

subside or moderate

Rather than leaving immediately, they waited for the storm to abate.

2

shorten

Because we were running out of time, the lecturer had to abbreviate her speech.

1

complete; totally unlimited; certain

Although the King of Siam was an absolute monarch, he did not want to behead his unfaithful wife without absolute evidence of her infidelity.

4

unsuccessful; fruitless

We had to abandon our abortive attempts.

3

coarsely insulting; physically harmful

An abusive parent damages a child both mentally and physically.

6

theoretical; not concrete; non-represent

To him, hunger was an abstract concept; he had never missed a meal.

5

easy to approach; obtainable

We asked our guide whether the ruins were accessible on foot.

8

move faster

In our science class, we learn how falling bodies accelerate.

7

depart secretly and hide

The teller absconded with the bonds and was not found.

10

additional object; useful but not essent

She bought an attractive handbag as an accessory for her dress.

9

suspended action

The deal was held in abeyance until her arrival.

12

abnormal or deviant

Given the aberrant nature of the data, we came to doubt the validity of the entire experiment.

11

make impure by mixing with baser sub

It is a crime to adulterate foods without informing the buyer.

14

hard, inflexible

He was adamant in his determination to punish the wrongdoer.

13

lower; degrade; humiliate

Anna expected to have to curtsy to the King of Siam; when told to cast herself down on the ground before him, however she refused to abase herself.

16

poverty, misfortune

We must learn to meet adversity gracefully.

15

renounce; give up

When Edward VII abdicated the British throne, he surprised the entire world.

18

embarrass

He was not at all abashed by her open admiration.

17

wretched; lacking pride

On the streets of New York the homeless live in abject poverty, huddling in doorways to find shelter from the wind.

20

assist, usually in doing something wro

She was unwilling to abet him in the swindle he had planned.

19

washing

His daily ablutions were accompanied by loud noises that he humorously labeled "Opera in the Bath."

22

renounce upon oath

He abjured his allegiance to the king.

21

loathe; hate

Moses scolded the idol worshippers in the tribe because he abominated the custom.

24

renunciation; self-sacrifice

Though Rudolph and Duchess Flavia loved one another, their love was doomed, for she had to wed the king; their act of abnegation was necessary to preserve the kingdom.

23

abolish

He intended to abrogate the decree issued by his predecessor.

26

rubbing away; tending to grind down

Just as abrasive cleaning powders can wear away a shiny finish, abrasive remarks can wear away a listener's patience.

25

refrain; withhold from participation

After considering the effect of alcohol on his athletic performance, he decided to abstain from drinking while he trained for the race.

28

pardon (an offense)

The father confessor absolved him of his sins.

27

bottomless

His arrogance is exceeded only by his abysmal ignorance.

30

border upon; adjoin

Where our estates abut, we must build a fence.

29

adjust to climate or environment

One of the difficulties of our present air age is the need of travellers to acclimate themselves to their new and often strange environments.

32

agree

If I accede to this demand for blackmail, I am afraid that I will be the victim of future demands.

31

award of merit

In Hollywood, an "Oscar" is the highest accolade.

34

sharp upslope of a hill

The car could not go up the acclivity in high gear.

33

approach and speak first to a person

When the two young men accosted me, I was frightened because I thought they were going to attack me.

36

agreement

She was in complete accord with the verdict.

35

growth; increase

The accretion of wealth marked the family's rise in power.

38

equip

The fisherman was accoutred with the best that the sporting goods store could supply

37

slightly sour; sharp; caustic

James was unpopular because of his sarcastic and acidulous remarks.

40

come about by addition

You must pay the interest that has accrued on your debt as well as the principal sum.

39

assent; agree passively

Although she appeared to acquiesce to her employer's suggestions, I could tell she had reservations about the changes he wanted made.

42

peak; pinnacle; highest point

Welles's success in Citizen Kane marked the acme of his career as an actor; never again did he achieve such popular acclaim.

41

sharp; bitterly pungent

The acrid odor of burnt gunpowder filled the room after the pistol had been fired.

44

deliverance from a charge

His acquittal by the jury surprised those who had thought him guilty.

43

calculating; pertaining to insurance sta

According to recent actuarial tables, life expectancy is greater today than it was a century ago.

46

stinging, caustic

His tendency to utter acrimonious remarks alienated his audience.

45

sharpness

In time his youthful acuity of vision failed him, and he needed glasses.

48

motivate

I fail to understand what actuated you to reply to this letter so nastily.

47

wise saying; proverb

There is much truth in the old adage about fools and their money.

50

mental keenness

His business acumen helped him to succeed where others had failed.

49

muddle; drive crazy

This idiotic plan is confusing enough to addle anyone.

52

addition; appendix to book

Jane's editor approved her new comparative literature text but thought it would be even better with an addendum on recent developments in literary criticism.

51

something attached to but holding an i

I will entertain this concept as an adjunct to the main proposal.

54

supporter; follower

In the wake of the scandal, the senator's one-time adherent quietly deserted him.

53

staff officer assisting the commander; a

Though Wellington delegated many tasks to his chief adjutant, Lord Fitzroy Somerset, Somerset was in no doubt as to who made all major decisions.

56

solemn urging

Her adjuration to tell the truth did not change the witnesses' testimony.

55

decorate

Wall paintings and carved statues adorned the temple.

58

warn; reprove

He admonished his listeners to change their wicked ways.

57

flattery; admiration

The rock star thrived on the adulation of his groupies and yes-men.

60

skillful

His adroit handling of the delicate situation pleased his employers.

59

accidental; casual

He found this adventitious meeting with his friend extremely fortunate.

62

arrival

Most Americans were unaware of the advent of the Nuclear Age until the news of Hiroshima reached them.

61

unfavorable; hostile

adverse circumstances compelled him to close his business.

64

opponent; enemy

Batman struggled to save Gotham City from the machinations of his wicked adversary, the Joker.

63

urge; plead for

The abolitionists advocated freedom for the slaves.

66

refer to

Since you advert to this matter so frequently, you must regard it as important.

65

courteous

Although he held a position of responsibility, he was an affable individual and could be reached by anyone with a complaint.

68

shield; defense

Under the aegis of the Bill of Rights, we enjoy our most treasured freedoms.

67

written statement made under oath

The court refused to accept his statement unless he presented it in the form of an affidavit.

70

artificial; pretended

His affected mannerisms irritated many of us who had known him before his promotion.

69

kinship

She felt an affinity with all who suffered; their pains were her pains.

72

joining; associating with

His affiliation with the political party was of short duration for he soon disagreed with his colleagues.

71

attach or add on; fasten

First the registrar had to affix his signature to the license; then he had to affix his official seal.

74

positive assertion; confirmation; solemn

Despite Tom's affirmation of innocence, Aunt Polly still suspected he had eaten the pie.

73

insult; offend

Accustomed to being treated with respect, Miss Challoner was affronted by Vidal's offensive behavior.

76

abundance; wealth

Foreigners are amazed by the affluence and luxury of the American way of life.

75

items of business at a meeting

We had so much difficulty agreeing upon an agenda that there was very little time for the meeting.

78

openmouthed

She stared, agape, at the many strange animals in the zoo.

77

increase or intensify; raise in power, weight

The history of the past quarter century illustrates how a President may aggrandize his power to act aggressively in international affairs without considering the wishes of Congress.

80

collection; heap

It took weeks to assort the agglomeration of miscellaneous items she had collected on her trip.

79

horrified

He was aghast at the nerve of the speaker who had insulted his host.

82

sum; total

The aggregate wealth of this country is staggering to the imagination.

81

stir up; disturb

Her fiery remarks agitated the already angry mob.

84

nimbleness

The agility of the acrobat amazed and thrilled the audience.

83

highly excited; intensely curious

We were all agog at the news that the celebrated movie star was giving up his career in order to enter a monastery.

86

one who is skeptical of the existence of

The agnostic demanded proof before she would accept the statement of the minister.

85

cheerful promptness

He demonstrated his eagerness to serve by his alacrity in executing the orders of his master.

88

pertaining to land or its cultivation

As a result of its recent industrialization, the country is gradually losing its agrarian traditions.

87

nook; recess

Though their apartment lacked a full-scale dining room, an alcove adjacent to the living room made an adequate breakfast nook for the young couple.

90

medieval chemistry

The changing of baser metals into gold was the goal of the students of alchemy.

89

make hostile; separate

Her attempts to alienate the two friends failed because they had complete faith in each other.

92

an assumed name

John Smith's alias was Bob Jones.

91

payments made to an ex-spouse after d

Because Tony had supported Tina through medical school, on their divorce he asked the court to award him \$500 a month in alimony.

94

supplying nourishment

The alimentary canal in our bodies is so named because digestion of foods occurs there.

93

state without proof

It is alleged that she had worked for the enemy.

96

calm; pacify

The crew tried to allay the fears of the passengers by announcing that the fire had been controlled.

95

relieve

This should alleviate the pain; if it does not, we shall have to use stronger drugs.

98

story in which characters are used as sy

Pilgrim's Progress is an allegory of the temptations and victories of the human soul.

97

mixture as of metals

alloy of gold are used more frequently than the pure metal.

100

repetition of beginning sound in poetry

"The furrow followed free" is an example of alliteration.

99

entice; attract

allured by the song of the sirens, the helmsman steered the ship toward the reef.

102

refer indirectly

Try not to allude to this matter in his presence because the topic annoys him.

101

pertaining to soil deposits left by runni

The farmers found the alluvial deposits at the mouth of the river very fertile.

104

indirect reference

the allusions to mythological characters in Milton's poems bewilder the reader who has not studied Latin.

103

upward

The sailor climbed aloft into the rigging.

106

apart; reserved

Shy by nature, she remained aloof while all the rest conversed.

105

unselfishly generous; concerned for oth

In providing tutorial assistance and college scholarships to hundreds of economically disadvantaged youths, Eugene Lang performed a truly altruistic deed.

108

noisy quarrel

Throughout the altercation, not one sensible word was uttered.

107

collect

The miser's aim is to amass and hoard as much gold as possible.

110

combine; unite in one body

The unions will attempt to amalgamate their groups into one national body.

109

capable of using either hand with equal

A switch-hitter in baseball should be naturally ambidextrous.

112

female warrior

Ever since the days of Greek mythology we refer to strong and aggressive women as amazons.

111

unclear or doubtful in meaning

His ambiguous instructions misled us; we did not know which road to take.

114

environment; atmosphere

She went to the restaurant not for the food but for the ambience.

113

moving at an easy pace

When she first mounted the horse, she was afraid to urge the animal to go faster than a gentle amble.

116

the state of having contradictory or con

Torn between loving her parents one minute and hating them the next, she was confused by the ambivalence of her feelings.

115

able to walk

He was described as an ambulatory patient because he was not confined to his bed.

118

food of the gods

ambrosia was supposed to give immortality to any human who ate it.

117

readily managed; willing to be led

He was amenable to any suggestions that came from those he looked up to; he resented advice from his inferiors.

120

improve

Many social workers have attempted to ameliorate the conditions of people living in the slums.

119

convenient features; courtesies

In addition to the customary amenities for the business traveler -- fax machines, modems, a health club -the hotel offers the services of a butler versed in social amenities.

122

correct; change, generally for the better

Hoping to amend his condition, he left Vietnam for the United States.

121

friendly

The dispute was settled in an amicable manner with no harsh words.

124

agreeable; lovable

His amiable disposition pleased all who had dealings with him.

123

friendship

Student exchange programs such as the Experiment in International Living were established to promote international amity.

126

wrong; faulty

Seeing her frown, he wondered if anything were amiss.

125

pardon

When his first child was born, the king granted amnesty to all in prison.

128

loss of memory

Because she was suffering from amnesia, the police could not get the young girl to identify herself.

127

moved by sexual love; loving

Don Juan was known for his amorous adventures.

130

non-moral

The amoral individual lacks a code of ethics; he should not be classified as immoral.

129

able to live both on land and in water

Frogs are classified as amphibian.

132

shapeless; vague; indeterminate

John was subject to panic attacks that left him prey to vague, amorphous fears: he knew he was terrified, but could neither define nor explain the cause of his terror.

131

abundant

He had ample opportunity to dispose of his loot before his police caught up with him.

134

oval building with tiers of seats

The spectators in the amphitheater cheered the gladiators.

133

cut off part of body; prune

When the doctors had to amputate Ted Kennedy's leg to prevent the spread of cancer, he did not let the loss of his leg keep him from participating in sports.

136

enlarge

Her attempts to amplify her remarks were drowned out by the jeers of the audience.

135

charm; talisman

Around her neck she wore the amulet that the witch doctor had given her.

138

in a state of rage

The police had to be called in to restrain him after he ran amok in the department store.

137

causing insensitivity to pain

The analgesic qualities of his lotion will provide temporary relief.

140

something or someone misplaced in time

Shakespeare's reference to clocks in Julius Caesar is an anachronism; no clocks existed in Caesar's time.

139

similarity; parallelism

Your analogy is not a good one because the two situations are not similar.

142

comparable

She called our attention to the things that had been done in an analogous situation and recommended that we do the same.

141

absence of governing body; state of disorder

The assassination of the leaders led to a period of anarchy.

144

person who rebels against the establishment

Only the total overthrow of all governmental regulations would satisfy the anarchist.

143

curse

The high priest anathematized the heretic.

146

solemn curse; someone or something th

He heaped anathema upon his foe.

145

servicing as an aid or accessory; auxiliar

In an ancillary capacity Doctor Watson was helpful; however, Holmes could not trust the good doctor to solve a perplexing case on his own.

148

secure or fasten firmly; be fixed in plac

We set the post in concrete to anchor it in place.

147

condition in which blood lacks red cor

The doctor ascribes her tiredness to anemia.

150

short account of an amusing or interest

Rather than make concrete proposals for welfare reform, President Reagan told anecdotes about poor people who became wealthy despite their impoverished backgrounds.

149

acute pain; extreme suffering

Visiting the site of explosion, Premier Gorbachev wept to see the anguish of the victims and their families.

152

substance that removes sensation with

His monotonous voice acted like an anesthetic; his audience was soon asleep.

151

critical remark

He resented the animadversions of his critics, particularly because he realized they were true.

154

sharp-cornered; stiff in manner

His features, though angular, were curiously attractive.

153

active enmity

He incurred the animosity of the ruling class because he advocated limitations of their power.

156

lively

Her animated expression indicated a keenness of intellect.

155

records; history

In the annals of this period, we find no mention of democratic movements.

158

hostile feeling or intent

The animus of the speaker became obvious to all when he began to indulge in sarcastic and insulting remarks.

157

destroy

The enemy in its revenge tried to annihilate the entire population.

160

reduce brittleness and improve toughness

After the glass is annealed, it will be less subject to chipping and cracking.

159

yearly allowance

The annuity he set up with the insurance company supplements his social security benefits so that he can live very comfortably without working.

162

comment; make explanatory notes

In the appendix to the novel, the critic sought to annotate many of the more esoteric references.

161

drug that relieves pain; opiate

His pain was so great that no anodyne could relieve it.

164

make void

The parents of the eloped couple tried to annul the marriage.

163

abnormal; irregular

He was placed in the anomalous position of seeming to approve procedures that he despised.

166

consecrate

The prophet Samuel anointed David with oil, crowning him king of Israel.

165

state of being nameless; anonymousness

The donor of the gift asked the college not to mention him by name; the dean readily agreed to respect his anonymity.

168

irregularity

A bird that cannot fly is an anomaly.

167

precede

The invention of the radiotelegraph anteceded the development of television by a quarter of a century.

170

hostile; opposed

Despite his lawyers' best efforts to stop him, the angry prisoner continued to make antagonistic remarks to the judge.

169

antiquated; ancient

The antediluvian customs had apparently not changed for thousands of years.

172

preceding events or circumstances that

Before giving permission for Drummie to marry Estella, Miss Havisham had a few questions about the young man's birth and antecedents.

171

student of the history and science of hu

Anthropologists have discovered several relics of prehistoric humans in this area.

174

manlike

The gorilla is the strongest of the anthropoid animals.

173

letdown in thought or emotion

After the fine performance in the first act, the rest of the play was an anticlimax.

176

having human form or characteristics

Primitive religions often have deities with anthropomorphic characteristics.

175

obsolete; outdated

Accustomed to editing his papers on word processors, Philip thought typewriters were too antiquated for him to use.

178

aversion; dislike

His extreme antipathy to dispute caused him to avoid argumentative discussions with his friends.

177

contrast; direct opposite of or to

This tyranny was the antithesis of all that he had hoped for, and he fought it with all his strength.

180

substance that prevents infection

It is advisable to apply an antiseptic to any wound, no matter how slight or insignificant.

179

indifferent

He felt apathetic about the conditions he had observed and did not care to fight against them.

182

iron block used in hammering out metal

After heating the iron horseshoe in the forge, the blacksmith picked it up with his tongs and set it on the anvil.

181

imitate or mimic

He was suspended for a week because he had aped the principal in front of the whole school.

184

lack of caring; indifference

A firm believer in democratic government, she could not understand the apathy of people who never bothered to vote.

183

tip; summit; climax

He was at the apex of his career.

186

opening; hole

She discovered a small aperture in the wall, through which the insects had entered the room.

185

pithy maxim

An aphorism differs from an adage in that it is more philosophical or scientific.

188

loss of speech due to injury or illness

After the automobile accident, the victim had periods of aphasia when he could not speak at all or could only mumble incoherently.

187

poise; composure

Wellington's nonchalance and aplomb in the heat of battle always heartened his followers.

190

a place where bees are kept

Although he spent many hours daily in the apiary, he was very seldom stung by a bee.

189

untrue; made up

To impress his friends, Tom invented apocryphal tales of his adventures in the big city.

192

prophetic; pertaining to revelations; esoteric

His apocalyptic remarks were dismissed by his audience as wild surmises.

191

stroke; loss of consciousness followed

He was crippled by an attack of apoplexy.

194

highest point

When the moon in its orbit is furthest away from the earth, it is at its apogee.

193

druggist

In Holland, apothecaries still sell spices as well as ointments and pills.

196

one who abandons his religious faith o

Because he switched from one party to another, his former friends shunned him as an apostate.

195

deification; glorification

The Roman empress Livia envied the late emperor his apotheosis; she hoped that on her death she, too, would be exalted to the rank of a god.

198

pithy, compact saying

Proverbs are apothegms that have become familiar sayings.

197

ghost; phantom

Hamlet was uncertain about the identity of the apparition that had appeared and spoken to him.

200

dismay; shock

We were appalled by the horrifying conditions in the city's jails.

199

name; title

He was amazed when the witches hailed him with his correct appellation.

202

pacify; soothe

We have discovered that, when we try to appease our enemies, we encourage them to make additional demands.

201

diligent attention; (secondary meaning)

Pleased with how well Tom had whitewashed the fence, Aunt Polly praised him for his application.

204

attach

I shall append this chart to my report.

203

estimate the value of

It is difficult to appraise old paintings; it is easier to call them priceless.

206

appropriate; fitting

He was always able to find the apposite phrase, the correct expression for every occasion.

205

arrest (a criminal); dread; perceive

The police will apprehend the culprit and convict him before long.

208

be thankful for; increase in worth; be tl

Little Orphan Annie truly appreciated the stocks Daddy Warbucks ave her, whose value appreciated considerably over the years.

207

inform

When he was apprised of the dangerous weather conditions, he decided to postpone his trip.

210

fearful; discerning

His apprehensive glances at the people who were walking in the street revealed his nervousness.

209

acquire; take possession of for one's ov

The ranch owners appropriated the lands that had originally been set aside for the Indians' use.

212

approval

Wanting her parents' regard, she looked for some sign of their approbation.

211

with reference to; regarding

I find your remarks apropos of the present situation timely and pertinent.

214

subordinate possessions

He bought the estate and all its appurtenances.

213

curved, hooked

He can be recognized by his aquiline nose, curved like the beak of the eagle.

216

fitness; talent

The counselor evaluated his aptitudes before advising him about the career he should follow.

215

person with power to decide a matter in

As an arbiter in labor disputes, she has won the confidence of the workers and the employers.

218

fit for plowing

The land was no longer arable; erosion had removed the valuable topsoil.

217

act as judge

She was called upon to arbitrate the dispute between the union and the management.

220

unreasonable or capricious; tyrannical

The coach claimed the team lost because the umpire made some arbitrary calls.

219

a covered passageway, usually lined with

The arcade was popular with shoppers because it gave them protection from the summer sun and the winter rain.

222

place where different varieties of trees

Walking along the treelined paths of the arboretum, Rita noted poplars, firs, and some particularly fine sycamores.

221

study of artifacts and relics of early man

The professor of archaeology headed an expedition to the Gobi Desert in search of ancient ruins.

224

secret; mysterious

What was arcane to us was clear to the psychologist.

223

prototype; primitive pattern

The Brooklyn Bridge was the archetype of the many spans that now connect Manhattan with Long Island and New Jersey.

226

antiquated

"Methinks," "thee," and "thou" are archaic words that are no longer part of our normal vocabulary.

225

public records; place where public records

These documents should be part of the archives so that historians may be able to evaluate them in the future.

228

group of closely located islands

When he looked at the map and saw the archipelagoes in the South Seas, he longed to visit them.

227

hard; strenuous

Her arduous efforts had sapped her energy.

230

heat; passion; zeal

Katya's ardor was contagious; soon all her fellow demonstrators were busily making posters and handing out flyers, inspired by her ardent enthusiasm for the cause.

229

operatic solo

At her Metropolitan Opera audition, Marian Anderson sang an aria from Norma.

232

slang

In the argot of the underworld, she "was taken for a ride."

231

hereditary nobility; privileged class

Americans have mixed feelings about hereditary aristocracy:

234

dry; barren

The cactus had adapted to survive in an arid environment.

233

fragrant

Medieval sailing vessels brought aromatic herbs from China to Europe.

236

fleet of warships

Queen Elizabeth's navy was able to defeat the mighty armada that threatened the English coast.

235

marshal; draw up in order

His actions were bound to array public sentiment against him.

238

charge in court; indict

After his indictment by the Grand Jury, the accused man was arraigned in the County Criminal Court.

237

being in debt

He was in arrears with his payments on the car.

240

clothe; adorn

She liked to watch her mother array herself in her finest clothes before going out for the evening.

239

gully

Until the heavy rains of the past spring, this arroyo had been a dry bed.

242

pride, haughtiness

The arrogance of the nobility was resented by the middle class.

241

products of primitive culture

Archaeologists debated the significance of the artifacts discovered in the ruins of Asia Minor and came to no conclusion.

244

effective; distinct

Her articulate presentation of the advertising campaign impressed her employers.

243

a manually skilled worker

Artists and artisans alike are necessary to the development of a culture.

246

deception; trickery

The Trojan War proved to the Greeks that cunning and artifice were often more effective than military might.

245

controlling influence

President Marcos failed to maintain his ascendancy over Philippines.

248

without guile; open and honest

Red Riding Hood's artless comment, "Grandma, what big eyes you have!" indicates the child's innocent surprises at her "grandmother's" changed appearance.

247

doctrine of self-denial

We find asceticism practiced in many monasteries.

250

practicing self-denial; austere

The wealthy young man could not understand the ascetic life led by the monks.

249

preventing infection; having a cleansin

Hospitals succeeded in lowering the mortality rate as soon as they introduced aseptic conditions.

252

refer; attribute; assign

I can ascribe no motive for her acts.

251

stupid

Your asinine remarks prove that you have not given this problem any serious consideration.

254

ash-colored; deadly pale

Her face was ashen with fear.

253

crookedly; slanted; at an angle

When he placed his hat askew upon his head, his observers laughed.

256

with a sideways or indirect look

Looking askance at her questioner, she displayed her scorn.

255

slandering remark

Do not cast aspersions on her character.

258

sharpness (of temper)

These remarks, spoken with asperity, stung the boys to whom they had been directed.

257

noble ambition

Youth's aspirations should be as lofty as the stars.

260

seeker after position or status

Although I am as aspirant for public office, I am not willing to accept the dictates of the party bosses.

259

analyze; evaluate

When they assayed the ore, they found that they had discovered a very rich vein.

262

assault

He was assailed with questions after his lecture.

261

state strongly or positively; insist on or

When Jill asserted that nobody else in the junior class had such an early curfew, her parents asserted themselves, telling her that if she didn't get home by nine o'clock she would be grounded for the week.

264

agree; accept

It gives me great pleasure to assent to your request.

263

diligent

It took Rembrandt weeks of assiduous labor before he was satisfied with his portrait of his son.

266

estimation; appraisal

I would like to have your assessment of the situation in South Africa.

265

ease; lessen(pain)

Your messages of cheer should assuage her suffering.

268

absorb; cause to become homogenous

The manner in which the United States was able to assimilate the hordes of immigrants during the nineteenth and early part of the twentieth centuries will always be a source of pride.

267

promise or pledge; certainty; self-confidence

When Guthrie gave Guinness his assurance that rehearsals were going well, he spoke with such assurance that Guinness was convinced.

270

something taken for granted; the taking

The young princess made the foolish assumption that the regent would not object to her Assumption of power.

269

eye defect that prevents proper focus

As soon as his parents discovered that the boy suffered from astigmatism, they took him to the optometrist for corrective glasses.

272

small planet

asteroids have become commonplace to the readers of interstellar travel stories in science fiction magazines.

271

binding; causing contraction; harsh or

The astringent quality of unsweetened lemon juice made swallowing difficult.

274

relating to the stars

She was amazed at the number of astral bodies the new telescope revealed.

273

wise; shrewd

That was a very astute observation.

276

enormously large or extensive

The government seemed willing to spend astronomical sums on weapons development.

275

place of refuge or shelter; protection

The refugees sought asylum from religious persecution in a new land.

278

into parts; apart

Their points of view are poles asunder.

277

resemblance to remote ancestors rather

throwback Martin seemed an atavism to his Tuscan ancestors who lavished great care on their small plots of soil.

280

not identical on both sides of a dividin

Because one eyebrow was set markedly higher than the other, William's face had a particularly asymmetric appearance.

279

make amends for; pay for

He knew no way in which he could atone for his brutal crime.

282

denying the existence of God

His atheistic remarks shocked the religious worshippers.

281

wasting away

Polio victims need physiotherapy to prevent the atrophy of affected limbs.

284

brutal deed

In time of war, many atrocities are committed by invading armies.

283

testify; bear witness

Having served as a member of a grand jury, I can attest that our system of indicting individuals is in need of improvement.

286

make thin; weaken

By withdrawing their forces, the generals hoped to attenuate the enemy lines.

285

ascribe; explain

I attribute her success in science to the encouragement she received from her parents.

288

essential quality

His outstanding attribute was his kindness.

287

daring; bold

Audiences cheered as Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia made their audacious, death-defying leap to freedom and escaped Darth Vader's troops.

290

gradual wearing down

They decided to wage a war of attrition rather than to rely on all-out attack.

289

increase

How can we hope to augment our forces when our allies are deserting us?

292

examination of accounts

When the bank examiners arrived to hold their annual audit, they discovered the embezzlements of the chief cashier.

291

impressive; majestic

Visiting the palace at Versailles, she was impressed by the august surroundings in which she found herself.

294

omen; prophecy

He interpreted the departures of the birds as an augury of evil.

293

pertaining to the aurora borealis

The auroral display was particularly spectacular that evening.

296

sun's corona; halo

Many medieval paintings depict saintly characters with aureols around their heads.

295

strict, stern

His austere demeanor prevented us from engaging in our usual frivolous activities.

298

favoring success

With favorable weather conditions, it was an auspicious moment to set sail.

297

prove genuine

An expert was needed to authenticate the original Van Gogh painting, distinguishing it from its imitation.

300

sternness; severity; lack of luxuries

The austerity and dignity of the court were maintained by the new justices, who were a strict and solemn group.

299

having the weight of authority; dictator

We accepted her analysis of the situation as authoritative.

302

favoring or exercising total control; no

The people had no control over their destiny; they were forced to obey the dictates of the authoritarian regime.

301

mechanism that imitates actions of human

Long before science fiction readers became aware of robots, writers were creating stories of automation who could outperform humans.

304

monarch with supreme power

He ran his office like an autocrat, giving no one else any authority.

303

examination of a dead body; postmortem

The medical examiner ordered an autopsy to determine the cause of death.

306

self-governing

This island is a colony; however, in most matters, it is autonomous and receives no orders from the mother country.

305

greed for wealth

King Midas's avarice has been famous for centuries.

308

offering or providing help; additional c

To prepare for the emergency, they built an auxiliary power station.

307

reluctant

He was averse to revealing the sources of his information.

310

state confidently

I wish to aver that I am certain of success.

309

prevent; turn away

She averted her eyes from the dead cat on the highway.

312

firm dislike

Their mutual aversion was so great that they refused to speak to one another.

311

greedy; eager for

He was avid for learning and read everything he could get.

314

enclosure for birds

The aviary at the zoo held nearly 300 birds.

313

declare openly

I must avow that I am innocent.

316

secondary or minor occupation

His hobby proved to be so fascinating and profitable that gradually he abandoned his regular occupation and concentrated on his avocation.

315

solemn wonder

The tourists gazed with awe at the tremendous expanse of the Grand Canyon.

318

like an uncle

Avuncular pride did not prevent him from noticing his nephew's shortcomings.

317

distorted; crooked

He held his head awry, giving the impression that he had caught cold in his neck during the night.

320

pointed tool used for piercing

She used an awl to punch additional holes in the leather belt she had bought.

319

sky blue

azure skies are indicative of good weather.

322

self-evident truth requiring no proof

Before a student can begin to think along the lines of Euclidean geometry, he must accept certain principles or axioms.

321

drunken

Emperor Nero attended the bacchanalian orgy.

324

chatter idly

The little girl babbled about her doll.

323

teasing conversation

Her friends at work greeted the news of her engagement with cheerful badinage.

326

pester; annoy

She was forced to change her telephone number because she was badgered by obscene phone calls.

325

harass; tease

The soldiers baited the prisoners, terrorizing them.

328

frustrate; perplex

The new code baffled the enemy agents.

327

stoop short, as if faced with an obstacle

The chief of police balked at sending his officers into the riot-torn area.

330

menacing; deadly

Casting a baleful eye at his successful rival, the rejected suitor stole off, vowing to have his revenge.

329

heavy substance used to add stability o

The ship was listing badly to one side; it was necessary to shift the ballast in the hold to get her back on an even keel.

332

foil

When the warden learned that several inmates were planning to escape, he took steps to balk their attempt.

331

mild; fragrant

A balmy breeze refreshed us after the sultry blast.

334

something that relieves pain

Friendship is the finest balm for the pangs of disappointed love.

333

discuss lightly; exchange blows or wor

The president refused to bandy words with reporters at the press conference.

336

hackneyed; commonplace; trite

His frequent use of clichés made his essay seem banal.

335

good-naturedly ridiculing

They resented his bantering remarks because they misinterpreted his teasing as sarcasm.

338

cause of ruin

Lack of public transportation is the bane of urban life.

337

poet

The ancient bard Homer sang of the fall of Troy.

340

sharp projection from fishhook, etc.; p

The barb from the fishhook caught in his finger as he grabbed the fish.

339

highly ornate

Accustomed to the severe, angular lines of modern skyscrapers, they found the flamboyance of baroque architecture amusing.

342

shameless; bold; unconcealed

Shocked by Huck Finn's barefaced lies, Miss Watson prayed the good Lord would give him a sense of his unregenerate wickedness.

341

counselor-at-law

Galsworthy started as a barrister, but when he found the practice of law boring, turned to writing.

344

barrier laid down by artillery fire; over

The company was forced to retreat through the barrage of heavy canyons.

343

luxuriate; take pleasure in warmth

basking on the beach, she relaxed so completely that she fell asleep.

346

trader

The barterer exchanged trinkets for the natives' furs.

345

let down; restrain

Until it was time to open the presents, the children had to bate their curiosity.

348

stronghold; something seen as a source

The villagers fortified the town hall, hoping this improvised bastion could protect them from the guerrilla raids.

347

indecent; obscene

She took offense at his bawdy remarks.

350

trinket; trifle

The child was delighted with the bauble she had won in the grab bag.

349

blessedness; state of bliss

Growing closer to God each day, the mystic achieved a state of indescribable beatitude.

352

giving bliss; blissful

The beatific smile on the child's face made us very happy.

351

wet thoroughly

We were so bedraggled by the severe storm that we had to change into dry clothing.

354

dress with vulgar finery

The witch doctors were bedizened in their gaudiest costumes.

353

father; produce; give rise to

One good turn may deserve another; it does not necessarily beget another.

356

confuse thoroughly

His attempts to clarify the situation succeeded only on befuddling her further.

355

amuse; delude; cheat

I beguiled himself during the long hours by playing solitaire.

358

resent

I begrudge every minute I have to spend attending meetings.

357

obligated; indebted

Since I do not wish to be beholden to anyone, I cannot accept this favor.

360

huge creature; something of monstrous

Sportcasters nicknamed the linebacker "The Behemoth."

359

explain or go over excessively or to a ri

The debate coach warned her student not to bore the audience by belaboring his point.

362

be suited to; be incumbent upon

In this time of crisis, it behooves all of us to remain calm and await the instructions of our superiors.

361

besiege

As soon as the city was beleaguered, the life became more subdued as the citizens began their long wait for outside assistance.

364

delayed

He apologized for his belated note of condolence to the widow of his friend and explained that he had just learned of her husband's untimely death.

363

disparage; depreciate

Parents should not belittle their children's early attempts at drawing, but should encourage their efforts.

366

contradict; give a false impression

His coarse, hard-bitten exterior belied his innate sensitivity.

365

quarrelsome

Whenever he had too much to drink, he became belligerent and tried to pick fights with strangers.

368

warlike

His bellicose disposition alienated his friends.

367

blessing

The appearance of the sun after the many rainy days was like a benediction.

370

confused; lost in thought; preoccupied

Jill studied the garbled instructions with a bemused look on her face.

369

kindly; doing good

The overgenerous philanthropist had to curb his beneficent impulses before he gave away all his money and left himself with nothing.

372

gift giver; patron

Scrooge later became Tiny Tim's benefactor and gave him a benediction.

371

generous; charitable

His benevolent nature prevented him from refusing any beggar who accosted him.

374

person entitled to benefits or proceeds

You may change your beneficiary as often as you wish.

373

blessing

Let us pray that the benison of peace once more shall prevail among the nations of the world.

376

kindly; favorable; not malignant

The old man was well liked because of his benign attitude toward friend and stranger alike.

375

leave to someone by means of a will; h

In his will, Father bequeathed his watch to Phillip; the bequest meant a great deal to the boy.

378

determined; natural talent or inclination

bent on advancing in the business world, the secretary heroine of Working Girl had a true bent for high finance.

377

state of being deprived of something v

His friends gathered to console him upon his sudden bereavement.

380

scold strongly

He feared she would berate him for his forgetfulness.

379

frenzied

Angered, he went berserk and began to wreck the room.

382

deprived of; lacking

The foolish gambler soon found himself bereft of funds.

381

soil, defile

The scandalous remarks in the newspaper besmirch the reputations of every member of the society.

384

harass; trouble

Many problems beset the American public school system.

383

confer

He wished to bestow great honors upon the hero.

386

beastlike; brutal; inhuman

The Red Cross sought to put an end to the bestial treatment of prisoners of war.

385

large group

The movie actor was surrounded by a bevy of startlets.

388

become engaged to marry

The announcement that they had become betrothed surprised their friends who had not suspected any romance.

387

quarrel

The children bickered morning, noon, and night, exasperating their parents.

390

two-chambered, as a legislative body

The United States Congress is a bicameral body.

389

divided into two branches; forked

With a bifurcated branch and a piece of elastic rubber, he made a crude but effective slingshot.

392

every two years

The group held biennial meetings instead of annual ones.

391

suffering from indigestion; irritable

His bilious temperament was apparent to all who heard him rant about his difficulties.

394

stubborn intolerance

Brought up in a democratic atmosphere, student was shocked by the bigotry and narrowness expressed by several of his classmates.

393

temporary encampment

While in bivouac, we spent the night in our sleeping bags under the stars.

396

swindle; cheat

The con man specialized in bilking insurance companies.

395

bleach; whiten

Although age had blanched his hair, he was still vigorous and energetic.

398

fantastic; violently contrasting

The plot of the novel was too bizarre to be believed.

397

flattery

Despite the salesperson's blandishments, the customer did not buy the outfit.

400

soothing; mild

She used a bland ointment for her sunburn.

399

profane; impious

The people in the room were shocked by his his blasphemous language.

402

bored with pleasure or dissipation

Your blase attitude gives your students an erroneous impression of the joys of scholarship.

401

cold; cheerless

The Aleutian Islands are bleak military outposts.

404

extremely obvious; loudly offensive

Caught in a blatant lie, the scoundrel had only one regret: he wished that he had lied more subtly.

403

gay; joyous; careless

Shelley called the skylark a "blithe spirit" because of its happy song.

406

suffering from a disease; destroyed

The extent of the blighted areas could be seen only when viewed from the air.

405

talkative boaster

After all Sol's talk about his big show business connections led nowhere, Sally decided he was just another blowhard.

408

swollen or puffed as with water or air

Her bloated stomach came from drinking so much water.

407

pretense (of strength); deception; high

Claire thought Lord Byron's boast that he would swim the Hellespont was just a bluff, she was astounded when he dove from the high bluff into the waters below.

410

club; heavy-headed weapon

His walking stick served him as a bludgeon on many occasions.

409

utter impulsively

Before she could stop him, he blurted out the news.

412

error

The criminal's fatal blunder led to his capture.

411

counterfeit; not authentic

The police quickly found the distributors of the bogus twenty-dollar bills.

414

foreshadow; portend

The gloomy skies and the sulfurious odors from the mineral springs seemed to bode evil to those who settled in the area.

413

support; reinforce

The debaters amassed file boxes full of evidence to bolster their arguments.

416

violent; rough; noisy

The unruly crowd became even more boisterous when he tried to quiet them.

415

blessing; benefit

The recent rains that filled our empty reservoirs were a boon to the whole community.

418

pompous, inflated language

Filled with bombast, the orator's speech left the audience more impressed with his pomposity than with his logic.

417

clear beef soup

The cup of bouillon served by the stewards was welcomed by those who had been chilled by the cold ocean breezes.

420

rude; insensitive

Though Mr. Potts constantly interrupted his wife, she ignored his boorish behavior, for she had lost hope of teaching him courtesy.

419

middle class

The French Revolution was inspired by the bourgeois, who resented the aristocracy.

422

generous; showing bounty

She distributed gifts in a bountiful and gracious manner.

421

expurgate

After the film editors had bowdlerized the language in the script, the motion picture's rating was changed from "R" to "PG."

424

cowlike; placid and dull

Nothing excites Esther; even when she won the state lottery, she still preserved her air of bovine calm.

423

boasting

He was disliked because his manner was always full of braggadocio.

426

somewhat saline

He found the only wells in the area were brackish; drinking the water made him nauseous.

425

swagger; assumed air of defiance

The bravado of the young criminal disappeared when he was confronted by the victims of his brutal attack.

428

boaster

Modest by nature, she was no braggart, preferring to let her accomplishments speak for themselves.

427

insolent

Her brazen contempt for authority angered the officials.

430

muscular strength; sturdiness

It takes brawn to become a champion weight-lifter.

429

width; extent

We were impressed by the breadth of her knowledge.

432

breaking of contract or duty; fissure; g

They found a breach in the enemy's fortifications and penetrated their lines.

431

tawny or grayish with streaks or spots

He was disappointed in the litter because the puppies were brindled; he had hoped for animals of uniform color.

434

conciseness

brevity is essential when you send a telegram or cablegram; you are charged for every word.

433

easily broken; difficult

My employer's brittle personality made it difficult for me to get along with her.

436

rising like bristles; showing irritation

The dog stood there, bristling with anger.

435

rich, figured fabric

The sofa was covered with expensive brocade.

438

open up

He did not even try to broach the subject of poetry.

437

ornamental clasp

She treasured the brooch because it was an heirloom.

440

pamphlet

This brochure on farming was issued by the Department of Agriculture.

439

bully; intimidate

Billy resisted Ted's attempts to browbeat him into handing over his lunch money.

442

tolerate; endure

The dean would brook no interference with his disciplinary actions.

441

rustic; pastoral

The meadow was the scene of bucolic gaiety.

444

blunt; abrupt

She was offended by his brusque reply.

443

bugbear; object of baseless terror

If we become frightened by such bugaboos, we are no wiser than the birds who fear scarecrows.

446

clowning

John Candy's buffoonery in Uncle Buck was hilarious.

445

earthwork or other strong defense; pers

The navy is our principal bulwark against invasion.

448

gold and silver in the form of bars

Much bullion is stored in the vaults at Fort Knox.

447

government by bureaus

Many people fear that the constant introduction of federal agencies will create a government by bureaucracy.

450

spoil by clumsy behavior

I was afraid you would bungle his assignment but I had no one else to send.

449

give an imitation that ridicules

In his caricature, he burlesqued the mannerisms of his adversary.

452

grow forth; send out buds

In the spring, the plants that burgeon are a promise of the beauty that is to come.

451

make shiny by rubbing; polish

The maid burnished the brass fixtures until they reflected the lamplight.

454

husky; muscular

The burly mover lifted the packing crate with ease.

453

full-bosomed; plump; jolly

High fashion models usually are slender rather than buxom.

456

support; prop up

Just as architects buttress the walls of cathedrals with flying buttresses, debates buttress their arguments with facts.

455

hiding place

The detectives followed the suspects until he led them to the cache where he had stored his loot.

458

small group of persons secretly united

The cabal was defeated when its scheme was discovered.

457

corpse

In some states, it is illegal to dissect cadavers.

460

discord

Some people seem to enjoy the cacophony of an orchestra that is tuning up.

459

rhythmic rise and fall (of words or sound)

Marching down the road, the troops sang out, following the cadence set by the sergeant.

462

like a corpse; pale

From his cadaverous appearance, we could see how the disease had ravaged him.

461

disaster; misery

As news of the calamity spread, offers of relief poured in to the stricken community.

464

coax; wheedle

I will not be cajoled into granting your wish.

463

beautiful writing; excellent penmanship

As we examine ancient manuscripts, we became impressed with the calligraphy of the scribes.

466

ability; capacity

A man of such caliber should not be assigned such menial tasks.

465

youthful; immature

In that youthful movement, the leaders were only a little less callow than their immature followers.

468

hardened; unfeeling

He had worked in the hospital for so many years that he was callous to the suffering in the wards.

467

malicious misrepresentation

He could endure his financial failure, but he could not bear the calumny that his foes heaped upon him.

470

heat-producing

Coal is much more calorific than green wood.

469

shell or jewel carved in relief

Tourists are advised not to purchase cameos from the street peddlers of Rome who sell poor specimens of the carver's art.

472

good-fellowship

What he loved best about his job was the sense of camaraderie he and his co-workers shared.

471

frankness

The candor and simplicity of his speech impressed all, it was all clear he held nothing back.

474

unfounded rumor

It is almost impossible to protect oneself from such a base canard.

473

any ulcerous sore; any evil

Poverty is a canker in the body politic; it must be cured.

476

related to dogs; doglike

Some days the canine population of Berkeley seems almost to outnumber the human population.

475

pious phraseology; jargon of criminals

Angry that the president had slashed the education budget, we dismissed his speech on the importance of education as mere cant.

478

shrewd; thrifty

The canny Scotsman was more than a match for the swindlers.

477

story set to music, to be sung by a chor

The choral society sang the new cantata composed by its leader.

480

ill-humored; irritable

Constantly complaining about his treatment and refusing to cooperate with the hospital staff, he was a cantankerous patient.

479

division of a long poem

Dante's poetic masterpiece The Divine Comedy is divided into cantos.

482

slow gallop

Because the racehorse had outdistanced its competition so easily, the reporter wrote that the race was won in a canter.

481

spacious

In the capacious areas of the railroad terminal, thousands of travelers lingered while waiting for their train.

484

determine or seek opinions, votes, etc.

After canvassing the sentiments of his constituents, the congressman was confident that he represented the majority opinion of his district.

483

surrender

The enemy was warned to capitulate or face annihilation.

486

having a very fine bore

The changes in surface tension of liquids in capillary vessels is of special interest to physicists.

485

fickle; incalculable

The storm was capricious and changed course constantly.

488

whim

She was an unpredictable creature, acting on caprice, never taking thought of the consequences.

487

faultfinding

His criticisms were always captious and frivolous, never offering constructive suggestions.

490

title; chapter heading; text under illustr

I find the captions that accompany these cartoons very clever and humorous.

489

shell covering the back (of a turtle, cral

At the children's zoo, Richard perched on top of the giant turtle's hard carapace as it slowly made its way around the enclosure.

