opposite the door.
warehouse n. depot; storehouse for goods and merchandise
A sixty-eight year old dealer had his warehouse raided this week and the police confiscated nearly a million and a quarter bangers, rockets and firecrackers.
wax v. increase gradually in size, number, strength, or intensity; show a progressively larger illuminated area
With proper handling, his fortunes wax and he becomes rich.
web n. textile fabric; complex, interconnected structure or arrangement; the World Wide Web; radio or television network
I convince that the web is the best way to deploy educational content right now.
weed n. undesirable or troublesome plant, especially growing where it is not wanted as in a garden.
You know, what you call a weed, to one man it's a flower.
welfare n. benefit; something that aids health or happiness
Many receive government food rations, and about a quarter are living in welfare camps.
whip v. strike with repeated strokes, as with a strap or rod; lash
The wind used to whip across the plain in this season.
whip v. conquer or defeat in contest or game; defeat thoroughly
Their team can whip ours at volleyball, in fact it has chance to get champion.
whistle v. make a kind of musical sound by lips; emit a similar sound from mouth as birds
"Poor little thing!" said Alice, in a coaxing tone, and she tried hard to whistle to it.
wicked a. evil in principle or practice; contrary to moral or divine law; addicted to vice or sin
She said it was wicked to stay in there; she was going to live so as to go to the good place.
wisdom n. quality of being wise; knowledge; results of wise judgments
According to conventional wisdom, voters usually make their choice on the basis of domestic issues.
wit n. intellect; mental ability; natural ability to perceive and understand
Your wit is as sharp as a pencil right out of a pencil sharpener.
witness n. someone who sees an event and reports what happened; observe; watch
This did not seem to encourage the witness at all: he kept shifting from one foot to the other, looking uneasily at the Queen.
wrap v. enclose; arrange or fold as a cover or protection
I will wrap the baby before taking her out.
wreck n. destruction; destroy; smash or break forcefully
The house was a wreck when they bought it.
yacht n. light ship used for private pleasure trips
Huge waves drove the yacht onto the rocks.
yard n. rod; stick; branch; long piece of timber; measure of length, equaling three feet
Some young birds come along, flying a yard or two at a time.
yard **n.** enclosure, usually small place around house or barn; small area with fence

*I know grass will grow in it because my yard is the same type of soil.*