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Tricky English words can trip you up (cause you to make mistakes). Many of them are difficult to spell or even pronounce, and some can have different meanings depending on the situation.In this post, I will show you 29 common but difficult English words and phrases, plus my favorite tricks for dealing with complicated English vocabulary.Contents 1. Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious If reading “supercalifragilisticexpialidocious” is scary enough, you are not alone! Even native speakers have a hard time with it, given that it is one of the longest words in the English language.“Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious” is an adjective that comes from the 1964 Disney movie “Mary Poppins,” where it was made into a really catchy song.The word has since come to mean two things: something truly wonderful or something ridiculously complicated.Meaning #1: Wonderful, great, awesome.If I won the lottery, it would be a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious experience.Meaning #2: Overly complicated.I did not understand anything from the lesson because the explanations were supercalifragilisticexpialidocious. 2. Colonel “Colonel” is a tricky English word because its pronunciation is so different from its spelling. Rather than “co-lo-nel,” you pronounce this one as “ker-nel”—like a corn kernel! “Colonel” is a noun that refers to a high rank in the military, usually below the generals. For example:Even though KFC’s founder is called Colonel Sanders, he was never in the military. 3. Necessary The adjective “necessary” is easy to misspell (like “neccesary” or “nesesarry”). It is also confusing to pronounce, since the “c” and the “s” have the same sound as in “said” and the “y” is pronounced like an “i.” Luckily, it has a straightforward meaning! When you say that something is “necessary,” you mean it is required or needed.For example:A working computer and internet connection are necessary for my job as a writer. 4. Ironic “Ironic” is difficult not only because of how it is pronounced (eye-RO-nick) but also because of its multiple meanings.Also, if you first came across this adjective through Alanis Morissette’s song of the same name, please know that “ironic” does not simply mean bad things that happen to you. Instead, it refers to:Meaning #1: Two contradictory but related ideas or events that happen together.It is ironic that a man who says he believes in God treats his family badly.Meaning #2: The use of irony (using one thing to mean the opposite) in humor or comedy. The comedian is famous for using ironic humor to criticize the government. 5. Aggrandize “Aggrandize” is another word that is difficult to spell correctly. You may also find it hard to pronounce—is it a-gran-DEE-ze or a-gran-DICE?It is a verb that has three meanings.Meaning #1: To make something look bigger or more important than it really is.The man liked to aggrandize his achievements because he thought it made him popular.Meaning #2: To increase the size of something.The government wanted to aggrandize the public parks by planting more trees.Meaning #3: To increase one’s wealth and power.The politician aggrandized himself through policies that put more money in his pocket. 6. Brusque Contrary to its spelling, the adjective “brusque” is pronounced as “brusk” rather than “brus-kei.” It also has three different meanings:Meaning #1: Curt or harsh behavior or quality.The man’s brusque words made the girl cry. Meaning #2: Sudden or unexpected.The brusque arrival of the storm caught everyone off-guard.Meaning #3: Rough appearance.Although the house looks brusque, I like it! 7. Cacophony “Cacophony” is a noun that can be difficult to spell and pronounce. It can also be positive or negative depending on the context.Meaning #1: Unpleasant mixture of sounds.Unable to bear the daily cacophony of construction sounds and car horns, she decided to leave the city. Meaning #2: Deliberate mixture of sounds that do not go together for artistic effect.The composer’s music stands out because of his skillful use of cacophony. 8. Paraphernalia This is another word that is difficult to spell and is a mouthful (hard to pronounce) even for native English speakers.“Paraphernalia” is a noun that used to refer to a woman’s property other than her dowry (gifts with monetary value given to a husband or wife when they are married).Today, it simply means a collection of items that seem randomly thrown together.You could say:I could not throw away the paraphernalia that reminded me of better times. 9. Nauseous The adjective “nauseous” came from the Latin nauseosus, meaning something that makes you feel disgusted or repulsed (like a horror movie). Now, it is an adjective that means feeling dizzy or lightheaded, rather than the thing that causes that feeling. I should also note that “nauseated” is considered more grammatically correct than “nauseous,” though the two are understood to have the same meaning.With that out of the way, here is an example of how “nauseous” might be used:I felt nauseous during the road trip, so I took medicine for motion sickness. 10. Irregardless Another word that is often considered grammatically incorrect is “irregardless.” It is a combination of “regardless” and “irrespective.”What makes it confusing is that it means the same as “regardless,” even though the prefix “ir-” would normally imply the negation of a word. I do not recommend using this word at all, but if you must, here are a couple of examples.Meaning #1: Even though; in spite of.Irregardless of the mysterious man’s warnings, the group still entered the haunted house.Meaning #2: No meaning; added for emphasis.Irregardless, I will go through with my plan. 11. Anachronistic “Anachronistic” is another adjective that can twist your tongue. You can figure out what it means from its origins, though. “Anachronistic” comes from a combination of the Greek words ana (against) and chronos (time). There are a couple of ways you can use it.Meaning #1: Something or someone out of their historical or cultural time.The time traveler’s T-shirt and jeans were anachronistic in the age of dinosaurs. Meaning #2: Something that is outdated or unfashionable.The old typewriter looked anachronistic in an office full of laptops and HD monitors. 12. Untoward You probably learned that the prefix “un-” means the opposite of the word that follows it. For example, you have “undo,” “untie,” “unpack,” etc.However, that is not the case with “untoward.” It is an adjective that implies something bad, rather than not going in a certain direction. You could say:The student’s consistently untoward behavior got him expelled from school. 13. Anemone Unless you like plants or the sea, you are probably unfamiliar with the noun “anemone.” The pronunciation can throw you off since the stress is on the second syllable (uh-NEM-uh-nee). It is also a word with letters you do not often see together.There are three ways you could use it.Meaning #1: A sea-dwelling animal related to jellyfish and coral.The sight of fishes swimming among the anemone’s tentacles was beautiful.Meaning #2: A type of brightly-colored flower. She planted a lot of anemones in her garden.Meaning #3: An ornament that looks like the anemone flower.The anemone brooch on her dress added a nice touch! 14. Dilate You will often hear this verb used in a medical context. “Dilate” is a difficult English word because of its pronunciation (it is read as DYE-leyt rather than dee-lah-teh). There is also the fact that it is easy to mix up with “delight,” a word that has a completely different (and more positive) meaning. “Dilate” typically means the expansion or widening of blood vessels or your eyes’ pupils.For example: It is said that your pupils dilate when you look at someone you find attractive. 15. Literally Originally, this adverb meant something that was exact and the opposite of “figuratively.” Today, through much misuse, the word is most often used to exaggerate something, and make it seem bigger and more important.Meaning #1: Exact and not exaggerated.There were literally thousands of butterflies flying all around us. Note: This means that if someone had counted all of the butterflies, there would have actually been thousands.Meaning #2: Exaggerated for emphasis, and not necessarily true.That is literally the ugliest bag in the world.Note: There are likely other bags that are uglier than this bag, so it is not actually the ugliest in the whole world. 16. Nonplussed The adjective nonplussed comes from Latin, and means “no more.” It is a state of being where nothing more can be said or done, like when you are so confused by something you are not sure how to react.Speaking of confusing, this word can mean “surprised” or “not surprised” depending on the context!Meaning #1: Extremely surprised and confused.He was nonplussed at seeing his cat chase the neighbor’s dog up a tree.Meaning #2: Not surprised or affected at all (mostly used in American English).The surprise birthday party left him nonplussed; he had known about it for a week already. 17. Left “Left” seems like a simple enough word—until you realize how many meanings it has!For example:Meaning #1: Departed, moved away from someplace.He left his house at 6 in the morning to be on time for his flight.Meaning #2: Remaining, something not moved away.He missed his flight because he accidentally left his passport in his bedroom.Meaning #3: Direction equivalent to the west; opposite of “right” or “east.”To get to the airport, turn left near 31st Street.Meaning #4: A political ideology that is the opposite of right.In the United States, educated individuals often have leftist beliefs. 18. Refrain This word can be both a verb and a noun, and they have two completely different meanings.Meaning #1: To stop yourself from doing something.Please refrain from making noise during the concert.Meaning #2: A line or phrase that is repeated in a song or poem.The chorus, or the repeated part of a song, is called the refrain. 19. Bound “Bound” is another word that has several meanings. It can be a verb, adjective and a noun!Meaning #1: Restrained and held in place.He was bound to the chair with ropes.Meaning #2: Moving towards a destination.She is bound for college this weekend.Meaning #3: Something that may happen in the future.Because she had a happy childhood, she was bound to be successful when she grew up.Meaning #4: To move with wide strides (difference between steps or positions)The good news made him bound out of his room.The ball bound into the garden of their neighbor.Meaning #5: A boundary or limit.The city’s edges were along the bound of the forest. 20. Overlook Overlook can mean one of four things.Meaning #1: To supervise and watch over something.His job is to overlook the construction site and make sure everyone remains safe.Meaning #2: To neglect or fail to see something.Because he overlooked a big safety hazard, the construction had to be started over.Meaning #3: To forgive (a mistake or failure).I will overlook your mistake now because you are my friend, but please be more careful next time! Meaning #4: To have a view over something.The top floor of the Burj Khalifa, the world’s tallest building, overlooked the clouds of Dubai. 21. Dust “Dust” is another word with multiple meanings—two of them contradictory to (opposite) each other!Meaning #1: To add small particles to a surface.The policemen dusted the crime scene for prints.Meaning #2: To remove small particles from a surface.My mother likes to dust our tables and shelves at least twice a day.Meaning #3: The small particles on a surface.After years of neglect, the house became covered in dust. 22. Custom If you are not a native English speaker, “custom” is another word that can be easy to mix up. Meaning #1: Typical behavior exhibited by many in society.Taking off your shoes when entering the house is not only a custom, it is also polite.Meaning #2: Specially made, one of a kind.This violin was custom-made for the famous violinist who has really small hands. 23. Either The word “either” is an interesting one, since the definition we use most often is not entirely correct. The word comes from an Old English word that meant “both” or “each.” When we use the word to mean both, we are using it the way it was used originally.Also, it can be pronounced “EE-ther” or “EYE-ther.” American English uses both, while British English uses “EE-ther.” Meaning #1: One or the other.You can choose either this chicken sandwich or the beef one.Meaning #2: Both.There is traffic on either side of the road. 24. Original “Original” is an adjective that means one of three things.Meaning #1: Something old and unchanged that has existed for a while.The original schedule started with a dance number, but it was changed into a singing competition.Meaning #2: Something new and unique that no one has thought of before.I had an original idea for a company, but I have no money to start it.Meaning #3: The first of something.I liked the original version of the movie better than the remake. 25. Hold Up This verb phrase has several meanings that can be positive or negative depending on the context.Meaning #1: To support something so it doesn’t fall down.We need more poles and ropes to hold up the tent. Meaning #2: To stay strong and continue despite troubles.The tree held up to the rough hurricane winds, but the house was wrecked.Meaning #3: To prevent something from continuing.What is the hold up? Can we please get going!Meaning #4: To rob a place like a bank.The robbers held up the bank and left with all of the money.Meaning #5: To show as an example.The young man was held up as an example of what people from his generation should be like. 26. Back Up Another verb phrase with contradictory meanings is “back up.” It is also easy to confuse with “backup,” which is a noun.Meaning #1: To help or support someone.I will back you up whenever you are in trouble. We are friends, after all.Meaning #2: To retreat or move away.I backed up slowly to get away from the growling dog.Meaning #3: To duplicate or copy something.You should always back up your digital files.Meaning #4: To cause a delay (like in traffic).The accident caused traffic to back up. 27. Throw Out The key to understanding this verb phrase is the word “throw,” or the sometimes-used synonym “toss.” When you throw something, you are moving it away from yourself.You can use this phrase in two ways. Meaning #1: To dispose of or put something in the garbage.I threw out my old socks because they had holes in them.Meaning #2: To suggest or bring out a new idea.When we had our meeting, I threw out some new ideas that the boss liked. 28. Go Off Separately, “go” and “off” are easy enough to understand. Together, they become a verb phrase that can mean different things depending on the context. Meaning #1: To leave suddenly. I will go off to work soon, so please take care!Meaning #2: To turn on.I didn’t hear my alarm go off this morning, so I was late to work.Meaning #3: To explode.The bomb was set to go off at exactly 12 noon.Meaning #4: To behave angrily and shout at someone.Even when Max is upset, he does not go off on people.Meaning #5: To start something with energy and enthusiasm.I will go off and start building my business!Meaning #6: To become spoiled or rotten.Eggs go off quickly, so use them as soon as you can. 29. Wound Up Before we had electricity, many things worked through gears. You had to wind up the gears to keep them running (the past tense is wound up). That is why when someone is wound up (adjective), it is like someone moved their gears to get them excited.The verb “to wind” comes from the same root as “wander”: to move around or travel. That explains the third definition: When you wind up somewhere, you are ending your traveling and coming to a conclusion or a final place.Meaning #1: To turn a knob or handle so something will work.The last time I wound up my old clock was yesterday at noon. I have to wind it up every day or two, otherwise it stops working.Meaning #2: To be excited or upset about something. (Informal adjective)The children will be completely wound up if you let them eat all of that candy today.Meaning #3: To end up.I originally thought I would come back home, but I wound up staying at Sarah’s house last night. How to Learn Difficult Words in EnglishWhen you come across a difficult English word that you want to learn, here is what you can do. Listen to catchy song lyricsSome songs are naturally easy to remember because they are fast-paced and easy to sing. You can take advantage of this for learning English vocabulary!You can use websites like Lyrics.com to find songs that have a vocabulary word you want to learn. Try reading along with the lyrics next time you listen to a song, or turn the subtitles on if you are watching a music video.Alternatively, you can use an online immersion program like FluentU.Here are a couple of difficult words you can remember better with songs.Examples: The word “millennial” means someone born roughly between the early 1980s and late 1990s. The 1975 song “Give Yourself a Try” uses this word in its lyrics (“I was 25… a Millennial that Baby Boomers like”): “Oblivious” means to not be conscious or aware of someone or something. There is actually a song called “Oblivious,” and it uses the word repeatedly throughout the lyrics. The singer talks about wishing he was oblivious to the troubles he had in a difficult relationship: Make associations with artWhen you catch yourself staring at a piece of art for a long period of time, whether in an art museum or online, that art is bound to stick in your mind. Associating difficult vocabulary terms with beautiful images is another way to help you remember them.For the following words, we will use Leonardo da Vinci’s famous “Mona Lisa” painting to make our vocabulary associations. You can of course use any meaningful image that works for you!Examples: “Sustainable” means to be capable of being maintained or to be eco-friendly. Think of how “Mona Lisa” has sustained her mysterious smile for centuries! To remember the environmental aspect of this word, fix your mind on the green background behind her. “Ecstasy” is a state of elated bliss, and is often used to describe extreme emotion. In contrast, Mona Lisa has a famously flat smile. You can imagine how different she would look if she were in ecstasy—mouth open, arms waving! Describe your everyday routine.You know your everyday routine inside and out. There are objects you see every day, like your mirror or coffee pot. These are opportunities to create memorable associations for hard English words.You can also use this exercise with younger children who want to learn tricky English words.Examples: “Supersede” means to take the place of something or someone no longer useful. For a very long time, I’ve been using a scratchy, cheap old toothbrush. Today, my new electric toothbrush arrived and superseded the old one. “Maintenance” means the upkeep of property or equipment, usually in reference to your home or belongings. Today I called my apartment complex’s maintenance service to fix my oven, which I’ve been wanting to cook in for a very long time. Use context cluesImagine you are taking an English exam. You do not have Wi-Fi or a dictionary, so you have no clue what a word means.No problem! You can just use context clues.Context clues might not get you the exact meaning of the word, but they do give you a strong hint or idea (in other words, a clue!).Examples: “Commodity” means a product that can be bought or sold.In his last job, my grandpa was in charge of the commodities between his farm and one of the factories that still operates to this day. He sold his vegetables, fruits and other crops, and the factory bought them from him so they could produce food.From this passage, you can see that the commodities must be the same as the vegetables, fruits and other crops. You can figure out that they must be the products the narrator’s grandpa was selling. “Recommend” means to express a good opinion of something or suggest something to someone else.My friend recommended the new pizzeria that had just opened across the street. I took her suggestion and enjoyed it very much.Since the one who made the suggestion was your friend, you took it—because why would your friend do you wrong? Get a high-quality dictionaryYou need a good English dictionary to help you quickly learn the hard words you encounter.My favorite online dictionary is Vocabulary.com. It is a great tool where you can get the audio, definition and simplified outline of what the word means.Unlike other dictionary apps or online dictionaries, this site breaks down what the word means in ways you can understand. It also gives you the option to see where the word can be found in other online resources.It looks like we have wound up at the end of this post! Start using these hard English words and phrases and applying the tips above, and their meanings will not be so difficult anymore. If you like learning English through movies and online media, you should also check out FluentU. FluentU lets you learn English from popular talk shows, catchy music videos and funny commercials, as you can see here:If you want to watch it, the FluentU app has probably got it. The FluentU app and website makes it really easy to watch English videos. There are captions that are interactive. That means you can tap on any word to see an image, definition, and useful examples.FluentU lets you learn engaging content with world famous celebrities. For example, when you tap on the word "searching," you see this:FluentU lets you tap to look up any word. Learn all the vocabulary in any video with quizzes. Swipe left or right to see more examples for the word you’re learning.FluentU helps you learn fast with useful questions and multiple examples. Learn more. The best part? FluentU remembers the vocabulary that you’re learning. It gives you extra practice with difficult words—and reminds you when it’s time to review what you’ve learned. You have a truly personalized experience. Start using the FluentU website on your computer or tablet or, better yet, download the FluentU app from the iTunes or Google Play store. Click here to take advantage of our current sale! (Expires at the end of this month.) Difficult words: Have you watched Mary Poppins movie? Then, you certainly remember this word: Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious. Try pronouncing it on your first attempt! A little tongue-twisting and tricky, right! The English language is a vast treasure trove of words, each with its own unique charm and significance. While many words roll off the tongue effortlessly, there are some that pose a challenge even to the most seasoned wordsmiths. In this blog, we’ll dive into the world of difficult words, uncovering their meanings, and exploring a range of intriguing vocabulary starting from ‘A’ to ‘Z.’ What Are Difficult Words? Difficult words are those that might leave us scratching our heads when we encounter them. They often boast complex spellings, tricky pronunciations, or meanings that are not immediately evident. These words often have complex meanings, unusual spellings, or advanced vocabulary roots that require deeper learning. However, understanding and incorporating such words into our vocabulary can enhance our language skills and communication. List of Difficult English Words to Pronounce Here’s a list of difficult words in English from A to Z, along with their meanings: A – Aberration: A departure from what is normal or expected, typically an unwelcome one. B – Bombastic: High-sounding but with little meaning; inflated. C – Cacophony: A harsh, discordant mixture of sounds. D – Defenestration: The act of throwing someone out of a window. E – Epistemology: The study of the nature and scope of knowledge. F – Facetious: Treating serious issues with inappropriate humor. G – Gobbledygook: Language that is meaningless or hard to understand; jargon. H – Hapax Legomenon: A word that occurs only once in a language’s written record. I – Ineffable: Too great or extreme to be expressed or described in words. J – Jeremiad: A long, mournful complaint or lamentation; a list of woes. K – Kaleidoscope: A constantly changing pattern or sequence of elements. L – Lethologica: The inability to remember a word or the name for something. M – Mellifluous: (of a sound) Sweet or musical; pleasant to hear. N – Nefarious: Having a harmful effect, especially in a gradual or subtle way. O – Obfuscate: Render obscure, unclear, or unintelligible. P – Pernicious: Having a harmful effect, especially in a gradual or subtle way. Q – Quixotic: Exceedingly idealistic; unrealistic and impractical. R – Recumbentibus: A witty comeback you think of too late. S – Sesquipedalian: (of a word) Polysyllabic; long-winded. T – Tenebrous: Dark, shadowy, or obscure. U – Ultracrepidarian: Someone who gives opinions on subjects they know nothing about. V – Verisimilitude: The appearance of being true or real. W – Weltanschauung: A particular philosophy or view of life; the worldview of an individual or group. X – Xenophobe: A person who is fearful or contemptuous of that which is foreign, especially of strangers or foreign cultures. Y – Yokel: An unsophisticated person from the countryside; a bumpkin. Z – Zugzwang: A situation in which someone is compelled to make a decision, but any available options will result in a disadvantage. Word Pronunciation Difficulty Level Anemone uh-NEH-muh-nee High Choir KWY-er Medium Colonel KER-nuhl High Epitome ih-PIT-uh-mee Medium Hyperbole hy-PER-buh-lee Medium Isthmus ISS-muss High Quinoa KEEN-wah Medium Rural ROO-ruhl High Squirrel SKWIR-uhl High Worcestershire WUSS-ter-sheer High Synecdoche sin-EK-duh-kee High Phenomenon fuh-NOM-uh-non Medium Otorhinolaryngologist oh-toh-rye-no-lar-in-GOL-uh-jist Very High Antidisestablishmentarianism an-tee-dis-uh-STAB-lish-muhn-TAIR-ee-uh-niz-um Very High Onomatopoeia on-uh-mat-uh-PEE-uh High Schadenfreude SHAH-den-froy-duh High Draught DRAFT Medium Brewery BROO-uh-ree Medium February FEB-roo-air-ee Medium Hegemony heh-JEH-muh-nee High Gnocchi NYOH-kee High Maelstrom MAYL-struhm Medium Niche NITCH or NEESH Medium Pneumonia noo-MOHN-yuh Medium Queue KYOO Medium Rendezvous RON-day-voo High Sanguine SAN-gwin Medium Subtle SUH-tl Medium Thorough THUR-oh Medium Vicissitude vih-SIS-ih-tood High Xenophobia zen-uh-FOH-bee-uh Medium Yacht YOT High Zephyr ZEF-er Medium Cacophony kuh-KOF-uh-nee High Deteriorate dih-TEER-ee-uh-rayt Medium Ethereal ih-THEER-ee-uhl Medium Faux pas foh PAH High Gauge GAYJ Medium Hierarchy HY-uh-rahr-kee Medium Liaison lee-AY-zon High Boost Your Preparation With Our Free Online Mock Tests For IIT-JEE, NEET And CBSE Exams Are you a student striving to improve your English vocabulary? Don’t worry! Here we are with this article to help you enhance your grip on the English language. This will act as a guide to learn new English words, and tough English words that you can use in your daily conversations and communications. Continue reading below. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘A’ Here’s a list of tough English words starting with the letter ‘A,’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Aberration A departure from what is normal or expected, typically an unwelcome one. Aplomb Self-confidence or assurance, especially when in a demanding situation. Arcane Understood by few; mysterious or secret. Amalgamate To combine or unite to form a single organization or structure. Anathema Something or someone that is intensely disliked or cursed. Aplenty In abundance or plenty; more than enough. Avarice Extreme greed for wealth or material gain. Alacrity Brisk and cheerful readiness; eagerness. Acerbic Sharp and forthright, often in a sarcastic or critical manner. Apotheosis The highest point in the development of something; the culmination or climax. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘B’ Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘B,’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Bombastic High-sounding but with little meaning; inflated. Belligerent Hostile and aggressive. Bifurcate To divide into two branches or parts. Bellicose Demonstrating a willingness to fight; warlike. Baleful Threatening harm or evil; ominous. Banal Lacking originality; trite; cliché. Brobdingnagian Enormous or gigantic in size. Byzantine Complicated, intricate, and difficult to understand. Bathos An abrupt and often ludicrous transition in style from the exalted to the commonplace. Bellicosity A disposition towards aggression and warlike behavior. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘C’ Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘C,’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Cacophony A harsh, discordant mixture of sounds. Capitulate To surrender or give in to an opponent. Circumlocution The use of unnecessarily long or indirect words. Clandestine Kept secret or done secretly, often for illicit purposes. Conundrum A confusing and difficult problem or question. Copious Abundant in supply or quantity. Credulous Willing to believe or trust too readily, often without proper evidence. Cryptic Having a meaning that is mysterious or obscure. Cacophony A harsh, discordant mixture of sounds. Capitulate To surrender or give in to an opponent. Circumlocution The use of unnecessarily long or indirect words. Clandestine Kept secret or done secretly, often for illicit purposes. Conundrum A confusing and difficult problem or question. Copious Abundant in supply or quantity. Credulous Willing to believe or trust too readily, often without proper evidence. Cryptic Having a meaning that is mysterious or obscure. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘D’ Here are some difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘D’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Defenestration The act of throwing someone out of a window. Denouement The final resolution or outcome of a story or situation. Desultory Lacking a plan, purpose, or enthusiasm; random. Discombobulate To confuse or disconcert; upset the normal operation or function of something. Disparate Essentially different in kind; not allowing comparison. Disquisition A long or elaborate essay or discussion on a particular subject. Dystopian Relating to or denoting an imagined state or society where there is great suffering or injustice. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘E’ Here are some difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘E’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Epistemology The study of the nature and scope of knowledge. Esoteric Intended for or understood by only a select few; obscure. Ephemeral Lasting for a very short time; transient. Ebullient Overflowing with enthusiasm or excitement. Effervescent Bubbling, fizzy; lively and enthusiastic. Enervate To weaken or drain of energy; to tire out. Enigmatic Mysterious, puzzling, or difficult to understand. Euphemism A mild or indirect word or phrase used in place of a harsh or blunt one. Exacerbate To make a situation or problem worse. Extraneous Irrelevant or unrelated to the subject at hand. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘F’ Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘F,’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Facetious Treating serious issues with inappropriate humor. Fatuous Silly and pointless; foolish. Fecund Fertile, capable of producing offspring or vegetation. Fervent Having or displaying a passionate intensity. Flummox To bewilder, confuse, or perplex. Frenetic Fast and energetic in a rather wild and uncontrolled way. Frugal Sparing or economical with regard to money or food. Fulgent Shining brightly; radiant. Fusillade A rapid series of shots or missiles fired at once. Futile Incapable of producing any useful result; pointless. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘G’ Here are some difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘G’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Gobbledygook Language that is meaningless or jargon. Garrulous Excessively talkative, especially on trivial matters. Grandiloquent Pompous or extravagant in language, style, or manner. Gargantuan Enormous, gigantic, or colossal in size. Gratuitous Given or done without any good reason or justification. Gregarious Fond of company, sociable, or friendly. Guileless Innocent, without deceit or cunning. Glabrous Smooth and hairless, especially skin or leaves. Gourmand A person who enjoys eating and often eats in large quantities. Grandiosity The quality of being grand or ambitious, especially in a showy or pretentious way. Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘H’ along with their meanings: Difficult Word Meaning Hapax Legomenon A word that occurs only once in a language’s written record. Heliolatry The worship or veneration of the sun. Heterodox Holding unorthodox or unconventional beliefs. Hircine Pertaining to or resembling a goat. Histrionics Exaggerated dramatic behavior designed to attract attention. Hypnagogic Relating to the state just before falling asleep. Hypochondria Excessive worry or anxiety about one’s health. Hypothecate To pledge something as security without giving up possession of it. Hyperborean Pertaining to the extreme north or cold regions. Hypercritical Excessively critical or fault-finding. One Stop Solutions for School Preparation Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘I,’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Ineffable Too great or extreme to be expressed or described in words. Iconoclast A person who attacks or criticizes cherished beliefs or institutions. Intransigent Unwilling or refusing to change one’s views or to agree about something. Irascible Easily angered or prone to outbursts of temper. Inscrutable Impossible to understand or interpret. Insidious Proceeding in a gradual, subtle way, but with harmful effects. Incorrigible Not able to be corrected, improved, or reformed. Inefficacious Not producing the desired effect; ineffective. Iniquitous Grossly unfair and morally wrong. Iconoclastic Characterized by attacking or rejecting established traditions or institutions. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘J’ Here is a list of difficult words in English vocabulary that start with the letter ‘J,’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Jeremiad A long, mournful complaint or lamentation; a list of woes. Juxtaposition The act or placement of two things (usually abstract concepts) near each other. Jejune Lacking interest or significance; immature or childish. Juxtapose To place or deal with close together for contrasting effect. Jaundiced Showing or affected by prejudice or bitterness. Jettison To discard or cast off, especially something considered as no longer valuable or useful. Jocund Cheerful and lighthearted in disposition or nature. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘K’ Here are some difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘K’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Kaleidoscope A constantly changing pattern or sequence of elements. Kowtow To act in an excessively subservient manner; to grovel. Kismet Destiny or fate, often seen as predetermined. Kitsch Art or objects that are considered in poor taste. Kenophobia The fear of voids or empty spaces. Knavery Dishonest or unscrupulous behavior. Kinesiology The scientific study of human movement and muscle function. Knavish Mischievous or deceitful in a playful way. Kinescope An early form of television recording. Kowtow To act in an excessively subservient manner; to grovel. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘L’ Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘L,’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Lethologica The inability to remember a word or a name. Languor A pleasant feeling of weariness or laziness. Loquacious Tending to talk a lot; talkative. Lugubrious Looking or sounding sad and dismal. Lexicon A dictionary or the vocabulary of a language. Labyrinthine Complicated, intricate, or confusing. Luminous Emitting or reflecting light; glowing. Lackadaisical Lacking enthusiasm or determination; lazy. Lucubrate To work diligently and meticulously, especially on scholarly or literary work. Laconic Using very few words; concise. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘M’ Here is a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘M’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Mellifluous Sweet or musical; pleasant to hear. Misanthrope A person who dislikes or distrusts humanity. Maelstrom A powerful whirlpool; a chaotic or turbulent situation. Mephitic Having a foul odor; noxious or poisonous. Mawkish Excessively sentimental; sappy or cloying. Multifarious Diverse, having many different parts or elements. Mendacious Given to lying or deception; dishonest. Machination A crafty or cunning scheme or plot. Myopic Nearsighted; lacking foresight or narrow-minded. Magnanimous Very generous or forgiving, especially toward a rival or someone less powerful. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘N’ Here are some difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘N,’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Nefarious Wicked, villainous, or criminal. Nomenclature The system or set of terms used in a particular field or subject. Nonchalant Feeling or appearing casually calm and relaxed; not displaying anxiety. Nostalgia A sentimental longing or affection for the past, typically for a period or place with happy personal associations. Noxious Harmful, poisonous, or very unpleasant. Nuance A subtle difference or distinction in meaning, expression, tone, etc. Numinous Having a strong religious or spiritual quality; mysterious and awe-inspiring. Nuncio A papal ambassador or diplomatic representative. Nurturance The provision of care and support to promote the growth and development of someone or something. Nebulous Hazy, vague, or unclear; lacking definite form or limits. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘O’ Here are some difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘O’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Obfuscate To render obscure, unclear, or unintelligible. Obstreperous Noisy and difficult to control; unruly. Odious Extremely unpleasant; deserving hatred. Ostracize To exclude or banish someone from a group or society. Obsequious Excessively eager to please or serve others; fawning. Opaque Not transparent; not allowing light to pass through. Onerous Involving a great deal of effort or difficulty; burdensome. Obdurate Stubbornly refusing to change one’s opinion or course of action. Omnipotent Having unlimited or infinite power; all-powerful. Ostentatious Designed to impress or attract attention; showy. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘P’ Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘P,’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Pernicious Having a harmful effect, especially in a gradual or subtle way. Palimpsest A manuscript or piece of writing material on which the original writing has been effaced to make room for later writing but of which traces remain. Panacea A solution or remedy for all difficulties or diseases; a cure-all. Parochial Relating to a church parish; having a limited or narrow outlook. Penultimate The second to the last in a series of things; second last. Perspicacious Having a ready insight into and understanding of things. Phantasmagoria A sequence of real or imaginary images like that seen in a dream. Polyglot Knowing or using several languages. Precarious Not securely held or in position; dangerously likely to fall or collapse. Prognosticate Foretell or prophesy (an event in the future). Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘Q,’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Quixotic Exceedingly idealistic; unrealistic and impractical Quotidian Occurring daily; commonplace Querulous Complaining in a whining manner Quiescent Inactive; at rest Quintessential Representing the most perfect or typical example Quagmire A difficult or precarious situation Quip A witty or sarcastic remark Quaff To drink deeply and enthusiastically Quizzical Expressing confusion or curiosity Quandary A state of uncertainty or perplexity Here are some difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘R,’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Recumbentibus A witty comeback you think of too late. Rambunctious Uncontrollably exuberant or boisterous. Redolent Having a strong, pleasant odor or fragrance. Recalcitrant Resisting authority or control; rebellious. Reticent Inclined to keep one’s thoughts and feelings private; reserved. Resplendent Shining brilliantly; splendid or magnificent in appearance. Rhapsodize To express in an enthusiastic or ecstatic manner. Repudiate To reject or disown; refuse to accept. Recondite Obscure, little known; requiring specialized knowledge to understand. Reprobate A morally unprincipled person; a scoundrel. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘S’ Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘S’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Sesquipedalian (of a word) Polysyllabic; long-winded. Sycophant A person who acts obsequiously toward someone in power. Sycophancy Excessive flattery or praise used to gain advantage. Soliloquy An act of speaking one’s thoughts aloud when alone. Supercilious Behaving or looking as though one is superior. Serendipity The occurrence of events by chance in a happy way. Sophistry The use of clever but false arguments, especially with the intention of deceiving. Sanguine Optimistic or positive, especially in a difficult situation. Surreptitious Kept secret, especially because it would not be approved of. Sardonic Grimly mocking or cynical. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘T’ Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘T’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Tenebrous Dark, shadowy, or obscure. Tergiversate To change one’s loyalties or opinions frequently. Triskaidekaphobia Fear of the number 13. Taciturn Reserved or uncommunicative in speech; reticent. Trepidation A feeling of fear or agitation about something that may happen. Tenacious Holding fast; persistent; not easily letting go. Trenchant Incisive or keen; vigorously effective and articulate. Tumultuous Making a loud, confused noise; uproarious. Tyro A beginner or novice. Turpitude Depravity; wickedness. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘U’ Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary that start with the letter ‘U,’ along with their meanings: Difficult Word Meaning Ubiquitous Present, appearing, or found everywhere. Ulterior Existing beyond what is obvious or evident. Umbrage A feeling of offense or resentment. Unctuous Excessively flattering or insincerely polite. Unilateral Involving only one party or group. Unobtrusive Not attracting attention or notice. Unpalatable Not pleasant to the taste or mind. Unscrupulous Lacking moral or ethical principles. Usurp To seize or take over power or authority. Utilitarian Designed to be practical rather than attractive or aesthetic. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘V’ Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary that start with the letter ‘V’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Verisimilitude The appearance of being true or real. Verbose Using or expressed in more words than needed. Vexatious Causing annoyance, frustration, or worry. Visceral Relating to deep inward feelings rather than the intellect. Vituperate To criticize or censure severely or abusively. Voluptuous Relating to or characterized by luxury or sensual pleasure. Voluminous Occupying or containing much space; large in volume. Voracious Having a very eager approach to an activity, especially eating. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘W’ Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘W’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Weltanschauung A particular philosophy or view of life; worldview. Welter A confused mass or jumble; to roll about in disorder. Whimsical Playfully quaint or fanciful, especially in an amusing way. Wraith A ghostly or spectral image of a person, especially one seen shortly before or after their death. Wunderkind A child prodigy or exceptionally talented young person. Difficult Words in English Vocabulary Starting with the Letter ‘X’ Here’s a list of difficult words in English vocabulary starting with the letter ‘X’ along with their meanings: Word Meaning Xenophobe A person who is fearful of or dislikes foreigners or strangers. Xenophobia The intense dislike or fear of people from other countries. Xenodochial Friendly or hospitable, especially to strangers or foreigners. Xerophyte A plant adapted to dry or arid conditions, often with thick, water-storing leaves or stems. Xylography The art or practice of engraving on wood, or the resulting engraved woodcut. Xenogenesis The production of offspring that are different from their parents. Xenolithic Relating to rocks or minerals originating from a different place or environment. Xerography A photocopying process that uses electrostatic charges