492

glass water bottle

With each dinner, the patron receives a carafe of red or white wine.

491

causing cancer

Many supposedly harmless substances have been revealed to be carcinogenic.

494

unit of weight for precious stones; mea

He gave her a diamond that weighed three carats and was mounted in an eighteen-carat gold band.

493

lurch; sway from side to side

The taxicab careened wildly as it rounded the corner.

496

chief

If you want to increase your word power, the cardinal rule of vocabulary-building is to read.

495

set of bells capable of being played

The carillon in the bell tower of the Coca-Cola pavilion at the New York World's Fair provided musical entertainment every hour.

498

distortion; burlesque

The caricatures he drew always emphasized personal weaknesses of the people he burlesqued.

497

fleshly

The public was more interested in carnal pleasures than in spiritual matters.

500

destruction of life

The carnage that can be caused by atomic warfare adds to the responsibilities of our statesmen.

499

drunken revel

The party degenerated into an ugly carousal.

502

meat-eating

The lion is a carnivorous animal.

501

rotting flesh of a dead body

Buzzards are nature's scavengers; they eat the carrion left behind by other predators.

504

petty criticism; fault-finding

Welcoming constructive criticism, Lexy appreciated her editor's comments, finding them free of carping.

503

small waterfall

We could not appreciate the beauty of the many cascades as we made detours around each of them to avoid getting wet.

506

map-maker

Though not a professional cartographer, Tolkien was able to construct a map of the fictional world.

505

punishment; severe criticism

Sensitive even to mild criticism, Woolf could not bear castigation that she found in certain reviews.

508

one of the hereditary classes in Hindu society

The differences created by caste in India must be wiped out if true democracy is to prevail in that country.

507

deluge; upheaval

A cataclysm such as the French Revolution affects all countries.

510

serious or fatal accident

The number of automotive casualties on this holiday weekend was high.

509

slingshot; hurling machine

Airplanes are sometimes launched from battleships by catapults.

512

agent that brings about a chemical change

Many chemical reactions cannot take place without the presence of a catalyst.

511

calamity

The Johnstown flood was a catastrophe.

514

great waterfall; eye abnormality

She gazed with awe at the mighty cataract known as Niagara Falls.

513

without exceptions; unqualified; absolute

Though the captain claimed he was never, never sick at sea, he finally qualified his categorical denial; he was hardly ever sick at sea.

516

book for religious instruction; instruction

He taught by engaging his pupils in a catechism until they gave him the correct answer.

515

purgative

Some drugs act as laxatives when taken in small doses but act as cathartics when taken in much larger doses.

518

purging or cleansing of any passage of

Aristotle maintained that tragedy created a catharsis by purging the soul of base concepts.

517

private meeting of members of a party

At the opening of Congress the members of the Democratic Party held a caucus to elect the majority leader of the House and the party whip.

520

universal; wide-ranging liberal

He was extremely catholic in his taste and read everything he could find in the library.

519

implying a cause-and-effect relationship

The psychologist maintained there was a causal relationship between the nature of one's early childhood experiences and one's adult personality.

522

to make watertight (by plugging seams)

When water from the shower leaked into the basement, we knew it was time to caulk the tiles at the edges of the shower stall.

521

burn with hot iron or caustic

In order to prevent infection, the doctor cauterized the wound.

524

burning; sarcastically biting

The critic's caustic remarks angered the hapless actors who were the subjects of his sarcasm.

523

casual and offhand; arrogant

Sensitive about having her ideas taken lightly, Marcia felt insulted by Mark's cavalier dismissal of her suggestion.

526

procession; parade

As described by Chaucer, the cavalcade of Canterbury pilgrims was motley group.

525

transfer; yield title to

I intend to cede this property to the city.

528

make frivolous objections

I respect your sensible criticisms, but I dislike the way you cavil about unimportant details.

527

heavenly

She spoke of the celestial joys that awaited virtuous souls in the hereafter.

530

speed; rapidity

Hamlet resented his mother's celerity in remarrying within a month after his father's death.

529

overseer of morals; person who eliminates

Soldiers dislike having their mail read by a censor but understand the need for this precaution.

532

abstaining from sexual intercourse; un-

Though the late Havelock Ellis wrote extensively about sexual customs and was considered an expert in such matters, recent studies maintain he was celibate throughout his life.

531

blame; criticize

He was censured for his inappropriate behavior.

534

critical

censorious people delight in casting blame.

533

denoting a widely used temperature scale

On the centigrade thermometer, the freezing point of water is zero degrees.

536

mythical figure, half man and half horse

I was particularly impressed by the statue of the centaur in the Roman Hall of the museum.

535

machine that separates substances by weight

At the dairy, we employ a centrifuge to separate cream from milk.

538

radiating; departing from the center

Many automatic drying machines remove excess moisture from clothing by centrifugal force.

537

Roman army officer

Because he was in command of a company of one hundred soldiers, he was called a centurion.

540

tending toward the center

Does centripetal force or the force of gravity bring orbiting bodies to the earth's surface?

539

thought

Mathematics problems sometimes require much cerebration.

542

pertaining to the brain or intellect

The content of philosophical works is cerebral in nature and requires much thought.

541

stopping

The workers threatened a cessation of all activities if their demands were not met.

544

marked by formality

Ordinary dress would be inappropriate at so ceremonious an affair.

543

warm by rubbing

The collar chafed his neck.

546

yielding to another; ceding

The cession of Alaska to the United States is discussed in this chapter.

545

bantering; joking

Sometimes his flippant and chaffing remarks annoy us.

548

worthless products of an endeavor

When you separate the wheat from the chaff, be sure you throw out the chaff.

547

goblet; consecrated cup

In a small room adjoining the cathedral, many ornately decorated chalices made by the most famous European goldsmiths were on display.

550

vexation; disappointment

Her refusal to go with us filled us with chagrin.

549

support militantly

Martin Luther King, Jr., won the Nobel Peace Prize because he championed the oppressed in their struggle for equality.

552

lizard that changes color in different situations

Like the chameleon, he assumed the political coloration of every group he met.

551

divine gift; great popular charm or app

Political commentators have deplored the importance of a candidate's charisma in these days of television campaigning.

554

in utter disorder

He tried to bring order into the chaotic state of affairs.

553

cautious; sparing or restrained about gi

A prudent, thrifty New Englander, DeWitt was as chary of investing money in junk bonds as he was chary of paying people unnecessary compliments.

556

quack; pretender to knowledge

When they realized that the Wizard didn't know how to get them back to Kansas, Dorothy and her friends were sure they'd been duped by a charlatan.

555

abyss

They could not see the bottom of the chasm.

558

ornament a metal surface by indenting

With his hammer, he carefully chased an intricate design onto the surface of the chalice.

557

pure

Her chaste and decorous garb was appropriately selected for the solemnity of the occasion.

560

framework and working parts of an aut

Examining the car after the accident, the owner discovered that the body had been ruined but that the chassis was unharmed.

559

punish

I must chastise you for this offense.

562

discipline; punish in order to correct

Whom God loves, God chastens.

561

stop motion; curb or restrain

Thrusting out her arm, Grandma checked Bobby's lunge at his sister. "Young man," she said, "you'd better check your temper."

564

blindly devoted patriot

A chauvinist cannot recognize any faults in his country, no matter how flagrant they may be.

563

angelic; innocent-looking

With her cheerful smile and rosy cheeks, she was a particularly cherubic child.

566

marked by changes in fortune

During his checkered career he had lived in palatial mansions and in dreary boardinghouses.

565

scold

Grandma began to chide Steven for his lying.

568

trickery

Your deceitful tactics in this case are indications of chicanery.

567

courteous; faithful; brave

chivalrous behavior involves noble words and good deeds.

570

fantastic; highly imaginative

Poe's chimerical stories are sometimes too morbid for reading in bed.

569

art of dancing

Martha Graham introduced a form of choreography that seemed awkward and alien to those who had been brought up on classic ballet.

572

hot-tempered

His flushed, angry face indicated a choleric nature.

571

report; record (in chronological order)

The gossip columnist was paid to chronicle the latest escapades of the socially prominent celebrities.

574

long established, as a disease

The doctors were finally able to attribute his chronic headaches and nausea to traces of formaldehyde gas in his apartment.

573

having minute hairs

The paramecium is a ciliated, one-celled animal.

576

boorish; rude

Dismayed by his churlish manners at the party, the girls vowed never to invite him again.

575

secret code

Lacking his code book, the spy was unable to decode the message sent to him in cipher.

578

nonentity; worthless person or thing

She claimed her ex-husband was a total cipher and wondered why she had ever married him.

577

roundabout

Because of the traffic congestion on the main highways, she took a circuitous route.

580

small ring; band

This tiny circlet is very costly because it is set with precious stones.

579

limit; confine

Although I do not wish to circumscribe your activities, I must insist that you complete this assignment before you start anything else.

582

indirect or roundabout expression

He was afraid to call spade a spade and resorted to circumlocutions to avoid direct reference to his subject.

581

outwit; baffle

In order to circumvent the enemy, we will make two preliminary attacks in other sections before starting our major campaign.

584

prudent; cautious

Investigating before acting, she tried always to be circumspect.

583

quote; commend

She could cite passages in the Bible from memory.

586

fortress

The citadel overlooked the city like a protecting angel.

585

having foresight; fortuneteller

Cassandra's clairvoyant warning was not heeded by the Trojans.

588

having to do with citizens or the state;

Although internal Revenue Service agents are civil servants, they are not always civil to suspected tax evaders.

587

noise

The clamor of the children at play outside made it impossible for her to take a nap.

590

climb by crawling

She clambered over the wall.

589

loud, resounding noise

The blacksmith was accustomed to the clangor of hammers on steel.

592

secret

After avoiding their chaperon, the lovers had a clandestine meeting.

591

shrill, trumpetlike sound

We woke to the clarion to muffle its striking.

594

striker (tongue) of a bell

Wishing to be undisturbed by the bell, Dale wound his scarf around the clapper to muffle its striking.

593

collarbone

Even though he wore shoulder pads, the football player broke his clavicle during a practice scrimmage.

596

fear of being locked in

His fellow classmates laughed at his claustrophobia and often threatened to lock him in his room.

595

split

Erosion caused a cleft in the huge boulder.

598

split asunder

The lightning cleaves the tree in two.

597

phrase culled in meaning by repetition

High school compositions are often marred by such cliches as "strong as an ox."

600

disposition to be lenient; mildness, as c

The lawyer was pleased when the case was sent to Judge Smith's chambers because Smith was noted for her clemency toward first offenders.

599

relating to the highest point

When he reached the climactic portions of the book, he could not stop reading.

602

body of customers

The rock club attracted a young, stylish clientele.

601

small, exclusive group

She charged that a clique had assumed control of school affairs.

604

region; climate

His doctors advised him to move to a milder clime.

603

great influence (especially political or social)

Gatsby wondered whether he had enough clout to be admitted to the exclusive club.

606

monastery or convent

The nuns lived in the cloister.

605

thicken; congeal; clot

Even after you remove the pudding from the burner, it will continue to coagulate as it stands.

608

distasteful (because excessive); excessive

Disliking the cloying sweetness of standard wedding cakes, Jody and Tom chose a homemade carrot cake for their reception.

607

concluding section of a musical or literary work

The piece concluded with a distinctive coda that strikingly brought together various motifs.

610

combine; fuse

The brooks coalesce into one large river.

609

supplement to the body of a will

This codicil was drawn up five years after the writing of the original will.

612

treat gently; pamper

Don't coddle the children too much; they need a taste of discipline.

611

use of force

They forced him to obey, but only by great coercion.

614

arrange (laws, rules) as a code; classify

We need to take the varying rules and regulations of the different health agencies and codify them into a national health code.

613

tooth projecting from a wheel

A bicycle chain moves through a series of cogs in order to propel the bike.

616

living at the same time as; contempora

coeval with the dinosaur, the pterodactyl flourished during the Mesozoic era.

615

think over

cogitate on this problem; the solution will come.

618

convincing

She presented cogent arguments to the jury.

617

having to do with knowing or perceivir

Though Jack was emotionally immature, his cognitive development was admirable; he was very advanced intellectually.

620

related linguistically; allied by blood; s

The English word "mother" cognate to the Latin word "mater," whose influence is visible in the words "maternal" and "maternity."

619

stick together

Solids have a greater tendency to cohere than liquids.

622

knowledge

During the election campaign, the two candidates were kept in full cognizance of the international situation.

621

armed band

Caesar and his Roman cohorts conquered almost all of the known world.

624

tendency to keep together

A firm believer in the maxim "Divide and conquer," the emperor, by lies and trickery, sought to disrupt the cohesion of the free nations.

623

occurring at the same time

Some people find the coincident events in Hardy's novels annoyingly improbable.

626

hairstyle

You can make a statement with your choice of coiffure: in the 60's many African-Americans affirmed their racial heritage by wearing their hair in Afros.

625

work together

Two writers collaborated in preparing this book.

628

utensil with perforated bottom used for

Before serving the spaghetti, place it in a colander to drain it.

627

examine in order to verify authenticity;

They collated the newly found manuscripts to determine their age.

630

work of art put together from fragment

Scraps of cloth, paper doilies, and old photographs all went into her collage.

629

a light meal

Tea sandwiches and cookies were offered at the collation.

632

security given for loan

The sum you wish to borrow is so large that it must be secured by collateral.

631

informal discussion

I enjoy our colloquies but I sometimes wish that they could be made more formal and more searching.

634

pertaining to conversational or commo

Your use of colloquial expressions in a formal essay such as the one you have presented spoils the effect you hope to achieve.

633

huge

Radio City Music Hall has a colossal stage.

636

conspiring in a fraudulent scheme

The swindlers were found guilty of collusion.

635

in a coma; extremely sleepy

The long-winded orator soon had his audience in a comatose state.

638

gigantic statue

The legendary Colossus of Rhodes, bronze statue of the sun god that dominated the harbor of the Greek seaport, was one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

637

attractive; agreeable

I would rather have a poor and comely wife than a rich and homely one.

640

easily burned

After the recent outbreak of fires in private homes, the fire commissioner ordered that all combustible materials be kept in safe containers.

639

rebuke; deserts

After his earlier rudeness, we were delighted to see him get his comeuppance.

642

something fit to be eaten

The roast turkey and other comestibles, the wines, and the excellent service made this Thanksgiving dinner particularly memorable.

641

to draft for military purposes; to take for

The policeman commandeered the first car that approached and ordered the driver to go to the nearest hospital.

644

courtesy; civility

A spirit of comity should exist among nations.

643

equal in extent

Your reward will be commensurate with your effort.

646

remembering; honoring

The new commemorative stamp honors the late Martin Luther King, Jr.

645

spacious and comfortable

After sleeping in a small roadside cabins, they found their hotel suite commodious.

648

feel or express pity or sympathy for

Her friends commiserated with the widow.

647

agreement; contract

The signers of the Mayflower Compact were establishing a form of government.

650

held in common; of a group of people

When they were divorced, they had trouble dividing their communal property.

649

harmonious; in harmony with

They were compatible neighbors, never quarreling over unimportant matters.

652

tightly packed; firm; brief

His short, compact body was better suited to wrestling than to basketball.

651

brief, comprehensive summary

This text can serve as a compendium of the tremendous amount of new material being developed in this field.

654

overpowering; irresistible in effect

The prosecutor presented a well-reasoned case, but the defense attorney's compelling arguments for leniency won over the jury.

653

listing of statistical information in tabu

The compilation of available scholarships serves a very valuable purpose.

656

making up for; repaying

Can a compensatory education program make up for the inadequate schooling he received in earlier years?

655

trying to please; obliging

The courtier obeyed the king's orders in a complaisant manner.

658

self-satisfied

There was a complacent look on his face as he examined his paintings.

657

conformity in fulfilling requirements; r

The design for the new school had to be in compliance with the local building code.

660

complete; consummate; make perfect

The waiter recommended a glass of port to complement the cheese.

659

participation; involvement

You cannot keep your complicity in this affair secret very long; you would be wise to admit your involvement immediately.

662

yielding

He was compliant and ready to go along with his friends' desires.

661

bear one's self; behave

He comported himself with great dignity.

664

element; ingredient

I wish all the components of my stereo system were working at the same time.

663

combine; constitute; pay interest; incre

The makers of the popular cold remedy compounded a nasal decongestant with an antihistamine.

666

mental calmness

Even the latest work crisis failed to shake her composure.

665

close; squeeze; contract

She compressed the package under her arm.

668

thorough; inclusive

This book provides a comprehensive review of verbal and math skills for the SAT.

667

adjust; endanger the interests or reputa

Your presence at the scene of the dispute compromises our claim to neutrality in this matter.

670

include; consist of

If the District of Columbia were to be granted a statehood, the United States of America would comprise fifty-onestates, not just fifty.

669

reckon; calculate

He failed to compute the interest, so his bank balance was not accurate.

672

remorse

The judge was especially severe in this sentencing because he felt that the criminal had shown no compunction for his heinous crime.

671

hollow

The back-packers found partial shelter from the storm by huddling against the concave wall of the cliff.

674

link as in a chain

It is difficult to understand how these events could concatenate as they did without outside assistance.

673

whimsical idea; extravagant metaphor

He was an entertaining companion, always expressing himself in amusing conceits and witty turns of phrase.

676

admit; hield

Despite all the evidence Monica had assembled, Mark refused to concede that she was right.

675

beginning; forming of a idea

At the first conception of the work, he was consulted.

678

having a common center

The target was made of concentric circles.

677

an act of yielding

Before they could reach an agreement, both sides had to make certain concessions.

680

mutually agreed on; done together

The girl scouts in the troop made a concerted effort to raise funds for their annual outing, and emitted a concerted sigh when their leader announced that they had reached their goal.

679

brief and compact

When you define a new word, be concise; the shorter the definition, the easier it is to remember.

682

reconciling; soothing

She was still angry despite his conciliatory words.

681

decisive; ending all debate

When the stolen books turned up in John's locker, we finally had conclusive evidence of the identity of the mysterious thief.

684

private meeting

He was present at all their conclaves as an unofficial observer.

683

that which accompanies

Culture is not always a concomitant of wealth.

686

prepare by combining; make up in con

How did the inventive chef ever concoct such strange dish?

685

agree

Did you concur with the decision of the court or did you find it unfair?

688

harmony

Watching Tweediedum and Tweedledee battle, Alice wondered why the two brothers could not manage to life in concord.

687

bestow courtesies with a superior air

The king condescended to grant an audience to the friends of the condemned man.

690

happening at the same time

In America, the colonists were resisting the demands of the mother contry; at the concurrent moment in France, the middle class was sowing the seeds of rebellion.

689

seasonings; spices

Spanish food is full of condiments.

692

adequate; deservedly severe

The public approved the condign punishment for the crime.

691

overlook; forgive; give tacit approval; c

Unlike Widow Douglass, who condoned Huck's minor offenses, Miss Watson did nothing but scold.

694

express sympathetic sorrow

His friends gathered to condole with him over his loss.

693

aqueduct; passageway for fluids

Water was brought to the army in the desert by an improvised conduit from the adjoining mountain.

696

helpful; contributive

Rest and proper diet are conducive to good health.

695

seize; commandeer

The army confiscated all available supplies of uranium.

698

trusted friend

He had no confidants with whom he could discuss his problems at home.

697

flowing together; crowd

They built the city at the confluence of two rivers.

700

great fire

In the conflagration that followed the 1906 earthquake, much of San Francisco was destroyed.

699

confuse; puzzle

No mystery could confound Sherlock Holmes for long.

702

harmony; agreement

In conformity with our rules and regulations, I am calling a meeting of our organization.

701

pleasant; friendly

My father loved to go out for a meal with congenial companions.

704

freeze; coagulate

His blood congealed in his veins as he saw the dread monster rush toward him.

703

mass of material sticking together

In such a conglomeration of miscellaneous statistics, it was impossible to find a single area of analysis.

706

existing at birth

His congenital deformity disturbed his parents.

705

pine tree; cone-bearing tree

According to geologists, the conifers were the first plants to bear flowers.

708

correspondence of parts; harmonious r

The student demonstrated the congruence of the two triangles by using the hypotenuse-arm theorem.

707

pertaining to marriage

Their dreams of conjugal bliss were shattered as soon as their temperaments clashed.

710

surmise; guess

I will end all your conjectures; I admit I am guilty as charged.

709

pretense of ignorance of something wrong

With the connivance of his friends, he plotted to embarrass the teacher.

712

summon a devil; proactive magic; image

He conjured up an image of a reformed city and had the voters completely under his spell.

711

suggested or implied meaning of an expression

Foreigners frequently are unaware of the connotations of the words they use.

714

person competent to act as judge of art

She had developed into a connoisseur of fine china.

713

kinship

The lawsuit developed into a test of the consanguinity of the claimant to the estate.

716

pertaining to marriage or the matrimonial

In his telegram, he wished the newlyweds a lifetime of connubial bliss.

715

drafted; person forced into military service

Did Rambo volunteer to fight in Vietnam, or was he a conscript, drafted against his will?

718

scrupulous; careful

A conscientious editor checked every definition for its accuracy.

717

general agreement

The consensus indicates that we are opposed to entering into this pact.

720

dedicate; sanctify

We shall consecrate our lives to this noble purpose.

719

school of the fine arts (especially music)

A gifted violinist, Marya was selected to study at the conservatory.

722

pompous; self-important

Convinced of his own importance, the actor strutted about the dressing room with a consequential air.

721

absence of contradictions; dependability

Holmes judged puddings and explanations on their consistency; he liked his puddings without lumps and his explanations without improbabilities.

724

deliver officially; entrust; set apart

The court consigned the child to her paternal grandmother's care.

723

harmony; agreement

Her agitation seemed out of consonance with her usual calm.

726

lessen sadness or disappointment; give

When her father died, Marius did his best to console Cosette.

725

husband or wife

The search for a consort for the young Queen Victoria ended happily.

728

associate with

We frequently judge people by the company with whom they consort.

727

supporter

The congressman received hundreds of letters from angry constituents after the Equal Rights Amendment failed to pass.

730

treacherous plot

Brutus and Cassius joined in the conspiracy to kill Julius Caesar.

729

explain; interpret

If I construe your remarks correctly, you disagree with the theory already advanced.

732

compulsion; repression of feelings

There was a feeling of constraint in the room because no one dared to criticize the speaker.

731

infection

Fearing contagion, they took drastic steps to prevent the spread of the disease.

734

complete

I have never seen anyone who makes as many stupid errors as you do; you must be a consummate idiot.

733

scorn; disdain

Even if you feel superior to others, it is unwise to show your contempt for them.

736

pollute

The sewage system of the city so contaminated the water that swimming was forbidden.

735

quarrelsome

We heard loud and contentious noises in the next room.

738

struggle; compete; assert earnestly

In *Revolt of the Black Athlete*, sociologist Harry Edwards contends that young black athletes have been exploited by some college recruiters.

737

writings preceding and following the p

Because these lines are taken out of context, they do not convey the message the author intended.

740

dispute

The defeated candidate attempted to contest the election results.

739

self-restraint; sexual chastity

She vowed to lead a life of continence.

742

adjacent to; touching upon

The two countries are contiguous for a few miles; then they are separated by the gulf.

741

twistings; distortions

As the effects of the opiate wore away, the contortions of the patient became more violent and demonstrated how much pain she was enduring.

744

conditional

The continuation of this contract is contingent on the quality of your first output.

743

contradict; oppose: infringe on or trans

Mr. Barrett did not expect his frail daughter Elizabeth to contravene his will by eloping with Robert Browning.

746

illegal trade; smuggling; smuggled goo

The coast guard tries to prevent contraband in U.S. waters.

745

forced; artificial; not spontaneous

Feeling ill at ease with his new in-laws; James made a few contrived attempts at conversation and then retreated into silence.

748

penitent

Her contrite tears did not influence the judge when he imposed sentence.

747

disobedient; resisting authority

The contumacious mob shouted defiantly at the police.

750

oppose with arguments; contradict

To controvert your theory will require much time but it is essential that we disprove it.

749

riddle; difficult problem

During the long car ride, she invented conundrums to entertain the children.

752

bruise

She was treated for contusions and abrasions.

751

social or moral custom; established pra

Flying in the face of convention, George Sand (Amandine Dudevant) shocked her contemporaries by taking lovers and wearing men's clothes.

754

assemble

Because much is needed legislation had to be enacted, the governor ordered the legislature to convene in special session by January 15.

753

come together

Marchers converged on Washington for the great Save Our Cities-Save Our Children March.

756

ordinary; typical

His conventional upbringing left him wholly unprepared for his wife's eccentric family.

755

opposite

The inevitable converse of peace is not war but annihilation.

758

familiar with

The lawyer is conversant with all the evidence.

757

curving outward

He polished the convex lens of his telescope.

760

one who has adopted a different religio

On his trip to Japan, though the President spoke at length about the merits of American automobiles, he made few converts to his beliefs.

759

strongly held belief

Nothing could shake his conviction that she was innocent.

762

vehicle; transfer

During the transit strike, commuters used various kinds of conveyances.

761

call together

Congress was convoked at the outbreak of the emergency.

764

festive; gay; characterized by joviality

The convivial celebrators of the victory sang their college songs.

763

plentiful

She had copious reasons for rejecting the proposal.

766

coiled around; involved; intricate

His argument was so convoluted that few of us could follow a it intelligently.

765

gracious; heartfelt

Our hosts greeted us at the airport with a cordial welcome and a hearty hug.

768

flirt

Because she refused to give him an answer to his proposal of marriage, he called her a coquette.

767

projecting molding on building (usually)

Because the stones forming the cornice had been loosened by the storms, the police closed the building until repairs could be made.

770

extended line of men or fortifications to

The police cordon was so tight that the criminals could not leave the area.

769

consequence; accompaniment

Brotherly love is a complex emotion, with a sibling rivalry its natural corollary.

772

horn overflowing with fruit and grain;

The encyclopedia salesman claimed the new edition was a veritable cornucopia of information, an inexhaustible source of knowledge for the entire family.

771

very fat

The corpulent man resolved to reduce.

774

bodily; material

He was not a churchgoer; he was interested only in corporeal matters.

773

confirm

Unless we find a witness to corroborate your evidence, it will not stand up in court.

776

mutual relationship

He sought to determine the correlation that existed between ability in algebra and ability to interpret reading exercises.

775

wrinkled; ridged

She wished she could smooth away the wrinkles from his corrugated brow.

778

eating away by chemicals or disease

Stainless steel is able to withstand the effects of corrosive chemicals.

777

group that meets socially; select circle

After his book had been published, he was invited to join the literary coterie that lunched daily at the hotel.

780

pertaining to the universe; vast

cosmic rays derive their name from the fact that they bombard the earth's atmosphere from outer space.

779

face

When Jose saw his newborn daughter, a proud smile spread across his countenance.

782

approve; tolerate

He refused to countenance such rude behavior on their part.

781

a thing that completes another; things v

Night and day are counterparts.

784

cancel; revoke

The general countermand the orders issued in his absence.

783

join; unite

The Flying Karamazovs couple expert juggling and amateur joking in their nightclub act.

786

highly successful action or sudden attack

As the news of his coup spread throughout Wall Street, his fellow brokers dropped by to congratulate him.

785

agreement

We must comply with the terms of the covenant.

788

messenger

The publisher sent a special courier to pick up the manuscript.

787

avaricious; eagerly desirous of

The child was covetous by nature and wanted to take the toys belonging to his classmates.

790

secret; hidden; implied

She could understand the covert threat in the letter.

789

shrink quivering, as from fear

The frightened child cowered in the corner of the room.

792

terrorize; intimidate

The little boy was so cowed by the hulking bully that he gave up his lunch money without a word of protest.

791

cheat; hoodwink; swindle

He was the kind of individual who would cozen his friends in a cheap card game but remain eminently ethical in all his business dealings.

794

shy; modest; coquettish

She was coy in her answers to his offer.

793

very unrefined; grossly insensible

The philosophers deplored the crass commercialism.

796

sour; peevish

The children avoided the crabbed old man because he scolded them when they made noise.

795

belief

Do not place any credence in his promises.

798

cowardly

When he saw the enemy troops advancing, he had a craven impulse to run for his life.

797

belief on slight evidence

The witch doctor took advantage of the credulity of the superstitious natives.

800

creed

I believe we may best describe his credo by saying that it approximates the Golden Rule.

799

increase in the volume or intensity, as i

The overture suddenly changed from a quiet pastoral theme to a crescendo featuring blaring trumpets and clashing cymbals.

802

system of religious or ethical belief

In any loyal American's creed, love of democracy must be emphasized.

801

crack; fissure

The mountain climbers found footholds in the tiny crevices in the mountainside.

804

dejected; dispirited

We were surprised at his reaction to the failure of his project; instead of being crestfallen, he was busily engaged in planning new activities.

803

standards used in judging

What criteria did you use when you selected this essay as the prize winner?

806

shrink back, as if in fear

The dog cringed, expecting a blow.

805

eccentric; whimsical

Although he was reputed to be a crochety old gentleman, I found his ideas substantially sound and sensible.

808

hag

The toothless crone frightened us when she smiled.

807

secret recess or vault usually used for b

Until recently only bodies of rulers and leading statesmen were interred in this crypt.

810

crucial point

This is the crux of the entire problem.

809

small chamber used for sleeping

After his many hours of intensive study in the library he retired to his cubicle.

812

mysterious; hidden; secret

His cryptic remarks could not be interpreted.

811

relating to cooking

Many chefs attribute their culinary skill to the wise use of spices.

814

style of cooking

French cuisine is noted for its use of sauces and wines.

813

attainment of highest point

His inauguration as President of the United States marked the culmination of his political career.

816

pick out; reject

Every month the farmer culls the nonplaying hens from his flock and sells them to the local butcher.

815

artificial channel for water

If we build a culvert under the road at this point, we will reduce the possibility of the road at this point, we will reduce the possibility of the road's being flooded during the rainy season.

818

deserving blame

Corrupt politicians who condone the activities of the gamblers are equally culpable.

817

growing by addition

Vocabulary building is a cumulative process: as you go through your flash cards, you will add new words to your vocabulary, one by one.

820

heavy; hard to manage

He was burdened down with cumbersome parcels.

819

superintendent; manager

The members of the board of trustees of the museum expected the new curator to plan events and exhibitions that would make the museum more popular.

822

greed

The defeated people could not satisfy the cupidity of the conquerors, who demanded excessive tribute.

821

flowing, running

In normal writing we run our letters together in cursive form; in printing, we separate the letters.

824

churlish, miserly individual

Although he was regarded by many as a curmudgeon, a few of us were aware of the many kindnesses and acts of charity that he secretly performed.

823

shorten; reduce

During the coal shortage, we must curtail our use of this vital commodity.

826

casual; hastily done

A cursory examination of the ruins indicates the possibility of arson; a more extensive study should be undertaken.

825

object of general attention

As soon as the movie star entered the room, she became the cynosure of all eyes.

828

skeptical or distrustful of human motiv

cynical at all times, he was suspicious of all altruistic actions of others.

827

accidental; not regular or permanent; casual

It can be argued that physical laws can be casual as well as inveterate, since it is based on an induction.

830

anxiety, dismay

Lincoln is famous for saying that the consternations during the civil war had left him decrepit.

829

trifle with; procrastinate

Laertes told Ophelia that Hamlet could only dally with her affections.

832

raised platform for guests of honor

When he approached the dais, he was greeted by cheers from the people who had come to honor him.

831

neat and trim

In "The Odd Couple," Tony Randall played Felix Unger, an excessively dapper soul who could not stand to have a hair out of place.

834

damp

The walls of the dungeon were dank and slimy.

833

smear (as with paint)

From the way he daubed his paint on the canvas, I could tell he knew nothing of oils.

836

spotted

The sunlight filtering through the screens created a dappled effect on the wall.

835

bold

Despite the dangerous nature of the undertaking, the dauntless soldier volunteered for the assignment.

838

intimidate

Your threats cannot daunt me.

837

standstill; stalemate

The negotiations had reached a deadlock.

840

loiter; waste time

Inasmuch as we must meet a deadline, do not dawdle over this work.

839

scarcity

The dearth of skilled labor compelled the employers to open trade schools.

842

wooden; impassive

We wanted to see how long he could maintain his deadpan expression.

841

reduce to lower state

Do not debase yourself by becoming maudlin.

844

breaking up; downfall

This debacle in the government can only result in anarchy.

843

weaken; enfeeble

Overindulgence debilitates character as well as physical stamina.

846

corrupt; make intemperate

A vicious newspaper can debauch public ideals.

845

rubble

A full year after the earthquake in Mexico City, workers were still carting away the debris.

848

friendly; aiming to please

The debonair youth was liked by all who met him, because of his cheerful and obliging manner.

847

youthful woman making formal entrance

As a debutante, she was often mentioned in the society columns of the newspapers.

850

expose as false, exaggerated, worthless

Pointing out that he consistently had voted against strengthening antipollution legislation, reporters debunked the candidate's claim that he was a fervent environmentalist.

849

pour off gently

Be sure to decant this wine before serving it.

852

decay

The moral decadence of the people was reflected in the lewd literature of the period.

851

slow down

Seeing the emergency blinkers in the road ahead, he decelerated quickly.

854

behead

They did not hang Lady Jane Grey; they decapitated her.

853

kill, usually one out of ten

We do more to decimate our population in automobile accidents than we do in war.

856

falling off, as of leaves

The oak is a deciduous tree.

855

downward slope

The children loved to ski down the declivity.

858

decode

I could not decipher the doctor's handwriting.

857

decay

Despite the body's advanced state of decomposition, the police were able to identify the murdered man.

860

having a low-cut neckline

Fashion decrees that evening gowns be décolleté this season; bare shoulders are again the vogue.

859

lure or bait

The wild ducks were not fooled by the decoy.

862

propriety; seemliness

Shocked by the unruly behavior, the teacher criticized the class for its lack of decorum.

861

express strong disapproval of ; disparage

The founder of the Children's Defense Fund, Marian Wright Edelman, strongly decries the lack of financial and moral support for children in America today.

864

state of collapse caused by illness or old age

I was unprepared for the state of decrepitude in which I had found my old friend; he seemed to have aged twenty years in six months.

863

mar; disfigure

If you deface a library book, you will have to pay a hefty fine.

866

derived by reasoning

If we accept your premise, your conclusions are easily deducible.

865

failure to do

As a result of her husband's failure to appear in court, she was granted a divorce by default.

868

harming a person's reputation

Such defamation of character may result in a slander suit.

867

desertion

The children, who had made him an idol, were hurt most by his defection from our cause.

870

resigned to defeat; accepting defeat as

If you maintain your defeatist attitude, you will never succeed.

869

pollute; profane

The hoodlums defiled the church with their scurrilous writing.

872

courteous regard for another's wish

In deference to his desires, the employers granted him a holiday.

871

turn aside

His life was saved when his cigarette case deflected the bullet.

874

most reliable or complee

Carl Sandburg's Abraham Lincoln may be regarded as the definitive work on the life of the Great Emancipator.

873

provide ofr the payment of

Her employer offered to defray the costs of her postgraduate education.

876

destroy leaves

In Vietnam the army made extensive use of chemical agents to defoliate the woodlands.

875

neat; skillful

The deft waiter uncorked the champagne without spilling a drop.

878

to strip a priest or minister of church a

We knew the minister had violated church regulations, but we had not realized his offense was serious enough to cause him to be defrocked.

877

become worse; deteriorate

As the fight dragged on, the champion's style degenerated until he could barely keep on his feet.

880

dead; no longer in use or existence

The lawyers sought to examine the books of the defunct corporation.

879

remove water from; dry out

Vigorous dancing quickly dehydrates the body; between dances, be sure to drink more water than normal.

882

lowered in rank; debased

The degraded wretch spoke only of his past glories and honors.

881

condescend

He felt that he would debase himself if he deigned to answer his critics.

884

turn into a god; idolize

Admire the rock star all you want; just don't deify him.

883

harmful

Workers in nuclear research must avoid the deleterious effects of radioactive substances.

886

erase; strike out

If you delete this paragraph, the composition will have more appeal.

885

portray

He is weakest when he attempts to delineate character.

888

consider; ponder; unhurried

Offered the new job, she asked for time to deliberate before she made her decision.

887

flat plain of mud or sand between branches

His dissertation discussed the effect of intermittent flooding on the fertility of the Nile delta.

890

mental disorder marked by confusion

The drunkard in his delirium saw strange animals.

889

flood; rush

When we advertised the position, we received a deluge of applications.

892

deceive

Do not delude yourself into believing that he will relent.

891

deceptive; raising vain hopes

Do not raise your hopes on the basis of his delusive promises.

894

false belief; hallucination

This scheme is a snare and a delusion.

893

person who appeals to people's prejudices

He was accused of being a demagogue because he made promises that aroused futile hopes in his listeners.

896

dig; investigate

Delving into old books and manuscripts is part of a researcher's job.

895

behavior; bearing

His sober demeanor quieted the noisy revelers.

898

degrade; humiliate

He felt that he would demean himself if he replied to the scurrilous letter.

897

death

Upon the demise of the dictator, a bitter dispute about succession to power developed.

900

insane

She became increasingly demented and had to be hospitalized.

899

destruction

One of the major aims of the air force was the complete demolition of all means of transportation by the bombing of rail lines and the terminals.

902

related to population balance

In conducting a survey, one should take into account demographic trends in the region.

901

pertaining to the people

He lamented the passing of aristocratic society and maintained that a demotic society would lower the nation's standards.

904

fiendish

The Spanish Inquisition devised many demoniac means of torture.

903

grave; serious; coy

She was demure and reserved.

906

delay; object

To demur at this time will only worsen the already serious situation; now is the time for action.

905

inhabitant of

Ghosts are denizens of the land of the dead who return to earth.

908

blacken

All attempts to denigrate the character of our late President have failed; the people still love him and cherish his memory.

907

outcome; final development of the plot

The play was childishly written; the denouement was obvious to sophisticated theatergoers as early as the middle of the first act.

910

meaning; distinguishing by name

A dictionary will always give us the denotation of a word; frequently, it will always give us its connotation.

909

portray

In this book, the author depicts the slave owners as kind and benevolent masters.

912

condemn; criticize

The reform candidate denounced the corrupt city officers for having betrayed the public's trust.

911

regret

Although I deplore the vulgarity of your language, I defend your right to express yourself freely.

914

reduce; exhaust

We must wait until we deplete our present inventory before we order replacements.

913

dethrone; remove from office

The army attempted to depose the king and set up a military government.

916

move troops so that the battle line is ex

The general ordered the battalion to deploy in order to meet the offensive of the enemy.

915

corruption; wickedness

The depravity of the tyrant's behavior shocked us all.

918

testimony under oath

He made his deposition in the judge's chamber.

917

lessen in value

If you neglect this properly, it will depreciate.

920

express disapproval of; protest against;

A firm believer in old-fashioned courtesy, Miss Post deprecated the modern tendency to address new acquaintances by their first names.

919

insane

He had to be institutionalized because he was deranged.

922

plundering

After the depredations of the invaders, the people were penniless.

921

scoff at

The people derided his grandiose schemes.

924

neglectful of duty; abandoned

The corporal who fell asleep while on watch was thrown into the guardhouse for being derelict in his duty.

923

unoriginal; obtained from another source

Although her early poetry was clearly derivative in nature, the critics thought she had promise and eventually would find her own voice.

926

ridicule

They greeted his proposal with derision and refused to consider it seriously.

925

expressing a low opinion

I resent your derogatory remarks.

928

one who studies the skin and its diseases

I advise you to consult a dermatologist about your acne.

927

profane; violate the sanctity of

The soldiers desecrated the temple.

930

catch sight of

In the distance, we could barely descry the enemy vessels.

929

rob of joy; lay waste to; forsake

The bandits desolated the countryside, burning farms and carrying off the harvest.

932

dry up

A tour of this smokehouse will give you an idea of how the pioneers used to desiccate food in order to preserve it.

931

contemptible

Your despicable remarks call for no reply.

934

reckless outlaw

Butch Cassidy was a bold desperado with a price on his head.

933

plunder

If you do not yield, I am afraid the enemy will despoil the countryside.

936

scorn

I despise your attempts at a reconciliation at this time and refuse to meet you.

935

tyranny

The people rebelled against the despotism of the king.

938

depressed; gloomy

To the dismay of his parents, he became more and more dependant every day.

937

aimless; haphazard; digressing at random

In prison Malcolm X set himself the task of reading straight through the dictionary; to him reading was purposeful, not desultory.

940

extremely poor

The costs of the father's illness left the family destitute.

939

having a fixed order of procedure; inviolate

At the royal wedding, the procession of the nobles followed a determinate order of precedence.

942

emotionally removed; calm and objective

A psychoanalyst must maintain a detached point of view and stay uninvolved with her patients' personal lives.

941

explosion

The detonation of the bomb could be heard miles away.

944

something that discourages; hindrance

Does the threat of capital punishment serve as a deterrent to potential killers?

943

harmful; damaging

Your acceptance of her support will ultimately prove detrimental rather than helpful to your cause.

946

slandering; aspersion

He is offended by your frequent detractions of his ability as a leader.

945

going astray; erratic

Your devious behavior in this matter puzzles me since you are usually direct and straightforward.

948

turn away from

Do not deviate from the truth; you must face the facts.

947

deputize; pass to others

It devolved upon us, the survivors, to arrange peace terms with the enemy.

950

lacking

He was devoid of any personal desire for gain in his endeavor to secure improvement in the community.

949

pious

The devout man prayed daily.

952

enthusiastic follower

A devotee of the opera, he bought season tickets every year.

951

devilish

This scheme is so diabolical that I must reject it.

954

skillful

The magician was so dexterous that we could not follow his movements as he performed his tricks.

953

art of debate

I am not skilled in dialectic and therefore, cannot answer your arguments as forcefully as I wish.

956

crown

The king's diadem was on display at the museum.

955

bitter scolding; invective

During the lengthy diatribe delivered by his opponent he remained calm and self-controlled.

958

sheer; transparent

They saw the burglar clearly through the diaphanous curtain.

957

authoritative and weighty statement

She repeated the statement as though it were the dictum of the most expert worker in the group.

960

branching into two parts

The dichotomy of our legislative system provides us with many safeguards.

959

device for stamping or impressing; mo]

In coining pennies, workers at the old mint squeezed sheets of softened copper between two dies.

962

teaching; instructional; preaching or m

The didactic qualities of his poetry overshadow its literary qualities; the lesson he teaches is more memorable than the lines.

961

wordiness; spreading in all directions l

Your composition suffers from a diffusion of ideas; try to be more compact.

964

shyness

You must overcome your diffidence if you intend to become a salesperson.

963

ruined because of neglect

We felt that the dilapidated building needed several coats of paint.

966

wandering away from the subject

Nobody minded when Professor Renoir's lectures wandered away from their official theme; his digressions were always more fascinating than the topic of the day.

965

delaying

Your dilatory tactics may compel me to cancel the contract.

968

expand

In the dark, the pupils of your eyes dilate.

967

aimless follower of the arts; amateur; d

He was not serious in his painting; he was rather a dilettante.

970

problem; choice of two unsatisfactory :

In this dilemma, he knew no one to whom he could turn for advice.

969

make less concentrated; reduce in stren

She preferred her coffee diluted with milk.

972

steadiness of effort; persisten hard wor

Her employers were greatly impressed by her diligence and offered her a partnership in the firm.

971

continued loud noise

The din of the jackhammers outside the classroom window drowned out the lecturer's voice.

974

lessening; reduction in size

The blockaders hoped to achieve victory as soon as the diminution of the enemy's supplies became serious.

973

dull; not fresh; cheerless

Refusing to be depressed by her dingy studio apartment, Bea spent the weekend polishing the floors and windows and hanging bright posters on the walls.

976

small boat (often ship's boat)

In the film Lifeboat, an ill-assorted group of passengers from a sunken ocean liner are marooned at sea in a dinghy.

975

like-size, three-dimensional scene from

Because they dramatically pose actual stuffed animals against realistic painted landscapes, the dioramas at the Museum of Natural History particularly impress high school biology students.

978

means; effort

By dint of much hard work, the volunteers were able to control the raging forest fire.

977

lament with music

The funeral dirge stirred us to tears.

980

disastrous

People ignored her dire predictions of an approaching depression.

979

disloyal

Once the most loyal of Gorbachev's supporters, Shverdnaze found himself becoming increasingly disaffected.

982

correct a false impression; undeceive

I will attempt to disabuse you of your impression of my client's guilt; I know he is innocent.

981

a disorderly or untidy state

After the New Year's party, the once orderly house was in total disarray.

