

top 500 vocabulary words

week 21

delude - (v) impose a misleading belief upon (someone); deceive; fool

lethargic - (adj) sluggish and apathetic

notorious - (adj) famous or well known, typically for some bad quality or deed

scornful - (adj) feeling or expressing contempt or derision

placid - (adj) not easily upset or excited

subjective - (adj) based on or influenced by personal feelings, tastes, or opinions

wary - (adj) feeling or showing caution about possible dangers or problems

ineffectual - (adj) not producing any or the desired effect

sullen - (adj) bad-tempered and sulky; gloomy

dearth - (n) a scarcity or lack of something

recalcitrant - (adj) having an obstinately uncooperative attitude toward authority or discipline

caustic - (adj) sarcastic in a scathing and bitter way

confound - (v) cause surprise, especially by acting against expectation

impugn - (v) dispute the truth or honesty of (a statement or motive); call into question

ineffable - (adj) too great or extreme to be expressed or described in words

ostracized - (v) exclude (someone) from a society or group

piety - (n) the quality of being religious or reverent

rebuff - (v) reject (someone or something) in an abrupt or ungracious manner

recondite - (adj) little known; abstruse

vindictive - (adj) having or showing a strong or unreasoning desire for revenge

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week 22

cathartic - (adj) providing relief through the open expression of strong emotions

nuance - (n) a subtle difference in or shade of meaning, expression, or sound

obdurate - (adj) stubbornly refusing to change one's opinion or course of action

verbose - (adj) using or expressed in more words than are needed

incisive - (adj) accurate and sharply focused

reprehensible - (adj) deserving censure or condemnation

fortitude - (n) courage in pain or adversity

diatribe - (n) a forceful and bitter verbal attack against someone or something

assiduous - (adj) showing great care and perseverance

narrow-minded - (adj) not willing to listen to or tolerate other people's views; prejudiced

mendacity - (n) untruthfulness

reclusive - (adj) avoiding the company of other people; solitary

pugnacious - (adj) eager or quick to argue, quarrel, or fight

candor - (n) the quality of being open and honest in expression; frankness

vacillate - (v) alternate or waver between different opinions or actions; be indecisive

amicable - (adj) having a spirit of friendliness

blithe - (adj) happy or joyous; showing a indifference considered to be callous

polarize - (v) to cause (people, opinions, etc.) to separate into opposing groups

shrewd - (adj) having or showing sharp powers of judgment; astute

epitomize - (v) be a perfect example of

top 500 vocabulary words

week 23

icon - (n) a person or thing regarded as a representative symbol of something

malevolent - (adj) having or showing a wish to do evil to others

sanctimonious - (adj) making a show of being morally superior to other people

castigate - (v) reprimand (someone) severely

garrulous - (adj) excessively talkative, especially on trivial matters

deprecate - (v) express disapproval of

lackadaisical - (adj) lacking enthusiasm and determination; carelessly lazy

haughty - (adj) arrogantly superior and disdainful

languid - (adj) weak or faint from illness or fatigue

appease - (v) to make (someone) pleased or less angry by giving or saying something desired

fulsome - (adj) complimentary or flattering to an excessive degree; generous or abundant

supercilious - (adj) behaving or looking as though one thinks one is superior to others

supplant - (v) supersede and replace

absurd - (adj) wildly unreasonable, illogical, or inappropriate

account - (n) a report or description of an event or experience

elaborate - (adj) involving carefully arranged parts; detailed and complicated in design

laconic - (adj) using very few words

facile - (adj) appearing comprehensive by ignoring the complexities of an issue; superficial

sardonic - (adj) grimly mocking or cynical

urbane - (adj) suave, courteous, and refined in manner

top 500 vocabulary words

week 24

acquiesce - (v) accept something reluctantly but without protest

inconstancy - (n) not constant; changeable; fickle; variable

recant - (v) say that one no longer holds an opinion or belief

tenuous - (adj) very weak or slight

theoretical - (adj) concerned with theory rather than practical application

censure - (v) express severe disapproval of

gratuitous - (adj) uncalled for; lacking good reason; unwarranted

opaque - (adj) not able to be seen through; not transparent

impenetrable - (adj) impossible to pass through or enter

cultivated - (adj) refined and well educated

tangential - (adj) diverging from a previous course or line; erratic

abstemious - (adj) not self-indulgent, especially when eating and drinking

antipathy - (n) a deep-seated feeling of dislike; aversion

arduous - (adj) involving or requiring strenuous effort; difficult and tiring

divisive - (adj) tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people

preeminent - (adj) surpassing all others; very distinguished in some way

abate - (v) lessen, reduce, or remove

subdued - (adj) quiet and rather reflective or depressed

pertinent - (adj) relevant or applicable to a particular matter; apposite

spurious - (adj) not being what it purports to be; false or fake

top 500 vocabulary words

week 25

extrapolate - (v) extend an unknown situation by assuming that existing trends will continue

monotonous - (adj) dull, tedious, and repetitious; lacking in variety and interest

terse - (adj) sparing in the use of words; abrupt

diligent - (adj) having or showing care and conscientiousness in one's work or duties

relinquish - (v) voluntarily cease to keep or claim; give up

enmity - (n) the state or feeling of being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something

disgruntled - (adj) angry or dissatisfied

manipulate - (v) control or influence (a person or situation) cleverly or possibly unfairly

renown - (n) the condition of being known or talked about by many people; fame

flamboyant - (adj) attracting attention because of exuberance, confidence, and stylishness

hyperbole - (n) exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally

nebulous - (adj) unclear, vague, or ill-defined

defunct - (adj) no longer existing or functioning

parody - (v) produce a humorously exaggerated imitation of (a writer, artist, or genre)

predilection - (n) a preference or special liking for something; a bias in favor of something

downplay - (v) make (something) appear less important than it really is

permeate - (v) spread throughout (something); pervade

anonymity - (n) lack of outstanding, individual, or unusual features; impersonality

pioneering - (adj) involving new ideas or methods

stoic - (adj) enduring pain and hardship without showing one's feelings or complaining