bristled at his accusation.BlitheCheerful or carefreeHe had a blithe disregard for rules.BlunderA careless mistakeThe general's blunder cost them the battle.BanalLacking originality or freshnessThe movie was full of banal clichés.BesmirchTo damage someone's reputationThe scandal besmirched his image.BequeathTo leave by a willHe bequeathed his fortune to charity.BifurcateTo divide into two branchesThe river bifurcates near the mountain.BalkTo stop short and refuse to proceedHe balked at the idea of moving abroad.BludgeonTo hit with heavy forceHe was bludgeoned with a club.BemoanTo express sorrow over somethingThey bemoaned the loss of tradition.BifocalHaving two optical powersHe wore bifocal glasses for reading and distance.BraggartA person who boasts a lotHe's such a braggart about his achievements.BroachTo bring up a sensitive topicShe hesitated to broach the subject of money.BurnishTo polish or make shinyHe burnished his shoes until they gleamed.ButtressTo support or strengthenThe evidence buttressed his argument. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleCajoleTo persuade with flattery or gentle urgingShe cajoled him into going to the party.CharismaA compelling charm or attractivenessHis charisma won over the entire audience.ChasmA deep opening or gapThe earthquake created a huge chasm in the road.ChauvinistA person with aggressive or exaggerated patriotismHe was labeled a chauvinist for his sexist remarks.ClichéAn overused and unoriginal phrase or ideaThe story was full of clichés and lacked originality.ContagionThe spread of disease or harmful ideasFear acted as a contagion during the crisis.CountenanceA person's face or expressionHer calm countenance hid her nervousness.CringeTo shrink back in fear or embarrassmentI cringe whenever I hear that awkward joke.CueA signal for actionHe took her silence as a cue to leave.CapitulateTo surrender or give inThe army had to capitulate after heavy losses.CircumspectCautious and unwilling to take risksShe was circumspect in revealing personal details.CoerceTo force someone by pressure or threatsHe was coerced into signing the contract.ConundrumA confusing and difficult problemChoosing the right college was a conundrum for her.CacophonyA harsh, jarring mixture of soundsThe traffic outside created a cacophony of noise.ComplacentSmug and self-satisfied, often unaware of dangerHe grew complacent despite the company's decline.ContriteFeeling or expressing remorseHe was contrite after breaking the vase.ConvolutedExtremely complex and difficult to followThe plot was so convoluted I lost interest.CapitulationThe act of surrenderingThe treaty was a formal act of capitulation.CredulousToo ready to believe things; gullibleThe scam targeted credulous elderly people.CrypticMysterious or obscureShe gave a cryptic reply to the question.ConflagrationA large, destructive fireA massive conflagration destroyed the town.CogentClear, logical, and convincingShe made a cogent argument in court.CopaceticCompletely satisfactory or fineEverything is copacetic on my end.ConcatenateTo link things together in a chainThe errors were concatenated into a bigger issue.CastigateTo criticize or punish severelyThe coach castigated the team for their poor effort.ClemencyMercy or leniencyThe judge granted clemency to the young offender.CorroborateTo confirm or support with evidenceWitnesses corroborated the suspect's alibi.CalumnyFalse statements made to harm reputationHe was the victim of calumny during the campaign.ConsternationFeelings of anxiety or dismayHer failure to reply caused consternation.ChicaneryDeception or trickery, especially in legal mattersHe used chicanery to get out of paying taxes.CollusionSecret cooperation for an illegal purposeThe companies were in collusion to fix prices.CursoryHasty and lacking attention to detailHe gave the document only a cursory glance.CommensurateCorresponding in size or degreeThe salary is commensurate with experience.CurmudgeonA bad-tempered or surly personThe old curmudgeon yelled at the kids for playing.CynosureA person or thing that is the center of attentionShe was the cynosure of all eyes at the event. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleDauntlessFearless and determinedThe dauntless firefighter ran into the burning building.DelicacyA rare or luxurious food itemTruffles are considered a delicacy in French cuisine.DelicateFragile or sensitiveThe vase is very delicate; handle it with care.DepictTo represent or show in a picture or storyThe mural depicts the history of the village.DesolateEmpty, bleak, and lifelessThe town looked desolate after the storm.DestituteExtremely poor; lacking basic necessitiesThe charity provides food for destitute families.DevoteTo give time or effort to somethingHe devotes his weekends to volunteering.DiabolicalExtremely evil or wickedThe villain's plan was truly diabolical.DiscrepancyA difference or inconsistencyThere was a discrepancy between the two reports.DismantleTo take apart or disassembleThey had to dismantle the stage after the show.DebilitateTo weaken or drain strengthThe disease debilitated him for months.DearthA lack or scarcity of somethingThere is a dearth of clean water in the region.DebunkTo expose false claims or mythsThe scientist debunked the popular health myth.DecrepitOld and in poor conditionHe lives in a decrepit house on the hill.DefameTo damage someone's reputationShe sued the newspaper for defaming her.DeferentialShowing respect or submissionHe gave a deferential nod to his superior.DefunctNo longer existing or workingThat old law is now defunct.DeftSkillful and quickShe gave a deft performance on the violin.DegenerateTo deteriorate or declineThe discussion degenerated into an argument.DelectableDelicious and pleasantThe cake was simply delectable.DenigrateTo criticize unfairly or belittleDon't denigrate her efforts; she worked hard.DerideTo mock or ridiculeHe was derided for his outdated fashion.DespondentFeeling hopeless or dejectedShe was despondent after losing her job.DeterrentSomething that discourages or preventsStrict laws act as a deterrent to crime.DeviateTo go off the usual path or normHe deviated from the original plan.DidacticIntended to teach, often with a moralThe story had a strong didactic message.DilapidatedIn poor condition through neglectThey restored the dilapidated building.DilatoryTending to delay or procrastinateHis dilatory tactics wasted valuable time.DisdainContempt or lack of respectShe looked at him with disdain.DisheveledUntidy and messyHe appeared disheveled after the long trip.DisseminateTo spread widely (info or ideas)The news was disseminated quickly via social media.DissidentSomeone who disagrees with authorityThe dissident was jailed for his views.DistraughtDeeply upset or agitatedShe was distraught after the accident.DoggedPersistent and determinedHer dogged efforts finally paid off.DubiousDoubtful or uncertainHis story sounded dubious to the police.DuplicityDeceitfulness or double-dealingHe was accused of duplicity in the negotiations. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleEdificeA large and impressive buildingThe museum is a magnificent edifice of glass and stone.ElegyA poem of serious reflection, typically mourning the deadShe wrote a moving elegy for her late grandfather.EndeavourA serious attempt or effortClimbing Mount Everest is a difficult endeavour.EndureTo suffer patiently; to tolerateThey had to endure many hardships during the war.EnigmaA person or thing that is mysterious or difficult to understandHis sudden disappearance remains an enigma.EnslaveTo make someone a slave or completely control themGreed can enslave a person's mind.EpitaphWords written in memory of someone on a tombstoneHis epitaph read, "Beloved father and friend."ExtinctionThe state of no longer existingMany species are in danger of extinction.ExtricateTo free someone or something from a difficultyHe tried to extricate himself from the conversation.EccentricUnconventional and slightly strangeHis eccentric behavior made him stand out.EffaceTo erase or wipe outOver time, the inscriptions on the stone were effaced.EloquentFluent or persuasive in speaking or writingThe activist gave an eloquent speech on justice.EmbezzleTo steal money from the place where you workThe manager was caught embezzling company funds.EmpathyThe ability to understand and share another's feelingsShe showed great empathy toward the grieving family.EncroachTo gradually take over more of someone's space or rightsThe weeds encroached upon the garden path.EndemicCommon or native to a specific region or groupMalaria is endemic to some tropical regions.EnrapptureTo fill with delight or joyThe music enraptured the entire audience.EnticeTo attract or tempt by offering pleasureAdvertisements are designed to entice buyers.EnumerateTo list one by oneHe enumerated the reasons for his resignation.EphemeralLasting for a very short timeFame can be ephemeral in the world of celebrities.EquanimityCalmness and composure in a difficult situationShe accepted the news with equanimity.EquivocateTo use ambiguous language to avoid telling the truthThe politician continued to equivocate on key issues.EsotericIntended for or understood by a small groupThe philosopher's ideas were too esoteric for the public.EstrangedNo longer close or affectionate to someoneHe became estranged from his family after the incident.EuphoriaA feeling of intense happiness or excitementThe crowd was in a state of euphoria after the win.ExacerbateTo make a situation worseThe noise only exacerbated her headache.ExcoriateTo criticize severelyThe critics excoriated the film for its weak plot.ExemplaryServing as a desirable model; commendableShe received an award for her exemplary service.ExonerateTo declare someone free from blameThe court exonerated him of all charges.ExpeditiousDone with speed and efficiencyThe team completed the project in an expeditious manner.ExpletiveA swear word or an obscene expressionHe shouted an expletive after stubbing his toe.ExpoundTo explain in detailShe expounded her theory to the audience.ExtolTo praise highlyThe teacher extolled the student's efforts.ExuberantFilled with lively energy or excitementHer exuberant personality brightened the room.ExigencyAn urgent need or demandThe exigency of the situation required immediate action. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleFastenTo attach or secure firmlyPlease fasten your seatbelt before takeoff.FathomTo understand after much thoughtI couldn't fathom why she left so suddenly.Fête (or Fete)A celebration or festivalThe village held a summer fête for charity.FidelityFaithfulness to a person, cause, or beliefHis fidelity to the mission was commendable.FlickA sudden light movementShe gave her hair a flick over her shoulder.FlipTo turn over quicklyFlip the pancake when it starts bubbling.ForesightThe ability to predict or plan for the futureHis foresight saved the company from losses.FragileEasily broken or damagedBe careful, this package is fragile.FranchiseAuthorization to sell a company's goods or servicesHe bought a fast-food franchise in Mumbai.FutileIncapable of producing results; pointlessAll attempts to revive the plant were futile.FabricateTo invent or concoct, often deceitfullyHe fabricated the story to avoid punishment.FacetiousTreating serious issues with inappropriate humorDon't be facetious during the meeting.FallacyA mistaken belief or faulty reasoningThe idea that vaccines cause disease is a fallacy.FastidiousVery attentive to detail; hard to pleaseShe is fastidious about cleanliness.FerventHaving or showing intense passionHe is a fervent supporter of equal rights.FlabbergastedExtremely surprised or shockedI was flabbergasted when I won the contest.FluctuateTo rise and fall irregularlyPrices of vegetables fluctuate daily.ForebodingA feeling that something bad will happenA sense of foreboding filled the air.FormidableInspiring fear or respect due to size or skillHe was a formidable opponent in the debate.FractiousIrritable and quarrelsomeThe fractious child threw a tantrum.FrivolousNot having serious purpose or valueShe spent money on frivolous purchases.FrugalEconomical and thriftyHe leads a frugal lifestyle, saving most of his income.FurtiveAttempting to avoid notice or attentionHe cast a furtive glance at the exam paper.FissionThe act of splitting into partsNuclear fission generates enormous energy.FlagrantBlatant or glaringly offensiveHis flagrant disregard for rules shocked everyone.FoibleA minor weakness or eccentricityEveryone has some foible, however small.ForlornPitifully sad or lonelyThe dog sat forlorn by the closed door.FortitudeCourage in pain or adversityShe showed remarkable fortitude during her illness.FracasA noisy disturbance or quarrelA fracas broke out in the marketplace.FlippantNot showing serious or respectful attitudeHis flippant remarks irritated the teacher.FetidHaving a foul or offensive smellThe fetid smell of garbage filled the alley.FeasiblePossible and practical to do easilyThe plan is ambitious but feasible.FacsimileAn exact copyThe museum displayed a facsimile of the original document.FeignTo pretend or fakeHe feigned illness to skip the test.FlimsyWeak or poorly madeThe table collapsed because it was too flimsy.FlagshipThe best or most important item or conceptThis model is the flagship of their phone series. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleGaleA very strong windThe ship was caught in a violent gale at sea.GallantBrave, heroic, or chivalrousThe gallant knight rescued the villagers from danger.GambitA calculated move or strategy, often in games or politicsHer resignation was a clever gambit to gain sympathy.GambleTo risk something in the hope of a gainHe decided to gamble his savings on the stock market.GarmentA piece of clothingShe wore a beautiful traditional garment to the wedding.GastronomyThe art or science of good eatingHe studied French gastronomy to become a top chef.GazeTo look steadily and intentlyShe sat by the window, lost in a dreamy gaze.GenialFriendly and cheerfulHis genial nature made everyone feel at ease.GenreA category of artistic compositionHorror is not my favorite genre of film.GibberishNonsensical or meaningless speechThe toddler's words sounded like gibberish.GaudyToo bright and showy; tastelessThe decorations were too gaudy for my taste.GesticulateTo use gestures while speakingHe gesticulated wildly to explain what happened.GlimmerA faint or unsteady light or ideaThere was a glimmer of hope after the announcement.GratuitousUnnecessary or uncalled forThe film had gratuitous scenes of violence.GregariousSociable and outgoingShe's a gregarious person who loves parties.GullibleEasily fooled or deceivedHe was too gullible and believed every scam.GauntExtremely thin, especially from hunger or ageThe stray dog looked gaunt and tired.GnarledKnotted and twisted, often due to ageThe old man's hands were gnarled from years of labor.GrappleTo struggle or wrestle with somethingShe had to grapple with difficult choices.GripeTo complain about somethingHe always finds something to gripe about.GuileSly or cunning intelligenceHe used guile to win the negotiations.GumptionInitiative and courageIt takes gumption to start a business on your own.GarnerTo gather or collect (especially information or support)She garnered support for her campaign quickly.GrievanceA real or imagined cause for complaintThe workers filed a grievance over unfair wages.GrimaceA facial expression of pain or disgustHe made a grimace when he tasted the bitter drink.GalvanizeTo shock or excite into taking actionThe leader's speech galvanized the crowd.GrandioseImpressive but overly exaggeratedHis grandiose plans were too ambitious to succeed.GlossaryA list of terms with definitionsThe book includes a glossary at the end for reference.GratifyTo give pleasure or satisfactionThe praise gratified her after all the hard work.GravitasSeriousness and dignity in mannerHe spoke with gravitas about the nation's future. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleHabitualDone regularly or repeatedlyHe is a habitual latecomer to the office.HailTo praise enthusiastically or greetThe film was hailed as a masterpiece.HarbingerA sign or signal of something to comeDark clouds are a harbinger of storms.HaughtyArrogantly superior and disdainfulHer haughty manner offended many people.HavocGreat destruction or chaosThe storm wreaked havoc on the village.HeathenA person who does not belong to a widely held religionThey considered non-believers to be heathens.HegemonyLeadership or dominance, especially by one country or groupThe country maintained its hegemony in the region.HinderTo create difficulties that delay progressPoor roads hinder the delivery of goods.HostileUnfriendly or antagonisticThe crowd was hostile to the speaker's opinions.HypocriteA person who acts in contradiction to stated beliefsHe's a hypocrite who preaches honesty but lies.HyperboleExaggerated statements not meant to be taken literallySaying "I've told you a million times" is a hyperbole.HaphazardLacking any obvious organizationThe books were piled in a haphazard manner.HereticA person holding controversial opinions, especially against religious beliefsGalileo was branded a heretic for his theories.HiatusA pause or break in continuityThe band went on a hiatus after ten years of touring.HistrionicOverly theatrical or melodramatic in behaviorHer histrionic outburst surprised everyone.HeinousUtterly wicked or shockingly evilThe criminal was sentenced for his heinous crimes.HarrowingExtremely distressing or painfulIt was a harrowing experience to witness the accident.HubrisExcessive pride or self-confidenceHis downfall was caused by his own hubris.HovelA small, dirty, or poorly built houseThey lived in a cramped hovel on the outskirts of town.HearsayUnverified information or gossipThe evidence was dismissed as mere hearsay.HallowedRegarded as holy or sacredThe battlefield is hallowed ground to many veterans.HeadstrongDetermined to have one's own way; stubbornShe was too headstrong to listen to advice.HoardTo accumulate and hide valuable itemsHe hoarded food during the famine.HackneyedLacking originality; overusedThe speech was full of hackneyed phrases.HeraldA messenger bringing important newsThe robin is often seen as a herald of spring.HomogeneousOf the same kind; alikeThe village was a homogeneous community of farmers.HypotheticalBased on a suggested idea or theoryThe scientist proposed a hypothetical solution.HistrionicsDramatic or emotional behavior for effectStop the histrionics and tell me what really happened.HoaxA trick or deceptionThe alien sighting turned out to be a hoax.HunkerTo squat or crouch down lowThey hunkered down and waited for the storm to pass. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleIdiosyncrasyA distinctive or peculiar characteristic or habitBiting his nails is one of his many idiosyncrasies.IdleNot active or in use; lazyHe spent the entire day in idle chatter.ImbibeTo drink or absorb (ideas or knowledge)Students should imbibe wisdom from their mentors.ImperativeAbsolutely necessary or urgentIt is imperative that we act immediately.ImpetusA force that causes something to move or happenHis speech gave impetus to the reform movement.IncarnateEmbodied in human formShe was kindness incarnate.IndigenousOriginating naturally in a particular placeKangaroos are indigenous to Australia.InevitableCertain to happen; unavoidableDeath is an inevitable part of life.InsaneMentally ill; extremely foolishDriving at that speed in rain is insane.IllicitForbidden by law, rules, or customHe was arrested for possessing illicit substances.ImpeccableFlawless; without errorHer performance was impeccable.ImprudentNot showing care for consequencesIt was imprudent to invest all his money at once.ImpugnTo challenge or call into questionHe impugned the integrity of his opponent.IncessantContinuing without pauseThe incessant noise made it hard to concentrate.IndignantFeeling anger over injusticeShe was indignant at the unfair treatment.IngratiateTo bring oneself into favor through flatteryHe tried to ingratiate himself with the boss.InsolentShowing a rude and arrogant lack of respectThe student gave an insolent reply to the teacher.IntrepidFearless; adventurousThe intrepid journalist covered war zones.IntractableHard to control or deal withThe disease was proving intractable.IneptLacking skill or abilityHis inept handling of the case lost them the trial.InimicalHostile; harmfulSmoking is inimical to good health.IncognitoIn disguise or using a false identityThe actor went incognito to avoid paparazzi.InculcateTo teach persistently and repeatedlyTeachers inculcate values in young minds.IndolentLazy or avoiding activityHis indolent nature kept him from success.IneffableToo great or extreme to describe in wordsThe view from the summit was ineffable.IncumbentNecessary as a duty; holding officeIt is incumbent upon us to help the needy.InadvertentUnintentional; not plannedThe error was the result of inadvertent omission.IntransigentUnwilling to change one's viewsShe remained intransigent despite the arguments.ImpetuousActing quickly without thoughtHis impetuous decisions often led to trouble.IrateVery angryThe customer was irate over the poor service. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleJabberTo talk rapidly and excitedly but with little senseThe kids were jabbering about their favorite cartoons.JargonSpecial words used by a particular professionLegal jargon can be confusing for laypeople.JauntA short journey for pleasureThey went on a weekend jaunt to the countryside.JollyHappy and cheerfulHe had a jolly laugh that filled the room.JovialFriendly and cheerfulHer jovial personality makes her easy to talk to.JudiciousHaving good judgment or senseShe made a judicious choice by saving money.JunctureA particular point in time or eventsAt this critical juncture, we must act decisively.JunkOld or useless items; trashHe cleaned the garage and threw away all the junk.JurisdictionThe legal power to make decisionsThis case is outside the court's jurisdiction.JuxtaposeTo place side by side for comparisonThe exhibit juxtaposes modern art with classical pieces.JadedTired or bored after too much of somethingShe felt jaded after years of corporate work.JeopardyDanger of loss, harm, or failureHis career was in jeopardy after the scandal.JeerTo mock or speak with contemptThe crowd jeered at the losing team.JocundCheerful and light-heartedThe jocund gathering was filled with music and laughter.JettisonTo discard or throw away something unnecessaryThey jettisoned old ideas in favor of innovation.JubilantFeeling or expressing great joyThe team was jubilant after their victory.JurisprudenceThe theory or philosophy of lawShe studied jurisprudence at Harvard.JustifyTo show or prove something to be rightHe tried to justify his absence with a doctor's note.JocosePlayful or humorousThe speaker's jocose remarks kept the audience engaged.JingoismExtreme patriotism, especially in the form of aggressive warlike policyThe leader's jingoism worried the neighboring countries. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleKalopsiaThe delusion that things are more beautiful than they areHer kalopsia led her to believe the rundown town was charming.KeenHaving or showing eagerness or enthusiasmShe has a keen interest in classical literature.KeystoneThe central, most important part of a system or policyEducation is the keystone of a thriving society.KickoffThe beginning or start of an eventThe conference kickoff will be at 9 AM sharp.KindleTo ignite or arouse (emotion or feeling)His words kindled hope in the hearts of the people.KinesisMovement or activity in response to a stimulusThe insect's kinesis increased in bright light.KinshipA family relationship or feeling of closenessThere was a strong sense of kinship among the teammates.KleptomaniaAn irresistible urge to steal, typically without needHer kleptomania led her to shoplift despite her wealth.KnightA man awarded a rank of honor, often for heroic deedsThe king made him a knight for his bravery.KudosPraise and honor received for an achievementHe received kudos for his innovative solution.KafkaesqueNightmarishly complex, bizarre, or illogicalThe bureaucratic process felt Kafkaesque and never-ending.KnavishDishonest or unscrupulousThe knavish merchant tricked many customers.KowtowTo act in an excessively subservient mannerHe refused to kowtow to corporate pressure.KithFriends and acquaintancesHe celebrated the festival with his kith and kin.KneadTo press and stretch dough with handsShe kneaded the dough until it became smooth and elastic.KnottyComplex and difficult to solveThe lawyer was faced with a knotty legal issue.KudosphereA metaphorical space where praise circulatesSocial media creates its own kudosphere.KernelThe central or most important part of somethingThe kernel of his argument was based on facts.KnollA small, rounded hillThey picnicked on a grassy knoll near the lake.KickbackA bribe or illegal paymentThe company was under investigation for receiving kickbacks. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleLabyrinthA complicated and confusing network of pathsThe old city was a labyrinth of narrow streets.LacunaA gap or missing part, especially in a manuscript or argumentThere's a lacuna in the theory that needs addressing.LampoonTo publicly criticize using sarcasm or ridiculeThe cartoonist lampooned the politician mercilessly.LanguidWeak or faint from illness or fatigueShe gave a languid wave before falling asleep.LanguishTo become weak or suffer from being forced to remain in an unpleasant situationHe languished in prison for years.LeverageThe power to influence outcomesHe used his connections as leverage in the negotiations.LuminaryA person who inspires or influences othersShe is a luminary in the world of science.LunaticA mentally ill or wildly foolish personOnly a lunatic would drive that fast in the rain.LethargicSluggish and lacking in energyHe felt lethargic after staying up all night.LuridShockingly vivid or sensational, especially in an unpleasant wayThe newspaper published lurid details of the crime.LexiconThe vocabulary of a language or subjectThe medical lexicon is full of Latin terms.LacerateTo tear or deeply cut (skin or flesh)The barbed wire lacerated his hands.LevityHumor or lack of seriousness in a serious situationHis levity at the funeral was inappropriate.LibelA false published statement damaging a person's reputationThe magazine was sued for libel.LividFuriously angry or discolored from bruisingShe was livid when she found out about the betrayal.LargesseGenerosity in givingThe university was built through the largesse of its donors.ListlessLacking energy or enthusiasmHe appeared listless during the long lecture.LoquaciousVery talkativeThe loquacious host kept the audience entertained.LachrymoseTearful or given to weepingThe movie made the usually stoic man lachrymose.LuridSensational and shockingThe novel was full of lurid plot twists. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleMacrocosmThe whole of a complex structure, especially the world or universeThe city is a macrocosm of the country's culture.MagnanimousGenerous or forgiving, especially toward a rivalShe was magnanimous in victory, praising her opponent.MalapropismThe mistaken use of a word in place of a similar-sounding oneSaying "pineapple of politeness" instead of "pinnacle" is a malapropism.MandarinA powerful official or bureaucrat, especially in ChinaHe was a respected mandarin in the foreign ministry.ManifestationA visible or tangible expression of somethingThe illness was a manifestation of her stress.ManoeuvreA skillful or clever move or actionThey executed a clever manoeuvre to win the deal.MediocreOf only average quality; not very goodThe movie received mediocre reviews.MerchandiseGoods for saleThe store displayed its merchandise in the window.MundaneLacking interest or excitement; dullHe found the office job boring and mundane.MachinationA plot or scheme, especially one that is deviousThe villain's machinations were eventually exposed.MalcontentA person who is dissatisfied and rebelliousThe malcontents protested outside the city hall.MawkishOverly sentimental in a sickly wayThe film was criticized for its mawkish melodrama.MeanderTo follow a winding path or to wander aimlesslyWe meandered through the forest trails.MellifluousSweet or musical; pleasant to hearHer mellifluous voice charmed the audience.MendaciousLying; not telling the truthThe politician's mendacious statements angered voters.MercurialSubject to sudden or unpredictable changes of moodHis mercurial temper made him difficult to work with.MetamorphosisA complete change in form, character, or conditionThe caterpillar undergoes a metamorphosis into a butterfly.MisanthropeA person who dislikes humankindThe old man was a true misanthrope, avoiding all neighbors.MitigateTo make less severe, serious, or painfulLaws were introduced to mitigate pollution.MyriadA countless or extremely great numberThere are myriad stars in the galaxy. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleNarcissistA person with excessive interest in themselvesThe narcissist couldn't stop admiring his reflection.NemesisA long-standing rival; an unbeatable opponentHe finally defeated his old nemesis in the finals.NeophyteA person who is new to a subject or activityAs a neophyte in programming, she needed guidance.NepotismFavoritism shown to relatives in jobs or positionsThe company was criticized for its nepotism in hiring.NicheA comfortable or suitable position in life or employmentShe found her niche in environmental journalism.NirvanaA state of perfect happiness or peaceMeditation helped him achieve a sense of nirvana.NocturnalActive at nightOwls are nocturnal creatures.NomenclatureA system of names or terms used in a particular fieldScientific nomenclature can be difficult to memorize.NullifyTo make legally null and void; to cancel outThe court nullified the contract due to fraud.NascentJust coming into existence and beginning to show potentialThe nascent startup quickly gained investor interest.NebulousUnclear, vague, or ill-definedHis plans for the future are still nebulous.NihilismThe rejection of all religious and moral principlesThe novel explores existential themes of nihilism.NonchalantFeeling or appearing casually calm and relaxedShe gave a nonchalant shrug when asked about her grade.NotorietyThe state of being famous for something badThe criminal gained notoriety for his daring heists.NuanceA subtle difference in meaning or expressionUnderstanding the nuance in language is important for diplomacy.NutrimentSomething that nourishes; nourishmentProper nutriment is essential for a child's growth.NoxiousHarmful, poisonous, or very unpleasantThe factory released noxious fumes into the air.NexusA connection or series of connectionsEducation is a crucial nexus between opportunity and success.NadirThe lowest point in the fortunes of a personAfter the bankruptcy, he reached the nadir of his career.NonplussedConfused and unsure how to respondHe was nonplussed by the unexpected question. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleOblivionThe state of being unaware or forgottenHe drank himself into oblivion after the breakup.ObliviousUnaware of what is happening aroundShe was oblivious to the fact that everyone was watching her.ObscureNot clearly understood or easily expressedThe meaning of the poem remained obscure.ObsoleteNo longer produced or used; out of dateTypewriters are now considered obsolete.OdourA distinctive smell, especially an unpleasant oneThe kitchen was filled with the odour of burnt toast.OmenA sign of what will happen in the futureThe black cat was seen as an omen of bad luck.OmnipotentHaving unlimited power and authorityIn many religions, God is seen as omnipotent.OmnipresentPresent everywhere at the same timeTechnology seems omnipresent in our lives today.OmniscientKnowing everythingThe narrator of the story was omniscient.OverwhelmTo affect someone very stronglyShe was overwhelmed by emotion at her graduation.ObdurateStubbornly refusing to change one's opinionHe remained obdurate, despite all the evidence.ObfuscateTo deliberately make something unclearThe lawyer tried to obfuscate the facts.ObsequiousExcessively eager to please or obeyThe obsequious assistant laughed at all his boss's jokes.ObstreperousNoisy and difficult to controlThe obstreperous students disrupted the class.OgleTo look at someone in a way that shows strong interest or desireHe was caught ogling at the actress during the event.OstensibleStated or appearing to be true, but not necessarily soHis ostensible reason for leaving was illness, but we knew the truth.OstracizeTo exclude from a group or societyHe was ostracized by his peers after the scandal.OvertDone or shown openlyThere was overt hostility in his tone.OxymoronA combination of contradictory words"Deafening silence" is a famous oxymoron.OpulentRich and luxuriousThey lived in an opulent mansion overlooking the sea. Difficult WordsMeaningsExamplePandemoniumWild and noisy disorder or confusionThe announcement caused pandemonium in the crowd.ParamountMore important than anything elseSafety is paramount in our operations.ParanoiaIrrational and persistent feeling that people are 'out to get you'His paranoia made him distrust even close friends.PerplexTo confuse or puzzle completelyThe complex instructions perplexed the students.PetrifyTo terrify or paralyze with fearThe sudden noise petrified her with fear.PinnacleThe highest point of achievement or successWinning the award was the pinnacle of his career.PreambleA preliminary statement or introductionThe preamble of the constitution outlines its purpose.ProtocolOfficial procedure or system of rulesThe ambassador followed strict diplomatic protocol.PseudonymA fictitious name used by an authorMark Twain was the pseudonym of Samuel Clemens.PalpableSo intense that it seems tangibleThe tension in the room was palpable.ParagonA person or thing regarded as a perfect exampleShe is a paragon of virtue and discipline.ParsimoniousUnwilling to spend money or resourcesThe parsimonious man wouldn't even buy a cup of tea.PejorativeExpressing contempt or disapprovalHe used pejorative terms to insult the artist.PenchantA strong liking or inclinationHe has a penchant for classical music.PenultimateSecond to last in a seriesHe finished in the penultimate position in the race.PerfunctoryCarried out with minimum effortHis perfunctory reply showed a lack of interest.PerspicaciousHaving a ready insight into thingsThe perspicacious detective solved the mystery quickly.PhlegmaticHaving an unemotional and calm dispositionShe remained phlegmatic despite the chaos.PlacidCalm and peacefulThe lake was placid and beautiful at sunrise.PrecariousNot securely held or in position; dangerously likely to fallThe ladder was in a precarious position. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleQuadrilateralA four-sided figureA square is a type of quadrilateral with equal sides.QualitativeRelated to the quality rather than the quantityThe study offered a qualitative analysis of the patient's behavior.QuandaryA state of uncertainty or confusionShe was in a quandary about which job to accept.QuantitativeRelated to the measurement of quantityQuantitative research involves statistical analysis.QuantumA significant amount or leap in progressThe scientist made a quantum leap in cancer research.QuarantineIsolation to prevent the spread of diseaseThe traveler was kept in quarantine for two weeks.QuenchTo satisfy or extinguish (especially thirst or fire)He drank water to quench his thirst.QuerulousComplaining in a petulant or whining mannerThe querulous child irritated everyone with his constant whining.QuibbleA slight objection or criticismLet's not quibble over minor details.QuintessenceThe purest or most perfect example of somethingHe is the quintessence of a true gentleman.QuagmireA difficult or hazardous situationThe country got stuck in a political quagmire.QuaintAttractively unusual or old-fashionedThey stayed in a quaint cottage in the countryside.QuellTo suppress or put an end toThe police tried to quell the violent protests.QuixoticUnrealistically idealistic or impracticalHis quixotic quest for perfection led to constant frustration.QuorumThe minimum number of members needed for a meetingThe meeting couldn't start because the quorum was not met.QuotidianOccurring every day; mundaneHis worries were about quotidian things like laundry and bills.QuenchlessUnable to be satisfied or extinguishedShe had a quenchless thirst for knowledge.QuiescentInactive or dormantThe volcano has been quiescent for decades.QuipA witty or sarcastic remarkHe ended the speech with a clever quip.QuixotismThe pursuit of lofty but impractical idealsHis life was driven by a sense of romantic quixotism. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleRampantSpreading unchecked, usually something negativeCorruption was rampant in the organization.RealmA field or domain of activity or interestHe made significant contributions in the realm of science.RebukeExpress sharp disapproval or criticismThe teacher rebuked the student for being late.ReconnaissanceA military survey to gather informationThe troops carried out a reconnaissance mission before the attack.ReiterateTo say something again or repeatedlyLet me reiterate, we need this report by Monday.RejuvenateTo make someone or something look or feel better, younger, or more vitalA vacation will rejuvenate your spirit.RelegateTo assign to a lower rank or positionThe player was relegated to the bench after a poor performance.ReminiscentTending to remind one of somethingThe scent was reminiscent of her childhood.RemorseDeep regret or guilt for a wrong committedHe felt deep remorse after lying to his friend.RenaissanceA revival or renewed interest in somethingThe city is experiencing a cultural renaissance.RapportA close and harmonious relationshipThe teacher developed a strong rapport with her students.RaucousMaking a loud and harsh noiseThe party became too raucous and disturbed the neighbors.RecapitulateTo summarize or restate the main pointsLet me recapitulate the key findings of the report.RecalcitrantResisting authority or control; stubbornThe recalcitrant student refused to follow any rules.RedundantNo longer needed or useful; superfluousSome parts of the article were redundant and repetitive.RepercussionAn unintended consequence of an event or actionHis actions had serious repercussions on the company's future.RescindTo revoke or cancel officiallyThe offer was rescinded due to a policy change.ResilientAble to recover quickly from difficultiesChildren are often more resilient than adults.ReticentNot revealing one's thoughts or feelings readilyShe was reticent about her personal life.RhetoricPersuasive or impressive language, often with little meaningThe politician's speech was full of empty rhetoric. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleSagaciousWise; having keen judgmentThe sagacious leader made thoughtful decisions.SarcasmUse of irony to mock or convey contemptHis sarcasm often hurt people's feelings.SatireUse of humor or ridicule to criticizeThe novel is a brilliant satire on politics.ScornfulExpressing contempt or derisionShe gave him a scornful look and walked away.ScrutiniseExamine closely and thoroughlyPlease scrutinise the report for any errors.SemanticsThe meaning or interpretation of wordsThe debate turned into an argument over semantics.SeminalStrongly influencing later developmentsHis book is considered a seminal work in sociology.SerendipityThe occurrence of events by chance in a happy wayFinding that rare book was pure serendipity.SolaceComfort in sorrow or distressMusic brought her solace after the tragedy.SanctimoniousMaking a show of being morally superiorHis sanctimonious attitude annoyed everyone.SardonicGrimly mocking or cynicalHer sardonic smile revealed her true feelings.ScintillatingBrilliantly lively or cleverThe speaker gave a scintillating performance.SeditiousInciting rebellion against authorityThe seditious speech led to widespread unrest.SententiousGiven to moralizing in a pompous mannerHis sententious advice irritated the audience.SkulduggeryUnderhanded or unscrupulous behaviorThe business collapsed due to financial skulduggery.SpuriousNot genuine or authenticThe claim was dismissed as spurious and baseless.StoicEnduring pain without showing emotionHe remained stoic throughout the ordeal.SubservientObedient to an excessive degreeShe was too subservient to speak her mind.SuperciliousBehaving as if one is superiorHis supercilious manner offended many.SurreptitiousDone secretly to avoid noticeTheir surreptitious meeting went unnoticed. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleTabooProhibited or restricted by social customDiscussing money is often considered taboo in polite society.TactfulShowing sensitivity in dealing with othersShe was tactful in handling the delicate situation.TacticalRelating to strategy, especially in military or planned actionThe commander made a tactical retreat to save his troops.TangiblePerceptible by touch; real or concreteThe tension in the room was almost tangible.TantamountEquivalent in seriousness or meaningHis silence was tantamount to an admission of guilt.TauntTo provoke or challenge with insulting remarksThe bully continued to taunt the younger boy.TenetA principle or belief, especially one of a religion or philosophyFreedom of speech is a fundamental tenet of democracy.TenuousVery weak or slight; lacking substanceHis argument was based on tenuous evidence.TerminationThe act of ending somethingThe contract is up for termination at the end of the month.ThresholdThe starting point or level of somethingShe was on the threshold of a new career.TautologicalNeedlessly repetitiveSaying "free gift" is a tautological expression.TemerityExcessive confidence or boldnessHe had the temerity to question his manager's decision.TranscendTo rise above or go beyond the limitsHer music transcends all cultural boundaries.TrepidationA feeling of fear or agitation about something that may happenHe approached the exam with trepidation.TriteLacking originality or freshnessThe movie was filled with trite dialogue.TruculentAggressively defiant or hostileHis truculent attitude made him unpopular with peers.TumultuousMaking a loud, confused noise; uproariousThe crowd gave a tumultuous applause.TurpitudeDepraved or wicked behaviorThe scandal revealed the moral turpitude of the officials.TautStretched or pulled tight; emotionally strainedHer nerves were taut before the big performance.TenaciousHolding firmly to something; persistentShe is a tenacious advocate for animal rights. Difficult WordsMeaningsExampleUbiquitousPresent or found everywhereSmartphones are becoming ubiquitous in modern society.UnanimousFully in agreementThe committee reached a unanimous decision.UnbiasedShowing no prejudice or favoritismA good journalist must remain unbiased.UndauntedNot discouraged by difficulty or dangerShe remained undaunted in the face of adversity.UnilateralPerformed by or affecting only one sideThe country took unilateral action without consulting allies.UnravelTo undo or solve something complicatedThe detective worked to unravel the mystery.UpheavalA sudden or violent changeThe country went through political upheaval.UtilityUsefulness or practical valueThis tool has both utility and style.UtopianIdealistic or visionary, often unrealistically soHe proposed a utopian society without crime or poverty.UtteranceA spoken word, statement, or soundHis last utterance before fainting was a plea for help.UlteriorExisting beyond what is obvious or admittedHe had an ulterior motive for helping.UncannyStrange or mysterious, especially in an unsettling wayHer resemblance to the actress was uncanny.UnkemptHaving an untidy or disheveled app