984

disapproval; condemnation

The conservative father viewed his daughter's radical boyfriend with disapprobation.

983

dissolve; disperse

The chess club disbanded after its disastrous initial season.

986

denial; disclaiming

His disavowal of his part in the conspiracy was not believed by the jury.

985

distinguishable; perceivable

The ships in the harbor were not discernible in the fog.

988

pay out

When you disburse money on the company's behalf, be sure to get a receipt.

987

disown; renounce claim to

If I grant you this privilege, will you disclaim all other rights?

990

mentally quick and observant; having i

Because he was considered the most discerning member of the firm, he was assigned the most difficult cases.

989

confused; discomposed

The novice square dancer became so discombobulated that he wandered into wrong set.

992

reveal

Although competitors offered him bribes, he refused to disclose any information about his company's forthcoming product.

991

confuse; upset; embarrass

The lawyer was disconcerted by the evidence produced by her adversary.

994

put to rout; defeat; disconcert

This ruse will discomfit the enemy.

993

inharmonious; conflicting

She tried to unite the discordant factions.

996

sad

The death of his wife left him disconsolate.

995

formal discussion; conversation

The young Plato was drawn to the Agora to hear the philosophical discourse of Socrates and his followers.

998

disregard

Be prepared to discount what he has to say about his ex-wife.

997

lack of consistency; difference

The police noticed some discrepancies in his description of the crime and did not believe him.

1000

defame; destroy confidence in; disbelief

The campaign was highly negative in tone; each candidate tried to discredit the other.

999

prudence; ability to adjust actions to circumstances

Use your discretion in this matter and do not discuss it with anyone.

1002

separate; unconnected

The universe is composed of discrete bodies.

1001

digressing; rambling

They were annoyed and bored by her discursive remarks.

1004

ability to see differences; prejudice

They feared he lacked sufficient discrimination to judge complex works of modern art.

1003

go ashore; unload cargo from a ship

Before the passengers could disembark, they had to pick up their passports from the ship's purser.

1006

treat with scorn or contempt

You make enemies of all you disdain.

1005

uncouple; separate; disconnect

A standard movie routine involves the hero's desperate attempt to disengage a railroad car from a moving train.

1008

deprive of a civil right

The imposition of the poll tax effectively disenfranchised poor Southern blacks, who lost their right to vote.

1007

surrender something; efect; vomit

Unwilling to disgorge the cash he had stolen from the pension fund, the embezzler tried to run away.

1010

mar the appearance of; spoil

An ugly frown disfigured his normally pleasant face.

1009

discourage

His failure to pass the bar exam disheartened him.

1012

make discontented

The passengers were disgruntled by the numerous delays.

1011

unwillingness

Some mornings I feel a great disinclination to get out of bed.

1014

untidy

Your disheveled appearance will hurt your chances in this interview.

1013

dig up; unearth

They disinterred the body and held an autopsy.

1016

not naive; sophisticated

Although he was young, his remarks indicated that he was disingenous.

1015

disconnected

His remarks were so disjointed that we could not follow his reasoning.

1018

unprejudiced

The only disinterested person in the room was the judge.

1017

take apart

When the show closed, they dismantled the scenery before restoring it.

1020

remove (forcible)

Thrusting her fist up under the choking man's lower ribs, Margaret used the Heimlich maneuver to dislodge the food caught in this throat.

1019

eliminate from consideration; reject

Believing in John's love for her, she dismissed the notion that he might be unfaithful.

1022

cut into small parts

When the Austrian Empire was dismembered, several new countries were established.

1021

basically different; unrelated

It is difficult, if not impossible, to organize these disparate elements into a coherent whole.

1024

belittle

Do not disparage anyone's contribution; these little gifts add up to large sums.

1023

calm; impartial

In a dispassionate analysis of the problem, he carefully examined the causes of the conflict and proceeded to suggest suitable remedies.

1026

difference; condition of inequality

The disparity in their ages made no difference at all.

1025

scatter; drive away; cause to vanish

The bright sunlight eventually dispelled the morning mist.

1028

speediness; prompt execution; message

Young Napoleon defeated the enemy with all possible dispatch; he then sent a dispatch to headquarters, informing his commander of the great victory.

1027

lacking in spirit

The coach used all the tricks at his command to buoy up the enthusiasm of his team, which I had become dispirited at the loss of the star player.

1030

scatter

The police fired tear gas into crowd to disperse the protesters.

1029

argumentative; fond of argument

People avoided discussing contemporary problems with him because of his disputatious manner.

1032

amuse

The popularity of Florida as a winter resort is constantly increasing; each year, thousands more disport themselves at Miami and Palm Beach.

1031

analysis; cutting apart in order to exam

The dissection of frogs on the laboratory is particularly unpleasant to some students.

1034

a formal systematic inquiry; an explan

In his disquisition, he outlined the steps he had taken in reaching his conclusions.

1033

scatter (like seeds)

The invention of the radio helped propagandists to disseminate their favorite doctrines very easily.

1036

disguise; pretend

Even though John tried to dissemble his motive for taking modern dance, we all knew there not to dance but to meet girls.

1035

formal essay

In order to earn a graduate degree from many of our universities, a candidate is frequently required to prepare a dissertation on some scholarly subject.

1038

disagree

In a landmark Supreme Court decision, Justice Marshall dissented from the majority opinion.

1037

pretend; conceal by feigning

She tried to dissimulate her grief by her exuberant attitude.

1040

dissenting; rebellious

In the purge that followed the student demonstrations at Tianamen Square, the government hunted down the dissident students and their supporters.

1039

disintegration; looseness in morals

The profligacy and dissolution of life in Caligula's Rome appall some historians.

1042

squander

The young man quickly dissipated his inheritance and was soon broke.

1041

advise against

He could not dissuade his friend from joining the conspirators.

1044

discord

Some contemporary musicians deliberately use dissonance to achieve certain effects.

1043

expand;swell out

I can tell when he is under stress by the way the veins distend on his forehead.

1046

reserved or aloof; cold in manner

His distant greeting made me feel unwelcome from the start.

1045

twisting out of shape

It is difficult to believe the newspaper accounts of this event because of the distortions and exaggerations of the reporters.

1048

purify; refine; concentrate

A moonshiner distills mash into whiskey; an epigrammatist distills thoughts into quips.

1047

upset; distracted by anxiety

The distraught parents frantically searched the ravine for their lost child.

1050

absentminded

Because of his concentration on the problem, the professor often appeared distraught and unconcerned about routine.

1049

operatic singer; prima donna

Although world famous as a diva, she did not indulge in fits of temperament.

1052

daily

A farmer cannot neglect his diurnal tasks at any time; cows, for example, must be milked regularly.

1051

differing; deviating

The two witnesses presented the jury with remarkably divergent accounts of the same episode.

1054

vary; go in different directions from the

The spokes of the wheel diverge from the hub.

1053

act of turning aside; pastime

After studying for several hours, he needed a diversion from work.

1056

differing in some characteristics; various

There are diverse ways of approaching this problem.

1055

strip; deprive

He was divested of his power to act and could no longer govern.

1058

variety; dissimilitude

The diversity of colleges in this country indicates that many levels of ability are being served.

1057

reveal

I will not tell you this news because I am sure you will divulge it prematurely.

1060

perceive intuitively; foresee the future

Nothing infuriated Tom more than Aunt Polly's ability to divine when he was not telling the truth.

1059

program as for trial; book where such evidence

The case of Smith v. Jones was entered in the docket for July 15.

1062

obedient; easily managed

As docile as he seems today, that old lion was once a ferocious, snarling beast.

1061

provide written evidence

She kept all the receipts from her business trip in order to document her expenses for the firm.

1064

unable to compromise about points of principle

Weng had hoped that the student-led democracy movement might bring about change in China, but the repressive response of the doctrinaire hard-liners crushed his dreams of democracy.

1063

take off

A gentleman used to doff his hat to a lady.

1066

shaky; infirm from old age

Although he is not as yet a doddering and senile old man, his ideas and opinions no longer can merit the respect we gave them years ago.

1065

poor verse

Although we find occasional snatches of genuine poetry in her work, most of her writing is mere doggerel.

1068

determined; stubborn

Les Miserables tells of Inspector Javert's long, dogged pursuit of the criminal Jean Valjean.

1067

blues; listlessness; slack period

Once the excitement of meeting her deadline was over, she found herself in the doldrums.

1070

positive; arbitrary

Do not be so dogmatic about that statement; it can be easily refuted.

1069

stupid person

I thought I was talking to a mature audience; instead, I find myself addressing a pack of dolts.

1072

sorrowful

He found the dolorous lamentations of the bereaved family emotionally disturbing and he left as quickly as he could.

1071

rule over tyrannically

Students prefer teachers who guide, not ones who domineer.

1074

home

Although his legal domicile was in New York City, his work kept him away from his residence for many years.

1073

sleeping; lethargic; torpid

Sometimes dormant talents in our friends surprise those of us who never realize how gifted our acquaintances really are.

1076

put on

When Clark Kent had to don his Superman outfit, he changed clothes in a convenient phone booth.

1075

relating to the back of an animal

A shark may be identified by its dorsal fin, which projects above the surface of the ocean.

1078

window projecting from roof

In remodeling the attic into a bedroom, we decided that we needed to put in dormers to provide sufficient ventilation for the new room.

1077

senility

In his dotage, the old man bored us with long tales of events in his childhood.

1080

file of documents on a subject

Ordered by J. Edgar Hoover to investigate the senator, the FBI compiled a complete dossier.

1079

sullen; stubborn

The man was dour and taciturn.

1082

be excessively fond of; show signs of

Not only grandmothers bore you with stories about their brilliant grandchildren; grandfathers dote on the little rascals, too.

1081

slovenly; untidy

She tried to change her dowdy image by buying a fashionable new wardrobe.

1084

plunge into water; drench; extinguish

They doused each other with hoses and balloons.

1083

dull; lacking color; cheerless

The Dutch woman's drab winter coat contrasted with the distinctive, colorful native costume she wore beneath it.

1086

disheartened; sad

Cheerful and optimistic by nature, Beth was never downcast despite the difficulties she faced.

1085

queer and amusing

He was a popular guest because his droll anecdotes were always entertaining.

1088

sediment; worthless residue

David poured the wine carefully to avoid stirring up the dregs.

1087

talk dully; buzz or murmur like a bee

On a gorgeous day, who wants to be stuck in a classroom listening to the teacher drone?

1090

idle person; male bee

Content to let his wife support him, the would-be writer was in reality nothing but a drone.

1089

menial work

Cinderella's fairy godmother rescued her from a life of drudgery.

1092

waste matter; worthless impurities

Many methods have been devised to separate the valuable metal from the dross.

1091

malleability; flexibility; ability to be dr

Copper wire has many industrial uses because of its extreme ductility.

1094

doubtful

He has the dubious distinction of being the lowest man in his class.

1093

someone easily fooled

While the gullible Watson often was made a dupe by unscrupulous parties, Sherlock Holmes was far more difficult to fool.

1096

sweet sounding

The dulcet sounds of the birds at dawn were soon drowned out by the roar of traffic passing our motel.

1095

forcible restraint, especially unlawfully

The hostages were held under duress until the prisoners' demands were met.

1098

double-dealing; hypocrisy

People were shocked and dismayed when they learned of his duplicity in this affair, as he had always seemed honest and straightforward.

1097

shrink; reduce

They spent so much money that their funds dwindled to nothing.

1100

respectful; obedient

The dutiful child grew up to be a conscientious adult aware of his civic obligations.

1099

suffering from indigestion

All the talk about rich food made him feel dyspeptic.

1102

active; efficient

A dynamic government is necessary to meet the demands of a changing society.

1101

recede; lessen

His fortunes began to ebb during the recession.

1104

unrefined; coarse

His earthy remarks often embarrassed the women in the audience.

1103

odd; whimsical; irregular

The comet passed close by the earth in its eccentric orbit.

1106

showing excitement; overflowing with

His ebullient nature could not be repressed.

1105

pertaining to the church

The minister donned his ecclesiastic garb and walked to the pulpit.

1108

oddity; idiosyncrasy

Some of his friends tried to account for his rudeness to strangers as the eccentricity of genius.

1107

darken; extinguish; surpass

The new stock market high eclipsed the previous record set in 1985.

1110

selective; composed of elements drawn

His style of interior decoration was eclectic: bits and pieces of furnishings from widely divergent periods, strikingly juxtaposed to create a unique color.

1109

efficiency or conciseness in using some

Reading the epigrams of Pope, I admire the economy of his verse: in few words he conveys worlds of meaning.

1112

person concerned with the interrelation

The ecologist was concerned that the new dam would upset the natural balance of the creatures living in Glen Canyon.

1111

swirling current of water, air, etc.

The water in the tide pool was still, except for an occasional eddy.

1114

rapture, joy; any overpowering emotion

The announcement that the war had ended brought on an ecstasy that resulted in many uncontrolled celebrations.

1113

weird

In that eerie setting, it was easy to believe in ghosts and other supernatural beings.

1116

instruct; correct morally

Although his purpose was to edify and not to entertain his audience, many of his listeners were amused and not enlightened.

1115

efficient

If we are to succeed, we must seek effectual means of securing our goals.

1118

rub out

The coin had been handled so many times that its data had been effaced.

1117

inner excitement; exuberance

Nothing depressed her for long; her natural effervescence soon reasserted itself.

1120

having womanly traits

His voice was high-pitched and effeminate.

1119

power to produce desired effect

The efficacy of this drug depends on the regularity of the dosage.

1122

worn out; exhausted; barren

The literature of the age reflected the effete condition of the writers; no new ideas were forthcoming.

1121

noxious smell

Air pollution has become a serious problem in our major cities; the effluvium and the poisons in the air are hazards to life.

1124

dummy

The mob showed its irritation by hanging the judge in effigy.

1123

pouring forth

The critics objected to her literary effusion because it was too flowery.

1126

shameless boldness

She had the effrontery to insult the guest.

1125

excessive interest in one's self; belief th

others His egoism prevented him from seeing the needs of his colleagues.

1128

pouring forth; gushing

Her effusive manner of greeting her friends finally began to irritate them.

1127

notorious; conspicuously bad; shocking

She was an egregious liar; we all knew better than to believe a word she said.

1130

conceit; vanity

She thought so much of herself that we found her egotism unwarranted and irritating.

1129

exclamation

He could not repress an ejaculation of surprise when he heard the news.

1132

exit

Barnum's sign "To the Egress" fooled many people who thought they were going to see an animal and instead found themselves in the street.

1131

overjoyed; in high spirits

Grinning from ear to ear, Bonnie Blair was clearly elated by her Olympic victory.

1134

addition of details; intricacy

Tell what happened simply, without any elaboration.

1133

draw out by discussion

The detectives tried to elicit where he had hidden his loot.

1136

poem or song expressing lamentation

On the death of Edward King, Milton composed the elegy "Lycidas."

1135

omission of words from a text

Sometimes an ellipsis can lead to a dangling modifier, as in the sentence "Once dressed, you should refrigerate the potato salad."

1138

cure-all; something invigorating

The news of her chance to go abroad acted on her like an elixir.

1137

expressiveness; persuasive speech

The crowds were stirred by Martin Luther King's eloquence.

1140

oval; ambiguous, either purposely or by accident

An elliptical billiard ball wobbles because it is not perfectly round; an elliptical remark baffles because it is not perfectly clear.

1139

evasive; baffling; hard to grasp

His elusive dreams of wealth were costly to those of his friends who supported him financially.

1142

explain; enlighten

He was called upon to elucidate the disputed points in his article.

1141

thin and wasted

His long period of starvation had left him emaciated.

1144

relating to paradise; blissful

An afternoon sail on the bay was for her an elysian journey.

1143

set free

At first, the attempts of the Abolitionist to emancipate the slaves were unpopular in New England as well as in the South.

1146

issue forth

A strong odor of sulfur emanated from the spring.

1145

commence; go on board a boat; begin a

In devoting herself to the study of gorillas, Dian Fossey embarked on a course of action that was to cost her her life.

1148

ban on commerce or other activity

As a result of the embargo, trade with colonies was at a standstill.

1147

adorn

My mother-in-law's stories about her journey from Russia made us laugh because she embellished the bare facts of her travels with humorous anecdotes.

1150

enclose; place in something

Tales of actual historical figures like King Alfred have become embedded in legends.

1149

throw into confusion

He became embroiled in the heated discussion when he tried to arbitrate the dispute.

1152

stealing

The bank teller confessed his embezzlement of the funds.

1151

correct, usually a text

The critic emended the book by retranslating several passages.

1154

undeveloped; rudimentary

The evil of class and race hatred must be eliminated while it is still in an embryonic state; otherwise, it may grow to dangerous proportions.

1153

substance causing vomiting

The use of an emetic like mustard is useful in cases of poisoning.

1156

correction of errors; improvement

Please initial all the emendations you have made in this contract.

1155

agent; messenger

The secretary of State was sent as the President's special emissary to the conference on disarmament.

1158

high; lofty

After his appointment to this eminent position, he seldom had time for his former friends.

1157

salary; compensation

In addition to the emolument this position offers, you must consider the social prestige it carries with it.

1160

soothing or softening remedy

He applied an emollient to the inflamed area.

1159

based on experience

He distrusted hunches and intuitive flashes; he placed his reliance entirely on empirical data.

1162

ability to identify with another's feeling

What made Ann such a fine counselor was her empathy, her ability to put herself in her client's place and feel his emotions as if they were her own.

1161

in love

Narcissus became enamored of his own beauty.

1164

rival; imitate

As long as our political leaders emulate the virtues of the great leaders of this country, we shall flourish.

1163

praising; eulogistic

Some critics believe that his encomiastic statements about Napoleon were inspired by his desire for material advancement rather than by an honest belief in the Emperor's genius.

1166

territory enclosed within an alien land

The Vatican is an independent enclave in Italy.

1165

surround

Although we were encompassed by enemy forces, we were cheerful for we were well stocked and could withstand a siege until our allies joined us.

1168

high praise; eulogy

Uneasy with the encomiums expressed by his supporters, Tolkien felt unworthy of such high praise.

1167

burden

Some people encumber themselves with too much luggage, when they take short trips.

1170

gradual intrusion

The encroachment of the factories upon the neighborhood lowered the value of the real estate.

1169

prevailing among a specific group of people

This disease is endemic in this part of the world; more than 80 percent of the population are at one time or another affected by it.

1172

fond word or act

Your gifts and endearments cannot make me forget your earlier insolence.

1171

provide with some quality; endow

He was endowed with a lion's courage.

1174

approve; support

Everyone waited to see which one of the rival candidates for the city council the mayor would endorse.

1173

invigorate; make forceful and active

Rather than exhausting Maggie, dancing energized her.

1176

lasting; surviving

Keats believed in the enduring power of great art, which outlast its creator's brief lives.

1175

admit to the rights of citizenship (espec

Although blacks were enfranchised shortly after the Civil War, women did not receive the right to vote until 1920.

1178

weaken

She was slow to recover from her illness; even a short walk to the window evervated her.

1177

cause; produce

To receive praise for real accomplishments engenders self-confidence in a child.

1180

attract; hire; pledge oneself; confront

"Your case has engaged my interest, my lord," said Holmes, "You many engage my services."

1179

advance; improve

Your chances for promotion in this department will be enhanced if you take some more courses in evening school.

1182

occupy fully

John was so engrossed in his studies that he did not hear his mother call.

1181

obscure; puzzling

Many have sought to fathom the enigmatic smile of the Mona Lisa.

1184

puzzle

Depite all attempts to decipher the code, it remained an enigma.

1183

ill will; hatred

At Camp David President Carter labored to bring an end to the enmity that prevented Egypt and Israel from living in peace.

1186

command; order; forbid

The owners of the company asked the court to enjoin the union from picketing the plant.

1185

hugeness (in a bad sense)

He did not realize the enormity of his crime until he saw what suffering he had caused.

1188

boredom

The monotonous routine of hopital life induced a feeling of ennui which made him moody and irritable.

1187

settle comfortably

The parents thought that their children were ensconced safely in the private school and decided to leave for Europe.

1190

please intensely

The audience was enraptured by the freshness of the voices and the excellent orchestration.

1189

capture; enslave

From the moment he saw her picture, he was enthralled by her beauty.

1192

follow

The evils that ensued were the direct result of the miscalculations of the leaders.

1191

real being

As soon as the charter was adopted, the United Nations became an entity and had to be considered as a factor in world diplomacy.

1194

lure; attract; tempt

She always tried to entice her baby brother into mischief.

1193

put under a spell; carry away with emo

Shafts of sunlight on a wall could entrance her and leave her spellbound.

1196

study of insects

I found entomology the least interesting part of my course in biology; studying insects bored me.

1195

entrance; a way in

Because of his wealth and social position, he had entree into the most exclusive circles.

1198

plead; ask earnestly

She entreated her father to let her stay out till midnight.

1197

list; mention one by one

Huck hung his head in shame as Miss Watson enumerated his many flaws.

1200

businessperson; contractor

Opponents of our present tax program argue that it discourages entrepreneurs from trying new fields of business activity.

1199

enclose; surround

Paris was environed by a wall

1202

speak distinctly

How will people understand you if you do not enunciate?

1201

ornament worn on the shoulder (of a uniform)

The shoulder loops on Sam Spade's trench coat are the nonmilitary counterparts of the fringed epaulets on George Washington's uniform.

1204

long period of time; an age

It has taken eons for our civilization to develop.

1203

long heroic poem, novel, or similar work

Kurosawa's film *Seven Samurai* is an epic portraying the struggle of seven warriors to destroy a band of robbers.

1206

short-lived; fleeting

The mayfly is an ephemeral creature.

1205

witty thought or saying, usually short

Poor Richard's epigrams made Benjamin Franklin famous.

1208

connoisseur of food and drink

Epicures frequent this restaurant because it features exotic wines and dishes.

1207

loosely connected

Though he tried to follow the plot of *Gravity's Rainbow*, John found the novel too episodic.

1210

short speech at conclusion of dramatic work

The audience was so disappointed in the play that many did not remain to hear the epilogue.

1209

inscription in memory of a dead person

In his will, he dictated the epitaph he wanted placed on his tombstone.

1212

philosopher who studies the nature of language

"What is more important, a knowledge of nature or the nature of knowledge?" the epistemologist asked the naturalist.

1211

perfect example or embodiment

Singing "I am the very model of a modern Major-General" in The Pirates of Penzance, Major-General Stanley proclaimed himself the epitome of an officer and a gentleman.

1214

word or phrase characteristically used to

So many kings of France were named Charles that modern students need epithets to tell them apart: Charles the Wise, for example, was someone far different from Charles the Fat.

1213

tranquil; steady; uniform

After the hot summers and cold winters of New England, he found the climate of the West Indies equable and pleasant.

1216

period of time

The glacial epoch lasted for thousands of years.

1215

rider on horseback

These paths in the park are reserved for equestrians and their steeds.

1218

calmness of temperament

In his later years, he could look upon the foolishness of the world with equanimity and humor.

1217

resembling a horse

His long, bony face had an equine look to it.

1220

balance

After the divorce, he needed some time to regain his equilibrium.

1219

balance; balancing force; equilibrium

The high-wire acrobat used his pole as an equi-*po*se to overcome the swaying caused by the wind.

1222

period of equal days and nights; the be

The vernal equinox is usually marked by heavy rainstorms.

1221

fairness; justice

Our courts guarantee equity to all.

1224

fair; impartial

I am seeking an equitable solution to this dispute, one which will be fair and acceptable to both sides.

1223

lie; mislead; attempt to conceal the truth

The audience saw through his attempts to equivocate on the subject under discussion and ridiculed his remarks.

1226

doubtful; ambiguous

Macbeth was misled by the equivocal statements of the witches.

1225

pertaining to passionate love

The erotic passages in this novel should be removed as they are merely pornographic.

1228

eat away

The limestone was eroded by the dripping water

1227

odd; unpredictable

Investors become anxious when the stock market appears erratic.

1230

wandering

Many a charming tale has been written about the knight-errant who helped the weak and punished the guilty during the Age of Chivalry.

1229

learned; scholarly

His erudite writing was difficult to read because of the many allusions which were unfamiliar to most readers.

1232

mistaken; wrong

I thought my answer was correct, but it was erroneous.

1231

avoid

He tried to eschew all display of temper.

1234

prank; flighty conduct

The headmaster could not regard this latest escapade as a boyish joke and expelled the young man.

1233

spying

In order to maintain its power, the government developed a system of espionage that penetrated every household.

1236

hard to understand; known only to the

New Yorker short stories often include esoteric allusions to obscure people and events: the implication is if you are in the in-crowd, you'll get the reference; if you come from Cleveland, you won't.

1235

repect; value; judge

I esteem Ezra Pound both for his exciting poetry and for his acute comments on literature.

1238

adopt; support

She was always ready to espouse a worthy cause.

1237

light; heavenly; fine

Visitors were impressed by her ethereal beauty, her delicate charm.

1240

separated; alienated

The estranged wife sought a divorce.

1239

study of mankind

Sociology is one aspect of the science of ethnology.

1242

relating to races

Intolerance between ethnic groups is deplorable and usually is based on lack of information.

1241

study of word parts

A knowledge of etymology can help you on many English tests.

1244

underlying character of a culture, group

Seeing how tenderly Spaniards treated her small daughter made author Barbara Kingsolver aware of how greatly children were valued in the Spanish ethos.

1243

praising

To everyone's surprise, the speech was eulogistic rather than critical in tone.

1246

pertaining to the improvement of race

It is easier to apply eugenic principles to the raising of racehorses or prize cattle than to the development of human beings.

1245

mild expression in place of an unpleasant

The expression "he passed away" is a euphemism for "he died."

1248

praise

All the eulogies of his friends could not remove the sting of the calumny heaped upon him by his enemies.

1247

feeling of exaggerated (or unfounded) ʻ

"Jill's been on cloud nine ever since Jacj asked her out," said Betty, dismissing her friend's euphoria.

1250

sweet sound

Noted for its euphony even when it is spoken, the Italian language is particularly pleasing to the ear when sung.

1249

fleeting; vanishing

For a brief moment, the entire skyline was bathed in an orange-red hue in the evanescent rays of the sunset.

1252

mercy killing

Many people support euthanasia for terminally ill patients who wish to die.

1251

show clearly

When he tried to answer the questions, he evinced his ignorance of the subject matter.

1254

not frank; eluding

Your evasive answers convinced the judge that you were withholding important evidence.

1253

call forth

He evoked much criticism by his hostile manner.

1256

impartial; fair

Do men and women receive evenhanded treatment from their teachers, or, as recent studies suggest, do teachers pay more attention to male students than to females?

1255

worsen; embitter

This latest arrest will exacerbate the already existing discontent of the people and enrage them.

1258

female sheep

The flock of sheep was made up of dozens of ewes, together with only a handful of rams.

1257

raise in rank or dignity; praise

The actor Alec Guinness was exalted to the rank of knighthood by the Queen; he now is known as Sir Alec Guinness.

1260

extremely demanding

The colonies rebelled against the exacting financial claims of the mother country.

1259

selected passage (written or musical)

The cinematic equivalent of an excerpt from a novel is a clip from a film.

1262

vex

Johnny often exasperates his mother with his pranks.

1261

cut away; cut out

When you excise the dead and dying limbs of a tree, you not only improve its appearance but also enhance its chances of bearing fruit.

1264

treasury

He had been Chancellor of the exchequer before his promotion to the office he now holds.

1263

clear from blame

He was exculpated of the crime when the real criminal confessed.

1266

flay; abrade

These shoes are so ill-fitting that they will excoriate the feet and create blisters.

1265

curse; express abhorrence for

The world execrates the memory of Hitler and hopes that genocide will never again be the policy of any nation.

1268

very bad

The anecdote was in execrable taste and shocked the audience.

1267

explanation, especially of biblical passage

I can follow your exegesis of this passage to a limited degree; some of your reasoning eludes me.

1270

put into effect; carry out

The choreographer wanted to see how well she could execute a pirouette.

1269

show by example; furnish an example

Three-time winner of the Super Bowl, Joe Montana exemplifies the ideal quarterback.

1272

serving as a model; outstanding

Her exemplary behavior was praised at commencement.

1271

urge

The evangelist will exhort all sinners in his audience to reform.

1274

effort; expenditure of much physical w

The exertion involved in unscrewing the rusty bolt left her exhausted.

1273

urgent situation

In this exigency, we must look for aid from our allies.

1276

dig out of the ground; remove from a g

Because of the rumor that he had been poisoned, his body was exhumed in order that an autopsy might be performed.

1275

pertaining to existence; pertaining to th

To the existential philosopher, human reason is inadequate to explain an irrational, meaningless universe.

1278

small; minute

Grass grew there, an exiguous outcropping among the rocks.

1277

acquit; exculpate

I am sure this letter naming the actual culprit will exonerate you.

1280

departure

The exodus from the hot and stuffy city was particularly noticeable on Friday evenings.

1279

drive our evil spirits

By incantation and prayer, the medicine man sought to exorcise the evil spirits that had taken possession of the young warrior.

1282

excessive

The people grumbled at his exorbitant prices but paid them because he had a monopoly.

1281

talk at length

At this time, please give us a brief resume of your work; we shall permit you to expatiate later.

1284

not native; strange

Because of his exotic headdress, he was followed in the streets by small children who laughed at his strange appearance.

1283

suitable; practical; politic

A pragmatic politician, he was guided by what was expedient rather than by what was ethical.

1286

exile; someone who has withdrawn from

Henry James was an American expatriate who settled in England.

1285

specialized knowledge; expert skill

Although she was knowledgeable in a number of fields, she was hired for her particular expertise in computer programming.

1288

hasten

We hope you will be able to expedite delivery because of our tight schedule.

1287

interjection; profane oath

The sergeant's remarks were filled with expletives that offended the new recruits.

1290

make amends for (a sin)

He tried to expiate his crimes by a full confession to the authorities.

1289

totally clear; definite; outspoken

Don't just hint around that you're dissatisfied: be explicit about what's bugging you.

1292

explain; interpret; clarify

Harry Levin explicated James Joyce's novels with such clarity that even *Finnegan's Wake* seemed comprehensible to his students.

1291

make use of, sometimes unjustly

Caesar Chavez fought attempts to exploit migrant farmworkers in California.

1294

deed or action, particularly a brave deed

Raoul Wallenberg was noted for his exploits in rescuing Jews from Hitler's forces.

1293

protest; remonstrance

Despite the teacher's scoldings and expostulations, the class remained unruly.

1296

explanatory; serving to explain

The manual that came with my VCR was no masterpiece of expository prose: its explanations were so garbled that I couldn't even figure out how to rewind a tape.

1295

cancel; remove

If you behave, I will expunge this notation from your record.

1298

risk, particularly of being exposed to d

something open Exposure to sun and wind had dried out her hair and weathered her face.

1297

still in existence

Although the authorities suppressed the book, many copies are extant and may be purchased at exorbitant prices.

1300

clean; remove offensive parts of a book

The editors felt that certain passages in the book had to be expurgated before it could be used in the classroom.

1299

weaken; mitigate

It is easier for us to extenuate our own shortcomings than those of others.

1302

not planned; impromptu

Because his extemporaneous remarks were misinterpreted, he decided to write all his speeches in advance.

1301

praise; glorify

The astronauts were extolled as the pioneers of the Space Age.

1304

root up

The Salem witch trials were a misguided attempt to extirpate superstition and heresy.

1303

surrender of prisoner by one state to an

The lawyers opposed the extradition of their client on the grounds that for more than five years he had been a model citizen.

1306

wring from; get money by threats, etc.

The blackmailer extorted money from his victim.

1305

projection; conjecture

Based on their extrapolation from the results of the primaries on Super Tuesday, the networks predicted that George Bush would be the Republican candidate for the presidency.

1308

not essential; external

Do not pad your paper with extraneous matters; stick to essential items only.

1307

external; not inherent; foreign

Do not be fooled by extrinsic causes. We must look for the intrinsic reason.

1310

free; disentangle

He found that he could not extricate himself from the trap.

1309

force or push out

Much pressure is required to extrude these plastics.

1312

person interested mostly in external ob

A good salesperson is usually an extrovert, who likes to mingle with people.

1311

discharge; give forth

The maple syrup is obtained from the sap that the trees exude in early spring.

1314

abundant; effusive; lavish

His speeches were famous for his exuberant language and vivid imagery.

1313

build; lie

Because of the child's tendency to fabricate, we had trouble believing her.

1316

rejoice

We exulted when our team won the victory.

1315

small plane surface (of a gem); a side

The stonecutter decided to improve the rough diamond by providing it with several facets.

1318

front of the building

The facade of the church had often been photographed by tourists because it was more interesting than the rear.

1317

easy; expert

Because he was a facile speaker, he never refused a request to address an organization.

1320

humorous; jocular

Your facetious remarks are not appropriate at this serious moment.

1319

copy

Many museums sell facsimilies of the works of art on display.

1322

make less difficult

He tried to facilitate repayment of the loan by getting a part-time job.

1321

inclined to form factions; causing disse

Your statement is factious and will upset the harmony that now exists.

1324

party; clique; dissension

The quarrels and bickering of the two small factions within the club disturbed the majority of the members.

1323

handyman; person who does all kinds of

Although we had hired him as a messenger, we soon began to use him as a general factotum around the office.

1326

artificial; sham

Hollywood actresses often create factitious tears by using glycerine.

1325

misleading

Your reasoning must be fallacious because it leads to a ridiculous answer.

1328

mental or bodily powers; teaching staff

As he grew old, he feared he might lose his faculties and become useless to his employer.

1327

plowed but sowed; uncultivated

Farmers have learned that it is advisable to permit land to be fallow every few years.

1330

liable to err

I know I am fallible, but I feel confident that I am right this time.

1329

excessive zeal

The leader of the group was held responsible even though he could not control the fanaticism of his followers.

1332

hesitate

When told to dive off the high board, she did not falter, but proceeded at once.

1331

breeder or dealer of animals

The dog fancier exhibited her prize collie at the annual Kennel Club show.

1334

imagined; unreal

You are resenting fancied insults. No one has ever said such things about you.

1333

call by bugles or trumpets; showy displ

The exposition was opened with fanfare of trumpets and the firing of cannon.

1336

whimsical; visionary

This is a fanciful scheme because it does not consider the facts.

1335

broad comedy; mockery

Nothing went right; the entire interview degenerated into a farce.

1338

unreal; grotesque; whimsical

Your fears are fantastic because no such animal as you have described exists.

1337

belief that events are determined by for

With fatalism, he accepted the hardships that beset him.

1340

difficult to please; squeamish

The waitresses disliked serving him dinner because of his very fastidious taste.

1339

foolish; inane

He is far too intelligent to utter such fatuous remarks.

1342

comprehend; investigate

I find his motives impossible to fathom.

1341

courting favor by cringing and flatterin

She was constantly surrounded by a group of fawning admirers who had hoped to win some favor.

1344

animals of a period or region

The scientist could visualize the fauna of the period by examining the skeletal remains and the fossils.

1343

practical

This is an entirely feasible proposal. I suggest we adopt it.

1346

disconcert; dismay

No crisis could faze the resourceful hotel manager.

1345

fertility; fruitfulness

The fecundity of his mind is illustrated by the many vivid images in his poems.

1348

feverish

In his febrile condition, he was subject to nightmares and hallucinations.

1347

trick; shift; sham blow

The boxer was fooled by his opponent's feint and dropped his guard.

1350

pretend

Lady Macbeth feigned illness in the courtyard although she was actually healthy.

1349

happines; appropriateness (of a remark

She wrote a note to the newlyweds wishing them great felicity in their wedded life.

1352

apt; suitably expressed; well chosen

He was famous for his felicitous remarks and was called upon to serve as master-of-ceremonies at many banquet.

1351

person convicted of a grave crime

A convicted felon loses the right to vote

1354

cruel; deadly

The newspapers told of the tragic spread of the fell disease

1353

drive or hunt out of hiding

She was ferreted out their secret.

1356

agitation; commotion

With the breakup of the Soviet Union, much of Eastern Europe was in a state of ferment.

1355

ardent

Her fervid enthusiasm inspired all of us to undertake the dangerous mission.

1358

ardent; hot

She felt that the fervent praise was excessive and somewhat undeserved.

1357

generate pus

When her finger began to fester, the doctor lanced it and removed the splinter that had caused the pus to form.

1360

glowing ardor

Their kiss was full of the fervor of first love.

1359

joyous; celebratory

Their wedding in the park was a festive occasion.

1362

rankle, produce irritation or resentment

Joe's insult festered in Anne's mind for days, and made her too angry to speak to him.

1361

malodorous

The neglected wound became fetid.

1364

honor at a festival

The returning hero was feted at a community supper and dance.

1363

total failure

Our ambitious venture ended in a fiasco and we were forced to flee.

1366

shackle

The prisoner was fettered to the wall.

1365

changeable; faithless

He discovered his supposedly faithful girlfriend was fickle

1368

command

I cannot accept government by fiat; I feel that I must be consulted.

1367

loyalty

A dog's fidelity to its owner is one of the reasons why that animal is a favorite household pet.

1370

imaginary

Although this book purports to be a biography of George Washington, many of the incidents are fictitious.

1369

not literal, but metaphorical; using a figure

"To lose one's marbles" is a figurative expression; if you're told Jack has lost his marbles, no one expects you to rush out to buy him a replacement set.

1372

invention; imaginary thing

That incident never took place; it is a figment of your imagination.

1371

steal

The boys filched apples from the fruit stand.

1374

small ornamental statuette

In the Maltese Falcon, Sam Spade was hired to trace the missing figurine of a black bird.

1373

block legislation by making long speeches

Even though we disapproved of Senator Foghorn's political goals, we were impressed by his ability to filibuster endlessly to keep an issue from coming to a vote.

1376

pertaining to a son or daughter

Many children forget their filial obligations and disregard the wishes of their parents.

1375

conclusion

It is not until we reach the finale of this play that we can understand the author's message.

1378

delicate, lacelike metalwork

The pendant with gold filigree that she wore round her neck trembled with each breath she took.

1377

too particular; fussy

The old lady was finicky about her food and ate very little.

1380

delicate skill

The finesse and adroitness of the surgeon impressed the observers in the operating room.

1379

hothead; troublemaker

The police tried to keep track of all the local firebrands when the President came to town.

1382

limited

It is difficult for humanity with its finite existence to grasp the infinite.

1381

spasmodic; intermittent

After several fitful attempts, he decided to postpone the start of the project until he felt more energetic.

1384

crevice

The mountain climbers secured footholds in tiny fissures in the rock.

1383

droop; grow feeble

When the opposing hockey team scored its third goal only minutes into the first period, the home team's spirits flagged.

1386

flabby

His sedentary life had left him with flaccid muscles.

1385

thresh grain by hand; strike or slap; tos

In medieval times, warriors flailed their foe with a metal ball attached to a handle.

1388

conspicuously wicked

We cannot condone such flagrant violations of the rules.

1387

ornate

Modern architecture has discarded the flamboyant trimming on buildings and emphasizes simplicity of line.

1390

talent

She has an uncanny flair for discovering new artists before the public has become aware of their existence.

1389

strip off skin; plunder

The criminal was condemned to be flayed alive.

1392

display ostentatiously

She is not the one of those actresses who flaunt their physical charms; she can act.

1391

inexperienced

While it is necessary to provide these fledgling poets with an opportunity to present their work, it is not essential that we admire everything they write.

1394

spot

Her cheeks flecked with tears, were testimony to the hours of weeping.

1393

rob; plunder

The tricksters fleeced him of his inheritance.

1396

wool coat of a sheep

They shear sheep of their fleece, which they then comb into separate strands of wool.

1395

hesitate; shrink

He did not flinch in the face of danger but fought back bravely.

1398

light stroke as with a whip

The horse needed no encouragement; only one flick of the whip was all the jockey had to apply to get the animal to run at top speed.

1397

fly; dart lightly; pass swiftly by

Like a bee flitting from flower to flower, Rose flitted from one boyfriend to the next.

1400

trifling gaiety

Your flippancy at this serious moment is offensive.

1399

plants of a region or era

Because she was a botanist, she spent most of her time studying the flora of the desert.

1402

mass of floating ice

The ship made slow progress as it battered its way through the ice floes.

1401

drifting wreckage

Beachcombers eke out a living by salvaging the flotsam and jetsam of the sea.

1404

flowery; ruddy

His complexion was even more florid than usual because of his anger.

1403

reject; mock

The headstrong youth flouted all authority; he refused to be curbed.

1406

grow well; prosper; make sweeping gesture

The orange trees flourished in the sun.

1405

smoothness of speech

He spoke French with fluency and ease.

1408

wavering

Meteorologists watch the fluctuations of the barometer in order to predict the weather.

1407

confuse

The teacher's sudden question flustered him and he stammered his reply.

1410

unlikely occurrence; stroke of fortune

When Douglass defeated Tyson for the heavyweight championship, some sportscasters dismissed his victory as a fluke.

1409

flowing; series of changes

While conditions are in such a state of flux, I do not wish to commit myself too deeply in this affair.

1412

having vertical parallel grooves (as in a fluted column)

All that remained of the ancient building were the fluted columns.

1411

weakness; slight fault

We can overlook the foibles of our friends; no one is perfect.

1414

coarse food for cattle, horses etc.

One of Nancy's chores at the ranch was to put fresh supplies of fodder in the horses' stalls.

1413

defeat; frustrate

In the end, Skywalker is able to foil Vader's diabolical schemes.

1416

contrast

In "Star Wars," dark, evil Darth Vader is a perfect foil for fair-haired, naive Luke Skywalker.

1415

masses of leaves

Every autumn before the leaves fell he promised himself he would drive through the New England to admire the colorful fall foliage.

1418

insert improperly; palm off

I will not permit you to foist such ridiculous ideas upon the membership of this group.

1417

rash

Don't be foolhardy. Get the advice of experienced people before undertaking this venture.

1420

stir up; instigate

This report will foment dissension in the club.

1419

raid

The company staged a midnight foray against the enemy outpost.

1422

vain about dress and appearance

He tried to imitate the foppish manner of the young men of the court.

1421

place where a river can be crossed on foot

Rather than risk using the shaky rope bridge, David walked a half-mile downstream until he came to the nearest ford.

1424

patience

We must use forbearance in dealing with him because he is still weak from his illness.

1423

premonition of evil

Caesar ridiculed his wife's foreboding about the Ides of March.

1426

ancestors

Reverence for one's forebears (sometimes referred to as ancestor worship) plays an important part in many Oriental cultures.

1425

give an indication beforehand; portend

In retrospect, political analysts realized that Yeltsin's defiance of the attempted coup foreshadowed his emergence as the dominant figure of the new Russian republic.

1428

suitable to debate or courts of law

In her best forensic manner, the lawyer addressed the jury.

1427

prevent by taking action in advance

By setting up a prenuptial agreement, the prospective bride and groom hoped to forestall any potential arguments about money in the event of a divorce.

1430

ability to foresee future happenings; pr

A wise investor, she had the foresight to buy land just before the current real estate boom.

1429

adherence to established rules or proce

Signing this petition is a mere formality; it does not obligate you in any way.

1432

give up; do without

Determined to lose weight for the summer, Ida decided to forgo dessert until she could fit into a size eight again.

1431

desert; abandon; renounce

No one expected Foster to forsake his wife and children and run off with another woman.

1434

menacing; threatening

We must not treat the battle lightly for we are facing a formidable foe.

1433

strong point or special talent

I am not eager to play this rather serious role, for my forte is comedy.

1436

renounce; abandon

The captured knight could escape death only if he agreed to forswear Christianity and embrace Islam as the one true faith.

1435

bravery; courage

He was awarded the medal for his fortitude in the battle.

1438

straightforward; direct; frank

I prefer Jill's forthright approach to Jack's tendency to beat around the bush.

1437

rear; encourage

According to the legend, Romulus and Remus were fostered by a she-wolf that raised the abandoned infants as her own.

1440

accidental; by chance

There is no connection between these two events; their timing is entirely fortuitous.

1439

person who establishes (an organization)

Among those drowned when the Titanic sank was the founder of the Abraham & Straus chain.

1442

fail completely; sink

After hitting the submerged iceberg, the Titanic started taking in water rapidly and soon foundered.

1441

unruly

The fractious horse unseated its rider.

1444

brawl; melee

The military police stopped the fracas in the bar and arrested the belligerents.

1443

right granted by authority

The city issued a franchise to the company to operate surface transit lines on the streets for ninety-nine years.

1446

weakness

The doctor prescribed vitamin and mineral supplements for the sick old woman because of her frailty.

1445

cheating; deceitful

The government seeks to prevent fraudulent and misleading advertising.

