

top 300 vocabulary words

week 11

gratify - (v) give (someone) pleasure or satisfaction

subversive - (adj) seeking to undermine the power and authority of a system or institution

frank - (adj) open, honest, and direct in speech or writing

superficial - (adj) existing or occurring at or on the surface

articulate - (v) express (an idea or feeling) fluently and coherently

volatile - (adj) liable to change rapidly and unpredictably

exacerbate - (v) make (a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling) worse

averse - (adj) having a strong dislike of or opposition to something

dubious - (adj) hesitating or doubting; not to be relied upon; suspect

flattery - (n) excessive and insincere praise, especially that given to further one's own interests

perplexed - (adj) completely baffled; very puzzled

amiable - (adj) having or displaying a friendly and pleasant manner

comprehensive - (adj) complete; including all or nearly all elements or aspects of something

insolent - (adj) showing a rude and arrogant lack of respect

denounce - (v) publicly declare to be wrong or evil

credible - (adj) able to be believed; convincing

rhetorical - (adj) asked merely for effect with no answer expected

realism - (n) representing a person, thing, or situation accurately or in a way that is true to life

cosmopolitan - (adj) familiar with and at ease in many different countries and cultures

disputation - (n) debate or argument

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week 12

disrupt - (v) interrupt (an event, activity, or process) by causing a disturbance or problem

prohibitive - (adj) (of a price or charge) excessively high; difficult or impossible to pay

coherent - (adj) (of an argument, theory, or policy) logical and consistent

mimic - (v) imitate, typically in order to entertain or ridicule

ubiquitous - (adj) present, appearing, or found everywhere

experimental - (adj) based on untested ideas and not yet established or finalized

redundant - (adj) not or no longer needed or useful; superfluous

superfluous - (adj) unnecessary, especially through being more than enough

advocate - (v) publicly recommend or support

chaotic - (adj) in a state of complete confusion and disorder

exotic - (adj) of foreign origin or character; strikingly unusual in effect or appearance

restrained - (adj) characterized by moderation; unemotional or dispassionate

subtle - (adj) delicate or precise as to be difficult to analyze or describe

rebellious - (adj) showing a desire to resist authority, control, or convention

negligible - (adj) so small or unimportant as to be not worth considering; insignificant

admonish - (v) warn or reprimand someone firmly

assuage - (v) make (an unpleasant feeling) less intense

dispassionate - (adj) not influenced by strong emotion, impartial

jocular - (adj) fond of or characterized by joking; humorous or playful

remonstrate - (v) to disagree and argue or complain about something

top 300 vocabulary words

week 13

perfunctory - (adj) carried out with a minimum of effort or reflection

impetuous - (adj) acting or done quickly and without thought or care

prognosticate - (v) foretell or prophecy (an event in the future)

reminiscence - (n) a story told about a past event remembered by the narrator

fortuitous - (adj) happening by accident or chance rather than design; fortunate

paucity - (n) the presence of something only in small or insufficient quantities or amounts

calculated - (adj) done with full awareness of the likely consequences

invoke - (v) cite or appeal to something as an authority in support of an argument

punctilious - (adj) showing great attention to detail or correct behavior

elitist - (n) a person who believes that society should be ruled or dominated by an elite

austere - (adj) strict in manner; having no comforts or luxuries; unadorned

vehemence - (n) display of strong feeling; passion; intensity

extemporaneous - (adj) spoken or done without preparation

astute - (adj) having an ability to accurately assess situations and turn this to one's advantage

venerable - (adj) accorded respect, especially because of age, wisdom, or character

lamentable - (adj) deplorably bad or unsatisfactory

insipid - (adj) lacking flavor; uninteresting

euphemism - (n) an indirect expression referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing

exasperation - (n) a feeling of intense irritation or annoyance

flippant - (adj) not showing a serious or respectful attitude

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week 14

imperious - (adj) assuming power without justification; arrogant and domineering

forestall - (v) prevent or obstruct by taking action ahead of time

misguided - (adj) having or showing faulty judgment or reasoning

soporific - (adj) tending to induce drowsiness or sleep

condemn - (v) express complete disapproval of, typically in public; censure

abstruse - (adj) difficult to understand; obscure

aesthetic - (n) a set of principles underlying the work of a particular artist or movement

ingratiating - (adj) intended to gain approval or favor; sycophantic

reproach - (v) address (someone) in such a way as to express disapproval or disappointment

pompous - (adj) affectedly and irritatingly grand, solemn, or self-important

intellectual - (adj) appealing to or engaging in thinking or reasoning of a high order

baffling - (adj) impossible to understand; perplexing

derivative - (adj) imitative of the work of another person

detail - (n) extended treatment of or attention to particular items

logical - (adj) characterized by or capable of clear, sound reasoning

plausible - (adj) seeming reasonable or probable

inclusive - (adj) covering or including everything; open to everyone

exuberance - (n) the quality of being full of energy, excitement, and cheerfulness; ebullience

tedious - (adj) too long, slow, or dull; tiresome or monotonous

discreet - (adj) careful and circumspect in one's speech or actions

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week 15

sustain - (v) strengthen or support physically or mentally

condescending - (adj) having or showing a feeling of patronizing superiority

disseminate - (v) spread or disperse (something, especially information) widely

eclectic - (adj) deriving ideas, style, or taste from a broad and diverse range of sources

inadequate - (adj) not adequate or sufficient; inept or unsuitable

pensive - (adj) engaged in, involving, or reflecting deep or serious thought

ebullient - (adj) cheerful and full of energy

incompetent - (adj) not having or showing the necessary skills to do something successfully

archaic - (adj) very old or old-fashioned

fastidious - (adj) very attentive to and concerned about accuracy and detail

interpretation - (n) an explanation of the meaning of another's artistic or creative work

disillusioned - (adj) disappointed in something that is less good than one had believed

judicious - (adj) having, showing, or done with good judgment or sense

exhaust - (v) use up (resources or reserves) completely

lavish - (adj) sumptuously rich, elaborate, or luxurious

adversary - (n) one's opponent in a contest, conflict, or dispute

dispense - (v) to give or provide; manage without; get rid of

conviction - (n) a firmly held belief or opinion

eccentric - (adj) unconventional and slightly strange

fervent - (adj) having or displaying a passionate intensity