shoulders to the hips. Base: The lowest part or edge of something, especially the part on which it rests or is supported. Behaviour: How one acts or conducts oneself, especially towards others. Belief: An acceptance that something exists or is true, especially one without proof. Birth: The emergence of a baby or other young from the body of its mother; the start of life as a physically separate being. Answer: A thing that is said, written, or done as a reaction to a question, statement, or situation. Approval: The belief that someone or something is good or acceptable. Bread: Food made of flour, water, and yeast mixture and baked. Breath: An inhalation or exhalation of air from the lungs. Brother: A man or boy concerning other sons and daughters of his parents. Building: It is a structure with a roof and walls, such as a house or factory. Burn: (Of a fire) produces flames and heat while consuming a material such as coal or wood. Business: It refers to a person's regular occupation, profession, or trade. Butter: It is a pale yellow edible fatty substance made by churning cream and used as a spread or in cooking. Current: Belonging to the present time; happening or being used or done now. Damage: Physical harm that impairs the value, usefulness, or normal function of something. Danger: The possibility of suffering harm or injury. Daughter: A girl or woman concerning either or both of her parents. Day: Each of the twenty-four-hour periods, reckoned from one midnight to the next, into which a week, month, or year is divided, and corresponding to a rotation of the earth on its axis. Death: The action or fact of dying or being killed; the end of the life of a person or organism. Decision: A conclusion or resolution reached after consideration. Detail: An individual fact or item Development: The process of developing or being developed. Direction: A course along which someone or something moves. Comparison: A consideration or estimate of the similarities or dissimilarities between two things or people. Competition: The activity or condition of striving to gain or win something by defeating or establishing superiority over others. Connection: A relationship in which a person or thing is linked or associated with something else. Cook: To prepare (food, a dish, or a meal) by mixing, combining, and heating the ingredients. Country: A nation with its government, occupying a particular territory. Cover: To put something on top of or in front of (something), especially to protect or conceal it. Credit: A customer can obtain goods or services before payment, based on the trust that payment will be made in the future. Cry: To shed tears, typically as an expression of distress, pain, or sorrow. Care: The provision of what is necessary for the health, welfare, maintenance, and protection of someone or something. Cause: A person or thing that gives rise to an action, phenomenon, or condition. Chance: It is the probability of something desirable happening. Change: Make (someone or something) different; alter or modify. Cloth: A woven or felted fabric made from wool, cotton, or a similar fibre. Colour: The property possessed by an object of producing different sensations on the eye as a result of the way it reflects or emits light. Comfort: A state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint. Company: A commercial business. Art: The expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power. Attack: Take aggressive military action against (a place or enemy forces) with weapons or armed force. Attention: When a notice is taken of someone or something; the regarding of someone or something as interesting or important. Blood: The red liquid that circulates in the arteries and veins of humans and other vertebrate animals, carrying oxygen and carbon dioxide from the tissues of the body. Blow: (Of wind) move creating an air current. Body: The physical structure, including the bones, flesh, and organs, of a person or an animal. Account: A report or description of an event or experience OR a record or statement of financial expenditure and receipts relating to a particular period or purpose. Air: The invisible gaseous substance surrounding the earth, a mixture mainly of oxygen and nitrogen. Amount: A quantity of something, especially the total of a thing or things in number, size, value, or extent. Animal: A living organism that feeds on organic matter, typically having specialized sense organs and a nervous system and able to respond rapidly to stimuli. Check out the less commonly seen list of difficult words from A to Z, along with their meanings: Abscond – To leave hurriedly and secretly. Acrimonious – Angry and bitter in speech or debate. Bellicose – Demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight. Brouhaha – A noisy and over excited reaction to something. Cacography – Bad handwriting or spelling. Cynosure – A person or thing that is the center of attention. Descry – To catch sight of something. Diaphanous – Light, delicate, and translucent. Eleemosynary – Relating to charity; charitable. Fecund – Capable of producing an abundance of offspring or new growth. Gambit – A remark intended to gain an advantage. Hapless – Unfortunate or unlucky. Inchoate – Just begun and not fully formed; rudimentary. Juggernaut – A huge, powerful, and overwhelming force or institution. Knell – The sound of a bell, especially when rung solemnly for a death or funeral. Lugubrious – Looking or sounding sad and dismal. Mawkish – Sentimental in a feeble or sickly way. Nugatory – Of no value or importance. Obstreperous – Noisy and difficult to control. Perspicacious – Having a ready insight into and understanding of things. Quotidian – Occurring every day; commonplace. Recalcitrant – Having an uncooperative attitude toward authority or discipline. Sartorial – Relating to tailoring, clothes, or style of dress. Truculent – Eager or quick to argue or fight; aggressively defiant. Urbane – Suave, courteous, and refined in manner. Vicissitude – A change of circumstances or fortune, typically one that is unwelcome. Welkin – The sky or heaven. Xylography – The art of engraving on wood. Yare – Quick, agile, and ready. Zealot – A person who is fanatical and uncompromising in pursuit of their ideals. 50+ Difficult Words with Meanings PDF 50 Difficult Words with Meanings in EnglishDownload As an English learner, you might notice a disconnect between pronunciation and spelling of certain difficult words. However, sometimes how you spell a difficult word has nothing to do with how you pronounce the words or vice versa. Most importantly, linguistically speaking, the graphemes (difficult written words) and phonemes (sounds) do not always coincide in English. Example of a few difficult English words: WordPronunciationAbrogate(AB-ruh-gayt)Aisle(ILE)Arrant(AIR-uhnt)Ballet(ba-LAY)Buffet(BUF-it / bu-FAY)Discrepancy(dis-KREP-uhn-see)Debris(deh-BREE)Epitome(ih-PIT-uh-mee)Encumber(en-KUM-ber)Habilimented(huh-BIL-uh-men-tid)Lieutenant(lef-TEN-uhnt / loo-TEN-uhnt)Mortgage(MOR-gij)Orthography(or-THOG-ruh-fee)Onomatopoeia(on-uh-mat-uh-PEE-uh)Phonetics(fuh-NET-iks)Psychic(SIGH-kik)Quay(KEY) The reason this happens is only because English language uses many borrowed words different languages such as French, Latin, German or Greek. Moreover, it makes the English language more difficult and confusing, as one letter can make a lot of different sounds and the same letters of English language can be pronounced differently in different English words. Good job! How many of these 50+ Difficult Words with Meanings do you remember? No, don't peep. Be honest. It's okay even if you remember none of these hard words for now. The task of making yourself familiar with the new difficult words, especially those that we don't use in our everyday conversations can seem impossible and exhaustive, but fret not for a few simple tricks can help you go a long way. Our brain tends to be more active and retains information better when learning is enjoyable. Although mastering difficult English words with meaning can feel tedious, you can transform the process into a fun activity. One creative method is to make placards with your friend and add challenging words. After that, test each other's knowledge. This playful competition helps make learning interactive and keeps everyone engaged. Whether you're preparing for an exam or enhancing your vocabulary, interactive learning methods make the task more exciting and productive. Below, we have given a few tips to learn difficult English words with meaning. Please have a look. Learn to become a voracious reader A dictionary should be your best friend Say out words loudly and clearly Create a mental image to fix hard words in your mind Implement whatever you have learned Practice Sentence Formation Study and review hard words every day Play games like Scrabble and Boggle to test your vocabulary Une new words in your day-to-day life If group activities don't seem like the ideal situation for you, you can make lists of the difficult words and revise them before going to bed, our brain tends to revise the things we learn and observe through the day while we sleep so this might help you learn better. Here are some reasons why you must improve your vocabulary: Developing your vocabulary will sharpen your mind. Knowing the correct word can help you express your thoughts more accurately. Developing your vocabulary is a great way to improve your communication skills. Study abroad tests such as GRE, GMAT, IELTS, TOEFL, PTE, SAT, etc. include vocabulary sections to test your English proficiency. Hence, practising vocabulary daily can help you score well on these tests. Some difficult words in English can be a pest for everyone, whether it be a native speaker or a new learner. There are multiple tough words in the language which are troublesome. It becomes impossible to get a hold of these words, especially for those who are preparing for competitive exams. Students, however, invent new techniques to ease the learning process like using music to learn new words or making flashcards with hard words on one side and meaning on the other. Another fascinating method for memorizing difficult words is to associate a story around it as remembering the story is much easier than retaining the meaning of a tough word. We know that for all those who wish to pursue an education abroad or even appear for entrances, you must fare well in the verbal ability section of the test, it can seem like a never-ending task-learning new difficult words and their meanings, so we have curated a list of few difficult words that can give you an edge over others while you prepare for your SAT/ACT or GMAT/GRE as well as IELTS/TOEFL/PTE. This list is also going to help students with English for competitive exams. Even those who enjoy the English language or wish to improve their vocabulary can go through our list and learn 50 Difficult Words with Meanings. The Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) mainly comprises 4 sections: Quantitative Reasoning, Verbal Reasoning, Analytical Writing, and Integrated Reasoning. A thorough English vocabulary is a must to score on 3 of these sections of the GMAT syllabus, with only the quantitative section relying more on your mathematical and logical skills. In the various sections of the GMAT exam pattern, students are assessed on their ability to read and understand the written material and apply those to the subsequent questions to conform to standard written English. Moreover, GMAT verbal reasoning questions and critical reasoning problems imperatively evaluate one's knowledge of English proficiency in terms of reasoning and analytical skills. Why do you want to limit yourself to only 50 difficult words? Become a master of vocabulary with the help of reference books. Here is a list of some best-selling vocabulary books that can help you to ace the word meaning section of any competitive exam: Reference BooksLink1100 Words You Need to Know by Murray Brombert, Melvin GordonClick Here, to get your copy!Word Power Made Easy by Norman LewisClick Here, to get your copy!Verbal Advantage: Ten Easy Steps to a Powerful Vocabulary by Charles Harrington ElsterClick Here, to get your copy!The Vocabulary Builder Workbook by Chris LeleClick Here, to get your copy!Six Weeks to Words of Power by Wilfred FunkClick Here, to get your copy!Little Red Book of Word Power by Terry O'BrienClick Here, to get your copy!Merriam-Webster's Vocabulary Builder by Mary Wood CornogClick Here, to get your copy!Instant Word Power by Norman LewisClick Here, to get your copy! Related Posts Ques: What are the 20 difficult words with meaning? Ans: The 20 difficult words with meaning are :Asperity: Being harsh or rough in attitude or behaviourArtless: Simple and sincere, without trying to deceiveBelie: To hide the truth or give a false impressionByzantine: Extremely complex and hard to navigateByzantine: Very complicated and difficult to understandBlithe: Acting without care or concern about the consequencesCajole: To persuade someone using praise or gentle encouragementConciliate: To calm someone down or win them overChauvinism: The belief that your country or group is superior to othersCharred: Burned so badly that it turns blackChasten: To make someone regret their actions through correction or punishmentDemagogue: A leader who gains support by appealing to emotions and prejudicesEmbourgeoisement: The process of becoming middle-class in behavior or valuesIconoclast: A person who questions or criticizes traditional beliefs or institutionsIrregardless: A nonstandard word people use incorrectly to mean "regardless"Sesquipedalian: Describing words that are unnecessarily long or complicatedPuissant: Having great power or influenceQuisling: A person who betrays their country by collaborating with an enemyTergiversation: The act of being indecisive or changing opinions frequentlyUntoward: Unexpectedly troublesome or unfavorable Ques: What are some difficult words with meaning? Ans: Here are the 10 most difficult English words with their meaning:Aberration: Deviation from what is typical or expected, often resulting in a deviation from the normal course.Belligerent: Hostile and aggressive; eager to fight or engage in conflict.Cacophony: A harsh, discordant mixture of sounds that is often unpleasant to hear.Debilitate: To weaken or impair the strength or vitality of someone or something.Ebullient: Full of enthusiasm or enthusiasm; Vibrant and expressive.Fastidious: Paying close attention to detail; difficult to please due to high standards.Garrulous: Excessive talkative, especially on small matters.Harangue: A lengthy and aggressive speech or lecture aimed at criticizing or persuading.Ineffable: Too extraordinary or extreme to express in words; Indescribable.Juxtapose: To place different elements side by side for comparison or contrast. Ques: Which are the difficult words in English? Ans: Words that are hard to read, write, spell and understand are considered to be difficult words in English. Ques: Do all words have vowels? Ans: No, not all words need to have vowels. Here are some examples to show the same – Mythm, Sync, Rhythm, Hymn, etc. Ques: Which is the best way to remember difficult words for a longer period? Ans: Students should always read, write, and learn the words before attempting to put them together in sentences. Ques: What are 20 tricky words with meaning? Ans: Here are 20 tricky words with meaning:Aplomb: Composure and self-assurance, particularly in challenging circumstances.Brouhaha: An overexcited reaction to a minor issue.Cacophony: A jarring mix of sounds that is harsh and unpleasant to hear.Debacle: A sudden and complete failure or collapse, often in a dramatic manner.Ephemeral: Existing or occurring for only a brief period; temporary and short-lived.Fatuous: Silly or meaningless; Lack of intelligence or understanding.Garrulous: Talkative to an excessive degree, especially about trivial matters.Hegemony: Dominance or leadership of one group over others, often in a political or cultural context.Ineffable: Too great or extreme to be expressed in words; indescribable or beyond comprehension.Juxtapose: To place two or more elements close together for contrasting effect or comparison.Kowtow: To act in a highly subordinate manner; To show proper respect.Lethargy: inactivity, lack of energy or enthusiasm.Mellifluous: Smooth and sweet-sounding; pleasing to hear.Nefarious: Wicked or criminal; villainous in nature.Obfuscate: To make something unclear or confusing; to obscure meaning or intent.Petrichor: The pleasant, earthy smell that arises after rain falls on dry soil.Quixotic: Extremely idealistic or romantic, often to the point of being impractical.Recidivism: The tendency of a convicted criminal to re-offend or engage in criminal behaviour.Surreptitious: Done in a secret or stealthy way; kept hidden, often to avoid notice.Tautology: A phrase or expression that repeats the same idea in different words, often unnecessarily. Ques: What is a 29 letter word? Ans: "floccinaucinihilipilification"This word means "the act of describing or regarding something as unimportant or worthless." It's one of the longest non-technical words in the English language and is often used as an example in vocabulary discussions. Ques: What are some of the most difficult English words? Ans: Some of the most difficult English words include "antidisestablishmentarianism," "floccinaucinihilipilification," "sesquipedalian," and "pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis." These words are hard to pronounce, spell, or both. Ques: Why are some English words considered difficult to pronounce? Ans: Words are difficult to pronounce because of complex phonetic patterns, unusual letter combinations, silent letters, or foreign origins. Examples include "colonel," which is pronounced "ker-nul," and "choir," pronounced "kwire." Ques: How can I improve my vocabulary with difficult English words? Ans: To improve vocabulary, practice reading challenging texts, use flashcards, learn words in context, and regularly engage with new words through writing and speaking. Ques: What is the meaning of the word "antidisestablishmentarianism"? Ans: "Antidisestablishmentarianism" refers to the opposition to the disestablishment of a state church, specifically in 19th-century Britain, where some opposed the separation of church and state. Ques: Can difficult English words be simplified? Ans: Yes, many difficult words have simpler synonyms. For example, instead of "antidisestablishmentarianism," you could say "opposition to church-state separation," which conveys the same meaning. Ques: What is the meaning of the word "floccinaucinihilipilification"? Ans: "Floccinaucinihilipilification" refers to the action or habit of describing or regarding something as unimportant, or having little or no value. Ques: Are there any English words that are difficult to spell and pronounce at the same time? Ans: Yes, words like "pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis" and "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" are difficult both to spell and pronounce due to their length and complex structure. Ques: How do difficult English words affect communication? Ans: While using difficult words can show expertise, they may hinder communication if the audience is unfamiliar with them. It's important to strike a balance between sophisticated vocabulary and clarity. Ques: What are some difficult English words with multiple meanings? Ans: Words like "bark" (the outer covering of a tree or the sound a dog makes), "lead" (to guide or a type of metal), and "tear" (to rip or a drop of liquid from the eyes) can have multiple meanings based on context. Ques: What is the easiest way to remember difficult English words? Ans: The best way to remember difficult words is through repetition, associating them with images or contexts, using them in sentences, and breaking them down into smaller parts. Ques: Why do English learners struggle with difficult words? Ans: English learners struggle with difficult words due to irregular spelling and pronunciation, inconsistent rules, and the influence of other languages. The large number of synonyms and homophones can also be confusing. What is the 45 longest word in English? A 45-letter word in the English language is Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis. The word is 45 words long. It refers to a lung disease. What is a 190000 letter word? The chemical name for the protein titin is the "longest word. That is, the full form of the word titin. The word has around 189,819 letters, We hope this list of 50 difficult words with meanings and sentences in English helps you in your test preparation. If you wish to seek further guidance on your test preparation regarding English language, make sure to check out TOEFL and Learn English category of Leverage Edu. Think you've mastered the English language? How charming. Welcome to a vocabulary guide that will challenge even the most self-proclaimed wordsmiths. Prepare to master words that will make your autocorrect surrender and your friends suspect you swallowed a dictionary. Ready to level up? (This post may have affiliate links. Please see my full disclosure) I made this image with AI — Vocabulary Words Let's start with this list of easy vocabulary words. Able: Having the power, skill, or means to do something. About: On the subject of; concerning. Above: At a higher level or layer. Accept: To receive willingly. Across: From one side to the other. Act: To take action or do something. Add: To combine or join together. Afraid: Feeling fear or anxiety. After: Following in time or order. Again: Once more; another time. Age: The length of time a person has lived. Agree: To have the same opinion. Air: The invisible gaseous substance surrounding the earth. All: The whole quantity or extent. Allow: To give permission for something. Almost: Not quite; very nearly. Alone: Having no one else present. Along: Moving in a constant direction on. Already: Before or by now. Also: In addition; too. Always: At all times; on all occasions. Am: First person singular present of "be." Among: Surrounded by; in the company of. An: Indefinite article used before a vowel sound. And: Used to connect words of the same part of speech. Angry: Feeling strong annoyance or displeasure. Animal: A living organism that feeds on organic matter. Another: One more; an additional one. Answer: A reaction to a question. Any: Refers to one or more items or elements within a group or quantity, without specifying which ones. Anyone: Any person or people. Anything: Used to refer to a thing, no matter what. Are: Second person singular and plural and first and third person plural present of "be." Around: Located on every side. Ask: To say something in order to obtain an answer. At: Expressing location or arrival in a particular place. Away: To or at a distance from a particular place. Baby: A very young child. Back: The rear surface of the body. Bad: Not good; of poor quality. Bag: A container made of flexible material. Ball: A round object used in games and sports. Bank: An institution in the financial sector that accepts deposits from clients and invests those funds. Bar: A place where alcoholic drinks are served. Base: The lowest part of something. Be: Exist. Beach: A pebbly or sandy shore. Bear: A large heavy mammal with thick fur. Beat: To strike repeatedly. Beautiful: Pleasing the senses or mind aesthetically. Because: For the reason that. Become: Begin to be. Bed: A piece of furniture for sleep or rest. Been: Past participle of "be." Before: During the period of time preceding. Begin: Start; perform or undergo the first part of an action. Behind: At or to the far side of something. Believe: Accept something as true. Best: Of the most excellent quality. Better: Of a more excellent or effective type. Between: At, into, or across the space