1448

wild

At the time of the collision, many people became frantic with fear.

1447

brawl

The three musketeers were in the thick of fray.

1450

filled

Since this enterprise is fraught with danger, I will ask for volunteers who are willing to assume the risks.

1449

madly excited

As soon as they smelled smoke, the frenzied animals milled about in their cages.

1452

frenzied; frantic

His frenetic activities convinced us that he had no organized plan of operation.

1451

to be annoyed or vexed

To fret over your poor grades is foolish; instead, decide to work harder in the future.

1454

painting in plaste (usually fresh)

The cathedral is visited by many tourists who wish to admire the frescoes by Giotto.

1453

ornamental band on a wall

The frieze of the church was adorned with sculpture.

1456

clash in opinion; rubbing against

At this time when harmony is essential, we cannot afford to have any friction in our group.

1455

waste

He could not apply himself to any task and frittered away his time in idle conversation.

1458

intensely cold

Alaska is in the frigid zone.

1457

prankish; gay

The frolicsome puppy tried to lick the face of its master.

1460

lacking in seriousness; self-indulgently

Though Nancy enjoyed Bill's frivolous, lighthearted companionship, she sometimes wondered whether he could ever be serious.

1459

bear fruit

This peach tree should fructify in three years.

1462

fern leaf; palm or banana leaf

After the storm the beach was littered with the fronds of palm trees.

1461

bearing of fruit; fulfillment; realization

This building marks the fruition of all our aspirations and years of hard work.

1464

thrift; economy

In these economically difficult days businesses must practice frugality or risk bankruptcy.

1463

support on which a lever rests

If we use this stone as a fulcrum and the crowbar as a lever, we may be able to move this boulder.

1466

fleeting or transitory; roving

The film brought a few fugitive images to her mind, but on the whole it made no lasting impression upon her.

1465

disgustingly excessive

His fulsome praise of the dictator annoyed his listeners.

1468

thunder; explode

The people against whom she fulminated were innocent of any wrongdoing.

1467

basic; primary; essential

The committee discussed all sorts of side issues without ever getting down to addressing the fundamental problem.

1470

official

As his case was transferred from one functionary to another, he began to despair of ever reaching a settlement.

1469

frenzy; great excitement

The story of her embezzlement of the funds created a furor on the stock exchange.

1472

sad; solemn

I fail to understand why there is such a funereal atmosphere; we have lost a battle, not a war.

1471

simultaneous firing or outbursts (of missiles)

Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture concludes with a thunderous fusillade of cannon fire.

1474

stealthy; sneaky

The boy gave a furtive look at his classmate's test paper.

1473

ineffective; fruitless

Why waste your time on futile pursuits?

1476

union; coalition

The opponents of the political party in power organized a fusion of disgruntled groups and became an important element in the election.

1475

animal-biting fly; an irritating person

Like a gadfly, he irritated all the guests at the hotel; within forty eight hours, everyone regarded him as an annoying busybody.

1478

feeble, ineffective; unthinking, irrespo

Einstein was noted for his extraordinary inspirations; on the other hand, he was noted for being feckless in his daily chores.

1477

deny

She was too honest to gainsay the truth of the report.

1480

social blunder

According to Miss Manners, to call your husband by your lover's name is worse than a mere gaffe; it is a tactical mistake.

1479

the Milky Way; any collection of brilli

The deaths of such famous actors as Clark Gable, Gary Cooper, Spencer Tracy, and Marlene Dietrich demonstrate that the galaxy of Hollywood superstars is rapidly disappearing.

1482

manner of walking or running; speed

The lame man walked with an uneven gait.

1481

annoy; chafe

Their taunts galled him.

1484

bitterness; nerve

The knowledge of his failure filled him with gall.

1483

stimulate by shock; stir up

The entire nation was galvanized into strong military activity by the news of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

1486

large sailing ship

The Spaniards pinned their hopes on the galleon, the large warship; the British, on the smaller and faster pinnace.

1485

skip; leap playfully

Watching children gamboling in the park is a pleasant experience

1488

opening in chess in which a piece is sa

The player was afraid to accept his opponent's gambit because he feared a trap which as yet he could not see.

1487

entire range

In this performance, the leading lady was able to demonstrate the complete gamut of her acting ability.

1490

in a spirited manner; with courage

Because he had fought gamely against a much superior boxer, the crowd gave him a standing ovation when he left the arena.

1489

mixed up; jumbled; distorted

A favorite party game involves passing a whispered message from one person to another; by the time it reaches the last player, the message has become totally garbled.

1492

open widely

The huge pit gaped before him; if he stumbled, he would fall in.

1491

waterspout carved in grotesque figures c

The gargoyles adorning the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris are amusing in their grotesqueness.

1494

huge; enormous

The gargantuan wrestler was terrified of mice.

1493

gather; store up

She hoped to garner the world's literature in one library.

1496

gaudy

She wore a garish rhinestone necklace.

1495

talkativeness

The man who married a dumb wife asked the doctor to make him deaf because of his wife's garrulity after her cure.

1498

decorate

Parsley was used to garnish the boiled potato.

1497

science of preparing and serving good

One of the by-products of his trip to Europe was his interest in gastronomy; he enjoyed preparing and serving foreign dishes to his friends.

1500

excessively talkative, especially about

Many club members avoided the company of the garrulous junior executive because his constant chatter bored them to tears.

1499

flashy; showy

Her gaudy taste in clothes appalled us.

1502

clumsy; boorish

Such remarks are gauche and out of place; you should apologize for making them.

1501

stare foolishly; look in open-mouthed a

The country boy gawked at the skyscrapers and neon lights of the big city.

1504

lean and angular; barren

His once-round face looked surprisingly gaunt after he had lost weight.

1503

record of descent; lineage

He was proud of his genealogy and constantly referred to the achievements of his ancestors.

1506

official publication

He read the gazettes regularly for announcement of his promotion.

1505

characteristic of an entire class or speci

Sue knew so many computer programmers who spent their spare time playing fantasy games that she began to think that playing Dungeon & Dragons was a generic trait.

1508

vague statement

This report is filled with generalities; you must be more specific in your statements.

1507

cheerfulness; kindness; sympathy

This restaurant is famous and popular because of the geniality of the proprietor, who tries to make everyone happy.

1510

beginning; origin

Tracing the genesis of a family is the theme of "Roots."

1509

well-bred; elegant

We are looking for a man with a genteel appearance who can inspire confidence by his cultivated manner.

1512

particular variety of art or literature

Both a short story writer and a poet, Langston Hughes proved himself equally skilled in either genre.

1511

people of standing; class of people just

The local gentry did not welcome the visits of the summer tourists and tried to ignore their presence in the community.

1514

those of gentle birth; refinement

Her family was proud of its gentility and elegance.

1513

pertinent; bearing upon the case at hand

The lawyer objected that the testimony being offered was not germane to the case at hand.

1516

bend the knee as in worship

A proud democrat, he refused to genuflect to any man.

1515

cause to sprout; sprout

After the seeds germinate and develop their permanent leaves, the plants may be removed from the cold frames and transplanted to the garden.

1518

pertaining to a germ; creative

Such an idea is germinal; I am certain that it will influence thinkers and philosophers for many generations.

1517

change in voting district lines in order

The illogical pattern of the map of this congressional district is proof that the state legislature gerrymandered this area in order to favor the majority party.

1520

government ruled by old people

Gulliver visited a gerontocracy in which the young people acted as servants to their elders, all the while dreaming of the day they would be old enough to have servants of their own.

1519

motion; gesture

Operatic performers are trained to make exaggerated gesticulations because of the large auditoriums in which they appear.

1522

evolve, as in prenatal growth

While this scheme was being gestated by the conspirators, they maintained complete silence about their intentions.

1521

nonsense; babbling

Did you hear that foolish boy spouting gibberish about monsters from outer space?

1524

horrible

The murdered man was a ghastly sight.

1523

light-hearted; dizzy

He felt his giddy youth was past.

1526

mock

As you gibe at their superstitious beliefs, do you realize that you, too, are guilty of similarly foolish thoughts?

1525

distance around something; circumference

It took an extra-large cummerbund to fit around Andrew Carnegie's considerable girth.

1528

very carefully

To separate egg whites, first crack the egg gingerly.

1527

like a glacier; extremely cold

Never a warm person, when offended Hugo could seem positively glacial.

1530

essence

She was asked to give the gist of the essay in two sentences.

1529

cover with a thin and shiny surface

The freezing rain glazed the streets and made driving hazardous.

1532

highly conspicuous; harshly bright

Glaring spelling or grammatical errors in your resume will unfavorably impress potential employers.

1531

fluent

He is a glib and articulate speaker.

1534

gather leavings

After the crops had been harvested by the machines, the peasants were permitted to glean the wheat left in the fields.

1533

express evil satisfaction; view malevolently

As you gloat over your ill-gotten wealth, do you think of the many victims you have defrauded?

1536

shine erratically; twinkle

In the darkness of the cavern, the glowworms hanging from the cavern roof glimmered like distant stars.

1535

brief explanation of words used in the t

I have found the glossary in this book very useful; it has eliminated many trips to the dictionary.

1538

over explain away

No matter how hard he tried to talk around the issue, President Bush could not gloss over the fact that he had raised the taxes after all.

1537

scowl

The angry boy glowered at his father.

1540

smooth and shining

I want this photograph printed on glossy paper, not matte.

1539

sticky; viscous

Molasses is a glutinous substance.

1542

overstock; fill to excess

The many manufacturers glutted the market and could not find purchasers for the many articles they had produced.

1541

twisted

The gnarled oak tree had been a landmark for years and was mentioned in several deeds.

1544

someone who eats too much

When Mother saw that Bobby had eaten all the cookies, she called him a little glutton.

1543

urge on

He was goaded by his friends until he yielded to their wishes.

1546

dwarf; underground spirit

In medieval mythology, gnomes were the special guardians and inhabitants of subterranean mines.

1545

stuff oneself

The gluttonous guest gorged himself with food as though he had not eaten for days.

1548

narrow canyon; steep, rocky cleft

Terrified of heights, George could not bring himself to peer down into the gorge to see the rapids below.

1547

sheer; like cobwebs

Nylon can be woven into gossamer or thick fabrics.

1550

bloody

The audience shuddered as they listened to the details of the gory massacre.

1549

epicure; person who takes excessive pleasure

Epicureans lack self-restraint; if they enjoy a particular cuisine, they eat far too much of it.

1552

tear out

In that fight, all the rules were forgotten; the adversaries bit, kicked, and tried to gouge each other's eyes out.

1551

arranged by degree (of height, difficulty)

Margaret loved her graduated set of Russian hollow wooden dolls; she spent hours happily putting the smaller dolls into their larger counterparts.

1554

connoisseur of food and drink

The gourmet stated that this was the best onion soup she had ever tasted.

1553

impressiveness; stateliness; majesty

No matter how often he hiked through the mountains, David never failed to be struck by the grandeur of the Sierra Nevada range.

1556

storehouse for grain

We have reason to be thankful, for our crops were good and our granaries are full.

1555

imposing; impressive

His grandiose manner impressed those who met him for the first time.

1558

pompous; bombastic; using high-sounding

The politician could never speak simply; she was always grandiloquent.

1557

pertaining to the art of delineating; vivid

I was particularly impressed by the graphic presentation of the storm.

1560

form into grains

Sugar that has been granulated dissolves more readily than lump sugar.

1559

make a harsh noise; have an unpleasan

The screams of the quarreling children grated on her nerves.

1562

wrestle; come to grips with

He grappled with the burglar and overpowered him.

1561

free

The company offered to give one package gratis to every purchaser of one of their products.

1564

please

Her parents were gratified by her success.

1563

tip

Many service employees rely more on gratuities than on salaries for their livelihood.

1566

given freely; unwarranted; uncalled for

Quit making gratuitous comments about my driving; no one asked you for your opinion.

1565

sociable

Typically, party-throwers are gregarious; hermits are not.

1568

seriousness

We could tell we were in serious trouble from the gravity of her expression.

1567

question severely

In violation of the Miranda law, the police grilled the suspect for several hours before reading him his rights.

1570

cause of complaint

When her supervisor ignored her complaint, she took her grievance to the union.

1569

ghastly

She shuddered at the grisly sight.

1572

a facial distortion to show feeling such

Even though he remained silent, his grimace indicated his displeasure.

1571

small cavern

The Blue Grotto in Capri can be entered only by small boats rowed by natives through a natural opening in the rocks.

1574

fantastic; comically hideous

On Halloween people enjoy wearing grotesque costumes.

1573

crawl or creep on ground; remain prostrate

Even though we have been defeated, we do not have to grovel before our conquerors.

1576

complain; fuss

Students traditionally grouse about the abysmal quality of "mystery meat" and similar dormitory food.

1575

thin, liquid porridge

Our daily allotment of gruel made the meal not only monotonous but also unpalatable.

1578

unwilling; reluctant; stingy

We received only grudging support from the mayor despite his earlier promises of aid.

1577

grisly

People screamed when her gruesome appearance was flashed on the screen.

1580

exhausting

The marathon is a grueling race.

1579

boisterous laughter

The loud guffaws that came from the closed room indicated that the members of the committee had not yet settled down to a serious business.

1582

rough-mannered

Although he was blunt and gruff with most people, he was always gentle with children.

1581

without deceit

He is naive, simple, and guileless; he cannot be guilty of fraud.

1584

deceit; duplicity

She achieved her high position by guile and treachery.

1583

easily deceived

He preyed upon gullible people, who believed his stories of easy wealth.

1586

appearance; costume

In the guise of a plumber, the detective investigated the murder case.

1585

enjoyment; enthusiasm

He accepted the assignment with such gusto that I feel he would have been satisfied with a smaller salary.

1588

affecting the sense of taste

The Thai restaurant offered an unusual gustatory experience for those used in a bland cuisine.

1587

apparatus used to maintain balance, as

By using a rotating gyroscope, they were able to stabilize the vessel, counteracting the rolling movements of the sea.

1590

windy

The gusty weather made sailing precarious.

1589

commonplace; trite

The English teacher criticized her story because of its hackneyed and unoriginal plot.

1592

hairs on back and neck, especially of a

The dog's hackles rose and he began to growl as the sound of footsteps grew louder.

1591

argue about prices

I prefer to shop in a store that has a one-price policy because, whenever I haggle with a shopkeeper, I am never certain that I paid a fair price for the articles I purchased.

1594

wasted away; gaunt

After his long illness, he was pale and haggard.

1593

healthy

After a brief illness, he was soon hale.

1596

calm; peaceful

In those halcyon days, people were not worried about sneak attacks and bombings.

1595

delusion

I think you were frightened by a hallucination that you created in you own mind.

1598

blessed; consecrated

She was laid to rest in hallowed ground.

1597

obstruct

The minority party agreed not to hamper the efforts of the leaders to secure a lasting peace.

1600

hesitant; faltering

Novice extemporaneous speakers often talk in a halting fashion as they grope for the right words.

1599

random; by chance

His haphazard reading left him unacquainted with the authors of the books.

1602

chance; luck

In his poem hap, Thomas Hardy objects to the part chance plays in our lives.

1601

long, passionate, and vehement speech

In her lengthy harangue, the principal berated the offenders.

1604

unfortunate

This hapless creature had never known a moment's pleasure.

1603

forerunner

The crocus is an early harbinger of spring.

1606

annoy by repeated attacks

When he could not pay his bills as quickly as he had promised, he was harrassed by his creditors.

1605

sturdy; robust; able to stand inclement

We asked the gardening expert to recommend particularly hardy plants that could withstand our harsh New England winters.

1608

provide a refuge for; hide

The church harbored illegal aliens who were political refugees.

1607

break up ground after plowing; torture

I don't want to harrow you at this time by asking you to recall the details of your unpleasant experience.

1610

tiresome dwelling on a subject

After he had reminded me several times about what he had done for me I told him to stop his harping on my indebtedness to him.

1609

deck opening; lid covering a deck oper

The latch on the hatch failed to catch, so the hatch remained unlatched.

1612

harass, annoy, torment; raid

The guerrilla band harried the enemy nightly.

1611

dangerous

Your occupation is too hazardous for insurance companies to consider your application.

1614

pride; arrogance

I resent his haughtiness because he is no better than we are.

1613

hasty; rash

The slave seized the unexpected chance to make a headlong dash across the border to freedom.

1616

slightly obscure

In hazy weather, you cannot see the top of this mountain.

1615

person who verbally harasses others

The heckler kept interrupting the speaker with rude remarks.

1618

stubborn; willful; unyielding

Because she refused to marry the man her parents had chosen for her, everyone scolded Minna and called her a foolish, headstrong girl.

1617

not noticing; disregarding

He drove on, heedless of the warnings that the road was dangerous.

1620

belief that pleasure is the sole aim in li

hedonism and asceticism are opposing philosophies of human behavior.

1619

atrocious; hatefully bad

Hitler's heinous crimes will never be forgotten.

1622

dominance, especially of one nation over

As one Eastern European nation after another declared its independence, commentators marveled at the sudden breakdown of the once monolithic Soviet hegemony.

1621

opinion contrary to popular belief or to

He was threatened with excommunication because his remarks were considered to be pure heresy.

1624

grain-eating

Some herbivorous animals have two stomachs for digesting their food.

1623

sealed by fusion so as to be airtight

After these bandages are sterilized, they are placed in hermetic containers.

1626

person who maintains opinions contrary

She was punished by the Spanish Inquisition because she was a heretic.

1625

home of a hermit

Even in his remote hermitage he could not escape completely from the world.

1628

obscure and mysterious; occult

It is strange to consider that modern chemistry originated in the hermetic teachings of the ancient alchemists.

1627

unorthodox; unconventional

To those who upheld the belief that the earth did not move, Galileo's theory that the earth circled the sun was disturbingly heterodox.

1630

one who studies reptiles

As a boy, Indiana Jones had a traumatic experience involving snakes; sensibly enough, he studies to be an archaeologist, not a herpetologist.

1629

cut to pieces with ax or sword

The cavalry rushed into melee and hewed the enemy with their swords.

1632

dissimilar

In a heterogeneous group, we have an unassorted assemblage, while in a homogeneous group we have people or things that have common traits.

1631

gap; pause

Except for a brief two-year hiatus, during which she enrolled in the Peace Corps, Ms. Clements has devoted herself to her medical career.

1634

time of greatest success; prime

In their heyday, the San Francisco Forty-Niners won the Super Bowl two years running.

1633

sleep throughout the winter

Bears are one of the many species of animals that hibernate.

1636

wintry

Bears prepare for their long hibernal sleep by overeating.

1635

picture writing

The discovery of the Rosetta Stone enabled scholars to read the ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics.

1638

body divided into ranks

It was difficult to step out of one's place in this hierarchy.

1637

furthest behind

The coward could always be found in the hindmost lines whenever a battle was being waged.

1640

boisterous mirth

The hilarity is improper on this solemn day of mourning.

1639

back country

They seldom had visitors, living as they did way out in the hinderlands.

1642

block; obstacle

Stalled cars along the highway are a hindrance to traffic that tow trucks should remove without delay.

1641

hairy

He was a hitsute individual with a heavy black beard.

1644

one who serves for hire (usually used c

In a matter of such importance, I do not wish to deal with hirelings; I must meet with the chief.

1643

stockpile; accumulate for future use

Whenever there are rumors of a food shortage, people are tempted to hoard food.

1646

theatrical

He was proud of his histrionic ability and wanted to play the role of Hamlet.

1645

trick; practical joke

Embarrassed by the hoax, he reddened and left the room.

1648

white with age

The man was hoary and wrinkled when he was 70.

1647

pistol case

Even when he was not in uniform, he carried a holster and pistol under his arm.

1650

destruction by fire

Citizens of San Francisco remember that the destruction of the city was caused not by the earthquake but by the holocaust that followed.

1649

tendency of a system to maintain relati

A breakdown of the body's immune system severely undermines the body's ability to maintain homeostasis.

1652

honor; tribute

In her speech she tried to pay homage to a great man.

1651

sermon; serious warning

His speeches were always homilies, advising his listeners to repent and reform.

1654

domestic; made at home

homespun wit, like homespun cloth, was often coarse and plain.

1653

sharpen

To make shaving easier, he honed his razor with great care.

1656

of the same kind

Many educators try to put pupils of similar abilities in the same class because they believe that his homogeneous grouping is advisable.

1655

crowd

Just before Christmas the stores are filled with hordes of shoppers.

1658

deceive; delude

Having been hoodwinked once by the fast-talking salesman, he was extremely cautious when he went to purchase a used car.

1657

pertaining to cultivation of gardens

When he bought his house, he began to look for flowers and decorative shrubs, and began to read books dealing with horticultural matters.

1660

encouraging; exhortive

The crowd listened to his hortatory statements with ever-growing excitement; finally they rushed from the hall to carry to his suggestions.

1659

hang about; wait nearby

The police helicopter hovered above the accident.

1662

shack; small, wretched house

He wondered how poor people could stand living in such a hovel.

1661

arrogance; excessive self-conceit

Filled with hubris, Lear refused to heed his friends' warnings.

1664

confused uproar

The marketplace was a scene of hubbub and excitement.

1663

outcry

When her purse was snatched, she raised such a hue and cry that the thief was captured.

1666

color; aspect

The aviary contained birds of every possible hue.

1665

dull; monotonous

After years of adventure, he could not settle down to a humdrum existence.

1668

kind

His humane and considerate treatment of the unfortunate endeared him to all.

1667

humbleness of spirit

He spoke with a humility and lack of pride that impressed his listeners.

1670

damp

She could not stand the humid climate and moved to a drier area.

1669

substance formed by decaying vegetable

In order to improve his garden, he spread humus over his lawn and flower beds.

1672

small hill

The ascent of the hummock is not difficult and the view from the hilltop is ample reward for the effort.

1671

frugality; thrift; agriculture

He accumulated his small fortune by diligence and husbandry.

1674

crash; rush

The runaway train hurtled toward disaster.

1673

fear of water; rabies

A dog that bites a human being must be observed for symptoms of hydrophobia.

1676

mongrel; mixed breed

Mendel's formula explains the appearance of hybrids and pure species in breeding.

1675

excessively exacting

You are hypercritical in your demands for perfection; we all make mistakes.

1678

exaggeration; overstatement

This salesman is guilty of hyperbole in describing his product; it is wise to discount his claims.

1677

pretending to be virtuous; deceiving

I resent his hypocritical posing as a friend for I know he is interested only in his own advancement.

1680

person unduly worried about his health

The doctor prescribed chocolate pills for his patient who was a hypochondriac.

1679

study of fish

Jacques Cousteau's programs about sea life have advanced the cause of ichthyology.

1682

based on assumptions or hypotheses

Why do we have to consider hypothetical cases when we have actual case histories that we may examine?

1681

attacking cherished traditions

George Bernard Shaw's iconoclastic plays often startled more conventional people.

1684

religious image; idol

The icons on the walls of the church were painted in the 13th century.

1683

special usage in language

I could not understand their idioms because literal translation made no sense.

1686

ideas of a group of people

That ideology is dangerous to this country because it embraces undemocratic philosophies.

1685

private; peculiar to an individual

Such behavior is idiosyncratic, it is as easily identifiable as a signature.

1688

peculiarity; eccentricity

One of his personal idiosyncrasies was his habit of rinsing all cutlery given him in a restaurant.

1687

charmingly carefree; simple

Far from the city, she led an idyllic existence in her rural retreat.

1690

worship of idols; excessive admiration

Such idolatry of singers of country music is typical of the excessive enthusiasm of youth.

1689

kindle; light

When Desi crooned, "Baby, light my fire," literal-minded Lucy looked around for some paper to ignite.

1692

produced by fire; volcanic

Lava, pumice, and other igneous rocks are found in great abundance around Mount Vesuvius near Naples.

1691

disgraceful

The country smarted under the ignominious defeat and dreamed of the day when it would be victorious.

1694

of lowly origin; unworthy

This plan is inspired by ignoble motives and I must, therefore, oppose it.

1693

infinite

Human beings, having explored the far corners of the earth, are now reaching out into illimitable space.

1696

illegal

The defense attorney claimed that the police had entrapped his client; that is, they had elicited the illicit action of which they now accuse of him.

1695

misleading vision

It is easy to create an optical illusion in which lines of equal length appear different.

1698

brighten; clear up or make understanda

Just as a lamp can illuminate a dark room, a perceptive comment can illuminate a knotty problem.

1697

deceptive; not real

Unfortunately, the costs of running the lemonade stand were so high that Tom's profits proved illusory.

1700

deceiving

This is only a mirage; let us not be fooled by its illusive effect.

1699

weakness of mind

I am amazed at the imbecility of the readers of these trashy magazines.

1702

lack of balance or symmetry; disproport

Because of the great imbalance between the number of men and women invited, the dance was unsuccessful.

1701

complicated situation; perplexity; entai

He was called in to settle the imbroglio but failed to bring harmony into the situation.

1704

drink in

The dry soil imbibed the rain quickly.

1703

pure; spotless

The West Point cadets were immaculate as they lined up for inspection.

1706

saturate, fill

His visits to the famous Gothic cathedrals imbued him with feelings of awe and reverence.

1705

state of being immovable

Modern armies cannot afford the luxury of immobility, as they are vulnerable to attack while standing still.

1708

near at hand; impending

Rosa was such a last-minute worker that she could never start writing a paper till the deadline was imminent.

1707

imprison; shut up in confinement

For the two weeks before the examination, the student immured himself in his room and concentrated upon his studies.

1710

offer as a sacrifice

The tribal kind offered to immolate his daughter to quiet the angry gods.

1709

worsen; diminish in value

This arrest will impair her reputation in the community.

1712

unchangeable

Scientists are constantly seeking to discover the immutable laws of nature.

1711

imperceptible; intangible

The ash is so fine that it is impalpable to the touch but it can be seen as a fine layer covering the window ledge.

1714

pierce

He was impaled by the spear hurled by his adversary.

1713

without feeling; not affected by pain

The Native American has been incorrectly depicted as an impassive individual, undemonstrative and stoical.

1716

predicament from which there is no escape

In this impasse, all turned to prayer as their last hope.

1715

faultless

He was proud of his impeccable manners.

1718

charge with crime in office; indict

The angry congressman wanted to impeach the President for his misdeeds.

1717

hinder; block

The special prosecutor determined that the Attorney General, though inept, had not intentionally set out to impede the progress of the investigation.

1720

without money

Now that he was wealthy, he gladly contributed to funds to assist impecunious and disabled persons.

1719

nearing; approaching

The entire country was saddened by the news of his impending death.

1722

hindrance; stumbling-block

She had a speech impediment that prevented her from speaking clearly.

1721

not repentant

We could see by his brazen attitude that he was impenitent.

1724

not able to be pierced or entered

How could the murderer have gotten into the locked room? To Watson, the mystery, like the room, was impenetrable.

1723

lordliness; domineering manner; arrogant

His imperiousness indicated that he had long been accustomed to assuming command.

1726

like an emperor; related to an empire

When hotel owner Leona Helmsley appeared in ads as Queen Leona standing guard over the Palace Hotel, her critics mocked her imperial fancies.

1725

insolent

I regard your remarks as impertinent and I resent them.

1728

impervious; not permitting passage through

This new material is impermeable to liquids.

1727

not penetrable; not permitting passage

You cannot change their habits for their minds are impervious to reasoning.

1730

calm; placid

Wellington remained imperturbable and in full command of the situation in spite of the hysteria and panic all around him.

1729

moving force; incentive; stimulus

A new federal highway program would create jobs and five added impetus to our economic recovery.

1732

violent; hasty; rash

We tried to curb his impetuous behavior because we felt that in his haste he might offend some people.

1731

infringe; touch; collide with

How could they be married without impinging on one another's freedom?

1734

irreverence; wickedness

We must regard your blasphemy as an act of impiety.

1733

incapable of being pacified

Madame Defarge was the implacable enemy of the Evremonde family.

1736

irreverent

The congregation was offended by her impious remarks.

1735

put into effect; supply with tools

The mayor was unwilling to implement the plan until she was sure it had the governor's backing.

1738

unlikely; unbelievable

Though her alibi seemed implausible, it in fact turned out to be true.

1737

understood but not stated

Jack never told Jill he adored her; he believed his love was implicit in his deeds.

1740

that which is hinted at or suggested

If I understand the implications of your remark, you do not trust our captain.

1739

suggest a meaning not expressed

Even though your statement does not declare that you are at war with that country, your actions imply that that is the actual situation.

1742

beg

He implored her to give him a second chance.

1741

weightless

I can evaluate the data gathered in this study; the imponderable items are not so easily analyzed.

1744

not wise

I think it is impolitic to raise this issue at the present time because the public is too angry.

1743

urging; demanding

He tried to hide from his importunate creditors until his allowance arrived.

1746

significance

I feel that you have not grasped the full import of the message sent to us by the enemy.

1745

assuming a false identity; masquerade

She was imprisoned for her imposture of a doctor.

1748

beg persistently

Democratic and Republican phone solicitors importuned her for contributions so frequently that she decided to give nothing to either party.

1747

curse

Roused from the bed at what he considered an ungodly hour, Roy muttered imprecations under his breath.

1750

weak; ineffective

Although he wished to break the nicotine habit, he found himself impotent in resisting the craving for a cigarette.

1749

without previous preparation

Her listeners were amazed that such a thorough presentation could be made in an impromptu speech.

1752

invulnerable

Until the development of the airplane as a military weapon, the fort was considered impregnable.

1751

thrifless

He was constantly being warned to mend his improvident ways and begin to "save for a rainy day."

1754

state of being inappropriate

Because of the impropriety of his costume, he was denied entrance into the dining room.

1753

lacking caution; injudicious

It is imprudent to exercise vigorously and become overheated when you are unwell.

1756

compose on the spur of the moment

She would sit at the piano and improvise for hours on themes from Bach and Handel.

1755

powerlessness; feebleness

The lame duck President was frustrated by his shift from enormous power to relative impuissance.

1758

doubt; challenge; gainsay

I cannot impugn your honesty without evidence.

1757

attribute; ascribe

If I wished to impute blame to the officers in charge of this program, I would state my feelings definitely and immediately.

1760

freedom from punishment

The bully mistreated everyone in the class with impunity for he felt that no one would dare retaliate.

1759

not to be taken away; nontransferable

The Declaration of Independence mentions the inalienable rights that all of us possess.

1762

carelessly; unintentionally; by oversight

She inadvertently omitted two questions on the examination and mismarked her answer sheet.

1761

lifeless

she was asked to identify the still and inanimate body.

1764

silly; senseless

Such comments are inane because they do not help us solve our program.

1763

begin formally; install in office

The candidate promised that he would inaugurate a new nationwide health care plan as soon as he was inaugurated as president.

1766

speechless; producing indistinct speech

He became inarticulate with rage and uttered sounds without meaning.

1765

singing or chanting of magical formula

Uttering incantations to make the brew more potent, the witch doctor stirred the liquid in the caldron.

1768

stikingly bright; shining with intense h

If you leave on an incandescent light bulb, it quickly grows too hot to touch.

1767

imprison

The warden will incarcerate the felon after conviction.

1770

disable

During the winter, many people were incapacitated by respiratory ailments.

1769

act of assuming a human body and hur

The incarnation of Jesus Christ is a basic tenet of Christian theology.

1772

endowed with flesh; personified

Your attitude is so fiendish that you must be a devil incarnate.

1771

enrage; infuriate

Unkindness to children incensed her.

1774

arsonist

The fire spread in such an unusual manner that the fire department chiefs were certain that it had been set by an incendiary.

1773

start; beginning

She was involved with the project from its inception.

1776

spur; motive

Students who dislike school must be given an incentive to learn.

1775

recently begun; rudimentary; elemental

Before the Creation, the world was an inchoate mass.

1778

uninterrupted

The crickets kept up an incessant chirping that disturbed our attempts to fall asleep.

1777

not essential; minor

The scholarship covered his major expenses at college and some of his incidental expenses as well.

1780

rate of occurrence; particular occurrence

Health professionals expressed great concern over the high incidence of infant mortality in major urban areas.

1779

cutting; sharp

His incisive remarks made us see the fallacy in our plans.

1782

beginning; in an early stage

I will go to sleep early for I want to break an incipient cold.

1781

stormy; unkind

I like to read a good book in inclement weather.

1784

arouse to action

The demagogue incited the mob to take action into its own hands.

1783

tending or leaning toward; bent

Though I am inclined to be skeptical, the witness's manner inclines me to believe his story.

1786

slope; slant

The architect recommended that the nursing home's ramp be rebuilt because its incline was too steep for wheelchairs.

1785

with identity concealed; using an assumed name

The monarch enjoyed traveling through the town incognito and mingling with the populace.

1788

tending to include all

The comedian turned down the invitation to join the Player's Club, saying any club that would let him in was too inclusive for him.

1787

not spacious; inconvenient

In their incommodious quarters, they had to improvise for closet space.

1790

unintelligible; muddled; illogical

The bereaved father sobbed and stammered, his words becoming almost incoherent in his grief.

1789

lack of harmony; absurdity

The incongruity of his wearing sneakers with formal attire amused the observers.

1792

inharmonious

The married couple argued incessantly and finally decided to separate because they were incompatible.

1791

state of being self-contradictory; lack o

How are lawyers different from agricultural inspectors? Where lawyers check inconsistencies in witnesses' statements, agricultural inspectors check inconsistencies in Grade A eggs.

1794

insignificant; unimportant

Brushing off Ali's apologies for having broken the wine glass, Tamara said, "Don't worry about it; it's inconsequential."

1793

indisputable

We must yield to the incontrovertible evidence that you have presented and free your client.

1796

lacking self-restraint

His incontinent behavior off stage shocked many people and they refused to attend the plays and movies in which he appeared.

1795

immaterial; without a material body

We must devote time to the needs of our incorporeal mind as well as our corporeal body.

1798

introduce something into a larger whol

Breaking with precedent, President Truman ordered the military to incorporate blacks into every branch of the armed services.

1797

a tendency to disbelief

Your incredulity in the face of all the evidence is hard to understand.

1800

uncorrectable

Though Widow Douglass hoped to reform Huck, Miss Watson pronounced him incorrigible and said he would come to no good end.

1799

increase

The new contract calls for a 10 percent increment in salary for each employee for the next two years.

1802

withholding belief; skeptical

When Jack claimed he hadn't eaten the jelly doughnut, Jill took an incredulous look at his smeared face and laughed.

1801

hatch; scheme

Inasmuch as our supply of electricity is cut off, we shall have to rely on the hens to incubate these eggs.

1804

accuse; serve as evidence against

The witness's testimony against the racketeers incriminates some high public officials as well.

1803

officeholder

The newly elected public official received valuable advice from the present incumbent.

1806

burden; mental care; nightmare

The incubus of financial worry helped bring on her nervous breakdown.

1805

temporary invasion

The nightly incursions and hit-and-run raids of our neighbors across the border tried the patience of the country to the point where we decided to retaliate in force.

1808

bring upon oneself

His parents refused to pay any future debts he might incur.

1807

make secure against loss; compensate

The city will indemnify all home owners whose property is spoiled by this project.

1810

tireless

He was indefatigable in his constant efforts to raise funds for the Red Cross.

1809

uncertain; not clearly fixed; indefinite

That interest rates shall rise appears certain; when they will do so, however, remains indeterminate.

1812

bind as servant or apprentice to master

Many immigrants could come to America only after they had indentured themselves for several years.

1811

charge

If the grand jury indicts the suspect, he will go to trial.

1814

suggestive; implying

A lack of appetite may be indicative of a major mental or physical disorder.

1813

poverty

Neither the economists nor the political scientists have found a way to wipe out the inequities of wealth and eliminate indigence from our society.

1816

unmoved; lacking concern

Because she felt no desire to marry, she was indifferent to his constant proposals.

1815

anger at an injustice

He felt indignation at the ill-treatment of the helpless animals.

1818

native

Tobacco is one of the indigenous plants that the early explorers found in this country.

1817

choosing at random; confused

She disapproved of her son's indiscriminate television viewing and decided to restrict him to educational programs.

1820

offensive or insulting treatment

Although he seemed to accept cheerfully the indignities heaped upon him, he was inwardly very angry.

1819

permanent

The indissoluble bonds of marriage are all too often being dissolved.

1822

too certain to be disputed

In the face of these indisputable statements, I withdraw my complaint.

1821

laziness

He outgrew his youthful indolence to become a model of industry and alertness on the job.

1824

write; compose

Cyrano indited many letters for Christian.

1823

beyond a doubt

Because her argument was indubitably valid, the judge accepted it.

1826

unconquerable

The founders of our country had indomitable willpower.

1825

pertaining to induction or preceding fi

The discovery of the planet Pluto is an excellent example of the results that can be obtained from inductive reasoning.

1828

persuade; bring about

After the quarrel, Tina said nothing could induce her to talk to Tony again.

1827

habitual intoxication

Because of his inebriety, he was discharged from his position as family chauffeur.

1830

humoring; yielding; lenient

indulgent parents spoil their children by giving in to their every whim.

1829

not effective; weak

Because the candidate failed to get across his message to the public, his campaign was ineffectual.

1832

unutterable; cannot be expressed in spe

Such ineffable joy must be experienced; it cannot be described.

1831

lacking skill; inadequate; inappropriate

inept as a carpenter, Ira was all thumbs.

1834

irresistable; not to be escaped

He felt that his fate was ineluctible and refused to make any attempt to improve his lot.

1833

infallibility

Jane refused to believe in the pope's inerrancy, reasoning: "All human beings are capable of error. The pope is a human being. Therefore, he pope is capable of error.

1836

unfairness

In demanding equal pay for equal work, women protest the basic inequity of a system that allots greater financial rewards to men.

1835

unavoidable

Death and taxes are both inevitable.

1838

state of being inert or indisposed to mc

Our inertia in this matter may prove disastrous; we must move to aid our allies immediately.

1837

unerring

We must remember that none of us is infallible; we all make mistakes.

1840

relentless; unyielding; implacable

After listening to the pleas for clemency, the judge was inexorable and gave the convicted man the maximum punishment allowed by law.

1839

childish; infantlike

When will he outgrow such infantile behavior?

1842

notoriously bad

Jesse James was an infamous outlaw.

1841

pertaining to hell; devilish

They could think of no way to hinder his infernal scheme.

1844

deduce; conclude

We must be particularly cautious when we infer that a person is guilty on the basis of circumstantial evidence.

1843

pass into or through; penetrate (an orga

In order to infiltrate enemy lines at night without being seen, the scouts darkened their faces and wore black coveralls.

1846

unbeliever

The Saracens made war against the infidels.

1845

weakness

Her greatest infirmity was lack of willpower.

1848

very small

In the twentieth century, physicists have made their greatest discoveries about the characteristics of infinitesimal objects like the atom and its parts.

1847

flowing into

The influx of refugees into the country has taxed the relief agencies severely.

1850

exaggerated; pompous; enlarged (with

His claims about the new product were inflated; it did not work as well as he had promised.

1849

violate; encroach

I think your machine infringes on my patent and intend to sue.

1852

violation

Because of his many infractions of school regulations, he was suspended by the dean.

1851

naive; young and unsophisticated

Although she was over forty, the movie star still insisted that she be cast as an ingenuous sweet young thing.

1854

clever

He came up with a use for Styrofoam packing balls that was so ingenious that his business school professors declared it was marketable.

1853

ungrateful person

That ingrate Bob sneered at the tie I gave him.

1856

deeply established; firmly rooted

Try as they would, the missionaries were unable to uproot the ingrained superstitions of the natives.

1855

firmly established by nature or habit

His inherent love of justice compelled him to come to their aid.

1858

become popular with

He tried to ingratiate himself into her parents' good graces.

1857

unfriendly; hostile

She felt that they were inimical and were hoping for her downfall.

1860

prohibit; restrain

The child was not inhibited in her responses.

1859

unjust; wicked

I cannot approve of the iniquitous methods you used to gain your present position.

1862

matchless; not able to be imitated

We admire Auden for his inimitable use of language; he is one of a kind.

1861

harmful

Smoking cigarettes can be injurious to your health.

1864

begin; originate; receive into a group

The college is about to initiate a program for reducing math anxiety among students.

1863

inborn

His innate talent for music was soon recognized by his parents.

1866

hint

This came as a complete surprise to me as I did not have the slightest inkling of your plans.

1865

change; introduction of something new

She loved innovations just because they were new.

1868

harmless

Let him drink it; it is innocuous and will have no ill effect.

1867

untimely; poorly chosen

A rock concert is an inopportune setting for a quiet conversation.

1870

hint; insinuation

I can defend myself against direct accusations; innuendos and oblique attacks on my character are what trouble me.

1869

questioner (specially harsh); investigator

Fearing being grilled ruthlessly by the secret police, Marsha faced her inquisitors with trepidation.

1872

unrestrained; excessive

She had an inordinate fondness for candy.

1871

not easily satisfied; greedy

Welty's thirst for knowledge was insatiable; she was in the library day and night.

1874

unwholesome; not healthful

The mosquito-ridden swamp was an insalubrious place, a breeding ground for malarial contagion.

1873

without feeling

She lay there as insensate as a log.

1876

impenetrable; not readily understood; r

Experienced poker players try to keep their expressions inscrutable, hiding their reactions to the cards behind a so-called poker face.

1875

treacherous; stealthy; sly

The fifth column is insidious because it works secretly within our territory for our defeat.

1878

unconscious; unresponsive

Sherry and I are very different; at times when I would be covered with embarrassment, she seems insensible to shame.

1877

lacking in flavor; dull

Flat prose and flat ginger ale are equally insipid: both lack sparkle.

1880

hint; imply

What are you trying to insinuate by that remark?

1879

bankrupt; lacking money to pay

When rumors that he was insolvent reached his creditors, they began to press him for payment of the money due them.

1882

imprudent disrespect; haughtiness

How dare you treat me so rudely! The manager will hear of you insolence.

1881

indifferent; without concern or care

Your insouciant attitude at such a critical moment indicates that you do not understand the gravity of the situation.

1884

wakefulness; inability to sleep

He refused to join us in a midnight cup of coffee because he claimed it gave him insomnia.

1883

disobedient

The insubordinate private was confined to the barracks.

1886

urge; start; provoke

I am afraid that this statement will instigate a revolt.

1885

narrow-mindedness; isolation

The insularity of the islanders manifested itself in their suspicion of anything foreign.

1888

lacking substance; insignificant; frail

His hopes for a career in acting proved insubstantial; no one would cast him, even in an insubstantial role.

1887

rebellious

We will not discuss reforms until the insurgent troops have returned to their homes.

1890

insurmountable; invincible

In the face of insuperable difficulties they maintained their courage and will to resist.

1889

not able to be perceived by touch; vaguely

Though the financial benefits of his Oxford post were meager, Lewis was drawn to it by its intangible rewards: prestige, intellectual freedom, the fellowship of his peers.

1892

rebellion; uprising

Given the current state of affairs in South Africa, an insurrection seems unavoidable.

1891

make whole; combine; make into one unit

She tried to integrate all their activities into one program.

1894

complete; necessary for completeness

Physical education is an integral part of our curriculum; a sound mind and a sound body are complementary.

1893

higher mental powers

He thought college would develop his intellect.

1896

uprightness; wholeness

Lincoln, whose personal integrity has inspired millions, fought a civil war to maintain the integrity of the republic, that these United States might remain undivided for all time.

1895

bury

They are going to inter the body tomorrow at Broadlawn Cemetery.

1898

intellectuals; members of the educated

She preferred discussions about sports and politics to the literary conversations of the intelligentsia.

1897

meantime

The company will not consider our proposal until next week; in the interim, let us proceed as we have in the past.

1900

prohibit; forbid

Civilized nations must interdict the use of nuclear weapons if we expect our society to live.

1899

endless

Although his speech lasted for only twenty minutes, it seemed interminable to his bored audience.

1902

intruder

The merchant thought of his competitors as interlopers who were stealing away his trade.

1901

mutually destructive

The rising death toll on both sides indicates the internecine nature of his conflict.

1904

periodic; on and off

Our picnic was marred by intermittent rains.

1903

period between two reigns

Henry VIII desperately sought a male heir because he feared the civil strife that might occur if any prolonged interregnum succeeded his death.

1906

insert between

She talked so much that I could not interpolate a single remark.

1905

come between

She intervened in the argument between her two sons.

1908

question closely; cross-examine

Knowing that the Nazis would interrogate him about his background, the secret agent invented a cover story that would help him meet their questions.

1907

fear

A ruler who maintains his power by intimidation is bound to develop clandestine resistance.

1910

hint

She intimated rather than stated her preferences.

1909

state of stubborn unwillingness to com]

The intransigence of both parties in the dispute makes an early settlement almost impossible to obtain.