separating two objects. Big: Of considerable size or extent. Bird: A warm-blooded egg-laying vertebrate distinguished by feathers. Bit: A small piece or amount. Black: Of the very darkest color. Blood: The red liquid circulating in the arteries and veins. Blue: Of a color intermediate between green and violet. Boat: A small vessel for traveling over water. Body: The physical structure of a person or animal. Book: A written or printed work consisting of pages. Both: Used to refer to two things. Box: A container with flat sides and a lid. Boy: A male child or youth. Bring: Take or go with to a place. Brother: A man or boy in relation to other sons and daughters of his parents. Build: Construct by putting parts together. Burn: To be on fire. Business: A person's regular occupation or trade. But: A word used to introduce something that contrasts with what was just said. Buy: To obtain in exchange for payment. By: Identifying the agent performing an action. Call: To give a name to someone or something. Came: Past tense of "come." Can: Be able to. Cannot: Contraction of "can not"; unable to. Car: A road vehicle powered by an engine. Care: The provision of what is necessary for health or welfare. Carry: Support and move from one place to another. Case: An instance of a particular situation. Catch: Intercept and hold. Cause: A person or thing that gives rise to an action. Center: The middle point of something. Certain: Known for sure; established beyond doubt. Change: To make or become different. Check: Examine something to determine its accuracy. Child: A young human being below the age of puberty. Children: Plural of "child." Choice: An act of selecting between two or more possibilities. Choose: Pick out or select. City: A large town. Class: A group of students taught together. Clean: Free from dirt or impurities. Clear: Easy to perceive or understand. Close: Move so as to cover an opening. Cold: Of or at a low temperature. Color: The property possessed by an object of producing different sensations on the eye. Come: Move or travel toward. Common: Occurring, found, or done often. Company: A commercial business. Complete: Having all necessary parts. Condition: The state of something. Consider: Think carefully about. Continue: Persist in an activity. Control: The power to influence behavior. Copy: A thing made to be similar to another. Corn: A cereal plant. Correct: Free from error. Could: Past tense of "can." Country: A nation with its own government. Course: The route or direction followed. Cover: Place something over. Create: Bring into existence. Cross: A mark or object formed by two intersecting lines. Cry: Shed tears. Cup: A small bowl-shaped container for drinking. Cut: Make an opening with a sharp tool. Dad: Informal term for father. Daily: Done every day. Dance: Move rhythmically to music. Dark: With little or no light. Date: A particular day. Daughter: A female child. Day: A 24-hour period. Dead: No longer alive. Deal: Distribute cards in a game. Dear: Regarded with deep affection. Death: The end of life. Decide: Make a choice. Deep: Extending far down. Degree: The amount or level. Depend: Rely on. Describe: Give an account in words. Design: A plan or drawing. Detail: An individual feature. Develop: Grow or cause to grow. Did: Past tense of "do." Die: Stop living. Difference: A point or way in which things are dissimilar. Different: Not the same. Difficult: Needing much effort. Dinner: The main meal of the day. Direction: A course along which someone moves. Do: Perform an action. Doctor: A person qualified to practice medicine. Dog: A domesticated carnivorous mammal. Door: A hinged barrier for closing an opening. Down: Toward or in a lower place. Draw: Produce a picture. Dream: A series of thoughts during sleep. Dress: A one-piece garment. Drink: Take liquid into the mouth. Drive: Operate and control a vehicle. Drop: Let or make something fall. Dry: Free from moisture. During: Throughout the course of. Each: Every one of two or more people. Ear: The organ of hearing. Early: Happening or done before the usual time. Earth: The planet on which we live. East: The direction where the sun rises. Easy: Achieved without great effort. Eat: Put food into the mouth and chew. Education: The process of receiving instruction. Effect: A change resulting from an action. Egg: An oval object laid by a female bird. Eight: One more than seven. Either: One or the other of two. Electric: Powered by electricity. Eleven: One more than ten. Else: In addition; besides. End: The final part. Enough: As much as required. Equal: Being the same in quantity or size. Even: Flat and smooth. Evening: The period of time at the end of the day. Ever: At any time. Every: All possible; each one. Everyone: Every person. Everything: All things. Exact: Not approximated; precise. Example: A thing characteristic of its kind. Eye: The organ of sight. Face: The front part of a person's head. Fact: A thing that is known to be true. Fail: Be unsuccessful. Fall: Move downward. Family: A group of related people. Far: At a great distance. Farm: An area of land for growing crops. Fast: Moving at high speed. Father: A male parent. Feel: Be aware of through touch. Feet: Plural of "foot." Few: A small number of. Field: An area of open land. Fight: Take part in a violent struggle. Figure: A number or amount. Fill: Cause to become full. Final: Coming at the end. Find: Discover by searching. Fine: Of high quality. Finger: Each of the four slender jointed parts attached to either hand. Finish: Bring to an end. Fire: Combustion releasing heat and light. First: Coming before all others. Fish: A limbless cold-blooded vertebrate animal with gills. Five: One more than four. Floor: The lower surface of a room. Fly: Move through the air. Follow: Come after in time or order. Food: Any nutritious substance that people eat. Foot: The lower extremity of the leg. For: Intended to belong to. Force: Strength or energy. Forget: Fail to remember. Form: The visible shape. Found: Past tense of "find." Four: One more than three. Free: Not under the control of another. Friend: A person with whom one has a bond. From: Indicating the point in space at which a journey starts. Front: The side that faces forward. Full: Containing as much as possible. Game: An activity for amusement. Garden: A piece of ground for growing flowers. Gather: Come together; assemble. General: Affecting or concerning all. Girl: A female child. Give: Freely transfer possession. Glass: A hard brittle substance. Go: Move from one place to another. God: A supreme being. Gold: A precious yellow metal. Good: To be desired or approved of. Great: Of an extent, amount, or intensity considerably above average. Green: Of the color between blue and yellow. Ground: The solid surface of the earth. Group: A number of people or things. Grow: Undergo natural development. Hair: Any of the fine threadlike strands growing from the skin. Half: Either of two equal parts. Hand: The end part of a person's arm. Hang: Suspend or be suspended. Happen: Take place; occur. Happy: Feeling or showing pleasure. Hard: Solid, firm, and rigid. Have: Possess, own, or hold. He: Used to refer to a male person. Head: The upper part of the human body. Hear: Perceive with the ear. Heart: A hollow muscular organ that pumps blood. Heat: The quality of being hot. Heavy: Of great weight. Help: Make it easier for someone. Her: Used to refer to a female person. Here: In this place. High: Of great vertical extent. Hill: A naturally raised area of land. Him: Used to refer to a male person. His: Belonging to or associated with a male person. Hold: Grasp, carry, or support with one's hands. Home: The place where one lives. Hope: A feeling of expectation. Horse: A large plant-eating domesticated mammal. Hot: Having a high degree of heat. Hour: A period of time equal to 60 minutes. House: A building for human habitation. How: In what way or manner. Human: Relating to or characteristic of people. Hundred: The number equivalent to ten times ten. Husband: A married man. I: Used by a speaker to refer to themselves. Idea: A thought or suggestion. If: Introducing a conditional clause. Important: Of great significance. In: Used to indicate that something is inside or within something else. Include: Comprise or contain. Inside: The inner side or surface. Into: Expressing movement or action. Iron: A strong, hard magnetic silvery-gray metal. Is: Third person singular present of "be." It: Used to refer to a thing previously mentioned. Its: Belonging to or associated with a thing. Join: Link or connect. Just: Based on or behaving according to what is morally right. Keep: Have or retain possession. Key: A small piece of shaped metal. Kill: Cause the death of. Kind: A group of people or things having similar characteristics. King: The male ruler of an independent state. Know: Be aware of through observation. Lady: A polite or formal way of referring to a woman. Land: The part of the earth's surface that is not covered by water. Language: The method of human communication. Large: Of considerable or relatively great size. Last: Coming after all others. Late: Doing something or taking place after the expected time. Laugh: Make spontaneous sounds expressing amusement. Law: The system of rules recognized by a country. Lay: Put down gently. Lead: Cause to go with one. Learn: Gain or acquire knowledge. Leave: Go away from. Left: On, towards, or relating to the side of a human body. Leg: Each of the limbs on which a person or animal walks. Length: The measurement of something from end to end. Less: A smaller amount. Let: Not prevent or forbid. Letter: A character representing one or more sounds. Level: A horizontal plane or line. Lie: An intentionally false statement. Life: The existence of an individual human being. Light: The natural agent that stimulates sight. Like: Having the same characteristics. Line: A long, narrow mark. List: A number of connected items. Listen: Give attention to sound. Little: Small in size. Live: Remain alive. Local: Relating to a particular area. Long: Measuring a great distance. Look: Direct one's gaze. Lose: Be deprived of. Love: An intense feeling of deep affection. Low: Of less than average height. Machine: An apparatus using mechanical power. Made: Past participle of "make." Main: Chief in size or importance. Make: Form something by putting parts together. Man: An adult human male. Many: A large number of. Mark: A small area on a surface. Market: A regular gathering of people for the purchase and sale of provisions. May: Expressing possibility. Me: Used by a speaker to refer to himself or herself. Mean: Intend to convey. Measure: Ascertain the size or amount. Meat: The flesh of an animal. Meet: Come into the presence of. Men: Plural of "man." Method: A particular form of procedure. Middle: At an equal distance from the extremities. Might: Past tense of "may." Mind: The element of a person that enables them to be aware. Minute: A period of time equal to sixty seconds. Miss: Fail to hit, reach, or come into contact with. Modern: Relating to the present. Moment: A very brief period of time. Money: A medium of exchange. Month: Each of the twelve named periods. More: A greater or additional amount. Morning: The period from sunrise to noon. Most: Greatest in amount. Mother: A woman in relation to her child. Mountain: A large natural elevation. Move: Go in a specified direction. Much: A great amount. Music: Vocal or instrumental sounds. Must: Be obliged to. Name: A word by which a person is known. Nation: A large body of people united. Natural: Existing in or caused by nature. Near: At or to a short distance away. Need: Require because it is essential. Never: At no time in the past or future. New: Not existing before. Next: Coming immediately after. Night: The period from sunset to sunrise. No: Not any. None: Not any. North: The direction towards the point of the horizon. Not: Used to express the negative. Note: A brief record of points. Nothing: Not anything. Notice: Attention; observation. Now: At the present time. Number: An arithmetical value. Object: A material thing. Observe: Notice or perceive. Of: Expressing the relationship between a part and a whole. Off: Away from the place in question. Offer: Present something for acceptance. Office: A room for administrative work. Often: Frequently. Oh: An expression of surprise or understanding. Oil: A viscous liquid. Old: Having lived for a long time. On: Physically in contact with. Once: On one occasion. One: The lowest cardinal number. Only: And no one or nothing more besides. Open: Allowing access. Operate: Control the functioning of. Opportunity: A chance to do something. Or: Used to link alternatives. Order: The arrangement of people or things. Other: Used to refer to a person or thing that is different. Our: Belonging to or associated with the speaker. Out: Moving or appearing to move away. Over: Extending directly upwards. Own: Possess; admit or acknowledge. Page: One side of a sheet of paper. Paint: A colored substance spread over a surface. Paper: Material manufactured in thin sheets. Parent: A person's father or mother. Part: A piece or segment. Party: A social gathering. Pass: Move or cause to move. Past: Gone by in time. Pay: Give money that is due. Peace: Freedom from disturbance. People: Human beings in general. Perhaps: Used to express uncertainty. Period: A length of time. Person: A human being. Picture: A painting or drawing. Piece: A portion of an object. Place: A particular position. Plan: A detailed proposal. Plant: A living organism. Play: Engage in activity for enjoyment. Point: A particular spot. Police: The civil force of a state. Political: Relating to the government. Poor: Lacking sufficient money. Position: A place where someone is located. Possible: Able to be done. Power: The ability to do something. Prepare: Make ready for use. Present: In a particular place. Press: Apply pressure to. Price: The amount of money expected. Private: Belonging to or for the use of one person. Probable: Likely to be the case. Problem: A matter regarded as unwelcome. Process: A series of actions. Produce: Make or manufacture. Product: An article or substance. Program: A planned series of events. Project: An individual or collaborative enterprise. Property: A thing or things belonging to someone. Provide: Make available. Public: Open to or shared by all people. Pull: Exert force to move something. Push: Exert force to move something away. Put: Move to or place in a particular position. Question: A sentence worded to elicit information. Quick: Moving fast. Quiet: Making little or no noise. Race: A competition between runners. Radio: The transmission of programs. Rain: Moisture condensed from the atmosphere. Raise: Lift or move to a higher position. Range: The area of variation. Rate: A measure, quantity, or frequency. Rather: Used to indicate preference. Reach: Stretch out an arm. Read: Look at and comprehend. Ready: Prepared for use. Real: Actually existing. Reason: A cause or explanation. Receive: Be given or presented with. Recent: Having happened not long ago. Record: A thing constituting a piece of evidence. Red: Of a color at the end of the spectrum. Remain: Continue to exist. Remember: Have in or be able to bring to one's mind. Remove: Take away. Report: Give a spoken or written account. Represent: Be entitled or appointed to act. Require: Need for a particular purpose. Research: The systematic investigation. Resource: A stock or supply. Respond: Say something in reply. Rest: Cease work or movement. Result: A consequence or outcome. Return: Come or go back. Rice: A swamp grass. Rich: Having a great deal of money. Right: Morally good. Rise: Move from a lower position. Road: A wide path that goes from one place to another. Rock: The solid mineral material. Role: An actor's part in a play. Room: Space that can be occupied. Rule: One of a set of explicit regulations. Run: Move at a speed faster than a walk. Safe: Protected from or not exposed to danger. Same: Identical; not different. Save: Keep safe or rescue. Next up, hard vocabulary words for when language gets a little more tricky. Abase: To lower in rank, prestige, or esteem. Aberration: A departure from what is normal or expected. Abet: To encourage or assist someone to do something wrong. Abjure: To renounce a belief, cause, or claim formally. Abrogate: To repeal or do away with a law or formal agreement. Accede: To agree to a demand or request. Accolade: An expression of praise or admiration. Accretion: The process of growth or increase by gradual addition. Acumen: The ability to make good judgments and quick decisions. Admonish: To warn or reprimand someone firmly. Adroit: Skillful and clever in using the hands or mind. Adulation: Excessive admiration or praise. Aegis: Protection or support of a particular person or organization. Affable: Friendly, good-natured, or easy to talk to. Aggrandize: To increase the power, status, or wealth of. Alacrity: Brisk and cheerful readiness. Altruism: Selfless concern for the well-being of others. Ameliorate: To make something better or more tolerable. Amorphous: Without a clearly defined shape or form. Anachronism: Something belonging to a period other than in which it exists. Antipathy: A deep-seated feeling of aversion or dislike. Apathetic: Showing or feeling no interest or enthusiasm. Aplomb: Self-confidence or assurance, especially in a demanding situation. Apocryphal: Of doubtful authenticity, although widely circulated as true. Apropos: Very appropriate to a particular situation. Ardor: Enthusiasm or passion. Arrogate: To take or claim without justification. Ascendancy: Occupation of a position of dominant power or influence. Ascetic: Characterized by severe self-discipline and abstention from indulgence. Asperity: Harshness of tone or manner. Aspersion: A negative comment that harms someone's reputation. Assiduous: Showing great care and perseverance. Assuage: To make an unpleasant feeling less intense. Astringent: Sharp or severe in manner or style. Atrophy: The wasting away or decline of effectiveness due to underuse. Augury: A sign of what will happen in the future; an omen. Auspicious: Conducive to success; favorable. Avarice: Extreme greed for wealth or material gain. Aver: To state or assert to be the case. Baleful: Threatening harm; menacing. Banal: Boring and unoriginal. Beguile: To charm someone in a tricky or misleading way. Belie: To fail to give a true impression; to disguise. Bellicose: Demonstrating aggression and willingness to fight. Benign: Gentle and kindly; not harmful in effect. Bilious: Bad-tempered; spiteful. Blight: A thing that spoils or damages something. Blithe: Showing a casual indifference considered to be callous. Boorish: Rough and bad-mannered; coarse. Bromide: A trite statement intended to soothe or placate. Brook: To tolerate or allow. Bucolic: Relating to the pleasant aspects of the countryside. Burnish: To polish something by rubbing. Byzantine: Excessively complicated and intricate. Cacophony: A harsh, discordant mixture of sounds. Cadge: To ask for or obtain something to which one is not strictly entitled. Calumny: The making of false statements to damage someone's reputation. Canard: An unfounded rumor or story. Candid: Truthful and straightforward; frank. Capricious: Given to sudden changes of mood or behavior. Castigate: To reprimand someone severely. Cathartic: Providing psychological relief through open expression. Censure: To express severe disapproval. Chary: Cautiously or suspiciously reluctant to do something. Chicanery: The use of trickery to achieve a purpose. Churlish: Rude in a mean-spirited way. Circuitous: Longer than the most direct way. Circumscribe: To restrict within limits. Circumspect: Wary and unwilling to take risks. Clandestine: Kept secret or done secretively. Clemency: Mercy; lenience. Coalesce: To come together to form one mass or whole. Cogent: Clear, logical, and convincing. Commensurate: Corresponding in size or degree; proportionate. Compendium: A collection of concise but detailed information. Complaisant: Willing to please others; obliging. Compliant: Inclined to agree with others or obey rules. Conciliate: To stop someone from being angry; to placate. Concomitant: Naturally accompanying or associated. Conflagration: An extensive fire that destroys land or property. Confluence: The junction of two rivers; an act of merging. Confound: To cause surprise or confusion. Consummate: Showing a high degree of skill; perfect. Contentious: Causing or likely to cause an argument. Contiguous: Sharing a common border; touching. Contrite: Feeling or expressing remorse. Conundrum: A confusing and difficult problem. Convivial: Friendly, lively, and enjoyable. Corroborate: To confirm or give support to a statement or theory. Cosset: To spoil someone by caring for them too much. Craven: Contemptibly lacking in courage. Credulous: Having too great a readiness to believe things. Culpable: Deserving blame. Cupidity: Greed for money or possessions. Curmudgeon: A bad-tempered or surly person. Cursory: Hasty and therefore not thorough. Daunt: To make someone feel intimidated. Dearth: A scarcity or lack of something. Debacle: A sudden and ignominious failure. Debilitate: To make someone weak. Decorum: Behavior in keeping with good taste. Deference: Humble submission and respect. Deleterious: Causing harm or damage. Demagogue: A leader who seeks support by appealing to desires. Demur: To raise doubts or objections. Denigrate: To criticize unfairly. Denizen: An inhabitant or occupant. Deprecate: To express disapproval of. Deride: To express contempt for; ridicule. Desiccate: To remove moisture from. Desultory: Lacking a plan or purpose. Deterrent: Something that discourages an action. Diaphanous: Light, delicate, and translucent. Diatribe: A forceful and bitter verbal attack. Didactic: Intended to teach. Diffident: Modest or shy due to a lack of confidence. Dilatory: Slow to act. Disabuse: To persuade someone that an idea is mistaken. Discern: To perceive or recognize something. Discomfit: To make someone feel uneasy. Discordant: Disagreeing or incongruous. Disparate: Essentially different in kind. Dissemble: To conceal one's true motives. Dissolute: Lax in morals; licent