1912

unruly; refractory

The horse was intractable and refused to enter the starting gate.

1911

essentially; inherently; naturally

Although my grandmother's china has intrinsically little value, I shall always cherish it for the memories it evokes.

1914

fearless

For his intrepid conduct in battle, he was promoted.

1913

one who is introspective; inclined to th

In his poetry, he reveals that he is an introvert by his intense interest in his own problems.

1916

looking within oneself

We all have our introspective moments during which we examine our souls.

1915

power of knowing without reasoning

She claimed to know the truth by intuition.

1918

trespass; enter as an uninvited person

She hesitated to intrude on their conversation.

1917

accustomed; hardened

She became inured to the Alaskan cold.

1920

overflow; flood

The tremendous waves inundated the town.

1919

abuse

He had expected criticism but not the invective that greeted his proposal.

1922

weaken; destroy

The relatives who received little or nothing sought to invalidate the will by claiming that the deceased had not been in his right mind when he signed the document.

1921

lead astray; wheedle

She was inveigled into joining the club after an initial reluctance.

1924

denounce; utter censure or invective

He inveighed against the demagoguery of the previous speaker and urged that the audience reject his philosophy as dangerous.

1923

turn upside down or inside out

When he inverted his body in a hand stand, he felt the blood rush to his head.

1926

opposite

There is an inverse ratio between the strength of light and its distance.

1925

designed to create ill will or envy

We disregarded her invidious remarks because we realized how jealous she was.

1928

deep-rooted; habitual

She is an inveterate smoker and cannot break the habit.

1927

security from being destroyed, corrupt

They respected the inviolability of her faith and did not try to change her manner of living.

1930

unconquerable

Superman is invincible.

1929

incapable of injury

Achilles was invulnerable except in his heel.

1932

call upon; ask for

She invoked her advisor's aid in filling out her financial aid forms.

1931

irritable; easily angered

Her irascible temper frightened me.

1934

very small quantity

She hadn't an iota of common sense.

1933

exhibiting rainbowlike colors

She admired the iridescent hues of the oil that floated on the surface of the water.

1936

angry

When John's mother found out that he had overthrown his checking account for the third month in a row, she was so irate that she could scarcely speak to him.

1935

occurring in an unexpected and contra

It is ironic that his success came when he least wanted it.

1938

annoying; tedious

He found working on the assembly line irksome because of the monotony of the operation he had to perform.

1937

incompatible; not able to be resolved

Because the separated couple were irreconcilable, the marriage counselor recommended a divorce.

1940

hidden sarcasm or satire; use of words

Gradually his listeners began to realize that the excessive praise he was lavishing was merely irony; he was actually denouncing his opponent.

1939

incurable; uncorrectable

The error she made was irremediable; she could see no way to repair it.

1942

not applicable; unrelated

This statement is irrelevant and should be disregarded by the jury.

1941

unable to be restrained or held back

Her high spirits were irrepressible.

1944

not able to be corrected or repaired

Your apology cannot atone for the irreparable damage you have done to her reputation.

1943

lacking proper respect

The worshippers resented her irreverent remarks about their faith.

1946

uncertain how to act; weak

She had no respect for him because he seemed weak-willed and irresolute.

1945

varying form of an element

The study of the isotopes of uranium led to the development of the nuclear bomb.

1948

unalterable

Let us not brood over past mistakes since they are irrevocable.

1947

wandering; traveling

He was an itinerant peddler and traveled through Pennsylvania and Virginia selling his wares.

1950

narrow neck of land connecting two la

In a magnificent feat of engineering, Goethals and his men cut through the isthmus of Panama in constructing the Panama Canal.

1949

scatter

The molecules will intersperse throughout the space according to the second law of thermodynamics.

1952

plan of a trip

Before leaving for his first visit to France and England, he discussed his itinerary with people who had been there and with his travel agent.

1951

fatigued; surfeited

He looked for exotic foods to stimulate his jaded appetite.

1954

unduly curious; prying; seeking knowl

We need more inquisitive students in this school; lectures are dull.

1953

yellowed; prejudiced; envious

She gazed at the painting with jaundiced eyes; she knew it was better than hers.

1956

language used by special group; gibber

We tried to understand the jargon of the peddlers in the market place but could not find any basis for comprehension.

1955

lighthearted; animated; easy and carefr

In Singing in the Rain, Gene Kelly sang and danced his way through the lighthearted title number in a properly jaunty style.

1958

trip; short journey

He took a quick jaunt to Atlantic City.

1957

throw overboard

In order to enable the ship to ride safely through the storm, the captain had to jettison much of his cargo.

1960

exposure to death or danger

Legally, one cannot be placed in double jeopardy.

1959

given to joking

The salesman was so jocose that many of his customers suggested that he become a stand-up comic.

1962

extremely aggressive and militant patri

We must be careful to prevent a spirit of jingoism from spreading at this time.

1961

merry

Santa Claus is always vivacious and jocund.

1964

said or done in jest

Do not take my jocular remarks seriously.

1963

shove; bump

In the subway he was jostled by the crowds.

1966

gaiety; cheerfulness

The festive Christmas dinner was a merry one, and old and young alike joined in the general jollity.

1965

rejoicing

There was great jubilation when the armistice was announced.

1968

good natured; merry

A frown seemed out of place on his invariably jovial face.

1967

irresistible crushin force

Nothing could survive in the path of the juggernaut.

1970

sound in judgment; wise

At a key moment in his life, he made a judicious investment that was the foundation of his later wealth.

1969

trip, especially one taken for pleasure b

Though she maintained she had gone abroad to collect firsthand data on the Common Market, the opposition claimed that her trip was merely a political junket.

1972

crisis; joining point

At this critical juncture, let us think carefully before determining the course we shall follow.

1971

science of law

He was more a student of jurisprudence than a practitioner of the law.

1974

group of persons joined in political inti

As soon as he learned of its existence, the dictator ordered the execution of all of the members of the junta.

1973

tube in which patterns made by the refl

produce interesting symmetrical effects People found a new source of entertainment while peering through the kaleidoscope; they found the everchanging patterns fascinating.

1976

place side by side

Comparison will be easier if you juxtapose the two objects.

1975

grouch; spoilsport

At breakfast we had all been enjoying our bacon and eggs until that killjoy John started talking about how bad animal fats and cholesterol were for our health.

1978

range of knowledge

I cannot answer your question since this matter is beyond my ken.

1977

related; similar in nature or character

Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn were two kindred spirits.

1980

start a fire; inspire

Her teacher's praise kindled a spark a hope inside her.

1979

fate

kismet is the Arabic word for "fate."

1982

producing motion

Designers of the electric automobile find that their greatest obstacle lies in the development of light and efficient storage batteries, the source of the kinetic energy needed to propel the vehicle.

1981

rascality

We cannot condone such knavery in public officials.

1984

person who has a compulsive desire to

They discovered that the wealthy customer was a kleptomaniac when they caught her stealing some cheap trinkets.

1983

tolling of a bell, especially to indicate a

"The curfew tolls the knell of parting day."

1986

mix; work dough

Her hands grew strong from kneading bread.

1985

little, round hill

Robert Louis Stevenson's grave is on a knoll in Samoa; to reach the grave site, you must climb uphill and walk a short distance along a marked path.

1988

contract into wrinkles

Whenever David worries, his brow knits in a frown.

1987

honor; glory; praise

The singer complacently received kudos on his performance from his entourage.

1990

intricate; difficult; tangled

What to Watson had been a knotty problem to Sherlock Holmes was simplicity itself.

1989

demanding much work or care; tedious

In putting together his dictionary of the English language, Doctor Johnson undertook a laborious task.

1992

likely to change; unstable

Because the hormonal changes they undergo affect their spirits, adolescents may become emotionally labile and experience sudden shifts of mood.

1991

mangle; tear

Her body was lacerated in the automobile crash.

1994

maze

Tom and Becky were lost in the labyrinth of secret caves.

1993

affectedly languid

He was lackadaisical and indifferent about his part in the affair.

1996

producing tears

His voice has a lachrymose quality that is more appropriate at a funeral than a class reunion.

1995

brief and to the point

Many of the characters portrayed by Clint Eastwood are laconic types: strong men of few words.

1998

dull

We were disappointed by the lackluster performance.

1997

shallow body of water near a sea; lake

They enjoyed their swim in the calm lagoon.

2000

slow; sluggish

The sailor had been taught not to be laggard in carrying out orders.

1999

beat; thrash verbally or physically

It was painful to watch the champion lambaste his opponent, tearing into him mercilessly.

2002

laypersons; persons not connected with

The laity does not always understand the clergy's problems.

2001

ridicule

This article lampoons the pretensions of some movie moguls.

2004

grieve; express sorrow

Even advocates of the war lamented the loss of so many lives in combat.

2003

lose animation; lose strength

In stories, lovelorn damsels used to languish and pine away.

2006

weary; sluggish; listless

Her siege of illness left her languid and pallid.

2005

long and thin

lank, gaunt, Abraham Lincoln was a striking figure.

2008

lassitude; depression

His friends tried to overcome the languor into which he had fallen by taking him to parties and to the theater.

2007

pantry; place where food is kept

The first thing Bill did on returning home from school was to check what snacks his mother had in the larder.

2010

theft

Because of the prisoner's record, the district attorney refused to reduce the charge from grand larceny to petit larceny.

2009

lustful

Because they might arouse lascivious impulses in their readers, the lewd books were banned by the clergy.

2012

generous gift

Lady Bountiful distributed largess to the poor.

2011

dormant; hidden

Her latent talent was discovered by accident.

2014

languor; weariness

The hot, tropical weather created a feeling of lassitude and encouraged drowsiness.

2013

freedom from narrow limitations

I think you have permitted your son too much latitude in this matter.

2016

coming from the side

In order to get good plant growth, the gardener must pinch off all lateral shoots.

2015

expressing praise

The critics' laudatory comments helped to make her a star.

2018

praiseworthy; commendable

His laudable deeds will be remarked by all whom he aided.

2017

careless

We dislike restaurants where the service is lax and inattentive.

2020

liberal; wasteful

The actor's lavish gifts pleased her.

2019

gross lewdness; lustfulness

In his youth he led a life of lechery and debauchery; he did not mend his ways until middle age.

2022

cause to rise or grow lighter; enliven

As bread dough is leavened, it puffs up, expanding in volume.

2021

suspicious; cautious

Don't eat sushi at this restaurant; I'm a bit leery about how fresh it is.

2024

reading desk

The chaplain delivered his sermon from a hastily improvised lectern.

2023

a gift made by a will

Part of my legacy from my parents is an album of family photographs.

2026

room to move; margin

When you set a deadline, allow a little leeway.

2025

sleight of hand

The magician demonstrated his renowned legerdemain.

2028

explanatory list of symbols on a map

The legend at the bottom of the map made it clear which symbols stood for rest areas along the highway and which stood for public camp sites.

2027

like a lion

He was leonine in his rage.

2030

mildness; permissiveness

Considering the gravity of the offense, we were surprised by the leniency of the sentence.

2029

drowsy; dull

The stuffy room made her lethargic; she felt as if she was about to nod off.

2032

deadly

It is unwise to leave lethal weapons where children may find them.

2031

float in the air (especially by magical means)

As the magician passed his hands over the recumbent body of his assistant, she appeared to rise and levitate about three feet above the table.

2034

earthen or stone embankment to prevent

As the river rose and threatened to overflow the levee, emergency workers rushed to reinforce the walls with sandbags.

2033

impose (a fine); collect (a payment)

Crying "No taxation without representation," the colonists demonstrated against England's power to levy taxes.

2036

lack of seriousness or steadiness; frivolous

Stop giggling and wriggling around in the pew; such levity is improper in church.

2035

compiler of a dictionary

The new dictionary is the work of many lexicographers who spent years compiling and editing the work.

2038

lustful

They found his lewd stories objectionable.

2037

drawback; debts

Her lack of an extensive vocabulary was a liability that she was able to overcome.

2040

dictionary

I cannot find this word in any lexicon in the library.

2039

defamatory; injurious to the good name

He sued the newspaper because of its libelous story.

2042

officer who acts as go-between for two

As the liaison, he had to avoid offending the leaders of the two armies.

2041

lustful

They objected to his libidinous behavior.

2044

debauched person, rascal

Although she was aware of his reputation as a libertine, she felt she could reform him and help him break his dissolute way of life.

2043

text of an opera

The composer of an opera's music is remembered more frequently than the author of its libretto.

2046

emotional urges behind human activity

The psychiatrist maintained that suppression of the libido often resulted in maladjustment and neuroses.

2045

legal claim on a property

There was a delay before Ralph could take possession of his late uncle's home; apparently, another claimant had a lien upon the estate.

2048

wanton; lewd; dissolute

The licentious monarch helped bring about his country's downfall.

2047

extremely small

Tiny and delicate, the model was built on a lilliputian scale.

2050

like wood

Petrified wood may be ligneous in appearance, but it is stonelike in composition.

2049

region near heaven or hell where certain

Among the divisions of Hell are Purgatory and limbo.

2052

flexible

Hours of ballet classes kept him limber.

2051

clear

A limpid stream ran through his property.

2054

draw; outline; describe

Paradoxically, the more realistic the details this artist chooses, the better able to limn her fantastic, otherworldly landscapes.

2053

features, especially of the face

She quickly sketched the lineaments of his face.

2056

descent; ancestry

He traced his lineage back to Mayflower days.

2055

treat as a celebrity

She enjoyed being lionized and adored by the public.

2058

pertaining to language

The modern tourist will encounter very little linguistic difficulty as English has become an almost universal language.

2057

tilt; lean over

That flagpole should be absolutely vertical; instead, it lists to one side.

2060

settle accounts; clear up

He was able to liquidate all his debts in short period of time.

2059

supplicatory prayer

On this solemn day, the congregation responded to the prayers of the priest during the litany with fervor and intensity.

2062

lacking in spirit or energy

We had expected him to be full of enthusiasm and were surprised by his listless attitude.

2061

lawsuit

Try to settle this amicably; I do not want to start litigation.

2064

flexible; supple

Her figure was lithe and willowy.

2063

lead-colored; black and blue; ashen; ei

His face was so livid with rage that we were afraid that he might have an attack of apoplexy.

2066

understatement for emphasis

To say, "He little realizes," when we mean that he does not realize at all, is an example of the kind of understatement we call litotes.

2065

detest

We loathed the wicked villain.

2068

averse; reluctant

They were both loath for him to go.

2067

very high

They used to tease him about his lofty ambitions.

2070

metal-bearing vein

If this lode that we have discovered extends for any distance, we have found a fortune.

2069

lounge about

They lolled around in their chairs watching television.

2072

hang around; linger

The policeman told him not to loiter in the alley.

2071

gallop slowly

As the horses loped along, we had an opportunity to admire the ever-changing scenery.

2074

long life

When he reached ninety, the old man was proud of his longevity.

2073

clumsy person

The delivery boy is an awkward lout.

2076

talkative

She is very loquacious and can speak on the telephone for hours.

2075

easily understood; clear; intelligible

Her explanation was lucid enough for a child to grasp.

2078

moo

From the hilltop, they could see the herd like ants in the distance; they could barely hear the cattle low.

2077

money

Preferring lucre to undying fame, he wrote stories of popular appeal.

2080

profitable

He turned his hobby into a lucrative profession.

2079

mournful

The lugubrious howling of the dogs added to our sadness.

2082

laughable; trifling

Let us be serious; this is not a ludicrous issue.

2081

move heavily of clumsily

Still somewhat torpid after its long hibernation, the bear lumbered through the woods.

2084

moment of calm

Not wanting to get wet, they waited under the awning for a lull in the rain.

2083

celebrity; dignitary

A leading light of the American stage, Ethel Barrymore was a theatrical luminary whose name lives on.

2086

unit of light energy (one candle's worth)

In buying light bulbs, she checked not only their power, as measured in watts, but their brightness, as measured in lumens.

2085

pertaining to the moon

lunar craters can be plainly seen with the aid of a small telescope.

2088

shining; issuing light

The sun is a luminous body.

2087

stealthily lie in waiting; slink; exist un

"Who knows what evils lurk in the hearts of men? The shadow knows."

2090

wild; sensational

The lurid stories he told shocked his listeners.

2089

shine; gloss

The soft luster of the silk in the dim light was pleasing.

2092

pleasing to taste or smell

The ripe peach was luscious.

2091

fertile; abundant; ornate

Farming was easy in this luxuriant soil.

2094

shining

Her large and lustrous eyes gave a touch of beauty to an otherwise drab face.

2093

gruesome; grisly

The city morgue is a macabre spot for the uninitiated.

2096

facilitating evacuation of the bowels

The effect of the constipation medicine is laxative; it empties the bowels.

2095

soften by soaking in liquid; waste away

The strawberries had been soaking in the champagne for so long that they had begun to macerate: they literally fell apart at the touch of a spoon.

2098

ceremonial staff; clublike medieval we

The Grand Marshal of the parade raised his mace to signal that it was time for the procession to begin.

2097

schemes

I can see through your wily machinations.

2100

crafty; double-dealing

I do not think he will be a good ambassador because he is not accustomed to the machiavellian maneuverings of foreign diplomats.

2099

pastoral song

His program of folk songs included several madrigals which he sang to the accompaniment of a lute.

2102

spotted; stained

Instead of writing that Gorbachev had a birthmark on his forehead, the pompous young poet sang of the former premier's maculated brow.

2101

authoritative; imperious

The learned doctor laid down the law to his patient in a magisterial tone of voice.

2104

whirlpool

The canoe was tossed about in the maelstrom.

2103

person of prominence or influence

The steel magnate decided to devote more time to city politics.

2106

generosity

Noted for his magnanimity, philanthropist Eugene Lang donated millions to charity.

2105

greatness; extent

It is difficult to comprehend the magnitude of his crime.

2108

boastful, pompous

In their stories of the trial, the reporters ridiculed the magniloquent speeches of the defense attorney.

2107

clumsy; bungling

In his usual maladroit way, he managed to upset the cart and spill the food.

2110

mutilate; injure

The hospital could not take care of all who had been mangled or maimed in the railroad accident.

2109

comic misuse of a word

When Mrs. Malaprop criticizes Lydia for being "as headstrong as an allegory on the banks of the Nile," she confuses "allegory" and "allegator" in a typical malapropism.

2112

uneasiness; distress

She felt a sudden vague malaise when she heard sounds at the door.

2111

curse

The witch uttered maledictions against her captors.

2114

person dissatisfied with existing state c

He was one of the few malcontents in the Congress; he constantly voiced his objections to the Presidential program.

2113

wishing evil

We must thwart his malevolent schemes.

2116

criminal

We must try to bring these malefactors to justice.

2115

dictated by hatred or spite

The malicious neighbor spread the gossip.

2118

wrongdoing

The authorities did not discover the campaign manager's malfeasance until after he had spent most of the money he had embezzled.

2117

having an evil influence; virulent

This is a malignant disease; we must have to use drastic measures to stop its spread.

2120

speak evil of; defame

Because of her hatred of the family, she maligns all who are friendly to them.

2119

capable of being shaped by pounding

Gold is a malleable metal.

2122

one who feigns illness to escape duty

The captain ordered the sergeant to punish all malingers and force them to work.

2121

vertebrate animal whose female suckle;

Many people regard the whale as a fish and do not realize that it is a mammal.

2124

foul-smelling

The component heap was most malodorous in summer.

2123

restrain; handcuff

The police immediately manacled the prisoner so he could not escape.

2126

gigantic

The mammoth corporations of the twentieth century are a mixed blessing

2125

obligatory

These instructions are mandatory; any violation will be severely punished.

2128

order; charge

In his inaugural address, the President stated that he had a mandate from the people to seek an end to social evils such as poverty and poor housing.

2127

raving mad

His maniacal laughter frightened us.

2130

shabby; wretched

We finally threw out the mangy rug that the dog had destroyed.

2129

outward demonstration; indication

Mozart's early attraction to the harpsichord was the first manifestation of his pronounced musical bent.

2132

understandable; clear

His evil intentions were manifest and yet we could not stop him.

2131

numerous; varied

I cannot begin to tell you how much I appreciate your manifold kindnesses.

2134

declaration; statement of policy

The Communist Manifesto by Marx and Engels proclaimed the principles of modern communism.

2133

affected; not natural

Attempting to copy the style of his wealthy neighbors, Gatsby adopted a mannered, artificial way of speech.

2136

operate with the hands; control or chan

How do you manipulate these puppets?

2135

pertaining to marriage

After the publication of his book on marital affairs, he was often consulted by married people on the verge of divorce.

2138

emancipate; free from bondage

Enlightened slave owners were willing to manumit their slaves and thus put an end to the evil slavery in the country.

2137

noticeable; targeted for vengeance

He walked with a marked limp, a souvenir of an old IRA attack. As British ambassador, he knew he was a marked man.

2140

bordering on the sea; nautical

The maritime Provinces depend on the sea for their wealth.

2139

put in order

At a debate tournament, extemporaneous speakers have only a minute or two to marshal their thoughts before addressing their audience.

2142

damaged; disfigured

She had to refinish the marred surface of the table.

2141

warlike

The sound of martial music was always inspiring to the young poet.

2144

one of a family of mammals that nurse

The most common marsupial in North America is the opossum.

2143

person who enjoys his own pain

The masochist begs, "Hit me." The sadist smiles and says, "I won't."

2146

strict disciplinarian

The commanding officer was a martinet who observed each regulation to the letter.

2145

preoccupation with physical comforts &

By its nature, materialism is opposed to idealism, for where the materialist emphasizes the needs of the body, the idealist emphasizes the needs of the soul.

2148

chew

We must masticate our food carefully and slowly in order to avoid digestive disorders.

2147

woman who rules a family or larger soc

The matriarch ruled her gypsy tribe with a firm hand.

2150

motherly

Many animals display maternal instincts only while their offspring are young and helpless.

2149

effusively sentimental

I do not like such maudlin pictures. I call them tearjerkers.

2152

point of origin; array of numbers or alg

Some historians claim the Nile Valley was the matrix of the Western civilization.

2151

monumental tomb

His body was placed in the family mausoleum.

2154

handle roughly

The rock star was mauled by his overexcited fans.

2153

rebel; nonconformist

To the masculine literary establishment, George Sand with her insistence on wearing trousers and smoking cigars was clearly a maverick who fought her proper womanly role.

2156

pale purple

The mauve tint in the lilac bush was another indication that spring had finally arrived.

2155

proverb; a truth pithily stated

Aesop's fables illustrate moral maxims.

2158

sickening; insipid

Your mawkish sighs fill me with disgust.

2157

scanty; inadequate

His salary was far too meager for him to afford to buy a new car.

2160

injury to the body

The riot was marked not only by mayhem, with its attendant loss of life and limb, but also by arson and pillage.

2159

to wind or turn in its course

It is difficult to sail up this stream because of the way it meanders through the countryside.

2162

indirect speech; hypocritical; evasive

Rather than tell Jill directly what he disliked, Jack made a few mealy-mouthed comments and tried to change the subject.

2161

settle a dispute through the services of

Let us mediate out differences rather than engage in a costly strike.

2164

interfering

He felt his marriage was suffering because of his meddling mother-in-law.

2163

reflection; thought

She reached her decision only after much meditation.

2166

ordinary; commonplace

We were disappointed because he gave a rather mediocre performance in this role.

2165

submissive; patient and long-suffering

Mr. Barrett never expected his meek daughter would dare to defy him by eloping with her suitor.

2168

mixture

The band played a medley of Gershwin tunes.

2167

fight

The captain tried to ascertain the cause of the melee that had broken out among the crew members.

2170

mania for doing grandiose things

Developers who spend millions trying to build the world's tallest skyscraper suffer from megalomania.

2169

token; reminder

Take this book as a memento of your visit.

2172

flowing smoothly; smooth

Italian is a mellifluous language.

2171

lying; false

He was pathological liar, and his friends learned to discount his mendacious stories.

2174

commemorate

Let us memorialize his great contribution by dedicating this library in his honor.

2173

suitable for servants; low

I cannot understand why a person of your ability and talent should engage in such menial activities.

2176

beggar

From the moment we left the ship, we were surrounded by mendicants and peddlers.

2175

concerning trade

I am more interested in the opportunities available in the mercantile field than I am in those in the legal profession.

2178

counselor; teacher

During this very trying period, she could not have had a better mentor, for the teacher was sympathetic and understanding.

2177

fickle; changing

He was of a mercurial temperament and therefore unpredictable.

2180

motivated solely by money or gain

"I'm not in this war because I get my kicks waving flags," said the mercenary soldier. "I'm in it for the dough."

2179

combination (of two business corporations)

When the firm's president married the director of financial planning, the office joke was that it wasn't a marriage, it was a merger.

2182

flashy; tawdry; falsely attractive

Her jewels were inexpensive but not meretricious.

2181

pertaining to the art of removing metal

During the course of his metallurgical research, the scientist developed a steel alloy of tremendous strength.

2184

hypnotize

The incessant drone seemed to mesmerize him and place him in a trance.

2183

implied comparison

"He soared like an eagle" is an example of a simile; "He is an eagle in flight," is a metaphor.

2186

change of form

The metamorphosis of caterpillar to butterfly is typical of many such changes in animal life.

2185

measure; distribute

He tried to be impartial in his efforts to mete out justice.

2188

pertaining to speculative philosophy

The modern poets have gone back to the fanciful poems of the metaphysical poets of the seventeenth century for many of their images.

2187

systematic

An accountant must be methodical and maintain order among his financial records.

2190

swift; momentarily brilliant

We all wondered at his meteoric rise to fame.

2189

large city

Every evening this terminal is filled with the thousands of commuters who are going from this metropolis to their homes in the suburbs.

2192

excessively careful

He was meticulous in checking his accounts and never made mistakes.

2191

swamp gas; heavy, vaporous atmosphere

corrupting influence The smog hung over Victorian London like a dark cloud; noisome, reeking of decay, it was a visible miasma.

2194

courage; spirit

When challenged by the other horses in the race, the thoroughbred proved its mettle by its determination to hold the lead.

2193

changing its habitat; wandering

These migrant birds return every spring.

2196

small world

In the microcosm of our rural village, we find illustrations of all the evils that beset the universe.

2195

environment; means of expression

His milieu is watercolors, although he has produced excellent oil paintings and lithographs.

2198

wandering

The return of the migratory birds to the northern sections of this country is a harbinger of spring.

2197

work against

Your record of lateness and absence will militate against your chances of promotion.

2200

combative; bellicose

Although at this time he was advocating a policy of neutrality, one could usually find him adopting a more militant attitude.

2199

imitation

Her gift for mimicry was so great that her friends said that she should be in the theater.

2202

thousand-year period; period of happen

I do not expect the millennium to come during my lifetime.

2201

affectedly dainty

Yum-Yum walked across the stage with mincing steps.

2204

menacing; threatening

Jabbing a minatory forefinger at Dorothy, the Wicked Witch cried, "I'll get you, and your little dog, too!"

2203

extremely small

Why should I involve myself with a project with so minuscule a chance for success?

2206

a servile dependent

He was always accompanied by several of his minions because he enjoyed their subservience and flattery.

2205

petty details

She would have liked to ignore the minutiae of daily living.

2208

extremely small

The twins resembled one another closely; only minute differences set them apart.

2207

entangle; stick in swampy ground

Their rear wheels became mired in mud.

2210

unreal reflection; optical illusion

The lost prospector was fooled by a mirage in the desert.

2209

mischance; ill luck

The young explorer met death by misadventure.

2212

merriment; laughter

Sober Malvolio found Sir Toby's mirth improper.

2211

error; misunderstanding

To avoid misapprehension, I am going to ask all of you to repeat the instructions I have given.

2214

one who hates mankind

We thought the hermit was a misanthrope because he shunned our society.

2213

ill luck

By mischance, he lost his week's salary.

2216

mixture of writings on various subjects

This is an interesting miscellany of nineteenth-century prose and poetry.

2215

wretch; villain

His kindness to the miscreant amazed all of us who had expected to hear severe punishment pronounced.

2218

interpret incorrectly; misjudge

She took the passage seriously rather than humourously because she misconstrued the author's ironic tone.

2217

stingy; mean

The miserly old man hoarded his coins not out of prudence but out of greed.

2220

minor crime

The culprit pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor rather than face trial for a felony.

2219

accident

With a little care you could have avoided this mishap.

2222

doubts

Hamlet described his misgivings to Horatio but decided to fence with Laertes despite his foreboding of evil.

2221

hatred of marriage

He remained a bachelor not because of misogamy but because of ill fate: his fiancée died before the wedding.

2224

wrong name; incorrect designation

His tyrannical conduct proved to all that his nickname, King Eric the Just, was a misnomer.

2223

object to be thrown or projected

Scientists are experimenting with guided missiles.

2226

hater of women

She accused him of being a misogynist because he had been a bachelor all his life.

2225

very small object or creature; small coi

Gnats are annoying mites that sing.

2228

letter

The ambassador received a missive from the Secretary of State.

2227

pertaining to memory

He used mnemonic tricks to master new words.

2230

appease

Nothing he did could mitigate her wrath; she was unforgiving.

2229

prevailing style

She was not used to their lavish mode of living.

2232

movable; not fixed

The mobile blood bank operated by the Red Cross visited our neighborhood today.

2231

fashionable

She always discarded all garments that were no longer modish.

2234

limited quantity

Although his story is based on a modicum of truth, most of the events he describes are fictitious.

2233

powerful person

The oil moguls made great profits when the price of gasoline rose.

2236

toning down; changing from one key to

When we she spoke, it was with quiet modulation of voice.

2235

soothe

We tried to mollify the hysterical child by promising her many gifts.

2238

the smallest particle (one or more atom

substance In chemistry, we study how atoms and molecules react to form new substances.

2237

shed or cast off hair or feathers

The male robin molted in the spring.

2240

pamper; indulge excessively

Don't mollycoddle the boy, Maud! You'll spoil him.

2239

very important

On this momentous occasion, we must be very solemn.

2242

melted

The city of Pompeii was destroyed by volcanic ash rather than by molten lava flowing from Mount Vesuvius.

2241

government under a single hereditary r

England today remains a monarchy.

2244

quantity of motion of a moving body; i

The car lost momentum as it tried to ascend the steep hill.

2243

pertaining to money

Jane held the family purse strings: she made all monetary decisions affecting the household.

2246

related to monks

Wanting to live a religious life, he took his monastic vows.

2245

solidly uniform; unyielding

Knowing the importance of appearing resolute, the patriots sought to present a monolithic front.

2248

having only one color

Most people who are color blind actually can distinguish several colors; some, however, have a truly monochromatic view of a world all in shades of gray.

2247

sameness leading to boredom

He took a clerical job, but soon grew to hate the monotony of his daily routine.

2250

belief in one God

Abraham was the first to proclaim his belief in monotheism.

2249

fits of depression or gloom

We could not discover the cause of her recurrent moodiness.

2252

massive

Writing a dictionary is a monumental task.

2251

given to unwholesome thought; gloomy

These morbid speculations are dangerous; we must lighten our spirits by emphasizing more pleasant matters.

2254

legal delay of payment

If we declare a moratorium and delay collection of debts for six months, I am sure the farmers will be able to meet their bills.

2253

customs

The mores of Mexico are those of Spain with some modifications.

2256

biting; sarcastic; stinging

Actors feared the critic's mordant pen.

2255

ill-humored; sullen

When we first meet Hamlet, we find him morose and depressed.

2258

at the point of death

The doctors called the family to the bedside of the moribund patient.

2257

humiliate; punish the flesh

She was so mortified by her blunder that she ran to her room in tears.

2260

undertaker

The mortician prepared the corpse for burial.

2259

small speck

The tiniest mote in the eye is very painful.

2262

picture made of smell, colorful inlaid ti

The mayor compared the city to a beautiful mosaic made up of people of every race and religion on earth.

2261

ability to move spontaneously

Certain organisms exhibit remarkable motility; motile spores, for example, may travel for miles before coming to rest.

2264

theme

This simple motif runs throughout the score.

2263

spotted

When he blushed, his face took on a mottled hue.

2266

parti-colored; mixed

The captain had gathered a motley crew to sail the vessel.

2265

confuse; mix up

His thoughts were muddled and chaotic.

2268

charlatan; boastful pretender

The patent medicine man was a mountebank.

2267

defraud a person of something

The lawyer was accused of trying to mulct the boy of his legacy.

2270

warm and damp

August in New York City is often muggy.

2269

having many forms

Snowflakes are multiform but always hexagonal.

2272

varied; greatly diversified

A career woman and mother, she was constantly busy with the multifarious activities of her daily life.

2271

state of being numerous

He was appalled by the multiplicity of details he had to complete before setting out on his mission.

2274

having many languages

Because they are bordered by so many countries, the Swiss people are multilingual.

2273

very generous

The munificent gift was presented to the bride by her rich uncle.

2276

worldly as opposed to spiritual

He was concerned only with mundane matters, especially the daily stock market quotations.

2275

ponder

For a moment he mused about the beauty of the scene, but his thought soon changed as he recalled his own personal problems.

2278

darkness; gloom

The murkiness and fog of the waterfront that evening depressed me.

2277

gather; assemble

Washington mustered his forces at Trenton.

2280

having the odor of musk

She left a trace of musky perfume behind her.

2279

changing in form; fickle

His opinion were mutable and easily influenced by anyone who had any powers of persuasion.

2282

stale; spoiled by age

The attic was dark and musty.

2281

maim

The torturer threatened to mutilate his victim.

2284

silent; muffled; toned down

In the funeral parlor, the mourners' voices had a muted quality.

2283

nearsighted

In thinking only of your present needs and ignoring the future, you are being rather myopic.

2286

unruly; rebellious

The captain had to use force to quiet his mutinous crew.

2285

murmur or grumble

The child muttered at the doll.

2288

very large number

myriads of mosquitoes from the swamps invaded our village every twilight.

2287

lowest point

Although few people realized it, the Dow-Jones averages had reached their nadir and would soon begin an upward surge.

2290

person who makes or sells women's hats

The millinery displayed fashionable hats in the street where many women passed by.

2289

conceited person

A narcissist is his own best friend.

2292

quality of being unsophisticated

I cannot believe that such naivete is unassumed in a person of her age and experience.

2291

incipient; coming into being

If we could identify these revolutionary movements in their nascent state, we would be able to eliminate serious trouble in later years.

2294

related to telling a story

A born teller of tales, Olsen used her impressive narrative skills to advantage in her story "I Stand Here Ironing."

2293

neatly or smartly dressed

Priding himself on being a natty dresser, the gangster Bugsy Siegel collected a wardrobe of imported suits and ties.

2296

swimming

The Red Cross emphasizes the need for courses in natation.

2295

pertaining to ships or navigation

The Maritime Museum contains many models of clipper ships, logbooks, anchors and many other items of a nautical nature.

2298

cause to become sick; fill with disgust

The foul smells began to nauseate him.

2297

black magic; dealings with the dead

Because he was able to perform feats of necromancy, the natives thought he was in league with the devil.

2300

vague; hazy; cloudy

She had only a nebulous memory of her grandmother's face.

2299

denial

I must accept his argument since you have been unable to present any negation of his evidence.

2302

very wicked

He was universally feared because of his many nefarious deeds.

2301

so small, trifling, or unimportant as to

Because the damage to his car had been negligible, Michael decided he wouldn't bother to report the matter to his insurance company.

2304

carelessness

negligence can prove costly near complicated machinery.

2303

new or newly coined word or phrase

As we invent new techniques and professions, we must also invent neologisms such as "microcomputer" and "astronaut" to describe them.

2306

revenging agent

Captain Bligh vowed to be Christian's nemesis.

2305

favoritism (to a relative)

John left his position with the company because he felt that advancement was based on nepotism rather than ability.

2308

recent convert; beginner

This mountain slope contains slides that will challenge experts as well as neophytes.

2307

annoy; vex

Do not let him nettle you with his sarcastic remarks.

2310

lower

Tradition locates hell in the nether regions.

2309

beak; pen point

The nibs of fountain pens often become clotted and corroded.

2312

connection

I fail to see the nexus that binds these two widely separated events.

2311

meanly stingy; parsimonious

The niggardly pittance the widow receives from the government cannot keep her from poverty.

2314

precision; minute distinction

I cannot distinguish between such niceties of reasoning.

2313

denial of traditional values; total skepti

nihilism holds that existence has no meaning.

2316

spend too much time on minor points;

Let's not niggle over details.

2315

done at night

Mr. Jones obtained a watchdog to prevent the nocturnal raids on his chicken coops.

2318

Buddhist teachings, the ideal state in

Despite his desire to achieve nirvana, the young Buddhist found that even the buzzing of a fly could distract him from his meditation.

2317

wandering

Several nomadic tribes of Indians would hunt in this area each year.

2320

foul smelling; unwholesome

I never could stand the noisome atmosphere surrounding the slaughter houses.

2319

in name only; trifling

He offered to drive her to the airport for only a nominal fee.

2322

terminology; system of names

She struggled to master scientific nomenclature.

2321

neutral; unpledged; undecided

We were annoyed by his noncommittal reply for we had been led to expect definite assurances of his approval.

2324

indifference; lack of interest

Few people could understand how he could listen to the news of the tragedy with such nonchalance; the majority regarded him as callous and unsympathetic.

2323

person of no importance; nonexistence

Don't dismiss John as a nonentity; in his quiet way, he's very important to the firm.

2326

undistinctive; ordinary

The private detective was a short, nondescript fellow with no outstanding features, the sort of person one would never notice in a crowd.

2325

homesickness; longing for the past

The first settlers found so much work to do that they had little time for nostalgia.

2328

bring to a halt by confusion; perplex

Jack's uncharacteristic rudeness nonplussed Jill, leaving her uncertain how to react.

2327

disrepute; ill fame

To the starlet, any publicity was good publicity: if she couldn't have a good reputation, she'd settle for notoriety.

2330

questionable medicine

No quack selling nostrums is going to cheat me.

2329

beginner

Even a novice can do good work if he follows these simple directions.

2332

something new; newness

The computer is no longer a novelty around the office.

2331

shade of difference in meaning or color

The unskilled eye of the layperson has difficulty in discerning the nuances of color in the paintings.

2334

harmful

We must trace the source of these noxious gases before they asphyxiate us.

2333

futile; worthless

This agreement is nugatory for no court will enforce it.

2336

marrigeable

Mrs. Bennet, in *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen, was worried about finding suitable husbands for her five nubile daughters.

2335

person who collects coins

The numismatist had a splendid collection of antique coins.

2338

to make invalid

Once the contract was nullified, it no longer had any legal force.

2337

nourish; educate; foster

The head Start program attempts to nurture prekindergarten children so that they will do well when they enter public school.

2340

related to marriage

Their nuptial ceremony was performed in Golden Gate Park.

2339

stupid, awkward person

He called the unfortunate waiter a clumsy oaf.

2342

nourishing substance

As a budding nutritionist, Kim has learned to design diets that contain foods rich in important basic nutrients.

2341

bow

She made an obeisance as the king and queen entered the room.

2344

stubborn

He was obdurate in his refusal to listen to our complaints.

2343

excessively fat

It is advisable that obese people try to lose weight.

2346

tall column tapering and ending in a pyramid

Cleopatra's Needle is an obelisk in New York City's Central Park.

2345

death notice

I first learned of her death when I read the obituary in the newspaper.

2348

confuse; muddle

Do not obfuscate the issues by dragging in irrelevant arguments.

2347

goal; aim

A degree in medicine was her ultimate objective.

2350

not influenced by emotions; fair

Even though he was her son, she tried to be objective about his behavior.

2349

slanting; deviating from the perpendicular

The sergeant ordered the men to march "oblique right."

2352

binding; required

It is obligatory that books borrowed from the library be returned within two weeks.

2351

forgetfulness

Her work had fallen into a state of oblivion; no one bothered to read them.

2354

destroy completely

The tidal wave obliterated several island villages.

2353

offensive

I find your behavior obnoxious; please mend your ways.

2356

slander; disgrace; infamy

I resent the obloquy that you are casting upon my reputation.

2355

darken; make unclear

At times he seemed purposely to obscure his meaning, preferring mystery to clarity.

2358

dark; vague; unclear

Even after I read the poem a fourth time, its meaning was still obscure.

2357

funeral ceremony

Hundreds paid their last respects at his obsequies.

2360

slavishly attentive; servile; sycophantic

Helen valued people who behaved as if they respected themselves; nothing irritated her more than an excessively obsequious waiter or a fawning salesclerk.

2359

clak volcanic rock

The deposits of obsidian on the mountain slopes were an indication that volcano had erupted in ancient times.

2362

fixed idea; continued brooding

This obsession with the supernatural has made him unpopular with his neighbors.

2361

physician specializing in delivery of babies

Unlike midwives, who care for women giving birth at home, obstetricians generally work in a hospital setting.

2364

outmoded

"Hip" is an obsolete expression; it went out with love beads and tie-dye shirts.

2363

boisterous; noisy

The crowd became obstreperous and shouted their disapproval of the proposals made by the speaker.

2366

stubborn

We tried to persuade him to give up smoking, but he was obstinate and refused to change.

2365

blunt; stupid

Because he was so obtuse, he could not follow the teacher's reasoning and asked foolish questions.

2368

pushing forward

I found her a very obtrusive person, constantly seeking the center of the stage.

2367

the West

It will take occidnt to understand the ways and customs of the orient.

2370

make unnecessary; get rid of

I hope this contribution will obviate any need for further collections of funds.

2369

mysterious; secret; supernatural

The occult rites of the organization were revealed only to members.

2372

shut; close

A blood clot occluded an artery to the heart.

2371

hateful

I find the task of punishing you most odious.

2374

physician who specialized in treatment

In many states, an oculist is the only one who may apply medicinal drops to the eyes for the purpose of examining them.

2373

giving off an odor

The odoriferous spices stimulated her jaded appetite.

2376

repugnance; dislike

I cannot express the odium I feel at your heinous actions.

2375

long, evenful journey

The refugee's journey from Cambodia was a terrifying odyssey.

2378

having an odor

This variety of hybrid tea rose is more odorous than the one you have in your garden.

2377

casual; done without prior thought

Expecting to be treated with due propriety by her costs, Great-Aunt Maud was offended by their offhand manner.

2380

attacking; insulting; distasteful

Getting into street brawls is no minor offense for professional boxers, who are required by law to restrict their offensive impulses to the ring.

2379

glance coquettishly at; make eyes at

Sitting for hours at the sidewalk cafe, the old gentleman would oggle the young girls and recall his youthful romances.

2382

meddlesome; excessively pushy in offe

After her long flight, Jill just wanted to nap, but the officious bellboy was intent on showing her all the special features of the deluxe suite.

2381

government by a few

The feudal oligarchy was supplanted by an autocracy.

2384

concerning the sense of smell

The olfactory organ is the nose.

2383

all-powerful

The monarch regarded himself as omnipotent and responsible to no one for his acts.

2386

threatening

Those clouds are ominous; they suggest that a severe storm is on the way.

2385

all-knowing

I do not pretend to be omniscient, but I am positive about this fact.

2388

universally present; ubiquitous

On Christmas Eve, Santa Claus is omnipotent.

2387

burdensome

He asked for an assistant because his work load was too onerous.

2390

eating both plant and animal food; dev

Some animals, including humans, are omnivorous and eat both meat and vegetables; others are either carnivorous or herbivorous.

2389

vicious assault

We suffered many casualties during unexpected onslaught of the enemy troops.

2392

words formed in imitation of natural sc

Words like "rustle" and "gargle" are illustrations of onomatopoeia.

2391

iridescent

The Ancient Mariner admired the opalescent sheen on the water.

2394

burden; responsibility

The emperor was spared the onus of signing the surrender papers; instead, he relegated the assignment to his generals.

2393

sleep producer; deadener of pain

By such opiates, she made the people forget their difficulties and accept their unpleasant circumstances.

2396

dark; not transparent

The opaque window kept the sunlight out of the room.

2395

individual who sacrifices principles for

Forget about ethics! He's such an opportunist that he'll vote in favor of any deal that will give him a break.

2398

timely; well chosen

You have come at an opportune moment for I need a new secretary.

2397

maker and seller of eyeglasses

The patient took the prescription given him by his oculist to the optician.

2400

infamy; vilification

He refused to defend himself against the slander and opprobrium hurled against him by the newspapers; he preferred to rely on his record.

2399

most favorable

If you wait for the optimum moment to act, you may never begin your project .

2402

person who looks on the bright side

The pessimist says the glass is half-empty; the optimist says it is half-full.

2401

one who fits glasses to remedy visual d

Although an optometrist is qualified to treat many eye disorders, she may not use medicines or surgery in her examinations.

2404

not compulsory; left to one's choice

I was impressed by the range of optional accessories for my microcomputer that were available.

2403

work

Although many critics hailed his Fifth Symphony, he did not regard it as his major opus.

2406

extreme wealth; luxuriousness; abunda

The glitter and opulence of the ballroom took Cinderella's breath away.

2405

dramatic poem set to music

The Glee Club decided to present an oratorio during their recital.

2408

foretelling; mysterious

Oedipus could not understand the oracular warning he received.

2407

severe trial or affliction

Terry Anderson spoke movingly of his long ordeal as a hostage in Lebanon.

2410

command; arrange; consecrate

The king ordained that no foreigner should be allowed to enter the city.

2409

ceremony conferring holy orders

The candidate for ordination had to meet with the bishop and the diocesan officers before being judged ready to be ordained a deacon.

2412

decree

Passing a red light is a violation of a city ordinance.

2411

act of finding oneself in society

Freshman orientation provides the incoming students with an opportunity to learn about their new environment and their place in it.

2414

get one's bearings; adjust

Philip spent his first day in Denver orienting himself to the city.

2413

excessively or elaborately decorated

Furniture of the Baroque period can be recognized by its ornate carvings.

2416

mouthlike opening; small opening

The Howe Caverns were discovered when someone observed that a cold wind was issuing from an orifice in the hillside.

2415

traditional; conservative in belief

Faced with a problem, he preferred to take an orthodox approach rather than shock anyone.

2418

scientific student of birds

Auduborn's drawings of American bird life have been of interest not only to the ornithologists but also to the general public.

2417

vibrate pendulumlike; waver

It is interesting to note how public opinion oscillates between the extremes of optimism and pessimism.

2420

correct spelling

Many of us find English orthography difficult to master because so many of our words are written phonetically.

2419

change or harden into bone

When he called his opponent a "bonehead," he implied that his adversary's brain had ossified and that he was not capable of clear thinking.

2422

made of bone; bony

The hollow "soft spot" found at the top of the infant's skull gradually closes as new osseus tissue fills in the gap.

2421

showy; pretentious; trying to attract att

Trump's latest casino in Atlantic City is the most ostentatious gambling place in the East: it easily outglitters its competitors.

2424

apparent; professed; pretended

Although the ostensible purpose of this expedition is to discover new lands, we are really interested in finding new markets for our products.

2423

expel; drive out

The world wondered if Aquino would be able to oust Marcos from office.

2426

exclude from public favor; ban

As soon as the newspapers carried the story of his connection with the criminals, his friends began to ostracize him.

2425

no longer stylish; old-fashioned

Unconcerned about keeping in style, Lenore was perfectly happy to wear outmoded clothes as long as they were clean and unfrayed.

2428

bizarre; peculiar; unconventional

The eccentric professor who engages in markedly outlandish behavior is a stock figure in novels with an academic setting.

2427

candid; blunt

The candidate was too outspoken to be a successful politician; he had not yet learned to weigh his words carefully.

2430

fringes; outer borders

Living outskirts of Boston, Sarah sometimes felt as if she were cut off from the cultural heart of the city.

2429

outsmart; trick

By disguising himself as an old woman, Holmes was able to outwit his pursuers and escape capture.

2432

surpass; outdo

Jesse Owens easily outstripped his competitors to win the gold medal at the Olympic Games.

2431

bossy; arrogant; decisively important

Certain of her own importance and of the unimportance of everyone else, Lady Bracknell was intolerably overbearing in manner. "In choosing a husband," she said, "good birth is of overbearing importance; compared to that, neither wealth nor talent signify"

2434

enthusiastic applause

When Placido Domingo came on stage in the first act of La Boheme, he was greeted by a tremendous ovation.

2433

presumptuous; arrogant

His overweening pride in his accomplishments was not justified.

2436

open to view

According to the United States Constitution, a person must commit an overt act before he may be tried for treason.

2435

egg-shaped

At Easter she had to cut out hundreds of brightly colored ovoid shapes.

2438

extremely agitated; hysterical

When Kate heard the news of the sudden tragedy, she became too overwrought to work and had to leave the office early.

2437

thick-skinned animal

The elephant is probably the best-known pachyderm.

2440

thoroughly examine the condition of ar

It is necessary for the engineers of NASA to overhaul the rocket everyday; otherwise, an incident similar to that of Challenger accident might happen.

2439

soothe; make calm or quiet; subdue

Dentists criticize the practice of giving fussy children sweets to pacify them.

2442

one opposed to force; antimilitarist

The pacifists urged that we reduce our military budget and recall our troops stationed overseas.

2441

showing hard work; taking great care

The new high-frequency word list is the result of painstaking efforts on the part of our research staff.

2444

song of praise or joy

paean celebrating the victory filled the air.

2443

magnificent

He proudly showed us through his palatial home.

2446

agreeable; pleasing to the taste

Neither Jack's underbaked opinions nor his overcooked casseroles were palatable to me.

2445

board on which a painter mixes pigment

At the present time, art supply stores are selling a paper palette that may be discarded after use.

2448

study of prehistoric life

The professor of paleontology had a superb collection of fossils.

2447

grow tiresome

The study of word lists can eventually pall and put one to sleep.

2450

parchment used for second time after o

Using chemical reagents, scientists have been able to restore the original writings on many palimpsests.

2449

ease pain; make less severe or offensive

If we cannot cure this disease at present, we can, at least try to palliate the symptoms.

2452

small, poor bed

The weary traveler went to sleep on his straw pallet.

2451

tangible; easily perceptible

I cannot understand how you could overlook such a palpable blunder.

2454

pale; wan

Because his occupation required that he work at night and sleep during the day, he had an exceptionally pallid complexion.

2453

insignificant; petty

This is a paltry sum to pay for such a masterpiece.

2456

throb; flutter

As he became excited, his heart began to palpitate more and more erratically.

2455

cure-all; remedy for all diseases

There is no easy panacea that will solve our complicated international situation.

2458

criticize harshly

Hoping for a rave review of his new show, the playwright was miserable when the critics panned it unanimously.

2457

widespread; affecting the majority of p

They feared the AIDS epidemic would soon reach pandemic proportions.

2460

flair; flamboyance

Many performers imitate Noel Coward, but few have his panache and sense of style.

2459

cater to the low desires of others

The reviewer accused the makers of Lethal Weapon of pandering to the masses' taste of violence.

2462

wild tumult

When the ships collided in the harbor, pandemonium broke out among the passengers.

2461

denoting an unobstructed and compreh

On a clear day, from the top of the World Trade Center you can get a panoramic view of New York City and neighboring stretches of New Jersey and Long Island.

2464

formal praise

The modest hero blushed to hear the speakers delivering panegyrics about his valorous act.

2463

ancient paper made from stem of papyr

The ancient Egyptians were among the first to write on papyrus.

2466

acting without dialogue

Because he worked in pantomime, the clown could be understood wherever he appeared.

2465

model; example; pattern

Pavlov's experiment in which he trains a dog to salivate on hearing a bell is a paradigm of the conditioned response experiment in behavioral psychology.

2468

short, simple story teaching a moral

Let us apply to our own conduct the lesson that this parable teaches.

2467

model of perfection

The class disliked him because the teacher was always pointing him out as a paragon of virtue.

2470

statement that looks false but is actual

Wordsworth's "The child is father to the man" is an example of paradox.

2469

limit; independent variable

We need to define the parameters of the problem.

2472

state of being parallel; similarity

There is a striking parallelism between the twins.

2471

illicit lover

She sought a divorce on the grounds that her husband had a paramour in another town.

2474

foremost in importance; supreme

Proper nutrition and hygiene are of paramount importance in adolescent development and growth.

2473

equipment; odds and ends

His desk was cluttered with paper, pen, ink, dictionary and other paraphernalia of the writing craft.

2476

psychosis marked by delusions of grandeur

Suffering from paranoia, he claimed everyone was out to get him; ironically, his claim was accurate; even paranoids have enemies.

2475

animal or plant living on another; toad

The tapeworm is an example of the kind of parasite that may infest the human body.

2478

restate a passage in one's own words

In 250 words or less, paraphrase this article.

2477

social outcast

I am not a pariah to be shunned and ostracized.

2480

extremely dry; very thirsty

The parched desert landscape seemed hostile to life.

2479

language; idiom

All this legal parlance confuses me; I need an interpreter.

2482

equality; close resemblance

I find your analogy inaccurate because I do not see the parity between the two illustrations.

2481

narrow in outlook; provincial; related to

Although Jane Austen writes novels set in small rural communities, her concerns are universal, not parochial.

2484

conference

The peace parley has not produced the anticipated truce.

2483

fit or attack of pain, laughter, rage

When he heard of his son's misdeeds, he was seized by a paroxysm of rage.

2486

humorous imitation; travesty

We enjoyed the clever parodies of popular songs that the chorus sang.

2485

ward off a blow

He was content to wage a defensive battle and tried to parry his opponent's thrusts.

2488

floor made of wood strips inlaid in a m

In laying the floor, the carpenters combined redwood and oak in an elegant parquet.

2487

incomplete

In this issue we have published only a partial list of contributors because we lack space to acknowledge everyone.

2490

stingy; excessively frugal

His parsimonious nature did not permit him to enjoy any luxuries.

2489

inclination; bias

As a judge, not only must I be unbiased, but I must also avoid any evidence of partiality when I award the prize.

2492

biased; having a liking for something

I am extremely partial to chocolate eclairs.

2491

old-fashioned; past the prime

Her style is passe and reminiscent of the Victorian era.

2494

one-sided; prejudiced; committed to a

On certain issues of conscience, she refused to take a partisan stand.

2493

imitation of another's style in musical c

We cannot even say that her music is a pastiche of this or that composer; it is rather, reminiscent of many musicians.

2496

not active; acted upon

Mahatma Gandhi urged his followers to pursue a program of passive resistance as he felt that it was more effective than violence and acts of terrorism.

2495

open for the public to read; obvious

It was patent to everyone that the witness spoke the truth.

2498

rural

In these stories of pastoral life, we find an understanding of the daily tasks of country folk.

2497

pertaining to disease

As we study the pathological aspects of this disease, we must not overlook the psychological elements.

2500

causing sadness, compassion, pity; tou

Everyone in the auditorium was weeping by the time he finished his pathetic tale about the orphaned boy.

2499

green crust on old bronze works; tone s

Judging by the patina on this bronze statue, we can conclude that this is the work of a medieval artist.

2502

tender to sorrow; pity; quality in art or

The quiet tone of pathos that ran through the novel never degenerated into the maudlin or the overly sentimental.

2501

father and ruler of a family or tribe

In many primitive tribes, the leader and lawmaker was the patriarch.

2504

local or provincial dialect

His years of study of the language at the university did not enable him to understand the patois of the natives.

2503

support; act superior toward

Experts in a field sometimes appear to patronize people who are less knowledgeable of the subject.

2506

noble; aristocratic

We greatly admired her well-bred, patrician elegance

2505

very poor person

Though Widow Brown was living on a reduced income, she was by no means a pauper.

2508

scarcity

They closed the restaurant because the paucity of customers made it uneconomical to operate.

2507

pertaining to money

I never expected a pecuniary reward for my work in this activity.

2510

slight offense

If we examine these escapades carefully, we will realize that they are mere peccadilloes rather than major crimes.

2509

teaching; art of education

Though Maria Montessori gained fame for her innovations in pedagogy, it took years before her teaching techniques became common practice in American schools.

2512

teacher

He could never be a stuffy pedagogue; his classes were always lively and filled with humor.

2511

showing off learning; bookish

Leaving his decisions with humorous, down-to-earth anecdotes, Judge Walker was not at all pedantic legal scholar.

2514

scholar who overemphasizes book learn

Her insistence that the book be memorized marked the teacher as a pedant rather than a scholar.

2513

physician specializing in children's dis

The family doctor advised the parents to consult a pediatrician about their child's ailment.

2516

ordinary; unimaginative

Unintentionally boring, he wrote page after page of pedestrian prose.

2515

in confusion; disorderly

The excited students dashed pellmell into the stadium to celebrate the victory.

2518

negative in connotation; having a belitt

Instead of criticizing Clinton's policies, the Republicans made pejorative remarks about his character.

2517

self-imposed punishment for sin

The Ancient Mariner said, "I have penance done and penance more will do," to atone for the sin of killing the albatross.

2520

transparent; limpid; easy to understand

After reading these stodgy philosophers, I find his pellucid style very enjoyable.

2519

hanging down from something

Her pendant earrings glistened in the light.

2522

strong inclination; liking

He had a strong penchant for sculpture and owned many statues.

2521

hanging; suspended

The pendulous chandeliers swayed in the breeze as if they were about to fall from the ceiling.

2524

ornament (hanging from a necklace, etc)

The grateful team presented the coach with a silver chain and pendant engraved with the school's motto.

2523

dreamily thoughtful; thoughtful with a

The pensive youth gazed at the painting for a long time and then sighed.

2526

repentant

When he realized the enormity of his crime, he became remorseful and penitent.

2525

stingy; parsimonious

He was a penurious man, averse to spending money even for the necessities of life.

2528

partial shadow (in an eclipse)

During an eclipse, we can see an area of total darkness and a lighter area, which is the penumbra.

2527

landless agricultural worker; bond serv

The land reformers sought to liberate the peons and establish them as independent farmers.

2530

extreme poverty

When his pension fund failed, George feared he would end his days in penury.

2529

striking one object against another sha

The drum is a percussion instrument.

2532

insightful; aware; wise

Although Maud was a generally perceptive critic, she had her blind spots: she could never see flaws in the work of her friends.

2531

journey

Auntie Mame was a world traveler whose peregrinations took her from Tiajuana to Timbuctoo.

2534

damnation; complete ruin

Praying for salvation, young Daedalus feared he was damned to eternal perdition.

2533

something long-lasting

Tese plants are hardy perennials and will bloom for many years.

2536

demanding and leaving no choice

From Jack's peremptory knock on the door, Jill could tell he would not give up until she let him in.

2535

pierce; put a hole through

Before you can open the aspirin bottle, you must first perforate the plastic safety seal that covers the cap.

2538

treacherous; disloyal

When Caesar realized that Brutus had betrayed him, he reproached his perfidious friend.

2537

point of moon's orbit when it is nearest

The rocket which was designed to take photographs of the moon was launched as the moon approached its perigee.

2540

superficial; not thorough; lacking inter

The auditor's perfunctory inspection of the books overlooked many errors.

2539

walking about; moving

The peripatetic school of philosophy derives its name from the fact that Aristotle walked with his pupils while discussing philosophy with them.

2542

outer boundary

To find the perimeter of any quadrilateral, we add the lengths of the four sides.

2541

edge, especially of a round surface

He sensed that there was something just beyond the periphery of his vision.

2544

marginal; outer

We lived, not in central London, but in one of those peripheral suburbs that spring up on the outskirts of the great city.

2543

porous; allowing passage through

Glass is permeable to light.

2546

false testimony while under oath

When several witnesses appeared to challenge his story, he was indicted for perjury.

2545

conclusion of an oration

The peroration was largely hortatory and brought the audience to its feet clamoring for action at its close.

2548

very destructive, harmful

He argued that these books had a pernicious effect on young and susceptible minds.

2547

everlasting

Ponce de Leon hoped to find perpetual youth.

2550

commit an offense

Only an insane person could perpetrate such a horrible crime.

2549

attractive

The man I am seeking to fill this position must be personable since he will be representing us before the public.

2552

any gain above stipulated salary

The perquisites attached to this job make it even more attractive than the salary indicates.

2551

clearness of expression; freedom from

One of the outstanding features of this book is the perspicuity of its author; her meaning is always clear.

2554

having insight; penetrating; astute

The brilliant lawyer was known for his perspicacious deductions.

2553

impertinent; forward

I think your pert and impudent remarks call for an apology.

2556

plainly expressed

Her perspicuous comments eliminated all possibility of misinterpretation.

2555

suitable; to the point

The lawyer wanted to know all the pertinent details.

2558

stubborn; persistent

He is bound to succeed because his pertinacious nature will not permit him to quit.

2557

reading

I am certain that you have missed important details in your rapid perusal of this document.

2560

disturb greatly

I am afraid this news will perturb him and cause him grief.

2559

stubbornly wrongheaded; wicked and u

When Hannibal Lecter was in a perverse mood, he ate the flesh of his victims.

2562

spread throughout

Despite airing them for several hours, she could not rid her clothes of the pervasive odor of mothballs that clung to them.

2561

belief that life is basically bad or evil; §

The good news we have been receiving lately indicates that there is little reason for your pessimism.

2564

corruption; turning from right to wrong

Inasmuch as he had no motive for his crimes, we could not understand his perversion.

2563

tool for mashing or grinding substance;

From the way in which the elderly pharmacist pounded the drug with his pestle, young George could tell that his employer was agitated about something.

2566

causing plague; baneful

People were afraid to explore the pestilential swap.

2565

trivial; unimportant; very small

She had no major complaints to make about his work, only a few petty quibbles that were almost too minor to state.

2568

turn to stone

His sudden and unexpected appearance seemed to petrify her.

2567

pertaining to Pharisees, who paid scrup

Walter Lippmann has pointed out that moralists who do not attempt to explain the moral code they advocate are often regarded as pharisaical and ignored.

2570

touchy; peevish

The feverish patient was petulant and restless.

2569

faithless lover; flirt

Swearing he had never so much as looked at another woman, Jack assured Jill he was no philanderer.

2572

observable facts; subjects of scientific

We kept careful records of the phenomena we noted in the course of these experiments.

2571

stamp-collector

When she heard the value of the Penny Black stamp, Phyllis was inspired to become a philatelist.

2574

lover of mankind; doer of good

As he grew older, he became famous as a philanthropist and benefactor of the needy.

2573

study of language

The professor of philology advocated the use of Esperanto as an international language.

2576

narrow-minded person, uncultured and

We need more men of culture and enlightenment; we have too many philistines among us.

2575

morbid fear

Her fear of flying was more than mere nervousness; it was a real phobia.

2578

calm; not easily disturbed

The nurse was a cheerful but phlegmatic person, unexcited in the face of sudden emergencies.

2577

pertaining to the science of the function

To understand this disease fully, we must examine not only its physiological aspects but also its psychological elements.

2580

face

He prided himself on his ability to analyze a person's character by studying his physiognomy.

2579

variegated; multicolored

The pied piper of Hamelin got his name from the multicolored clothing he wore.

2582

of different colors; motled; spotted

You should be able to identify Polka Dot in this race; he is the only piebald horse running.

2581

coloring matter

Van Gogh mixed various pigments with linseed oil to create his paints.

2584

devoutness; reverence for God

Living her life in prayer and good works, Mother Teresa exemplifies the true spirit of piety.

2583

punish by placing in a wooden frame; s

Even though he was mocked and pilloried, he maintained that he was correct in his beliefs.

2586

plunder

The enemy pillaged the quiet village and left it in ruins.

2585

restrain

They pinioned his arms against his body but left his legs free so that he could move about.

2588

languish, decline; long for, yearn

Though she tried to be happy living with Clara in the city, Heidi pined for the mountains and for her gruff but loving grandfather.

2587

devout

The pious parents gave their children a religious upbringing.

2590

peak

We could see the morning sunlight illuminate the pinnacle while the rest of the mountain lay in shadow.

2589

irritation; resentment

She showed her pique by her refusal to appear with the other contestants at the end of the contest.

2592

pleasantly tart-tasting; stimulating

The piquant sauce added to our enjoyment of the meal.

2591

concise; meaty

I enjoy reading his essays because they are always compact and pithy.

2594

pertaining to fishing

He spent many happy hours at the lake in his piscatorial activities.

2593

central; critical

De Klerk's decision to set Nelson Mandela free was pivotal; without Mandela's release, there was no possibility that the African National Congress would entertain talks with the South African government.

2596

a small allowance or wage

He could not live on the pittance he received as a pension and had to look for an additional source of revenue.

2595

harmless substance prescribed as a drug

In a controlled experiment, fifty volunteers were given erythromycin tablets; the control group received only placebos.

2598

pacify; conciliate

The teacher tried to placate the angry mother.

2597

steal another's ideas and pass them off

The editor could tell that the writer had plagiarized parts of the article; he could recognize whole paragraphs from the original source.

2600

peaceful; calm

After his vacation in this placid section, he felt soothed and rested.

2599

ability to be molded

When clay dries out, it loses its plasticity and becomes less malleable.

2602

mournful

The dove has a plaintive and melancholy call

2601

purely spiritual; theoretical; without sex

Accused of impropriety in his dealings with female students, the professor maintained he had only a platonic interest in the women involved.

2604

trite remark; commonplace statement

The platitudes in his speech were applauded by the vast majority in his audience; only a few people perceived how trite his remarks were.

2603

having a show of truth but open to doubt

Even though your argument is plausible, I still would like to have more proof.

2606

approving; applauding

The theatrical company reprinted the plauditory comments of the critics in its advertisement.

2605

complete; full

The union leader was given plenary power to negotiate a new contract with the employers.

2608

common; pertaining to the common people

His speeches were aimed at the plebeian minds and emotions; they disgusted the more refined.

2607

excess; overabundance

She offered a plethora of excuses for her shortcomings.

2610

abundance; completeness

Looking in the pantry, we admired the plenitude of fruits and pickles we had preserved during the summer.

2609

flexible; easily influenced

Catherine's disposition was pliant; she was like putty in her suitor's hands.

2612

flexible; yielding; adaptable

In remodeling the bathroom, we replaced all the old, rigid lead pipes with new, pliable copper tubing.

2611

vertical

Before hanging wallpaper it is advisable to drop a plumb line from the ceiling as a guide.

2614

courage

Even the adversaries of young Indiana Jones were impressed by the boy's pluck in trying to rescue the archeological treasure they had stolen.

2613

society ruled by the wealthy

From the way the government caters to the rich, you might think our society is a plutocracy rather than a democracy.

2616

fall sharply

Stock prices plummeted as Wall Street reacted to the rise in interest rates.

2615

pedestal; raised platform

The audience applauded as the conductor made his way to the podium.

2618

doctor who treats ailments of the feet

He consulted a podiatrist about his fallen arches.

2617

split into opposite extremes or camps

The abortion issue has polarized the country into pro-choice and anti-abortion camps.

2620

quality of being deeply moving; keenly

Watching the tearful reunion of the long-separated mother and child, the social worker was touched by the poignancy of the scene.

2619

expedient; prudent; well devised

Even though he was disappointed, he did not think it politic to refuse the offer.

2622

controversy; argument in support of po

Her essays were, for the main part, polemics for the party's policy.

2621

one who has more than one spouse at a

He was arrested as a polygamist when his two wives filed complaints about him.

2624

form of government of nation or state

Our polity should be devoted to the concept that the government should strive for the good of all citizens.

2623

self-important behavior; acting like a s

Although the commencement speaker had some good things to say, we had to laugh at his pomposity and general air of parading his own dignity.

2626

speaking several languages

New York City is a polyglot community because of the thousands of immigrants who settle there.

2625

pertaining to a bishop or pope; pompou

From the very beginning of his ministry it was clear from his pontifical pronouncements that John was destined for a high pontifical office.

2628

weighty; unwieldy

His humor lacked the light touch; his jokes were always ponderous.

2627

full of pores; like a sieve

Dancers like to wear porous clothing because it allows the ready passage of water and air.

2630

study industriously; ponder; scrutinize

Determined to become a physician, Beth spends hours poring over her anatomy text.

2629

sign; omen; forewarning

He regarded the black cloud as a portent of evil.

2632

foretell; presage

The king did not know what these omens might portend and asked his soothsayers to interpret them.

2631

person who pretends to be sophisticated

Some thought Dali was a brilliant painter; others dismissed him as a poseur.

2634

stout; corpulent

The salesclerk tactfully referred to the overweight customer as portly rather than fat.

2633

after death (as of child born after father)

The critics ignored his works during his lifetime; it was only after the posthumous publication of his last novel that they recognized his great talent.

2636

descendants; future generations

We hope to leave a better world to posterity.

2635

assume an affected pose; act artificially

No matter how much Arnold boasted or postured, I could not believe he was as important as he pretended to be.

2638

self-evident truth

We must accept these statements as postulates before pursuing our discussions any further.

2637

powerful; persuasive; greatly influential

The jury was swayed by the highly potent testimony of the crime's sole eyewitness.

2640

suitable for drinking

The recent drought in the Middle Atlantic States has emphasized the need for extensive research in ways of making sea water potable.

2639

expressing possibility; latent

The juvenile delinquent is a potential murderer.

2642

monarch; sovereign

The potentate spent more time at Monte Carlo than he did at home on his throne.

2641

heterogeneous mixture; medley

He offered a potpourri of folk songs from many lands.

2644

dose (of liquid)

Tristan and Lsolde drink a love potion in the first act of the opera.

2643

feasible

The board of directors decided that the plan was practicable and agreed to undertake the project.

2646

soothing application applied to sore an

He was advised to apply a flaxseed poultice to the inflammation.

2645

practical (as opposed to idealistic); con

This coming trip to France should provide me with a pragmatic test of the value of my conversational French class.

2648

based on experience; useful

He was a practical man, opposed to theory

2647

speak foolishly; boast idly

Let us not prate about our qualities; rather, let our virtues speak for themselves.

2650

practical person

No pragmatist enjoys becoming involved in a game that he can never win

2649

introductory statement

In the preamble to the Constitution, the purpose of the document is set forth.

2652

babble

The children prattle endlessly about their new toys.

2651

something preceding in time that may l

This decision sets a precedent for future cases of a similar nature.

2654

uncertain; risky

I think this stock is a precarious investment and advise against its purchase.

2653

practical rule guiding conduct

"Love thy neighbor as thyself" is a worthwhile precept.

2656

preceding in time, rank, etc.

Our discussions, precedent to this event, certainly did not give you any reason to believe that we would adopt your proposal.

2655

headlong; rash

Do not be precipitate in this matter; investigate further.

2658

cliff; dangerous position

Suddenly Indiana Jones found himself dangling from the edge of a precipice.

2657

steep; overhasty

This hill is difficult to climb because it is so precipitous; one slip, and our descent will be precipitous as well.

2660

throw headlong; hasten

The removal of American political support appeared to have precipitated the downfall of the Marcos regime.

2659

make impossible; eliminate

This contract does not preclude my being employed by others at the same time that I am working for you.

2662

exact

If you don't give me precise directions and a map, I'll never find your place.

2661

forerunner

Though Gray and Burns share many traits with the Romantic poets who followed them, most critics consider them precursors of the Romantic Movement, not true Romantics.

2664

advanced in development

By her rather adult manner of discussing serious topics, the child demonstrated that she was precocious.

2663

former occupant of a post

I hope I can live up to the fine example set by my late predecessor in this office.

2666

plundering

The hawk is a predatory bird.

2665

outstanding; superior

The king traveled to Boston because he wanted the preeminent surgeon in the field to perform the operation.

2668

partiality; preference

Although the artist used various media from time to time, she had a predilection for watercolors.

2667

make oneself tidy in appearance; feel self-conscious

As Kitty preened before the mirror, carefully smoothing her shining hair, she couldn't help preening herself on her good looks.

2670

head off; forestall by acting first; appropriate

Hoping to preempt any attempts by the opposition to make educational reform a hot political issue, the candidate set out her own plan to revitalize the public schools.

2669

capable of grasping or holding

Monkeys use not only their arms and legs but also their prehensile tails in traveling through the trees.

2672

introductory

The chairman made a few prefatory remarks before he called on the first speaker.

2671

introduction; forerunner

I am afraid that this border raid is the prelude to more serious attacks.

2674

church dignitary

The archbishop of Moscow and other high-ranking prelates visited the Russian Orthodox seminary.

2673

assumption; postulate

Because Jack had based his argument upon a faulty premise, his opponent cheerfully pointed out the holes in his logic.

2676

plan in advance

She had premeditated the murder for months, reading about common poisons and buying weed killer that contained arsenic.

2675

servicing to warn

You should have visited a doctor as soon as you felt these premonitory chest pains.

2678

forewarning

We ignored these premonitions of disaster because they appeared to be based on childish fears.

2677

absurd; ridiculous

When the candidate tried to downplay his youthful experiments with marijuana by saying he hadn't inhaled, we all thought, "What a preposterous excuse!"

2680

superiority of power, quantity, etc.

The rebels sought to overcome the preponderance of strength of the government forces by engaging in guerrilla tactics.

2679

foretell

The vultures flying overhead presaged the discovery of the corpse in the desert.

2682

privilege; unquestionable right

The President cannot levy taxes; that is the prerogative of the legislative branch of government.

2681

premonition; foreboding

Hamlet felt a presentiment about his meeting with Laertes.

2684

ability to foretell the future

Given the current wave of Japan-bashing, it does not take prescience for me to foresee problems in our future trade relations with Japan.

2683

arrogant; taking liberties

It seems presumptuous for one so relatively new to the field to challenge the conclusions of its leading experts.

2686

impression produced by achievements

The wealthy man sought to obtain social prestige by contributing to popular charities.

2685

beyond that which is normal in nature

John's mother's total ability to tell when he was lying struck him as almost preternatural.

2688

ostentatious; ambitious

I do not feel that your limited resources will permit you to carry out such a pretentious program.

2687

induce; triumph over

He tried to prevail on her to type his essays for him.

2690

excuse

He looked for a good pretext to get out of paying a visit to his aunt.

2689

lie

Some people believe that to prevaricate in a good cause is justifiable and regard the statement as a "white lie."

2692

widespread; generally accepted

A radical committed to social change, Reed had no patience with the conservative views prevalent in the America of his day.

2691

very precise and formal; exceedingly precise

Many people commented on the contrast between the prim attire of the young lady and the inappropriate clothing worn by her escort.

2694

target of a hunt; victim

In *Stalking the Wild Asparagus*, Euell Gibbons has as his prey not wild beasts but wild plants.

2693

existing at the beginning (of time); rudimentary

The Neanderthal Man is one of our primordial ancestors.

2696

seniority by birth

By virtue of primogeniture, in some cultures the first-born child has many privileges denied his brothers and sisters.

2695

characteristic of earlier times; primitive

This area has been preserved in all its pristine wildness.

2698

dress or groom oneself with care

She primps for hours before a dance.

2697

secret; hidden; not public

We do not care for privy chamber of government.

2700

hardship; want

In his youth, he knew hunger and privation.

2699

uprightness; incorruptibility

Everyone took his probity for granted; his defalcations, therefore, shocked us all.

2702

explore with tools

The surgeon probed the wound for foreign matter before suturing it.

2701

inclination; natural tendency

The cross old lady has a proclivity to grumble.

2704

perplexing; unsettled: questionable

Given the many areas of conflict still awaiting resolution, the outcome of the peace talks remains problematic.

2703

obtaining

The personnel department handles the procurement of new employees.

2706

postpone; delay

It is wise not to procrastinate; otherwise, we find ourselves bogged down in a mass of work that should have been finished long ago.

2705

wasteful; reckless with money

The prodigal son squandered his inheritance.

2708

poke; stir up; urge

If you prod him hard enough, he'll eventually clean his room.

2707

highly gifted child; marvel

Menuhin was a prodigy, performing wonders on his violin when he was barely eight years old.

2710

enormous; marvelous

He marveled at her prodigious appetite when he saw all the food she ate.

2709

dissipated; wasteful; licentious

In this profligate company, she lost all sense of decency.

2712

violate; desecrate

Tourists are urged not to profane the sanctity of holy places by wearing improper garb.

2711

lavish expenditure; overabundant cond

Seldom have I seen food and drink served in such profusion as at the wedding feast.

2714

deep; not superficial; complete

Freud's remarkable insights into human behavior caused his fellow scientists to honor him as a profound thinker.

2713

children; offspring

He was proud of his progeny but regarded George as the most promising of all his children.

2716

ancestor

The Roth family, whose progenitors emigrated from Germany early in the nineteenth century, settled in Peru, Illinois.

2715

predict

I prognosticate disaster unless we change our wasteful ways.

2718

forecasted course of a disease; predicti

If the doctor's prognosis is correct, the patient will be in a coma for at least twenty-four hours.

2717

member of the working class

The aristocrats feared mob rule and gave the right to vote only to the wealthy, thus denying the proletarians of a voice in government.

2720

missile

Man has always hurled projectiles at his enemy whether in the form of stones or of highly explosive shells.

2719

abundantly fruitful

She was a prolific writer who produced as many as three books a year.

2722

grow rapidly; spread; multiply

Times of economic hardship inevitably encourage countless get-rich-quick schemes to proliferate

2721

extend; draw out; lengthen

In their determination to discover ways to prolong human life, doctors fail to take into account that longer lives are not always happier ones.

2724

verbose; drawn out

Her prolix arguments irritated and bored the jury.

2723

mixed indiscriminately; haphazard; irr

In the opera La Boheme, we get a picture of the promiscuous life led by the young artists of Paris.

2726

conspicuous; notable; protruding

Have you ever noticed that Prince Charles's prominent ears make him resemble the big-eared character in Mad comics?

2725

cause; provoke; provide a cue for an ac

Whatever prompted you to ask for such a big piece of cake when you're on a diet?

2728

headland

They erected a lighthouse on the promontory to warn approaching ships of their nearness to the shore.

2727

inclined to; prostrate

She was prone to sudden fits of anger.

2730

make known by official proclamation c

As soon as the Civil Service Commission promulgates the names of the successful candidates, we shall begin to hire members of our staff.

2729

substance that propels or drives forward

The development of our missile program has forced our scientists to seek more powerful propellants.

2732

multiply; spread

Since bacteria propagate more quickly in unsanitary environments, it is important to keep hospital rooms clean.

2731

having to do with predicting the future

In interpreting Pharaoh's prophetic dream, Joseph said that the seven fat cows eaten by the seven lean cows represented seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine.

2734

natural inclination

Convinced of his own talent, Sol has an unfortunate propensity to belittle the talents of others.

2733

nearness; kinship

Their relationship could not be explained as being based on mere propinquity: they were more than relatives; they were true friends.

2736

used to prevent disease

Despite all prophylactic measures introduced by the authorities, the epidemic raged until cool weather set in.

2735

favorable; kindly

I think it is advisable that we wait for a more propitious occasion to announce our plans; this is not a good time.

2738

appease

The natives offered sacrifices to propitiate the gods.

2737

put forth for analysis

In your discussion, you have propounded several questions; let us consider each one separately.

2740

person who supports or proposes (an ic

After the bill had been amended and re-amended in committee, even its original proponents didn't want to vote in its favor.

2739

driving forward

The jet plane has a greater propulsive power than the engine-driven plane.

2742

fitness; correct conduct

I want you to behave at this dinner with propriety; don't embarrass me.

2741

part of stage in front of curtain

In the theater-in-the-round there can be no proscenium or proscenium arch.

2744

dull and unimaginative; matter-of-fact;

Though the ad writers had come up with a highly creative campaign to publicize the company's newest product, the head office rejected it for a more prosaic, down-to-earth approach.

2743

induce someone to convert to religion (

In these interfaith meetings, there must be no attempt to proselytize; we must respect all points of view.

2746

ostracize; banish; outlaw

Antony, Octavius and Lepidus proscribed all those who had conspired against Julius Caesar.

2745

good fortune; financial success; physic

Promising to stay together "for richer, for poorer," the newlyweds vowed to be true to one another in prosperity and hardship alike.

2748

the art of versification

This book on prosody contains a rhyming dictionary as well as samples of the various verse forms.

2747

versatile; able to take on many forms

A remarkably protean actor, Alec Guinness could take on any role.

2750

stretch out full on ground

He prostrated himself before the idol.

2749

original work used as a model by other

The crude typewriter on display in this museum is the prototype of the elaborate machines in use today.

2752

diplomatic etiquette

We must run this state dinner according to protocol if we are to avoid offending any of our guests.

2751

stick out

His fingers protruded from the holes in his gloves.

2754

prolong

Seeking to delay the union members' vote, the management team tried to protract the negotiations endlessly, but the union representatives saw through their strategy.

2753

origin or source of something

I am not interested in its provenance; I am more concerned with its usefulness than with its source.

2756

protrusion; bulge

A ganglionic cyst is a fluid-filled tumor (generally benign) that develops near a joint membrane or tendon sheath, and that bulges beneath the skin, forming a protuberance.

2755

displaying foresight; thrifty; preparing

In his usual provident manner, he had insured himself against this type of loss.

2758

dry food; fodder

I am afraid of a severe winter because I have stored a large quantity of provender for the cattle.

2757

tentative

The appointment is provisional; only on the approval of the board of directors will it be made permanent.

2760

pertaining to a province; limited in out

As provincial governor, Sir Henry administered the Queen's law in his remote corner of Canada.

2759

stir up anger; cause retaliation

In order to prevent a sudden outbreak of hostilities, we must not provoke our foe.

2762

stipulation

I am ready to accept your proposal with the two proviso that you meet your obligations within the next two weeks.

2761

authorized agent

Please act as my proxy and vote for this slate of candidates in my absence.

2764

nearness

The deer sensed the hunter's proximity and bounded away.

2763

cautious; careful

A miser hoards money not because he is prudent but because he is greedy.

2766

excessively modest or proper person

The X-rated film was definitely not for prudes.

2765

pen name

Samuel Clemens' pseudonym was Mark Twain.

2768

cut away; trim

With the help of her editor, she was able to prune her manuscript into publishable form.

2767

pertaining to mental derangement

The psychopathic patient suffers more frequently from a disorder of the nervous system than from a diseased brain.

2770

a doctor who treats mental diseases

A psychiatrist often needs long conferences with his patient before a diagnosis can be made.

2769

extinct flying reptile

The remains of pterodactyls indicate that these flying reptiles had a wingspan of as much as twenty feet.

2772

mental disorder

We must endeavor to find an outlet for the patient's repressed desires if we hope to combat this psychosis.

2771

boxer

The famous pugilist Cassius Clay changed his name to Muhammed Ali.

2774

childish

His puerile pranks sometimes offended his more mature friends.

2773

powerful; strong; potent

We must keep his friendship for he will make a puissant ally.

2776

combative; disposed to fight

As a child he was pugnacious and fought with everyone.

2775

pertaining to the lungs

In his researches on pulmonary diseases, he discovered many facts about the lungs of animals and human beings.

2778

beauty; comeliness

I do not envy the judges who have to select this year's Miss America from this collection of female pulchritude.

2777

crush or grind into very small particles

Before sprinkling the dried herbs into the stew, Michael first pulverized them into a fine powder.

2780

throb

We could see the blood vessels in his temple pulsate as he became more angry.

2779

laying stress on niceties of conduct or f

We must be punctilious in our planning of this affair, for any error may be regarded as a personal affront.

2782

beat

The severity with which he was pummeled was indicated by the bruises he displayed on his head and face.

2781

sharpness; stinging quality

The pungency of the cigarette smoke made me cough.

2784

learned Hindu; any learned person; aut

Even though he discourses on the matter like a pundit, he is actually rather ignorant about this topic.

2783

insignificant; tiny; weak

Our puny efforts to stop the flood were futile.

2786

punishing

He asked for punitive measures against the offender.

2785

place of spiritual expiation

In this purgatory, he could expect no help from his comrades.

2788

firm grasp or footing

The mountaineer struggled to get a proper purchase on the slippery rock.

2787

intention; meaning

If the purport of your speech was to arouse the rabble, you succeeded admirably.

2790

clean by removing impurities; clear of

If you are to be purged of the charge of contempt of Congress, you must be willing to answer the questions previously asked.

2789

cowardly; fainthearted

You should be ashamed of your pusillanimous conduct during this dispute.

2792

furnisher of foodstuffs; caterer

As purveyor of rare wines and viands, he traveled through France and Italy every year in search of new products to sell.

2791

foul; rotten; decayed

The gangrenous condition of the wound was indicated by the putrid smell when the bandages were removed.

2794

supposed; reputed

Although there are some doubts, the putative author of this work is Massinger.

2793

heap of combustible material, esp. for l

The mortician put pyre on the corpse before burning a corpse.

2796

person with an insane desire to set thin

The detectives searched the area for the pyromaniac who had set these costly fires.

2795

extremely high (of prices etc.)

The super computer's price was prohibitive.

2798

troublesome or annoying person

He was a pest; always bothering people.

2797

four-footed animal

Most mammals are quadrupeds.

2800

charlatan; impostor

Do not be misled by the exorbitant claims of this quack; he cannot cure you.

2799

soft, wet, boggy land; complex or dang

Up to her knees in mud, Myra wondered how on earth she was going to extricate herself from this quagmire.

2802

drink with relish

As we quaffed our ale, we listened to the gay songs of the students in the tavern.

2801

odd; old-fashioned; picturesque

Her quaint clothes and old-fashioned language marked her as an eccentric.

2804

cower; lose heart

He was afraid that he would quail in the face of danger.

2803

misgivings

His qualms of conscience had become so great that he decided to abandon his plans.

2806

limited; restricted

Unable to give the candidate full support, the mayor gave him only a qualified endorsement.

2805

isolation of a person, place, or ship to p

We will have to place this house under quarantine until we determine the nature of the disease.

2808

dilemma

When the two colleges to which he had applied accepted him, he was in a quandary as to which one he should attend.

2807

dig into

They quarried blocks of marble out of the hillside.

2810

victim; object of a hunt

The police closed in on their quarry.

2809

dock; landing place

Because of the captain's carelessness, the ship crashed into the quay.

2812

subdue; crush; squash

The authorities acted quickly to quash the student rebellion, sending in tanks to cow the demonstrators.

2811

put down; quiet

The police used fire hoses and tear gas to quell the rioters.

2814

easily nauseated; squeamish

As the ship left the harbor, he became queasy and thought that he was going to suffer from seasickness.

2813

line

They stood patiently in the queue outside the movie theatre.

2816

fretful; whining

His classmates were repelled by his querulous and complaining statements.

2815

at rest; dormant

After this geyser erupts, it will remain quiescent for twenty-four hours.

2818

equivocate; play on words

Do not quibble; I want a straightforward and definite answer.

2817

purest and highest embodiment

Noel Coward displayed the quintessence of wit.

2820

tranquillity

He was impressed by the air of quietude and peace that pervaded the valley.

2819

startling twist; caprice

By a quirk of fate, he found himself working for the man whom he had discharged years before.

2822

taunt

You are unpopular because you are too free with your quips and sarcastic comments.

2821

case for arrows

Robin Hood reached back and plucked one last arrow from his quiver.

2824

traitor who aids invaders

In his conquest of Europe, Hitler was aided by the quislings who betrayed their own people and served in the puppet governments established by the Nazis.

2823

bantering; comical; humorously serious

Will Rogers' quizzical remarks endeared him to his audiences.

2826

idealistic but impractical

His head is in the clouds; he is constantly presenting these quixotic schemes.

2825

daily; commonplace; customary

To Philip, each new day of his internship was filled with excitement; he could not dismiss his rounds as merely quotidian routine.

2828

number of members necessary to conduct

The senator asked for a roll call to determine whether a quorum was present.

2827

story-teller

My father was a gifted raconteur with an unlimited supply of anecdotes.

2830

like a fanatic; furious

He was a rabid follower of the Dodgers and watched them play whenever he could go to the ball park.

2829

scold; rant

You may rail at him all you want; you will never change him.

2832

person wearing tattered clothes

He felt sorry for the ragamuffin who was begging for food and gave him money to buy a meal.

2831

stylish; sporty

He wore his hat at a rakish and jaunty angle.

2834

clothing

"How can I go to the ball?" asked Cinderella. "I have no raiment fit to wear."

2833

branching out; subdivision

We must examine all the ramifications of this problem.

2836

wander aimlessly (physically or mental

Listening to the teacher ramble, Judy wondered whether he'd ever get to his point.

2835

slope; inclined plane

The house was built with ramps instead of stairs in order to enable the man in the wheelchair to move easily from room to room and floor to floor.

2838

divide into branches or subdivisions

When the plant begins to ramify, it is advisable to nip off most of the new branches.

2837

defensive mound on earth

"From the ramparts we watched" as the fighting continued.

2840

rearing up on hind legs; unrestrained

The rampant weeds in the garden killed all the flowers that had been planted in the spring.

2839

having the odor of stale fat

A rancid odor filled the ship's galley and nauseated the crew.

2842

rickety; falling apart

The boys propped up the ramshackle clubhouse with a couple of boards.

2841

without definite purpose, plan, or aim;

Although the sponsor of the raffle claimed all winners were chosen at random, people had their suspicions when the grand prize went to the sponsor's brother-in-law.

2844

bitterness; hatred

Let us forget our rancor and cooperate in this new endeavor.

2843

rave; speak bombastically

As we heard him rant on the platform, we could not understand his strange popularity with many people.

2846

irritate; fester

The memory of having been jilted rankled him for years.