To place close together for contrasting effect. Laconic: Using very few words; concise. Loquacious: Tending to talk a great deal; talkative. Magnanimous: Very generous or forgiving. Maladroit: Ineffective or bungling; clumsy. Maudlin: Self-pityingly or tearfully sentimental. Mellifluous: Sweet or musical; pleasant to hear. Meticulous: Showing great attention to detail. Myriad: A countless or extremely great number. Nadir: The lowest point in the fortunes of a person. Nascent: Just coming into existence. Nebulous: In the form of a cloud or haze; vague. Neophyte: A person who is new to a subject. Obdurate: Stubbornly refusing to change one's opinion. Obsequious: Obedient to an excessive degree. Ostensible: Stated or appearing to be true, but not necessarily so. Ostentatious: Characterized by pretentious display. Palimpsest: A manuscript on which the original writing has been effaced to make room for later writing. Panacea: A solution for all difficulties. Paragon: A perfect example of something. Pedagogue: A teacher, especially a strict one. Pedantic: Overly concerned with minute details. Perfunctory: Carried out with minimal effort. Perspicaciously: Having a ready insight into things. Phlegmatic: Having an unemotional disposition. Platitude: A remark used too often to be interesting. Plethora: An excessive amount of something. Precipitous: Dangerously high or steep. Propensity: An inclination to behave a certain way. Pugnacious: Eager to argue or fight. Quagmire: A difficult or precarious situation. Recondite: Little known; abstruse. Redolent: Strongly reminiscent of something. Relegate: To consign to an inferior rank. Salient: Most noticeable or important. Sanguine: Optimistic in a bad situation. Sardonic: Grimly mocking or cynical. Scintillate: To emit flashes of light; sparkle. Serendipity: The occurrence of events by chance in a happy way. Solipsism: Theory that only the self is real. Somnolent: Sleepy; drowsy. Spurious: Not genuine; false. Stentorian: Loud and powerful voice. Stolid: Calm, dependable, showing little emotion. Supercilious: Behaving as though superior. Surreptitious: Kept secret due to disapproval. Sycophant: A person who acts overly obedient toward someone important. Tantamount: Equivalent in seriousness. Temerity: Excessive confidence; audacity. Trepidation: A feeling of fear about something. Truculent: Eager to argue or fight. Umbrage: Offense or annoyance. Unctuous: Excessively flattering. Untenable: Not able to be maintained. Vacillate: To be indecisive. Variegated: Exhibiting different colors. Vehement: Showing strong feeling. Venal: Showing susceptibility to bribery. Veracity: Conformity to facts; accuracy. Verbose: Using more words than needed. Vestige: A trace of something disappearing. Vicissitude: A change of circumstances. Vindicate: Clear of blame or suspicion. Vitriolic: Filled with bitter criticism. Vociferous: Vehement or clamorous. Voracious: Wanting or devouring great quantities. Welter: A large number of items in no order. Winsome: Attractive or appealing. Xenophile: An individual attracted to foreign cultures. Xeric: Containing little moisture; very dry. Zephyr: A soft gentle breeze. Zeitgeist: The defining spirit of a time. Abnegation: The act of rejecting something. Acrimonious: Angry and bitter. Apropos: Very appropriate to a particular situation. Asperity: Harshness of tone. Astringent: Causing the contraction of body tissues. Atavistic: Relating to ancestral characteristics. Augury: A sign of what will happen. Auspicious: Conducive to success. Austere: Severe or strict. Baleful: Threatening harm. Beguiling: Charming in a deceptive way. Belie: Fail to give a true notion. Belligerent: Hostile and aggressive. Burgeon: Begin to grow rapidly. Burnish: Polish by rubbing. Buttress: A projecting support of stone or brick. Cadge: To ask for or obtain. Calumny: The making of false statements. Canard: An unfounded rumor. Capricious: Given to sudden changes of mood. Castigate: Reprimand severely. Caustic: Able to burn or corrode. Celerity: Swiftness of movement. Chary: Cautiously or suspiciously reluctant. Churlish: Rude in a mean-spirited way. Clandestine: Kept secret or done secretively. Cloying: Disgust with an excess of sweetness. Commensurate: Corresponding in size or degree. Compunction: A feeling of guilt. Concomitant: Naturally accompanying. Convivial: Friendly and lively. Cosset: Care for and protect. Craven: Contemptibly lacking in courage. Cupidity: Greed for money. Decorous: In keeping with good taste. Defenestrate: Throw out of a window. Denigrate: Criticize unfairly. Deprecate: Express disapproval of. Deride: Express contempt for. Descry: Catch sight of. Desiccate: Remove moisture. Desultory: Lacking a plan or purpose. Diatribe: A forceful verbal attack. Didactic: Intended to teach. Dilatory: Slow to act. Disabuse: Persuade that an idea is mistaken. Discomfit: Make someone feel uneasy. Discordant: Disagreeing or incongruous. Dissemble: Conceal true motives. Dissonance: Lack of harmony. Distend: Swell from inside. Divest: Deprive of power or possessions. Doggerel: Comic verse composed in irregular rhythm. Dogmatic: Inclined to lay down principles. Dross: Something regarded as worthless. Ebullience: The quality of being cheerful. Eclectic: Deriving ideas from various sources. Efface: Erase from a surface. Effete: Affected, overrefined. Effrontery: Insolent behavior. Egregious: Outstandingly bad. Egress: The action of going out. Emollient: Having the quality of softening. Encomium: A speech or piece of writing that praises. Enervate: Cause to feel drained. Entreat: Ask someone earnestly. Ephemeral: Lasting for a very short time. Equanimity: Mental calmness. Equivocate: Use ambiguous language. Evanescent: Soon passing out of sight. Exculpate: Show that someone is not guilty. Exigent: Pressing; demanding. Expiate: Atone for guilt or sin. Extant: Still in existence. Extirpate: Root out and destroy. Fallow: Inactive. Fatuous: Silly and pointless. Fawn: Give a servile display. Feckless: Lacking initiative. Fecund: Capable of producing offspring. Felicity: Intense happiness. Foment: Instigate. Forbearance: Patient self-control. Fortuitous: Happening by chance. Fractious: Irritable. Gainsay: Deny or contradict. Garrulous: Excessively talkative. Germane: Relevant to a subject. Grandiloquent: Pompous in style. Halcyon: Denoting a past happy period. Harangue: A lengthy aggressive speech. Hegemony: Leadership or dominance. Hermetic: Complete and airtight. Iconoclast: A person who attacks beliefs. Imbroglio: An extremely confused situation. Impecunious: Having little money. Impugn: Dispute the truth. Inchoate: Just begun. Indolent: Wanting to avoid activity. Ineluctable: Unable to be resisted. Inimical: Tending to harm. Iniquity: Immoral behavior. Innocuous: Not harmful. Insipid: Lacking flavor. Insouciant: Showing a lack of concern. Intransigent: Unwilling to change views. Inure: Accustom to something unpleasant. Inveterate: Having a long-established habit. Irascible: Easily angered. Itinerant: Traveling from place to place. Jejune: Naive, simplistic. Jettison: Throw or drop from an aircraft or ship. Juggernaut: A huge force. Kismet: Destiny; fate. Lachrymose: Tearful. Lackadaisical: Lacking enthusiasm. Laconic: Using very few words. Lambaste: Criticize harshly. Loquacious: Talkative. Lugubrious: Looking sad. Magnanimity: Generosity. Malinger: Exaggerate illness to escape duty. Mendacious: Not telling the truth. Alembic: An apparatus used in distillation; something that refines or transmutes as if by distillation. Antinomy: A contradiction between two beliefs or conclusions that are in themselves reasonable. Asseverate: To declare earnestly or solemnly; affirm positively. Autarky: Economic independence or self-sufficiency. Bailiwick: One's sphere of operations or area of interest. Bloviate: To speak pompously and at length. Borborygmus: A rumbling or gurgling noise in the intestines. Brummagem: Cheap, showy, or counterfeit. Caducity: The infirmity or weakness of old age; senility. Caitiff: A contemptible or cowardly person. Caliginous: Misty, dim; obscure or dark. Caterwaul: To make a shrill howling or wailing noise. Circumambient: Surrounding; encompassing on all sides. Clerisy: A distinct class of learned or literary people. Concatenate: To link together in a series or chain. Consanguineous: Relating to people descended from the same ancestor. Contumely: Insolent or insulting language or treatment. Crepitate: To make a crackling or popping sound. Delitescent: Hidden; latent. Deracinate: To uproot or remove from one's homeland. Diapason: A full, rich outpouring of harmonious sound. Dithyramb: A passionate or inflated speech, poem, or other writing. Ecumenical: Representing a number of different Christian churches; universal. Efflorescence: Blooming of flowers; state of flowering. Eidolon: An idealized person or thing; a specter or phantom. Embrangle: To embroil or entangle. Encomium: A speech or piece of writing that praises highly. Enervate: To cause someone to feel drained of energy; weaken. Epigone: A less distinguished follower or imitator. Eremitic: Relating to a hermit or recluse. Eructation: A belch. Exegesis: Critical explanation or interpretation of a text. Exiguous: Very small in size or amount; scanty. Farrago: A confused mixture; hodgepodge. Fustigate: To criticize severely; to cudgel. Garrulity: Excessive talkativeness. Harridan: A strict, bossy, or belligerent old woman. Heterodox: Not conforming with accepted standards or beliefs. Idempotent: Unchanged when multiplied by itself. Ineluctable: Impossible to avoid or escape. Inveigh: To speak or write about something with great hostility. Jactitation: Extremely restless tossing and twitching. Lacustrine: Relating to lakes. Largesse: Generosity in bestowing money or gifts. Logorrhea: Excessive and often incoherent talkativeness. Lucubration: Study or meditation, especially at night. Malapropism: The mistaken use of a word in place of a similar-sounding one. Marmoreal: Made of or likened to marble. Mephitic: Foul-smelling; noxious. Miasma: An unpleasant or unhealthy atmosphere. Mordacious: Denoting or using biting sarcasm or invective. Nepenthe: A drug or potion to induce forgetfulness of pain or sorrow. Nugatory: Of no value or importance. Obeisance: Deferential respect or homage. Obloquy: Strong public criticism. Opsimath: A person who begins to learn or study late in life. Otiose: Serving no practical purpose; idle. Peregrination: A journey, especially a long or meandering one. Peroration: The concluding part of a speech. Phlegmatic: Having an unemotional and stolidly calm disposition. Plenipotentiary: A person invested with full power to transact business. Pluvial: Relating to or characterized by rainfall. Procrustean: Enforcing uniformity without regard to natural variation. Prolegomenon: A critical or discursive introduction to a book. Propinquity: Nearness in place or time; proximity. Puerile: Childishly silly and trivial. Pusillanimous: Showing a lack of courage. Quaquaversal: Directed outward from a common center in all directions. Quisling: A traitor who collaborates with an enemy force. Ratiocination: The process of exact thinking; reasoning. Rebarbative: Unattractive and objectionable. Recrudescent: Breaking out anew or resurgent. Rodomontade: Boastful or inflated talk or behavior. Sartorial: Relating to tailoring or clothing. Sedulous: Showing dedication and diligence. Somniloquy: Talking in one's sleep. Splenetic: Bad-tempered; spiteful. Susurration: Whispering or rustling sound. Sybarite: A person devoted to luxury and pleasure. Sycophant: A person who acts obsequiously toward someone important. Tergiversate: To abandon a belief; to be evasive. Termagant: A harsh-tempered or overbearing woman. Thaumaturgy: The working of miracles or magic feats. Truculent: Eager or quick to argue or fight. Uxorious: Having or showing excessive fondness for one's wife. Weltanschauung: A particular philosophy or view of life. Whilom: Former; erstwhile. Xenophobia: Dislike or fear of people from other countries. Xeric: Characterized by or adapted to a dry environment. Xylography: The art of engraving on wood. Ylem: The primordial matter of the universe. Zaftig: (Of a woman) having a full, rounded figure. Zeugma: A figure of speech where a word applies to multiple parts. Zoilist: A person who is highly critical; a carping critic. Zugzwang: A situation in chess where a player is forced to make a disadvantageous move. Zymurgy: The study or practice of fermentation in brewing. Abecedarian: Arranged alphabetically; rudimentary. Absquatulate: To leave abruptly. Agelast: A person who never laughs. Aleatory: Dependent on luck or chance. Anacoluthon: A sentence that lacks grammatical sequence. Anathema: Something or someone detested. Anfractuous: Winding or circuitous. Apodictic: Clearly established or beyond dispute. Apotheosis: The highest point in development. Asseveration: A solemn or emphatic declaration. Bathos: An abrupt transition from the lofty to the commonplace. Bombination: A buzzing or humming noise. Cenotaph: A monument to someone buried elsewhere. Circumlocution: The use of many words where fewer would do. Concatenation: A series of interconnected things. Enhancing your vocabulary rapidly can be both an enjoyable and rewarding endeavor. A robust vocabulary not only improves your communication skills but also boosts your confidence in both personal and professional settings. Here are some effective strategies to help you expand your vocabulary quickly: Engage with Varied Materials: Dive into books, newspapers, journals, and online articles across different genres and subjects. Note New Words: Keep a notebook or use a digital app to jot down unfamiliar words you encounter. Contextual Learning: Try to understand the meaning of new words from the context before looking them up. Create Personalized Flashcards: Write the new word on one side and its definition and an example sentence on the other. Review Regularly: Go through your flashcards daily to reinforce your memory. Digital Flashcards: Utilize apps like Anki or Quizlet for convenient, on-the-go learning. Interactive Learning: Use apps like Memrise, Duolingo, or Vocabulary.com that gamify the learning process. Word Games: Engage in word puzzles like crosswords, Scrabble, or Wordle to make learning fun. Understand Word Formation: Familiarize yourself with common Latin and Greek roots to decipher unfamiliar words. Build Word Families: Recognize how different words are related through their roots. Daily Journaling: Write about your day using new vocabulary words. Creative Writing: Compose short stories or poems incorporating the words you've learned. Peer Feedback: Exchange writings with friends or mentors for constructive feedback. Use New Words: Incorporate recently learned vocabulary into your daily conversations. Join Discussion Groups: Participate in book clubs or debate societies to practice and hear diverse vocabularies. Language Exchange: Partner with someone who is also looking to improve their vocabulary. Daily Targets: Aim to learn a certain number of new words each day. Thematic Learning: Focus on specific themes or topics each week (e.g., technology terms, literary devices). Create Associations: Link new words to images, stories, or phrases that make them more memorable. Acronyms and Rhymes: Develop catchy acronyms or rhymes to aid recall. Explain Definitions: Teaching new words to someone else can reinforce your own understanding. Discussion Groups: Start a vocabulary group where members share and discuss new words. Regular Quizzing: Test yourself periodically on the words you've learned. Use Spaced Repetition: Review words at increasing intervals to move them into long-term memory. Reflect on Progress: Keep track of the words you've mastered to stay motivated. Media Consumption: Watch movies, listen to podcasts, and follow shows in the language you're learning. Subtitles and Transcripts: Use subtitles to match spoken words with their written form. Daily Learning: Use apps or websites that send you a new word every day. Immediate Application: Try to use the "word of the day" in conversation or writing. Watch this helpful video about how to get a better vocabulary fast: YouTube Video by Interactive English — Vocabulary Words Another way to improve your vocabulary is to subscribe to my email newsletter and read more of the word guides on this website. There are a ton of other vocabulary word lists for you to enjoy. More people succeed with IELTS -- the world's most trusted English test. The English language has a rich vocabulary with some very difficult words. Learn these words to improve your understanding of English. This list of 50 hard English words to spell and difficult synonyms will help you expand your vocabulary.Full list of 50 difficult English words and synonyms in 2023 © IELTS Partners. IELTS Partners defined as The British Council, IELTS Australia Pty. Ltd. and Cambridge English (part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment) English has many difficult words. It's important to note that the difficulty of a word depends on a person's level of familiarity with the language. However, some words can be considered difficult for their complex spelling, pronunciation, or meanings.In this article we will be discussing 100+ Difficult Words in English with Meaning and Sentences. Learn Spoken English with Aparna Mulberry! Enroll Here! Difficult words in English are words that are challenging to read, write, pronounce, or understand. The difficulty of a word can depend on factors such as its length, complexity, or unfamiliarity. For example, some English words may have complex meanings that are not understood by someone who is unfamiliar with them. Other words may have irregular spelling or be pronounced differently than they are spelled, making them difficult to read/write. Furthermore, some words may be considered difficult because they are technical terms or specific to a certain field or profession. For example, medical or scientific terms may be difficult for someone who is not familiar with the terminology. Similarly, legal terms or jargon used in the field of finance may be difficult for someone who doesn't work in those areas. When are the Words Considered Difficult? Words can be considered difficult in English for several reasons. Here are some common factors that contribute to the difficulty of a word: Complex spelling: Words with irregular spelling or many silent letters can be difficult to spell correctly. For example, "colonel" is pronounced "kernel." Pronunciation: English has many words that are pronounced differently than they are spelled, which can make them difficult to pronounce. For example, "schedule" can be pronounced "shed-yool" or "sked-yool." Meaning: Some words have complex or abstract meanings that are difficult to understand. For example, "existential" refers to questions about the nature of existence and the human condition. Unfamiliarity: Words that are not commonly used or are specific to a certain field or profession can be difficult for people who are not familiar with them. For example, "herpetology" is the study of reptiles and amphibians. Length: Longer words can be difficult to read or write quickly, especially if they are not broken down into smaller parts. For example, "antidisestablishmentarianism" is 28 letters long and refers to a political movement. What are the Benefits of Learning Difficult Words? Learning difficult words can have several benefits, including: Improved vocabulary: Learning difficult words can expand your vocabulary and help you better understand complex texts. This can enhance your reading and make it easier for you to communicate effectively in both written and oral contexts. Enhanced cognitive function: Learning difficult words requires concentration and memory. This can help to improve cognitive function and increase mental agility. Increased confidence: Being able to understand and use difficult words can give you confidence in your communication skills. It also helps you in expressing yourself more effectively in a variety of contexts. Improved academic performance: Learning difficult words can improve your performance in academic settings. Like in exams or written assignments, where a strong vocabulary can be an asset. Better career prospects: Certain fields and professions require a high level of vocabulary and communication skills.Learning difficult words can help you to stand out in these areas and increase your career prospects. Difficult Words in English with Meaning and Sentences Here are 100+ of the most difficult words in English, along with their meanings and example sentences: Sl.No Difficult Word Meaning Sentence 1. Anathema something or someone that is intensely disliked or cursed The dictator was anathema to the citizens, who protested his oppressive regime. 2. Abstemious refraining from indulgence, especially in food or drink The marathon runner had an abstemious diet to maintain his physical fitness. 3. Abstruse difficult to understand or comprehend The philosophy professor's lecture was so abstruse that few of the students were able to follow it. .4. Acerbic sharp, biting, or sour in tone or taste The critic's acerbic review of the movie left the director feeling insulted 5. Auspicious showing signs of success or good fortune The couple's wedding day was an auspicious occasion, with beautiful weather and many happy guests. 6. Belligerent hostile or aggressive The belligerent behavior of the soccer fans led to a violent altercation. 7 Bellicose inclined to fight or engage in war The general's bellicose attitude was a cause for concern among his subordinates. 8 Byzantine complex or intricate, usually relating to political or bureaucratic systems The Byzantine nature of the government's tax code made it difficult for many people to file their taxes accurately. 9 Bombastic using inflated language or pompous speech to impress others The politician's bombastic speech failed to resonate with many voters, who found it insincere. 10. Brobdingnagian gigantic or enormous in size The new skyscraper was a brobdingnagian structure that dwarfed the surrounding buildings. 11. Circumlocution the use of many words to express an idea, often in a roundabout or indirect way The politician's circumlocution in answering the reporter's question was frustrating to many viewers. 12. Capricious prone to sudden and unpredictable changes in behavior or mood The boss's capricious decision-making made it difficult for employees to anticipate his reactions. 13. Cacophony a harsh, discordant mixture of sounds The construction site was filled with the cacophony of jackhammers, drills, and heavy machinery. 14. Cogent clear, logical, and convincing The lawyer's cogent arguments swayed the jury in favor of his client. 15. Conflagration a large, destructive fire The city was devastated by a conflagration that burned down several historic buildings. 16. Diaphanous light, delicate, and translucent The bride's dress was made of diaphanous fabric that shimmered in the sunlight. 17. Discombobulate to confuse or disorient The unexpected news discombobulated the entire team, making it difficult for them to focus on their work. 18. Demagogue a leader who appeals to people's emotions and prejudices in order to gain power The charismatic demagogue rose to power by exploiting people's fears and resentments. 19. Diffident lacking in confidence or self-assurance The shy student was diffident in class and rarely spoke up during discussions. 20. Defenestration the act of throwing someone or something out of a window The story of the defenestration of Prague, in which several government officials were thrown out of a window during a riot, has become a legendary event in Czech history. 21. Epistemology the branch of philosophy concerned with the theory of knowledge The professor's lecture on epistemology was challenging, but also fascinating. 22. Ephemeral lasting for a very short time The beauty of cherry blossoms is ephemeral, as they only bloom for a few weeks each year. 23. Esoteric intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with a specialized knowledge or interest The book's esoteric subject matter made it difficult for most readers to understand. 24. Exacerbate to make a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling worse The manager's harsh criticism only served to exacerbate the employee's frustration. 25. Euphemism a mild or indirect word or expression used in place of one considered to be too harsh or blunt "Pass away" is a euphemism for "die" that is often used to soften the impact of the word. 26. Fiduciary relating to the responsibility of one person or organization to act in the best interests of another The financial advisor had a fiduciary duty to manage his clients' investments responsibly. 27. Furtive attempting to avoid notice or attention, typically because of guilt or a belief that discovery would lead to trouble The furtive glances of the suspect made the police officer suspicious. 28. Facetious treating serious issues with inappropriate humor or levity The CEO's facetious response to concerns about the company's finances did not inspire confidence among investors. 29. Fatuous silly or pointless, especially in a smug or self-satisfied way The celebrity's fatuous comments on social media were widely criticized for their lack of substance. 30. Feckless lacking in efficiency or effectiveness; incompetent or lazy The feckless manager failed to address the problems within his team, leading to low morale and poor performance. 31. Gargantuan extremely large or massive The gargantuan skyscraper dwarfed all the other buildings in the city. 32. Gregarious fond of company; sociable The gregarious host made sure that all of his guests felt welcome and included. 33. Grandiloquent using fancy, pompous words or language to impress others The politician's grandiloquent speech was criticized for its lack of substance. 34. Gauche lacking social grace or tact; awkward The new employee's gauche behavior at the company party made many of his coworkers uncomfortable. 35. Gossamer a fine, filmy substance consisting of cobwebs spun by small spiders, or a delicate, light fabric The ballerina's tutu was made of gossamer fabric that floated gracefully as she danced. 36. Hierarchy a system or organization in which people or groups are ranked one above the other according to status or authority The military operates on a strict hierarchy, with officers giving orders to those of lower rank. 37. Hyperbole exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally The comedian's use of hyperbole was part of his signature style, often making the audience laugh out loud. 38. Histrionic overly theatrical or melodramatic in character or style The actor's histrionic performance drew mixed reviews from the critics. 39. Hegemony leadership or dominance, especially by one country or social group over others The United States' cultural hegemony has had a significant impact on popular culture around the world. 40. Hapless unlucky or unfortunate The hapless traveler missed his flight due to a series of unexpected delays and cancellations. 41. Iconoclast a person who attacks cherished beliefs or institutions The artist was an iconoclast who challenged traditional notions of beauty in her work. 42. Ineffable too great or extreme to be expressed or described in words The beauty of the sunset was ineffable, leaving the onlookers speechless. 43. Inexorable impossible to stop or prevent The inexorable march of time waits for no one, reminding us that life is fleeting. 44. Inscrutable impossible to understand or interpret The politician's motives were inscrutable, leaving many people wondering what she was really up to 45. Intrepid fearless, adventurous, or bold The intrepid explorer ventured into the unknown, discovering new lands and encountering new cultures along the way. 46. Juxtaposition the fact of two things being seen or placed close together with contrasting effect The juxtaposition of the old and new buildings in the city skyline was striking. 47. Jaundiced affected by bitterness, resentment, or envy The jaundiced journalist wrote a scathing review of the new movie, focusing only on its flaws. 48. Jocund cheerful and lighthearted The jocund atmosphere of the party lifted everyone's spirits. 49. Juggernaut a huge, powerful, and overwhelming force or institution The tech company had become a juggernaut, dominating the market and acquiring its competitors. 50. Jingoistic extreme patriotism, often marked by aggressive or warlike foreign policy The politician's jingoistic rhetoric drew criticism from those who believed in a more diplomatic approach to foreign affairs. 51. Kinetic relating to or resulting from motion The kinetic energy of the moving car was converted into heat when it hit the brakes. 52. Kowtow to act in an excessively subservient or obedient manner The intern was constantly kowtowing to the boss, hoping to earn a promotion. 53. Kismet destiny or fate They met by chance, but it seemed like kismet that they were meant to be together. 54. Kafkaesque relating to the nightmarish world depicted in the works of Franz Kafka, marked by surreal or illogical elements The bureaucracy of the government agency was so convoluted and confusing that it felt like a Kafkaesque nightmare. 55. Kinesiology the study of human movement and the mechanics of body parts during motion The kinesiology class examined the way that muscles and bones work together to produce movement in the body. 56. Labyrinthine complicated and difficult to navigate; resembling a labyrinth The labyrinthine structure of the old building made it easy to get lost. 57. Laconic using few words; terse The laconic speaker delivered his message in just a few brief sentences. 58. Languid lacking energy or vitality; slow and relaxed The hot summer day made everyone feel languid and lethargic. 59. Legerdemain skillful use of one's hands when performing tricks or illusions; sleight of hand The magician's legerdemain left the audience in awe. 60. Lexicon the vocabulary of a language or a particular subject; a dictionary The author's use of obscure words from the medical lexicon made the book difficult to read. 61. Magnanimous generous and forgiving; having a noble and courageous spirit Even though he had been wronged, he was magnanimous and forgave his enemy. 62. Mellifluous pleasant to hear; smooth and musical The singer's mellifluous voice captivated the audience. 63. Metamorphosis a transformation or change in form or nature The caterpillar's metamorphosis into a butterfly is a classic example of nature's beauty. 64. Misanthrope a person who dislikes humankind and avoids human society The writer's works often portrayed him as a misanthrope who despised society and its customs. 65. Mnemonic aiding or designed to aid memory The teacher used a mnemonic device to help her students remember the order of the planets. 66. Nebulous vague or hazy; unclear or ill-defined The concept was too nebulous for most people to understand. 67. Nonplussed surprised and confused to the point of being unsure how to react; bewildered She was nonplussed by the unexpected turn of events. 68. Nostalgia a sentimental longing for the past; a bittersweet yearning for something that is gone The sight of her childhood home filled her with nostalgia. 69. Notwithstanding in spite of; despite Notwithstanding his lack of experience, he was hired for the job based on his potential. 70. Nihilistic rejecting all religious and moral principles in the belief that life is meaningless; pessimistic The character's nihilistic outlook on life was a recurring theme in the novel. 71. Obfuscate to make something unclear or difficult to understand The lawyer tried to obfuscate the facts of the case to confuse the jury. 72. Onerous involving a lot of effort or difficulty; burdensome The onerous task of completing a 500-page report was daunting. 73. Ontology the branch of metaphysics concerned with the nature of existence The philosopher's ontology delved into the question of what it means to exist. 74. Ostentatious showy and flashy in an attempt to impress others The millionaire's ostentatious lifestyle was the envy of many, but the subject of criticism by others. 75. Ostracize to exclude someone from a group or society; to shun After the scandal, the politician was ostracized by his colleagues and constituents alike. 76. Panacea a solution or remedy for all problems or difficulties There is no panacea for poverty, but education and economic opportunities can make a significant difference. 77. Paragon a person or thing regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality She was a paragon of beauty and grace, admired by all who met her. 78. Perfidious deceitful and untrustworthy; disloyal The traitor's perfidious actions caused great harm to his country and people. 79. Perspicacious having a keen insight or understanding; mentally sharp The detective's perspicacious observations and analysis helped solve the case. 80. Plethora an excessive amount or abundance of something The buffet had a plethora of food options, leaving the guests spoilt for choice. 81. Quixotic exceedingly idealistic; unrealistic and impractical His quixotic quest for a world without poverty is admirable but ultimately futile. 82. Quagmire a difficult or complex situation; a marsh or bog The country was mired in a quagmire of political instability. 83. Quibble to argue or raise objections about a trivial matter He always finds something to quibble about, no matter how small the issue. 84. Quell to put an end to; suppress The police were able to quell the riot before it got out of hand. 85. Quandary a state of uncertainty or perplexity; a difficult situation I'm in a quandary about which job offer to accept. 86. Reticent not revealing one's thoughts or feelings readily; reserved She was reticent about her past and refused to answer any personal questions. 87. Remonstrate to argue or plead with someone against something; to protest The workers remonstrated with their boss over the unfair working conditions. 88. Repudiate to reject, disown, or deny the validity of something He repudiated the accusations against him and maintained his innocence. 89. Redolent strongly reminiscent or suggestive of something; fragrant or smelling strongly The scent of freshly baked bread was redolent of childhood memories. 90. Rancorous characterized by bitterness or resentment; malicious The divorce was rancorous, with both parties hurling insults and accusations at each other. 91. Superfluous unnecessary, excessive, or surplus to requirements The document was filled with superfluous information that could have been left out. 92. Salubrious health-giving, healthy, or pleasant. The mountain air was salubrious and invigorating, making me feel alive. 93. Sycophant a person who flatters in order to gain an advantage; a yes-man The boss was surrounded by sycophants who would agree with everything he said. 94. Sophistry the use of fallacious arguments, especially with the intention of deceiving His argument was based on sophistry rather than logic, making it difficult to refute. 95. Sanguine optimistic or positive, especially in an apparently bad or difficult situation Despite the setbacks, she remained sanguine about the future and believed things would work out in the end. 96. Taciturn reserved or uncommunicative in speech; saying little He was a taciturn man who preferred to keep his thoughts to himself. 97. Transcendent beyond or above the range of normal or physical human experience; surpassing The beauty of the sunset was so transcendent that it left us speechless. 98. Trepidation a feeling of fear or anxiety about something that may happen She approached the interview with trepidation, afraid of saying the wrong thing. 99. Terse brief and to the point; concise His answers were always terse, giving only the information that was necessary. 100. Truculent aggressively defiant or hostile; eager to argue or fight The truculent customer refused to leave the store and started shouting at the staff. 101. Ubiquitous present or found everywhere Smartphones have become ubiquitous in modern society. 102. Unctuous excessively flattering or ingratiating; oily or greasy The politician's unctuous manner made many people suspicious of his true intentions. 103. Usurp to take or seize (power or authority) without the right to do so The rebel leader attempted to usurp the government and establish his own regime. 104. Utopia an imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect Many people dream of living in a utopia where there is no war, poverty, or suffering. 105. Ululate to howl or wail loudly and mournfully The mourners ululated during the funeral procession, expressing their grief in a traditional manner. 106. Vicissitude a change of circumstances or fortune, typically one that is unwelcome or unpleasant The company had to weather the vicissitudes of the market in order to survive. 107. Vexatious causing irritation, annoyance, or distress; harassing The constant interruptions were vexatious and made it difficult for him to concentrate. 108. Viscous having a thick, sticky consistency between solid and liquid; gluey The syrup was so viscous that it took a long time to pour out of the bottle. 109. Vituperative bitter and abusive; using harsh and angry language The critic's review was vituperative and attacked the author personally. 110. Valedictory relating to or bidding farewell; a speech or statement made at the end of a term or event The valedictory address by the graduating student was an emotional and inspiring moment for everyone. 111. Welter a confused mass; a jumble The room was in a welter of disorganized clutter. 112. Weltanschauung a particular philosophy or view of life; a worldview The artist's weltanschauung was reflected in his paintings, which explored the mysteries of the universe. 113. Wheedle to use flattery or coaxing in order to persuade someone to do something She wheedled her way into getting a discount on the product. 114. Wraith a ghost or ghostlike image of someone, especially one seen shortly before or after their death The wraith of the murdered victim haunted the old mansion. 115. Welterweight a weight division in boxing and other combat sports, typically ranging from 140 to 147 pounds He was a former welterweight champion who had retired undefeated. 116. Xenophobia a fear or hatred of foreigners or strangers His xenophobia led him to refuse to hire anyone who wasn't born in his country. 117. Xerophyte a plant that is adapted to survive in dry conditions, such as a cactus The desert is home to many xerophytes that have evolved to conserve water. 118. Xylography the art of engraving on wood, especially for printing The artist was skilled in xylography and created intricate prints using wood blocks. 119. Xylophonic relating to or produced by a xylophone The xylophonic music filled the concert hall with its bright, percussive sound. 120. Xenograft a tissue graft or organ transplant from a donor of a different species than the recipient The patient received a xenograft from a pig to replace a damaged heart valve. 121. Yearning a deep longing or desire She felt a yearning to travel the world and see new places. 122. Yesteryear the recent past, especially a nostalgic or romanticized version of it The museum's exhibits offered a glimpse into the technology and culture of yesteryear. 123. Yggdrasil in Norse mythology, the great tree that supports the nine worlds According to legend, the roots of Yggdrasil extend deep into the underworld and the branches reach up to the heavens. 124. Yellow-bellied cowardly; lacking in courage The soldiers accused their commander of being yellow-bellied when he ordered them to retreat. 125. Yuletide Christmas time or the Christmas season The family gathered around the fireplace during the yuletide season to exchange gifts and share stories. 126. Zeitgeist the general spirit or mood of a particular period of time as reflected in the attitudes and beliefs of its society The zeitgeist of the 1960s was characterized by social and political upheaval. 127. Zephyr a gentle breeze; a soft, mild wind The zephyr rustled the leaves on the trees and carried the scent of blooming flowers. 128. Zenith the highest point or peak; the apex Her career had reached its zenith when she was appointed CEO of the company. 129. Zeugma a figure of speech in which a word applies to two others in different senses or to two others of which it semantically suits only one In the sentence "He lost his keys and his temper," the verb "lost" is a zeugma, as it applies to both "keys" and "temper" in different senses. 130. Ziggurat a rectangular stepped tower, sometimes surmounted by a temple, common in ancient Mesopotamia The ziggurat was an impressive feat of engineering and architecture, built to honor the gods of the ancient city. Conclusion: In conclusion, the English language is rich with words that are challenging to spell or pronounce, or that have complex meanings. Some of the most difficult words in English include those that are borrowed from other languages, those that have unusual or archaic meanings, and those that are simply rarely used in everyday conversation. Learn Spoken English with Aparna Mulberry! Enroll Here! 100+ Difficult Words in English with Meaning and Sentences: FAQs 1. What are some of the most difficult words in English? Ans. Some of the most difficult words in English include "abstemious," "acrimonious," "anathema," "apotheosis," "bombastic," "capricious," "cogent," "desultory," "diaphanous," "discombobulate," "dyspeptic," "egregious," "ephemeral," "equanimity," "esoteric," "exacerbate," "fastidious," "frangible," "gossamer," "halcyon," and "iconoclast," among others. 2. Why are some English words difficult to spell or pronounce? Ans. Some English words are difficult to spell or pronounce because they are borrowed from other languages. And also, they have unique spelling or pronunciation rules. They have unusual or archaic meanings that are not commonly used in everyday conversation. 3. How can I improve my English vocabulary? Ans. You can improve your English vocabulary by reading extensively. Practicing with flashcards or vocabulary quizzes, watching English-language TV shows or movies, and using English-language learning apps or websites. It is also helpful to try to use new words in context in your own speaking and writing. 4. Are there any resources available to help me learn difficult English words? Ans. Yes, there are many resources available to help you learn difficult English words. Online dictionaries and thesauruses can provide definitions, synonyms, and example sentences. Vocabulary-building apps and websites can also provide daily or weekly word lists and quizzes to help you practice. Additionally, reading extensively in English. Listening to English-language media can expose you to new words and help you improve your overall vocabulary. 5. How important is it to learn difficult English words? Ans. Learning difficult English words can be important for improving your overall fluency and comprehension in the language. It can also help you to communicate more effectively in both written and spoken contexts. Leaning difficult words can enhance your ability to understand and engage with complex texts or discussions. It is also important to remember that mastery of basic vocabulary and grammar is essential for building a strong foundation. List of Difficult Words, A Comprehensive Guide for Students and Beginners" aims to simplify complex vocabulary, offering clear definitions and usage examples. Tailored for those starting their linguistic journey, this resource is a stepping stone toward mastering challenging terms in a professional context. What Are Difficult Words? Difficult words are terms that are challenging to understand, spell, or pronounce, often due to complex meanings, foreign origins, or irregular grammar. For example: "antidisestablishmentarianism," a political term, is long and uncommon. "Conundrum," meaning a confusing problem, is another due to its abstract nature. These words can be particularly challenging for students and beginners in language studies. Here are 5 Most Difficult words in English: Sesquipedalian – Long-winded Quixotic – Idealistic Brobdingnagian – Huge Lugubrious – Mournful Pulchritude – Beauty Learn About Double Letters words in English List of Difficult Words Quixotic Nebulous Ephemeral Precocious Lachrymose Obfuscate Zenith Garrulous Insidious Maverick Vicissitude Taciturn Sycophant Reticent Querulous Pulchritude Obdurate Nefarious Mercurial Languor Juxtapose Ineffable Harangue Grandiloquent Fastidious Esoteric Duplicitous Capricious Belligerent Aberration Verbose Ubiquitous Temerity Surreptitious Redolent Quintessential Propensity Parsimonious Ostracize Nonchalant Misanthrope Loquacious Kowtow Jejune Iconoclast Hegemony Gregarious Florid Exculpate Diatribe Circumspect Anachronism Winsome Vestige Unilateral Trepidation Soliloquy Recalcitrant Proclivity Perfunctory Obsequious Nascent Maudlin Litigious Knell Juggernaut Intransigent Hubris Facetious Ennui Dilettante Cogent Altruism Whimsical Vindicate Truncate Stoic Sardonic Repudiate Pedantic Opulent Myriad Lurid Judicious Irascible Homogeneous Fortuitous Extol Despot Chicanery Assiduous Wistful Venerable Truculent Stolid Sanctimonious Relegate Penury Ostentatious Morose Lugubrious Kismet Jingoism Inundate Halcyon Grandiose Frivolous Exonerate Disparage Conflagration Bombastic Auspicious Wane Vacuous Turpitude Surreal Salient R