2845

emotional closeness; harmony

In team teaching, it is important that all teachers in the group have good rapport with one another.

2848

excessively grasping; plundering

Hawks and other rapacious birds prey on variety of small animals.

2847

grating; harsh

The sergeant's raspy voice grated on the recruits' ears.

2850

made less dense [of a gas]

The mountain climbers had difficulty breathing in the rarefied atmosphere.

2849

reasoning; act of drawing conclusions ↓

While Watson was a man of average intelligence, Holmes was a genius, whose gift for ratiocination made him a superb detective.

2852

approve formally; verify

Before the treaty could go into effect, it had to be ratified by the president.

2851

reason; justify an improper act

Do not try to rationalize your behavior by blaming your companions.

2854

bringing into conformity with reason

All attempts at rationalization at this time are doomed to failure; tempers and emotions run too high for intelligent thought to prevail.

2853

plunder; despoil

The marauding army ravaged the countryside.

2856

harsh and shrill

His raucous laughter irritated me and grated on my ears.

2855

fall apart into tangles; unravel or untwi

A single thread pulled loose, and the entire scarf started to unravel.

2858

overwhelmingly favorable review

Though critic John Simon seldom has a good word to say about contemporary plays, his review of *All in the Timing* was a total rave.

2857

narrow valley with steep sides

Steeper than a gully, less precipitous than a canyon, a ravine is, like them, the product of years of erosion.

2860

extremely hungry

Theavenous dog upset several garbage pails in its search for food.

2859

recoiling from progress; retrograde

His program was reactionary since it sought to abolish many of the social reforms instituted by the previous administration.

2862

destroy completely

The owners intend to raze the hotel and erect an office building on the site.

2861

one who harvests grain

Death, the Grim Reaper, cuts down men and women, just as a farmer cuts down the ripened grain.

2864

kingdom; sphere

The realm of possibilities for the new invention was endless.

2863

snub; beat back

She rebuffed his invitation so smoothly that he did not realize he had been snubbed.

2866

discount

We offer a rebate of ten percent to those who pay cash.

2865

refutation; response with contrary evidence

The defense lawyer confidently listened to the prosecutor sum up his case, sure that she could answer his arguments in her rebuttal.

2868

puzzle in which pictures stand for words

A coven of witches beside a tree is a possible rebus for the town Coventry.

2867

repudiate; withdraw previous statemen

Unless you recant your confession, you will be punished severely.

2870

obstinately stubborn

Donkeys are reputed to be the most recalcitrant of animals.

2869

quick or willing to receive ideas, sugge

Adventure-loving Huck Finn proved a receptive audience for Tom's tales of buried treasure and piracy.

2872

summarize

Let us recapitulate what has been said thus far before going ahead.

2871

habitual return to crime

Prison reformers in the United States are disturbed by the high rate of recidivism; the number of persons serving second and third terms indicates the failure of the prisons to rehabilitate the inmates.

2874

withdrawal; retreat; time of low econor

The slow recession of the flood waters created problems for the crews working to restore power to the area.

2873

mutual; exchangeable; interacting

The two nations signed a reciprocal trade agreement.

2876

receiver

Although he had been the recipient of many favors, he was not grateful to his benefactor.

2875

hermit

The recluse lived in a hut in the forest.

2878

repay in kind

If they attack us, we shall be compelled to reciprocate and bomb their territory.

2877

abstruse; profound; secret

He read many recondite books in order to obtain the material for the scholarly thesis.

2880

correct inconsistencies; become friendl

Every time we try to reconcile our checkbook with the bank statement, we quarrel. However, despite these monthly lovers' quarrels, we always manage to reconcile.

2879

narrate or tell; count over again

About to recount the latest adventure of Sherlock Holmes, Watson lost track of exactly how many cases Holmes had solved and refused to begin his tale until he'd recounted them one by one.

2882

survey of enemy by soldiers; reconnoit

If you encounter any enemy soldiers during your reconnaissance, capture them for questioning.

2881

countercharges

Loud and angry recriminations were her answer to his accusations.

2884

resorting to help when in trouble

The boy's only recourse was to appeal to his father for aid.

2883

uprightness

He was renowned for his rectitude and integrity.

2886

correct

I want to rectify my error before it is too late.

2885

recover

The doctors were worried because the patient did not recuperate as rapidly as they had expected.

2888

reclining; lying down completely or in

The command "AT EASE" does not permit you to take a recumbent position.

2887

fragrant; odorous; suggestive of an odor

Even though it is February, the air is redolent of spring.

2890

occurring again and again

These recurrent attacks disturbed us and we consulted a physician.

2889

remedy; compensation

Do you mean to tell me that I can get no redress for my injuries?

2892

formidable; causing fear

During the Cold War period, neighboring countries tried not to offend the Russians because they could be redoubtable foes.

2891

emit (odor)

The room reeked with stale tobacco smoke.

2894

superfluous; excessively wordy; repetit

Your composition is redundant; you can easily reduce its length.

2893

bending of a ray of light

When you look at a stick inserted in water, it looks bent because of the refraction of the light by the water.

2896

dining hall

In this huge refectory, we can feed the entire student body at one sitting.

2895

v. abstain from; resist n. chorus

Whenever he heard a song with a lively chorus, Sol could never refrain from joining in on the refrain.

2898

stubborn; unmanageable

The refractory horse was eliminated from the race when he refused to obey the jockey.

2897

disprove

The defense called several respectable witnesses who were able to refute the false testimony of the prosecution's only witness.

2900

renovate; make bright by polishing

The flood left a deposit of mud on everything; it was necessary to refurbish our belongings.

2899

entertain

John regaled us with tales of his adventures in Africa.

2902

royal

Prince Albert had a regal manner.

2901

spiritual rebirth

Modern penologists strive for the regeneration of the prisoners.

2904

boat or yacht race

Many boating enthusiasts followed the regatta in their own yachts.

2903

method or system of government

When a Frenchman mentions the Old Regime, he refers to the government existing before the revolution.

2906

murder of a king or queen

The beheading of Mary Queen of Scots was an act of regicide.

2905

restore to proper condition

We must rehabilitate those whom we send to prison.

2908

prescribed diet and habits

I doubt whether the results warrant our living under such a strict regimen.

2907

repeat

He reiterated the warning to make sure everyone understood it.

2910

repay

Let me know what you have spent and I will reimburse you.

2909

make young again

The charlatan claimed that his elixir would rejuvenate the aged and weary.

2912

retort; comeback; reply

When someone has been rude to me, I find it particularly satisfying to come up with a quick rejoinder.

2911

give in

When her stern father would not relent and allow her to marry Robert Browning, Elizabeth Barrett eloped with her suitor.

2914

banish; consign to inferior position

If we relegate these experts to minor posts because of their political persuasions, we shall lose their valuable services.

2913

surviving remnant; memento

Egypt's Department of Antiquities prohibits tourists from taking mummies and other ancient relics out of the country.

2916

pertinent; referring to the case in hand

Teri was impressed by how relevant Virginia Woolf's remarks were to her as a woman writer; it was as if Woolf had been writing with Teri's situation in mind.

2915

savor; enjoy

I relish a good joke as much as anyone else.

2918

abandon

I will relinquish my claims to this property if you promise to retain my employees.

2917

recollection

Her reminiscences of her experiences are so fascinating that she ought to write a book.

2920

reparable

Let us be grateful that the damage is remediable.

2919

temporary moderation of disease symptoms

Though Senator Tsongas had been treated for cancer, his symptoms were in remission, and he was considered fit to handle the strains of a Presidential race.

2922

negligent

He was accused of being remiss in his duty when the prisoner escaped.

2921

protest; objection

The authorities were deaf to the pastor's remonstrances about the lack of police protection in the area.

2924

remainder

I suggest that you wait until the store places the remnants of these goods on sale.

2923

compensating; rewarding

I find my new work so remunerative that I may not return to my previous employment.

2926

guilt; self-reproach

The murderer felt no remorse for his crime.

2925

deliver; provide; represent

He rendered aid to the needy and indigent.

2928

split; tear apart

In his grief, he tried to rend his garments.

2927

translation; artistic interpretation of a s

The audience cheered enthusiastically as she completed her rendition of the aria.

2930

meeting place

The two fleets met at the rendezvous at the appointed time.

2929

deny; go back on

He reneged on paying off his debt.

2932

deserter; traitor

Because he had abandoned his post and joined forces with the Indians, his fellow officers considered the hero of Dances with Wolves a renegade.

2931

restore to good condition; renew

They claim that they can renovate worn shoes so that they look like new ones.

2934

abandon; disown; repudiate

Even though she knew she would be burned at the stake as a witch, Joan of Arc refused to renounce her belief that her voices came from God.

2933

tear or rip; split

The conflict over abortion threatens to split our nation, creating a rent in the social fabric that will be difficult to mend.

2936

fame

For many years an unheralded researcher, Barbara McClintock gained international renown when she won the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine.

2935

amends; compensation

At the peace conference, the defeated country promised to pay reparations to the victors.

2938

capable of being repaired

Fortunately, the damages we suffered in the accident were repairable and our car looks brand new.

2937

revoke; annul

What would the effect on our society be if we decriminalized drug use by repealing the laws against the possession and sale of narcotics?

2940

clever reply

He was famous for his witty repartee and his sarcasm.

2939

rebound; reverberation; reaction

I am afraid that this event will have serious repercussions.

2942

driving away; unattractive

Mosquitoes find the odor so repellent that they leave any spot where this liquid has been sprayed.

2941

fret; complain

There is no sense repining over the work you have left undone.

2944

list of works of music, drama, etc., a p

The opera company decided to include Madame Butterfly in its repertoire for the following season.

2943

filled to capacity; abundantly supplied

The book is replete with humorous situations.

2946

fill up again

Before she could take another backpacking trip, Carla had to replenish her stock of freeze-dried foods.

2945

reproduce; duplicate

To the chagrin of the scientists, they were unable to replicate the results of their controversial experiment.

2948

copy

Are you going to hang this replica of the Declaration of Independence in the classroom or in the auditorium?

2947

deserving blame

Your vicious conduct in this situation is reprehensible.

2950

storehouse

Libraries are repositories of the world's best thoughts.

2949

temporary stay

During the twenty-four-hour reprieve, the lawyers sought to make the stay of execution permanent.

2952

restrain; crush; oppress

Anne's parents tried to curb her impetuosity without repressing her boundless high spirits.

2951

retaliation

I am confident that we are ready for any reprisals the enemy may undertake.

2954

reprove severely

I am afraid that my parents will reprimand me when I show them my report card.

2953

blame; censure

I want my work to be above reproach and without error

2956

recurrent action; musical repetition; reprobate

At Waterloo, it was not the effect of any one skirmish that exhausted Colonel Audly; rather it was the cumulative effect of the constant reprises that left him spent.

2955

severe disapproval

The students showed their reprobation of his act by refusing to talk with him.

2958

person hardened in sin, devoid of a sense of shame

I cannot understand why he has so many admirers if he is the reprobate you say he is.

2957

disown; disavow

He announced that he would repudiate all debts incurred by his wife.

2960

censure; rebuke

The principal reprovved the students when they became unruly in the auditorium.

2959

act of driving back; distaste

The repulsion of the enemy forces was not accomplished bloodlessly; many of the defenders were wounded in driving the enemy back.

2962

loathing

She looked at the snake with repugnance.

2961

supposed

He is the reputed father of the child.

2964

respectable

If you want to buy antiques, look for a reputable dealer; far too many dealers today pass off fakes as genuine antiques.

2963

necessary requirement

Many colleges state that a student must offer three years of a language as a requisite for admission.

2966

mass for the dead; dirge

They played Mozart's Requiem at the funeral.

2965

cancel

Because of public resentment, the king had to rescind his order.

2968

repay; revenge

The wretch requited his benefactors by betraying them.

2967

remainder; balance

In his will, he requested that after payment of debts, taxes, and funeral expenses, the residue be given to his wife.

2970

self-control; formal but distant manner

Although some girls were attracted by Mark's reserve, Judy was put off by it, for she felt his aloofness indicated a lack of openness.

2969

elastic; having the power of springing l

Highly resilient, steel makes excellent bedsprings.

2972

patient submissiveness; statement that

If Bob Cratchit had not accepted Scrooge's bullying with timid resignation, he might have gotten up the nerve to hand in his resignation.

2971

determination

Nothing could shake his resolve that his children would get the best education that money could buy.

2974

determination

Nothing could shake his resolution to succeed despite all difficulties.

2973

echoing; resounding; deep and full in s

The deep, resonant voice of the actor James Earl Jones makes him particularly effective when he appears on stage.

2976

decide; settle; solve

Homes resolved to travel to Bohemia to resolve the dispute between Irene Adler and the King.

2975

delay in punishment; interval of relief;

The judge granted the condemned man a respite to enable his attorneys to file an appeal.

2978

breathing; exhalation

The doctor found that the patient's years of smoking had adversely affected both his lung capacity and his rate of respiration.

2977

state of reacting readily to appeals, ord

The audience cheered and applauded, delighting the performers by its responsiveness.

2980

brilliant; lustrous

The toreador wore a resplendent costume called a suit of lights.

2979

restlessly impatient; obstinately resistir

Waiting impatiently in the line to see Santa Claus, even the best-behaved children grow restive and start to fidget.

2982

reparation; indemnification

He offered to make restitution for the window broken by his son.

2981

taking up again; recommencement

During the summer break, Don had not realized how much he missed university life: at the resumption of classes, however, he felt marked excitement and pleasure.

2984

controlling force

She dreamt of living an independent life, free of all restraints.

2983

revive

The lifeguard tried to resuscitate the drowned child by applying artificial respiration.

2986

rising again after defeat, etc.

The resurgent nation surprised everyone by its quick recovery after total defeat.

2985

repay in kind (usually for bad treatmen

Fear that we will retaliate immediately deters our foe from attacking us.

2988

keep; employ

Fighting to retain his seat in Congress, Senator Foghorn retained a new manager to head his reelection campaign.

2987

reserved; uncommunicative; inclined to

Hughes preferred reticent employees to loquacious ones, noting that the formers' dislike of idle chatter might ensure their discretion about his affairs.

2990

holding; having a good memory

The pupil did not need to spend much time in study as he had a retentive mind.

2989

modest; shy

Given Susan's retiring personality, no one expected her to take up public speaking; surprisingly enough, she became a star of the school debate team.

2992

following; attendants

The queen's retinue followed her down the aisle.

2991

withdrawal

He dropped his libel suit after the newspaper published a retraction of its statement.

2994

quick, sharp reply

Even when it was advisable for her to keep her mouth shut, she was always ready with a retort.

2993

vengeance; compensation; punishment

The evangelist maintained that an angry deity would exact retribution from the sinners.

2996

cut down; economize

If they were to be able to send their children to college, they would have to retrench.

2995

taking effect before its enactment (as a

Because the new pension law was retroactive to the first of the year, even though Martha had retired in February she was eligible for the pension.

2998

recover; find and bring in

The dog was intelligent and quickly learned to retrieve the game killed by the hunter.

2997

looking back on the past

It is only when we become retrospective that we can appreciate the tremendous advances made during this century.

3000

go backwards; degenerate

Instead of advancing, our civilization seems to have retrograded in ethics and culture.

2999

echo; resound

The entire valley reverberated with the sound of the church bells.

3002

boisterous merrymaking

New Year's Eve is a night of revelry.

3001

daydream; musing

He was awakened from his reverie by the teacher's question.

3004

respectful

His reverent attitude was appropriate in a house of worship.

3003

cancel; retract

Repeat offenders who continue to drive under the influence of alcohol face having their driver's licenses permanently revoked.

3006

slander; vilify

He was avoided by all who feared that he would revile and abuse them if they displeased him.

3005

to speak or write in an exaggeratedly e

She greatly enjoyed her Hawaiian vacation and rhapsodized about it for weeks.

3008

sudden violent change of feeling; nega

Many people in this country who admired dictatorships underwent a revulsion when they realized what Hitler and Mussolini were trying to do.

3007

wanton; profane

He sang a ribald song that offended many of the more prudish listeners.

3010

art of effective communication; insinc

All writers, by necessity, must be skilled in rhetoric.

3009

abundant; current

In the face of the many rumors of scandal, which are rife at the moment, it is best to remain silent.

3012

amendment or clause added to a legisla

Senator Foghorn said he would support Senator Filibuster's tax reform bill only if Filibuster agreed to add an antipollution rider to the bill.

3011

fix or manipulate

The ward boss was able to rig the election by bribing people to stuff the ballot boxes with ballots marked in his candidate's favor.

3014

opening; break

The plane was lost in the stormy sky until the pilot saw the city through a rift in the clouds.

3013

severity

Many settlers could not stand the rigors of the New England winters.

3016

stiff and unyielding; strict; hard and un

By living with a man to whom she was not married, George Eliot broke Victorian society's most rigid rule of respectable behavior.

3015

absorbing; engrossing

The reviewer described Byatt's novel *Possession* as a riveting tale: absorbed in the story, he had finished it in a single evening.

3018

vex; irritate; muddy

Red had a hair-trigger temper: he was an easy man to rile.

3017

vigorous; strong

The candidate for the football team had a robust physique.

3020

small stream

As the rains continued, the trickle of water running down the hillside grew into a rivulet that threatened to wash away a portion of the slope.

3019

to make liquids murky by stirring up se

Be careful when you pour not to roil the wine; if you stir up the sediment you'll destroy the flavor.

3022

ornate; highly decorated

The rococo style in furniture and architecture, marked by scrollwork and excessive decoration, flourished during the middle of the eighteenth century.

3021

list

They print the roster of players in the season's program.

3024

rosy; optimistic

I am afraid you will have to alter your roseate views in the light of the distressing news that has just arrived.

3023

repetition

He recited the passage by rote and gave no indication he understood what he was saying.

3026

platform for speech-making; pulpit

The crowd murmured angrily and indicated that they did not care to listen to the speaker who was approaching the rostrum.

3025

roundness; sonorousness of speech

Washington Irving emphasized the rotundity of the governor by describing his height and circumference.

3028

circular building or hall covered with a

His body lay in state in the rotunda of the Capitol.

3027

stampede; drive out

The reinforcements were able to rout the enemy

3030

lively; stirring

"And now, let's have a rousing welcome for TV's own Roseanne Arnold, who'll lead us in a rousing rendition of 'The Star-Spangled Banner.'"

3029

title or heading (in red print); direction

In ordaining the new priests, the bishop carefully observed all the rubrics for the ordination service.

3032

fragments

Ten years after World War II, some of the rubble left by enemy bombings could still be seen.

3031

not developed; elementary

His dancing was limited to a few rudimentary steps.

3034

reddish; healthy-looking

His ruddy features indicated that he had spent much time in the open.

3033

bully; scoundrel

The ruffians threw stones at the police.

3036

regretful; sorrowful; dejected

The artist has captured the sadness of childhood in his portrait of the boy with the rueful countenance.

3035

ransack; thoroughly search

When we rummaged through the trunks in the attic, we found many souvenirs of our childhood days.

3038

chew the cud; ponder

We cannot afford to wait while you ruminate upon these plans.

3037

trick; stratagem

You will not be able to fool your friends with such an obvious ruse.

3040

mysterious; set down in an ancient alphabet

Tolkien's use of Old English words and inscriptions in the runic alphabet give *The Lord of the Rings* its atmosphere of antiquity.

3039

banish to the country; dwell in the country

I like city life so much that I can never understand how people can rusticate in the suburbs.

3042

pertaining to country people; uncouth

The backwoodsman looked out of place in his rustic attire.

3041

fall back or sink again

The economy relapsed into a depression from the peak.

3044

pitiless

The escaped convict was a dangerous and ruthless murderer.

3043

cloyingly sweet

She tried to ingratiate herself, speaking sweetly and smiling a saccharine smile.

3046

one who commits sabotage; destroyer of property

Members of the Resistance acted as saboteurs, blowing up train lines to prevent supplies from reaching the Nazi army.

3045

most sacred; inviolable

The brash insurance salesman invaded the sacrosanct privacy of the office of the president of the company.

3048

desecrating; profane

His stealing of the altar cloth was a very sacrilegious act.

3047

Scandinavian myth; any legend

This is a saga of the sea and the men who risk their lives on it.

3050

inclined to cruelty

If we are to improve conditions in this prison, we must first get rid of the sadistic warden.

3049

person celebrated for wisdom

Hearing tales of a mysterious Master of All Knowledge who lived in the hills of Tibet, Sandy was possessed with a burning desire to consult the legendary sage.

3052

keen; shrewd; having insight

He is much too sagacious to be fooled by a trick like that.

3051

prominent

One of the salient features of that newspaper is its excellent editorial page.

3054

lascivious; lustful

Chaucer's monk is not pious but salacious, a teller of lewd tales and ribald jests.

3053

yellowish; sickly in color

We were disturbed by his sallow complexion, which was due to jaundice.

3056

salty

The slightly saline taste of this mineral water is pleasant.

3055

tending to improve; beneficial; wholes

The punishment had a salutary effect on the boy, as he became a model student.

3058

healthful

Many people with hay fever move to more salubrious sections of the country during the months of August and September.

3057

displaying ostentatious or hypocritical

You do not have to be so sanctimonious to prove that you are devout.

3060

rescue from loss

All attempts to salvage the wrecked ship failed.

3059

bloody

The battle of Iwo Jima was unexpectedly sanguinary with many casualties.

3062

approve; ratify

Nothing will convince me to sanction the engagement of my daughter to such a worthless young man.

3061

diminish; undermine

The element kryptonite had an unhealthy effect on Superman: it sapped his strength.

3064

cheerful; hopeful

Let us not be too sanguine about the outcome; something could go wrong.

3063

disdainful; sarcastic; cynical

The sardonic humor of nightclub comedians who satirize or ridicule patrons in the audience strikes some people as amusing and others as rude.

3066

scornful remarks, stinging rebuke

His feelings were hurt by the sarcasm of his supposed friends.

3065

satisfy to the full; cloy

Its hunger sated, the lion dozed.

3068

pertaining to tailors

He was as famous for the sartorial splendor of his attire as he was for his acting.

3067

surfeit; satisfy fully

The guests, having eaten until they were satiated, now listened inattentively to the speakers.

3070

small body revolving around a larger o

During the first few years of the Space Age, hundreds of satellites were launched by Russia and the United States.

3069

mocking

The humor of cartoonists Gary Trudeau often is satirical; though the comments of the Doonesbury characters, Trudeau ridicules political corruption and folly.

3072

form of literature in which irony, sarca

Gulliver's Travels, which is regarded by many as a tale for children, is actually a bitter satire attacking human folly.

3071

gloomy

Do not be misled by his saturnine countenance; he is not as gloomy as he looks.

3074

soak

Their clothes were saturated by the rain.

3073

stroll slowly

As we sauntered through the park, we stopped frequently to admire the spring flowers.

3076

half-human, half-bestial being in the c

He was like a satyr in his lustful conduct.

3075

enjoy; have a distinctive flavor, smell,

Relishing his triumph, Costner especially savored the chagrin of the critics who had predicted his failure.

3078

scholar

Our faculty includes many worldfamous savants.

3077

case for a sword blade; sheath

The drill master told the recruit to wipe the blood from his sword before slipping it back into the scabbard.

3080

tasty; pleasing, attractive, or agreeable

Julia Child's recipes enable amateur chefs to create savory delicacies for their guests.

3079

temporary platform for workers; bracin

Before painting the house, the workers put up a scaffold to allow them to work on the second story.

3082

a great quantity

Refusing Dave's offer to lend him a shirt, Phil replied, "No, thanks: I've got scads of clothes."

3081

meager; insufficient

Thinking his helping of food was scanty, Oliver Twist asked for more.

3084

climb up; ascend

To locate a book on the top shelf of the stacks, Lee had to scale an exceptionally rickety ladder.

3083

hunt through discarded materials for us

If you need car parts that the dealers no longer stock, try scavenging for odd bits and pieces at the auto wreckers' yards.

3086

someone who bears the blame for other

After the Challenger disaster, NASA searched for scapegoats on whom they could cast the blame.

3085

relating to an outline or diagram; using

In working out the solution to an analytical logic question, you may find it helpful to construct a simple schematic diagram illustrating the relationships between the items of information given in the question.

3088

plot outline; screenplay; opera libretto

Scaramouche startled the other actors in the commedia troupe when he suddenly departed from their customary scenario and began to improvise.

3087

shred; least bit

You have not produced a scintilla of evidence to support your argument.

3090

division; split

Let us not widen the schism by further bickering.

3089

mock; ridicule

He scoffed at dentists until he had his first toothache.

3092

sparkle; flash

I enjoy her dinner parties because the food is excellent and the conversation scintillates.

3091

lash; whip; severe punishment

They feared the plague and regarded it as a deadly scourge.

3094

stamp out; thwart; hinder

Heather tried to scotch the rumor that she had stolen her best friend's fiancé.

3093

conscientious; extremely thorough

I can recommend him for a position of responsibility for I have found him a very scrupulous young man.

3096

fret about; hesitate, for ethical reasons

Fearing that her husband had become involved in an affair, she did not scruple to read his diary.

3095

struggle confusedly; move off in a conf

The twins briefly scuffled, wrestling to see which of them would get the toy. When their big brother yelled, "Let go of my Gameboy!" they scuffled off down the hall.

3098

examine closely and critically

Searching for flaws, the sergeant scrutinized every detail of the private's uniform.

3097

move briskly

The White Rabbit had to scurry to get to his appointment on time.

3100

obscene; indecent

Your scurrilous remarks are especially offensive because they are untrue.

3099

sink

The sailors decided to scuttle their vessel rather than surrender it to the enemy.

3102

despicable; contemptible

Peter Pan sneered at Captain Hook and his scurvy crew.

3101

char or burn; brand

Accidentally brushing against the hot grill, she seared her hand badly.

3104

sordid; unwholesome

In the Godfather, Michael Corleone is unwilling to expose his wife and children to the seamy side of his life as the son of a Mafia don.

3103

withdrawal

The secession of the Southern states provided Lincoln with his first major problem after his inauguration.

3106

experienced

Though pleased with her new batch of rookies, the basketball coach wished she had a few more seasoned players on the team.

3105

hide away or cache; produce and releas

The pack rat secretes odds and ends in its nest; the pancreas secretes insulin in the islets of Langerhans.

3108

isolation; solitude

One moment she loved crowds; the next, she sought seclusion.

3107

worldly; not pertaining to church matte

The church leaders decided not interfere in secular matters.

3110

narrow-minded; limited in scope

As university chaplain, she sought to address universal religious issues and not limit herself to mere sectarian concerns.

3109

requiring sitting

Because he had a sedentary occupation, he decided to visit a gymnasium weekly.

3112

composed; grave

The parents were worried because they felt their son was too quiet and sedate.

3111

diligent

The young woman was so sedulous that she received a commendation for her hard work.

3114

resistance to authority; insubordination

His words, though not treasonous in themselves, were calculated to arouse thoughts of sedition.

3113

proper; appropriate

Lady Bracknell did not think it was seemly for Ernest to lack a proper family; no baby abandoned on a doorstep could grow up to marry her daughter.

3116

run-down; decrepit; disreputable

I would rather stay in dormitory lodgings in a decent youth hostel than have a room of my own in a seedy downtown hotel.

3115

be disturbed; boil

The nation was seething with discontent as the nobleman continued their arrogant ways.

3118

ooze; trickle

During the rainstorm, water seeped through the crack in the basement wall and damaged the floor boards.

3117

pertaining to earthquakes

The Richter scale is a measurement of seismic disturbances.

3120

net for catching fish

When the shad run during the spring, you may see fishermen with seines along the banks of our coastal rivers.

3119

germinal; influencing future development

Although Freud has generally been regarded as a seminal thinker who shaped the course of psychology, his psychoanalytic methods have come under attack recently.

3122

outward appearance; guise

Although this book has a semblance of wisdom and scholarship, a careful examination will reveal many errors and omissions.

3121

old age; feeble mindedness of old age

Most of the decisions are being made by the junior members of the company because of the senility of the president.

3124

school for training future ministers; seminary

Sure of his priestly vocation, Terrence planned to pursue his theological training at the local Roman Catholic seminary.

3123

pertaining to the physical senses; opera

He was stimulated by the sights, sounds and smells about him; he was enjoying his sensuous experience.

3126

devoted to the pleasures of the senses; sensual

I cannot understand what caused him to drop his sensual way of life and become so ascetic.

3125

sentry; lookout

Though camped in enemy territory, Bledsoe ignored the elementary precaution of posting sentinels around the encampment.

3128

terse; concise; aphoristic

After reading so many redundant speeches, I find his sententious style particularly pleasing.

3127

tomb

Annabel Lee was buried in a sepulcher by the sea.

3130

putrid; producing putrefaction

The hospital was in such a filthy state that we were afraid that many of the patients would suffer from septic poisoning.

3129

parched; dry

After the unseasonably dry winter the Berkeley hills looked dusty and sere.

3132

retire from public life; segregate; seclude

Although he had hoped for a long time to sequester himself in a small community, he never was able to drop his busy round of activities in the city.

3131

calmness; placidity

The serenity of the sleepy town was shattered by a tremendous explosion.

3134

gift for finding valuable or desirable th

Many scientific discoveries are a matter of serendipity: Newton was not sitting there thinking about gravity when the apple dropped on his head.

3133

having a sawtoothed edge

The beech tree is one of many plants that have serrated leaves.

3136

winding; twisting

The car swerved at every curve in the serpentine road.

3135

slavery; compulsory labor

Born a slave, Douglass resented his wife of servitude and plotted to escape to the North.

3138

slavish; cringing

Constantly fawning on his employer, humble Uriah Heap was a servile creature.

3137

harshness; plainness

The newspapers disapproved of the severity of the sentence.

3140

division; partition; separation

The severance of church and state is a basic principle of our government.

3139

chain; fetter

The criminal's ankles were shackled to prevent his escape.

3142

navigation tool used to determine a shi

Given a clear night, with the aid of his sextant and compass, he could keep the ship safely on course.

3141

slaughterhouse; scene of carnage

By the time the police arrived, the room was a shambles.

3144

pretend

He shammed sickness to get out of going to school.

3143

bundle of stalks of grain; any bundle of

The lawyer picked up a sheaf of papers as he rose to question the witness.

3146

fragment, generally of pottery

The archaeologist assigned several students the task of reassembling earthenware vessels from the shards he had brought back from the expedition.

3145

flavored dessert ice

I prefer raspberry sherbet to ice cream since it is less fattening.

3148

place into a case

As soon as he recognized the approaching men, he sheathed his dagger and hailed them as friends.

3147

avoid (responsibility, work, etc.); malit

Brian has a strong sense of duty; he would never shirk any responsibility.

3150

glimmer intermittently

The moonlight shimmered on the water as the moon broke through the clouds for a moment.

3149

scolding woman

No one wanted to marry Shakespeare's Kate because she was a shrew.

3152

sham; not genuine; inferior

You will never get the public to buy such shoddy material.

3151

keep away from

Cherishing his solitude, the recluse shunned the company of other human beings.

3154

clever; astute

A shrewd investor, he took clever advantage of the fluctuations of the stock market.

3153

lawyer using questionable methods.

On L.A. Law, respectable attorney Brackman was horrified to learn that his newly discovered half brother was a cheap shyster.

3156

turn aside; divert; sidetrack

If the switchman failed to shunt the Silver Streak onto a side track, the train would plow right into Union Station.

3155

prophetic; oracular

Until their destruction by fire in 83 B.C., the sibylline books were often consulted by the Romans.

3158

brother or sister

We may not enjoy being siblings, but we cannot forget that we still belong to the same family.

3157

sediment deposited by running water

The harbor channel must be dredged annually to remove the silt.

3160

relating to the stars

Although hampered by optical and mechanical flaws, the orbiting Hubble space telescope has relayed extraordinary images of distant sidereal bodies.

3159

comparison of one thing with another,

"My love is like a red, red rose" is a simile.

3162

monkeylike

Lemurs are nocturnal mammals and have many simian characteristics, although they are less intelligent than monkeys.

3161

oversimplified

Though Jack's solution dealt adequately with one aspect of the problem, it was simplistic in failing to consider various complicating factors that might arise.

3164

smirk; smile affectedly

Complimented on her appearance, Stella self-consciously simpered.

3163

well-paid position with little responsibility

My job is no sinecure; I work long hours and have much responsibility.

3166

feign

He simulated insanity in order to avoid punishment for his crime.

3165

unique; extraordinary; odd

Though the young man tried to understand Father William's singular behavior, he still found it odd that the old man incessantly stood on his head.

3168

tough; strong and firm

The steak was too sinewy to chew

3167

winding; bending in and out; not moral

The snake moved in a sinuous manner.

3170

evil

We must defeat the sinister forces that seek our downfall.

3169

small, light sailboat or rowboat

Tom dreamed of owning an ocean-going yacht but had to settle for a skiff he could sail in the bay.

3172

doubter; person who suspends judgment

point of view. In this matter, I am a skeptic; I want proof.

3171

miser

The old skinflint refused to give her a raise.

3174

provide scantily; live very economically

They were forced to skimp on necessities in order to make their limited supplies last the winter.

3173

lively; frisky

She is as skittish as a kitten playing with a piece of string.

3176

minor fight

Custer's troops expected they might run into a skirmish or two on maneuvers; they did not expect to face a major battle.

3175

move furtively and secretly

He skulked through the less fashionable sections of the city in order to avoid meeting any of his former friends.

3178

dishonest behavior

The investigation into municipal corruption turned up new instances of skulduggery daily.

3177

residue from smelting metal; dross; waste

The blast furnace had a special opening at the bottom to allow the workers to remove the worthless slag.

3180

slow up; loosen

As they passed the finish line, the runners slackened their pace.

3179

defamation; utterance of false and mali

Unless you can prove your allegations, your remarks constitute slander.

3182

quench; sate

When we reached the oasis, we were able to slake our thirst.

3181

flimsy; unsubstantial

This is a sleazy fabric; it will not wear well.

3184

haphazard; careless; sloppy

From the number of typos and misspellings I've found on it, it's clear that Mario proofread the report in a remarkably slapdash fashion.

3183

dexterity

The magician amazed the audience with his sleight of hand.

3186

something originally of little value or i

Unnoticed by the critics at its publication, the eventual Pulitzer Prize winner was a classic sleeper.

3185

slip or slide

During the recent ice storm, many people slithered down this hill as they walked to the station.

3188

insult to one's dignity; snub

Hypersensitive and ready to take offense at any discourtesy, Bertha was always on the lookout for real or imaginary slights.

3187

slow-moving tree-dwelling mammal

Note how well the somewhat greenish coat of the sloth enables it to blend in with its arboreal surroundings.

3190

laziness

Such sloth in a young person is deplorable; go to work!

3189

untidy; slipshod

Such slovenly work habits will never produce good products.

3192

cast off

Each spring, the snake sloughs off its skin.

3191

slow; lazy; lethargic

After two nights without sleep, she felt sluggish and incapable of exertion.

3194

lazy person

"You are a sluggard, a drone, a parasite," the angry father shouted at his lazy son.

3193

insult to one's character or reputation; slur

Polls revealed that the front-runner's standing had been damaged by the slurs and innuendoes circulated by his opponent's staff.

3196

artificial channel for directing or controlling water

In times of drought, this sluice enables farmers to obtain water for irrigation.

3195

conceited smile

Wipe that smirk off your face!

3198

slight knowledge

I don't know whether it is better to be ignorant of a subject or to have a mere smattering of information about it.

3197

half-stifled laugh

The boy could not suppress a snicker when the teacher sat on the tack.

3200

burn without flame; be liable to break or shatter

The rags smoldered for hours before they burst into flame.

3199

moderation (especially regarding indulgence)

Neither drunkards nor comics are noted for sobriety.

3202

run at the nose; snuffle; whine

Don't you come sniveling to me complaining about your big brother.

3201

temporary stay

After his sojourn in Florida, he began to long for the colder climate of his native New England home.

3204

soaked; dull, as if from drink

He set his sodden overcoat near the radiator to dry.

3203

repair or make whole by using a metal

The plumber fixed the leak in the pipes by soldering a couple of joints from which water had been oozing.

3206

comfort in trouble

I hope you will find solace in the thought that all of us share your loss.

3205

seriousness; gravity

The minister was concerned that nothing should disturb the solemnity of the marriage service.

3208

construction that is flagrantly incorrect

I must give this paper a failing mark because it contains many solecisms.

3207

worried, concerned

The employer was very solicitous about the health of her employees as replacements were difficult to get.

3210

request earnestly; seek

Knowing she needed to have a solid majority for the budget to pass, the mayor telephoned all the members of the city council to solicit their votes.

3209

point at which the sun is farthest from

The winter solstice usually occurs on December 21.

3212

talking to oneself

The soliloquy is a device used by the dramatist to reveal a character's innermost thoughts and emotions.

3211

pertaining to the body; physical

Why do you ignore the spiritual aspects and emphasize only the corporeal and the somatic ones?

3214

able to pay all debts

By dint of very frugal living, he was finally able to become solvent and avoid bankruptcy proceedings.

3213

sleepwalker

The most famous somnambulist in literature is Lady Macbeth; her monologue in the sleepwalking scene is one of the highlights of Shakespeare's play.

3216

gloomy; depressing

From the doctor's grim expression, I could tell he had somber news.

3215

resonant

His sonorous voice resounded through the hall.

3218

half asleep

The heavy meal and the overheated room made us all somnolent and indifferent to the speaker.

3217

artificiality; unnaturalness; act of empl

Sophistication is an acquired characteristic, found more frequently among city dwellers than among residents of rural areas.

3220

teacher of philosophy; quibbler; emplo

You are using all the devices of a sophist in trying to prove your case; your argument is specious.

3219

immature; shallow

Your sophomoric remarks are a sign of your youth and indicate that you have not given much thought to the problem.

3222

seemingly plausible but fallacious reas

Instead of advancing valid arguments, he tried to overwhelm his audience with a flood of sophistries.

3221

filthy; base; vile

The social worker was angered by the sordid housing provided for the homeless.

3224

sleep producing

I do not need a sedative when I listen to one of his soporific speeches.

3223

lacking luxury and comfort; sternly dis

Looking over the bare, unheated room with its hard cot, he wondered what he was doing in such spartan quarters. Only his spartan sense of duty kept him at his post.

3226

small metallic piece sewn to clothing f

The thousands of spangles on her dress sparkled in the glare of the stage lights.

3225

squabble; minor dispute

What had started out as a mere spat escalated into a full-blown argument.

3228

fitful; periodic

The spasmodic coughing in the auditorium annoyed the performers.

3227

relating to space

It is difficult to visualize the spatial extent of our universe.

3230

sudden flood

I am worried about the possibility of a spate if the rains do not diminish soon.

3229

lay eggs

Fish ladders had to be built in the dams to assist the salmon returning to spawn in their native streams.

3232

broad-bladed instrument used for spreading

The manufacturers of this frying pan recommended the use of a rubber spatula to avoid scratching the specially treated surface.

3231

ghostly

We were frightened by the spectral glow that filled the room.

3234

seemingly reasonable but incorrect

Let us not be misled by such specious arguments.

3233

someone who wastes money

Easy access to credit encourages people to turn into spendthrifts who shop till they drop.

3236

colored band produced when a beam of light is dispersed

The visible portion of the spectrum includes red at one end and violet at the other.

3235

fasten together; unite

Before you splice two strips of tape together, be sure to line them up evenly.

3238

enigmatic; mysterious

The Mona Lisa's sphinx-like expression has puzzled art lovers for centuries.

3237

accidental transposition of sounds in speech

When the radio announcer introduced the President as Hoobert Herver, he was guilty of spoonerism.

3240

impulsiveness; absence of premeditation

What I liked best about Dale's parties was their spontaneity: a couple of friends would drop by, someone would pull out a fiddle or guitar, and before you knew it the party would be in full swing.

3239

playful

Such a sportive attitude is surprising in a person as serious as you usually are.

3242

occurring irregularly

Although there are still sporadic outbursts of shooting in the streets, the rebellion is essentially over.

3241

vigorously active; nimble

She was eighty years old, yet still spry and alert.

3244

neat and trim

Every button buttoned, tie firmly in place, young Alex Keaton looked spruce and tidy for his job interview at the bank.

3243

reject; scorn

The heroine spurned the villain's advances.

3246

false; counterfeit; forged; illogical

The hero of Jonathan Gash's mystery novels is an antique dealer who gives the reader advice on how to tell spurious antiques from the real things.

3245

dirty; neglected; poor

It is easy to see how crime can breed in such a squalid neighborhood.

3248

minor quarrel; bickering

Children invariably get involved in petty squabbles; wise parents know when to interfere and when to let the children work things out on their own.

3247

stocky; short and thick

Tolkien's hobbits are somewhat squat, sturdy little creatures, fond of good ale, good music, and good food.

3250

waste

The prodigal son squandered the family estate.

3249

motionless; stale; dull

The stagnant water was a breeding ground for disease

3252

played in an abrupt manner; marked by

His staccato speech reminded one of the sound of a machine gun.

3251

deadlock

Negotiations between the union and the employers have reached a stalemate; neither side is willing to budge from previously stated positions.

3254

sober; sedate

Her conduct during the funeral ceremony was staid and solemn.

3253

strength; staying power

I doubt that she has the stamina to run the full distance of the marathon race.

3256

strong, brawny; steadfast

His consistent support of the party has proved that he is a stalwart and loyal member.

3255

division of a poem

Do you know the last stanza of "The Star-Spangled Banner"?

3258

check flow of blood

It is imperative that we stanch the gushing wound before we attend to the other injuries.

3257

law

We have many statutes in our law books which should be repealed.

3260

unchanging; lacking development

Nothing had changed at home; things were static there

3259

loyal; unswerving

Penelope was steadfast in her affections, faithfully waiting for Ulysses to return from his wanderings.

3262

created by statute or legislative action

The judicial courts review and try statutory crimes.

3261

soak; saturate

Be sure to steep the fabric in the dye bath for the full time prescribed.

3264

slyness; sneakiness; secretiveness

Fearing detection by the sentries on duty, the scout inched his way toward the enemy camp with great stealth.

3263

check the flow

The paramedic used a tourniquet to stem the bleeding from the slashed artery.

3266

pertaining to the stars

He was the stellar attraction of the entire performance.

3265

extremely loud

The town crier had stentorian voice.

3268

arise from

Milton's problems in school stemmed from his poor study habits.

3267

perfectionist; person who insists things

The Internal Revenue Service agent was a stickler for accuracy; no approximations or rough estimates would satisfy him.

3270

oversimplified; lacking individuality; s

My chief objection to the book is that the characters are stereotyped; they come across as ethnic caricatures, not as real people with individual quirks, fears, and dreams.

3269

token of disgrace; brand

I do not attach any stigma to the fact that you were accused of this crime; the fact that you were acquitted clears you completely.

3272

suppress; extinguish; inhibit

Halfway through the boring lecture, Laura gave up trying to stifle her yawns.

3271

be thrifty; set limits

"Spare no expense," the bride's father said, refusing to stint on the wedding arrangements.

3274

bombastic; stiffly pompous

His stilted rhetoric did not impress the college audience; they were immune to bombastic utterances.

3273

pay for services

There is a nominal stipend for this position.

3276

supply; allotted amount; assigned porti

He performed his daily stint cheerfully and willingly.

3275

make express conditions, specify

Before agreeing to reduce American military forces in Europe, the president stipulated that NATO teams be allowed to inspect Soviet bases.

3278

paint or draw with dots

Seurat carefully stippled dabs of pure color on the canvas, juxtaposing dots of blue and yellow that the viewer's eye would interpret as green.

3277

person who is indifferent to pleasure or

The doctor called her patient a stoic because he had borne the pain of the examination without whimpering.

3280

stuffy; boringly conservative

For a young person, Winston seems remarkably stodgy: you'd expect someone of his age to have a little more life.

3279

dullness; impassiveness

The earthquake shattered his usual stolidity; trembling, he crouched on the no longer stable ground.

3282

stir up a fire; feed plentifully

As a Scout, Marisa learned how to light a fire, how to stoke it if it started to die down, and how to extinguish it completely.

3281

layer of earth's surface; layer of society

Unless we alleviate conditions in the lowest stratum of our society, we may expect grumbling and revolt.

3284

divided into classes; arranged into strata

As the economic gap between the rich and the poor increased, Roman society grew increasingly stratified.

3283

marked with parallel bands; grooved

The glacier left many striated rocks.

3286

spread randomly; sprinkle; scatter

Preceding the bride to the altar, the flower girl will strew rose petals along the aisle.

3285

loud and harsh

She scolded him in a strident voice

3288

critical comments; severe and adverse criticism

His strictures on the author's style are prejudiced and unwarranted.

3287

pompous walk

His strut as he marched about the parade ground revealed him for what he was: a pompous buffoon.

3290

binding; rigid

I think these regulations are too stringent.

3289

unspontaneous; deliberate; thoughtful

Given Jill's previous slights, Jack felt that the omission of his name from the guest list was a studied insult.

3292

supporting bar

The engineer calculated that the strut supporting the rafter needed to be reinforced.

3291

make numb; stun; amaze

Disapproving of drugs in general, Laura refused to take sleeping pills or any other medicine that might stupefy her.

3294

cause to appear or become stupid or in

His long hours in the blacking factory left young Dickens numb and incurious, as if the menial labor had stultified his mind.

3293

present an obstacle; stump

The detective was stymied by the contradictory evidence in the robbery investigation.

3296

state of apathy; daze; lack of awareness

In his stupor, the addict was unaware of the events taking place around him.

3295

subordinate

The captain treated his subalterns as though they were children rather than commissioned officers.

3298

urbanity; polish

He is particularly good in roles that require suavity and sophistication.

3297

conquer; bring under control

It is not our aim to subjugate our foe; we are interested only in establishing peaceful relations.

3300

occurring or taking place within the mi

Your analysis is highly subjective; you have permitted your emotions and your opinions to color your thinking.

3299

exalted; noble; uplifting

Mother Teresa has been honored for her sublime deeds.

3302

refine; purify

We must strive to sublimate these desires and emotions into worthwhile activities.

3301

yielding; timid

Crushed by his authoritarian father, Will had no defiance left in him; he was totally submissive in the face of authority.

3304

below the threshold

We may not be aware of the subliminal influences that affect our thinking.

3303

writ summoning a witness to appear

The prosecutor's office was ready to serve a subpoena on the reluctant witness.

3306

persuade to act unlawfully (especially t

In the Godfather, the mobsters used bribery and threats to suborn the witnesses against Don Michael Corleone.

3305

behaving like a slave; servile; obsequic

He was proud and dignified; he refused to be subservient to anyone.

3308

following; later

In subsequent lessons, we shall take up more difficult problems.

3307

subordinate; secondary

This information may be used as subsidiary evidence but is not sufficient by itself to prove your argument.

3310

settle down; descend; grow quiet

The doctor assured us that the fever would eventually subside.

3309

existence; means of support; livelihood

In those days of inflated prices, my salary provided mere subsistence.

3312

direct financial aid by government, etc

Without this subsidy, American ship operators would not be able to compete in world markets.

3311

essential; pertaining to the substance

Although the delegates were aware of the importance of the problem, they could not agree on the substantive issues.

3314

verify; support

I intend to substantiate my statement by producing witnesses.

3313

pretense; evasion

As soon as we realized that you had won our support by a subterfuge we withdrew our endorsement of your candidacy.

3316

include; encompass

Does the general theory of relativity contradict Newtonian physics, or is Newton's law of gravity subsumed into Einstein's larger scheme?

3315

tending to overthrow; destructive

At first glance, the notion that Styrofoam cups may actually be more ecologically sound than paper cups strikes most environmentalists as subversive.

3318

nicety; cunning; guile; delicacy

The subtlety of his remarks was unnoticed by most of his audience.

3317

aid; assistance; relief

We shall be ever grateful for the succor our country gave us when we were in need.

3320

brief; terse; compact

His remarks are always succinct and pointed.

3319

yield; give in; die

I succumb to temptation whenever it comes my way.

3322

juicy; full of richness

To some people, Florida citrus fruits are more succulent than those from California.

3321

spread over

A blush suffused her cheeks when we teased her about her love affair.

3324

advocate of voting rights (for women)

In recognition of her efforts to win the vote for women, Congress authorized coining a silver dollar honoring the suffragist Susan B. Anthony.

3323

sweltering

He could not adjust himself to the sultry climate of the tropics.

3326

tarnish; soil

He felt that it was beneath his dignity to sully his hands in such menial labor.

3325

lavish; rich

I cannot recall when I have had such a sumptuous Thanksgiving feast.

3328

act of finding the total, summary

In his summation, the lawyer emphasized the testimony given by the two witnesses.

3327

various; several

My suspicions were aroused when I read sundry items in the newspapers about your behavior.

3330

separate; part

Northern and southern Ireland are politically and religiously sundered.

3329

contemptuous; haughty

I prefer Jill's modesty to Jack's supercilious and arrogant attitude.

3332

retired or disqualified because of age

The superannuated man was indignant because he felt that he could still perform a good day's work.

3331

trivial; shallow

Since your report gave only a superficial analysis of the problem, I cannot give you more than a passing grade.

3334

superfluous; more than needed or demanded

We have more than enough witnesses to corroborate your statement; to present any more would be supererogatory.

3333

place over something else

Your attempt to superimpose another agency in this field will merely increase the bureaucratic nature of our government.

3336

excessive; overabundant, unnecessary

Please try not to include so many superfluous details in your report; just give me the bare facts.

3335

cause to be set aside; replace

This regulation will supersede all previous rules.

3338

person or thing in excess of what is nec

His first appearance on the stage was as a supernumerary in a Shakespearean tragedy.

3337

replace; usurp

Corazon Aquino supplanted Ferdinand Marcos as president of the Philippines.

3340

lying on back

The defeated pugilist lay supine on the canvas.

3339

entreating; beseeching

He could not resist the dog's suppliant whimpering, and he gave it some food.

3342

flexible; pliant

The angler found a supple limb and used it as a fishing rod.

3341

hypothesis; surmise

I based my decision to confide in him on the supposition that he would be discreet.

3344

petition humbly; pray to grant a favor

We supplicate Your Majesty to grant him amnesty.

3343

satiate; stuff; indulge to excess in anytl

Every Thanksgiving we are surfeited with an overabundance of holiday treats.

3346

assumed; counterfeit; hypothetical

I find no similarity between your supposititious illustration and the problem we are facing.

3345

guess

I surmise that he will be late for this meeting.

3348

rude; cross

Because of his surly attitude, many people avoided his company.

3347

exceed

Her SAT scores surpassed out expectations.

3350

overcome

He had to surmount many obstacles in order to succeed.

3349

substitute

For a fatherless child, a male teacher may become a father surrogate.

3352

secret

News of their surreptitious meeting gradually leaked out.

3351

impressionable; easily influenced; havi

He was a very susceptible young man, and so his parents worried that he might fall into bad company.

3354

watching; guarding

The FBI kept the house under constant surveillance in the hope of capturing all the criminals at one time.

3353

means of support, food, nourishment

In the tropics, the natives find sustenance easy to obtain because of all the fruit trees.

3356

experience; support; nourish

He sustained such a severe injury that the doctors feared he would be unable to work to sustain his growing family.

3355

dark; dusky

Despite the stereotype, not all Italians are swarthy; many are fair and blond.

3358

stitches sewn to hold the cut edges of a

We will remove the sutures as soon as the wound heals.

3357

be oppressed by heat

I am going to buy an air conditioning unit for my apartment as I do not intend to swelter through another hot and humid summer.

3360

wrap around; bandage

When I visited him in the hospital, I found him swathed in bandages.

3359

drink greedily

Singing, "Yo, ho, ho, and a bottle of rum," Long John Silver and his fellow pirates swilled their grog.

3362

deviate; turn aside sharply

The car swerved wildly as the driver struggled to regain control of the wheel.

3361

lover of luxury

Rich people are not always sybarites; some of them have little taste for a life of luxury.

3364

cheat

She was gullible and trusting, an easy victim for the first swindler who came along.

3363

logical formula consisting of a major p

or specious argument There must be a fallacy in this syllogism; I cannot accept its conclusion.

3366

servile flatterer

The king enjoyed the servile compliments and attentions of the sycophants in his retinue.

3365

interdependent relationship (between g

Both the crocodile bird and the crocodile derive benefit from their symbiosis; pecking away at food particles embedded in the crocodile's teeth, the bird derives nourishment; the crocodile, meanwhile, derives proper dental hygiene.

3368

pertaining to the woods; rustic

His paintings of nymphs in sylvan backgrounds were criticized as oversentimental.

3367

similary timed; simultaneous with

We have many examples of scientists in different parts of the world who have made synchronous discoveries.

3370

arrangement of parts so that balance is

The addition of a second tower will give this edifice the symmetry that it now lacks.

3369

combining parts into a whole

Now that we have succeeded in isolating this drug, our next problem is to plan its synthesis in the laboratory.

3372

providing a general overview; summar

The professor turned to the latest issue of Dissertation Abstracts for a synoptic account of what was new in the field.

3371

calming drug or influence

It is dangerous to drive after taking the sedative; it brings drowsiness.

3374

artificial; resulting from synthesis

During the twentieth century, many synthetic products have replaced the natural products.

3373

understood; not put into words

We have a tacit agreement based on only a handshake.

3376

literary dark

The stygian room reminded him of an empty space.

3375

pertaining to the organs or sense of touch

His callused hands had lost their tactile sensitivity.

3378

habitually silent; talking a little

New Englanders are reputedly taciturn people.

3377

charm

She wore the talisman to ward off evil.

3380

contaminated; corrupt

Health authorities are always trying to prevent the sale and use of tainted food.

3379

peripheral; only slightly connected; dig

Despite Clark's attempts to distract her with tangential remarks, Lois kept on coming back to her main question: why couldn't he come out to dinner with Superman and her?

3382

claw of bird

The falconer wore a leather gauntlet to avoid being clawed by the hawk's talons.

3381

person who turns animal hides into leather

Using a solution of tanbark, the tanner treated the cowhide, transforming it into supple leather.

3384

able to be touched; real; palpable

Although Tom did not own a house, he had several tangible assets--a car, a television, a PC--that he could sell if he needed cash.

3383

equal

Your ignoring their pathetic condition is tantamount to the murder.

3386

tease; torture with disappointment

Tom loved to tantalize his younger brother with candy; he knew the boy was forbidden to have it.

3385

candle

He lit the taper on the windowsill.

3388

fit of petulance; caprice

The child learned that he could have almost anything if he went into tantrums.

3387

delay; dawdle

We can't tarry if we want to get to the airport on time.

3390

venomous spider

We need an antitoxin to counteract the bite of the tarantula.

3389

needlessly repetitious

In the sentence "It was visible to the eye," the phrase "to the eye" is tautological.

3392

tight; ready

The captain maintained that he ran a taut ship.

3391

specialist in classifying (animals, etc.)

Dental patterns often enable the taxonomist to distinguish members of one rodent species from those of another.

3394

cheap and gaudy

He won a few tawdry trinkets in Coney Island.

3393

boldness; rashness

Do you have the temerity to argue with me?

3396

boredom; weariness

We hope this radio will help overcome the tedium of your stay in the hospital.

3395

characteristic frame of mind; dispositive

Although the twins look alike, they differ markedly in temperament: Tod is calm, but Rod is excitable.

3398

moderate; tone down or restrain; tough

Not even her supervisor's grumpiness could temper Nancy's enthusiasm for her new job.

3397

speed of music

I find the conductor's tempo too slow for such a brilliant piece of music.

3400

restrained; self-controlled

Noted for his temperate appetite, he seldom gained weight.

3399

avoid committing oneself; gain time

I cannot permit you to temporize any longer; I must have a definite answer today.

3402

not lasting forever; limited by time; secular

At one time in our history, temporal rulers assumed that they had been given their thrones by divine right.

3401

firmness; persistency; adhesiveness

It is extremely difficult to overcome the tenacity of a habit such as smoking.

3404

holding fast

I had to struggle to break his tenacious hold on my arm.

3403

offer; extend

Although no formal changes had been made against him, in the wake of the recent scandal the mayor felt he should tender his resignation.

3406

having an aim; biased; designed to further

The editorials in this periodical are tendentious rather than truth-seeking.

3405

capable of being stretched

Mountain climbers must know the tensile strength of their ropes.

3408

doctrine; dogma

The agnostic did not accept the tenets of their faith.

3407

thin; rare; slim

The allegiance of our allies is held by rather tenuous ties; let us hope they will remain loyal.

3410

provisional; experimental

Your tentative plans sound plausible; let me know when the final details are worked out.

3409

lukewarm

During the summer, I like to take a tepid bath, not a hot one.

3412

holding of an office; time during which

He was permanent tenure in this position and cannot be fired.

3411

terms used in a science or art

The special terminology developed by some authorities in the field has done more to confuse laypersons than to enlighten them.

3414

to bring to an end

When his contract was terminated unexpectedly, he desperately needed a new job.

3413

on or relating to the earth

We have been able to explore the terrestrial regions much more thoroughly than the aquatic or celestial regions.

3416

last stop of railroad

After we reached the railroad terminus, we continued our journey into the wilderness on saddle horses.

3415

third

He is so thorough that he analyzes tertiary causes where other writers are content with primary and secondary reasons.

3418

concise; abrupt; pithy

I admire his terse style of writing; he comes directly to the point.

3417

maker of a will

The attorney called in his secretary and his partner to witness the signature of the testator.

3420

inlaid; mosaic

I recall seeing a table with a tessellated top of bits of stone and glass in a very interesting pattern.

3419

tie with a rope

Before we went to sleep, we tethered the horses to prevent their wandering off during the night.

3422

irritable; short-tempered

My advice is to avoid discussing this problem with him today as he is rather testy and may shout at you.

3421

government of a community by religion

Some Pilgrims favored the establishment of a theocracy in New England.

3424

relating to a unifying motif or idea

Those who think of Moby Dick as a simple adventure story about whaling miss its underlying thematic import.

3423

curative

Now better known for its racetrack, Saratoga Springs first gained attention for the therapeutic qualities of its famous "healing waters."

3426

not practical or applied; hypothetical

Bob was better at applied engineering and computer programming than he was at theoretical physics and math. While I can still think of some theoretical objections to your plan, you've convinced me of its basic soundness

3425

pertaining to drama

Her success in the school play convinced her she was destined for a thespian career.

3428

pertaining to heat

The natives discovered that the hot springs gave excellent thermal baths and began to develop their community as a health resort.

3427

careful about money; economical

A thrifty shopper compares prices before making major purchases.

3430

slave; bondage

The captured soldier was held in thrall by the conquering army.

3429

violent anguish

The throes of despair can be as devastating as the spasms accompanying physical pain.

3432

prosper; flourish

Despite the impact of recession on the restaurant trade, Philip's cafe thrived.

3431

strangle

The criminal tried to throttle the old man with his bare hands.

3434

crowd

Throngs of shoppers jammed the aisles.

3433

excessively frugal person; miser

Jill called Jack a tightwad because he never picked up the check.

3436

baffle; frustrate

He felt that everyone was trying to thwart his plans and prevent his success.

3435

quality of a musical tone produced by a

We identify the instrument producing a musical sound by its timbre.

3438

handle used to move the boat's rudder (

Fearing the wind might shift suddenly and capsize the skiff, Tom kept one hand on the tiller at all times.

3437

fearful; demonstrating fear

His timorous manner betrayed the fear he felt at the moment.

3440

lack of self-confidence or courage

If you are to succeed as a salesperson, you must first lose your timidity and fear of failure.

3439

extended scolding; denunciation

Long before he had finished his tirade, we were sufficiently aware of the seriousness of our misconduct.

3442

drink (alcoholic beverages) frequently

He found that his most enjoyable evenings occurred when he tiddled with his friends at the local pub.

3441

tax of one-tenth

Because he was an agnostic, he refused to pay his tithes to the clergy.

3444

gigantic

titanic waves beat against the shore during the hurricane.

3443

right or claim to possession; mark of ra

Though the penniless Duke of Ragwort no longer held title to the family estate, he still retained his title as head of one of England's oldest families.

3446

tickle

I am here not to titillate my audience but to enlighten it.

3445

having the title of an office without the

Although he was the titular head of the company, the real decisions were made by his general manager.

3448

nervous laugh

Her aunt's constant titter nearly drove her mad.

3447

Roman outer robe

Marc Antony pointed to the slashes in Caesar's toga.

3450

servile flatterer; yes man

Never tell the boss anything he doesn't wish to hear: he doesn't want an independent adviser, he just wants a toady.

3449

shaving of the head, especially by pers

His tonsure, even more than his monastic garb, indicated that he was a member of the religious order.

3452

large volume

He spent much time in the libraries poring over ancient tomes.

3451

lethargy; sluggishness; dormancy

Nothing seemed to arouse him from his torpor; he had wholly surrendered himself to lethargy.

3454

physical features of a region

Before the generals gave the order to attack, they ordered a complete study of the topography of the region.

3453

rushing stream; flood

Day after day of heavy rain saturated the hillside until the water ran downhill in torrents.

3456

twisting force; force producing rotator

With her wrench she applied sufficient torque to the nut the loosen it.

3455

winding; full of curves

Because this road is so tortuous, it is unwise to go faster than twenty miles an hour on it.

3458

trunk of statue with head and limbs missing

This torso, found in the ruins of Pompeii, is now on exhibition in the museum in Naples.

3457

sensitive; irascible

Do not discuss this phase of the problem as he is very touchy about it.

3460

stone used to test the fineness of gold

What touchstone can be used to measure the character of a person?

3459

poisonous

We must seek an antidote for whatever toxic substance he has eaten.

3462

publicize; praise excessively

I lost confidence in my broker after he touted some junk bonds that turned out to be a bad investment.

3461

docile

You will find the children in this school very tractable and willing to learn.

3464

pamphlet; a region of indefinite size

The King granted William Penn a tract of land in the New World.

3463

path taken by a projectile

The police tried to locate the spot from which the assassin had fired the fatal shot by tracing the trajectory of the bullet.

3466

expose to slander

His opponents tried to traduce the candidate's reputation by spreading rumors about his past.

3465

exceed; surpass

This accomplishment transcends all our previous efforts.

3468

calmness; peace

After the commotion and excitement of the city, I appreciate the tranquillity of these fields and forests.

3467

violation of a law; sin

Forgive us our transgressions; we know not what we do.

3470

copy

When you transcribe your notes, please send a copy to Mr. Smith and keep the original for our files.

3469

going from one state of action to another

During the period of transition from oil heat to gas heat, the furnace will have to be shut off.

3472

momentary; temporary; staying for a short time

Lexy's joy at finding the perfect Christmas gift for Phil was transient; she still had to find presents for the cousins and Uncle Bob. Located near the airport, this hotel caters to the largely transient trade.

3471

partly transparent

We could not recognize the people in the next room because of the translucent curtains that separated us.

3474

impermanence

Conscious that all things pass, the psalmist relates the transitoriness of happiness and fame.

3473

permitting to light to pass through freely

Your scheme is so transparent that it will fool no one.

3476

change; convert to something different

He was unable to transmute his dreams into actualities.

3475

strong emotion

Margo was a creature of extremes, at one moment in transports of joy over a vivid sunset, at another moment in transports of grief over a dying bird.

3478

be revealed; happen

When Austen writes the sentence "It had just transpired that he had left gaming debts behind him," her meaning is not that the debts had just been incurred, but that the shocking news had just leaked out.

3477

pertaining to an injury caused by violence

In his nightmares, he kept on recalling the traumatic experience of being wounded in battle.

3480

outward decorations; ornaments

He loved the trappings of success: the limousines, the stock options, the company jet.

3479

go through or across

When you traverse this field, be careful of the bull.

3482

painful labor

How long do you think a man can endure such travail and degradation without rebelling?

3481

article treating a subject systematically

He is preparing a treatise on the Elizabethan playwrights for his graduate degree.

3484

comical parody; treatment aimed at ma

The ridiculous decision the jury has arrived at is a travesty of justice.

3483

trembling; slight quiver

She had a nervous tremor in her right hand.

3486

travel; journey

The tribe made their trek further north that summer in search of game.

3485

cutting; keen

I am afraid of his trenchant wit for it is so often sarcastic.

3488

trembling; wavering

She was tremulous more from excitement than from fear.

3487

distress; suffering

After all the trials and tribulations we have gone through, we need this rest.

3490

fear; trembling agitation

We must face the enemy without trepidation if we are to win this battle.

3489

tax levied by a ruler; mark of respect

The colonists refused to pay tribute to a foreign despot.

3492

court of justice

The decision of the tribunal was final and the prisoner was sentenced to death.

3491

set off

John is touchy today; say one word wrong and you'll trigger an explosion.

3494

three-pronged spear

Neptune is usually depicted as rising from the sea, carrying his trident on his shoulder.

3493

knickknack; bauble

Whenever she traveled abroad, Ethel would pick up costume jewelry and other trinkets as souvenirs.

3496

group of three works

Romain Rolland's novel Jean Christophe was first published as a trilogy.

3495

trifles; unimportant matters

Too many magazines ignore newsworthy subjects and feature trivia.

3498

hackneyed; commonplace

The trite and predictable situations in many television programs alienate many viewers.

3497

container for feeding farm animals; trough

The hungry pigs struggled to get at the fresh swill in the trough. The surfer rode her board, coasting along in the trough between two waves.

3500

pledge of good faith especially in betrothal

He gave her his troth and vowed to cherish her always.

3499

self-evident truth

Many a truism is well expressed in a proverb.

3502

aggressiveness; ferocity

Tynan's reviews were noted for their caustic attacks and general tone of truculence.

3501

meeting

The lovers kept their tryst even though they realized their danger.

3504

cut the top off

The top of the cone that has been truncated in a plane parallel to its base is a circle.

3503

commotion; riot; noise

She could not make herself heard over the tumult of the mob.

3506

swollen; pompous; bombastic

I especially dislike his tumid style; I prefer writing which is less swollen and bombastic.

3505

muddy; having the sediment disturbed

The water was turbid after the children had waded through it.

3508

rolling, treeless plain in Siberia and arc

Despite the cold, many geologists are trying to discover valuable mineral deposits in the tundra.

3507

deep dish for serving soup

The waiters brought the soup to the tables in silver tureens.

3510

state of violent agitation

We were frightened by the turbulence of the ocean during the storm.

3509

confusion; strife

Conscious he had sinned, he was in a state of spiritual turmoil.

3512

swollen; distended

The turgid river threatened to overflow the levees and flood the countryside.

3511

depravity

A visitor may be denied admittance to this country if she has been guilty of moral turpitude.

3514

traitor

The British considered Benedict Arnold a loyalist; the Americans considered him a turncoat.

3513

protective; pertaining to a guardianship

I am acting in my tutelary capacity when I refuse to grant you permission to leave the campus.

3516

guardianship; training

Under the tutelage of such masters of the instrument, she made rapid progress as a virtuoso.

3515

oppression; cruel government

Frederick Douglass fought against the tyranny of slavery throughout his entire life.

3518

wealthy leader

John D. Rockefeller was a prominent tycoon.

3517

easily frightened; apprehensive

He was timid and cowardish; always backing up at daunting situations.

3520

beginner; novice

For a mere tyro, you have produced some marvelous results.

3519

work laboriously; make slow painful pi

You must toil through 3500 words list in order to achieve a high score on GRE.

3522

invigorating medicine

The tonic water invigorated her, contrary to the enervating effect of the alcohol.

3521

situated beyond; unstated and often qu

You must have an ulterior motive for your behavior, since there is no obvious reason for it.

3524

being everywhere; omnipresent

That Christmas "The Little Drummer Boy" seemed ubiquitous: Justin heard the tune everywhere he went.

3523

last demand; warning

Since they have ignored our ultimatum, our only recourse is to declare war.

3526

final; not susceptible to further analysis

Scientists are searching for the ultimate truths.

3525

complete agreement

We were surprised by the unanimity with which our proposals were accepted by the different groups.

3528

resentment; anger; sense of injury or in

She took umbrage at his remarks and stormed away in a huff.

3527

modest

He is so unassuming that some people fail to realize how great a man he really is.

3530

unsatisfied; not soothed

Her anger is unassuaged by your apology.

3529

strange; mysterious

You have the uncanny knack of reading my innermost thoughts.

3532

violent

She had a sudden fit of unbridled rage.

3531

outlandish; clumsy; boorish

Most biographers portray Lincoln as an uncouth and ungainly young man.

3534

unscrupulous; excessive

She found the load shark's demands unconscionable and impossible to meet.

3533

oily; bland; insincerely suave

Uriah Heep disguised his nefarious actions by unctuous protestations of his "umility."

3536

the act of anointing with oil

The anointing with oil of a person near death is called extreme unction.

3535

emphasize

Adressing the jogging class, Kim underscored the importance to runners of good nutrition.

3538

weaken; sap

The recent corruption scandals have undermined many people's faith in the city government.

3537

dig up

When they unearthed the city, the archeologists found many relics of an ancient civilization.

3540

move with a wavelike motion

The flag undulated in the breeze.

3539

plain; obvious

My answer to your proposal is an unequivocal and absolute "No."

3542

not earthly; weird

There is an unearthly atmosphere in her work that amazes the casual observer.

3541

steadfast

She approached the guillotine with unfaltering steps.

3544

infallibly

My teacher unerringly pounced on the one typographical error in my essay.

3543

liberated; freed from chains

Chained to the wall for months on end, the hostage despaired that he would ever be unfettered.

3546

genuine; real

She turned so pale that I am sure her surprise was unfeigned.

3545

to strip a priest or minister of church a

To disbar a lawyer, to unfrock a priest, to suspend a doctor's license to practice--these are extreme steps that the authorities should take only after careful consideration.

3548

immature

It is hard for an unfledged writer to find a sympathetic publisher.

3547

ointment

Apply this unguent to the sore muscles before retiring.

3550

awkward

He is an ungainly young man; he trips over everything.

3549

one-sided

This legislation is unilateral since it binds only one party in the controversy.

3552

sameness; consistency; monotony

After a while, the uniformity of TV situation comedies becomes boring.

3551

unrepressed

The congregation was shocked by her uninhibited laughter during the sermon.

3554

blameless and exemplary

Her conduct in office was unimpeachable and her record is spotless.

3553

without an equal; single in kind

You have the unique distinction of being the first student whom I have had to fail in this course.

3556

unfrightening

Though Phil had expected to feel overawed when he met Joe Montana, he found the experience unthreatening and relaxing.

3555

characterizing or affecting all; present in all

At first, no one shared Christopher's opinions; his theory that the world was round was met with universal disdain.

3558

unity of pitch; complete accord

The choir sang in unison.

3557

inconspicuous; not blatant

The secret service agents in charge of protecting the President tried to be as unobtrusive as possible.

3560

disheveled; with uncared-for appearance

The beggar was dirty and unkempt.

3559

unattractive

During adolescence many attractive young people somehow acquire the false notion that their appearance is unimpressive.

3562

novel; unparalleled

Margaret Mitchell's book *Gone with the Wind* was an unprecedented success.

3561

not reciprocated

Suffering the pangs of unrequited love, Olivia rebukes Cesario for his hard-heartedness.

3564

disentangle; solve

With equal ease Miss Marple unraveled tangled balls of yarn and baffling murder mysteries.

3563

distasteful; morally offensive

People with unsavory reputations should not be allowed to work with young children.

3566

disobedient; lawless

The only way to curb this unruly mob is to use tear gas.

3565

unbecoming; indecent

Your levity is unseemly at this time of mourning.

3568

unharmful

They prayed he would come back from the war unscathed.

3567

untarnished

I am happy that my reputation is unsullied.

3570

ugly

Although James was an experienced emergency room nurse, he occasionally became queasy when faced with a particularly unsightly injury.

3569

unfortunate; annoying

Untoward circumstances prevent me from being with you on this festive occasion.

3572

unsupportable

I find your theory untenable and must reject it.

3571

awkward; cumbersome; unmanageable

The large carton was so unwieldy that the movers had trouble getting it up the stairs.

3574

unjustified; groundless; undeserved

We could not understand Martin's unwarranted rudeness to his mother's guests.

3573

unaccustomed

He hesitated to assume the unwonted role of master of ceremonies at the dinner.

3576

unintentional; not knowing

She was the unwitting tool of the swindlers

3575

marked by commotion; extremely funny

The uproarious comedy hit Home Alone featured Macaulay Culkin, whose mugging and comic antics provoked gales of uproarious laughter from audiences coast to coast.

3578

scold; reproach

I must upbraid him for his unruly behavior.

3577

suave; refined; elegant

The courtier was urbane and sophisticated

3580

outcome

The upshot of the rematch was that the former champion proved that he still possessed all the skills of his youth.

3579

bearlike; pertaining to a bear

Because of its ursine appearance, the great panda has been identified with the bears; actually, it is closely related to the raccoon.

3582

mischievous child (usually a boy)

Get out! This store is no place for grubby urchins!

3581

lending money at illegal rates of interest

The loan shark was found guilty of usury.

3584

seize power; supplant

The revolution ended when the victorious rebel leader usurped the throne.

3583

excessively devoted to one's wife

His friends laughed at him because he was so uxorious and submissive to his wife's desires.

3586

imaginary land with perfect social and

Shangri-la was the name of James Hilton's Tibetan utopia.

3585

waver; fluctuate

Uncertain which suitor she ought to marry, the princess vacillated, saying now one, now the other.

3588

strengthen the base of

Whereas relativity theory undermined the Newtonian mechanics, cosmology was undergirded by it.

3587

wanderer; tramp

In summer, college students wander the roads of Europe like carefree vagabonds.

3590

empty; lacking in ideas; stupid

The candidate's vacuous remarks annoyed the audience, who had hoped to hear more than empty platitudes

3589

stray; random

He tried to study, but could not collect his vagrant thoughts.

3592

caprice; whim

She followed every vagary of fashion.

3591

boastful; excessively conceited

She was a vainglorious and arrogant individual.

3594

homeless wanderer

Because he was a stranger in town with no visible means of support, Martin feared he would be jailed as a vagrant.

3593

logically convincing; sound; legally ac

You're going to have to come up with a better argument if you want to convince me that your reasoning is valid.

3596

pertaining to farewell

I found the valedictory address too long; leave-taking should be brief.

3595

bravery

He received the Medal of Honor for his valor in battle.

3598

confirm; ratify

I will not publish my findings until I validate my results.

3597

forerunners; advance forces

We are the vanguard of a tremendous army that is following us.

3600

ghostly being that sucks the blood of th

Children were afraid to go to sleep at night because of the many legends of vampires.

3599

insipid; inane

She delivered an uninspired and vapid address.

3602

position giving an advantage

They fired upon the enemy from behind trees, walls and any other point of vantage they could find.

3601

in feudalism, one who held land of a su

The lord demanded that his vassals contribute more to his military campaign.

3604

many-colored

Without her glasses, Gretchen saw the fields of tulips as a variegated blur.

3603

change in direction

After what seemed an eternity, the wind veered to the east and the storm abated.

3606

boasted; bragged; highly publicized

This much vaunted project proved a disappointment when it collapsed.

3605

impetuous; with marked vigor

He spoke with vehement eloquence in defense of his client.

3608

live in a monotonous way

I do not understand how you can vegetate in this quiet village after the adventurous life you have led.

3607

capable of being bribed

The venal policeman accepted the bribe offered him by the speeding motorist whom he had stopped.

3610

speed

The train went by at considerable velocity.

3609

seller

The fruit vendor sold her wares from a stall on the sidewalk.

3612

blood feud

The rival mobs engaged in a bitter vendetta.

3611

deserving high respect

We do not mean to be disrespectful when we refuse to follow the advice of our venerable leader.

3614

thin layer; cover

Casual acquaintances were deceived by his veneer of sophistication and failed to recognize his fundamental shallowness.

3613

forgivable; trivial

We may regard a hungry man's stealing as a venial crime.

3616

revere

In China, the people venerate their ancestors.

3615

small opening; outlet

The wine did not flow because the air vent in the barrel was clogged.

3618

the meat of a deer

The hunters dined on venison.

3617

abdominal

We shall now examine the ventral plates of this serpent, not the dorsal side.

3620

express; utter

He vented his wrath on his class.

3619

bold

A group of venturesome women were the first to scale Mt. Annapurna.

3622

someone who can make his or her voice

This ventriloquist does an act in which she has a conversation with a wooden dummy.

3621

truthful

I can recommend him for this position because I have always found him veracious and reliable.

3624

location

The attorney asked for a change of venue; he thought his client would do better if the trial were held in a less conservative county.

3623

put into words

I know you don't like to talk about these things, but please try to verbalize your feelings.

3626

truthfulness

Trying to prove Hill a liar, Senator Spector repeatedly questioned her veracity.

3625

pompous array of words

After we had waded through all the verbiage, we discovered that the writer had said very little.

3628

word for word

He repeated the message verbatim.

3627

green; lush in vegetation

Monet's paintings of the verdant meadows were symphonies in green.

3630

wordy

This article is too verbose; we must edit it.

3629

border; edge

Madame Curie knew she was on the verge of discovering the secrets of radioactive elements.

3632

green coating on copper which has been

Despite all attempts to protect the statue from the elements, it became coated with verdigris.

3631

truth; reality

The four verities were revealed to Buddha during his long meditation.

3634

appearance of truth; likelihood

Critics praised her for the verisimilitude of her performance as Lady Macbeth. She was completely believable.

3633

pertaining to spring

We may expect vernal showers all during the month of April.

3636

living language; natural style

Cut out those old-fashioned "thee's" and "thou's" and write in the vernacular.

3635

summit

Let us drop a perpendicular line from the vertex of the triangle to the base.

3638

having many talents; capable of workin

He was a versatile athlete; at college he had earned varsity letters in baseball, football, and track.

3637

enthusiasm; liveliness

She approached her studies with such verve that it was impossible for her to do poorly.

3640

dizziness

We test potential plane pilots for susceptibility to spells of vertigo.

3639

annoy; distress

Please try not to vex your mother; she is doing the best she can.

3642

trace; remains

We discovered vestiges of early Indian life in the cave.

3641

food

There was a variety of viands at the feast.

3644

capable of maintaining life; practicable

The infant, though prematurely born, is viable and has a good chance to survive.

3643

change of fortune

Humbled by life's vicissitudes, the last emperor of China worked as a lowly gardener in the palace over which he had once ruled.

3646

acting as a substitute; done by a deputy

Many people get a vicarious thrill at the movies by imagining they are the characters on the screen.

3645

contend; compete

Politicians vie with one another, competing for donations and votes.

3648

food

I am very happy to be able to provide you with these victuals; I know you are hungry.

3647

active strength

Although he was over seventy years old, Jack had the vigor of a man in his prime.

3650

watchfulness

Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.

3649

slander

She is a liar and is always trying to vilify my reputation.

3652

picture; short literary sketch

The New Yorker published her latest vignette.

3651

revengeful

She was very vindictive and never forgave an injury.

3654

clear of charges

I hope to vindicate my client and return him to society as a free man.

3653

poisonous snake

The habitat of the horned viper, a particularly venomous snake, is in sandy regions like the Sahara or the Sinai peninsula.

3656

winemaker; seller of wine

The poet wondered what the vintners could buy that would be half as precious as the wine they sold.

3655

in essence; for practical purposes

She is a virtual financial wizard when it comes to money matters.

3658

manly

I do not accept the premise that a man is virile only when he is belligerent.

3657

highly skilled artist

The child prodigy Yehudi Menuhin grew into a virtuoso whose virtuosity on the violin thrilled millions.

3660

goodness; moral excellence; good qual

A virtue carried to extremes can turn into something resembling vice; humility, for example, can degenerate into servility and spinelessness.

3659

disease communicator

The doctors are looking for a specific medicine to control this virus.

3662

extremely poisonous

The virus is highly virulent and has made many of us ill for days.

3661

felt in one's inner organs

She disliked the visceral sensations she had whenever she rode the roller coaster.

3664

face; appearance

The stern visage of the judge indicated that she had decided to impose a severe penalty.

3663

sticky, gluey

Melted tar is a viscous substance.

3666

adhesive; gluey

The trunk of the maple tree was viscid with sap.

3665

produced by imagination; fanciful; mythical

She was given to visionary schemes that never materialized.

3668

tool for holding work in place

Before filling its edges, the keysmith took the blank key and fixed it firmly between the jaws of a vise.

3667

spoil the effect of; make inoperative

Fraud will vitiate the contract.

3670

vibrant and lively; critical; living, breathing

The vital, highly energetic first aid instructor stressed that it was vital in examining accident victims to note their vital signs.

3669

corrosive; sarcastic

Such vitriolic criticism is uncalled for.

3672

pertaining to or resembling glass

Although this plastic has many vitreous qualities such as transparency, it is unbreakable.

3671

lively or animated; sprightly

She had always been vivacious and sparkling.

3674

abusive; scolding

He became more vituperative as he realized that we were not going to grant him his wish.

3673

female fox; ill-tempered woman

Aware that she was right once again, he lost his temper and called her a shrew and a vixen.

3676

act of dissecting living animals

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals opposed vivisection and deplored the practice of using animals in scientific experiments.

3675

popular fashion

Jeans became the vogue on many college campuses.

3678

clamorous; noisy

The crowd grew vociferous in its anger and threatened to take the law into its own hands.

3677

act of making a conscious choice

She selected this dress of her own volition.

3680

changeable; explosive; evaporating rap

The political climate today is extremely volatile: no one can predict what the electorate will do next.

3679

bulky; large

Despite her family burdens, she kept up a voluminous correspondence with her friends.

3682

fluent; glib

She was a voluble speaker, always ready to talk.

3681

ravenous

The wolf is a voracious animal, its hunger never satisfied.

3684

gratifying the senses

The nobility during the Renaissance led voluptuous lives.

3683

grant condescendingly; guarantee

I can safely vouchsafe you fair return on your investment.

3686

whirlwind; whirlpool; center of turbulence

Sucked into the vortex of the tornado, Dorothy and Toto were carried from Kansas to Oz.

3685

susceptible to wounds

Achilles was vulnerable only in his heel.

3688

Peeping

Jill called Jack a voyeur when she caught him aiming his binoculars at a bedroom window of the house next door.

3687

speak equivocally about an issue

When asked directly about the governor's involvement in the savings and loan scandal, the press secretary waffled, talking all around the issue.

3690

like a fox; crafty

She disliked his sly ways, but granted him a certain vulpine intelligence.

3689

mischievous; humorous; tricky

He was a prankster who, unfortunately, often overlooked the damage he could cause with his waggish tricks.

3692

moved gently by wind or waves

Daydreaming, he gazed at the leaves that wafted past his window.

3691

give up temporarily; yield

I will waive my rights in this matter in order to expedite our reaching a proper decision.

3694

homeless child or animal

Although he already had eight cats, he could not resist adopting yet another feline waif.

3693

having a pale or sickly color; pallid

Suckling asked, "Why so pale and wan, fond lover?"

3696

roll in; indulge in; become helpless

The hippopotamus loves to wallow in the mud.

3695

wiggle out; fake

She tried to wangle an invitation to the party.

3698

grow gradually smaller

From now until December 21, the winter solstice, the hours of daylight will wane.

3697

sing; babble

Every morning the birds warbled outside her window.

3700

unrestrained; willfully malicious; unch

Pointing to the stack of bills, Sheldon criticized Sarah for her wanton expenditures. In response, Sara accused Sheldon of making an unfounded, wanton attack.

3699

guarantee; assurance by seller

The purchaser of this automobile is protected by the manufacturer's warranty that he will replace any defective part for five years or 50,000 miles.

3702

justify; authorize

Before the judge issues the injunction, you must convince her this action is warranted.

3701

very cautious

The spies grew wary as they approached the sentry.

3704

tunnels in which rabbits live; crowded

The tenement was a veritable warren, packed with people too poor to live elsewhere.

3703

increase; grow

With proper handling, his fortunes waxed and he became rich.

3706

profligate

He was denounced as a wastrel who had dissipated his inheritance.

3705

accustom a baby not to nurse; give up ;

He decided he would wean himself away from eating junk food and stick to fruits and vegetables.

3708

ambush; lie in wait

They agreed to waylay their victim as he passed through the dark alley going home.

3707

mark from beating or whipping

The evidence of child abuse was very clear; Jennifer's small body was covered with welts and bruises.

3710

endure the effects of weather or other f

He weathered the changes in his personal life with difficulty, as he had no one in whom to confide.

3709

wallow

At the height of the battle, the casualties were so numerous that the victims weltered in their blood while waiting for medical attention.

3712

turmoil; bewildering jumble

The existing welter of overlapping federal and state proclaims cries out for immediate reform.

3711

young wolf, dog, tiger, etc.

This collie whelp won't do for breeding, but he'd make a fine pet.

3714

cajole; coax; deceive by flattery

She knows she can wheedle almost anything she wants from her father.

3713

puff or gust (of air, scent, etc.); hint

The slightest whiff of Old Spice cologne brought memories of George to her mind.

3716

sharpen; stimulate

The odors from the kitchen are whetting my appetite; I will be ravenous by the time the meal is served.

3715

neigh like a horse

When he laughed through his nose, it sounded as if he whinnied.

3718

capricious; fanciful

He dismissed his generous gift to his college as a sentimental fancy, an old man's whimsical gesture.

3717

pare; cut off bits

As a present for Aunt Polly, Tom whittled some clothespins out of a chunk of wood.

3720

smallest speck

There is not a whit of intelligence or understanding in your observations.

3719

intentional; headstrong

Donald had planned to kill his wife for months; clearly, her death was a case of deliberate, willful murder, not a crime of passion committed by a hasty, willful youth unable to foresee the consequences of his deeds.

3722

ring of leaves around stem; ring

Identification by fingerprints is based on the difference in shape and number of whorls on the fingers.

3721

shrink back; flinch

The screech of the chalk on the blackboard made her wince.

3724

cunning; artful

She is as wily as a fox in avoiding trouble.

3723

sift; separate good parts from bad

This test will winnow out the students who study from those who don't bother.

3726

fallen fruit; unexpected lucky event

This huge tax refund is quite a windfall.

3725

thin; slight; barely discernible

Worried about preserving his few wispy tufts of hair, Walter carefully massaged his scalp and applied hair restorer every night.

3728

agreeable; gracious; engaging

By her winsome manner, she made herself liked by everyone who met her.

3727

introverted; remote

Rebuffed by his colleagues, the initially outgoing young researcher became increasingly withdrawn.

3730

vaguely longing; sadly pensive

With a last wistful glance at the happy couples dancing in the hall, Sue headed back to her room to study for her exam.

3729

foolish; idiotic

Such witless and fatuous statements will create the impression that you are an ignorant individual.

3732

shrivel; decay

Cut flowers are beautiful for a day, but all too soon they wither.

3731

sorcery; magic

Merlin amazed the knights with his wizardry.

3734

witty saying; facetious remark

What you regard as witticisms are often offensive to sensitive people.

3733

custom; habitual procedure

As was his wont, he jogged two miles every morning before going to work.

3736

withered; shriveled

The wizened old man in the home for the aged was still active and energetic.

3735

quarrel; obtain through arguing; herd c

They wrangled over their inheritance.

3738

engrossed in matters of this earth; not s

You must leave your worldly goods behind you when you go to meet your Maker.

3737

inflict

I am afraid he will wreak his vengeance on the innocent as well as the guilty.

3740

anger; fury

She turned to him, full of wrath, and said, "What makes you think I'll accept lower pay for this job than you get?"

3739

pull away; take by violence

With only ten seconds left to play, our team wrested victory from their grasp.

3742

pull; strain; twist

She wrenched free of her attacker and landed a powerful kick to his kneecap.

3741

squirm, twist

He was writhing in pain, desperate for the drug his body required.

3744

written command issued by a court

The hero of Leonard's novel is a process server who invents unorthodox ways of serving writs on reluctant parties.

3743

fear or hatred of foreigners

When the refugee arrived in America, he was unprepared for the xenophobia he found there.

3746

twisted; with a humorous twist

We enjoy Dorothy Parker's verse for its wry wit.

3745

man owing small estate; middle-class f

It was not the aristocrat but the yeoman who determined the nation's policies.

3748

longing; urge

She had a yen to get away and live on her own for a while.

3747

give in; surrender

The wounded knight refused to yield to his foe.

3750

amount produced; crop; income on inv

An experienced farmer can estimate the annual yield of his acres with surprising accuracy.

3749

country bumpkin

At school, his classmates regarded him as a yokel and laughed at his rustic mannerisms.

3752

join together, unite

I don't wish to be yoked to him in marriage, as if we were cattle pulling a plow.

3751

crazy; comic

I can watch the Marx brothers' zany antics for hours.

3754

time past

He dreamed of the elegant homes of yore, but gave no thought to their inelegant plumbing.

3753

fanatic; person who shows excessive ze

It is good to have a few zealots in our group for their enthusiasm is contagious.

3756

eager enthusiasm

Wang's zeal was contagious; soon all his fellow students were busily making posters, inspired by his ardent enthusiasm for the cause.

3755

gentle breeze; west wind

3758

point directly overhead in the sky; sum

When the sun was at its zenith, the glare was not as strong as at sunrise and sunset.

3757